

MILLER HERMAN INC
Form 10-Q
April 08, 2015

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20549

FORM 10-Q

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

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

For Quarter Ended February 28, 2015

Commission File No. 001-15141

HERMAN MILLER, INC.

A Michigan Corporation

ID No. 38-0837640

855 East Main Avenue, Zeeland, MI
49464-0302

Phone (616) 654 3000

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, 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 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, or a smaller reporting company. See definition of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes No

Common Stock Outstanding at April 6, 2015 - 59,654,160 shares

HERMAN MILLER, INC. FORM 10-Q
 FOR THE QUARTER ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2015
 INDEX

| | Page No. |
|---|-----------|
| Part I — Financial Information | |
| Item 1 Financial Statements (Unaudited) | |
| Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income — Three and Nine Months Ended February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014 | <u>3</u> |
| Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets — February 28, 2015 and May 31, 2014 | <u>4</u> |
| Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows — Nine Months Ended February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014 | <u>5</u> |
| Condensed Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity - Nine Months Ended February 28, 2015 and May 31, 2014 | <u>6</u> |
| Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements | |
| Note 1 - <u>Basis of Presentation</u> | <u>7</u> |
| Note 2 - <u>New Accounting Standards</u> | <u>7</u> |
| Note 3 - <u>Fiscal Year</u> | <u>7</u> |
| Note 4 - <u>Acquisitions and Divestitures</u> | <u>7</u> |
| Note 5 - <u>Inventories, Net</u> | <u>9</u> |
| Note 6 - <u>Goodwill and Indefinite-Lived Intangibles</u> | <u>9</u> |
| Note 7 - <u>Employee Benefit Plans</u> | <u>10</u> |
| Note 8 - <u>Earnings Per Share</u> | <u>11</u> |
| Note 9 - <u>Stock-Based Compensation</u> | <u>11</u> |
| Note 10 - <u>Income Taxes</u> | <u>12</u> |
| Note 11 - <u>Fair Value Measurements</u> | <u>13</u> |
| Note 12 - <u>Commitments and Contingencies</u> | <u>14</u> |
| Note 13 - <u>Debt</u> | <u>15</u> |
| Note 14 - <u>Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss</u> | <u>16</u> |
| Note 15 - <u>Restructuring and Impairment Activities</u> | <u>16</u> |
| Note 16 - <u>Operating Segments</u> | <u>16</u> |
| Note 17 - <u>Subsequent Events</u> | <u>19</u> |
| Item 2 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations | <u>20</u> |
| Item 3 Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk | <u>33</u> |
| Item 4 Controls and Procedures | <u>33</u> |
| Part II — Other Information | |
| Item 1 Legal Proceedings | <u>34</u> |
| Item 1A Risk Factors | <u>34</u> |
| Item 2 Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds | <u>35</u> |
| Item 3 Defaults upon Senior Securities | <u>35</u> |
| Item 4 Mine Safety Disclosures | <u>35</u> |
| Item 5 Other Information | <u>35</u> |
| Item 6 Exhibits | <u>36</u> |
| Signatures | <u>37</u> |

HERMAN MILLER, INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
 (Dollars in Millions, Except Per Share Data)
 (Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | |
|--|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 |
| Net sales | \$516.4 | \$455.9 | \$1,591.5 | \$1,394.5 |
| Cost of sales | 325.9 | 293.0 | 1,009.7 | 942.7 |
| Gross margin | 190.5 | 162.9 | 581.8 | 451.8 |
| Operating expenses: | | | | |
| Selling, general, and administrative | 133.0 | 111.7 | 400.8 | 449.6 |
| Restructuring and impairment expenses | 1.9 | 1.1 | 1.9 | 5.1 |
| Design and research | 18.2 | 16.0 | 52.8 | 49.0 |
| Total operating expenses | 153.1 | 128.8 | 455.5 | 503.7 |
| Operating earnings (loss) | 37.4 | 34.1 | 126.3 | (51.9) |
| Other expenses: | | | | |
| Interest expense | 4.4 | 4.5 | 13.7 | 13.3 |
| Other, net | 1.0 | 0.3 | 1.1 | 0.3 |
| Earnings (loss) before income taxes and equity income | 32.0 | 29.3 | 111.5 | (65.5) |
| Income tax expense (benefit) | 10.8 | 9.8 | 37.3 | (26.9) |
| Equity earnings (loss) from nonconsolidated affiliates, net of tax | — | (0.1) | 0.1 | (0.1) |
| Net earnings (loss) | 21.2 | 19.4 | 74.3 | (38.7) |
| Net earnings attributable to noncontrolling interests | 0.2 | — | 0.2 | — |
| Net earnings (loss) attributable to Herman Miller, Inc. | \$21.0 | \$19.4 | \$74.1 | \$(38.7) |
| Earnings (loss) per share — basic | \$0.35 | \$0.33 | \$1.25 | \$(0.66) |
| Earnings (loss) per share — diluted | \$0.35 | \$0.33 | \$1.23 | \$(0.66) |
| Dividends declared, per share | \$0.140 | \$0.140 | \$0.420 | \$0.390 |
| Other comprehensive income, net of tax | | | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | \$(3.6) | \$0.1 | \$(9.5) | \$2.2 |
| Pension and post-retirement liability adjustments | 0.3 | 0.3 | 1.2 | 87.9 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) | (3.3) | 0.4 | (8.3) | 90.1 |
| Comprehensive income | 17.9 | 19.8 | 66.0 | 51.4 |
| Comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interests | 0.2 | — | 0.2 | — |
| Comprehensive income attributable to Herman Miller, Inc. | \$17.7 | \$19.8 | \$65.8 | \$51.4 |

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

HERMAN MILLER, INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
 (Dollars in Millions Except Share Data)
 (Unaudited)

| | February 28, 2015 | May 31, 2014 |
|--|-------------------|--------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current Assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$61.8 | \$101.5 |
| Marketable securities | 6.4 | 11.1 |
| Accounts and notes receivable, net | 184.8 | 204.3 |
| Inventories, net | 128.5 | 78.4 |
| Prepaid expenses and other | 78.0 | 56.5 |
| Total current assets | 459.5 | 451.8 |
| Property and equipment, at cost | 849.6 | 789.2 |
| Less — accumulated depreciation | (614.7 |) (594.0 |
| Net property and equipment | 234.9 | 195.2 |
| Goodwill | 303.7 | 228.2 |
| Indefinite-lived intangibles | 96.0 | 40.9 |
| Other amortizable intangibles, net | 54.3 | 44.2 |
| Other noncurrent assets | 44.4 | 30.6 |
| Total Assets | \$1,192.8 | \$990.9 |
| LIABILITIES & STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Current Liabilities: | | |
| Current maturities of long-term debt | \$— | \$50.0 |
| Accounts payable | 141.8 | 136.9 |
| Accrued compensation and benefits | 67.4 | 65.0 |
| Accrued warranty | 26.1 | 25.2 |
| Other accrued liabilities | 90.2 | 79.0 |
| Total current liabilities | 325.5 | 356.1 |
| Long-term debt | 326.0 | 200.0 |
| Pension and post-retirement benefits | 16.0 | 18.2 |
| Other liabilities | 73.3 | 44.5 |
| Total Liabilities | 740.8 | 618.8 |
| Redeemable noncontrolling interests | 27.7 | — |
| Stockholders' Equity: | | |
| Preferred stock, no par value (10,000,000 shares authorized, none issued) | — | — |
| Common stock, \$0.20 par value (240,000,000 shares authorized) | 11.9 | 11.9 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 133.5 | 122.4 |
| Retained earnings | 326.3 | 277.4 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (46.2 |) (37.9 |
| Key executive deferred compensation plans | (1.2 |) (1.7 |
| Total Stockholder's Equity | 424.3 | 372.1 |
| Total Liabilities, Redeemable Noncontrolling Interests, and Stockholders' Equity | \$1,192.8 | \$990.9 |

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

HERMAN MILLER, INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF
 CASH FLOWS
 (Dollars in Millions)
 (Unaudited)

| | Nine Months Ended | |
|--|-------------------|---------------|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 |
| Cash Flows from Operating Activities: | | |
| Net earnings (loss) | \$74.3 | \$(38.7) |
| Adjustments to reconcile net earnings (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 38.6 | 32.3 |
| Stock-based compensation | 8.1 | 8.3 |
| Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation | (0.7) | (0.9) |
| Pension and post-retirement expenses | 0.7 | 116.4 |
| Deferred taxes | (2.5) | (46.4) |
| Gain on sales of property and dealers | — | (0.2) |
| Restructuring and impairment expenses | 1.9 | 5.1 |
| Other, net | 0.7 | 0.8 |
| (Increase) decrease in current assets | 3.2 | (20.4) |
| Increase (decrease) in current liabilities | (13.6) | 3.0 |
| Decrease in non-current liabilities | (0.9) | (8.9) |
| Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities | 109.8 | 50.4 |
| Cash Flows from Investing Activities: | | |
| Proceeds from sales of property and dealers | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Marketable securities purchases | — | (4.6) |
| Marketable securities sales | 4.6 | 4.3 |
| Acquisitions, net of cash received | (154.0) | (6.7) |
| Capital expenditures | (43.2) | (32.0) |
| Other, net | (8.2) | (0.1) |
| Net Cash Used in Investing Activities | (200.5) | (38.9) |
| Cash Flows from Financing Activities: | | |
| Dividends paid | (24.9) | (22.1) |
| Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt | 622.0 | — |
| Payments of long-term debt | (546.0) | — |
| Common stock issued | 7.2 | 10.0 |
| Common stock repurchased and retired | (3.3) | (4.3) |
| Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation | 0.7 | 0.9 |
| Payment of contingent consideration obligation | — | (1.3) |
| Purchase of noncontrolling interests | (5.8) | — |
| Other, net | 0.8 | 0.2 |
| Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities | 50.7 | (16.6) |
| Effect of Exchange Rate Changes on Cash and Cash Equivalents | 0.3 | (0.5) |
| Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents | (39.7) | (5.6) |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Period | 101.5 | 82.7 |

| | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Period | \$61.8 | \$77.1 |
|--|--------|--------|

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

5

HERMAN MILLER, INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF
 STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY
 (Dollars in Millions)
 (Unaudited)

| | Nine Months Ended | |
|---|-------------------|---------------|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 |
| REDEEMABLE NONCONTROLLING INTERESTS | | |
| Balance at beginning of year | \$— | \$— |
| Redeemable noncontrolling interests related to DWR acquisition | 25.7 | — |
| Stock-based compensation expense | 0.9 | — |
| Sale of redeemable noncontrolling interests | 0.1 | — |
| Stock options exercised | 0.8 | — |
| Net income attributable to redeemable noncontrolling interests | 0.2 | — |
| Redeemable noncontrolling interests | \$27.7 | \$— |
| | | |
| STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Preferred Stock | | |
| Balance at beginning of year and end of period | \$— | \$— |
| Common Stock | | |
| Balance at beginning of year | 11.9 | 11.7 |
| Exercise of stock options | — | 0.1 |
| Balance at end of period | 11.9 | 11.8 |
| Additional Paid-in Capital | | |
| Balance at beginning of year | 122.4 | 102.9 |
| Repurchase and retirement of common stock | (3.3) | (4.2) |
| Exercise of stock options | 5.6 | 8.5 |
| Stock-based compensation expense | 7.2 | 8.3 |
| Excess tax benefit for stock-based compensation | 0.3 | 0.7 |
| Restricted stock units released | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Employee stock purchase plan issuances | 1.2 | 1.1 |
| Deferred compensation plan | (0.5) | (0.3) |
| Directors' fees | 0.4 | 0.3 |
| Balance at end of period | 133.5 | 117.5 |
| Retained Earnings | | |
| Balance at beginning of year | 277.4 | 331.1 |
| Net income attributable to Herman Miller, Inc. | 74.1 | (38.7) |
| Dividends declared on common stock (per share - 2015: \$0.420; 2014; \$0.390) | (25.2) | (23.2) |
| Balance at end of period | 326.3 | 269.2 |
| Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss | | |
| Balance at beginning of year | (37.9) | (124.3) |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) | (8.3) | 90.1 |
| Balance at end of period | (46.2) | (34.2) |
| Key Executive Deferred Compensation | | |
| Balance at beginning of year | (1.7) | (1.9) |
| Deferred compensation plan | 0.5 | 0.2 |
| Balance at end of period | (1.2) | (1.7) |
| Noncontrolling Interests | | |

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| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Balance at beginning of year | — | — |
| Noncontrolling interests related to DWR acquisition | 5.8 | — |
| Purchase of noncontrolling interests | (5.8 |) — |
| Balance at end of period | — | — |
| Total Stockholders' Equity | \$424.3 | \$362.6 |

6

HERMAN MILLER, INC.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared by Herman Miller, Inc. ("the company") in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for complete financial statements. Management believes the disclosures made in this document are adequate with respect to interim reporting requirements.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements, taken as a whole, contain all adjustments which are of a normal recurring nature necessary to present fairly the financial position of the company as of February 28, 2015. Operating results for the nine months ended February 28, 2015, are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending May 30, 2015. It is suggested that these condensed consolidated financial statements be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes thereto included in the company's Form 10-K filing for the year ended May 31, 2014.

2. NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

Recently Adopted Accounting Guidance

During the first quarter of fiscal 2015, the company adopted Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2013-11, "Income Taxes (Topic 740): Presentation of an Unrecognized Tax Benefit When a Net Operating Loss Carryforward, a Similar Tax Loss, or a Tax Credit Carryforward Exists," which defines the presentation requirements of an unrecognized tax benefit, or a portion of an unrecognized tax benefit, in the financial statements. The adoption of this standard did not have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements.

Accounting Guidance Issued But Not Adopted as of February 28, 2015

During the first quarter of fiscal 2015, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued ASU 2014-12, "Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Accounting for Share-Based Payments When the Terms of an Award Provide That a Performance Target Could be Achieved after the Requisite Service Period." This ASU provides more specificity regarding the treatment of share-based payment awards that require a specific performance target that affects vesting and that could be achieved after the requisite service period as a performance condition. This guidance is effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2015. The adoption of this standard is not expected to have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements.

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)," which is the single, comprehensive revenue recognition standard that will supersede all existing revenue recognition guidance under U.S. GAAP. The core principle of the standard is that a company will recognize revenue when it transfers promised goods or services to a customer in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the company expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. This ASU is effective for annual and interim periods beginning on or after December 15, 2016. In April 2015, the FASB decided to defer the effective date of the new revenue standard by one year, resulting in the revenue standard being effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017. Under the proposal, companies would be permitted to early adopt the ASU as of the original effective date (annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016). The proposal to defer will be voted upon after the comment period has concluded. The company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting this guidance.

3. FISCAL YEAR

The company's fiscal year ends on the Saturday closest to May 31. Fiscal 2015, the year ending May 30, 2015, and fiscal 2014, the year ended May 31, 2014, each contain 52 weeks. The third quarters of fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014

each contained 13 weeks.

4. ACQUISITIONS AND DIVESTITURES

Design Within Reach Acquisition

On July 28, 2014, the company acquired the majority of the outstanding equity of Design Within Reach, Inc. ("DWR"), a Stamford, Connecticut based, leading North American marketer and seller of modern furniture, lighting, and accessories primarily serving consumers and design trade professionals. The acquisition of DWR advances the company's strategy of being both an industry brand and a consumer brand by expanding the company's reach into the consumer sector.

The company purchased an ownership interest in DWR equal to approximately 81 percent for \$155.2 million in cash. The acquisition was financed by using a combination of existing cash and \$127.0 million of borrowings on the company's available, unsecured credit facility. As a result of the transaction, the company estimates it will receive future tax benefits with a present value of approximately \$10 million measured as of the date of acquisition. Additionally, certain senior management of DWR received fully-vested stock options, with a value of \$1.7 million, in the equity of a newly-formed consumer-facing subsidiary that DWR merged into as a result of the transaction. These fully-vested equity awards are recorded in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet within "Redeemable noncontrolling interests".

Subsequent to the initial transaction, the company acquired an additional 4 percent of DWR stock from the remaining public shareholders for approximately \$5.8 million in cash, all of which was paid during the first and second quarters of fiscal 2015. The remaining 15 percent of DWR stock was contributed by DWR executives into the newly formed consumer business subsidiary and the company contributed the assets of the existing Herman Miller Consumer business. After these transactions, the redeemable noncontrolling interests in the newly formed subsidiary, known as Herman Miller Consumer Holdings, Inc. ("HMCH"), was approximately 7 percent. The remaining HMCH shareholders have a put option to require the company to purchase their remaining interest over a five-year period from the date of issuance of such shares. As a result, these noncontrolling interests are not included within Stockholders' Equity within the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, but rather are included within Redeemable noncontrolling interests.

During the measurement period, the company made certain post-closing adjustments related to the final settlement of net working capital, valuation of customer relationship intangible assets, valuation of accounts receivable, and deferred income taxes that resulted in a net increase to goodwill of \$1.8 million. The following table summarizes the fair values of the assets acquired and the liabilities assumed from the acquisition. The allocation of the purchase price is still considered preliminary, and the company is finalizing information related to the valuation and useful lives of intangible assets, deferred income taxes, and goodwill. The final determination of the fair values may result in further adjustments to the values presented below:

Valuation as of July 28, 2014

| (In millions) | At acquisition date - reported as of August 30, 2014 | Measurement Period Adjustments | At acquisition date - reported as of February 28, 2015 |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Purchase price | \$155.0 | \$0.2 | \$155.2 |
| Fair value of the assets acquired: | | | |
| Cash | 1.2 | — | 1.2 |
| Accounts receivable | 2.4 | (0.2) |)2.2 |
| Inventory | 47.4 | — | 47.4 |
| Current deferred tax asset | — | 1.7 | 1.7 |
| Other current assets | 5.5 | — | 5.5 |
| Long term deferred tax asset | 3.7 | (3.7) |)— |
| Goodwill | 74.4 | 1.8 | 76.2 |
| Other intangible assets | 69.6 | (0.3) |)69.3 |
| Property | 32.0 | — | 32.0 |
| Other long term assets | 2.4 | — | 2.4 |
| Total assets acquired | 238.6 | (0.7) |)237.9 |
| Fair value of liabilities assumed: | | | |
| Accounts payable | 20.8 | — | 20.8 |
| Current deferred tax liabilities | 0.6 | (0.6) |)— |
| Accrued compensation and benefits | 1.6 | — | 1.6 |
| Other accrued liabilities | 12.3 | (0.1) |)12.2 |
| Long term deferred tax liability | 16.4 | (0.2) |)16.2 |
| Other long term liabilities | 0.4 | — | 0.4 |
| Total liabilities assumed | 52.1 | (0.9) |)51.2 |
| Redeemable noncontrolling interests | 25.7 | — | 25.7 |
| Noncontrolling interests | 5.8 | — | 5.8 |
| Net assets acquired | \$155.0 | \$0.2 | \$155.2 |

The goodwill stemming from the transaction in the amount of \$76.2 million was preliminarily recorded as "Goodwill" in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet and allocated to the Consumer reportable segment. The goodwill

recognized is attributable primarily to the assembled workforce and expected synergies from DWR and the total amount of this goodwill is not deductible for tax purposes.

Other intangible assets acquired as a result of the acquisition of DWR were preliminarily valued at \$69.3 million. These amounts are reflected in the values presented in the following table:

8

Intangible Assets Acquired from the DWR Acquisition

| (In millions) | Fair Value | Useful Life |
|-----------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Trade Names and Trademarks | \$55.1 | Indefinite |
| Exclusive Distribution Agreements | 0.2 | 1.5 years |
| Customer Relationships | 12.8 | 10 - 16 years |
| Product Development Designs | 1.2 | 7 years |
| Total Intangible Assets Acquired | \$69.3 | |

The following table provides net sales and results of operations from DWR included in the company's results since the July 28, 2014 acquisition.

DWR Results of Operations

| (In millions) | Three Months Ended February 28, 2015 | Nine Months Ended February 28, 2015 |
|---|---|--|
| DWR Net sales | \$59.5 | \$147.9 |
| Intercompany sales elimination | (7.0) |)(14.4) |
| Net sales impact to Herman Miller, Inc. | \$52.5 | \$133.5 |
| Net loss | \$(0.5) |)(4.3) |

DWR acquisition-related expenses were \$2.2 million for the nine-month period ended February 28, 2015. These expenses included legal and professional services fees.

China Manufacturing and Distribution Acquisition

On September 30, 2013, the company acquired certain assets from Dongguan Sun Hing Steel Furniture Factory Ltd (DGSF) which together constituted the acquisition of a business. The acquired business is a manufacturing and distribution operation in Dongguan, China. Consideration transferred to acquire the net assets of DGSF consisted of \$8.2 million in cash, of which \$6.7 million was paid during the second and third quarters of fiscal 2014. The remaining payment is recorded in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets within "Other Accrued Liabilities" and is expected to be made within the next nine months. The company has finalized the purchase accounting for the acquisition of the China manufacturing and distribution facility.

Divestitures

During the third quarter of fiscal 2014, the company completed the sale of one wholly-owned contract furniture dealership in Montreal, Canada. The effect of this transaction on the company's consolidated financial statements was not material. The company also completed the sale of one wholly-owned contract furniture dealership in Oregon and one wholly-owned contract furniture dealership in Arkansas during the first quarter and second quarter of fiscal 2014, respectively. The effects of these transactions on the company's consolidated financial statements were also not material.

5. INVENTORIES, NET

| (In millions) | February 28, 2015 | May 31, 2014 |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Finished goods | \$104.8 | \$58.2 |
| Raw materials | 23.7 | 20.2 |
| Total | \$128.5 | \$78.4 |

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost or market and include material, labor, and overhead. The inventories of the majority of domestic manufacturing subsidiaries are valued using the last-in, first-out method ("LIFO"). The inventories of all other subsidiaries are valued using the first-in, first-out method ("FIFO").

6. GOODWILL AND INDEFINITE-LIVED INTANGIBLES

Goodwill and other indefinite-lived intangible assets included in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets consisted of the following as of February 28, 2015 and May 31, 2014:

| (In millions) | Goodwill | Indefinite-lived Intangible Assets | Total Goodwill and Indefinite-lived Intangible Assets |
|--|----------|---------------------------------------|---|
| May 31, 2014 | \$228.2 | \$40.9 | \$269.1 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | (0.7 |) — | (0.7 |
| DWR acquisition | 76.2 | 55.1 | 131.3 |
| February 28, 2015 | \$303.7 | \$96.0 | \$399.7 |

7. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

Pension Plans and Post-Retirement Medical Insurance

During the second quarter of fiscal 2014, the company settled the remaining obligations associated with its primary domestic defined benefit pension plans. Plan participants received vested benefits from the plan assets by electing a lump sum distribution, a roll-over contribution to other 401(k) or individual retirement plans, or an annuity contract with a qualifying third-party provider. These payments resulted in the settlement of the primary domestic defined benefit pension plans, thus relieving the company of any further obligation.

Components of Net Periodic Benefit Costs

| (In millions) | Three Months Ended | | Other Post-Retirement Benefits | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| | Pension Benefits February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 |
| Domestic: | | | | |
| Interest cost | \$— | \$— | \$0.1 | \$0.1 |
| Expected return on plan assets | — | — | — | — |
| Net amortization loss | — | — | — | — |
| Settlement loss recognized | — | — | — | — |
| Net periodic benefit cost | \$— | \$— | \$0.1 | \$0.1 |
| International: | | | | |
| Interest cost | \$1.2 | \$1.0 | | |
| Expected return on plan assets | (1.5 |) (1.2 |) | |
| Net amortization loss | 0.5 | 0.4 | | |
| Net periodic benefit cost | \$0.2 | \$0.2 | | |
| Three Months Ended | | | | |
| Net periodic benefit cost | | | | |
| Domestic: | | | | |
| Interest cost | \$— | \$5.2 | \$0.2 | \$0.2 |
| Expected return on plan assets | — | (3.8 |) — | — |
| Net amortization loss | — | 4.8 | — | — |
| Settlement loss recognized | — | 158.2 | — | — |
| Net periodic benefit cost | \$— | \$164.4 | \$0.2 | \$0.2 |
| International: | | | | |
| Interest cost | \$3.5 | \$3.0 | | |
| Expected return on plan assets | (4.5 |) (3.6 |) | |

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|
| Net amortization loss | 1.5 | 1.2 |
| Net periodic benefit cost | \$0.5 | \$0.6 |

10

8. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The following table reconciles the numerators and denominators used in the calculations of basic and diluted earnings per share (EPS).

| | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 |
| Numerators: | | | | |
| Numerator for both basic and diluted EPS, net earnings - in millions | \$21.0 | \$19.4 | \$74.1 | \$(38.7) |
| Denominators: | | | | |
| Denominator for basic EPS, weighted-average common shares outstanding | 59,550,289 | 59,014,789 | 59,430,575 | 58,888,514 |
| Potentially dilutive shares resulting from stock plans | 547,900 | 638,628 | 566,292 | — |
| Denominator for diluted EPS | 60,098,189 | 59,653,417 | 59,996,867 | 58,888,514 |
| Antidilutive equity awards not included in weighted-average common shares - diluted | 676,405 | 780,800 | 703,364 | 2,782,663 |

The total antidilutive equity awards not included in the weighted-average common shares for the third quarters of fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014 were 676,405 shares and 780,800 shares, respectively. Included within these amounts were options to purchase 676,405 shares and 765,448 shares, respectively.

For the nine months ended February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014, the total antidilutive equity shares not included in the weighted-average common shares were 703,364 shares and 2,782,663 shares, respectively. Included within these amounts were options to purchase 703,364 shares and 2,134,500 shares, respectively.

The company has certain share-based payment awards that meet the definition of participating securities. The company has evaluated the impact on EPS of all participating securities under the two-class method, noting the impact on EPS was immaterial.

9. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

The company's stock-based compensation expense for the three month periods ended February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014 was \$2.4 million and \$2.7 million, respectively. The related income tax effect for the three month periods ended February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014 was \$0.8 million and \$1.0 million, respectively. For the nine months ended February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014, compensation costs were \$8.1 million and \$8.3 million, respectively. The related income tax effect for the respective nine month periods was \$2.9 million and \$3.0 million, respectively.

Stock-based compensation expense recognized in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the three and nine month periods ended February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014 has been reduced for estimated forfeitures, as it is based on awards ultimately expected to vest. Forfeitures are estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ. Forfeitures are estimated based on historical experience.

For the nine month period ended February 28, 2015, the company issued 258,927 shares of common stock related to the exercise of stock options and 130,144 of common stock related to the vesting of restricted stock units.

For the nine month period ended March 1, 2014, the company issued 412,541 shares of common stock related to the exercise of stock options and 108,947 shares of common stock related to the vesting of restricted stock units.

Stock Option Plans

The company has stock option plans under which options to purchase the company's stock are granted to employees, directors, and consultants at a price not less than the market price of the company's common stock on the date of grant. Under the current award program, all options become exercisable between one year and three years from date of grant and expire ten years from date of grant. Most options are subject to graded vesting with the related compensation expense recognized on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period. The company estimates the issuance date fair value of stock options on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes model.

Herman Miller Consumer Holdings Stock (HMCH) Option Plan

Certain employees have been granted, as rollover grants from the acquisition of DWR, options to purchase stock of HMCH, a subsidiary of the company, at a price equal to the exercise price of the original DWR stock options. These awards are fully vested and exercisable at the rollover grant date, and expire at the end of the window period that follows the fifth anniversary of the grant date.

Certain employees were also granted new options to purchase stock of HMCH at a price not less than the market price of HMCH common stock on the date of grant. For the grants of new options under the award program, options are potentially exercisable between one year and five years from date of grant and expire at the end of the window period that follows the fifth anniversary of the grant date. Vesting is based on the performance of HMCH over a period of five years. Compensation expense is determined based on grant-date fair value and the number of common shares of HMCH projected to be issued and is recognized over the requisite service period. The company estimates the issuance date fair value of HMCH stock options on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes model.

Employee Stock Purchase Program

Under the terms of the company's Employee Stock Purchase Plan, 4 million shares of authorized common stock were reserved for purchase by plan participants at 85 percent of the market price. The company recognizes pre-tax compensation expense related to the market value discount.

Restricted Stock Grants

The company periodically grants restricted common stock to certain key employees. Shares are granted in the name of the employee, who has all the rights of a shareholder, subject to certain restrictions on transferability and risk of forfeiture. The grants are subject to either cliff-based or graded vesting over a period not exceeding five years, and are subject to forfeiture if the employee ceases to be employed by the company for certain reasons. After the vesting period, the risk of forfeiture and restrictions on transferability lapse. The compensation expense for these awards is based on the closing stock price on the date of grant. The company recognizes the related compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period.

Restricted Stock Units

The company grants restricted stock units to certain key employees. The awards generally cliff-vest after a three or five-year service period, with prorated vesting under certain circumstances and full or partial accelerated vesting upon retirement. Each restricted stock unit represents one equivalent share of the company's common stock to be issued, free of restrictions, after the vesting period. The compensation expense for these awards is based on the closing stock price on the date of grant. Compensation expense related to these awards is recognized over the requisite service period. Dividend equivalent awards are credited quarterly. The units do not entitle participants to the rights of shareholders of common stock, such as voting rights, until shares are issued after the vesting period.

Performance Share Units

The company has granted performance share units to certain key employees. Each unit represents one equivalent share of the company's common stock. The number of common shares ultimately issued in connection with these performance share units is determined based on the company's financial performance over the related three-year service period or the company's financial performance based on certain total shareholder return results as compared to a selected group of peer companies. Compensation expense is determined based on the grant-date fair value and the number of common shares projected to be issued and is recognized over the requisite service period.

10. INCOME TAXES

The effective tax rates for the three months ended February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014, were 33.6 percent and 33.3 percent, respectively. The company's United States federal statutory rate is 35 percent. For the nine month periods ended February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014, the effective tax rates were 33.5 percent and 41.1 percent, respectively. The decrease in the rate during the nine month period ended February 28, 2015 resulted from a shift in the relative mix of income and loss between the taxing jurisdictions from the prior year primarily due to legacy pension expenses

recorded in the prior year.

The company had income tax accruals associated with uncertain tax benefits totaling \$1.5 million and \$1.7 million as of February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014, respectively.

The company recognizes interest and penalties related to uncertain tax benefits through income tax expense in its Condensed Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income. Interest and penalties recognized in the company's Condensed Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income were \$0.2 million for the three month period and \$0.3 million for the nine month period ended February 28, 2015. Interest and penalties recognized in the company's Condensed Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income were negligible for the three and nine month periods ended March 1, 2014. The company's recorded liability for potential interest and penalties related to uncertain tax benefits totaled \$0.9 million and \$0.7 million as of February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014, respectively.

The company is subject to periodic audits by domestic and foreign tax authorities. Currently, the company is undergoing routine periodic audits in both domestic and foreign tax jurisdictions. It is reasonably possible that the amounts of unrecognized tax benefits could change in the next

12

twelve months as a result of the audits. Tax payments related to these audits, if any, are not expected to be material to the company's Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income.

For the majority of tax jurisdictions, the company is no longer subject to state, local, or non-United States income tax examinations by tax authorities for fiscal years before 2011.

11. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The following describes the methods the company uses to estimate the fair value of financial assets and liabilities, which have not significantly changed in the current period:

Available-for-sale securities — The company's available-for-sale marketable securities primarily include mortgage-backed debt securities, government obligations and corporate debt securities and are recorded at fair value using quoted prices for similar securities.

Deferred compensation plan — The company's deferred compensation plan primarily includes various domestic and international mutual funds that are recorded at fair value using quoted prices for similar securities.

Foreign currency exchange contracts — The company's foreign currency exchange contracts are valued using an approach based on foreign currency exchange rates obtained from active markets. The estimated fair value of forward currency exchange contracts is based on month-end spot rates as adjusted by market-based current activity.

The following tables set forth financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets and the respective pricing levels to which the fair value measurements are classified within the fair value hierarchy as of February 28, 2015 and May 31, 2014.

| (In millions) | Fair Value Measurements | |
|---|--|---|
| | February 28, 2015 | May 31, 2014 |
| | Quoted Prices with Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Quoted Prices with Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) |
| Financial Assets | | |
| Available-for-sale marketable securities: | | |
| Asset-backed securities | \$0.3 | \$0.4 |
| Corporate securities | 0.7 | 1.2 |
| Government obligations | 4.9 | 7.9 |
| Mortgage-backed securities | 0.5 | 1.6 |
| Foreign currency forward contracts | 0.6 | 0.2 |
| Deferred compensation plan | 7.6 | 6.3 |
| Total | \$14.6 | \$17.6 |
| Financial Liabilities | | |
| Foreign currency forward contracts | \$0.5 | \$0.1 |
| Total | \$0.5 | \$0.1 |

The company does not hold any level 3 investments. The following is a summary of the carrying and market values of the company's marketable securities as of the respective dates.

| February 28, 2015 | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| (In millions) | Cost | Unrealized Gain | Unrealized Loss | Market Value |
| Asset-backed securities | \$0.3 | \$— | \$— | \$0.3 |
| Corporate securities | 0.7 | — | — | 0.7 |
| Government obligations | 4.9 | — | — | 4.9 |
| Mortgage-backed securities | 0.5 | — | — | 0.5 |
| Total | \$6.4 | \$— | \$— | \$6.4 |

| May 31, 2014 | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| (In millions) | Cost | Unrealized Gain | Unrealized Loss | Market Value |
| Asset-backed securities | \$0.4 | \$— | \$— | \$0.4 |
| Corporate securities | 1.2 | — | — | 1.2 |
| Government obligations | 7.9 | — | — | 7.9 |
| Mortgage-backed securities | 1.6 | — | — | 1.6 |
| Total | \$11.1 | \$— | \$— | \$11.1 |

Adjustments to the fair value of available-for-sale securities are recorded as increases or decreases, net of income taxes, within accumulated other comprehensive loss in stockholders' equity. The cost of securities sold is based on the specific identification method; realized gains and losses resulting from such sales are included in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income within "Other, net".

The company reviews its investment portfolio for any unrealized losses that would be deemed other-than-temporary and require the recognition of an impairment loss in earnings. If the cost of an investment exceeds its fair value, the company evaluates, among other factors, general market conditions, the duration and extent to which the fair value is less than its cost, the company's intent to hold the investment, and whether it is more likely than not that the company will be required to sell the investment before recovery of the cost basis. The company also considers the type of security, related industry and sector performance, and published investment ratings. Once a decline in fair value is determined to be other-than-temporary, an impairment charge is recorded and a new cost basis in the investment is established. If conditions within individual markets, industry segments, or macro-economic environments deteriorate, the company could incur future impairments.

Maturities of debt securities included in marketable securities as of February 28, 2015, are as follows.

| (In millions) | Cost | Fair Value |
|--|-------|------------|
| Due within one year | \$2.7 | \$2.7 |
| Due after one year through five years | 3.6 | 3.6 |
| Due after five years through ten years | — | — |
| Due after more than ten years | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Total | \$6.4 | \$6.4 |

The company views its available-for-sale portfolio as available for use in its current operations. Accordingly, the investments are recorded within Current Assets within the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

12. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Product Warranties

The company provides warranty coverage to the end-user for parts and labor on products sold. The standard length of warranty is twelve years for the majority of products sold; however, this varies depending on the product classification. The company does not sell or otherwise issue warranties or warranty extensions as stand-alone products. Reserves have been established for the various costs associated with the company's warranty program and are included in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets under "Accrued warranty." General warranty reserves are based on historical claims experience and other currently available information. These reserves are adjusted once an issue is identified and the actual cost of correction becomes known or can be estimated.

| (In millions) | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 |
| Accrual Balance — beginning | \$26.0 | \$24.8 | \$25.2 | \$24.8 |
| Accrual for warranty matters | 5.4 | 5.1 | 18.1 | 15.4 |
| Settlements and adjustments | (5.3 |) (4.5 |) (17.2 |) (14.8 |
| Accrual Balance — ending | \$26.1 | \$25.4 | \$26.1 | \$25.4 |

Guarantees

The company is periodically required to provide performance bonds in order to do business with certain customers. These arrangements are common and generally have terms ranging between one and three years. The bonds are required to provide assurance to customers that the products and services they have purchased will be installed and/or provided properly and without damage to their facilities. The bonds are provided by various bonding agencies; however, the company is ultimately liable for claims that may occur against them. As of February 28, 2015, the company had a maximum financial exposure related to performance bonds totaling approximately \$9.1 million. The company has no history of claims, nor is it aware of circumstances that would require it to pay, under any of these arrangements. The company also believes that the resolution of any claims that might arise in the future, either individually or in the aggregate, would not materially affect the company's financial statements. Accordingly, no liability has been recorded in respect to these bonds as of February 28, 2015 and May 31, 2014.

The company has entered into standby letter of credit arrangements for purposes of protecting various insurance companies and lessors against default on insurance premium and lease payments. As of February 28, 2015, the company had a maximum financial exposure from these standby letters of credit totaling approximately \$8.3 million, all of which is considered usage against the company's revolving credit facility. The company has no history of claims, nor is it aware of circumstances that would require it to perform under any of these arrangements, and believes that the resolution of any claims that might arise in the future, either individually or in the aggregate, would not materially affect the company's financial statements. Accordingly, no liability has been recorded in respect of these arrangements as of February 28, 2015 and May 31, 2014.

Contingencies

The company leases a facility in the United Kingdom under an agreement that expired in June 2011, and the company is currently leasing the facility on a month-to-month basis. Under the terms of the lease, the company is required to perform the maintenance and repairs necessary to address the general dilapidation of the facility. The ultimate cost of this provision to the company is dependent on a number of factors including, but not limited to, the future use of the facility by the lessor and whether the company chooses and is permitted to renew the lease term. The company has estimated the cost of these maintenance and repairs to be between \$0 million and \$3.0 million, depending on the outcome of future plans and negotiations. As a result, an estimated liability of \$1.2 million and \$1.5 million was recorded under the caption "Other accrued liabilities" in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of February 28, 2015, and May 31, 2014, respectively.

The company is also involved in legal proceedings and litigation arising in the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, the outcome of such proceedings and litigation currently pending will not materially affect the company's consolidated financial statements.

13. DEBT

On January 3, 2015, \$50.0 million of the company's Series A senior notes became due and payable. This debt was paid through the use of borrowings on the company's revolving line of credit.

On July 21, 2014, the company entered into a third amendment and restatement of its syndicated revolving line of credit, which provides the company with up to \$250 million in revolving variable interest borrowing capacity and

includes an "accordion feature" allowing the company to increase, at its option and subject to the approval of the participating banks, the aggregate borrowing capacity of the facility by \$125 million. The facility expires in July 2019 and outstanding borrowings bear interest at rates based on the prime rate, federal funds rate, LIBOR, or negotiated rates as outlined in the agreement. Interest is payable periodically throughout the period if borrowings are outstanding. As of February 28, 2015, the total debt outstanding related to borrowings against this facility was \$126.0 million. These borrowings are included within Long-term debt in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet. As of that date, the total usage against the facility was \$134.3 million, of which \$8.3 million related to outstanding letters of credit.

During the second quarter of fiscal 2014, the company entered into a revolving line of credit, which provides the company with approximately \$5.0 million in revolving variable interest borrowing capacity. The company intends to utilize the revolver, which is denominated in Chinese Renminbi, to meet working capital cash flow needs at its South China operations. The uncommitted facility is subject to changes in bank approval and outstanding borrowings bear interest at rates based on a benchmark lending rate. As of February 28, 2015 and May 31, 2014, there were no borrowings against this facility.

During the second quarter of fiscal 2013, the company entered into a revolving line of credit, which provides the company with approximately \$5.0 million in revolving variable interest borrowing capacity. The company intends to utilize the revolver, which is denominated in Chinese Renminbi, to meet working capital cash flow needs at its Ningbo, China operations. The uncommitted facility is subject to changes in bank approval and outstanding borrowings bear interest at rates based on a benchmark lending rate. Each draw on the line of credit is subject to a maximum period of one year and corresponding interest is payable on the maturity date of each draw. As of February 28, 2015 and May 31, 2014, there were no borrowings against this facility.

During the second quarter of fiscal 2012, the company entered into an amendment and restatement of the syndicated revolving line of credit, which provided the company with up to \$150 million in revolving variable interest borrowing capacity and included an "accordion feature", which allowed the company to increase, at its option and subject to the approval of the participating banks, the aggregate borrowing capacity of the facility by \$75 million. This facility was replaced by the third amendment and restatement that occurred on July 21, 2014. As of May 31, 2014, total usage against this facility was \$4.9 million, all of which related to outstanding letters of credit.

14. ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS

The following table provides an analysis of the changes in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) for the nine months ended February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014:

| (In millions) | Nine Months Ended | |
|--|----------------------|---------------|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 |
| Cumulative translation adjustments at beginning of period | \$(11.1) | \$(14.0) |
| Translation adjustments | (9.5) | 2.2) |
| Balance at end of period | (20.6) | (11.8) |
| Pension and other post-retirement benefit plans at beginning of period | (26.8) | (110.3) |
| Adjustments to pension and other post-retirement benefit plans | — | (2.0) |
| Reclassification to earnings - cost of sales (net of tax \$0.0, \$(15.9)) | — | 27.6 |
| Reclassification to earnings - operating expenses (net of tax \$(0.3), \$(35.7)) | 1.2 | 62.3 |
| Balance at end of period | (25.6) | (22.4) |
| Total accumulated other comprehensive loss | \$(46.2) | \$(34.2) |

15. RESTRUCTURING AND IMPAIRMENT ACTIVITIES

During the third quarter of fiscal 2015 the company announced restructuring actions involving targeted workforce reductions within the North American segment. These actions resulted in the recognition of restructuring expenses related to severance and outplacement costs totaling \$1.9 million during the quarter.

During the third quarter of fiscal 2014 the company recognized restructuring expenses of \$1.1 million. This restructuring charge was related to actions taken to improve the efficiency of the North American sales and distribution channel and Geiger manufacturing operations. These actions focused primarily on targeted workforce reductions.

Due to the acquisition of a manufacturing and distribution operation in Dongguan, China in the second quarter of 2014, the company decided not to pursue the construction of a new manufacturing and distribution facility on property that it previously acquired in Ningbo, China. In connection with this decision, the company evaluated the fair value of this property and recorded an asset impairment of \$4.0 million during the second quarter of fiscal 2014. This impairment charge was recorded to the "Restructuring and impairment expenses" line item within the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income. The impairment charge is included within the "Corporate" category within the segment reporting.

16. OPERATING SEGMENTS

Following the acquisition of DWR, we realigned the composition of our reportable segments to reflect the new operational and management divisions of the business. As a result, our previously defined "Specialty and Consumer" structure has been divided into two separate segments. The "Specialty" segment includes the operations associated with our Geiger, Maharam, and Herman Miller Collection business units. Under the new structure, the company's "Consumer" business segment includes the results of our combined North American consumer wholesale and retail business, including DWR. Prior year results have been revised to reflect this change. The North American and ELA segments were not affected by these changes.

The company's reportable segments consist of North American Furniture Solutions, ELA ("EMEA, Latin America, and Asia Pacific") Furniture Solutions, Specialty, and Consumer. The North American Furniture Solutions reportable segment includes the operations associated with the

design, manufacture, and sale of furniture products for work-related settings, including office, education, and healthcare environments, throughout the United States and Canada. ELA Furniture Solutions includes the operations associated with the design, manufacture, and sale of furniture products, primarily for work-related settings, in the EMEA, Latin America, and Asia-Pacific geographic regions. Specialty includes the operations associated with the design, manufacture, and sale of high-craft furniture products and textiles including Geiger wood products, Maharam textiles, and Herman Miller Collection products. The Consumer segment includes the operations associated with the sale of modern design furnishings and accessories to third party retail distributors, as well as direct to consumer sales through eCommerce and DWR studios.

The company also reports a “Corporate” category consisting primarily of unallocated corporate expenses including restructuring, impairment, acquisition-related costs, and other unallocated corporate costs.

The accounting policies of the reportable operating segments are the same as those of the company. Additionally, the company employs a methodology for allocating corporate costs and assets with the underlying objective of this methodology being to allocate corporate costs according to the relative usage of the underlying resources and to allocate corporate assets according to the relative expected benefit. The company has determined that allocation based on relative net sales is appropriate. The majority of corporate costs are allocated to the operating segments; however, certain costs generally considered the result of isolated business decisions are not subject to allocation and are evaluated separately from the rest of the regular ongoing business operations. For example, restructuring charges that are reflected in operating earnings are allocated to the “Corporate” category.

The performance of the operating segments is evaluated by the company's management using various financial measures. The following is a summary of certain key financial measures for the respective fiscal periods indicated.

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| (In millions) | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 |
| Net Sales: | | | | |
| North American Furniture Solutions | \$296.0 | \$293.9 | \$932.4 | \$909.2 |
| ELA Furniture Solutions | 97.3 | 97.9 | 307.0 | 282.6 |
| Specialty | 50.5 | 47.5 | 160.5 | 152.7 |
| Consumer | 72.6 | 16.6 | 191.6 | 50.0 |
| Corporate | — | — | — | — |
| Total | \$516.4 | \$455.9 | \$1,591.5 | \$1,394.5 |
| Depreciation and Amortization: | | | | |
| North American Furniture Solutions | \$7.2 | \$7.0 | \$21.4 | \$20.8 |
| ELA Furniture Solutions | 1.9 | 1.8 | 6.3 | 5.7 |
| Specialty | 1.9 | 1.6 | 5.4 | 4.9 |
| Consumer | 2.3 | 0.3 | 5.3 | 0.9 |
| Corporate | 0.1 | — | 0.2 | — |
| Total | \$13.4 | \$10.7 | \$38.6 | \$32.3 |
| Operating Earnings (Loss): | | | | |
| North American Furniture Solutions | \$26.7 | \$26.7 | \$95.2 | \$(58.3) |
| ELA Furniture Solutions | 6.2 | 4.7 | 19.7 | 12.9 |
| Specialty | 1.9 | (0.2) | 7.6 | (7.3) |
| Consumer | 4.6 | 3.8 | 8.4 | 5.9 |
| Corporate | (2.0) | (0.9) | (4.6) | (5.1) |
| Total | \$37.4 | \$34.1 | \$126.3 | \$(51.9) |
| Capital Expenditures: | | | | |
| North American Furniture Solutions | \$8.0 | \$7.1 | \$23.7 | \$22.3 |
| ELA Furniture Solutions | 7.3 | 3.0 | 13.6 | 5.6 |
| Specialty | 0.6 | 1.9 | 2.8 | 4.1 |
| Consumer | 0.6 | — | 3.1 | — |
| Corporate | — | — | — | — |
| Total | \$16.5 | \$12.0 | \$43.2 | \$32.0 |
| (In millions) | February 28, 2015 | May 31, 2014 | | |
| Total Assets: | | | | |
| North American Furniture Solutions | \$512.9 | \$457.0 | | |
| ELA Furniture Solutions | 236.2 | 244.8 | | |
| Specialty | 154.1 | 157.7 | | |
| Consumer | 221.4 | 18.8 | | |
| Corporate | 68.2 | 112.6 | | |
| Total | \$1,192.8 | \$990.9 | | |
| Total Goodwill: | | | | |
| North American Furniture Solutions | \$135.8 | \$135.8 | | |
| ELA Furniture Solutions | 41.9 | 42.6 | | |

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| | | |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| Specialty | 49.8 | 49.8 |
| Consumer | 76.2 | — |
| Corporate | — | — |
| Total | \$303.7 | \$228.2 |

18

17. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Sale of Land in Ningbo, China

On March 12, 2015, the company entered into an agreement for the sale of land in Ningbo, China. For the third quarter of fiscal 2015, this land qualified to be classified as an Asset Held for Sale. Accordingly, during the third quarter of fiscal 2015 the land was written down to its fair value, less estimated selling expenses, to an amount of \$4.2 million and is now classified as a current asset and has been included within "prepaid expenses and other" on the Consolidated Balance Sheet for the period ended February 28, 2015. Impairment recorded during the period was not material.

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

The following is management's discussion and analysis of certain significant factors that affected the company's financial condition, earnings and cash flows during the periods included in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements and should be read in conjunction with the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended May 31, 2014. References to "Notes" are to the footnotes included in the condensed consolidated financial statements.

Discussion of Current Business Conditions

During the third quarter of fiscal 2015, we reported sales of \$516.4 million, an increase of 13.3 percent as compared to the prior year. Gross margin improved 120 basis points, due mainly to the acquisition of DWR, increases in net pricing, and operational improvements within our Specialty and ELA segments. We were pleased to deliver year over year growth in sales and gross margin, in spite of the significant currency headwinds resulting from continued strengthening of the U.S. Dollar against other major currencies.

Diluted earnings per share totaled \$0.35, an increase of 6.1 percent compared to the prior year. Excluding the impact of restructuring charges incurred during the quarter, earnings were \$0.37⁽¹⁾ per share, an increase of 8.8 percent from the prior year.

The improvement in earnings was bolstered by continued growth in our Specialty, Consumer, and ELA segments, all three posted earnings expansion over last year's third quarter level. While we were excited by the continued strength of these segments, order rates within our North American segment again lagged our expectations this quarter. In response to this, we have taken several steps aimed at improving our project win-rates and improving our overall market competitiveness within the North American contract market. To that end, we have completed or are in the process of completing the following:

- Filled open sales positions to increase overall selling capacity and market coverage
- Accelerated new product introductions
- Reset showrooms in key markets to ensure they reflect our most current product and design solutions
- Increased focus on competing successfully on small and medium-sized project opportunities
- Realigned the leadership structure of our Sales and Operations teams in the North American business

We believe we have a clear understanding of the issues that have impacted the North American segment and we are addressing them with a sense of urgency. We believe we have the right strategy, leadership, and processes in place to improve our competitive position in the North American contract industry.

As previously mentioned, the Specialty and Consumer segments continued to produce growth, which we believe evidences the progress of our SHIFT strategy, as we continue to build a lifestyle brand that serves customers in multiple settings. The Specialty segment achieved growth in sales (\$3.0 million), operating earnings (\$2.1 million), and Adjusted EBITDA (\$2.4 million⁽¹⁾).

Our Consumer segment also saw growth in sales (\$56.0 million), operating earnings (\$0.8 million), and Adjusted EBITDA (\$2.8 million⁽¹⁾). The majority of this growth was related to the acquisition of DWR (\$52.5 million), but we were pleased to see organic revenue growth (\$3.6 million), which adjusts for the impact of acquisitions, divestitures and foreign currency translation, related to the legacy consumer wholesale and eCommerce business as well. The integration of DWR continues, and we are making progress toward our exclusive product goals, which includes introducing more DWR exclusives and increasing the mix of Herman Miller brand products sold through DWR, while also expanding our e-Commerce business.

Sales attributable to our ELA segment were down slightly (\$0.6 million), from the same quarter last year, but excluding the negative impact of foreign currency, ELA delivered growth of 5.5 percent. This organic growth was led by increased sales in the Asia-Pacific region, primarily Australia and India, and continued growth in project activity in the EMEA region.

Capital expenditures totaled \$43.2 million for the nine months ended February 28, 2015, an increase of \$11.2 million compared to the same nine month period of fiscal 2014. The increase was mostly attributable to the construction of our new consolidated manufacturing and distribution facility in the United Kingdom. We anticipate our full year capital spending to be between \$65.0 million and \$70.0 million.

In light of the most recent BIFMA forecast, including the activity related to its underlying leading indicators, such as service sector employment, non-residential construction forecasts, and ABI trends, we believe that the economic environment is supportive of near-term growth within the North American contract market.

The remaining sections within Item 2 include additional analysis of our three and nine months ended February 28, 2015, including discussion of significant variances compared to the prior year periods.

(1) Non-GAAP measurements; see accompanying reconciliations and explanations.

Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

This report contains references to Adjusted gross margin, Adjusted operating expenses, Adjusted operating earnings, Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted earnings per share – diluted, all of which are non-GAAP financial measures (referred to collectively as the "Adjusted financial measures"). The Adjusted financial measures are calculated by excluding from Gross Margin, Operating expenses, Operating earnings, and Earnings per share – diluted items that we believe are not indicative of our ongoing operating performance. Such items consist of expenses associated with restructuring actions taken to adjust our cost structure to the current business climate, transition-related expenses, including amortization and settlement expenses, relating to defined benefit pension plans that we have terminated ("legacy pension expenses"), expenses associated with acquisition-related inventory adjustments, and transaction expenses associated with our acquisition of DWR. The legacy pension expenses include settlements caused by the transition to a defined contribution program and the net periodic benefit expenses associated with the terminated plans, subsequent to September 1, 2012. Adjusted EBITDA is calculated by excluding depreciation, amortization and other net income or expense from Adjusted Operating Earnings. We present the Adjusted financial measures because we consider them to be important supplemental measures of our performance and believe them to be useful in analyzing ongoing results from operations.

The Adjusted financial measures are not measurements of our financial performance under GAAP and should not be considered an alternative to Gross margin, Operating expenses, Operating earnings and Earnings per share – diluted under GAAP. The Adjusted financial measures have limitations as analytical tools and should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for analysis of our results as reported under GAAP. Our presentation of the Adjusted financial measures should not be construed as an indication that our future results will be unaffected by unusual or infrequent items. We compensate for these limitations by providing prominence of our GAAP results and using the Adjusted financial measures only as a supplement.

The following table reconciles Gross margin to Adjusted gross margin for the periods indicated.

| (Dollars in millions) | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | | |
|--|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|---|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | |
| Gross margin | \$190.5 | \$162.9 | \$581.8 | \$451.8 | |
| Percentage of net sales | 36.9 | %35.7 | %36.6 | %32.4 | % |
| Add: Acquisition-related inventory adjustments | — | — | 7.8 | 1.4 | |
| Add: Legacy pension expenses | — | — | — | 51.3 | |
| Adjusted gross margin | \$190.5 | \$162.9 | \$589.6 | \$504.5 | |
| Adjusted gross margin as a percentage of net sales | 36.9 | %35.7 | %37.0 | %36.2 | % |

The following table reconciles Operating expenses to Adjusted operating expenses for the periods indicated.

| (Dollars in millions) | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | | |
|--|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|---|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | |
| Operating expenses | \$153.1 | \$128.8 | \$455.5 | \$503.7 | |
| Percentage of net sales | 29.6 | %28.3 | %28.6 | %36.1 | % |
| Less: Restructuring and impairment expenses | (1.9) | (1.1) | (1.9) | (5.1) |) |
| Less: Acquisition expenses | — | — | (2.2) | — |) |
| Less: Legacy pension expenses | — | — | — | (113.1) |) |
| Adjusted operating expenses | \$151.2 | \$127.7 | \$451.4 | \$385.5 | |
| Adjusted operating expenses as a percentage of net sales | 29.3 | %28.0 | %28.4 | %27.6 | % |

The following table reconciles Operating earnings to Adjusted operating earnings and Adjusted EBITDA for the periods indicated.

| (Dollars in millions) | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | |
|--|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 |
| Operating earnings (loss) | \$37.4 | \$34.1 | \$126.3 | \$(51.9) |
| Percentage of net sales | 7.2 | %7.5 | % 7.9 | %(3.7)% |
| Add: Restructuring and impairment expenses | 1.9 | 1.1 | 1.9 | 5.1 |
| Add: Acquisition-related inventory adjustments | — | — | 7.8 | 1.4 |
| Add: Acquisition expenses | — | — | 2.2 | — |
| Add: Legacy pension expenses | — | — | — | 164.4 |
| Adjusted operating earnings | \$39.3 | \$35.2 | \$138.2 | \$119.0 |
| Less: Other, net | 1.0 | 0.4 | 1.1 | 0.3 |
| Add: Depreciation and amortization | 13.4 | 10.7 | 38.6 | 32.3 |
| Adjusted EBITDA | \$51.7 | \$45.5 | \$175.7 | \$151.0 |
| Adjusted operating earnings as a percentage of net sales | 7.6 | %7.7 | % 8.7 | %8.5 % |

The following table reconciles Earnings per share – diluted to Adjusted earnings per share – diluted for the periods indicated.

| | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | |
|--|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 |
| Earnings (loss) per share – diluted | \$0.35 | \$0.33 | \$1.23 | \$(0.66) |
| Add: Restructuring and impairment expenses | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.07 |
| Add: Acquisition-related inventory adjustments | — | — | 0.08 | 0.01 |
| Add: Acquisition expenses | — | — | 0.02 | — |
| Add: Legacy pension expenses | — | — | — | 1.76 |
| Adjusted earnings per share – diluted | \$0.37 | \$0.34 | \$1.35 | \$1.18 |

Analysis of Third Quarter Results

The following table presents certain key highlights from the results of operations for the periods indicated.

(In millions, except per share data)

| | Three Months Ended | | | Nine Months Ended | | | |
|--|--------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|--|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | Percent Change | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | Percent Change | |
| Net sales | \$516.4 | \$455.9 | 13.3 % | \$1,591.5 | \$1,394.5 | 14.1 % | |
| Cost of sales | 325.9 | 293.0 | 11.2 % | 1,009.7 | 942.7 | 7.1 % | |
| Gross margin | 190.5 | 162.9 | 16.9 % | 581.8 | 451.8 | 28.8 % | |
| Operating expenses | 151.2 | 127.7 | 18.4 % | 453.6 | 498.6 | (9.0)% | |
| Restructuring and impairment expenses | 1.9 | 1.1 | 72.7 % | 1.9 | 5.1 | (62.7)% | |
| Total operating expenses | 153.1 | 128.8 | 18.9 % | 455.5 | 503.7 | (9.6)% | |
| Operating earnings (loss) | 37.4 | 34.1 | 9.7 % | 126.3 | (51.9) | 343.4 % | |
| Other expenses, net | 5.4 | 4.8 | 12.5 % | 14.8 | 13.6 | 8.8 % | |
| Earnings (loss) before income taxes and equity income | 32.0 | 29.3 | 9.2 % | 111.5 | (65.5) | 270.2 % | |
| Income tax expense (benefit) | 10.8 | 9.8 | 10.2 % | 37.3 | (26.9) | 238.7 % | |
| Equity income (loss), net of tax | — | (0.1) | n/a | 0.1 | (0.1) | 200.0 % | |
| Net earnings (loss) | \$21.2 | \$19.4 | 9.3 % | \$74.3 | \$(38.7) | 292.0 % | |
| Net earnings attributable to redeemable noncontrolling interests | 0.2 | — | n/a | 0.2 | — | n/a | |
| Net earnings (loss) attributable to Herman Miller, Inc. | \$21.0 | \$19.4 | 8.2 % | \$74.1 | \$(38.7) | 291.5 % | |
| Earnings (loss) per share - diluted | \$0.35 | \$0.33 | 6.1 % | \$1.23 | \$(0.66) | 286.4 % | |
| Orders | \$500.5 | \$464.0 | 7.9 % | \$1,589.6 | \$1,438.2 | 10.5 % | |
| Backlog | \$316.6 | \$315.8 | 0.3 % | | | | |

The following table presents, for the periods indicated, select components of the company's Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income as a percentage of net sales.

| | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | | | |
|--|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|---|---|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | | |
| Net sales | 100.0 | % 100.0 | % 100.0 | % 100.0 | % | % |
| Cost of sales | 63.1 | 64.3 | 63.4 | 67.6 | | |
| Gross margin | 36.9 | 35.7 | 36.6 | 32.4 | | |
| Operating expenses | 29.3 | 28.0 | 28.5 | 35.8 | | |
| Restructuring and impairment expenses | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.4 | | |
| Total operating expenses | 29.6 | 28.3 | 28.6 | 36.1 | | |
| Operating earnings | 7.2 | 7.5 | 7.9 | (3.7) | | |
| Other expenses, net | 1.0 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 1.0 | | |
| Earnings before income taxes and equity income | 6.2 | 6.4 | 7.0 | (4.7) | | |
| Income tax expense | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.3 | (1.9) | | |
| Equity earnings from nonconsolidated affiliates, net of tax | — | — | — | — | | |
| Net earnings | 4.1 | 4.3 | 4.7 | (2.8) | | |
| Net earnings attributable to redeemable noncontrolling interests | — | — | — | — | | |
| Net earnings attributable to Herman Miller, Inc. | 4.1 | 4.3 | 4.7 | (2.8) | | |

Consolidated Sales

Sales for the three and nine month periods of fiscal 2015, compared to the same periods in fiscal 2014, increased \$60.5 million, or 13.3 percent, and \$197.0 million, or 14.1 percent, respectively. The increase for the three month and nine month periods was primarily attributable to the addition of DWR and growth in sales volumes within Herman Miller Consumer and Geiger. The ELA segment also contributed strong growth in sales volumes, excluding the impact of foreign currency translation. The improvement for the current quarter within ELA was due primarily to increased volumes within Asia - particularly within Australia and India. Additionally, continued sales volume growth within the EMEA region of the ELA segment, net of the impact from foreign currency translation, contributed to increased sales volumes for both the three month and the nine month periods.

The year-over-year increase in orders from the United States Federal Government during the first and second quarter of fiscal 2015 translated to an increase in sales during the third quarter of fiscal 2015 as compared to the same period last year. United States Federal Government sales also improved for the nine month period as compared to the same period of the prior year.

The Consumer segment, excluding the previously mentioned increase related to DWR, and the Specialty segment also drove year-over-year growth in sales volumes for the three month and nine month periods. The increase related to the Specialty segment was driven principally by Geiger, while the change related to the Consumer segment (excluding DWR) was driven by the Herman Miller Consumer product offering.

The impact of foreign currency translation and dealer divestitures in the prior year both had the impact of decreasing sales for the three month and the nine month periods as compared to the same periods of the prior year. The negative impact from foreign currency translation resulted from a general strengthening of the U.S. dollar relative to the majority of functional currencies used by Herman Miller's foreign subsidiaries.

The following table quantifies the changes in the fiscal 2015 third quarter net sales for the three and nine month periods compared to the same periods in fiscal 2014.

| (In millions) | Three Month Period | Nine Month Period |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| Fiscal 2014 Net Sales | \$455.9 | \$1,394.5 |
| Acquisitions and divestitures | | |
| DWR acquisition, net of intercompany elimination | 52.5 | 133.5 |
| Dealer divestitures | (3.2) | (8.5) |
| Impact from foreign currency | (8.3) | (11.9) |
| Net changes in pricing | 2.0 | 9.0 |
| United States Federal Government volumes | 1.1 | 3.1 |
| EMEA sales volumes | 2.3 | 28.6 |
| Asia sales volumes | 5.4 | 10.5 |
| Herman Miller Consumer volumes | 3.6 | 8.2 |
| Geiger volumes | 3.2 | 7.7 |
| Other change in sales | 1.9 | 16.8 |
| Fiscal 2015 Net Sales | \$516.4 | \$1,591.5 |

Performance versus the Domestic Contract Furniture Industry

We monitor the trade statistics reported by BIFMA, the trade association for the United States domestic office furniture industry, and consider them an indicator of industry-wide sales and order performance in the U.S. BIFMA publishes statistical data for the contract segment within the United States furniture market. The United States contract segment is primarily composed of large to mid-size corporations serviced by a network of dealers. The office supply segment is primarily made up of smaller customers serviced by wholesalers and retailers. We primarily participate,

and believe we are a leader in, the contract segment. While comparisons to BIFMA are important, we continue to pursue a strategy of revenue diversification that makes us less reliant on the drivers that impact BIFMA and lessens our dependence on the United States office furniture market.

We also use BIFMA statistical information as a benchmark for the performance of our domestic United States business (as defined by BIFMA), as well as the performance of our competitors. The timing of large project-based business may affect comparisons to this data. We remain cautious about reaching conclusions regarding changes in market share based on analysis of data on a short-term basis. Instead, we believe such conclusions should only be reached by analyzing comparative data over several quarters.

While the sales and order data for our North American reportable segment provide a relative comparison to BIFMA, it is not intended to be an exact comparison. The data we report to BIFMA is consistent with the BIFMA definition of office furniture “consumption.” This definition differs

slightly from the categorization we have presented in this report. Notwithstanding this difference, we believe our presentation provides the reader with a relevant comparison.

For the three month period ended February 28, 2015, the company's domestic United States shipments, as defined by BIFMA, were flat, while the company's domestic orders decreased 6.2 percent year-over-year. BIFMA reported an estimated year-over-year increase in shipments of 10.5 percent and an increase in orders of 9.2 percent for the comparable period.

Performance versus the Consumer Furnishings Sector

Similar to BIFMA, we also monitor trade statistics reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, which reports monthly retail sales growth data across a number of retail categories, including Furniture and Home Furnishing Stores. This information provides a relative comparison to our Consumer reportable segment, but is not intended to be an exact comparison. The average monthly year-over-year growth rate in sales for the Furniture and Home Furnishing Stores category for the three month period ended February 28, 2015, was approximately 7.5 percent. By comparison, organic net sales growth in our Consumer segment, which adjusts for the impact of acquisitions, divestitures and foreign currency translation, for the three months ended February 28, 2015, was approximately 21.7 percent.

Consolidated Gross Margin

Consolidated gross margin in the third quarter was 36.9 percent of net sales, an increase of 120 basis points from 35.7 percent reported in the third quarter of fiscal 2014. The improvement in gross margin was driven principally by favorable changes in product mix and performance, which drove an 80 basis point increase in gross margin in the current quarter. DWR delivered an improvement of 40 basis points for the current quarter as compared to the same period of the prior year. The benefit captured from price increases - net of incremental discounting, provided a 20 basis point improvement, while lower commodity costs and the sale of an owned dealer in the prior year each drove a 10 basis point increase in gross margin. These increases were offset by the negative impact of foreign currency translation, which led to a decrease in gross margin of 40 basis points.

The following table presents, for the periods indicated, the components of the company's cost of sales as a percentage of net sales.

| Period Ended | Three Months Ended | | | Nine Months Ended | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------|----------------------|---------------|----------|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | Change | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 | Change |
| Direct materials | 41.7 | % 41.5 | % 0.2 | % 42.0 | % 41.4 | % 0.6 |
| Direct labor | 5.8 | 6.5 | (0.7) | 5.9 | 6.4 | (0.5) |
| Manufacturing overhead | 9.0 | 10.4 | (1.4) | 8.9 | 13.9 | (5.0) |
| Freight and distribution | 6.6 | 5.9 | 0.7 | 6.6 | 5.9 | 0.7 |
| Cost of sales | 63.1 | % 64.3 | % (1.2) | % 63.4 | % 67.6 | % (4.2) |

The addition of DWR to the consolidated results of the company has impacted the components of our consolidated cost of sales as a percentage of net sales. As a furnishings retailer, DWR sources the products it sells from various manufacturers. Accordingly, a much higher percentage of its cost of sales is attributable to direct materials and freight and distribution. The analysis below reflects the impact of DWR on each component of the company's consolidated cost of sales as a percentage of gross margin.

Direct material costs as a percent of net sales in the third quarter of fiscal 2015, increased 20 basis points as compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2014. The increase in direct material costs as a percent of net sales was primarily driven by the impact of DWR, which provided an increase of 100 basis points. This increase in the direct material cost percentage was offset by favorable product mix (50 basis points), the benefit of price increases - net of incremental discounting (20 basis points), and improved commodity costs within the North American segment (10 basis points).

Direct labor expense as a percentage of net sales was 5.8 percent of net sales for the third quarter of fiscal 2015, a decrease of 70 basis points from the same period last year. This reduction was primarily due to the acquisition of DWR, offset slightly by the negative impact of foreign currency translation.

Manufacturing overhead as a percentage of net sales was 9.0 percent of net sales for the third quarter of fiscal 2015, a decrease of 140 basis points from the third quarter of the prior year. The decrease in manufacturing overhead as a percentage of net sales was primarily due to the favorable impact of the acquisition of DWR, as well as favorable product mix and performance. These factors drove a reduction in the manufacturing overhead percentage of 120 and 20 basis points, respectively, compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2014. The sale of an owned dealer in the prior year also drove a 10 basis point improvement in the manufacturing overhead percentage. These improvements were offset by the unfavorable impact of foreign currency translation.

Freight and distribution expense as a percentage of net sales was 6.6 percent for the third quarter of fiscal 2015, which is an increase of 70 basis points compared to the prior year. This was driven primarily by the acquisition of DWR, which increased the freight expense percentage by approximately 60 basis points. The rest of the change was driven by the negative impact of foreign currency translation.

Consolidated gross margin through the first nine months of fiscal 2015 was 36.6 percent of net sales, an increase of 420 basis points compared to the same period of the prior year. The increase in gross margin as a percentage of net sales was driven largely by a reduction in legacy pension expenses (320 basis points), the acquisition of DWR excluding acquisition-related expenses (40 basis points), the impact of price increases - net of incremental discounting (40 basis points), improved manufacturing leverage within the company's principal U.S. manufacturing facilities (20 basis points), and the sale of owned dealers (10 basis points). These increases in gross margin as a percentage of net sales were offset by the negative impact of acquisition-related expenses associated with DWR (50 basis points), unfavorable freight costs (30 basis points), and the unfavorable impact of foreign currency translation (30 basis points). The remaining improvement in the gross margin percentage for the nine month periods was due to favorable changes in product mix and performance.

Operating Expenses and Operating Earnings

Operating expenses for third quarter of fiscal 2015 compared to the same period in fiscal 2014 increased by \$24.3 million, due primarily to DWR. The balance of the increase for the quarter was driven by design and research, warranty, restructuring, and other operating expenses. These increases were offset by reduced spending on marketing and selling costs, the impact of foreign currency translation, and dealer divestitures.

Operating expenses for the nine month period of fiscal 2015 compared to the same period in fiscal 2014 decreased by \$48.2 million. This decrease related mainly to the prior year termination of the primary domestic pension, which generated operating expenses of \$113.1 million in the prior year. This decrease in operating expenses was offset by increases related to the acquisition of DWR.

The following table quantifies the changes in fiscal 2015 operating expenses for the third quarter and the nine month period compared to the same periods in fiscal 2014.

| (In millions) | Three Months | Nine Months |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| Fiscal 2014 Operating expenses | \$128.8 | \$503.7 |
| Selling, general & administrative change | | |
| Acquisitions and divestitures | | |
| DWR acquisition | 23.1 | 56.7 |
| Dealer divestitures | (1.4 |) (2.9 |
| Legacy pension expenses | — | (113.1 |
| Marketing and selling costs | (2.4 |) (2.4 |
| Impact from foreign currency | (2.0 |) (2.0 |
| Design and research | 1.5 | 1.5 |
| Warranty | 0.2 | 2.6 |
| Restructuring and impairment change | 0.8 | (3.2 |
| Other | 4.5 | 14.6 |
| Fiscal 2015 Operating expenses | \$153.1 | \$455.5 |

Operating earnings for the three month period of fiscal 2015 were \$37.4 million, compared to operating earnings of \$34.1 million in the same period of last fiscal year.

Operating earnings for the nine month period of fiscal 2015 were \$126.3 million, compared to an operating loss of \$51.9 million in the same period of last fiscal year.

Other Income/Expense and Income Taxes

Other expense of \$14.8 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2015 was \$1.2 million higher compared to the prior year period. Other expense for the third quarter of fiscal 2015 was \$0.6 million higher as compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2014. The increase in expenses for the three and nine months ended was due primarily to the negative impact of currency transaction losses as compared to the same periods in the prior year.

The effective tax rates for the three months ended February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014 were 33.6 percent and 33.3 percent, respectively. The effective tax rates for the nine months ended February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014 were 33.5 percent and 41.1 percent, respectively. The

decrease in effective tax rate this year in the year to date period as compared to the same period in the prior year resulted from a shift in the relative mix of income and loss between taxing jurisdictions. This change in mix was driven primarily by legacy pension expenses recorded in fiscal 2014.

Reportable Operating Segments

The business is comprised of various operating segments as defined by generally accepted accounting principles in the United States. These operating segments are determined on the basis of how the company internally reports and evaluates financial information used to make operating decisions. Due to the realignment of our reportable segments during the year, the structure of the segments has changed to those set forth below and prior year results have been revised to reflect these updates. For external reporting purposes, the company has identified the following reportable segments:

North American Furniture Solutions — Includes the operations associated with the design, manufacture, and sale of furniture products for work-related settings, including office, education, and healthcare environments, throughout the United States and Canada. The North American Furniture Solutions reportable segment is the aggregation of two operating segments. In addition, the company has determined that both operating segments within the North American Furniture Solutions reportable segment each represent reporting units.

ELA Furniture Solutions — Includes EMEA, Latin America, and Asia-Pacific operations associated with the design, manufacture and sale of furniture products, primarily for work-related settings.

Specialty — Includes operations associated with the design, manufacture, and sale of high-craft furniture products and textiles including Geiger wood products, Maharam textiles, and Herman Miller Collection products.

Consumer — Includes operations associated with the sale of modern design furnishings and accessories to third party retail distributors, as well as direct to consumer sales through eCommerce and DWR retail studios.

The company also reports a corporate category consisting primarily of, as applicable, unallocated corporate expenses including restructuring, impairment, acquisition-related costs, and other unallocated corporate costs. The current quarter and prior year period segment results are as follows:

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| | Three Months Ended 2/28/15 | | | | | | Three Months Ended 3/1/14 | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------|---------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| | North America | ELA | Specialty | Consumer | Corporate | Total | North America | ELA | Specialty | Consumer | Corporate | Total |
| Net Sales, as reported | \$296.0 | \$97.3 | \$50.5 | \$72.6 | \$— | \$516.4 | \$293.9 | \$97.9 | \$47.5 | \$16.6 | \$— | \$455.9 |
| % change from PY | 0.7 | %(0.6) | %6.3 | %337.3 | %n/a | 13.3 | % | | | | | |
| | Nine Months Ended 2/28/15 | | | | | | Nine Months Ended 3/1/14 | | | | | |
| | North America | ELA | Specialty | Consumer | Corporate | Total | North America | ELA | Specialty | Consumer | Corporate | Total |
| Net Sales, as reported | \$932.4 | \$307.0 | \$160.5 | \$191.6 | \$— | \$1,591.5 | \$909.2 | \$282.6 | \$152.7 | \$50.0 | \$— | \$1,394.5 |
| % change from PY | 2.6 | %8.6 | %5.1 | %283.2 | %n/a | 14.1 | % | | | | | |
| | Three Months Ended 2/28/15 | | | | | | Three Months Ended 3/1/14 | | | | | |
| | North America | ELA | Specialty | Consumer | Corporate | Total | North America | ELA | Specialty | Consumer | Corporate | Total |
| Operating Earnings (Loss) | \$26.7 | \$6.2 | \$1.9 | \$4.6 | \$(2.0) | \$37.4 | \$26.7 | \$4.7 | \$(0.2) | \$3.8 | \$(0.9) | \$34.1 |
| Add: Restructuring / Impairment Expenses | — | — | — | — | 1.9 | 1.9 | — | — | — | — | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| Add: Acquisition-Related Inventory Adjustments | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Add: Legacy Pension Expenses | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Add: Acquisition Expenses | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Adjusted Operating Earnings (Loss) | \$26.7 | \$6.2 | \$1.9 | \$4.6 | \$(0.1) | \$39.3 | \$26.7 | \$4.7 | \$(0.2) | \$3.8 | \$0.2 | \$35.2 |
| Less: Other, net | — | — | — | — | 1.0 | 1.0 | — | — | — | — | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Add: Depreciation and Amortization | 7.2 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.3 | 0.1 | 13.4 | 7.0 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 0.3 | — | 10.7 |
| Adjusted EBITDA | \$33.9 | \$8.1 | \$3.8 | \$6.9 | \$(1.0) | \$51.7 | \$33.7 | \$6.5 | \$1.4 | \$4.1 | \$(0.2) | \$45.5 |
| | Nine Months Ended 2/28/15 | | | | | | Nine Months Ended 3/1/14 | | | | | |
| | North America | ELA | Specialty | Consumer | Corporate | Total | North America | ELA | Specialty | Consumer | Corporate | Total |

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| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|----------|--------|---------|--------|---------|----------|
| Operating Earnings (Loss) | \$95.2 | \$19.7 | \$7.6 | \$8.4 | \$(4.6) | \$126.3 | \$(58.3) | \$12.9 | \$(7.3) | \$5.9 | \$(5.1) | \$(51.9) |
| Add: Restructuring / Impairment Expenses | — | — | — | — | 1.9 | 1.9 | — | — | — | — | 5.1 | 5.1 |
| Add: Acquisition-Related Inventory Adjustments | — | — | — | 7.8 | — | 7.8 | — | — | 1.4 | — | — | 1.4 |
| Add: Legacy Pension Expenses | — | — | — | — | — | — | 147.0 | — | 12.2 | 5.2 | — | 164.4 |
| Add: Acquisition Expenses | — | — | — | — | 2.2 | 2.2 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Adjusted Operating Earnings | \$95.2 | \$19.7 | \$7.6 | \$16.2 | \$(0.5) | \$138.2 | \$88.7 | \$12.9 | \$6.3 | \$11.1 | \$— | \$119.0 |
| Less: Other, net | — | — | — | — | 1.1 | 1.1 | — | — | — | — | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| Add: Depreciation and Amortization | 21.4 | 6.3 | 5.4 | 5.3 | 0.2 | 38.6 | 20.8 | 5.7 | 4.9 | 0.9 | — | 32.3 |
| Adjusted EBITDA | \$116.6 | \$26.0 | \$13.0 | \$21.5 | \$(1.4) | \$175.7 | \$109.5 | \$18.6 | \$11.2 | \$12.0 | \$(0.3) | \$151.0 |

Further information regarding the reportable operating segments can be found in Note 16.

North American Furniture Solutions

Net sales within the North American Furniture Solutions reportable segment ("North America") increased \$2.1 million to \$296.0 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2015, representing a 0.7 percent increase from the third quarter of last year. Sales to the U.S. Federal Government drove an increase in volume of \$1.1 million. Price increases, net of incremental discounting in the current quarter, drove an increase in sales of approximately \$1.8 million. These increases were offset by a \$3.2 million decrease in sales due to the divestiture of an owned dealer. The impact of foreign currency translation decreased the third quarter fiscal 2015 net sales by approximately \$2.1 million compared to the same period last year. The timing of project completion and the conversion of existing backlog into sales also contributed to the increase in third quarter sales.

Year-to-date net sales within North America increased 2.6 percent or \$23.2 million to \$932.4 million. The nine month period of fiscal 2015 experienced a \$8.5 million decrease in sales due to divestitures of owned dealers. Price increases, net of incremental discounting, drove an increase in sales of approximately \$7.7 million for the nine month period. The impact of foreign currency translation decreased sales in the fiscal 2015 nine month period by approximately \$4.5 million compared to the same period last year. Increased activity from the U.S. federal government drove an increase in sales of \$3.1 million. The rest of the increase in sales for the nine month period was driven by higher volumes, the timing of project completions, and the conversion of existing backlog into sales.

Operating earnings for North America in the third quarter of fiscal 2015 were flat compared to the same period of the prior year. On a percentage of net sales basis, operating earnings were 9.0 percent for the third quarter of fiscal 2015 compared to 9.1 percent in the third quarter of fiscal 2014. The main changes in operating earnings were due to decreases in marketing and selling expenses of \$2.0 million, which was offset by the unfavorable impact of foreign currency of \$1.2 million as compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2014. There was no one significant factor driving the rest of the change in operating earnings for the three month period, compared to the same period in the prior year.

Operating earnings for North America through the first nine months of fiscal 2015 increased to \$95.2 million, a \$153.5 million increase from an operating loss of \$58.3 million for the same period last year. The increase in operating earnings was driven principally by a decrease in legacy pension costs of \$147.0 million, a decrease in employee incentive costs of \$4.3 million, and a decrease in marketing and selling costs of \$5.4 million. The decrease in legacy pension costs relates to the prior year termination of the primary domestic defined benefit pension plans.

ELA Furniture Solutions

Net sales within the ELA Furniture Solutions reportable segment were \$97.3 million in the third quarter, a decrease of \$0.6 million from the third quarter of fiscal 2014. On a constant currency basis, net sales improved by approximately \$7.7 million relative to the same period in the prior year due to growth in sales volumes within the EMEA and Asia regions. This increase was offset by the negative impact of foreign currency translation.

Net sales within ELA Furniture Solutions reportable segment increased \$24.4 million to \$307.0 million for the nine month period. Net sales improved by approximately \$39.1 million relative to the same period in the prior year (on a constant currency basis) due to growth in sales volumes within the EMEA and Asia regions. This was partially offset by the negative impact of foreign currency translation.

Operating earnings within ELA were \$6.2 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2015 as compared to \$4.7 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2014. Foreign currency translation decreased operating earnings by approximately \$2.7 million. However, the positive earnings momentum of ELA during the quarter more than offset the negative impact of foreign currency translation. Year-over-year, the company's Asia manufacturing operation improved its manufacturing efficiency, which led to an increase in operating earnings of \$1.0 million. The rest of the improvement during the third quarter of fiscal 2015 was driven by broad-based reductions in operating expenses, as well as improved manufacturing efficiency at the company's manufacturing facilities in the United Kingdom.

Operating earnings within ELA increased \$6.8 million from the previous year to \$19.7 million for the nine month period. The increase was driven by improved gross margin performance, attributable primarily to increased manufacturing leverage from larger sales volumes and the benefit from net price increases.

Specialty

Net sales for the third quarter within the Specialty reportable segment were \$50.5 million compared to \$47.5 million in the prior year period. Net sales during the quarter increased primarily due to improved sales volumes of Geiger wood products, which accounted for \$3.2 million of the increase.

Net sales for the nine month period within the Specialty reportable segment were \$160.5 million compared to \$152.7 million in the prior year period. This year-over-year improvement was driven principally by higher sales volumes of Geiger wood products, which accounted for \$6.4 million of the increase relative to the third of last fiscal year.

Operating earnings within Specialty were \$1.9 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2015 or 3.8 percent of net sales. This compares to an operating loss of \$0.2 million or (0.4) percent of net sales in the same period in the prior fiscal year. The growth in operating earnings for the third quarter

related mainly to improved operating performance and leverage from our Geiger subsidiary, which led to a \$1.3 million increase compared to the same period of the prior year. Maharam also produced an improvement of \$1.0 million, which was driven by broad-based reductions in operating expenses.

Operating earnings within Specialty were \$7.6 million for the nine month period of fiscal 2015 as compared to a loss of \$7.3 million in the same period of the prior fiscal year. The year to date increase in operating earnings related in-part to decreased legacy pension expenses of \$12.2 million. The rest of the increase was driven principally by improved operating performance and leverage from both the Geiger and Maharam subsidiaries.

Consumer

Net sales for the third quarter within the Consumer reportable segment were \$72.6 million compared to \$16.6 million in the prior year period. Net sales during the quarter increased by \$52.5 million due to the acquisition of DWR, net of intercompany eliminations. The remaining improvement in net sales was primarily driven by increases in pricing and higher sales volumes within the company's existing consumer wholesale and eCommerce business.

Net sales for the nine month period within the Consumer reportable segment were \$191.6 million compared to \$50.0 million in the prior year period. Net sales during the quarter increased by \$133.5 million due to the acquisition of DWR, net of intercompany eliminations. The remaining change in net sales was primarily driven by increases in pricing and higher sales volumes within the company's existing consumer wholesale and eCommerce business.

Operating earnings within the Consumer segment were \$4.6 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2015 or 6.3 percent of net sales. This compares to operating earnings of \$3.8 million in the same period of the prior fiscal year. The increase in operating earnings was due primarily to the acquisition of DWR.

Operating earnings within the Consumer segment were \$8.4 million for the nine month period of fiscal 2015 as compared to earnings of \$5.9 million in the same period of the prior fiscal year. The increase in operating earnings for the nine month period of fiscal 2015 related to decreased legacy pension expenses in the amount of \$5.2 million. Acquisition-related inventory adjustments decreased operating earnings in the nine month period by \$7.8 million. The remaining increase in operating earnings was driven by increased margins and operating earnings related to the acquisition of DWR and higher sales volumes within the company's existing consumer wholesale and eCommerce business.

Financial Condition, Liquidity, and Capital Resources

The table below presents certain key cash flow and capital highlights for the periods indicated.

| (In millions) | Nine Months Ended | |
|---|-------------------|---------------|
| | February 28, 2015 | March 1, 2014 |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of period | \$61.8 | \$77.1 |
| Marketable securities, end of period | 6.4 | 11.1 |
| Cash provided by operating activities | 109.8 | 50.4 |
| Cash used in investing activities | (200.5 |) (38.9 |
| Cash provided by (used in) financing activities | 50.7 | (16.6 |
| Capital expenditures | (43.2 |) (32.0 |
| Stock repurchased and retired | (3.3 |) (4.3 |
| Common stock issued | 7.2 | 10.0 |
| Dividends paid | (24.9 |) (22.1 |
| Interest-bearing debt, end of period | 326.0 | 250.0 |
| Available unsecured credit facility, end of period ⁽¹⁾ | 115.7 | 142.7 |

⁽¹⁾ Amounts shown are net of outstanding letters of credit of \$8.3 million and \$7.3 million as of February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2014, respectively, which are applied against the company's unsecured credit facility.

Cash Flow — Operating Activities

Nine Month Period Ended February 28, 2015

Cash generated from operating activities was \$109.8 million for the nine month period ended February 28, 2015, as compared to \$50.4 million in the prior year. This represents an increase of \$59.4 million. During the current nine month period, changes in working capital balances drove an outflow of cash totaling \$10.4 million. The main factors driving the outflow of cash from working capital were a decrease in trade accounts payable of \$17.7 million, an increase in inventory of \$7.3 million, an increase in prepaid expenses of \$7.1 million and a decrease in other taxes

of \$4.1 million. These factors more than offset drivers within working capital that increased cash, including a decrease in trade accounts receivable of \$17.5 million and an increase in other accruals of \$6.7 million.

Nine Month Period Ended March 1, 2014

Operating cash flows in the first nine months of fiscal 2014 reflected pension contributions of \$48.8 million, net of the related tax benefits. These contributions were made in connection with the termination of the company's primary U.S. defined benefit pension plans.

Changes in working capital during the first nine months of fiscal 2014 drove an outflow of cash totaling \$17.4 million. The main factors driving the decrease in cash from working capital were an increase in net inventories of \$7.4 million, an increase in prepaid assets of \$7.6 million, an increase in net accounts receivable of \$6.0 million, and a decrease in trade accounts payable of \$5.2 million. These factors more than offset drivers within working capital that increased cash, such as an increase in other accruals of \$11.1 million.

Cash Flow — Investing Activities

Investing activities in the first nine months of fiscal 2015 resulted in a net cash outflow of \$200.5 million. The largest contributor to this use of cash was the acquisition of DWR, which drove a cash outflow of \$154.0 million in the period. Additionally, there was a cash outflow of \$8.0 million during the third quarter of fiscal 2015 related to the short-term financing of a North American furniture dealership. Subsequent to the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2015 the dealership repaid the balance of the loan. The company also purchased \$43.2 million of capital assets in fiscal 2015 compared to \$32.0 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2014. At the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2015, there were outstanding commitments for capital purchases of \$12.4 million compared to \$9.9 million at the corresponding date in the prior year. The company expects full-year capital purchases to be between \$65.0 million and \$70.0 million, which will be primarily related to investments in the company's facilities and equipment. This compares to full-year capital spending of \$40.8 million in fiscal 2014.

Cash Flow — Financing Activities

Cash inflows from financing activities were \$50.7 million for the fiscal 2015 nine month period compared to cash outflows of \$16.6 million in the first nine months of the prior year. Cash inflows from net borrowings on our revolving credit facility were \$126.0 million during the nine-month period of fiscal 2015. By comparison, we had no borrowing activity on the credit facility during the first nine months of fiscal 2014. Cash outflows for dividend payments were \$24.9 million and \$22.1 million for the nine month periods of fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014, respectively. Dividend payments during fiscal 2015 reflected the increased quarterly dividend of \$0.14 per share that the company implemented during the third quarter of fiscal 2014. Cash inflows for stock issuances related to employee benefit programs were \$7.2 million and \$10.0 million during the nine month periods of fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014, respectively.

On July 21, 2014, the company entered into a third amendment and restatement of its syndicated revolving line of credit, which provides the company with up to \$250 million in revolving variable interest borrowing capacity and includes an "accordion feature" allowing the company to increase, at its option and subject to the approval of the participating banks, the aggregate borrowing capacity of the facility by \$125 million. The facility expires in July 2019 and outstanding borrowings bear interest at rates based on the prime rate, federal funds rate, LIBOR, or negotiated rates as outlined in the agreement. Interest is payable periodically throughout the period if borrowings are outstanding. As of February 28, 2015, total usage against this facility was \$134.3 million, of which \$8.3 million related to outstanding letters of credit. At the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2015, the availability under this credit facility was \$115.7 million. The provisions of the company's outstanding private placement notes and unsecured credit facility require that the company adhere to certain covenant restrictions and maintain certain performance ratios. The company was in compliance with all such restrictions and performance ratios for the third quarter of fiscal 2015 and expects to remain in compliance in the foreseeable future.

During the third quarter of fiscal 2015, the company utilized its available borrowing capacity under its revolving line of credit to pay off \$50 million of Series A senior notes, which matured on January 3, 2015.

At the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2015, the company had cash and cash equivalents of \$61.8 million including \$51.2 million of cash and cash equivalents held outside the United States. In addition, the company had marketable securities of \$6.4 million held by one of its international subsidiaries. The subsidiary holding the company's marketable securities is taxed as a United States taxpayer at the company's election; consequently, for tax purposes, all United States tax impacts for this subsidiary have been recorded. The company currently has no plans to repatriate cash from foreign subsidiaries during fiscal 2015. The company has \$7.0 million of cash held outside of the United States for which United States taxes have been recorded. The company's intent is to permanently reinvest the remainder of the cash outside of the United States. The company's plans do not indicate a need to repatriate these balances to fund United States operations.

The company believes cash on hand, cash generated from operations, and the borrowing capacity will provide adequate liquidity to fund near term and future business operations and capital needs.

Contractual Obligations

Contractual obligations associated with ongoing business and financing activities will require cash payments in future periods. A table summarizing the amounts and estimated timing of these future cash payments was provided in the company's annual report on Form 10-K filing for the year

ended May 31, 2014. Other than an increase in future operating lease rental payments related to the acquisition of DWR and the future interest payments related to the debt financing that was obtained to finance the acquisition of DWR, there are no material changes to the contractual obligations table that was disclosed in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended May 31, 2014.

Guarantees

The company provides certain guarantees to third parties under various arrangements in the form of product warranties, loan guarantees, standby letters of credit, lease guarantees, performance bonds and indemnification provisions. These arrangements are accounted for and disclosed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 460, Guarantees, as described in Note 12 to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

Variable Interest Entities

On occasion, the company provides financial support to certain independent dealers in the form of term loans, lines of credit, and/or loan guarantees that may represent variable interests in such entities. As of February 28, 2015, the company was not considered to be the primary beneficiary of any such dealer relationships under FASB ASC Topic 810, Consolidation. Accordingly, the company is not required to consolidate the financial statements of any of these entities as of February 28, 2015.

Contingencies

See Note 12 to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

Critical Accounting Policies

The company strives to report financial results clearly and understandably. The company follows accounting principles generally accepted in the United States in preparing its consolidated financial statements, which require certain estimates and judgments that affect the financial position and results of operations for the company. The company continually reviews the accounting policies and financial information disclosures. A summary of the more significant accounting policies that require the use of estimates and judgments in preparing the financial statements is provided in the company's annual report on Form 10-K filing for the year ended May 31, 2014. During the first nine months of fiscal 2015, there were no material changes in the accounting policies and assumptions previously disclosed.

New Accounting Standards

See Note 2 to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

Safe Harbor Provisions

Certain statements in this filing are not historical facts but are "forward-looking statements" as defined under Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended, that are based on management's beliefs, assumptions, current expectations, estimates, and projections about the office furniture industry, the economy, and the company itself. Words like "anticipates," "believes," "confident," "estimates," "expects," "forecasts," "likely," "plans," "projects," and "should," variations of such words, and similar expressions identify such forward-looking statements. These statements do not guarantee future performance and involve certain risks, uncertainties, and assumptions that are difficult to predict with regard to timing, extent, likelihood, and degree of occurrence. These risks include, without limitation, the success of our growth strategy, employment and general economic conditions, the pace of economic recovery in the U.S., and in our International markets, the increase in white collar employment, the willingness of customers to undertake capital expenditures, the types of products purchased by customers, competitive-pricing pressures, the availability and pricing of raw materials, our reliance on a limited number of suppliers, our ability to expand globally given the risks associated with regulatory and legal compliance challenges and accompanying currency fluctuations, the ability to increase prices to absorb the additional costs of raw materials, the financial strength of our dealers and the financial strength of our customers, the mix of our

products purchased by customers, our ability to locate new DWR studios, negotiate favorable lease terms for new and existing locations and the implementation of our studio portfolio transformation, our ability to attract and retain key executives and other qualified employees, our ability to continue to make product innovations, the success of newly introduced products, our ability to serve all of our markets, possible acquisitions, divestitures or alliances, the pace and level of government procurement, the outcome of pending litigation or governmental audits or investigations, political risk in the markets we serve, and other risks identified in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Therefore, actual results and outcomes may materially differ from what we express or forecast. Furthermore, Herman Miller, Inc., undertakes no obligation to update, amend or clarify forward-looking statements.

Item 3: Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

The information concerning quantitative and qualitative disclosures about market risk contained in the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for its fiscal year ended May 31, 2014 is incorporated herein by reference.

Direct Material Costs

The company is exposed to risks arising from market price changes for certain direct materials used in its manufacturing processes. The largest direct material costs incurred by the company are for steel, plastic/textiles, wood particleboard, and aluminum components. The market prices of plastics and textiles are sensitive to the cost of oil and natural gas. The cost of wood particleboard has been impacted by continual downsizing of production capacity in the wood market. Aluminum component prices are sensitive to changes in energy costs associated with the conversion of raw materials to aluminum ingots.

Foreign Exchange Risk

The company manufactures its products in the United States, United Kingdom and China. The company also sources completed products and product components from both inside and outside the United States. The company's completed products are sold in numerous countries around the world. Sales in foreign countries as well as certain expenses related to those sales are transacted in currencies other than the company's reporting currency, the United States dollar. Accordingly, production costs and profit margins related to these sales are affected by the currency exchange relationship between the countries where the sales take place and the countries where the products are sourced or manufactured. These currency exchange relationships can also affect the company's competitive positions within these markets.

In the normal course of business, the company enters into contracts denominated in foreign currencies. The principal foreign currencies in which the company conducts its business are the British pound sterling, European euro, Canadian dollar, Australian dollar, Japanese yen, Mexican peso, Brazilian real, Indian rupee, South African rand, Hong Kong dollar and Chinese renminbi. As of February 28, 2015, fifteen contracts in total were placed to offset various currency exposures. To offset net asset exposure denominated in non-functional currency, eight forward contracts were placed, including forward contracts to sell 7.8 million euros, 0.5 million Australian dollars, 0.4 million Canadian dollars, 21.0 million Hong Kong dollars, 6.5 million South African rand, and 4.1 million United States dollars. Conversely, seven contracts were placed to offset the company's net liability exposure denominated in non-functional currency. These seven contracts included forward contracts to buy 25.1 million United States dollars, .2 million British pounds and 0.6 million euros.

As of May 31, 2014, the company had outstanding sixteen forward currency instruments designed to offset either net asset or net liability exposure that was denominated in non-functional currencies. To offset net asset exposure denominated in non-functional currency, eight forward contracts were placed, including forward contracts to sell 10.5 million Hong Kong dollars, 7.7 million euros, 5.4 million United States dollars, 10.0 million South African rand, 1.1 million Canadian dollars, and 0.4 million Australian dollars. Conversely, eight contracts were placed to offset the company's net liability exposure denominated in non-functional currency. These eight contracts included forward contracts to buy 0.5 million British pound sterling, 0.7 million euros and 18.5 million United States dollars.

Item 4: Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Under the supervision of, and with the participation of management, the company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have evaluated the effectiveness of the company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) as of February 28, 2015, and have concluded that as of that date, the company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Other than the acquisition of DWR as to which management is in the process of evaluating its impact on the company's internal control over financial reporting, there were no changes in the company's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) during the quarterly period ended February 28, 2015, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the company's internal control over financial reporting.

HERMAN MILLER, INC.

PART II — OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1: Legal Proceedings

Referred to in Note 12 of the condensed consolidated financial statements.

Item 1A: Risk Factors

Other than the risk factors discussed below, there have been no material changes in the assessment of the company's risk factors from those set forth in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended May 31, 2014. The following risk factors have been added as a result of the company's acquisition of DWR, which closed on July 28, 2014.

We are unable to control many of the factors affecting consumer spending, and declines in consumer spending on furnishings could reduce demand for our products.

The operations of our Consumer segment are sensitive to a number of factors that influence consumer spending, including general economic conditions, consumer disposable income, unemployment, inclement weather, availability of consumer credit, consumer debt levels, conditions in the housing market, interest rates, sales tax rates and rate increases, inflation, and consumer confidence in future economic conditions. Adverse changes in these factors may reduce consumer demand for our products, resulting in reduced sales and profitability.

Business transacted through our Consumer segment may expose us to cybersecurity risks and costs associated with credit card fraud and identity theft that could cause us to incur unexpected expenses and loss of revenue.

We collect certain customer-specific data, including credit card information, in connection with orders placed through our e-commerce websites, direct-to-consumer catalog marketing program, and DWR retail studios. In order for these sales channels to function and develop successfully, we and other parties involved in processing customer transactions must be able to transmit confidential information, including credit card information and other personal information on our customers, securely over public and private networks. Third parties may have or develop the technology or knowledge to breach, disable, disrupt or interfere with our systems or processes or those of our vendors. Although we take the security of our systems and the privacy of our customers' confidential information seriously, and we believe we take reasonable steps to protect the security and confidentiality of the information we collect, we cannot guarantee that our security measures will effectively prevent others from obtaining unauthorized access to our information and our customers' information. The techniques used to obtain unauthorized access to systems change frequently and are not often recognized until after they have been launched. Any person who circumvents our security measures could destroy or steal valuable information or disrupt our operations. Any security breach could cause consumers to lose confidence in the security of our information systems including our e-commerce websites or stores and choose not to purchase from us. Any security breach could also expose us to risks of data loss, litigation, regulatory investigations and other significant liabilities. Such a breach could also seriously disrupt, slow or hinder our operations and harm our reputation and customer relationships, any of which could harm our business.

In addition, states and the federal government are increasingly enacting laws and regulations to protect consumers against identity theft. Also, as our business expands globally, we are subject to data privacy and other similar laws in various foreign jurisdictions. If we are the target of a cybersecurity attack resulting in unauthorized disclosure of our customer data, we may be required to undertake costly notification procedures. Compliance with these laws will likely increase the costs of doing business. If we fail to implement appropriate safeguards or to detect and provide prompt notice of unauthorized access as required by some of these laws, we could be subject to potential claims for damages and other remedies, which could harm our business.

A number of factors that affect our ability to successfully implement our retail studio strategy, including opening new locations and closing existing studios, are beyond our control. These factors may harm our ability to increase the sales and profitability of our retail operations.

Approximately 60% of the sales within our Consumer segment are generated by our DWR retail studios. Our ability to open additional studios or close existing studios successfully will depend upon a number of factors beyond our control, including:

- General economic conditions
- Identification and availability of suitable studio locations
- Success in negotiating new leases and amending or terminating existing leases on acceptable terms
- The success of other retailers in and around our retail locations
- Ability to secure required governmental permits and approvals
- Hiring and training skilled studio operating personnel
- Landlord financial stability

The markets in which we operate are highly competitive, and we may not be successful in winning new business. We are one of several companies competing for new business within the furniture industry. Many of our competitors offer similar categories of products, including office seating, systems and freestanding office furniture, casegoods, storage, and residential and healthcare furniture solutions. We believe that our innovative product design, functionality, quality, depth of knowledge, and strong network of distribution partners differentiates us in the marketplace. However, increased market pricing pressure could make it difficult for us to win new business with certain customers and within certain market segments at acceptable profit margins.

The retail furnishings market is highly competitive. We compete with national and regional furniture retailers and department stores. In addition, we compete with mail order catalogs and online retailers focused on home furnishings. We compete with these and other retailers for customers, suitable retail locations, vendors, qualified employees and management personnel. Some of our competitors have significantly greater financial, marketing and other resources than we possess. This may result in our competitors being quicker at the following: adapting to changes, devoting greater resources to the marketing and sale of their products, generating greater national brand recognition, or adopting more aggressive pricing policies. In addition, increased catalog mailings by our competitors may adversely affect response rates to our own catalog mailings. As a result, increased competition may adversely affect our future financial performance.

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

(A) Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

The following is a summary of share repurchase activity during the quarter ended February 28, 2015.

| Period | (a) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased | (b) Average price Paid per Share or Unit | (c) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | (d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) that may yet be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs (in millions) |
|---------------------|---|--|---|---|
| 11/30/14 - 12/27/14 | 399 | \$29.93 | 399 | \$147.1 |
| 12/28/14 - 1/24/15 | 2,927 | \$28.22 | 2,927 | \$147.0 |
| 1/25/15 - 2/28/15 | 54 | \$30.78 | 54 | \$147.0 |
| Total | 3,380 | | 3,380 | |

No repurchase plans expired or were terminated during the third quarter of fiscal 2015, nor do any plans exist under which the company does not intend to make further purchases.

During the period covered by this report, the company did not sell any of its equity shares that were not registered under the Securities Act of 1933.

Item 3: Defaults upon Senior Securities — None

Item 4: Mine Safety Disclosures — Not applicable

Item 5: Other Information — None

Item 6: Exhibits

The following exhibits (listed by number corresponding to the Exhibit table as Item 601 in Regulation S-K) are filed with this Report:

Exhibit Number Document

31.1 Certificate of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

31.2 Certificate of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

32.1 Certificate of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

32.2 Certificate of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

101.INSXBRL Instance Document

101.SCHXBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document

101.CALXBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document

101.LABXBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document

101.PREXBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

101.DEF XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document

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 hereto duly authorized.

HERMAN MILLER, INC.

April 8, 2015

/s/ Brian C. Walker
Brian C. Walker
Chief Executive Officer
(Duly Authorized Signatory for Registrant)

April 8, 2015

/s/ Jeffrey M. Stutz
Jeffrey M. Stutz
Chief Financial Officer
(Duly Authorized Signatory for Registrant)