

Kraton Corp
Form 10-Q
October 25, 2018

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

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF
1934

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2018

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF
1934

Commission File Number 001-34581

Kraton Corporation
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

20-0411521
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

15710 John F. Kennedy Blvd.
Suite 300
Houston, TX 77032

281-504-4700

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code) (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer: Accelerated filer:
Non-accelerated filer: Smaller reporting company:
Emerging growth company:

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes No

Number of shares of Kraton Corporation Common Stock, \$0.01 par value, outstanding as of October 22, 2018: 31,957,092.

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on Form 10-Q for
Quarter Ended September 30, 2018

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CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

Some of the statements and information in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. We may also make written or oral forward-looking statements in our reports on Forms 10-K, 10-Q, and 8-K, in press releases and other written materials and in oral statements made by our officers, directors, or employees to third parties. Statements that are not historical facts, including statements about our beliefs and expectations, are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are often characterized by the use of words such as “outlook,” “believes,” “estimates,” “expects,” “projects,” “may,” “intends,” “plans,” “anticipates,” “foresees,” “future,” or by discussions of strategy, plans, or intentions; anticipated benefits of performance of our products; beliefs regarding opportunities for new, differentiated applications, and other innovations; beliefs regarding strengthening relationships with customers; adequacy of cash flows to fund our working capital requirements; our investment in the joint venture with Formosa Petrochemical Corporation (“FPCC”); our expectations regarding indebtedness to be incurred by our joint venture with FPCC; debt payments, interest payments, benefit plan contributions, and income tax obligations; our anticipated capital expenditures, health, safety, environmental, and security and infrastructure and maintenance projects, projects to optimize the production capabilities of our manufacturing assets and to support our innovation platform; our ability to fully access our senior secured credit facilities; expectations regarding future dividend payments; expectations regarding our counterparties’ ability to perform, including with respect to trade receivables; estimates regarding tax expense of repatriating certain cash and short-term investments related to foreign operations; expectations regarding differentiated applications; our ability to realize certain deferred tax assets and our beliefs with respect to tax positions; expectations regarding our full year effective tax rate; estimates related to the useful lives of certain assets for tax purposes; expectations regarding our pension contributions; estimates or expectations related to raw material costs or availability, ending inventory levels and related estimated charges; the outcome and financial impact of legal proceedings; expectations regarding the spread between FIFO and ECRC (each as defined herein) in future periods; expectations regarding the impact of natural disasters; estimated impacts of changing tariff rates; the estimates and matters described in our latest Annual Report on Form 10-K under the caption “Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis—Results of Operations—Outlook;” and projections regarding environmental costs and capital expenditures and related operational savings.

Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, assumptions, and other important factors that could cause the actual results, performance or our achievements, or industry results, to differ materially from historical results, any future results, or performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. There are a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements contained in this report. Important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed as forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to the factors set forth in this report, in our latest Annual Report on Form 10-K, including but not limited to “Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors” and “Part II, Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” therein, and in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”).

There may be other factors of which we are currently unaware or deem immaterial that may cause our actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements. In addition, to the extent any inconsistency or conflict exists between the information included in this report and the information included in our prior reports and other filings with the SEC, the information contained in this report updates and supersedes such information.

Forward-looking statements are based on current plans, estimates, assumptions and projections, and, therefore, you should not place undue reliance on them. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and we undertake no obligation to update them in light of new information or future events.

Presentation of Financial Statements

The terms “Kraton,” “our company,” “we,” “our,” “ours,” and “us” as used in this report refer collectively to Kraton Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries.

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q includes financial statements and related notes that present the condensed consolidated financial position, results of operations, comprehensive income, and cash flows of Kraton. Kraton Corporation is a holding company whose only material asset is its investment in its wholly owned subsidiary, Kraton Polymers LLC. Kraton Polymers LLC and its subsidiaries own all of our consolidated operating assets.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
To the Stockholders and Board of Directors
Kraton Corporation:

Results of Review of Interim Financial Information

We have reviewed the condensed consolidated balance sheet of Kraton Corporation and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of September 30, 2018, the related condensed consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, the related condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2018, and the related condensed consolidated statements of cash flows for the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, and the related notes (collectively, the consolidated interim financial information). Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the consolidated interim financial information for it to be in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We have previously audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the consolidated balance sheet of the Company as of December 31, 2017, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income (loss), changes in equity, and cash flows for the year then ended (not presented herein); and in our report dated February 21, 2018, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements. In our opinion, the information set forth in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2017, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the consolidated balance sheet from which it has been derived.

Basis for Review Results

This consolidated interim financial information is the responsibility of the Company's management. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our reviews in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. A review of consolidated interim financial information consists principally of applying analytical procedures and making inquiries of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters. It is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

/s/ KPMG LLP
Houston, Texas
October 25, 2018

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

KRATON CORPORATION

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(In thousands, except par value)

| | September 30, 2018 | December 31, 2017 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | (unaudited) | |
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 51,508 | \$ 89,052 |
| Receivables, net of allowances of \$918 and \$824 | 253,105 | 196,683 |
| Inventories of products, net | 404,138 | 367,796 |
| Inventories of materials and supplies, net | 27,758 | 25,643 |
| Prepaid expenses | 12,167 | 13,963 |
| Other current assets | 31,383 | 36,615 |
| Total current assets | 780,059 | 729,752 |
| Property, plant, and equipment, less accumulated depreciation of \$579,651 and \$526,759 | 931,629 | 958,723 |
| Goodwill | 773,373 | 774,319 |
| Intangible assets, less accumulated amortization of \$234,163 and \$197,318 | 371,661 | 406,863 |
| Investment in unconsolidated joint venture | 12,082 | 12,380 |
| Debt issuance costs | 1,463 | 2,340 |
| Deferred income taxes | 5,175 | 8,462 |
| Other long-term assets | 37,602 | 39,688 |
| Total assets | \$ 2,913,044 | \$ 2,932,527 |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Current portion of long-term debt | \$ 50,689 | \$ 42,647 |
| Accounts payable-trade | 167,241 | 169,265 |
| Other payables and accruals | 98,386 | 119,624 |
| Due to related party | 18,710 | 19,176 |
| Total current liabilities | 335,026 | 350,712 |
| Long-term debt, net of current portion | 1,527,322 | 1,574,881 |
| Deferred income taxes | 151,894 | 148,148 |
| Other long-term liabilities | 175,377 | 192,267 |
| Total liabilities | 2,189,619 | 2,266,008 |
| Commitments and contingencies (note 10) | | |
| Equity: | | |
| Kraton stockholders' equity: | | |
| Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; 100,000 shares authorized; none issued | — | — |
| Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 500,000 shares authorized; 31,957 shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2018; 31,605 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2017 | 320 | 316 |
| Additional paid in capital | 385,545 | 377,957 |
| Retained earnings | 403,104 | 356,503 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (96,491 |) (98,295 |
| Total Kraton stockholders' equity | 692,478 | 636,481 |
| Noncontrolling interest | 30,947 | 30,038 |

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| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total equity | 723,425 | 666,519 |
| Total liabilities and equity | \$ 2,913,044 | \$ 2,932,527 |

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

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KRATON CORPORATION
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(Unaudited)

(In thousands, except per share data)

| | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------|
| | September 30, | | September 30, | |
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Revenue | \$523,105 | \$510,947 | \$1,563,892 | \$1,494,392 |
| Cost of goods sold | 368,847 | 381,653 | 1,092,207 | 1,073,336 |
| Gross profit | 154,258 | 129,294 | 471,685 | 421,056 |
| Operating expenses: | | | | |
| Research and development | 10,597 | 10,212 | 31,868 | 30,096 |
| Selling, general, and administrative | 36,150 | 42,421 | 116,848 | 123,967 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 35,117 | 34,307 | 105,633 | 102,040 |
| Operating income | 72,394 | 42,354 | 217,336 | 164,953 |
| Other expense | (740) | (846) | (2,960) | (2,517) |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt | — | (15,632) | (79,921) | (35,370) |
| Earnings of unconsolidated joint venture | 100 | 125 | 357 | 370 |
| Interest expense, net | (20,143) | (33,017) | (74,835) | (101,766) |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | 51,611 | (7,016) | 59,977 | 25,670 |
| Income tax benefit (expense) | (8,334) | 2,165 | (8,743) | (2,907) |
| Consolidated net income (loss) | 43,277 | (4,851) | 51,234 | 22,763 |
| Net (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interest | (928) | 818 | (1,743) | 5,178 |
| Net income (loss) attributable to Kraton | \$42,349 | \$(4,033) | \$49,491 | \$27,941 |
| Earnings (loss) per common share: | | | | |
| Basic | \$1.33 | \$(0.13) | \$1.55 | \$0.90 |
| Diluted | \$1.31 | \$(0.13) | \$1.53 | \$0.88 |
| Weighted average common shares outstanding: | | | | |
| Basic | 31,459 | 30,625 | 31,381 | 30,548 |
| Diluted | 31,834 | 30,625 | 31,810 | 31,006 |

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

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KRATON CORPORATION
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
 (Unaudited)
 (In thousands)

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|---|--|-----------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Net income (loss) attributable to Kraton | \$42,349 | \$(4,033) | \$49,491 | \$27,941 |
| Other comprehensive income: | | | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments, net of tax of \$0 | (3,492) | 18,910 | (14,448) | 60,691 |
| Unrealized gain (loss) on cash flow hedges, net of tax expense of \$109, benefit of \$382, expense of \$599, and benefit of \$412, respectively | 346 | (239) | 4,501 | (145) |
| Reclassification of (gain) loss on cash flow hedge | 3 | 920 | (2,584) | 879 |
| Unrealized gain on net investment hedge, net of tax expense of \$539 and \$1,364, respectively | 1,725 | — | 4,366 | — |
| Decrease in benefit plans liability, net of tax expense of \$3,114 | 9,969 | — | 9,969 | — |
| Other comprehensive income, net of tax | 8,551 | 19,591 | 1,804 | 61,425 |
| Comprehensive income attributable to Kraton | 50,900 | 15,558 | 51,295 | 89,366 |
| Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest | 984 | (787) | 909 | (3,258) |
| Consolidated comprehensive income | \$51,884 | \$14,771 | \$52,204 | \$86,108 |

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

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KRATON CORPORATION
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
 (Unaudited)
 (In thousands)

| | Common Stock | Additional Paid in Capital | Retained Earnings | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss | Total Kraton Stockholders' Equity | Noncontrolling Interest | Total Equity |
|--|-----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|---|---|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2017 | \$ 316 | \$377,957 | \$356,503 | \$ (98,295) | \$ 636,481 | \$ 30,038 | \$666,519 |
| Net income | — | — | 49,491 | — | 49,491 | 1,743 | 51,234 |
| Other comprehensive loss | — | — | — | 1,804 | 1,804 | (834) | 970 |
| Retired treasury stock from employee tax withholdings | 1 | (3,162) | (2,890) | — | (6,051) | — | (6,051) |
| Exercise of stock options | 2 | 3,131 | — | — | 3,133 | — | 3,133 |
| Non-cash compensation related to equity awards | 1 | 7,619 | — | — | 7,620 | — | 7,620 |
| Balance at September 30, 2018 | \$ 320 | \$385,545 | \$403,104 | \$ (96,491) | \$ 692,478 | \$ 30,947 | \$723,425 |

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

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KRATON CORPORATION
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
 (Unaudited)
 (In thousands)

| | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2018 | 2017 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Consolidated net income | \$51,234 | \$22,763 |
| Adjustments to reconcile consolidated net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 105,633 | 102,040 |
| Amortization of debt original issue discount | 1,938 | 4,926 |
| Amortization of debt issuance costs | 4,571 | 6,309 |
| Loss on disposal of property, plant, and equipment | 363 | 61 |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt | 79,921 | 35,370 |
| Earnings from unconsolidated joint venture, net of dividends received | 188 | 67 |
| Deferred income tax provision (benefit) | 3,581 | (3,526) |
| Share-based compensation | 7,620 | 7,366 |
| Decrease (increase) in: | | |
| Accounts receivable | (63,068) | (38,921) |
| Inventories of products, materials, and supplies | (47,393) | (19,126) |
| Other assets | 8,065 | (6,171) |
| Increase (decrease) in: | | |
| Accounts payable-trade | 5,869 | 2,267 |
| Other payables and accruals | (19,057) | 26,851 |
| Other long-term liabilities | (2,584) | (5,433) |
| Due to related party | (292) | 606 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 136,589 | 135,449 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Kraton purchase of property, plant, and equipment | (66,047) | (71,595) |
| KFPC purchase of property, plant, and equipment | (1,592) | (11,790) |
| Purchase of software and other intangibles | (4,630) | (4,959) |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (72,269) | (88,344) |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Proceeds from debt | 731,540 | 739,167 |
| Repayments of debt | (796,863) | (837,012) |
| KFPC proceeds from debt | 24,918 | 39,898 |
| KFPC repayments of debt | (48,084) | (16,244) |
| Capital lease payments | (785) | (703) |
| Purchase of treasury stock | (6,051) | (2,297) |
| Proceeds from the exercise of stock options | 3,133 | 2,954 |
| Settlement of interest rate swap | 2,584 | (879) |
| Settlement of foreign currency hedges | — | (716) |
| Debt issuance costs | (11,113) | (13,929) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (100,721) | (89,761) |
| Effect of exchange rate differences on cash | (1,143) | 10,025 |
| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents | (37,544) | (32,631) |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period | 89,052 | 121,749 |

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of period | \$51,508 | \$89,118 |
|--|----------|----------|

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

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| | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------|
| | 2018 | 2017 |
| Supplemental disclosures: | | |
| Cash paid during the period for income taxes, net of refunds received | \$2,398 | \$12,030 |
| Cash paid during the period for interest, net of capitalized interest | \$78,067 | \$72,288 |
| Capitalized interest | \$2,733 | \$3,334 |
| Supplemental non-cash disclosures: | | |
| Property, plant, and equipment accruals | \$15,620 | \$17,268 |

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

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KRATON CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

1. General

Description of our Business. We are a leading global specialty chemicals company that manufactures styrenic block copolymers (“SBCs”), specialty polymers, and high-value performance products primarily derived from pine wood pulping co-products.

SBCs are highly-engineered synthetic elastomers, which we originally invented and commercialized. Our SBCs enhance the performance of numerous products by imparting greater flexibility, resilience, strength, durability, and processability, and are used in a wide range of applications, including adhesives, coatings, consumer and personal care products, sealants, lubricants, medical, packaging, automotive, and paving and roofing products. We manufacture and sell isoprene rubber and isoprene rubber latex, which are non-SBC products primarily used in applications such as medical products, personal care, adhesives, tackifiers, paints, and coatings.

We refine and further upgrade crude tall oil and crude sulfate turpentine, into value-added specialty chemicals. These pine-based specialty products are sold into adhesive and tire markets, and we produce and sell a broad range of performance chemicals (which we formerly referred to as chemical intermediates) into markets that include fuel additives, oilfield chemicals, coatings, metalworking fluids and lubricants, inks, flavors and fragrances, and mining.

Basis of Presentation. The accompanying unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements presented in this report are for us and our consolidated subsidiaries, each of which is a wholly-owned subsidiary, except our 50% investment in our joint venture, Kraton Formosa Polymers Corporation (“KFPC”), located in Mailiao, Taiwan. KFPC is a variable interest entity for which we have determined that we are the primary beneficiary and, therefore, have consolidated into our financial statements. Our 50% investment in our joint venture located in Kashima, Japan, is accounted for under the equity method of accounting. All significant intercompany transactions have been eliminated. These interim financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 and reflect all normal recurring adjustments that are, in the opinion of management, necessary to present fairly our results of operations and financial position. Amounts reported in our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations are not necessarily indicative of amounts expected for the respective annual periods or any other interim period, in particular due to the effect of seasonal changes and weather conditions that typically affect our sales into paving, roadmarking, roofing, and construction applications. In particular, sales volumes into these applications are generally higher in the second and third quarter of the calendar year as warm and dry weather is more conducive to paving and roofing activity.

Reclassifications. Certain amounts reported in the condensed consolidated financial statements and notes to the consolidated financial statements for the prior periods have been reclassified to conform to the current reporting presentation.

Significant Accounting Policies. Our significant accounting policies have been disclosed in Note 1 Description of Business, Basis of Presentation, and Significant Accounting Policies in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K. Except for the changes below, the Company has consistently applied the accounting policies presented in the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Revenue Recognition. The Company adopted Topic 606 Revenue from Contracts with Customers with a date of initial adoption of January 1, 2018. As a result, the Company has changed its accounting policy for revenue recognition and applied Topic 606 using the modified retrospective basis. Typically, this approach would result in recognizing the cumulative effect of initially applying Topic 606 as an adjustment to the opening balance of equity at January 1, 2018. The Company did not have a material change in financial position, results of operations, or cash flows and therefore there is no cumulative impact recorded to opening equity.

There have been no other changes to the accounting policies, which are disclosed in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K. The accompanying unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements we present in this report have been prepared in accordance with our policies.

Use of Estimates. The preparation of these Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the

reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include:

- the useful lives of long-lived assets;

- estimates of fair value for assets acquired and liabilities assumed in business combinations;

allowances for doubtful accounts and sales returns; the valuation of derivatives, deferred tax assets, property, plant and equipment, intangible assets, inventory, investments, and share-based compensation; and liabilities for employee benefit obligations, environmental matters, asset retirement obligations, income tax uncertainties, and other contingencies.

Income Tax in Interim Periods. We conduct operations in separate legal entities in different jurisdictions. As a result, income tax amounts are reflected in these Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for each of those jurisdictions. Tax laws and tax rates vary substantially in these jurisdictions and are subject to change based on the political and economic climate in those countries. We file our tax returns in accordance with our interpretations of each jurisdiction's tax laws. We record our tax provision or benefit on an interim basis using the estimated annual effective tax rate. This rate is applied to the current period ordinary income or loss to determine the income tax provision or benefit allocated to the interim period.

Losses from jurisdictions for which no benefit can be realized and the income tax effects of unusual and infrequent items are excluded from the estimated annual effective tax rate. Valuation allowances are provided against the future tax benefits that arise from the losses in jurisdictions for which there is uncertainty that they may be realized. The effects of unusual and infrequent items are recognized in the impacted interim period as discrete items.

The estimated annual effective tax rate may be significantly affected by nondeductible expenses and by our projected earnings mix by tax jurisdiction. Adjustments to the estimated annual effective income tax rate are recognized in the period during which such estimates are revised.

We have established valuation allowances against a variety of deferred tax assets, including net operating loss carryforwards, foreign tax credits and other income tax credits. Valuation allowances take into consideration our expected ability to realize these deferred tax assets and reduce the value of such assets to the amount that is deemed more likely than not to be recoverable. Our ability to realize these deferred tax assets is dependent on achieving our forecast of future taxable operating income over an extended period of time. We review our forecast in relation to actual results and expected trends on a quarterly basis. If we fail to achieve our operating income targets, we may change our assessment regarding the recoverability of our net deferred tax assets and such change could result in a valuation allowance being recorded against some or all of our net deferred tax assets. A change in our valuation allowance would impact our income tax benefit (expense) and our stockholders' equity and could have a significant impact on our results of operations or financial condition in future periods.

2. New Accounting Pronouncements

Accounting Standards Adopted in the Current Period

We have implemented all new accounting pronouncements that are in effect and that management believes would materially affect our financial statements.

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the "FASB") issued ASU No. 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers, updated by ASU No. 2015-14 Deferral of the Effective Date, which provides a single comprehensive model for entities to use in accounting for revenue arising from contracts with customers and will supersede most current revenue recognition guidance. In August 2015, the effective date for the standard was deferred by one year and this standard became effective for us beginning January 1, 2018. Our revenue is primarily generated from the sale of finished product to customers. Those sales predominantly contain a single delivery element and revenue is recognized at a single point in time, when ownership and risk of loss transfers. These are largely un-impacted by the new standard. We completed our analysis during 2017 and there was no material change to our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows. We adopted ASU No. 2014-09 and its amendment on a modified retrospective basis effective January 1, 2018. Although there is no material impact, we have expanded disclosures in our notes to our condensed consolidated financial statements related to revenue recognition in accordance with the new standard. We have implemented changes to our accounting policies and practices, business processes, systems, and controls to support the new revenue recognition and disclosure requirements.

In August 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-15, Statement of Cash Flows (Topic 230). The ASU addresses eight specific cash flow issues with the objective of reducing the existing diversity in practice. The standard is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2017, and early adoption is

permitted. Our analysis of ASU 2016-15 was completed during 2017 and there is no material change to our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows. We adopted ASU 2016-15 effective January 1, 2018.

In March 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-07, Compensation-Retirement Benefits (Topic 715)-Improving the Presentation of Net Periodic Pension Cost and Net Periodic Post-retirement Benefit Cost. The standard is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2017, and early adoption is permitted as of the beginning of a year for which financial statements (interim and annual) have not been issued. The other components of net benefit cost are required to be presented in the income statement separately from the service cost component. Our service costs were \$4.7 million and \$4.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. We adopted ASU

2017-07 effective January 1, 2018 and net periodic benefit costs other than the service cost component have been included in Other expense on our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for all reported periods.

New Accounting Standards to be Adopted in Future Periods

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, Leases (Topic 842). This standard requires that an entity must recognize in the statement of financial position a liability to make lease payments (the lease liability) and a right-of-use asset representing its right to use the underlying asset for the lease term. For leases with a term of twelve months or less, a lessee is permitted to make an accounting policy election by class of underlying asset not to recognize lease assets and liabilities. The standard is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2018 and early adoption is permitted. An entity may choose to use either its effective date or the beginning of the earliest comparative period presented in the financial statements as its date of initial application. We expect to adopt the new standard using the effective date as our date of initial application.

Consequently, financial information will not be updated and the disclosures required under the new standard will not be provided for dates and periods before the effective date. We are still analyzing the quantitative impact of adoption; therefore, the effects of this standard on our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows are not yet known. As we complete our overall assessment, we are identifying and preparing to implement changes to our accounting policies and practices, business processes, systems and controls to support the new standard and disclosure requirements. Our assessment will be completed during fiscal year 2018 and we expect to adopt ASU 2016-02 effective January 1, 2019.

In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-04, Intangibles-Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment. This standard is effective for annual or interim goodwill impairment tests in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019, and early adoption is permitted for annual or interim goodwill impairment tests performed on testing dates after January 1, 2017. Our evaluation of this standard is currently ongoing.

In August 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-12, Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815): Targeted Improvements to Accounting for Hedging Activities. This standard is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018, and early adoption is permitted for any interim period after issuance of the ASU. Our evaluation of this standard is currently ongoing and we expect to adopt ASU 2017-12 effective on January 1, 2019.

In February 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-02, Income Statement-Reporting Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Reclassification of Certain Tax Effects from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income. This standard is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018, and interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted for any interim period after issuance of the ASU. Our evaluation of this standard is currently ongoing and we expect to adopt ASU 2018-02 effective on January 1, 2019.

3. Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognized when obligations under the terms of a contract with our customer are satisfied; generally, this occurs at a point in time when the transfer of risk and title to the product transfers to the customer. Our standard terms of delivery are included in our contracts of sale, order confirmation documents, and invoices. As such, all revenue is considered revenue recognized from contracts with customers and we do not have other sources of revenue. Revenue is measured as the amount of consideration we expect to receive in exchange for transferring goods or providing services. Revenue is recognized net of sales tax, value-added taxes, and other taxes. Shipping and other transportation costs charged to customers are recorded in both revenue and cost of goods sold. We do not have any material significant payment terms as payment is received at or shortly after the point of sale. Certain customers may receive cash-based incentives (including rebates, price supports, and sales commission), which are accounted for as variable consideration. We estimate rebates and price supports based on the expected amount to be provided to customers and reduce revenues recognized once the performance obligation has been met. Sales commissions are recorded as an increase in cost of goods sold once the performance obligation has been met. We do not expect to have significant changes in our estimates for variable considerations.

We have deferred revenue of \$14.4 million related to contractual commitments with customers for which the performance obligation will be satisfied over time, which will range from one to ten years. The revenue associated with these performance obligations is recognized as the obligation is satisfied, which occurs as a volume based metric over time when the transfer of risk and title of finished products transfer to the customer.

Occasionally, we enter into bill-and-hold contracts, where we invoice the customer for products even though we retain possession of the products until a point in time in the future when the products will be shipped to the customer. In these contracts, the primary performance obligation is satisfied at a point in time when the product is segregated from our general inventory, it is ready for shipment to customer, and we do not have the ability to use the product or direct it to another customer. Additionally, we have a secondary performance obligation related to custodial costs, including storage and freight, which is satisfied over time once the product has been delivered to the customer. During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, we recognized \$4.5 million of revenue related to these arrangements.

We disaggregate our revenue by segment product lines, which is how we market our products and review results of operations. The following tables disaggregate our segment revenue by major product lines:

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|------------------------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| | (In thousands) | | | |
| Performance Products | \$ 179,684 | \$ 175,968 | \$ 506,151 | \$ 508,820 |
| Specialty Polymers | 99,349 | 94,313 | 311,657 | 285,712 |
| Cariflex | 41,818 | 43,031 | 130,319 | 124,433 |
| Other | 114 | 847 | 59 | 1,260 |
| Polymer Product Line Revenue | \$ 320,965 | \$ 314,159 | \$ 948,186 | \$ 920,225 |

Effective January 1, 2018, results for our Roads and Construction product line have been consolidated into our Adhesives and Performance Chemicals product lines to better align customer portfolio and end usage. We have adjusted the presentations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 to conform to the respective 2018 presentations.

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|-------------------------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| | (In thousands) | | | |
| Adhesives | \$ 73,781 | \$ 75,018 | \$ 220,907 | \$ 226,008 |
| Performance Chemicals | 118,193 | 108,361 | 355,947 | 310,244 |
| Tires | 10,166 | 13,409 | 38,852 | 37,915 |
| Chemical Product Line Revenue | \$ 202,140 | \$ 196,788 | \$ 615,706 | \$ 574,167 |

| | September 30, | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| | 2018 | 2017 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Contract receivables ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 253,331 | \$ 196,951 |
| Contract liabilities ⁽²⁾ | \$ 14,449 | \$ 16,257 |

(1) Contract receivables are recorded within receivables, net of allowances on our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Our contract liability decreased by \$1.3 million, as a result of meeting the performance obligation, which was recognized in our Specialty Polymers product line revenue, and decreased approximately \$0.5 million due to the change in currency exchange rates.

4. Share-Based Compensation

We account for share-based awards under the provisions of ASC 718, Compensation—Stock Compensation. Accordingly, share-based compensation cost is measured at the grant date based on the fair value of the award and we expense these costs using the straight-line method over the requisite service period. Share-based compensation expense was \$2.5 million and \$2.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively, and \$7.6 million and \$7.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

5. Detail of Certain Balance Sheet Accounts

| | September 30, 2018 | December 31, 2017 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | (In thousands) | |
| Inventories of products: | | |
| Finished products | \$308,069 | \$270,562 |
| Work in progress | 6,025 | 6,925 |
| Raw materials | 98,440 | 100,594 |
| Inventories of products, gross | 412,534 | 378,081 |
| Inventory reserves | (8,396) | (10,285) |
| Total inventories of products, net | \$404,138 | \$367,796 |
| Intangible assets: | | |
| Contractual agreements | \$263,168 | \$264,581 |
| Technology | 145,907 | 146,449 |
| Customer relationships | 60,411 | 60,547 |
| Tradenames/trademarks | 80,520 | 80,138 |
| Software | 55,818 | 52,466 |
| Intangible assets | 605,824 | 604,181 |
| Less accumulated amortization: | | |
| Contractual agreements | 60,621 | 44,435 |
| Technology | 59,796 | 53,086 |
| Customer relationships | 36,526 | 33,871 |
| Tradenames/trademarks | 41,049 | 35,770 |
| Software | 36,171 | 30,156 |
| Total accumulated amortization | 234,163 | 197,318 |
| Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization | \$371,661 | \$406,863 |
| Other payables and accruals: | | |
| Employee related | \$33,259 | \$41,250 |
| Interest payable | 13,318 | 23,615 |
| Property, plant, and equipment accruals | 10,436 | 10,404 |
| Other | 41,373 | 44,355 |
| Total other payables and accruals | \$98,386 | \$119,624 |
| Other long-term liabilities: | | |
| Pension and other post-retirement benefits | \$128,055 | \$147,209 |
| Other | 47,322 | 45,058 |
| Total other long-term liabilities | \$175,377 | \$192,267 |

Changes in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) by component were as follows:

| | Cumulative Foreign Currency Translation | Gain (Loss) on Cash Flow Hedges | Net Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Net Investment Hedges | Benefit Plans Liability, Net of Tax | Total |
|--|--|---|---|---|--------------|
| | (In thousands) | | | | |
| December 31, 2016 | \$ (72,731) | \$ 515 | \$ (1,926) | \$ (84,388) | \$ (158,530) |
| Other comprehensive income before reclassifications | 60,691 | (145) | — | — | 60,546 |
| Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss | — | 879 | — | — | 879 |
| Net other comprehensive income for the year | 60,691 | 734 | — | — | 61,425 |
| September 30, 2017 | \$ (12,040) | \$ 1,249 | \$ (1,926) | \$ (84,388) | \$ (97,105) |
| December 31, 2017 | \$ (9,654) | \$ 4,550 | \$ (1,926) | \$ (91,265) | \$ (98,295) |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications | (14,448) | 4,501 | 4,366 | 9,969 | 4,388 |
| Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss | — | (2,584) | — | — | (2,584) |
| Net other comprehensive income (loss) for the year | (14,448) | 1,917 | 4,366 | 9,969 | 1,804 |
| September 30, 2018 | \$ (24,102) | \$ 6,467 | \$ 2,440 | \$ (81,296) | \$ (96,491) |

6. Earnings Per Share (“EPS”)

Basic EPS is computed by dividing net income attributable to Kraton by the weighted-average number of shares outstanding during the period. Diluted EPS is computed by dividing net income attributable to Kraton by the diluted weighted-average number of shares outstanding during the period and, accordingly, reflects the potential dilution that could occur if securities or other agreements to issue common stock, such as stock options, were exercised, settled or converted into common stock and were dilutive. The diluted weighted-average number of shares used in our diluted EPS calculation is determined using the treasury stock method.

The calculations of basic and diluted EPS are as follows:

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2018 | | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2017 | | |
|---|--|--|--------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|
| | Net Income Attributable to Kraton | Weighted Average Shares Outstanding | Earnings Per Share | Net Loss Attributable to Kraton | Weighted Average Shares Outstanding | Loss Per Share |
| | (In thousands, except per share data) | | | | | |
| Basic: | | | | | | |
| As reported | \$42,349 | 31,896 | | \$(4,033) | 31,223 | |
| Amounts allocated to unvested restricted shares | (580) | (437) | | 77 | (598) | |
| Amounts available to common stockholders | 41,769 | 31,459 | \$ 1.33 | (3,956) | 30,625 | \$(0.13) |
| Diluted: | | | | | | |
| Amounts allocated to unvested restricted shares | 580 | 437 | | (77) | 598 | |
| Non participating share units | — | 137 | | — | — | |
| Stock options added under the treasury stock method | — | 238 | | — | — | |
| Amounts reallocated to unvested restricted shares | (573) | (437) | | 77 | (598) | |
| Amounts available to stockholders and assumed conversions | \$41,776 | 31,834 | \$ 1.31 | \$(3,956) | 30,625 | \$(0.13) |
| | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 | | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017 | | |
| | Net Income Attributable to Kraton | Weighted Average Shares Outstanding | Earnings Per Share | Net Income Attributable to Kraton | Weighted Average Shares Outstanding | Earnings Per Share |
| | (In thousands, except per share data) | | | | | |
| Basic: | | | | | | |
| As reported | \$49,491 | 31,853 | | \$27,941 | 31,151 | |
| Amounts allocated to unvested restricted shares | (733) | (472) | | (541) | (603) | |
| Amounts available to common stockholders | 48,758 | 31,381 | \$ 1.55 | 27,400 | 30,548 | \$ 0.90 |
| Diluted: | | | | | | |
| Amounts allocated to unvested restricted shares | 733 | 472 | | 541 | 603 | |
| Non participating share units | — | 180 | | — | 175 | |
| Stock options added under the treasury stock method | — | 249 | | — | 283 | |
| Amounts reallocated to unvested restricted shares | (724) | (472) | | (533) | (603) | |
| Amounts available to stockholders and assumed conversions | \$48,767 | 31,810 | \$ 1.53 | \$27,408 | 31,006 | \$ 0.88 |

7. Long-Term Debt

Long-term debt consists of the following:

| | September 30, 2018 | | | | December 31, 2017 | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|---------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|---------------------|-------------|
| | Principal | Discount | Debt Issuance Costs | Total | Principal | Discount | Debt Issuance Costs | Total |
| | (In thousands) | | | | | | | |
| USD Tranche | \$362,000 | \$(7,660) | \$(10,523) | \$343,817 | \$485,000 | \$(13,373) | \$(13,986) | \$457,641 |
| Euro Tranche | 347,790 | — | (4,955) | 342,835 | 198,265 | — | (3,517) | 194,748 |
| 10.5% Senior Notes | — | — | — | — | 440,000 | (13,267) | (14,409) | 412,324 |
| 7.0% Senior Notes | 400,000 | — | (6,822) | 393,178 | 400,000 | — | (7,424) | 392,576 |
| 5.25% Senior Notes | 336,197 | — | (5,660) | 330,537 | — | — | — | — |
| ABL Facility | 35,000 | — | — | 35,000 | — | — | — | — |
| KFPC Loan Agreement | 113,422 | — | (119) | 113,303 | 149,919 | — | (196) | 149,723 |
| KFPC Revolving Facilities | 18,040 | — | — | 18,040 | 8,430 | — | — | 8,430 |
| Capital lease obligation | 1,301 | — | — | 1,301 | 2,086 | — | — | 2,086 |
| Total debt | 1,613,750 | (7,660) | (28,079) | 1,578,011 | 1,683,700 | (26,640) | (39,532) | 1,617,528 |
| Less current portion of total debt | 50,689 | — | — | 50,689 | 42,647 | — | — | 42,647 |
| Long-term debt | \$1,563,061 | \$(7,660) | \$(28,079) | \$1,527,322 | \$1,641,053 | \$(26,640) | \$(39,532) | \$1,574,881 |

Senior Secured Term Loan Facility. As of September 30, 2018, we had outstanding borrowings under the U.S. dollar denominated tranche (the “USD Tranche”) of our senior secured term loan facility (the “Term Loan Facility”) of \$362.0 million and outstanding borrowings under the Euro denominated tranche (the “Euro Tranche”) of the Term Loan Facility of €300.0 million, or approximately \$347.8 million.

On March 8, 2018, we entered into a fifth amendment to the credit agreement governing the Term Loan Facility (the “Credit Agreement”) pursuant to which borrowings under the Euro Tranche were increased by €150.0 million, we reduced our USD Tranche interest rate applicable margin to 2.5% and alternative base rate applicable margin to 1.5%, we reduced our Euro Tranche interest rate applicable margin to 2.0%, and extended the maturity date of the Term Loan Facility by three years to March 8, 2025. The proceeds from the additional borrowings under the Euro Tranche were used, together with available cash, to pay down \$185.0 million of the then outstanding borrowings under the USD Tranche. On May 24, 2018, we entered into a sixth and seventh amendment to the Credit Agreement. The seventh amendment increased borrowings under the USD Tranche by \$90.0 million, with the proceeds of such additional borrowing being used to fund a portion of the refinancing of the 10.5% Senior Notes discussed below. The sixth amendment provided for certain technical amendments to the Term Loan Facility to allow for greater flexibility in the repayment of unsecured indebtedness. For a summary of additional terms of the Term Loan Facility, see Note 8 Long-Term Debt to the consolidated financial statements set forth in our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K.

As of the date of this filing, the effective interest rate for the USD Tranche is 4.2% and the effective interest rate for the Euro Tranche is 2.75%. The Term Loan Facility contains a number of customary affirmative and negative covenants and we were in compliance with those covenants as of the date of this filing.

10.5% Senior Notes due 2023. During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, approximately \$157.6 million of the 10.5% Senior Notes due 2023 (the “10.5% Senior Notes”) were repurchased in a cash tender offer for any and all of the outstanding \$440.0 million aggregate principal amount of 10.5% Senior Notes. The 10.5% Senior Notes that remained outstanding following the tender offer were redeemed on June 13, 2018. The consideration and redemption price plus, in each case, accrued and unpaid interest for the tender offer and redemption, respectively, and the fees and expenses of refinancing the 10.5% Senior Notes were paid with the net proceeds of the offering of the 5.25% Senior Notes (as defined below) and the additional \$90.0 million borrowings under our USD Tranche, together with \$60.0

million borrowings under the ABL Facility (as defined below), and cash on hand.

7.0% Senior Notes due 2025. Kraton Polymers LLC and its wholly-owned financing subsidiary Kraton Polymers Capital Corporation issued \$400.0 million aggregate principal amount of 7.0% Senior Notes due 2025 (the “7.0% Senior Notes”) in March 2017, which mature on April 15, 2025. The 7.0% Senior Notes are general unsecured, senior obligations, and are unconditionally guaranteed on a senior unsecured basis by each of Kraton Corporation and certain of our wholly-owned

domestic subsidiaries. We pay interest on the Senior Notes at 7.0% per annum, semi-annually in arrears on January 15 and July 15 of each year.

5.25% Senior Notes due 2026. Kraton Polymers LLC and its wholly-owned financing subsidiary Kraton Polymers Capital Corporation issued €290.0 million, or approximately \$336.2 million as of September 30, 2018, aggregate principal amount of 5.25% Senior Notes due 2026 (the “5.25% Senior Notes”) in May 2018, which mature on May 15, 2026. The 5.25% Senior Notes are general unsecured, senior obligations, and are unconditionally guaranteed on a senior unsecured basis by each of Kraton Corporation and certain of our wholly-owned domestic subsidiaries. We will pay interest on the Senior Notes at 5.25% per annum, semi-annually in arrears on May 15 and November 15 of each year, commencing November 15, 2018. The net proceeds of the offering of the 5.25% Senior Notes were used to fund a portion of the refinancing of the 10.5% Senior Notes discussed above.

ABL Facility. Our asset-based revolving credit facility provides financing of up to \$250.0 million (the “ABL Facility”). The ABL Facility also provides that we have the right at any time to request up to \$100.0 million of additional commitments, provided that we satisfy certain additional conditions. During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, we borrowed \$60.0 million to fund a portion of the refinancing of the 10.5% Senior Notes discussed above. Our outstanding borrowings under the ABL facility were \$35.0 million as of September 30, 2018.

Borrowing availability under the ABL Facility is subject to borrowing base limitations based on the level of receivables and inventory available for security. Revolver commitments under the ABL Facility consist of U.S. and Dutch revolving credit facility commitments, and the terms of the ABL Facility require the U.S. revolver commitment comprises at least 60.0% of the commitments under the ABL Facility. The ABL Facility contains a number of customary affirmative and negative covenants and we were in compliance with those covenants as of the date of this filing. For a summary of additional terms of the ABL Facility, see Note 8 Long-Term Debt to the consolidated financial statements set forth in our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K.

KFPC Loan Agreement. As of September 30, 2018, NTD 3.5 billion, or approximately \$113.4 million, was drawn on KFPC's syndicated loan agreement (the “KFPC Loan Agreement”). For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, our effective interest rate for borrowings on the KFPC Loan Agreement was 1.8%. The KFPC Loan Agreement contains certain financial covenants that change during the term of the KFPC Loan Agreement, and KFPC was in compliance with those covenants as of the date of this filing. For a summary of additional terms of the KFPC Loan Agreement, see Note 8 Long-Term Debt to the consolidated financial statements set forth in our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K.

KFPC Revolving Facilities. KFPC also has five revolving credit facilities (the “KFPC Revolving Facilities”) to provide funding for working capital requirements and/or general corporate purposes, which allow for total borrowings of up to NTD 2.2 billion, or approximately \$70.5 million. All of the KFPC Revolving Facilities are subject to variable interest rates. As of September 30, 2018, NTD 550.0 million, or approximately \$18.0 million, was drawn on the KFPC Revolving Facilities.

Debt Issuance Costs. We had net debt issuance cost of \$30.7 million as of September 30, 2018, of which \$2.6 million related to the ABL Facility is recorded as an asset (of which \$1.2 million was included in other current assets) and \$28.1 million is recorded as a reduction to long-term debt. We amortized \$1.2 million and \$1.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively, and \$4.6 million and \$6.3 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. We capitalized \$11.1 million of debt issuance costs for the nine months ended September 30, 2018, of which \$2.2 million, \$3.1 million, and \$5.9 million related to the Euro Tranche, USD Tranche, and 5.25% Senior Notes, respectively.

We recorded a \$79.9 million loss on extinguishment of debt during the nine months ended September 30, 2018, which includes a write off of \$18.7 million related to previously capitalized deferred financing costs, a write off of \$17.4 million related to original issue discount on our Term Loan Facility, and a \$46.4 million related to the cash tender offer and subsequent redemption of the outstanding 10.5% Senior Notes, all of which was partially offset by a \$2.6 million gain on the settlement of the ineffective portion of interest rate swaps.

Debt Maturities. The remaining principal payments on our outstanding total debt as of September 30, 2018, are as follows:

| | Principal Payments (In thousands) |
|--|--|
| October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019 | \$50,689 |
| October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020 | 81,193 |
| October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 | 188 |
| October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 | 35,199 |
| October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023 | 211 |
| Thereafter | 1,446,270 |
| Total debt | \$1,613,750 |

See Note 8 Fair Value Measurements, Financial Instruments, and Credit Risk for fair value information related to our long-term debt.

8. Fair Value Measurements, Financial Instruments, and Credit Risk

ASC 820, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures defines fair value, establishes a consistent framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosure requirements about fair value measurements. ASC 820 requires entities to, among other things, maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value.

ASC 820 defines fair value as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date.

ASC 820 specifies a hierarchy of valuation techniques based on whether the inputs to those valuation techniques are observable or unobservable. Observable inputs reflect market data obtained from independent sources, while unobservable inputs reflect our market assumptions.

In accordance with ASC 820, these two types of inputs have created the following fair value hierarchy:

- Level 1—Inputs that are quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Level 2—Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the asset or liability, including:
 - Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
 - Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active;
 - Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and
 - Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means; and
- Level 3—Inputs that are unobservable and reflect our assumptions used in pricing the asset or liability based on the best information available under the circumstances (e.g., internally derived assumptions surrounding the timing and amount of expected cash flows).

Recurring Fair Value Measurements. The following tables set forth by level within the fair value hierarchy our financial assets and liabilities that were accounted for at fair value on a recurring basis as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017. These financial assets and liabilities are classified in their entirety based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Our assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement requires judgment, which judgment may affect the valuation of their fair value and placement within the fair value hierarchy levels.

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| Balance Sheet Location | September 2018 | Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---|---|------|
| | | Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) | Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) | |
| Derivative asset – current | Other current assets | \$2,384 | \$— | \$ 2,384 | \$ — |
| Derivative asset – noncurrent | Other long-term assets | 5,562 | — | 5,562 | — |
| Retirement plan asset – noncurrent | Other long-term asset | 2,615 | 2,615 | — | — |
| Derivative liability – current | Other payables and accruals | 638 | — | 638 | — |
| Total | | \$11,199 | \$2,615 | \$ 8,584 | \$ — |

| Balance Sheet Location | December 2017 | Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|--|---|---|------|
| | | Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) | Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) | |
| Derivative asset – current | Other current assets | \$1,629 | \$— | \$ 1,629 | \$ — |
| Derivative asset – noncurrent | Other long-term assets | 3,801 | — | 3,801 | — |
| Retirement plan asset – noncurrent | Other long-term assets | 2,435 | 2,435 | — | — |

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| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|---------|----------|------|
| Derivative liability – current | Other payables and accruals | 399 | — | 399 | — |
| Total | | \$8,264 | \$2,435 | \$ 5,829 | \$ — |

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The following table presents the carrying values and approximate fair values of our long-term debt.

| | September 30, 2018 | | December 31, 2017 | |
|--|--------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| | Carrying Value | Fair Value | Carrying Value | Fair Value |
| | (In thousands) | | | |
| USD Tranche (significant other observable inputs – level 2) | \$362,000 | \$364,263 | \$485,000 | \$490,762 |
| Euro Tranche (significant other observable inputs – level 2) | \$347,790 | \$349,529 | \$198,265 | \$200,495 |
| 10.5% Senior Notes (quoted prices in active market for identical assets – level 1) | \$— | \$— | \$440,000 | \$499,171 |
| 7.0% Senior Notes (quoted prices in active market for identical assets – level 1) | \$400,000 | \$414,320 | \$400,000 | \$432,028 |
| 5.25% Senior Notes (quoted prices in active market for identical assets – level 1) | \$336,197 | \$345,207 | \$— | \$— |
| ABL Facility (significant other observable inputs – level 2) | \$35,000 | \$35,000 | \$— | \$— |
| Capital lease obligation (significant other observable inputs – level 2) | \$1,301 | \$1,301 | \$2,086 | \$2,086 |
| KFPC Loan Agreement (significant unobservable inputs – level 3) | \$113,422 | \$113,422 | \$149,919 | \$149,919 |
| KFPC Revolving Facilities (significant unobservable inputs – level 3) | \$18,040 | \$18,040 | \$8,430 | \$8,430 |

The ABL Facility, Capital lease obligation, KFPC Loan Agreement, and KFPC Revolving Facilities are variable rate instruments, and as such, the fair value approximates the carrying value.

Financial Instruments

Interest Rate Swap Agreements. Periodically, we enter into interest rate swap agreements to hedge or otherwise protect against interest rate fluctuation on a portion of our variable rate debt. These interest rate swap agreements are designated as cash flow hedges on our exposure to the variability of future cash flows.

In an effort to convert a substantial portion of our future interest payments pursuant to the USD Tranche to a fixed interest rate, in February and March 2016 we entered into several interest rate swap agreements with an aggregate notional value of \$925.4 million, effective dates of January 3, 2017 and maturity dates of December 31, 2020. In May 2018 we entered into an interest rate swap agreement with a notional value of \$90.0 million, effective date of June 4, 2018 and maturity date of December 31, 2018. We exited out of \$653.4 million of our interest rate swaps as of September 30, 2018. As a result, at September 30, 2018 the total notional value of our interest rate swaps was \$362.0 million, which effectively hedges the outstanding USD Tranche, fixing LIBOR at 1.712%. We recorded an unrealized gain of \$0.5 million and an unrealized gain of \$1.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively, and an unrealized gain of \$5.1 million and an unrealized gain of \$1.1 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively, in other comprehensive income related to the effective portion of these interest rate swap agreements. In addition, we reclassified out of other comprehensive income the settlement of a portion of our interest rate swap that amounted to \$2.6 million gain for the nine months ended September 30, 2018.

Foreign Currency Hedges. Periodically, we enter into foreign currency agreements to hedge or otherwise protect against fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates. These agreements do not qualify for hedge accounting and gains/losses resulting from both the up-front premiums and/or settlement of the hedges at expiration of the agreements are recognized in the period in which they are incurred. We settled these hedges and recorded a loss of \$0.2 million and \$2.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively, and a loss of \$0.5 million and \$0.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively, which are recorded in cost of goods sold in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations. These contracts are structured such that these gains/losses from the mark-to-market impact of the hedging instruments materially offset the underlying foreign currency exchange gains/losses to reduce the overall impact of foreign currency exchange movements throughout the period.

Net Investment Hedge. During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, we designated €290 million of euro-denominated borrowing as a hedge against a portion of our net investment in the Company's European operations. The mark to market of this instrument was a gain of \$2.3 million and \$5.7 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, respectively, which is recorded within accumulated other comprehensive loss in

the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

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Credit Risk

The use of derivatives creates exposure to credit risk in the event that the counterparties to these instruments fail to perform their obligations under the contracts, which we seek to minimize by limiting our counterparties to major financial institutions with acceptable credit ratings and by monitoring the total value of positions with individual counterparties.

We analyze our counterparties' financial condition prior to extending credit, and we establish credit limits and monitor the appropriateness of those limits on an ongoing basis. We also obtain cash, letters of credit, or other acceptable forms of security from customers to provide credit support, where appropriate, based on our financial analysis of the customer and the contractual terms and conditions applicable to each transaction.

9. Income Taxes

Income tax provision was an expense of \$8.3 million and a benefit of \$2.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively, and an expense of \$8.7 million and \$2.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. Our effective tax rate was 16.1% and 30.9% for the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively, and 14.6% and 11.3% for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, our effective tax rate differed from the U.S. corporate statutory tax rate of 21.0% primarily due to the mix of our pretax income or loss generated in various foreign jurisdictions, the tax impact of certain permanent items, and our uncertain tax positions. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, our pretax earnings in the Netherlands, Sweden, and Finland impacted our effective tax rate due to the statutory rates in those jurisdictions of 25.0%, 22.0%, and 20.0%, respectively.

The provision for income taxes differs from the amount computed by applying the U.S. corporate statutory income tax rate to income (loss) before income taxes for the reasons set forth below.

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| | (In thousands) | | | |
| Income taxes at the statutory rate | \$(10,838) | \$2,455 | \$(12,595) | \$(8,985) |
| State taxes, net of federal benefit | (884) |) 25 | (1,031) |) 117 |
| Foreign tax rate differential | 5,228 | (3,403) | 9,428 | 2,263 |
| Permanent differences | (1,581) |) 1,464 | (1,440) |) 3,190 |
| Uncertain tax positions | (543) |) 1,821 | (1,596) |) 666 |
| Valuation allowance | 329 | 13 | (114) |) 330 |
| Return to provision adjustments | (45) |) (512) | (1,395) |) (509) |
| Other | — | 302 | — | 21 |
| Income tax benefit (expense) | \$(8,334) |) \$2,165 | \$(8,743) |) \$(2,907) |

Valuation allowances are recorded to reduce deferred tax assets when it is more likely than not that a tax benefit will not be realized. We consider all available material evidence, both positive and negative, in assessing the appropriateness of a valuation allowance for our deferred tax assets. In determining whether a valuation allowance is required during the period, we evaluate primarily (a) cumulative earnings and losses in recent years, (b) historical taxable income or losses as it relates to our ability to utilize operating loss and tax credit carryforwards within the expiration period, (c) trends indicating earnings or losses expected in future years along with our ability in prior years to reasonably project these future trends or operating results, (d) length of the carryback and carryforward period, and (e) prudent and feasible tax-planning strategies, particularly related to operational changes and the impact on the timing or taxability of relative amounts.

As of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, we recorded a valuation allowance of \$51.4 million and \$51.3 million, respectively, against our net operating loss carryforwards and other deferred tax assets. We decreased our valuation allowances by \$0.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 and increased by \$0.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018, primarily related to current period net operating losses in the U.S. We

did not have a material change in our valuation allowances for the three months ended September 30, 2017. We decreased our valuation allowances by \$0.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017, which represents utilization of net operating losses.

On December 22, 2017, the U.S. Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (“Tax Act”) introduced significant changes to U.S. income tax law, which included a reduction to the U.S. statutory tax rate from 35.0% to 21.0% and a limitation on net operating loss carryforwards generated in 2018 and beyond. Additionally, the Tax Act extends bonus depreciation provisions and limits the

amount of interest expense deductible in future years. In 2017, we were subject to a one-time transition tax on accumulated foreign subsidiary earnings not previously subject to U.S. income tax.

The Staff of the SEC issued Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 118, which provides registrants a measurement period to report the impact of the new U.S. tax law. Due to the timing of the enactment and the complexity involved in applying the provisions of the Tax Act, we have made reasonable estimates of the effects and recorded provisional amounts in our financial statements as of December 31, 2017. As we collect and prepare necessary data, and interpret the Tax Act and any additional guidance issued by the U.S. Treasury Department, the IRS, and other standard-setting bodies, we may make adjustments to the provisional amounts. Those adjustments may materially impact our provision for income taxes and effective tax rate in the period in which the adjustments are made. The accounting for the tax effects of the Tax Act will be completed in 2018. Certain items or estimates that result in impacts of the Tax Act being provisional include: the deemed repatriation tax on post-1986 accumulated earnings and profits, the deferred tax rate change effect of the new law, certain deferred taxes related to employee compensation, valuation allowances on certain deferred taxes, deferred taxes related to outside basis differences in certain foreign investments, detailed foreign earnings calculation for the most recent period, project foreign cash balances for certain foreign subsidiaries, and finalized computations of foreign tax credit availability. In addition, our 2017 U.S. income tax returns will be finalized in the fourth quarter of 2018, and while historically this process has resulted in offsetting changes in estimates in current and deferred taxes for items which are timing related, the reduction of the U.S. tax rate will result in an adjustment to our income tax provision or benefit when recorded. Finally, we consider it likely that further technical guidance regarding the new Tax Act provisions, as well as clarity regarding state income tax conformity to current federal tax code, may be issued.

In accordance with the Tax Act, our previously untaxed accumulated foreign earnings are subjected to U.S. income tax at a rate of 15.5% to the extent of foreign cash and certain other net current assets and 8.0% on the remaining earnings. We recorded a provisional amount for our one-time transitional tax liability and income tax expense of \$46.3 million during the year ended December 31, 2017. We have recorded provisional amounts based on estimates of the effects of the Tax Act as the analysis requires significant data from our foreign subsidiaries that is not regularly collected or analyzed.

The estimated impact of the Tax Act to our deferred taxes was a benefit of \$95.0 million, of which \$68.9 million relates to the reduction of the U.S. statutory tax rate from 35.0% to 21.0% for years after 2017 and the remaining relates to changes in our investments in foreign subsidiaries. We remeasured our deferred taxes as of December 31, 2017 to reflect the reduced rate that will apply in future periods when these deferred taxes are settled or realized. Although the tax rate reduction is known, we have not collected the necessary data to complete our analysis of the effect of the Tax Act on the underlying deferred taxes and as such, the amounts recorded as of December 31, 2017 are provisional. As we complete our analysis of the Tax Act and incorporate additional guidance that may be issued by the U.S. Treasury Department, the IRS or other standard-setting bodies, we may identify additional effects not reflected as of December 31, 2017.

For the period ending December 31, 2017, a portion of the unremitted foreign earnings are permanently reinvested in the corresponding country of origin. Accordingly, we have not provided deferred taxes for the differences between the book basis and underlying tax basis in those subsidiaries or on the foreign currency translation adjustment amounts related to such operations.

We file income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and in various state and foreign jurisdictions. For our U.S. federal income tax returns, the statute of limitations has expired through the tax year ended December 31, 2003. As a result of net operating loss carryforwards from 2004, the statute remains open for all years subsequent to 2003. In addition, open tax years for state and foreign jurisdictions remain subject to examination.

We recognize the tax impact of certain tax positions only when it is more likely than not those such positions are sustainable. The taxes are recorded in accordance with ASC 740-10, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes, which prescribes the minimum recognition threshold.

As of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, we had total unrecognized tax benefits of \$25.8 million and \$24.4 million, respectively, related to uncertain tax positions, all of which, if recognized, would impact our effective tax rate. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, we had an increase of \$0.5 million and \$1.4

million, respectively, primarily related to our uncertain tax positions in the U.S. and Europe. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, we had a decrease of \$1.5 million and \$0.1 million, respectively, primarily related to our uncertain tax positions in the U.S. and Europe. We recorded interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits within the provision for income taxes. As a result of the expiration of statute of limitations in various jurisdictions, we expect to release a \$0.9 million reserve for the year ending December 31, 2018.

10. Commitments and Contingencies

(a) Legal Proceedings

We received an initial notice from the tax authorities in Brazil during the fourth quarter of 2012 in connection with tax credits that were generated from the purchase of certain goods which were subsequently applied by us against taxes owed. We

received an additional tax assessment of R\$1.6 million, or approximately \$0.4 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2018. The tax authorities are currently assessing R\$9.2 million, or approximately \$2.3 million. We have appealed the assertion by the tax authorities in Brazil that the goods purchased were not eligible to earn the credits. While the outcome of this proceeding cannot be predicted with certainty, we do not expect this matter to have a material adverse effect upon our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

We and certain of our subsidiaries, from time to time, are parties to various other legal proceedings, claims and disputes that have arisen in the ordinary course of business. These claims may involve significant amounts, some of which would not be covered by insurance. A substantial settlement payment or judgment in excess of our accruals could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows. While the outcome of these proceedings cannot be predicted with certainty, we do not expect any of these existing matters, individually or in the aggregate, to have a material adverse effect upon our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

(b) Asset Retirement Obligations.

The changes in the aggregate carrying amount of our asset retirement obligations are as follows:

| | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 2017 (In thousands) | |
|------------------------------|---|----------|
| Beginning balance | \$5,712 | \$8,863 |
| Additional accruals | — | 439 |
| Accretion expense | 253 | 241 |
| Obligations settled | (66) | (3,065) |
| Foreign currency translation | (186) | 484 |
| Ending balance | \$5,713 | \$6,962 |

Pursuant to the indemnity included in the February 2001 separation agreement from Shell Chemical, we recorded a receivable of \$0.2 million and \$1.4 million as of September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

There have been no material changes to our Commitments and Contingencies disclosed in our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K.

11. Employee Benefits

The components of net periodic benefit costs related to pension benefits are as follows:

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|---------------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|
| | 2018 | | 2017 | | 2018 | | 2017 | |
| | U.S. Plans | Non-U.S. Plans | U.S. Plans | Non-U.S. Plans | U.S. Plans | Non-U.S. Plans | U.S. Plans | Non-U.S. Plans |
| | (In thousands) | | | | | | | |
| Service cost | \$626 | \$ 617 | \$799 | \$ 695 | \$2,419 | \$ 1,900 | \$2,399 | \$ 1,998 |
| Interest cost | 1,810 | 506 | 1,832 | 718 | 5,400 | 1,574 | 5,494 | 2,093 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (2,453) | (655) | (2,351) | (811) | (7,358) | (2,039) | (7,052) | (2,371) |
| Amortization of prior service cost | — | 3 | 905 | 55 | — | 10 | 2,715 | 160 |
| Amortization of net actuarial loss | 1,032 | 158 | — | — | 3,484 | 489 | — | — |
| Net periodic benefit cost | \$1,015 | \$ 629 | \$1,185 | \$ 657 | \$3,945 | \$ 1,934 | \$3,556 | \$ 1,880 |

The components of net periodic benefit costs other than the service cost component are included in Other expense on our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations.

We made contributions of \$10.7 million and \$10.1 million to our pension plans in the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

The components of net periodic benefit cost related to other post-retirement benefits are as follows:

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| | U.S. Plans | U.S. Plans | U.S. Plans | U.S. Plans |
| | (In thousands) | | | |
| Service cost | \$123 | \$ 130 | \$402 | \$420 |
| Interest cost | 306 | 348 | 985 | 1,028 |
| Amortization of prior service cost | (146) | — | (146) | — |
| Amortization of net actuarial loss | 179 | 150 | 561 | 450 |
| Net periodic benefit cost | \$462 | \$ 628 | \$1,802 | \$1,898 |

During the three months ended September 30, 2018, we amended the post-retirement benefits plan for post-65 retirees to provide an annual subsidy based on years of service. The annual subsidy replaces a company-sponsored medical plan. This plan modification resulted in a \$13.1 million reduction in pension and other post-retirement liabilities during the three months ended September 30, 2018.

The components of net periodic benefit costs other than the service cost component are included in Other expense on our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations.

12. Industry Segments and Foreign Operations

Our operations are managed through two operating segments: (i) Polymer segment; and (ii) Chemical segment. In accordance with the provisions of ASC 280, Segment Reporting, our chief operating decision maker has been identified as our President and Chief Executive Officer, who reviews operating results to make decisions about allocating resources and assessing performance for the entire company.

- Polymer Segment is comprised of our SBCs and other engineered polymers business.
- Chemical Segment is comprised of our pine-based specialty products business.

Our chief operating decision maker uses operating income (loss) as the primary measure of each segment's operating results in order to allocate resources and in assessing the company's performance. In accordance with ASC 280, Segment Reporting, we have presented operating income for each segment. The following table summarizes our operating results by segment. We do not have sales between segments.

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2018 | | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2017 | | |
|--|--|-----------|-------------|--|-----------|-------------|
| | Polymer | Chemical | Total | Polymer | Chemical | Total |
| | (In thousands) | | | | | |
| Revenue | \$320,965 | \$202,140 | \$523,105 | \$314,159 | \$196,788 | \$510,947 |
| Cost of goods sold | 230,763 | 138,084 | 368,847 | 246,851 | 134,802 | 381,653 |
| Gross profit | 90,202 | 64,056 | 154,258 | 67,308 | 61,986 | 129,294 |
| Operating expenses: | | | | | | |
| Research and development | 7,422 | 3,175 | 10,597 | 7,234 | 2,978 | 10,212 |
| Selling, general, and administrative | 20,327 | 15,823 | 36,150 | 24,001 | 18,420 | 42,421 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 17,554 | 17,563 | 35,117 | 17,342 | 16,965 | 34,307 |
| Operating income | \$44,899 | \$27,495 | 72,394 | \$18,731 | \$23,623 | 42,354 |
| Other expense | | | (740) | | | (846) |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt | | | — | | | (15,632) |
| Earnings of unconsolidated joint venture | | | 100 | | | 125 |
| Interest expense, net | | | (20,143) | | | (33,017) |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | | | \$51,611 | | | \$(7,016) |
| | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 | | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017 | | |
| | Polymer | Chemical | Total | Polymer | Chemical | Total |
| | (In thousands) | | | | | |
| Revenue | \$948,186 | \$615,706 | \$1,563,892 | \$920,225 | \$574,167 | \$1,494,392 |
| Cost of goods sold | 666,779 | 425,428 | 1,092,207 | 677,418 | 395,918 | 1,073,336 |
| Gross profit | 281,407 | 190,278 | 471,685 | 242,807 | 178,249 | 421,056 |
| Operating expenses: | | | | | | |
| Research and development | 22,255 | 9,613 | 31,868 | 21,357 | 8,739 | 30,096 |
| Selling, general, and administrative | 68,308 | 48,540 | 116,848 | 72,672 | 51,295 | 123,967 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 52,914 | 52,719 | 105,633 | 50,439 | 51,601 | 102,040 |
| Operating income | \$137,930 | \$79,406 | 217,336 | \$98,339 | \$66,614 | 164,953 |
| Other expense | | | (2,960) | | | (2,517) |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt | | | (79,921) | | | (35,370) |
| Earnings of unconsolidated joint venture | | | 357 | | | 370 |
| Interest expense, net | | | (74,835) | | | (101,766) |
| Income before income taxes | | | \$59,977 | | | \$25,670 |

The following table presents long-lived assets including goodwill and total assets.

| | September 30, 2018 | | | December 31, 2017 | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Polymer | Chemical | Total | Polymer | Chemical | Total |
| | (In thousands) | | | | | |
| Property, plant, and equipment, net | \$538,604 | \$393,025 | \$931,629 | \$561,109 | \$397,614 | \$958,723 |
| Investment in unconsolidated joint venture | \$12,082 | \$— | \$12,082 | \$12,380 | \$— | \$12,380 |
| Goodwill | \$— | \$773,373 | \$773,373 | \$— | \$774,319 | \$774,319 |
| Total assets | \$1,160,181 | \$1,752,863 | \$2,913,044 | \$1,125,626 | \$1,806,901 | \$2,932,527 |

For geographic reporting, revenue is attributed to the geographic location in which the customers' facilities are located. Long-lived assets consist primarily of property, plant, and equipment, which are attributed to the geographic location in which they are located and are presented at historical cost.

Following is a summary of revenue by geographic region:

| | Three Months Ended | | | Three Months Ended | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| | September 30, 2018 | | | September 30, 2017 | | |
| | Polymer | Chemical | Total | Polymer | Chemical | Total |
| | (In thousands) | | | (In thousands) | | |
| Revenue: | | | | | | |
| United States | \$111,996 | \$87,256 | \$199,252 | \$99,187 | \$82,695 | \$181,882 |
| Germany | 41,219 | 13,496 | 54,715 | 37,723 | 15,428 | 53,151 |
| All other countries | 167,750 | 101,388 | 269,138 | 177,249 | 98,665 | 275,914 |
| | \$320,965 | \$202,140 | \$523,105 | \$314,159 | \$196,788 | \$510,947 |
| | Nine Months Ended September | | | Nine Months Ended September | | |
| | 30, 2018 | | | 30, 2017 | | |
| | Polymer | Chemical | Total | Polymer | Chemical | Total |
| | (In thousands) | | | (In thousands) | | |
| Revenue: | | | | | | |
| United States | \$325,985 | \$249,811 | \$575,796 | \$290,570 | \$240,606 | \$531,176 |
| Germany | 112,726 | 42,582 | 155,308 | 109,757 | 46,337 | 156,094 |
| All other countries | 509,475 | 323,313 | 832,788 | 519,898 | 287,224 | 807,122 |
| | \$948,186 | \$615,706 | \$1,563,892 | \$920,225 | \$574,167 | \$1,494,392 |

Our capital expenditures for the Polymer segment, excluding capital expenditures by the KFPC joint venture, were \$31.8 million and \$37.4 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively, and capital expenditures for our Chemical segment were \$34.2 million and \$34.2 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

13. Related Party Transactions

We own a 50% equity investment in an SBC manufacturing joint venture in Kashima, Japan. Our outstanding payables were \$18.1 million and \$17.7 million as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively, which were recorded in "Due to related party" liability on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets. Our total purchases from the joint venture were \$11.3 million and \$8.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively, and \$27.6 million and \$28.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

We own a 50% variable interest in KFPC, an HSBC manufacturing joint venture in Mailiao, Taiwan. The KFPC joint venture is fully consolidated in our financial statements, and our joint venture partner, Formosa Petrochemical Corporation ("FPCC"), is a related party affiliate. Under the terms of the joint venture agreement, FPCC is to provide certain site services and raw materials to KFPC. Additionally, we purchase certain raw materials from FPCC for our other manufacturing locations. Our outstanding payables were \$0.6 million and \$1.5 million as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively, which were recorded in "Due to related party" liability on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets. Our total purchases from this joint venture were \$12.9 million and \$4.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively, and \$35.0 million and \$8.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. See Note 14 Variable Interest Entity, for further discussion related to the KFPC joint venture.

14. Variable Interest Entity

We hold a variable interest in a joint venture with FPCC to build, own and operate a 30 kiloton HSBC plant at FPCC's petrochemical site in Mailiao, Taiwan. Kraton and FPCC are each 50% owners of the joint venture company, KFPC. Under the provisions of an offtake agreement with KFPC, we have exclusive rights to purchase all production from KFPC. Additionally, the agreement requires us to purchase a minimum of 80% of the plant production capacity each year at a defined fixed margin. This offtake agreement represents a variable interest that provides us the power to direct the most significant activities of KFPC and exposes us to the economic variability of the joint venture. As such, we have determined that we are the primary beneficiary of this variable interest entity. As a result, we have consolidated KFPC in our financial statements and reflected FPCC's 50% ownership as a noncontrolling interest. The following table summarizes the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017 for KFPC before intercompany eliminations.

| | September | December |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| | 30, 2018 | 31, 2017 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$5,718 | \$13,848 |
| Other current assets | 19,413 | 21,399 |
| Property, plant, and equipment, net | 163,082 | 173,363 |
| Intangible assets | 8,827 | 9,585 |
| Other long-term assets | 11,284 | 13,972 |
| Total assets | \$208,324 | \$232,167 |
| Current portion of long-term debt | \$50,446 | \$41,745 |
| Current liabilities | 15,087 | 13,938 |
| Long-term debt | 80,897 | 116,408 |
| Total liabilities | \$146,430 | \$172,091 |

15. Subsequent Events

Our Panama City, Florida, facility was damaged by Hurricane Michael. We are currently in the process of assessing the full extent of this damage, and at this time we do not know when the Panama City site will resume full operations. We are actively working to minimize the impact on our customers, including evaluating our ability to satisfy the needs of our customers through inventories on hand, and where possible, production from our other plant sites. At this time we are unable to estimate the financial effect of the event.

We have evaluated events and transactions that occurred after the balance sheet date and determined that there were no significant events or transactions, other than described above, that would require recognition or disclosure in our condensed consolidated financial statements for the period ended September 30, 2018.

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

INTRODUCTION

You should read the following discussion of our financial condition and results of operations together with our audited consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017. This discussion contains forward-looking statements and involves numerous risks, uncertainties, assumptions and other important factors that could cause the actual results, performance, or industry results, to differ materially from historical results, any future results, or performance, or industry results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. See "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information."

OVERVIEW

We are a leading global specialty chemicals company that manufactures styrenic block copolymers ("SBCs"), specialty polymers, and high-value performance products primarily derived from pine wood pulping co-products. Our operations are managed through two operating segments: (i) Polymer segment and (ii) Chemical segment.

Polymer Segment

SBCs are highly-engineered synthetic elastomers that we originally invented and commercialized. Our SBCs enhance the performance of numerous products by imparting greater flexibility, resilience, strength, durability, and processability. They are used in a wide range of applications, including adhesives, coatings, consumer and personal care products, sealants, lubricants, medical, packaging, automotive, paving, roofing and footwear products. We also sell isoprene rubber and isoprene rubber latex, which are non-SBC products primarily used in applications such as medical products, personal care, adhesives, tackifiers, paints, and coatings.

Our polymers are typically formulated or compounded with other products to achieve improved, customer-specific performance characteristics. We seek to maximize the value of our product portfolio by emphasizing complex or specialized polymers and innovations that yield higher margins than more commoditized products. We sometimes refer to these complex or specialized polymers or innovations as being more "differentiated."

Our products are found in many everyday applications, including personal care products, such as disposable diapers, and in the rubberized grips of toothbrushes, razor blades and power tools. Our products are also used to impart tack and shear properties in a wide variety of adhesive products and to impart characteristics such as flexibility and durability in sealants and corrosion resistance in coatings. Our paving and roofing applications provide durability, extending road and roof life.

We also produce Cariflex™ isoprene rubber and isoprene rubber latex. Our Cariflex products are based on synthetic polyisoprene polymer and do not contain natural rubber latex or other natural rubber products, making them an ideal substitute for natural rubber latex, particularly in applications with high purity requirements such as medical, healthcare, personal care, and food contact. We believe the versatility of Cariflex provides opportunities for new, differentiated applications.

Chemical Segment

Effective January 1, 2018, results for our Roads and Constructions product line have been consolidated into our Adhesives and Performance Chemicals product lines to better align customer portfolio and end usage. We have adjusted the presentations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 to conform to the respective 2018 presentations.

We manufacture and sell high value products primarily derived from pine wood pulping co-products. We refine and further upgrade two primary feedstocks into value-added specialty chemicals, crude tall oil ("CTO") and crude sulfate turpentine ("CST"), both of which are co-products of the wood pulping process. We refine CTO through a distillation process into four primary constituent fractions: tall oil fatty acids ("TOFA"), tall oil rosin ("TOR"), distilled tall oil ("DTO"), and tall oil pitch. We further upgrade TOFA, TOR, and DTO into derivatives including dimer acids, polyamide resins, rosin resins, dispersions, and disproportionated resins. We refine CST into terpene fractions, which can be further upgraded into terpene resins. The various fractions and derivatives resulting from our CTO and CST refining process provide for distinct functionalities and properties, determining their respective applications and end markets.

We focus our resources on three product lines: adhesives, tires, and performance chemicals. Within our product lines, these products are sold into a diverse range of submarkets, including packaging, tapes and labels, pavement marking,

high performance tires, fuel additives, oilfield and mining, coatings, metalworking fluids and lubricants, inks, and flavor and fragrances, among others.

While this business is based predominantly on the refining and upgrading of CTO and CST, we have the capacity to use both hydrocarbon-based raw materials, such as alpha-methyl-styrene, rosins and gum rosins where appropriate and, accordingly, are able to offer tailored solutions for our customers.

Factors Affecting Our Results of Operations

International Operations and Currency Fluctuations. We operate a geographically diverse business, serving customers in numerous countries from fourteen manufacturing facilities on four continents. Our sales and production costs are mainly denominated in U.S. dollars, Euro, Japanese Yen, Swedish Krona, and Brazilian Real. From time to time, we use hedging strategies to reduce our exposure to currency fluctuations.

We generated our revenue from customers located in the following regions:

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Revenue by Geography: | (In thousands) | | | |
| Americas | \$225,548 | \$213,239 | \$667,188 | \$625,168 |
| Europe, Middle East, and Africa | 183,663 | 179,959 | 551,197 | 544,311 |
| Asia Pacific | 113,894 | 117,749 | 345,507 | 324,913 |
| Total revenue | \$523,105 | \$510,947 | \$1,563,892 | \$1,494,392 |

Raw Materials. We use butadiene, styrene, and isoprene (collectively referred to as “monomers”) as our primary raw materials in our Polymer segment and CTO and CST in our Chemical segment. The cost of these raw materials has generally correlated with changes in energy prices and is generally influenced by supply and demand factors, and for our isoprene monomers, the prices of natural and synthetic rubber. Average purchase prices of our raw materials increased during both the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017.

Seasonality. Seasonal changes and weather conditions typically affect our sales of products in our paving, pavement marking, roofing, and construction applications, which generally results in higher sales volumes in the second and third quarters of the calendar year compared to the first and fourth quarters of the calendar year. Sales for our other product applications tend to show relatively little seasonality.

Recent Developments and Known Trends

Our business is subject to a number of known risks and uncertainties, some of which are a result of recent developments.

Tariffs. Effective September 24, 2018, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative enacted a 10 percent tariff on certain goods imported from China under Section 301 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1974, which may increase to 25 percent starting January 1, 2019. We expect that these tariffs will have an upward bias on pricing conditions for certain of our products. We expect that further trade actions will continue to add uncertainty to pricing and supply conditions.

Hurricane Michael. Our Panama City, Florida, facility was damaged by Hurricane Michael. We are currently in the process of assessing the full extent of this damage, and at this time we do not know when the Panama City site will resume full operations. We are actively working to minimize the impact on our customers, including evaluating our ability to satisfy the needs of our customers through inventories on hand, and where possible, production from our other plant sites. At this time we are unable to estimate the financial effect of the event.

Wesseling, Germany. We own a facility in Wesseling, Germany, that is co-located with a facility owned and operated by LyondellBasell (LYB). LYB is a critical supplier of raw materials for our site at Wesseling. However, the unusually low water levels of the Rhine river are impacting LYB’s ability to transport co-products generated in the production of our raw materials away from the site, and therefore operation of a unit that is critical to our raw material supply has been curtailed. In addition, other key suppliers have been affected by the levels on the Rhine. Long-term resolution of these raw material constraints is a function of weather and rising water levels on the Rhine. However, we are working with our suppliers on alternatives that may mitigate these raw material supply constraints. We currently expect the delay in production to last approximately three weeks, although there can be no assurances as to an exact restart of production activities.

Logistics cost. We anticipate that the logistics cost inflationary environment will continue in the fourth quarter of 2018 at similar levels as experienced in the third quarter. At this time we are unable to estimate the financial effect of

the rising prices for transportation and warehousing services as well as the consolidations in the freight forwarding industry.

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RESULTS OF OPERATIONS
 KRATON CORPORATION
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(Unaudited)

(In thousands, except per share data)

| | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------|
| | September 30, | | September 30, | |
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Revenue | \$523,105 | \$510,947 | \$1,563,892 | \$1,494,392 |
| Cost of goods sold | 368,847 | 381,653 | 1,092,207 | 1,073,336 |
| Gross profit | 154,258 | 129,294 | 471,685 | 421,056 |
| Operating expenses: | | | | |
| Research and development | 10,597 | 10,212 | 31,868 | 30,096 |
| Selling, general, and administrative | 36,150 | 42,421 | 116,848 | 123,967 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 35,117 | 34,307 | 105,633 | 102,040 |
| Operating income | 72,394 | 42,354 | 217,336 | 164,953 |
| Other expense | (740) | (846) | (2,960) | (2,517) |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt | — | (15,632) | (79,921) | (35,370) |
| Earnings of unconsolidated joint venture | 100 | 125 | 357 | 370 |
| Interest expense, net | (20,143) | (33,017) | (74,835) | (101,766) |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | 51,611 | (7,016) | 59,977 | 25,670 |
| Income tax benefit (expense) | (8,334) | 2,165 | (8,743) | (2,907) |
| Consolidated net income (loss) | 43,277 | (4,851) | 51,234 | 22,763 |
| Net (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interest | (928) | 818 | (1,743) | 5,178 |
| Net income (loss) attributable to Kraton | \$42,349 | \$(4,033) | \$49,491 | \$27,941 |
| Earnings (loss) per common share: | | | | |
| Basic | \$1.33 | \$(0.13) | \$1.55 | \$0.90 |
| Diluted | \$1.31 | \$(0.13) | \$1.53 | \$0.88 |
| Weighted average common shares outstanding: | | | | |
| Basic | 31,459 | 30,625 | 31,381 | 30,548 |
| Diluted | 31,834 | 30,625 | 31,810 | 31,006 |

Consolidated Results

Three Months Ended September 30, 2018 compared to Three Months Ended September 30, 2017

Revenue was \$523.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$510.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017, an increase of \$12.2 million or 2.4%. Revenue increased \$6.8 million and \$5.4 million for the Polymer and Chemical segment, respectively. For additional information regarding the changes in revenue, see our segment disclosures below.

Cost of goods sold was \$368.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$381.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017, a decrease of \$12.8 million or 3.4%. Cost of goods sold decreased \$16.1 million for the Polymer segment and increased \$3.3 million for the Chemical segment. For additional information regarding the changes in cost of goods sold, see our segment disclosures below.

Selling, general, and administrative expenses were \$36.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$42.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017. The \$6.3 million decrease is primarily attributable to lower transaction, acquisition, and restructuring costs and lower employee related costs.

In August 2017, we borrowed a new tranche of term loans denominated in Euros in an aggregate principal amount equal to €260.0 million (the “Euro Tranche”), or \$305.0 million (converted at the August 16, 2017 closing exchange rate). The proceeds from borrowings under the Euro Tranche were used, together with available cash, to pay down \$366.0 million of the outstanding borrowings under the U.S. dollar denominated term loan (the “USD Tranche”). The repayments were considered an

extinguishment of indebtedness and accordingly we wrote off a pro-rata portion of previously capitalized deferred financing costs and original issue discount associated with the USD Tranche resulting in a loss on extinguishment of debt of \$15.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017.

Interest expense, net, was \$20.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$33.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017, a decrease of \$12.9 million. The decrease is due to refinancing activities and lower overall indebtedness.

Income tax provision was an expense of \$8.3 million and a benefit of \$2.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. Our effective tax rate was 16.1% and 30.9% for the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. During the three months ended September 30, 2018 our effective tax rate differed from the U.S. corporate statutory tax rate of 21.0% primarily due to the mix of our pretax income or loss generated in various jurisdictions and permanent items. During the three months ended September 30, 2017, our pretax earnings in the Netherlands, Sweden, and Finland decreased our effective tax rate due to the statutory rates in those jurisdictions of 25.0%, 22.0%, and 20.0%, respectively.

Net income attributable to Kraton was \$42.3 million, or \$1.31 per diluted share, for the three months ended September 30, 2018, an increase of \$46.4 million compared to net loss of \$4.0 million, or \$0.13 per diluted share, for the three months ended September 30, 2017. Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Share (non-GAAP) was \$1.02 for the three months ended September 30, 2018 compared to Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Share (non-GAAP) of \$1.51 for the three months ended September 30, 2017. See a reconciliation of generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) Diluted Earnings Per Share to non-GAAP Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Share below.

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 compared to Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017

Revenue was \$1,563.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$1,494.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017, an increase of \$69.5 million or 4.7%. Revenue increased \$28.0 million and \$41.5 million for the Polymer and Chemical segment, respectively. For additional information regarding the changes in revenue, see our segment disclosures below.

Cost of goods sold was \$1,092.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$1,073.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017, an increase of \$18.9 million or 1.8%. Cost of goods sold decreased \$10.6 million and increased \$29.5 million for our Polymer and Chemical segment, respectively. For additional information regarding the changes in cost of goods sold, see our segment disclosures below.

Selling, general, and administrative expenses were \$116.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$124.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017. The \$7.1 million decrease is primarily attributable to lower transaction, acquisition, and restructuring costs and lower employee related costs.

Depreciation and amortization was \$105.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$102.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017. The increase of \$3.6 million was primarily attributable to the start up of the manufacturing joint venture in Mailiao, Taiwan, and foreign exchange rates.

We recorded a \$79.9 million loss on extinguishment of debt during the nine months ended September 30, 2018, which includes the write off of previously capitalized deferred financing costs and original issue discount, the tender offer and subsequent redemption of our 10.5% Senior Notes, partially offset by a gain on the settlement of the ineffective portion of interest rate swaps. See Note 7 Long-Term Debt to the consolidated financial statement included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

Interest expense, net, was \$74.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$101.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017, a decrease of \$26.9 million. The decrease is due to refinancing activities and lower overall indebtedness.

Income tax provision was an expense of \$8.7 million and an expense of \$2.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. Our effective tax rate was 14.6% and 11.3% for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. During the nine months ended September 30, 2018 our effective tax rate differed from the U.S. corporate statutory tax rate of 21.0% primarily due to the mix of our pretax income or loss generated in various foreign jurisdictions and our uncertain tax positions. During the nine months ended September 30, 2017, our pretax earnings in the Netherlands, Sweden, and Finland decreased our effective tax rate due to the statutory rates in those jurisdictions of 25.0%, 22.0%, and 20.0%, respectively.

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Net income attributable to Kraton was \$49.5 million, or \$1.53 per diluted share, for the nine months ended September 30, 2018, an increase of \$21.6 million compared to net income of \$27.9 million, or \$0.88 per diluted share, for the nine months ended September 30, 2017. Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Share (non-GAAP) was \$2.49 for the nine months ended September

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30, 2018 compared to Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Share (non-GAAP) of \$1.88 for the nine months ended September 30, 2017. See a reconciliation of GAAP Diluted Earnings Per Share to non-GAAP Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Share below.

Polymer Segment

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2018 | | September 30, 2017 | |
|--|---|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| | (In thousands) | | | |
| Performance Products | \$179,684 | \$175,968 | \$506,151 | \$508,820 |
| Specialty Polymers | 99,349 | 94,313 | 311,657 | 285,712 |
| Cariflex | 41,818 | 43,031 | 130,319 | 124,433 |
| Other | 114 | 847 | 59 | 1,260 |
| Polymer Segment Revenue | \$320,965 | \$314,159 | \$948,186 | \$920,225 |
| Operating income | \$44,899 | \$18,731 | \$137,930 | \$98,339 |
| Adjusted EBITDA (non-GAAP) ⁽¹⁾ | \$57,008 | \$77,363 | \$170,469 | \$172,233 |
| Adjusted EBITDA margin (non-GAAP) ⁽²⁾ | 17.8 | % 24.6 | % 18.0 | % 18.7 |

(1) See non-GAAP reconciliations included below for the reconciliation of each non-GAAP measure to its most directly comparable GAAP measure.

(2) Defined as Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of revenue.

Three Months Ended September 30, 2018 compared to Three Months Ended September 30, 2017

Revenue for the Polymer segment was \$321.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$314.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017. The increase was driven by higher average sales prices, offset by lower sales volumes. Sales volumes of 84.2 kilotons for the three months ended September 30, 2018 declined 8.3% compared to the record third quarter 2017 sales volumes of 92 kilotons. Performance Products volumes decreased 10.8%, Cariflex volumes decreased 4.6%, and Specialty Polymers volumes decreased 0.3%. The decline in Performance Products sales volumes is largely associated with lower sales in paving applications primarily outside of our core North American and European markets and lower sales into adhesive applications. The negative effect from changes in currency exchange rates between the periods was \$2.8 million.

Cost of goods sold was \$230.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$246.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017, a decrease of \$16.1 million or 6.5%. The decrease in cost of goods sold reflects the cost of consumed raw materials, which has lower average costs on a first-in, first-out measurement basis of accounting, and lower overall sales volumes. Additionally, changes in currency exchange rates between the periods resulted in a positive impact of \$1.4 million.

For the three months ended September 30, 2018, the Polymer segment operating income was \$44.9 million compared to \$18.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017.

For the three months ended September 30, 2018, the Polymer segment generated Adjusted EBITDA (non-GAAP) of \$57.0 million compared to \$77.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017. The decline in Adjusted EBITDA was associated with lower sales volumes in Performance Products and lower unit margins in Specialty Polymers, which remain in line with our expectations, but below levels we experienced in the third quarter of 2017 which benefited from favorable raw material market dynamics. In addition, third quarter 2018 Adjusted EBITDA was impacted by unplanned, short-term facility outages and to a lesser extent higher operating costs, including logistics and transportation costs. The negative effect from changes in currency exchange rates between the periods was \$1.4 million. See a reconciliation of GAAP operating income to non-GAAP Adjusted EBITDA below.

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 compared to Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017

Revenue for the Polymer segment was \$948.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$920.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017. The increase was driven by higher average sales prices and a \$19.6 million positive effect from changes in currency exchange rates between the periods. Sales volumes of

249.5 kilotons for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 decreased 3.3% compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2017. Our Performance Products volumes decreased 6.1%, which was partially offset by an increase in Specialty Polymers and Cariflex volumes of 4.4% and 0.9%, respectively. The decline in Performance Products sales volumes is largely associated with lower sales in paving applications primarily outside of our core North American and European markets and lower sales into adhesive applications.

Cost of goods sold was \$666.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$677.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017, a decrease of \$10.6 million or 1.6%. The decrease in cost of goods sold reflects the cost of consumed raw materials, which has lower average costs on a first-in, first-out measurement basis of accounting, and lower sales volumes, partially offset by negative changes in currency exchange rates of \$12.7 million. For the nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Polymer segment operating income was \$137.9 million compared to \$98.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Polymer segment generated Adjusted EBITDA (non-GAAP) of \$170.5 million compared to \$172.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017. The 1.0% decrease in Adjusted EBITDA is due primarily to the impact of unplanned, short-term facility outages, higher operating costs, including logistics and transportation costs, partially offset by higher average unit margins. The positive effect from changes in currency exchange rates between the periods was \$5.9 million. See a reconciliation of GAAP operating income to non-GAAP Adjusted EBITDA below.

Chemical Segment

| | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | |
|--|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| | September 30, | | September 30, | |
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| | (In thousands) | | | |
| Adhesives | \$73,781 | \$75,018 | \$220,907 | \$226,008 |
| Performance Chemicals | 118,193 | 108,361 | 355,947 | 310,244 |
| Tires | 10,166 | 13,409 | 38,852 | 37,915 |
| Chemical Segment Revenue | \$202,140 | \$196,788 | \$615,706 | \$574,167 |
| Operating income | \$27,495 | \$23,623 | \$79,406 | \$66,614 |
| Adjusted EBITDA (non-GAAP) ⁽¹⁾ | \$41,643 | \$44,324 | \$122,431 | \$116,505 |
| Adjusted EBITDA margin (non-GAAP) ⁽²⁾ | 20.6 | % 22.5 | % 19.9 | % 20.3 |

(1) See non-GAAP reconciliations included below for the reconciliation of each non-GAAP measure to its most directly comparable GAAP measure.

(2) Defined as Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of revenue.

Effective January 1, 2018, results for our Roads and Construction product line have been consolidated into our Adhesives and Performance Chemicals product lines to better align customer portfolio and end usage. We have adjusted the presentations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 to conform to the respective 2018 presentations.

Three Months Ended September 30, 2018 compared to Three Months Ended September 30, 2017

Revenue for the Chemical segment was \$202.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$196.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017. The increase in revenue is attributable to higher average sales prices, partially offset by a modest decrease in sales volumes. Sales volumes were 105.9 kilotons for the three months ended September 30, 2018, a decrease of 1.8 kilotons or 1.7%. The sales volumes decline was driven by a 2.9% decrease in Performance Chemicals, partially offset by an increase in Adhesives sales volumes of 1.8%. The negative effect from changes in currency exchange rates between the periods was \$1.5 million.

Cost of goods sold was \$138.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$134.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017, an increase of \$3.3 million or 2.4%. The increase was driven by higher operating costs, including planned maintenance activities, logistics, and transportation costs, partially offset by a positive impact from changes in currency exchange rates between the periods of \$1.1 million.

For the three months ended September 30, 2018, the Chemical segment operating income was \$27.5 million compared to \$23.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017.

For the three months ended September 30, 2018, the Chemical segment generated \$41.6 million of Adjusted EBITDA (non-GAAP) compared to \$44.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017. The decrease in Adjusted EBITDA was primarily driven by higher operating costs, including planned maintenance activities, logistics, and

transportation costs. The higher costs were partially offset by improved unit margins in both Performance Chemicals and Tires. The negative effect from changes in currency exchange rates between the periods was \$0.7 million. See a reconciliation of GAAP operating income to non-GAAP Adjusted EBITDA below.

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 compared to Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017

Revenue for the Chemical segment was \$615.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$574.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017. The increase in Chemical segment revenue was primarily attributable to higher average selling prices and to a lesser extent an increase in sales volumes. The positive effect from changes in currency exchange rates between the periods was \$16.6 million. Sales volumes were 332.7 kilotons for the nine months ended September 30, 2018, an increase of 5.2 kilotons or 1.6%. The Performance Chemicals sales volumes increased 4.1%, which was partially offset by the decline in Adhesives volumes of 3.3%. Cost of goods sold was \$425.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$395.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017, an increase of \$29.5 million or 7.5%. The increase was primarily driven by higher operating costs, including planned maintenance activities, combined with higher average raw material costs. The negative impact from changes in currency exchange rates between the periods was \$14.3 million.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Chemical segment operating income was \$79.4 million compared to \$66.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Chemical segment generated \$122.4 million of Adjusted EBITDA (non-GAAP) compared to \$116.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017. The 5.1% increase in Adjusted EBITDA was primarily driven by improved unit margin in our Performance Chemicals and Tires product lines. The improved unit margins were partially offset by higher operating costs, including planned maintenance activities and higher average raw material costs. The negative effect from changes in currency exchange rates between the periods was \$2.8 million. See a reconciliation of GAAP operating income to non-GAAP Adjusted EBITDA below.

NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES

EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA, and Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Share

We consider EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA, and Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Share to be important supplemental measures of our performance and believe they are frequently used by investors, securities analysts, and other interested parties in the evaluation of our performance and/or that of other companies in our industry, including period-to-period comparisons. Further, management uses these measures to evaluate operating performance, and our incentive compensation plan bases incentive compensation payments on our Adjusted EBITDA performance and attainment of net debt reduction, along with other factors. EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA, and Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Share have limitations as analytical tools and in some cases can vary substantially from other measures of our performance. You should not consider any of them in isolation, or as substitutes for analysis of our results under GAAP.

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|--|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| | (In thousands, except per share amounts) | | | |
| EBITDA ⁽²⁾ | \$106,871 | \$60,308 | \$240,445 | \$229,476 |
| Adjusted EBITDA ^{(1) (3)} | \$98,651 | \$121,687 | \$292,900 | \$288,738 |
| Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Share ⁽¹⁾ | \$1.02 | \$1.51 | \$2.49 | \$1.88 |

(1) The majority of our consolidated inventory is measured using the FIFO basis of accounting. As part of our pricing strategy, we measure our business performance using the estimated current replacement cost ("ECRC") of our inventory and cost of goods sold. Our ECRC is based on our current expectation of the current cost of our significant raw material inputs. ECRC is developed monthly based on actual market-based contracted rates and spot market purchase rates that are expected to occur in the period. We then adjust the value of the significant raw material inputs and their associated impact to finished goods to the current replacement cost to arrive at an ECRC value for inventory and cost of goods sold. The result of this revaluation from the GAAP carrying value creates the spread between GAAP and ECRC. We maintain our perpetual inventory in our global enterprise resource planning system, where the carrying value of our inventory is determined. With inventory valued under GAAP and ECRC,

we then have the ability to report cost of goods sold and therefore Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Share under both our GAAP convention and ECRC.

(2) On a consolidated basis, EBITDA represents net income before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization. On a reporting segment basis, EBITDA represents segment operating income before depreciation and amortization, loss on extinguishment of debt, and earnings of unconsolidated joint venture. Limitations for EBITDA as an analytical tool include the following:

- EBITDA does not reflect the significant interest expense on our debt;

EBITDA does not reflect the significant depreciation and amortization expense associated with our long-lived assets; EBITDA included herein should not be used for purposes of assessing compliance or non-compliance with financial covenants under our debt agreements. The calculation of EBITDA in the debt agreements includes adjustments, such as

extraordinary, non-recurring or one-time charges, proforma cost savings, certain non-cash items, turnaround costs, and other items included in the definition of EBITDA in the debt agreements; and other companies in our industry may calculate EBITDA differently than we do, limiting its usefulness as a comparative measure.

Adjusted EBITDA is EBITDA net of the impact of the spread between the FIFO basis of accounting and ECRC and net of the impact of items we do not consider indicative of our ongoing operating performance. We explain how each adjustment is derived and why we believe it is helpful and appropriate in the reconciliation below. You are encouraged to evaluate each adjustment and the reasons we consider it appropriate for supplemental analysis.

(3) As an analytical tool, Adjusted EBITDA is subject to the limitations applicable to EBITDA described above, as well as the following limitations:

due to volatility in raw material prices, Adjusted EBITDA may, and often does, vary substantially from EBITDA, net income, and other performance measures, including net income calculated in accordance with GAAP; and

Adjusted EBITDA may, and often will, vary significantly from EBITDA calculations under the terms of our debt agreements and should not be used for assessing compliance or non-compliance with financial covenants under our debt agreements.

Because of these and other limitations, EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA should not be considered as a measure of discretionary cash available to us to invest in the growth of our business.

Our presentation of non-GAAP financial measures and the adjustments made therein should not be construed as an inference that our future results will be unaffected by unusual or non-recurring items, and in the future we may incur expenses or charges similar to the adjustments made in the presentation of our non-GAAP financial measures.

We compensate for the above limitations by relying primarily on our GAAP results and using EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA, and Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Share only as supplemental measures. See our financial statements included in Part I of this Form 10-Q.

We reconcile consolidated net income (loss) and operating income to EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA as follows:

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2018 | | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2017 | | |
|--|--|----------|-----------|--|----------|------------|
| | Polymer | Chemical | Total | Polymer | Chemical | Total |
| | (In thousands) | | | | | |
| Net income (loss) attributable to Kraton | | | \$42,349 | | | \$(4,033) |
| Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest | | | 928 | | | (818) |
| Consolidated net income (loss) | | | 43,277 | | | (4,851) |
| Add (deduct): | | | | | | |
| Income tax (benefit) expense | | | 8,334 | | | (2,165) |
| Interest expense, net | | | 20,143 | | | 33,017 |
| Earnings of unconsolidated joint venture | | | (100) | | | (125) |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt | | | — | | | 15,632 |
| Other expense | | | 740 | | | 846 |
| Operating income | \$44,899 | \$27,495 | 72,394 | \$18,731 | \$23,623 | 42,354 |
| Add (deduct): | | | | | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 17,554 | 17,563 | 35,117 | 17,342 | 16,965 | 34,307 |
| Other income (expense) | (958) | 218 | (740) | (929) | 83 | (846) |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt | — | — | — | (15,632) | — | (15,632) |
| Earnings of unconsolidated joint venture | 100 | — | 100 | 125 | — | 125 |
| EBITDA | 61,595 | 45,276 | 106,871 | 19,637 | 40,671 | 60,308 |
| Add (deduct): | | | | | | |
| Transaction, acquisition related costs, restructuring, and other costs (a) | 689 | (177) | 512 | 2,240 | 61 | 2,301 |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt | — | — | — | 15,632 | — | 15,632 |
| Weather related costs (b) | — | — | — | 760 | 1,320 | 2,080 |
| KFPC startup costs (c) | — | — | — | 2,424 | — | 2,424 |
| Non-cash compensation expense | 2,495 | — | 2,495 | 2,219 | — | 2,219 |
| Spread between FIFO and ECRC | (7,771) | (3,456) | (11,227) | 34,451 | 2,272 | 36,723 |
| Adjusted EBITDA | \$57,008 | \$41,643 | \$98,651 | \$77,363 | \$44,324 | \$121,687 |

(a) Charges related to the evaluation of acquisition transactions, severance expenses, and other restructuring related charges.

(b) Costs related to Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma.

(c) Startup costs related to the joint venture company, KFPC.

| | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 | | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017 | | |
|--|---|-----------|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|
| | Polymer | Chemical | Total | Polymer | Chemical | Total |
| | (In thousands) | | | | | |
| Net income attributable to Kraton | | | \$49,491 | | | \$27,941 |
| Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest | | | 1,743 | | | (5,178) |
| Consolidated net income | | | 51,234 | | | 22,763 |
| Add (deduct): | | | | | | |
| Income tax expense | | | 8,743 | | | 2,907 |
| Interest expense, net | | | 74,835 | | | 101,766 |
| Earnings of unconsolidated joint venture | | | (357) | | | (370) |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt | | | 79,921 | | | 35,370 |
| Other expense | | | 2,960 | | | 2,517 |
| Operating income | \$137,930 | \$79,406 | 217,336 | \$98,339 | \$66,614 | 164,953 |
| Add (deduct): | | | | | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 52,914 | 52,719 | 105,633 | 50,439 | 51,601 | 102,040 |
| Other income (expense) | (3,600) | 640 | (2,960) | (2,767) | 250 | (2,517) |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt | (79,921) | — | (79,921) | (35,370) | — | (35,370) |
| Earnings of unconsolidated joint venture | 357 | — | 357 | 370 | — | 370 |
| EBITDA | 107,680 | 132,765 | 240,445 | 111,011 | 118,465 | 229,476 |
| Add (deduct): | | | | | | |
| Transaction, acquisition related costs, restructuring, and other costs (a) | 2,062 | (963) | 1,099 | 11,493 | (509) | 10,984 |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt | 79,921 | — | 79,921 | 35,370 | — | 35,370 |
| Weather related costs (b) | — | — | — | 760 | 1,320 | 2,080 |
| KFPC startup costs (c) | 897 | — | 897 | 9,664 | — | 9,664 |
| Non-cash compensation expense | 7,620 | — | 7,620 | 7,366 | — | 7,366 |
| Spread between FIFO and ECRC | (27,711) | (9,371) | (37,082) | (3,431) | (2,771) | (6,202) |
| Adjusted EBITDA | \$170,469 | \$122,431 | \$292,900 | \$172,233 | \$116,505 | \$288,738 |

(a) Charges related to the evaluation of acquisition transactions, severance expenses, and other restructuring related charges.

(b) Costs related to Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma.

(c) Startup costs related to the joint venture company, KFPC.

We reconcile GAAP Diluted Earnings (Loss) Per Share to Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Share (non-GAAP) as follows:

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2018 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017 | |
|--|--|----------|---|---------|
| Diluted Earnings (Loss) Per Share | \$1.31 | \$(0.13) | \$1.53 | \$0.88 |
| Transaction, acquisition related costs, restructuring, and other costs (a) | 0.02 | 0.05 | 0.03 | 0.25 |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt | — | 0.32 | 1.89 | 0.72 |
| Weather related costs (b) | — | 0.04 | — | 0.04 |
| KFPC startup costs (c) | — | 0.04 | 0.01 | 0.16 |
| Spread between FIFO and ECRC | (0.31) | 1.19 | (0.97) | (0.17) |
| Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Share (non-GAAP) | \$1.02 | \$1.51 | \$2.49 | \$1.88 |

(a) Charges related to the evaluation of acquisition transactions, severance expenses, and other restructuring related charges.

(b) Costs related to Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma.

(c) Startup costs related to the joint venture company, KFPC.

Critical Accounting Policies

For a discussion of our critical accounting policies and estimates that require the use of significant estimates and judgments, see “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Critical Accounting Policies” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

Revenue Recognition. The Company adopted Topic 606 Revenue from Contracts with Customers with a date of initial adoption of January 1, 2018. As a result, the Company has changed its accounting policy for revenue recognition and applied Topic 606 using the modified retrospective basis. Typically, this approach would result in recognizing the cumulative effect of initially applying Topic 606 as an adjustment to the opening balance of equity at January 1, 2018. The company did not have a material change in financial position, results of operations, or cash flows and therefore there is no cumulative impact recorded to opening equity.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Kraton Corporation is a holding company without any operations or assets other than the operations of its subsidiaries. Cash flows from operations of our subsidiaries, cash on hand, and available borrowings under the Term Loan Facility and ABL Facility are our principal sources of liquidity.

As of September 30, 2018, our outstanding borrowings included (i) \$362.0 million and €300.0 million, or approximately \$347.8 million, under the USD Tranche and Euro Tranche, respectively, of the Term Loan Facility, (ii) \$400.0 million and €290.0 million, or approximately \$336.2 million as of September 30, 2018, under the 7.0% Senior Notes and 5.25% Senior Notes, respectively, and (iii) \$35.0 million under our ABL Facility. In addition, as of September 30, 2018, KFPC had NTD 3.5 billion, or approximately \$113.4 million, and NTD 550.0 million, or approximately \$18.0 million, of borrowings under the KFPC Loan Agreement and KFPC Revolving Facilities, respectively.

On March 8, 2018, we entered into the fifth amendment to the Credit Agreement pursuant to which: borrowings under the Euro Tranche were increased by €150.0 million; we reduced our USD Tranche interest rate applicable margin to 2.5% and alternative base rate applicable margin to 1.5%; we reduced our Euro Tranche interest rate applicable margin to 2.0%; and extended the maturity date of the Term Loan Facility by three years to March 8, 2025. The proceeds from the additional borrowings under the Euro Tranche were used, together with available cash to pay down \$185.0 million of the then outstanding borrowings under the USD Tranche. On May 24, 2018, we entered into a sixth and seventh amendment to the Credit Agreement. The seventh amendment increased borrowings under the USD Tranche by \$90.0 million, with the proceeds of such additional borrowing being used to fund a portion of the refinancing of the 10.5% Senior Notes further discussed below. The sixth amendment provided for certain technical amendments to the Term Loan Facility to allow for greater flexibility in the repayment of unsecured indebtedness. During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, approximately \$157.6 million of the 10.5% Senior Notes were repurchased in a cash tender offer for any and all of the outstanding \$440.0 million aggregate principal amount of 10.5% Senior Notes. The 10.5% Senior Notes that remained outstanding following the tender offer were redeemed on June 13, 2018. The consideration and redemption price plus, in each case, accrued and unpaid interest for the tender offer and redemption, respectively, and the fees and expenses of refinancing the 10.5% Senior Notes were paid with the net proceeds of the offering of the 5.25% Senior Notes and the additional \$90.0 million in borrowings under the USD Tranche, together with \$60.0 million of borrowings under the ABL Facility and cash on hand.

See Note 7 Long-Term Debt to the consolidated financial statement included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and Note 8 Long-Term Debt to the consolidated financial statements set forth in our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Based upon current and anticipated levels of operations, we believe that cash flows from operations of our subsidiaries, cash on hand, and borrowings available to us will be sufficient to fund our expected financial obligations, planned capital expenditures, and anticipated liquidity requirements, including working capital requirements, our investment in the KFPC joint venture, debt payments, interest payments, benefit plan contributions, and income tax obligations.

Going forward there can be no assurance that our business will generate sufficient cash flow from operations or that future borrowings will be available under the Term Loan Facility and the ABL Facility or any new credit facilities or financing arrangements to fund liquidity needs and enable us to service our indebtedness. As of the date of this filing, our available borrowing capacity under the ABL was \$204.9 million, with \$30.0 million of outstanding borrowings. Subject to compliance with certain covenants and other conditions, we have the option to borrow up to \$350.0 million of incremental term loans plus an additional amount subject to a senior secured net leverage ratio. Our available cash and cash equivalents are held in accounts managed by third-party financial institutions and consist of cash invested in interest bearing funds and operating accounts. To date, we have not experienced any losses or lack of access to our invested cash or cash equivalents; however, we cannot provide any assurance that adverse conditions in the financial markets will not impact access to our invested cash and cash equivalents.

We made contributions of \$10.7 million and \$10.1 million to our pension plans during the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. We expect our total pension plan contributions for the year ended December 31, 2018 to be approximately \$13.2 million. Our pension plan obligations are predicated on a number of

factors, the primary ones being the return on our pension plan assets and the discount rate used in deriving our pension obligations. If the investment return on our pension plan assets does not meet or exceed expectations during 2018, and the discount rate decreases from the prior year, higher levels of contributions could be required in 2019 and beyond. As of September 30, 2018, we had \$50.9 million of cash and short-term investments related to foreign operations that management asserts are permanently reinvested. As a result of net operating loss carryforwards and the impact of recent tax reform, management estimates that no incremental cash tax expense would be incurred if this cash were repatriated.

On December 22, 2017, the Tax Act was enacted and we recognized a tax liability for the one-time transition tax on accumulated foreign subsidiary earnings of \$46.3 million recorded as deferred income taxes. As permitted by the Tax Act, we anticipate utilizing a portion of our net operating loss carryforwards in lieu of paying the one-time transition tax.

Operating Cash Flows

Net cash provided by operating activities totaled \$136.6 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2018 compared to \$135.4 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2017. This represents a net increase in operating cash flows of \$1.1 million, which was primarily driven by an increase in operating income, partially offset by increases in working capital. The period-over-period changes in working capital are as follows:

- \$45.9 million net decrease in cash flows associated with other payables and accruals, primarily driven by timing of interest payments, employee related accruals, and customer rebates,

- \$28.3 million decrease in cash flows associated with inventories of products, materials, and supplies due to higher inventory volumes and higher raw material costs;

- \$24.1 million net decrease in cash flows associated with accounts receivables due to higher selling prices, partially offset by lower sales volume; partially offset by

- \$14.2 million increase in cash flows due timing of receipts and payments of other assets, primarily driven by value added tax; and

- \$3.6 million increase in cash flows associated with accounts payable due to higher raw material costs; and

- \$2.0 million increase in cash flows associated with other items, including other long term liabilities and due to related parties; primarily due to timing of transactions and payments.

Investing Cash Flows

Net cash used in investing activities totaled \$72.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and \$88.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017.

Expected Capital Expenditures

We currently expect 2018 capital expenditures, excluding expenditures by the KFPC joint venture, will be approximately \$110.0 million, which includes \$5.0 million of capitalized interest. Included in this estimate is approximately \$10.0 million for projects associated with our cost reset initiative and approximately \$60.0 million for health, safety, environmental, and security and infrastructure and maintenance projects. The remaining anticipated 2018 capital expenditures are primarily associated with projects to optimize the production capabilities of our manufacturing assets, to support our innovation platform, and to upgrade our information technology systems.

Financing Cash Flows

Our consolidated capital structure as of September 30, 2018 was approximately 29.6% equity, 69.0% debt and 1.3% noncontrolling interest compared to approximately 27.1% equity, 71.6% debt and 1.3% noncontrolling interest December 31, 2017.

In connection with our March and May 2018 refinancing of the Term Loan Facility and the 10.5% Senior Notes, we recorded a \$79.9 million loss on extinguishment of debt during the nine months ended September 30, 2018, which includes the write off of previously capitalized deferred financing costs and original issue discount, the tender offer and subsequent redemption of our 10.5% Senior Notes, partially offset by a gain on the settlement of the ineffective portion of interest rate swaps. We deferred \$11.1 million of debt issuance costs.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2018 (excluding borrowings under the KFPC Debt) we decreased indebtedness by \$43.1 million, while decreasing cash on hand (excluding KFPC cash) by approximately \$29.4 million.

Contractual Commitments

Our contractual obligations are summarized in Part II, Item 7. "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017. See Note 7 Long-Term Debt for changes to our debt maturity schedule. There have been no other material changes to the contractual obligations disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We are not involved in any material off-balance sheet arrangements as of September 30, 2018, other than operating leases.

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Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk.

For quantitative and qualitative disclosures about market risk, see Part II, Item 7A, “Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk,” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017. There have been no material changes to the quantitative and qualitative disclosures about market risk disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. See Note 8 Fair Value Measurements, Financial Instruments and Credit Risk for further discussion.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures.

An evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15 or 15d-15 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) was carried out under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer. As of September 30, 2018, based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the design and operation of these disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

Effective January 1, 2018, we implemented ASC 606, Revenue from Contracts with Customers. Although the new standard did not have a material impact to our financial position, results of operations, or cash flows, we implemented changes to our processes related to revenue recognition and the control activities related to revenue recognition. These included the development of new policies based on the five-step model provided in the new standard, training, ongoing contract review requirements, and gathering of information provided for disclosures.

There has been no other changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the three months ended September 30, 2018 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings.

We and certain of our subsidiaries, from time to time, are parties to various other legal proceedings, claims, and disputes that have arisen in the ordinary course of business. These claims may involve significant amounts, some of which would not be covered by insurance. A substantial settlement payment or judgment in excess of our accruals could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations, or cash flows. While the outcome of these proceedings cannot be predicted with certainty, we do not expect any of these existing matters, individually or in the aggregate, to have a material adverse effect upon our financial position, results of operations, or cash flows. In January 2014, our Belpre, Ohio, facility experienced a mechanical equipment failure due to inclement weather that resulted in a release of process solvents into nearby waterways. Applicable authorities were notified, and cleanup activities have been completed. Kraton may be required to pay governmental fines or sanctions in excess of \$100,000 in connection with this event.

For more information regarding legal proceedings, including environmental matters, see Note 10 Commitments and Contingencies to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Item 1A. Risk Factors.

Readers of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q should carefully consider the risks described in our other reports and filings filed with or furnished to the SEC, including our prior and subsequent reports on Forms 10-K, 10-Q and 8-K, in connection with any evaluation of our financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

The risks and uncertainties in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K are not the only risks that we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known or those that are currently deemed immaterial may also affect our operations. Any of the risks, uncertainties, events or circumstances described therein could cause our future financial condition, results of operations or cash flows to be adversely affected. There have been no material changes from the risk factors disclosed in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.

None.

Item 3. Default Upon Senior Securities.

None.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures.

Not applicable.

Item 5. Other Information.

None.

Item 6. Exhibits.

Exhibit

Number

31.1* Certification of Chief Executive Officer under Section 302 of Sarbanes—Oxley Act of 2002

31.2* Certification of Chief Financial Officer under Section 302 of Sarbanes—Oxley Act of 2002

32.1* Certification Pursuant to Section 906 of Sarbanes—Oxley Act of 2002

101* The following materials from Kraton Corporation Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language): (i) Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017 (Unaudited), (ii) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 (Unaudited), (iii) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 (Unaudited), (iv) Condensed Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 (Unaudited), (v) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 (Unaudited) and (vi) Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

*Filed herewith.

SIGNATURES

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, thereunto duly authorized.

KRATON CORPORATION

Date: October 25, 2018 /s/ Kevin M. Fogarty
Kevin M. Fogarty
President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: October 25, 2018 /s/ Stephen E. Tremblay
Stephen E. Tremblay
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer