

STANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS INC

Form 10-K

February 27, 2015

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UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10 K

(Mark One)

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014

or

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

For the transaction period from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_

Commission file number: 1 4743

Standard Motor Products, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New York

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

11-1362020

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

37-18 Northern Blvd., Long Island City, N.Y.

(Address of principal executive offices)

11101

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

(718) 392-0200

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class

Common Stock, par value \$2.00 per share

Name of each exchange on which registered

New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes o No

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

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes      No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10 K or any amendment to this Form 10 K.

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 definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large Accelerated Filer

Accelerated Filer

Non-Accelerated Filer o (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)      Smaller reporting company

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

The aggregate market value of the voting common stock based on the closing price on the New York Stock Exchange on June 30, 2014 (the last business day of registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter) of \$44.67 per share held by non-affiliates of the registrant was \$907,136,558. For purposes of the foregoing calculation only, all directors and officers have been deemed to be affiliates, but the registrant disclaims that any of such are affiliates.

As of February 24, 2015, there were 22,893,472 outstanding shares of the registrant's common stock, par value \$2.00 per share.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The information required by Part III of this Report is incorporated herein by reference from the registrant's definitive proxy statement relating to its annual meeting of stockholders to be held on May 14, 2015.

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PART I

In this Annual Report on Form 10-K, “Standard Motor Products,” “we,” “us,” “our” and the “Company” refer to Standard Motor Products, Inc. and its subsidiaries, unless the context requires otherwise. This Report, including the documents incorporated herein by reference, contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking statements in this Report are indicated by words such as “anticipates,” “expects,” “believes,” “intends,” “plans,” “estimates,” “projects,” “strategies,” and similar expressions. These statements represent our expectations based on current information and assumptions and are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those which are anticipated or projected as a result of certain risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, changes in business relationships with our major customers and in the timing, size and continuation of our customers’ programs; changes in our receivables factoring arrangements; the ability of our customers to achieve their projected sales; competitive product and pricing pressures; increases in production or material costs that cannot be recouped in product pricing; the performance of the aftermarket, heavy duty, industrial equipment and original equipment service markets; changes in the product mix and distribution channel mix; economic and market conditions; successful integration of acquired businesses; our ability to achieve benefits from our cost savings initiatives; product liability and environmental matters (including, without limitation, those related to asbestos-related contingent liabilities and remediation costs at certain properties); as well as other risks and uncertainties, such as those described under Risk Factors, Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk and those detailed herein and from time to time in the filings of the Company with the SEC. Forward-looking statements are made only as of the date hereof, and the Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise the forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. In addition, historical information should not be considered as an indicator of future performance.

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Overview

We are a leading independent manufacturer and distributor of replacement parts for motor vehicles in the automotive aftermarket industry with an increasing focus on heavy duty, industrial equipment and the original equipment service market. We are organized into two major operating segments, each of which focuses on specific lines of replacement parts. Our Engine Management Segment manufactures and remanufactures ignition and emission parts, ignition wires, battery cables, fuel system parts and sensors for vehicle systems. Our Temperature Control Segment manufactures and remanufactures air conditioning compressors, air conditioning and heating parts, engine cooling system parts, power window accessories, and windshield washer system parts.

We sell our products primarily to warehouse distributors, large retail chains, original equipment manufacturers and original equipment service part operations in the United States, Canada, Latin America, and Europe. Our customers consist of many of the leading warehouse distributors and auto parts retail chains, such as NAPA Auto Parts (National Automotive Parts Association, Inc.), Advance Auto Parts, Inc./CARQUEST Auto Parts, AutoZone, Inc., O’Reilly Automotive, Inc., Canadian Tire Corporation Limited and The Pep Boys Manny, Moe & Jack, as well as national program distribution groups, such as Auto Value and All Pro/Bumper to Bumper (Aftermarket Auto Parts Alliance, Inc.), Automotive Distribution Network LLC, The National Pronto Association (“Pronto”), Federated Auto Parts Distributors, Inc. (“Federated”), Pronto and Federated’s newly formed organization, the Automotive Parts Services Group or The Group, and specialty market distributors. We distribute parts under our own brand names, such as Standard®, BWD®, Intermotor®, GP Sorensen®, TechSmart®, Tech Expert®, OEM®, LockSmart®, Select®, Four Seasons®, Factory Air®, EVERCO®, ACi®, Imperial®, COMPRESSORWORKS®, TORQFLO® and Hayden® and through co-labels and private labels, such as CARQUEST® BWD®, CARQUEST® Intermotor®, Duralast®, Duralast Gold®, Import Direct®, Master Pro®, Murray®, NAPA®, NAPA® Echlin®, Mileage Plus®, NAPA Proformer™, NAPA Temp Products™, Cold Power® and NAPA® Belden®.



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Business Strategy

Our goal is to grow revenues and earnings and deliver returns in excess of our cost of capital by providing high quality original equipment and replacement products to the engine management and temperature control markets. The key elements of our strategy are as follows:

**Maintain Our Strong Competitive Position in the Engine Management and Temperature Control Businesses.** We are one of the leading independent manufacturers and distributors serving North America and other geographic areas in our core businesses of Engine Management and Temperature Control. We believe that our success is attributable to our emphasis on product quality, the breadth and depth of our product lines for both domestic and import vehicles, and our reputation for outstanding customer service.

To maintain our strong competitive position in our markets, we remain committed to the following:

- providing our customers with broad lines of high quality engine management and temperature control products, supported by the highest level of customer service and reliability;
- continuing to maximize our production, supply chain and distribution efficiencies;
- continuing to improve our cost position through increased global sourcing and increased manufacturing in low cost regions; and
- focusing on our engineering development efforts including a focus on bringing more product manufacturing in house.

**Provide Superior Customer Service, Product Availability and Technical Support.** Our goal is to increase sales to existing and new customers by leveraging our skills in rapidly filling orders, maintaining high levels of product availability, providing insightful customer category management, and providing technical support in a cost effective manner. In addition, our category management and technically skilled sales force professionals provide product selection, assortment and application support to our customers.

**Expand Our Product Lines.** We intend to increase our sales by continuing to develop internally, or through acquisitions, the range of Engine Management and Temperature Control products that we offer to our customers. We are committed to investing the resources necessary to maintain and expand our technical capability to manufacture multiple product lines that incorporate the latest technologies.

**Broaden Our Customer Base.** Our goal is to increase our customer base by (a) continuing to leverage our manufacturing capabilities to secure additional original equipment business globally with automotive, industrial, marine, military and heavy duty vehicle and equipment manufacturers and their service part operations as well as our existing customer base including traditional warehouse distributors, large retailers, other manufacturers and export customers, and (b) supporting the service part operations of vehicle and equipment manufacturers with value added services and product support for the life of the part.

**Improve Operating Efficiency and Cost Position.** Our management places significant emphasis on improving our financial performance by achieving operating efficiencies and improving asset utilization, while maintaining product quality and high customer order fill rates. We intend to continue to improve our operating efficiency and cost position by:

- increasing cost effective vertical integration in key product lines through internal development;
- focusing on integrated supply chain management, customer collaborations and vendor managed inventory initiatives;

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- evaluating additional opportunities to relocate manufacturing to our low-cost, off-shore plants; maintaining and improving our cost effectiveness and competitive responsiveness to better serve our customer base,
- including sourcing certain materials and products from low cost regions such as those in Asia without compromising product quality;
- enhancing company wide programs geared toward manufacturing and distribution efficiency; and
- focusing on company wide overhead and operating expense cost reduction programs.

Cash Utilization. We intend to apply any excess cash flow from operations and the management of working capital primarily to reduce our outstanding indebtedness, pay dividends to our shareholders, repurchase shares of our common stock, expand our product lines and grow revenues through acquisitions.

The Automotive Aftermarket

The automotive aftermarket industry is comprised of a large number of diverse manufacturers varying in product specialization and size. In addition to manufacturing, aftermarket companies allocate resources towards an efficient distribution process and product engineering in order to maintain the flexibility and responsiveness on which their customers depend. Aftermarket manufacturers must be efficient producers of small lot sizes and do not have to provide systems engineering support. Aftermarket manufacturers also must distribute, with rapid turnaround times, products for a full range of vehicles on the road. The primary customers of the automotive aftermarket manufacturers are national and regional warehouse distributors, large retail chains, automotive repair chains and the dealer service networks of original equipment manufacturers (“OEMs”).

The automotive aftermarket industry differs substantially from the OEM supply business. Unlike the OEM supply business that primarily follows trends in new car production, the automotive aftermarket industry’s performance primarily tends to follow different trends, such as:

- growth in number of vehicles on the road;
- increase in average vehicle age;
- change in total miles driven per year;
- new and modified environmental regulations, including fuel-efficiency standards;
- increase in pricing of new cars;
- economic and financial market conditions;
- new car quality and related warranties;
- changes in automotive technologies;
- change in vehicle scrap rates; and
- change in average fuel prices.

Traditionally, the parts manufacturers of OEMs and the independent manufacturers who supply the original equipment (“OE”) part applications have supplied a majority of the business to new car dealer networks. However, certain parts manufacturers have become more independent and are no longer affiliated with OEMs, which has provided, and may continue to provide, opportunities for us to supply replacement parts to the dealer service networks of the OEMs, both for warranty and out of warranty repairs.



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## Financial Information about our Operating Segments

The table below shows our consolidated net sales by operating segment and by major product group within each segment for the three years ended December 31, 2014. Our two major reportable operating segments are Engine Management and Temperature Control.

	Year Ended December 31, 2014		2013		2012	
	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total
(Dollars in thousands)						
<b>Engine Management:</b>						
Ignition, Emission and Fuel System Parts	\$609,383	62.1 %	\$604,646	61.5 %	\$561,827	59.2 %
Wires and Cables	99,880	10.2 %	106,599	10.8 %	103,278	10.9 %
Total Engine Management	709,263	72.3 %	711,245	72.3 %	665,105	70.1 %
<b>Temperature Control:</b>						
Compressors	124,238	12.7 %	135,456	13.8 %	137,389	14.5 %
Other Climate Control Parts	134,827	13.8 %	127,081	12.9 %	131,415	13.8 %
Total Temperature Control	259,065	26.5 %	262,537	26.7 %	268,804	28.3 %
All Other	12,064	1.2 %	9,922	1 %	15,007	1.6 %
Total	\$980,392	100 %	\$983,704	100 %	\$948,916	100 %

The following table shows our operating profit and identifiable assets by operating segment for the three years ended December 31, 2014.

	Year Ended December 31, 2014		2013		2012	
	Operating Income (Loss)	Identifiable Assets	Operating Income (Loss)	Identifiable Assets	Operating Income (Loss)	Identifiable Assets
(In thousands)						
Engine Management	\$103,861	\$409,275	\$96,335	\$384,712	\$69,578	\$362,824
Temperature Control	6,445	173,070	9,147	150,280	15,019	132,644
All Other	(24,968)	91,206	(18,619)	80,531	(13,166)	81,126
Total	\$85,338	\$673,551	\$86,863	\$615,523	\$71,431	\$576,594

“All Other” consists of items pertaining to our corporate headquarters function and our Canadian business unit, each of which does not meet the criteria of a reportable operating segment.

## Engine Management Segment

**Breadth of Products.** We manufacture a full line of engine management replacement parts including, electronic ignition control modules, fuel injectors, remanufactured diesel injectors and pumps, ignition wires, coils, switches, sensors (such as tire pressure monitoring system (TPMS) sensors), relays, EGR valves, distributor caps and rotors and many other engine management components primarily under our brand names Standard®, BWD®, Intermotor®,

OEM®, LockSmart®, Select®, TechSmart®, Tech Expert® and GP Sorensen®, and through co-labels and private labels such as CARQUEST® BWD®, CARQUEST® Intermotor®, Duralast®, Duralast Gold®, Import Direct®, Master Pro®, NAPA®, NAPA® Echlin®, Mileage Plus®, NAPA Proformer™ and NAPA® Belden®. We are a basic manufacturer of many of the engine management parts we market. Our strategy includes expanding our product lines through strategic acquisitions in addition to sourcing certain materials and products from low cost regions such as those in Asia. In our Engine Management Segment, replacement parts for ignition, emission control and fuel systems accounted for approximately 62% of our consolidated net sales in 2014, 61% of our consolidated net sales in 2013 and 59% of our consolidated net sales in 2012.

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Computer-Controlled Technology. Nearly all new vehicles are factory equipped with computer controlled engine management systems to monitor and control ignition, emission fuel injection, transmission and certain mechanical systems. The on board computers monitor inputs from many types of sensors located throughout the vehicle, and control a myriad of valves, solenoids, coils, switches and motors to manage engine and vehicle performance. Computer-controlled engine management systems enable the engine to operate with improved fuel efficiency and reduced level of hazardous emissions.

Government emissions laws have been implemented throughout the majority of the United States. The Clean Air Act imposes strict emissions control test standards on existing and new vehicles, and remains the preeminent legislation in the area of vehicle emissions. As many states have implemented required inspection/maintenance tests, the Environmental Protection Agency, through its rulemaking ability, has also encouraged both manufacturers and drivers to reduce vehicle emissions. Automobiles must now comply with emissions standards from the time they were manufactured and, in most states, until the last day they are in use. This law and other government emissions laws have had, and we expect it to continue to have, a positive impact on sales of our ignition and emission controls parts since vehicles failing these laws may require repairs utilizing parts sold by us.

Our sales of sensors, valves, solenoids and related parts have increased as automobile manufacturers equip their cars with more complex engine management systems.

Wire and Cable Products. Wire and cable parts accounted for approximately 10% of our consolidated net sales in 2014, 11% of our consolidated net sales in 2013 and 11% of our consolidated net sales in 2012. These products include ignition (spark plug) wires, wire harnesses, battery cables and a wide range of electrical wire, terminals, connectors and tools for servicing an automobile's electrical system.

We have historically offered ignition wires and battery cables under premium brands, which capitalize on the market's awareness of the importance of quality, along with "value" priced brands for older vehicle applications. We extrude high voltage wire for use in our ignition wire sets. The vertical integration of this critical component offers us the ability to achieve lower costs and a controlled source of supply and quality.

## Temperature Control Segment

We manufacture, remanufacture and market a full line of replacement parts for automotive temperature control (air conditioning and heating) systems, engine cooling systems, power window accessories and windshield washer systems, primarily under our brand names of Four Seasons®, Factory Air®, EVERCO®, ACi®, Imperial®, COMPRESSORWORKS®, TORQFLO® and Hayden® and through co-labels and private labels such as Duralast®, NAPA Temp Products™, Cold Power® and Murray®. The major product groups sold by our Temperature Control Segment are new and remanufactured compressors, clutch assemblies, blower and radiator fan motors, filter dryers, evaporators, accumulators, hose assemblies, expansion valves, heater valves, heater cores, AC service tools and chemicals, fan assemblies, fan clutches, engine oil coolers, transmission oil coolers, window lift motors, window regulators and assemblies, and windshield washer pumps. Our temperature control products accounted for approximately 27% of our consolidated net sales in both 2014 and 2013, and 28% of our consolidated net sales in 2012.

Our Temperature Control business continues to implement cost savings initiatives in response to offshore competitive price pressures. We have consolidated excess manufacturing facilities and have implemented a program to improve our manufacturing efficiencies. We are also continuing to improve our cost position through our global sourcing initiatives in low cost regions and by increasing our production of remanufactured and new compressors in our facility in Reynosa, Mexico.

Today's vehicles are being produced with smaller, more complex and efficient AC system designs. Our Temperature Control Segment continues to be a leader in providing superior training to service dealers who require access to up-to-date knowledge in proper maintenance and repair for changing technologies utilized in today's vehicles. We believe that our training module (Diagnosing and Repairing the Top Automotive HVAC Problems) remains one of the most sought-after training clinics in the industry and among professional service dealers.

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## Financial Information about Our Foreign and Domestic Operations and Export Sales

We sell our line of products primarily in the United States, with additional sales in Canada, Europe, Asia and Latin America. Our sales are substantially denominated in U.S. dollars.

The table below shows our consolidated net sales by geographic area for the three years ended December 31, 2014.

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
	(In thousands)		
United States	\$871,665	\$884,380	\$865,861
Canada	53,412	51,853	50,215
Europe	13,299	10,657	8,093
Other foreign	42,016	36,814	24,747
Total	\$980,392	\$983,704	\$948,916

The table below shows our long lived assets by geographic area for the three years ended December 31, 2014.

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
	(In thousands)		
United States	\$158,350	\$135,834	\$137,240
Canada	1,546	1,526	1,658
Europe	11,725	11,310	4,161
Other foreign	20,957	10,497	3,897
Total	\$192,578	\$159,167	\$146,956

## Sales and Distribution

In the traditional channel, we sell our products to warehouse distributors, who supply auto parts jobber stores. Jobbers in turn sell to professional technicians and to “do-it-yourselfers” who perform automotive repairs on their personal vehicles. In recent years, warehouse distributors have consolidated with other distributors, and an increasing number of distributors own their jobber stores. In the retail channel, customers buy directly from us and sell directly to professional technicians and “do-it-yourselfers” through their own stores. Retailers are also consolidating with other retailers and have begun to increase their efforts to sell to professional technicians adding additional competition in the “do-it-for-me,” or the professional technician segment of our industry.

As automotive parts grow more complex, “do-it-yourselfers” are less likely to service their own vehicles and may become more reliant on automotive dealerships and independent service dealer technicians. In addition to new car sales, automotive dealerships sell OE brand parts and service vehicles. The products available through the dealers are purchased through the original equipment service (“OES”) network. Traditionally, the parts manufacturers of OEMs have supplied a majority of the OES network. However, certain parts manufacturers have become independent and are no longer affiliated with OEMs. In addition, many Tier 1 OEM suppliers are disinterested in providing service parts requirements for up to 15 years after the OE model has gone out of production. As a result of these factors, there are additional opportunities for independent automotive aftermarket manufacturers like us to supply the OES network.

Our sales force is structured to meet the needs of our traditional and retail customers across the distribution channel, allowing us to provide customer service that we believe is unmatched by our competitors. We also believe that our

sales force is the premier direct sales force for our product lines due to our concentration of highly qualified, well trained sales personnel. We provide our sales personnel extensive instruction at our training facility in Irving, Texas and provide an extensive continuing education program that allows our sales force to stay current on troubleshooting and repair techniques. The continuing education courses along with monthly supplemental web-based training are an integral part of our sales force development strategy.

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In addition to training our sales personnel in the function and application of our products, we thoroughly train our sales personnel in proven sales techniques. Our traditional and retail customers, therefore, have come to depend on these sales personnel as a reliable source for technical information and to assist with sales to their customers (i.e., jobber stores, “do-it-yourselfers,” and professional technicians). In this manner, we direct a significant portion of our sales efforts to our customers’ customers to generate demand for our products, and we believe that the structure of our sales force facilitates these efforts by enabling us to implement our sales and marketing programs uniformly throughout the distribution channel. One of the ways we generate this demand is by offering instructional clinics, which teach over 60,000 technicians annually how to diagnose and repair vehicles equipped with complex systems related to our products. To help our sales personnel to be teachers and trainers, we focus our recruitment efforts on candidates who have technical backgrounds as well as strong sales experience.

We offer a variety of strategic customer discounts, allowances and incentives to increase customer purchases of our products. For example, we offer cash discounts for paying invoices in accordance with the specified discounted terms of the invoice, and we offer pricing discounts based on volume purchased from us and participation in our cost reduction initiatives. We also offer rebates and discounts to customers as advertising and sales force allowances, and allowances for warranty and overstock returns are also provided. We believe these discounts, allowances and incentives are a common practice throughout the automotive aftermarket industry, and we intend to continue to offer them in response to competitive pressures and to strategically support the growth of all our products.

## Customers

Our customer base is comprised largely of warehouse distributors, large retailers, OE/OES customers, other manufacturers and export customers. In 2014, our consolidated net sales to our major market channels consisted of \$451.3 million to our retail customers, \$390.8 million to our traditional customers, \$74.2 million to our OE/OES customers and \$64.1 million to other customers.

Our five largest individual customers, including members of a marketing group, accounted for approximately 68% of our consolidated net sales in 2014, 66% of our consolidated net sales in 2013 and 64% of our consolidated net sales in 2012. During 2014, O’Reilly Automotive, Inc., NAPA Auto Parts, Advance Auto Parts, Inc., and AutoZone, Inc. accounted for 19%, 19%, 16% and 10% of our consolidated net sales, respectively. Net sales from each of the customers were reported in both our Engine Management and Temperature Control Segments.

## Competition

We are a leading independent manufacturer and distributor of replacement parts for product lines in Engine Management and Temperature Control. We compete primarily on the basis of product quality, product availability, customer service, product coverage, order turn around time, order fill rate, technical support and price. We believe we differentiate ourselves from our competitors primarily through:

- a value added, knowledgeable sales force;
- extensive product coverage in conjunction with market leading brands;
- rigorous product qualification standards to ensure that our parts meet or exceed exacting performance specifications;
- sophisticated parts cataloguing systems;
- inventory levels and logistical systems sufficient to meet the rapid delivery requirements of customers; and
- breadth of manufacturing capabilities.

In the Engine Management business, we are one of the leading independent manufacturers and distributors in the United States. Our competitors include ACDelco, Delphi Automotive PLC, Denso Corporation, Robert Bosch GmbH, Visteon Corporation, NGK Spark Plug Co., Ltd., General Cable Corporation, United Components, Inc., Dorman Products, Inc. and several privately-owned companies importing products from Asia.





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Our Temperature Control business is one of the leading independent manufacturers and distributors of a full line of temperature control products in North America and other geographic areas. ACDelco, Delphi Automotive PLC, Denso Corporation, Sanden International, Inc., Continental AG, and several privately-owned companies are some of our key competitors in this market.

The automotive aftermarket is highly competitive, and we face substantial competition in all markets that we serve. Our success in the marketplace continues to depend on our ability to offer competitive prices, improved products, superior customer service and expanded offerings in competition with many other suppliers to the aftermarket. Some of our competitors may have greater financial, marketing and other resources than we do. In addition, we face competition from automobile manufacturers who supply many of the replacement parts sold by us, although these manufacturers generally supply parts only for cars they produce through OE dealerships.

## Seasonality

Historically, our operating results have fluctuated by quarter, with the greatest sales occurring in the second and third quarters of the year and revenues generally being recognized at the time of shipment. It is in these quarters that demand for our products is typically the highest, specifically in the Temperature Control Segment of our business. In addition to this seasonality, the demand for our Temperature Control products during the second and third quarters of the year may vary significantly with the summer weather and customer inventories. For example, a cool summer, as we experienced in both 2014 and 2013, may lessen the demand for our Temperature Control products, while a hot summer may increase such demand. As a result of this seasonality and variability in demand of our Temperature Control products, our working capital requirements typically peak near the end of the second quarter, as the inventory build up of air conditioning products is converted to sales and payments on the receivables associated with such sales have yet to be received. During this period, our working capital requirements are typically funded by borrowing from our revolving credit facility.

## Working Capital Management

Automotive aftermarket companies have been under increasing pressure to provide broad SKU (stock keeping unit) coverage due to parts and brand proliferation. In response to this, we have made, and continue to make, changes to our inventory management system designed to reduce inventory requirements. We have a pack to order distribution system, which permits us to retain slow moving items in a bulk storage state until an order for a specific branded part is received. This system reduces the volume of a given part in inventory and reduces the labor requirements to package and repackage inventory. We also expanded our management system to improve inventory deployment, enhance our collaboration with customers on forecasts and inventory assortments, and further integrate our supply chain both to customers and suppliers.

We face inventory management issues as a result of warranty and overstock returns. Many of our products carry a warranty ranging from a 90-day limited warranty to a lifetime limited warranty, which generally covers defects in materials or workmanship and failure to meet industry published specifications and/or the result of installer error. In addition to warranty returns, we also permit our customers to return products to us within customer-specific limits (which are generally limited to a specified percentage of their annual purchases from us) in the event that they have overstocked their inventories. In addition, the seasonality of our Temperature Control Segment requires that we increase our inventory during the winter season in preparation of the summer selling season and customers purchasing such inventory have the right to make returns.

In order to better control warranty and overstock return levels, we have in place procedures for authorized warranty returns, including for warranty returns which result from installer error, placed restrictions on the amounts customers can return and instituted a program to better estimate potential future product returns. In addition, with respect to our air conditioning compressors, which are our most significant customer product warranty returns, we established

procedures whereby a warranty will be voided if a customer does not provide acceptable proof that complete air conditioning system repair was performed in accordance with approved procedures.

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Our profitability and working capital requirements are seasonal due to our sales mix of Temperature Control products. Our working capital requirements peak near the end of the second quarter, as the inventory build up of air conditioning products is converted to sales and payments on the receivables associated with such sales have yet to be received. These increased working capital requirements are funded by borrowings from our revolving credit facility.

## Suppliers

The principal raw materials purchased by us consist of brass, electronic components, fabricated copper (primarily in the form of magnet and insulated cable), steel magnets, laminations, tubes and shafts, stamped steel parts, copper wire, stainless steel coils and rods, aluminum coils, fittings, rods, cast aluminum parts, lead, steel roller bearings, rubber molding compound, thermo set and thermo plastic molding powders, and chemicals. Additionally, we use components and cores (used parts) in our remanufacturing processes for air conditioning compressors, diesel injectors, diesel pumps, and turbo chargers.

We purchase materials in the U.S. and foreign open markets and have a limited number of supply agreements on key components. A number of prime suppliers make these materials available. In the case of cores for air conditioning compressors, diesel injectors, diesel pumps, and turbo chargers, we obtain them either from exchanges with customers who return cores subsequent to purchasing remanufactured parts or through direct purchases from a network of core brokers. In addition, we acquire certain materials by purchasing products that are resold into the market, particularly by OEM sources and other domestic and foreign suppliers.

We believe there is an adequate supply of primary raw materials and cores. In order to ensure a consistent, high quality and low cost supply of key components for each product line, we continue to develop our own sources. We are not dependent on any single commodity, however, there can be no assurance over the long term that increases in commodity prices will not materially affect our business or results of operations. In addition, in August 2012, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission adopted rules requiring us to provide disclosure regarding the use of specified minerals, known as conflict minerals, which are mined from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and adjoining countries. Implementation of the disclosure requirements could affect the sourcing and availability of some of the minerals used in the manufacture of our products, and may impose additional costs on us associated with complying with the disclosure requirements.

## Production and Engineering

We engineer, tool and manufacture many of the components used in the assembly of our products. We also perform our own plastic molding operations, stamping and machining operations, wire extrusion, automated electronics assembly and a wide variety of other processes. In the case of remanufactured components, we conduct our own teardown, diagnostics and rebuilding for air conditioning compressors, diesel injectors, diesel pumps, and turbo chargers. We have found this level of vertical integration provides advantages in terms of cost, quality and availability. We intend to continue selective efforts toward further vertical integration to ensure a consistent quality and supply of low cost components. In addition, our strategy includes sourcing an increasing number of finished goods and component parts from low cost regions such as those in Asia.

## Employees

As of December 31, 2014, we employed approximately 3,400 people, with 2,000 people in the United States and 1,400 people in Mexico, Canada, Poland, the U.K., Hong Kong and Taiwan. Of the 3,400 people employed, approximately 1,700 people are production employees. We operate primarily in non union facilities and have binding labor agreements with employees at other unionized facilities. We have approximately 70 production employees in Edwardsville, Kansas who are covered by a contract with The International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (“UAW”) that expires in April 2015. We expect to renew this agreement

with the UAW upon mutually agreeable terms. We also have approximately 700 employees in Mexico who are covered under union agreements negotiated at various intervals.

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We believe that our facilities are in favorable labor markets with ready access to adequate numbers of skilled and unskilled workers, and we believe our relations with our union and non union employees are good.

Insurance

We maintain basic liability coverage up to \$2 million for automobile liability, general and product liability and \$100 million for umbrella liability coverage. We also maintain environmental insurance of \$10 million and property insurance of \$200 million, including business interruption insurance, covering our existing U.S. and Canadian facilities. We are currently monitoring our environmental remediation efforts at one of our facilities. The environmental testing and any remediation costs at such facility may be covered by several insurance policies, although we can give no assurance that our insurance will cover any environmental remediation claims. Historically, we have not experienced casualty losses in any year in excess of our coverage. However, there can be no assurances that liability losses in the future will not exceed our coverage.

Available Information

We are a New York corporation founded in 1919. Our principal executive offices are located at 37 18 Northern Boulevard, Long Island City, New York 11101, and our main telephone number at that location is (718) 392 0200. Our Internet address is [www.smpcorp.com](http://www.smpcorp.com). We provide a link to reports that we have filed with the SEC. However, for those persons that make a request in writing or by e-mail ([financial@smpcorp.com](mailto:financial@smpcorp.com)), we will provide free of charge our Annual Report on Form 10-K, our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, our Current Reports on Form 8-K and any amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These reports and other information are also available, free of charge, at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

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ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the risks described below. These risks and uncertainties are not the only ones we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or other factors not perceived by us to present significant risks to our business at this time also may impair our business and results of operations. If any of the stated risks actually occur, they could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition or operating results.

Risks Related to Our Operations

We depend on a limited number of key customers, and the loss of any such customer, or a significant reduction in purchases by such customer, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our five largest individual customers, including members of a marketing group, accounted for approximately 68% of our consolidated net sales in 2014, 66% of our consolidated net sales in 2013 and 64% of our consolidated net sales in 2012. During 2014, O'Reilly Automotive, Inc., NAPA Auto Parts, Advance Auto Parts, Inc., and AutoZone, Inc. accounted for 19%, 19%, 16% and 10% of our consolidated net sales, respectively. The loss of one or more of these customers or, a significant reduction in purchases of our products from any one of them, could have a materially adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations. In addition, any consolidation among our key customers, such as Advance Auto's acquisition of CarQuest in 2014, may further exacerbate our customer concentration risk.

Also, we do not typically enter into long-term agreements with any of our customers. Instead, we enter into a number of purchase order commitments with our customers, based on their current or projected needs. We have in the past, and may in the future, lose customers or lose a particular product line of a customer due to the highly competitive conditions in the automotive aftermarket industry, including pricing pressures, consolidation of customers, or other business considerations. A decision by any significant customer, whether motivated by competitive conditions, financial difficulties or otherwise, to materially decrease the amount of products purchased from us, to change their manner of doing business with us, or to stop doing business with us, including a decision to source products directly from a low cost region such as Asia, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Because our sales are concentrated, and the market in which we operate is very competitive, we are under ongoing pressure from our customers to offer lower prices, extend payment terms, increase marketing allowances and other terms more favorable to these customers. These customer demands have put continued pressure on our operating margins and profitability, resulted in periodic contract renegotiation to provide more favorable prices and terms to these customers, and significantly increased our working capital needs.

Our industry is highly competitive, and our success depends on our ability to compete with suppliers of automotive aftermarket products, some of which may have substantially greater financial, marketing and other resources than we do.

The automotive aftermarket industry is highly competitive, and our success depends on our ability to compete with domestic and international suppliers of automotive aftermarket products. In the Engine Management Segment, our competitors include ACDelco, Delphi Automotive PLC, Denso Corporation, Robert Bosch GmbH, Visteon Corporation, NGK Spark Plug Co., LTD., General Cable Corporation, United Components, Inc., Dorman Products, Inc. and several privately-owned companies importing products from Asia. In the Temperature Control Segment, we compete with ACDelco, Delphi Automotive PLC, Denso Corporation, Sanden International, Inc., Continental AG, and several privately-owned companies. In addition, automobile manufacturers supply many of the replacement parts we sell.



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Some of our competitors may have larger customer bases and significantly greater financial, technical and marketing resources than we do. These factors may allow our competitors to:

- respond more quickly than we can to new or emerging technologies and changes in customer requirements by
- devoting greater resources than we can to the development, promotion and sale of automotive aftermarket products and services;
- engage in more extensive research and development;
- sell products at a lower price than we do;
- undertake more extensive marketing campaigns; and
- make more attractive offers to existing and potential customers and strategic partners.

We cannot assure you that our competitors will not develop products or services that are equal or superior to our products or that achieve greater market acceptance than our products or that in the future other companies involved in the automotive aftermarket industry will not expand their operations into product lines produced and sold by us. We also cannot assure you that additional entrants will not enter the automotive aftermarket industry or that companies in the aftermarket industry will not consolidate. Any such competitive pressures could cause us to lose market share or could result in significant price decreases and could have a material adverse effect upon our business, financial condition and results of operations.

There is substantial price competition in our industry, and our success and profitability will depend on our ability to maintain a competitive cost and price structure.

There is substantial price competition in our industry, and our success and profitability will depend on our ability to maintain a competitive cost and price structure. This is the result of a number of industry trends, including the impact of offshore suppliers in the marketplace (particularly in China) which suppliers do not have the same infrastructure costs as we do, the consolidated purchasing power of large customers, and actions taken by some of our competitors in an effort to “win over” new business. We have in the past reduced prices to remain competitive and may have to do so again in the future. Price reductions have impacted our sales and profit margins and are expected to do so in the future. Our future profitability will depend in part upon our ability to respond to changes in product and distribution channel mix, to continue to improve our manufacturing efficiencies, to generate cost reductions, including reductions in the cost of components purchased from outside suppliers, and to maintain a cost structure that will enable us to offer competitive prices. Our inability to maintain a competitive cost structure could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our business is seasonal and is subject to substantial quarterly fluctuations, which impact our quarterly performance and working capital requirements.

Historically, our operating results have fluctuated by quarter, with the greatest sales occurring in the second and third quarters of the year and with revenues generally being recognized at the time of shipment. It is in these quarters that demand for our products is typically the highest, specifically in the Temperature Control Segment of our business. In addition to this seasonality, the demand for our Temperature Control products during the second and third quarters of the year may vary significantly with the summer weather and customer inventories. For example, a cool summer, as we experienced in both 2014 and 2013, may lessen the demand for our Temperature Control products, while a hot summer may increase such demand. As a result of this seasonality and variability in demand of our Temperature Control products, our working capital requirements peak near the end of the second quarter, as the inventory build-up of air conditioning products is converted to sales and payments on the receivables associated with such sales have yet to be received. During this period, our working capital requirements are typically funded by borrowing from our revolving credit facility.





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We may incur material losses and significant costs as a result of warranty-related returns by our customers in excess of anticipated amounts.

Our products are required to meet rigorous standards imposed by our customers and our industry. Many of our products carry a warranty ranging from a 90-day limited warranty to a lifetime limited warranty, which generally covers defects in materials or workmanship, failure to meet industry published specifications and/or the result of installer error. In the event that there are material deficiencies or defects in the design and manufacture of our products and/or installer error, the affected products may be subject to warranty returns and/or product recalls. Although we maintain a comprehensive quality control program, we cannot give any assurance that our products will not suffer from defects or other deficiencies or that we will not experience material warranty returns or product recalls in the future.

We accrue for warranty returns as a percentage of sales, after giving consideration to recent historical returns. While we believe that we make reasonable estimates for warranty returns in accordance with our revenue recognition policies, actual returns may differ from our estimates. We have in the past incurred, and may in the future incur, material losses and significant costs as a result of our customers returning products to us for warranty-related issues in excess of anticipated amounts. Deficiencies or defects in our products in the future may result in warranty returns and product recalls in excess of anticipated amounts and may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our profitability may be materially adversely affected as a result of overstock inventory-related returns by our customers in excess of anticipated amounts.

We permit overstock returns of inventory that may be either new or non-defective or non-obsolete but that we believe we can re-sell. Customers are generally limited to returning overstocked inventory according to a specified percentage of their annual purchases from us. In addition, a customer's annual allowance cannot be carried forward to the upcoming year.

We accrue for overstock returns as a percentage of sales, after giving consideration to recent historical returns. While we believe that we make reasonable estimates for overstock returns in accordance with our revenue recognition policies, actual returns may differ from our estimates. To the extent that overstocked returns are materially in excess of our projections, our business, financial condition and results of operations may be materially adversely affected.

We may be materially adversely affected by asbestos claims arising from products sold by our former brake business, as well as by other product liability claims.

In 1986, we acquired a brake business, which we subsequently sold in March 1998. When we originally acquired this brake business, we assumed future liabilities relating to any alleged exposure to asbestos-containing products manufactured by the seller of the acquired brake business. In accordance with the related purchase agreement, we agreed to assume the liabilities for all new claims filed after September 2001. Our ultimate exposure will depend upon the number of claims filed against us on or after September 2001 and the amounts paid for indemnity and defense of such claims.

Actuarial consultants with experience in assessing asbestos-related liabilities conducted a study to estimate our potential claim liability as of August 31, 2014. The updated study has estimated an undiscounted liability for settlement payments, excluding legal costs and any potential recovery from insurance carriers, ranging from \$36.1 million to \$55.4 million for the period through 2058. The change from the prior year study was an \$11.7 million increase for the low end of the range and an \$18 million increase for the high end of the range. The increase in the estimated undiscounted liability from the prior year study at both the low end and high end of the range reflects historical data and certain assumptions with respect to events that may occur in the future. Based on the information

contained in the actuarial study and all other available information considered by us, we have concluded that no amount within the range of settlement payments was more likely than any other and, therefore, in assessing our asbestos liability we compare the low end of the range to our recorded liability to determine if an adjustment is required. Based upon the results of the August 31, 2014 actuarial study, in September 2014 we increased our asbestos liability to \$36.1 million, the low end of the range, and recorded an incremental pre-tax provision of \$12.8 million in earnings (loss) from discontinued operations in the accompanying statement of operations. According to the updated study, legal costs, which are expensed as incurred and reported in earnings (loss) from discontinued operations in the accompanying statement of operations, are estimated to range from \$43 million to \$76.4 million during the same period.

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At December 31, 2014, approximately 2,125 cases were outstanding for which we may be responsible for any related liabilities. Since inception in September 2001 through December 31, 2014, the amounts paid for settled claims are approximately \$17.6 million. A substantial increase in the number of new claims or increased settlement payments or awards of damages could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Given the uncertainties associated with projecting asbestos-related matters into the future and other factors outside our control, we cannot give any assurance that significant increases in the number of claims filed against us will not occur, that asbestos-related damages or settlement awards will not exceed the amount we have in reserve, or that additional provisions will not be required. Management will continue to monitor the circumstances surrounding these potential liabilities in determining whether additional reserves and provisions may be necessary. We plan on performing a similar annual actuarial analysis during the third quarter of each year for the foreseeable future.

In addition to asbestos-related claims, our product sales entail the risk of involvement in other product liability actions. We maintain product liability insurance coverage, but we cannot give any assurance that current or future policy limits will be sufficient to cover all possible liabilities. Further, we can give no assurance that adequate product liability insurance will continue to be available to us in the future or that such insurance may be maintained at a reasonable cost to us. In the event of a successful product liability claim against us, a lack or insufficiency of insurance coverage could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Severe weather, natural disasters and other disruptions could adversely impact our operations at our manufacturing and distribution facilities.

Severe weather conditions and natural disasters, such as hurricanes, floods and tornados, could damage our properties and effect our operations, particularly our major manufacturing and distribution operations at foreign facilities in Canada, Mexico and Poland, and at our domestic facilities in Florida, Indiana, Kansas, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia. In addition, our business and operations could be materially adversely affected in the event of other serious disruptions at these facilities due to fire, electrical blackouts, power losses, telecommunications failures, terrorist attack or similar events. Any of these occurrences could impair our ability to adequately manufacture or supply our customers due to all or a significant portion of our equipment or inventory being damaged. We may not be able to effectively shift the manufacture or delivery of products to our customers if one or more of our manufacturing or distribution facilities are significantly disrupted.

Our operations would be materially and adversely affected if we are unable to purchase raw materials, manufactured components or equipment from our suppliers.

Because we purchase various types of raw materials, finished goods, equipment, and component parts from suppliers, we may be materially and adversely affected by the failure of those suppliers to perform as expected. This non-performance may consist of delivery delays or failures caused by production issues or delivery of non-conforming products. The risk of non-performance may also result from the insolvency or bankruptcy of one or more of our suppliers. Our suppliers' ability to supply products to us is also subject to a number of risks, including availability and cost of raw materials, destruction of their facilities, or work stoppages. In addition, our failure to promptly pay, or order sufficient quantities of inventory from our suppliers may increase the cost of products we purchase or may lead to suppliers refusing to sell products to us at all. Our efforts to protect against and to minimize these risks may not always be effective.

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Our operations could be adversely affected by interruptions or breaches in the security of our computer and information technology systems.

We rely on information technology systems throughout our organization to conduct day-to-day business operations, including the management of our supply chain and our purchasing, receiving and distribution functions. We also routinely use our information technology systems to send, receive, store, access and use sensitive data relating to our Company and its employees, customers, suppliers, and business partners, including intellectual property, proprietary business information, and other sensitive materials. Our information technology systems have been subject to cyber threats, including attempts to hack into our network and computer viruses. Such hacking attempts and computer viruses have not significantly impacted or interrupted our business operations. While we implement security measures designed to prevent and mitigate the risk of cyber attacks, our information technology systems, and those functions that we may outsource, may continue to be vulnerable to computer viruses, attacks by hackers, or unauthorized access caused by employee error or malfeasance. The exploitation of any such vulnerability in our information technology systems, or those functions that we may outsource, could unexpectedly compromise the information security of our customers, suppliers and other business partners. Furthermore, because the techniques used to carry out cyber attacks change frequently and in many instances are not recognized until after they are used against a target, we may be unable to anticipate these changes or implement adequate preventative measures. If our information technology systems are subject to cyber attacks, such as those involving significant or extensive system interruptions, sabotage, computer viruses or unauthorized access, we could experience disruptions to our business operations and incur substantial remediation costs, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

We may not be able to achieve the benefits that we expect from our cost savings initiatives.

We are continuing to implement a number of cost savings programs including moving some US production to our low cost facilities in Mexico and Poland and integrating and transferring acquired assets and businesses to company facilities. Although we expect to realize cost savings as a result of these initiatives, we may not be able to achieve the level of benefits that we expect to realize or we may not be able to realize these benefits within the time frames we currently expect. Our ability to achieve any anticipated cost savings could be affected by a number of factors such as changes in the amount, timing and character of charges related to such initiatives and failure to complete or a substantial delay in completing such initiatives. Failure to achieve the benefits of our cost saving initiatives could have a material adverse effect on us. Our cost savings is also predicated upon maintaining our sales levels.

Risks Related to Liquidity

We are exposed to risks related to our receivables factoring arrangements.

We have entered into factoring arrangements with financial institutions to sell certain of our customers' trade accounts receivable without recourse. If we do not enter into these factoring arrangements, our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows could be materially and adversely affected by delays or failures in collecting trade accounts receivables. In addition, if any of the financial institutions with which we have factoring arrangements experience financial difficulties or otherwise terminate our factoring arrangements, we may experience material and adverse economic losses due to the loss of such factoring arrangements and the impact of such loss on our liquidity, which could have a material and adverse effect upon our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. The utility of our factoring arrangements also depends upon the LIBOR rate, as it is a component of the discount rate applicable to each arrangement. If the LIBOR rate increases such that the cost of factoring becomes more than the cost of servicing our receivables with existing debt, we may not be able to rely on such factoring arrangements, which could have a material and adverse effect upon our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.



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Increasing our indebtedness could negatively affect our financial health.

We have an existing revolving bank credit facility of \$250 million with General Electric Capital Corporation, as agent, and a syndicate of lenders, which we refer to throughout this Report as our revolving credit facility. As of December 31, 2014, our total outstanding indebtedness was \$56.8 million, of which amount \$56.6 million of outstanding indebtedness and approximately \$127.3 million of availability was attributable to this revolving credit facility. Any significant increase in our indebtedness could increase our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions and limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industry in which we operate.

In addition, we have granted the lenders under our revolving credit facility a first priority security interest in substantially all of our currently owned and future acquired personal property, real property and other assets. We have also pledged shares of stock in our subsidiaries to those lenders. If we default on any of our indebtedness, or if we are unable to obtain necessary liquidity, our business could be adversely affected.

We may not be able to generate the significant amount of cash needed to service our indebtedness and fund our future operations.

Our ability either to make payments on or to refinance our indebtedness, or to fund planned capital expenditures and research and development efforts, will depend on our ability to generate cash in the future. Our ability to generate cash is in part subject to:

- general economic, financial, competitive, legislative, regulatory and other factors that are beyond our control;
- the ability of our customers to pay timely the amounts we have billed; and
- the ability of vendors to factor receivables from customers.

The occurrence of any of the foregoing factors could result in reduced cash flow, which could have a material adverse effect on us.

Based on our current level of operations, we believe our cash flow from operations, available cash and available borrowings under our revolving credit facility will be adequate to meet our future liquidity needs for at least the next twelve months. Significant assumptions underlie this belief, including, among other things, that there will be no material adverse developments in our business, liquidity or capital requirements. If we are unable to service our indebtedness, we will be forced to adopt an alternative strategy that may include actions such as:

- deferring, reducing or eliminating future cash dividends;
- reducing or delaying capital expenditures or restructuring activities;
- reducing or delaying research and development efforts;
- selling assets;
- deferring or refraining from pursuing certain strategic initiatives and acquisitions;
- refinancing our indebtedness; and
- seeking additional funding.

We cannot assure you that, if material adverse developments in our business, liquidity or capital requirements should occur, our business will generate sufficient cash flow from operations, or that future borrowings will be available to us under our revolving credit facility in amounts sufficient to enable us to pay the principal and interest on our indebtedness, or to fund our other liquidity needs. In addition, if we default on any of our indebtedness, or breach any financial covenant in our revolving credit facility, our business could be adversely affected.





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Risks Related to External Factors

Our results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected by global economic conditions.

Continued weakness in the global economy, including the potential for a prolonged global economic recession, high unemployment, and a global increase in commodity prices, may materially and adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition. These conditions may also materially impact our customers, suppliers and other parties with whom we do business. For example, end users may put off discretionary repairs or, as a result of increases in average fuel prices, drive less miles thereby resulting in less need for our products. Economic conditions that adversely affect our customers may cause them to terminate existing purchase orders or to reduce the volume of products they purchase from us in the future. In connection with the sale of products, we normally do not require collateral as security for customer receivables and do not purchase credit insurance. We may have significant balances owing from customers that operate in cyclical industries and under leveraged conditions that may impair the collectability of those receivables. Failure to collect a significant portion of amounts due on those receivables could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition. Adverse economic conditions may also cause our suppliers to be unable to meet their commitments to us or may cause suppliers to make changes in the credit terms they extend to us, such as shortening the required payment period for outstanding accounts receivable or reducing the maximum amount of trade credit available to us. Changes of this type or worsening economic conditions could significantly affect our liquidity and could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

We conduct our manufacturing and distribution operations on a worldwide basis and are subject to risks associated with doing business outside the United States.

We have manufacturing and distribution facilities in many countries, including Canada, Poland and Mexico, and increasing our manufacturing footprint in low cost regions is an important element of our strategy. There are a number of risks associated with doing business internationally, including: (a) exposure to local economic and political conditions; (b) social unrest such as risks of terrorism or other hostilities; (c) currency exchange rate fluctuations and currency controls; (d) export and import restrictions; and (e) the potential for shortages of trained labor. In particular, there has been social unrest in Mexico and any increased violence in or around our manufacturing facilities in Mexico could impact our business by disrupting our supply chain, the delivery of products to customers, and the reluctance of our customers to visit our Mexican facilities. In addition, the increased violence in or around our manufacturing facilities in Mexico could present several risks to our employees who may be directly affected by the violence and may result in a decision by them to relocate from the area, or make it difficult for us to recruit or retain talented employees at our Mexican facilities. The likelihood of such occurrences and their potential effect on us is unpredictable and vary from country to country. Any such occurrences could be harmful to our business and our financial results.

We may incur liabilities under government regulations and environmental laws, which may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Domestic and foreign political developments and government regulations and policies directly affect automotive consumer products in the United States and abroad. Regulations and policies relating to over-the-highway vehicles include standards established by the United States Department of Transportation for motor vehicle safety and emissions. The modification of existing laws, regulations or policies, or the adoption of new laws, regulations or policies, such as legislation offering incentives to remove older vehicles from the road, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

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In August 2012, as required under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, the SEC adopted rules requiring us to provide disclosure regarding the use of specified minerals, known as conflict minerals, which are mined from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and adjoining countries. The rules require us to engage in ongoing due diligence efforts, and to disclose the results of our efforts in May of each year. The rules could affect the sourcing and availability of such minerals used in the manufacture of our products as the number of suppliers who provide conflict-free minerals may be limited. In addition, we expect to incur additional costs and expenses in order to comply with these rules, including for (i) due diligence to determine whether conflict minerals are necessary to the functionality or production of any of our products and, if so, to verify the sources of such conflict minerals; and (ii) any changes that we may desire to make to our products, processes, or sources of supply as a result of such diligence and verification activities. It is also possible that we may face reputational harm if we determine that certain of our products contain minerals not determined to be conflict-free and/or we are unable to alter our products, processes or sources of supply to avoid such materials. We may also face difficulties in satisfying customers who may require that our products be certified as having conflict-free minerals, which could place us at a competitive disadvantage if we are unable to do so and lead to a loss of revenue.

Our operations and properties are subject to a wide variety of increasingly complex and stringent federal, state, local and international laws and regulations, including those governing the use, storage, handling, generation, treatment, emission, release, discharge and disposal of materials, substances and wastes, the remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater and the health and safety of employees. Such environmental laws, including but not limited to those under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation & Liability Act, may impose joint and several liability and may apply to conditions at properties presently or formerly owned or operated by an entity or its predecessors, as well as to conditions at properties at which wastes or other contamination attributable to an entity or its predecessors have been sent or otherwise come to be located.

The nature of our operations exposes us to the risk of claims with respect to such matters, and we can give no assurance that violations of such laws have not occurred or will not occur or that material costs or liabilities will not be incurred in connection with such claims. We are currently monitoring our environmental remediation efforts at one of our facilities and our reserve balance related to the environmental clean-up at this facility is \$0.7 million at December 31, 2014. The environmental testing and any remediation costs at such facility may be covered by several insurance policies, although we can give no assurance that our insurance will cover any environmental remediation claims. We also maintain insurance to cover our existing U.S. and Canadian facilities. We can give no assurance that the future cost of compliance with existing environmental laws and the liability for known environmental claims pursuant to such environmental laws will not give rise to additional significant expenditures or liabilities that would be material to us. In addition, future events, such as new information, changes in existing environmental laws or their interpretation, and more vigorous enforcement policies of federal, state or local regulatory agencies, may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our future performance may be materially adversely affected by changes in technologies and improvements in the quality of new vehicle parts.

Changes in automotive technologies, such as vehicles powered by fuel cells or electricity, could negatively affect sales to our aftermarket customers. These factors could result in less demand for our products thereby causing a decline in our results of operations or deterioration in our business and financial condition and may have a material adverse effect on our long-term performance.

In addition, the size of the automobile replacement parts market depends, in part, upon the growth in number of vehicles on the road, increase in average vehicle age, change in total miles driven per year, new and modified environmental regulations, including fuel-efficiency standards, increase in pricing of new cars and new car quality and related warranties. The automobile replacement parts market has been negatively impacted by the fact that the quality of more recent automotive vehicles and their component parts (and related warranties) has improved, thereby

lengthening the repair cycle. Generally, if parts last longer, there will be less demand for our products and the average useful life of automobile parts has been steadily increasing in recent years due to innovations in products and technology. In addition, the introduction by original equipment manufacturers of increased warranty and maintenance initiatives has the potential to decrease the demand for our products. When proper maintenance and repair procedures are followed, newer AC systems in particular are less prone to leak resulting in fewer AC system repairs. These factors could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

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## ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

## ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

We maintain our executive offices in Long Island City, New York. The table below describes our principal facilities as of December 31, 2014.

Location	State or Country	Principal Business Activity	Owned or Approx. Expiration Square Feet	Date of Lease
Engine Management				
Orlando	FL	Manufacturing (Ignition)	50,600	2017
Ft. Lauderdale	FL	Distribution	23,300	Owned
Ft. Lauderdale	FL	Distribution	30,000	Owned
Mishawaka	IN	Manufacturing	153,100	Owned
Edwardsville	KS	Distribution (Wire)	363,500	Owned
Independence	KS	Manufacturing	337,400	Owned
Long Island City	NY	Administration	74,800	2018
Greenville	SC	Manufacturing (Ignition)	184,500	Owned
Disputanta	VA	Distribution (Ignition)	411,000	Owned
Reynosa	Mexico	Manufacturing (Wire)	100,000	2018
Reynosa	Mexico	Manufacturing (Ignition)	153,000	2018
Temperature Control				
Lewisville	TX	Administration and Distribution	415,000	2016
Grapevine	TX	Manufacturing	180,000	Owned
St. Thomas	Canada	Manufacturing	40,000	Owned
Reynosa	Mexico	Remanufacturing (Compressors)	82,000	2019
Reynosa	Mexico	Manufacturing	55,000	2017
Europe				
Bialystok	Poland	Manufacturing (Ignition)	60,300	2022
Other				
Mississauga	Canada	Administration and Distribution (Ignition, Wire, Temperature Control)	128,400	2016
Irving	TX	Training Center	13,400	2016

The real property that we own in Indiana, Kansas, South Carolina, Virginia and Texas and in St. Thomas, Canada is encumbered by a mortgage or deed of trust, as applicable, in favor of General Electric Capital Corporation or its affiliated company, as agent for our revolving credit facility.



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ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In 1986, we acquired a brake business, which we subsequently sold in March 1998 and which is accounted for as a discontinued operation. When we originally acquired this brake business, we assumed future liabilities relating to any alleged exposure to asbestos-containing products manufactured by the seller of the acquired brake business. In accordance with the related purchase agreement, we agreed to assume the liabilities for all new claims filed on or after September 2001. Our ultimate exposure will depend upon the number of claims filed against us on or after September 2001 and the amounts paid for indemnity and defense thereof. At December 31, 2014, approximately 2,125 cases were outstanding for which we may be responsible for any related liabilities. Since inception in September 2001 through December 31, 2014, the amounts paid for settled claims are approximately \$17.6 million.

We are currently involved in various other legal claims and legal proceedings (some of which may involve substantial amounts), including claims related to commercial disputes, product liability, employment, and environmental. Although these legal claims and legal proceedings are subject to inherent uncertainties, based on our understanding and evaluation of the relevant facts and circumstances, we believe that the ultimate outcome of these matters will not, either individually or in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. We may at any time determine that settling any of these matters is in our best interests, which settlement may include substantial payments. Although we cannot currently predict the specific amount of any liability that may ultimately arise with respect to any of these matters, we will record provisions when the liability is considered probable and reasonably estimable. Significant judgment is required in both the determination of probability and the determination as to whether an exposure can be reasonably estimated. As additional information becomes available, we reassess our potential liability related to these matters. Such revisions of the potential liabilities could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

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## ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

## PART II

ITEM MARKET FOR THE REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS  
5. AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Our common stock trades publicly on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") under the trading symbol "SMP." The following table shows the high and low sales prices per share of our common stock as reported by the NYSE and the dividends declared per share for the periods indicated:

	High	Low	Dividend
Fiscal Year ended December 31, 2014:			
First Quarter	\$37.02	\$30.28	\$ 0.13
Second Quarter	44.85	35.50	0.13
Third Quarter	45.80	34.17	0.13
Fourth Quarter	40.25	32.62	0.13
Fiscal Year ended December 31, 2013:			
First Quarter	\$28.50	\$21.35	\$ 0.11
Second Quarter	35.92	27.35	0.11
Third Quarter	38.05	28.07	0.11
Fourth Quarter	39.99	32.10	0.11

The last reported sale price of our common stock on the NYSE on February 24, 2015 was \$39.22 per share. As of February 24, 2015, there were 490 holders of record of our common stock.

Dividends are declared and paid on the common stock at the discretion of our Board of Directors (the "Board") and depend on our profitability, financial condition, capital needs, future prospects, and other factors deemed relevant by our Board. Our current practice is to pay dividends on a quarterly basis. In January 2015, our Board voted to increase our quarterly dividend to a rate of \$0.15 per share per quarter. Our revolving credit facility permits dividends and distributions by us provided specific conditions are met. See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Liquidity and Capital Resources" for a further discussion of our revolving credit facility.

There have been no unregistered offerings of our common stock during the fourth quarter of 2014.

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## Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchasers

For a discussion of our stock repurchases, see the “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.”

The following table provides information relating to the Company’s purchases of its common stock for the fourth quarter of 2014:

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased (1)	Average Price Paid Per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs (1)	Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares that may yet be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs (2)
October 1-31, 2014	14,918	\$ 34.39	14,918	\$ —
November 1-30, 2014	—	—	—	—
December 1-31, 2014	—	—	—	—
Total	14,918	\$ 34.39	14,918	\$ —

In February 2014, our Board of Directors authorized the purchase of up to \$10 million of our common stock under (1) a stock repurchase program. All shares were purchased through the publicly announced stock repurchase program in open market transactions.

In February 2015, our Board of Directors authorized the purchase of up to an additional \$10 million of our (2) common stock under a stock repurchase program. Stock will be purchased from time to time, in the open market or through private transactions, as market conditions warrant.



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The following graph compares the five year cumulative total return on the Company's Common Stock to the total returns on the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index and the S&P 1500 Auto Parts & Equipment Index, which is a combination of automotive parts and equipment companies within the S&P 400, the S&P 500 and the S&P 600. The graph shows the change in value of a \$100 investment in the Company's Common Stock and each of the above indices on December 31, 2009 and the reinvestment of all dividends. The comparisons in this table are required by the Securities and Exchange Commission and are not intended to forecast or be indicative of possible future performance of the Company's Common Stock or the referenced indices.

	SMP	S&P 500	S&P 1500 Auto Parts & Equipment Index
2009	100	100	100
2010	164	115	156
2011	245	117	136
2012	277	136	137
2013	466	180	225
2014	489	205	233

\* Source: S&P Capital IQ

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## ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following table sets forth selected consolidated financial data for the five years ended December 31, 2014. This selected consolidated financial data should be read in conjunction with “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and our financial statements and the notes thereto included elsewhere in this Form 10-K.

	Year Ended				
	December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)				
Statement of Operations Data:					
Net sales	\$980,392	\$983,704	\$948,916	\$874,625	\$810,910
Gross profit	289,630	290,454	259,669	229,147	207,606
Litigation charge (1)	10,650	—	—	—	—
Operating income	85,338	86,863	71,431	64,899	46,793
Earnings from continuing operations	52,899	53,043	42,969	64,327	24,700
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	(9,870 )	(1,593 )	(1,616 )	(1,926 )	(2,740 )
Net earnings (2) (3)	43,029	51,450	41,353	62,401	21,960
Per Share Data:					
Earnings from continuing operations:					
Basic	\$2.31	\$2.31	\$1.88	\$2.82	\$1.10
Diluted	2.28	2.28	1.86	2.78	1.09
Earnings per common share:					
Basic	1.88	2.24	1.81	2.74	0.97
Diluted	1.85	2.21	1.79	2.70	0.97
Cash dividends per common share	0.52	0.44	0.36	0.28	0.20
Other Data:					
Depreciation and amortization	\$17,295	\$17,595	\$16,466	\$14,145	\$13,574
Capital expenditures	13,904	11,410	11,811	11,037	10,806
Dividends	11,905	10,107	8,215	6,381	4,508
Cash Flows Provided By (Used In):					
Operating activities	\$46,987	\$57,616	\$93,560	\$75,307	\$28,078
Investing activities	(51,200 )	(24,762 )	(49,912 )	(75,890 )	(7,888 )
Financing activities	15,316	(39,295 )	(42,787 )	566	(19,413 )
Balance Sheet Data (at period end):					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$13,728	\$5,559	\$13,074	\$10,871	\$12,135
Working capital	215,204	225,761	196,381	172,106	169,875
Total assets	673,551	615,523	576,594	550,722	492,801
Total debt	56,816	21,481	40,648	73,299	65,596
Long term debt (excluding current portion)	83	16	75	190	307
Stockholders’ equity	374,153	349,432	307,587	271,953	209,883

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Notes to Selected Financial Data

During 2014, we recorded a \$10.6 million litigation charge in connection with a settlement agreement in a legal proceeding with a third party. The settlement amount was funded from cash on hand and available credit under our revolving credit facility.

We recorded an after tax gain (charge) of \$(9.9) million, \$(1.6) million, \$(1.6) million, \$(1.9) million, and \$(2.7) million as loss from discontinued operations to account for legal expenses and potential costs associated with our asbestos related liability for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Such costs were also separately disclosed in the operating activity section of the consolidated statements of cash flows for those same years.

In December 2011, we realized a non-recurring non-cash benefit of \$21.5 million in our provision for income taxes related to a reduction of a significant portion of our deferred tax valuation allowance on net U.S. deferred tax assets.

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ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto. This discussion summarizes the significant factors affecting our results of operations and the financial condition of our business during each of the fiscal years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2014.

Overview

We are a leading independent manufacturer and distributor of replacement parts for motor vehicles in the automotive aftermarket industry, with an increasing focus on heavy duty, industrial equipment and the original equipment service market. We are organized into two major operating segments, each of which focuses on specific lines of replacement parts. Our Engine Management Segment manufactures and remanufactures ignition and emission parts, ignition wires, battery cables, fuel system parts and sensors for vehicle systems. Our Temperature Control Segment manufactures and remanufactures air conditioning compressors, air conditioning and heating parts, engine cooling system parts, power window accessories, and windshield washer system parts.

We sell our products primarily to warehouse distributors, large retail chains, original equipment manufacturers and original equipment service part operations in the United States, Canada, Latin America, and Europe. Our customers consist of many of the leading warehouse distributors and auto parts retail chains, such as NAPA Auto Parts (National Automotive Parts Association, Inc.), Advance Auto Parts, Inc./CARQUEST Auto Parts, AutoZone, Inc., O'Reilly Automotive, Inc., Canadian Tire Corporation Limited and The Pep Boys Manny, Moe & Jack, as well as national program distribution groups, such as Auto Value and All Pro/Bumper to Bumper (Aftermarket Auto Parts Alliance, Inc.), Automotive Distribution Network LLC, The National Pronto Association ("Pronto"), Federated Auto Parts Distributors, Inc. ("Federated"), Pronto and Federated's newly formed organization, the Automotive Parts Services Group or The Group, and specialty market distributors. We distribute parts under our own brand names, such as Standard®, BWD®, Intermotor®, GP Sorensen®, TechSmart®, Tech Expert®, OEM®, LockSmart®, Select®, Four Seasons®, Factory Air®, EVERCO®, ACi®, Imperial®, COMPRESSORWORKS®, TORQFLO® and Hayden® and through co-labels and private labels, such as CARQUEST® BWD®, CARQUEST® Intermotor®, Duralast®, Duralast Gold®, Import Direct®, Master Pro®, Murray®, NAPA®, NAPA® Echlin®, Mileage Plus®, NAPA Proformer™, NAPA Temp Products™, Cold Power® and NAPA® Belden®.

Business Strategy

Our goal is to grow revenues and earnings and deliver returns in excess of our cost of capital by providing high quality original equipment and replacement products to the engine management and temperature control markets. The key elements of our strategy are as follows:

Maintain Our Strong Competitive Position in the Engine Management and Temperature Control Businesses. We are one of the leading independent manufacturers and distributors serving North America and other geographic areas in our core businesses of Engine Management and Temperature Control. We believe that our success is attributable to our emphasis on product quality, the breadth and depth of our product lines for both domestic and import vehicles, and our reputation for outstanding customer service.

To maintain our strong competitive position in our markets, we remain committed to the following:

- providing our customers with broad lines of high quality engine management and temperature control products, supported by the highest level of customer service and reliability;
- continuing to maximize our production, supply chain and distribution efficiencies;



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· continuing to improve our cost position through increased global sourcing and increased manufacturing in low cost regions; and  
· focusing on our engineering development efforts including a focus on bringing more product manufacturing in house.

**Provide Superior Customer Service, Product Availability and Technical Support.** Our goal is to increase sales to existing and new customers by leveraging our skills in rapidly filling orders, maintaining high levels of product availability, providing insightful customer category management, and providing technical support in a cost effective manner. In addition, our category management and technically skilled sales force professionals provide product selection, assortment and application support to our customers.

**Expand Our Product Lines.** We intend to increase our sales by continuing to develop internally, or through potential acquisitions, the range of Engine Management and Temperature Control products that we offer to our customers. We are committed to investing the resources necessary to maintain and expand our technical capability to manufacture multiple product lines that incorporate the latest technologies.

**Broaden Our Customer Base.** Our goal is to increase our customer base by (a) continuing to leverage our manufacturing capabilities to secure additional original equipment business globally with automotive, industrial, marine, military and heavy duty vehicle and equipment manufacturers and their service part operations as well as our existing customer base including traditional warehouse distributors, large retailers, other manufacturers and export customers, and (b) supporting the service part operations of vehicle and equipment manufacturers with value added services and product support for the life of the part.

**Improve Operating Efficiency and Cost Position.** Our management places significant emphasis on improving our financial performance by achieving operating efficiencies and improving asset utilization, while maintaining product quality and high customer order fill rates. We intend to continue to improve our operating efficiency and cost position by:

· increasing cost effective vertical integration in key product lines through internal development;  
· focusing on integrated supply chain management, customer collaborations and vendor managed inventory initiatives;  
· evaluating additional opportunities to relocate manufacturing to our low-cost, off-shore plants;  
· maintaining and improving our cost effectiveness and competitive responsiveness to better serve our customer base,  
· including sourcing certain materials and products from low cost regions such as those in Asia without compromising product quality;  
· enhancing company wide programs geared toward manufacturing and distribution efficiency; and  
· focusing on company wide overhead and operating expense cost reduction programs.

**Cash Utilization.** We intend to apply any excess cash flow from operations and the management of working capital primarily to reduce our outstanding indebtedness, pay dividends to our shareholders, repurchase shares of our common stock, expand our product lines and grow revenues through potential acquisitions.

## The Automotive Aftermarket

The automotive aftermarket industry is comprised of a large number of diverse manufacturers varying in product specialization and size. In addition to manufacturing, aftermarket companies allocate resources towards an efficient distribution process and product engineering in order to maintain the flexibility and responsiveness on which their customers depend. Aftermarket manufacturers must be efficient producers of small lot sizes and do not have to provide systems engineering support. Aftermarket manufacturers also must distribute, with rapid turnaround times, products for a full range of vehicles on the road. The primary customers of the automotive aftermarket manufacturers are national and regional warehouse distributors, large retail chains, automotive repair chains and the dealer service networks of original equipment manufacturers (“OEMs”).



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The automotive aftermarket industry differs substantially from the OEM supply business. Unlike the OEM supply business that primarily follows trends in new car production, the automotive aftermarket industry's performance primarily tends to follow different trends, such as:

- growth in number of vehicles on the road;
- increase in average vehicle age;
- change in total miles driven per year;
- new and modified environmental regulations, including fuel-efficiency standards;
- increase in pricing of new cars;
- economic and financial market conditions;
- new car quality and related warranties;
- changes in automotive technologies;
- change in vehicle scrap rates; and
- change in average fuel prices.

Traditionally, the parts manufacturers of OEMs and the independent manufacturers who supply the original equipment ("OE") part applications have supplied a majority of the business to new car dealer networks. However, certain parts manufacturers have become more independent and are no longer affiliated with OEMs, which has provided, and may continue to provide, opportunities for us to supply replacement parts to the dealer service networks of the OEMs, both for warranty and out of warranty repairs.

Seasonality. Historically, our operating results have fluctuated by quarter, with the greatest sales occurring in the second and third quarters of the year and revenues generally being recognized at the time of shipment. It is in these quarters that demand for our products is typically the highest, specifically in the Temperature Control Segment of our business. In addition to this seasonality, the demand for our Temperature Control products during the second and third quarters of the year may vary significantly with the summer weather and customer inventories. For example, a cool summer, as we experienced in both 2014 and 2013, may lessen the demand for our Temperature Control products, while a hot summer may increase such demand. As a result of this seasonality and variability in demand of our Temperature Control products, our working capital requirements typically peak near the end of the second quarter, as the inventory build up of air conditioning products is converted to sales and payments on the receivables associated with such sales have yet to be received. During this period, our working capital requirements are typically funded by borrowing from our revolving credit facility.

Inventory Management. We face inventory management issues as a result of warranty and overstock returns. Many of our products carry a warranty ranging from a 90-day limited warranty to a lifetime limited warranty, which generally covers defects in materials or workmanship and failure to meet industry published specifications and/or the result of installer error. In addition to warranty returns, we also permit our customers to return products to us within customer-specific limits (which are generally limited to a specified percentage of their annual purchases from us) in the event that they have overstocked their inventories. We accrue for overstock returns as a percentage of sales, after giving consideration to recent returns history.

In order to better control warranty and overstock return levels, we have in place procedures for authorized warranty returns, including for warranty returns which result from installer error, placed restrictions on the amounts customers can return and instituted a program to better estimate potential future product returns. In addition, with respect to our air conditioning compressors, which are our most significant customer product warranty returns, we established procedures whereby a warranty will be voided if a customer does not provide acceptable proof that complete air conditioning system repair was performed.



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Discounts, Allowances, and Incentives. We offer a variety of usual customer discounts, allowances and incentives. First, we offer cash discounts for paying invoices in accordance with the specified discount terms of the invoice. Second, we offer pricing discounts based on volume purchased from us and participation in our cost reduction initiatives. These discounts are principally in the form of “off-invoice” discounts and are immediately deducted from sales at the time of sale. For those customers that choose to receive a payment on a quarterly basis instead of “off-invoice,” we accrue for such payments as the related sales are made and reduce sales accordingly. Finally, rebates and discounts are provided to customers as advertising and sales force allowances, and allowances for warranty and overstock returns are also provided. Management analyzes historical returns, current economic trends, and changes in customer demand when evaluating the adequacy of the sales returns and other allowances. Significant management judgments and estimates must be made and used in connection with establishing the sales returns and other allowances in any accounting period. We account for these discounts and allowances as a reduction to revenues, and record them when sales are recorded.

Comparison of Fiscal Years 2014 and 2013

Sales. Consolidated net sales for 2014 were \$980.4 million, a decrease of \$3.3 million compared to \$983.7 million in the same period of 2013. Consolidated net sales decreased in both our Engine Management and Temperature Control Segments as compared to 2013.

The following table summarizes net sales and gross margins by segment for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively:

Year Ended December 31, <u>2014</u>	Engine Management	Temperature Control	Other	Total
Net sales	\$ 709,263	\$ 259,065	\$ 12,064	\$ 980,392
Gross margins	220,145	55,838	13,647	289,630
Gross margin percentage	31 %	21.6 %	— %	29.5 %
<u>2013</u>				
Net sales	\$ 711,245	\$ 262,537	\$ 9,922	\$ 983,704
Gross margins	218,294	58,150	14,010	290,454
Gross margin percentage	30.7 %	22.1 %	— %	29.5 %

Engine Management’s net sales decreased \$2 million to \$709.3 million for 2014. The year-over-year decrease in net sales resulted primarily from lower net sales in the OE/OES and export markets as compared to 2013, which more than offset the higher net sales in the retail, traditional and specialty markets.

Temperature Control’s net sales decreased \$3.5 million, or 1.3%, to \$259.1 million for 2014. The year-over-year decrease in net sales at Temperature Control resulted from the lower results in the traditional and retail markets offset, in part, by the higher net sales in the OE/OES and specialty markets. Included in the 2014 net sales are incremental sales of \$8.5 million from the business acquired in connection with our asset acquisition of Annex Manufacturing in April 2014. Excluding the incremental sales from the acquisition, Temperature Control’s net sales decreased \$12 million compared to 2013. Demand for our Temperature Control products may vary significantly with summer weather conditions and customer inventories.

Gross Margins. Gross margins, as a percentage of consolidated net sales, were flat at 29.5% when compared to 2013. Gross margins at Engine Management increased 0.3 percentage points from 30.7% to 31% while gross margins at Temperature Control decreased 0.5 percentage points from 22.1% to 21.6%. The gross margin percentage improvement in Engine Management compared to the prior year was primarily the result of improved global sourcing

and manufacturing efficiencies, including the increase in manufacturing at our lower cost facilities. The gross margin percentage decline in Temperature Control compared to the prior year resulted primarily from lower production volumes to bring inventories in line with anticipated market demand.

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**Selling, General and Administrative Expenses.** Selling, general and administrative expenses (“SG&A”) decreased by \$7.8 million to \$193.5 million or 19.7% of consolidated net sales in 2014, as compared to \$201.3 million or 20.5% of consolidated net sales in 2013. The decrease in SG&A expenses as compared to 2013 is principally due to lower employee benefit costs and savings from the integration of the CompressorWorks acquisition in April 2012.

**Litigation Charge.** During 2014, we recorded a \$10.6 million litigation charge in connection with a settlement agreement in a legal proceeding with a third party. The settlement amount was funded from cash on hand and available credit under our revolving credit facility. For additional information, see Note 19 of the notes to our financial statements.

**Restructuring and Integration Expenses.** Restructuring and integration expenses decreased to \$1.2 million in 2014 compared to \$3.4 million in 2013. Components of our restructuring and integration accruals, by segment, were as follows (in thousands):

	Engine Management	Temperature Control	Other	Total
Exit activity liability at December 31, 2013	\$ 1,556	\$ 567	\$1,619	\$3,742
Restructuring and integration costs:				
Amounts provided for during 2014	971	226	—	1,197
Non-cash usage, including asset write-downs	(10 )	(7 )	—	(17 )
Cash payments	(1,228 )	(606 )	(1,412)	(3,246)
Exit activity liability at December 31, 2014	\$ 1,289	\$ 180	\$207	\$1,676

During 2013, we offered a voluntary separation incentive program to certain eligible employees to reduce costs and improve our operating efficiency. Eligible employees, who accepted the program, received enhanced severance and other retiree benefit enhancements. In connection with the program, we recorded a charge of \$1.8 million during the year ended December 31, 2013.

**Other Income, Net.** Other income, net was \$1.1 million in 2014 compared to \$1 million for the year ended December 31, 2013. During 2014 and 2013, we recognized \$1 million of deferred gain related to the sale-leaseback of our Long Island City, New York facility.

**Operating Income.** Operating income decreased \$1.6 million to \$85.3 million in 2014, compared to \$86.9 million in 2013. The year-over year decline in operating income reflects the impact of lower net sales and the \$10.6 million litigation charge incurred in 2014 in connection with a settlement agreement in a legal proceeding with a third party, offset in part by lower SG&A and restructuring and integration expenses.

**Other Non-Operating Income (Expense), Net.** Other non-operating expense, net was \$2 million in 2014. During 2014, we recognized foreign currency exchange losses of \$1.6 million and equity losses from our joint ventures of \$0.8 million, which were offset by interest and dividend income of \$0.3 million. Other non-operating income (expense), net during 2013 consisted of foreign currency losses of \$0.1 million and equity losses from our joint ventures of \$0.3 million, offset by interest and dividend income of \$0.3 million.

**Interest Expense.** Interest expense decreased by \$0.3 million to \$1.6 million in 2014 compared to interest expense of \$1.9 million in 2013 as average interest rates declined year-over-year. The year-over-year decline in interest rates reflects the impact of the lower interest rates in our May 2013 amendment to our revolving credit facility.

**Income Tax Provision.** The income tax provision for 2014 was \$28.9 million at an effective tax rate of 35.3%, compared to \$31.9 million at an effective tax rate of 37.6% in 2013. The lower year-over-year effective tax rate is the result of the change in the mix of pre-tax income from the U.S. to the lower foreign tax rate jurisdictions, the reversal

of previously established reserves for uncertain tax positions as a result of the expiration of the statute of limitations and tax return adjustments relating to production deductions and research and development credits.

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Loss from Discontinued Operations, Net of Income Tax Benefit. Loss from discontinued operations, net of income tax, reflects information contained in the most recent actuarial studies performed as of August 31, 2014 and 2013, and other information available and considered by us, and legal expenses incurred associated with our asbestos-related liability. During 2014 and 2013, we recorded a loss of \$9.9 million and \$1.6 million, net of tax, from discontinued operations, respectively. The loss from discontinued operations for 2014 includes a \$12.8 million pre-tax provision reflecting the impact of the results of the August 2014 actuarial study. No similar adjustment to our asbestos liability was made in 2013 as the difference between the low end of the range in the August 2013 actuarial study and our recorded liability was not material. As discussed more fully in Note 19 in the notes to our financial statements, we are responsible for certain future liabilities relating to alleged exposure to asbestos containing products.

Comparison of Fiscal Years 2013 and 2012

Sales. Consolidated net sales for 2013 were \$983.7 million, an increase of \$34.8 million, or 3.7%, compared to \$948.9 million in the same period of 2012. Consolidated net sales increased primarily due to higher sales in the retail, traditional and OE/OES markets of our Engine Management Segment as compared to 2012, which more than offset the lower sales achieved by our Temperature Control Segment.

The following table summarizes net sales and gross margins by segment for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively:

Year Ended December 31, <u>2013</u>	Engine Management	Temperature Control	Other	Total
Net sales	\$ 711,245	\$ 262,537	\$9,922	\$983,704
Gross margins	218,294	58,150	14,010	290,454
Gross margin percentage	30.7 %	22.1 %	— %	29.5 %
<u>2012</u>				
Net sales	\$ 665,105	\$ 268,804	\$15,007	\$948,916
Gross margins	187,776	58,583	13,310	259,669
Gross margin percentage	28.2 %	21.8 %	— %	27.4 %

Engine Management's net sales increased \$46.1 million, or 6.9%, to \$711.2 million for 2013. Year-over-year increases in net sales were achieved in the traditional, retail and OE/OES markets as compared to 2012.

Temperature Control's net sales decreased \$6.3 million, or 2.3%, to \$262.5 million for 2013. Included in the year end 2013 net sales were incremental sales of \$16.6 million from our asset acquisition of CompressorWorks, Inc., acquired in April 2012. Excluding the incremental sales from the acquisition, Temperature Control's net sales decreased \$22.9 million compared to 2012. The year-over-year decline in net sales, excluding the acquisition, resulted primarily from the impact of a cool, wet spring and milder summer weather conditions in 2013 as compared to the same period in the prior year.

Gross Margins. Gross margins, as a percentage of consolidated net sales, increased by 2.1 percentage points to 29.5% in 2013 from 27.4% in 2012. Gross margins at Engine Management increased 2.5 percentage points from 28.2% to 30.7% while gross margins at Temperature Control increased 0.3 percentage points from 21.8% to 22.1%. The gross margin percentage improvement in Engine Management compared to the prior year was primarily the result of increased volume, improved global sourcing and manufacturing efficiencies including the increase in manufacturing at our lower cost facilities. The gross margin percentage improvement in Temperature Control compared to the prior year was primarily the result of the increase in manufacturing at our lower cost facilities and the benefits achieved as a result of the integration of CompressorWorks product lines.



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**Selling, General and Administrative Expenses.** Selling, general and administrative expenses (“SG&A”) increased by \$13.8 million to \$201.3 million or 20.5% of consolidated net sales in 2013, as compared to \$187.5 million or 19.8% of consolidated net sales in 2012. The increase in SG&A expenses was principally due to the incremental expenses from our asset acquisition of CompressorWorks, Inc., including amortization of intangible assets acquired, and the higher sales, marketing and distribution expenses associated with the increased sales volumes.

**Restructuring and Integration Expenses.** Restructuring and integration expenses increased to \$3.4 million in 2013 compared to \$1.4 million in 2012. Components of our restructuring and integration accruals, by segment, were as follows (in thousands):

	Engine Management	Temperature Control	Other	Total
Exit activity liability at December 31, 2012	\$ 3,203	\$ 203	\$373	\$3,779
Restructuring and integration costs:				
Amounts provided for during 2013	385	1,128	1,844	3,357
Non-cash usage, including asset write-downs	—	(398 )	—	(398 )
Cash payments	(2,032 )	(366 )	(598 )	(2,996)
Exit activity liability at December 31, 2013	\$ 1,556	\$ 567	\$1,619	\$3,742

During 2013, we offered a voluntary separation incentive program to certain eligible employees to reduce costs and improve our operating efficiency. Eligible employees, who accepted the program, received enhanced severance and other retiree benefit enhancements. In connection with the program, we recorded a charge of \$1.8 million during the year ended December 31, 2013.

**Other Income, Net.** Other income, net was \$1 million in 2013 compared to \$0.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. During 2013 and 2012, we recognized \$1 million of deferred gain related to the sale-leaseback of our Long Island City, New York facility. In addition, other income, net in 2012 included a \$0.2 million gain on the sale of land located in the U.K. and a \$0.6 million loss on the disposal of certain machinery and equipment.

**Operating Income.** Operating income was \$86.9 million in 2013, compared to \$71.4 million in 2012. The increase of \$15.5 million was the result of higher year-over-year consolidated net sales and higher gross margins as a percentage of consolidated net sales offset, in part, by higher SG&A and restructuring and integration expenses.

**Other Non-Operating Income (Expense), Net.** Other non-operating expense, net was \$0.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 and included a fair market value adjustment for the option provided to the buyers of our European business in November 2009 to purchase 20% of our SMP Poland subsidiary.

**Interest Expense.** Interest expense decreased by \$0.9 million to \$1.9 million in 2013 compared to interest expense of \$2.8 million in 2012 as average outstanding borrowings and average interest rates declined year-over-year. The year-over-year decline in interest rates reflected the impact of the lower interest rates in our May 2013 amendment to our revolving credit facility.

**Income Tax Provision.** The income tax provision for 2013 was \$31.9 million at an effective tax rate of 37.6%, compared to \$25 million at an effective tax rate of 36.8% in 2012. The effective tax rate in 2013 and 2012 was favorably impacted by \$0.4 million and \$0.8 million, respectively, related to certain foreign tax and research and development credits, and production deductions which were finalized during the year. For further information, see Note 16 of the notes to our financial statements.

**Loss from Discontinued Operations, Net of Income Tax Benefit.** Loss from discontinued operations, net of income tax, reflects information contained in the most recent actuarial studies performed as of August 31, 2013 and 2012,

other information available and considered by us, and legal expenses incurred associated with our asbestos-related liability. During each of 2013 and 2012, we recorded a loss of \$1.6 million, net of tax, from discontinued operations. As discussed more fully in Note 19 in the notes to our consolidated financial statements, we are responsible for certain future liabilities relating to alleged exposure to asbestos containing products.



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## Restructuring and Integration Costs

The aggregated liabilities included in “sundry payables and accrued expenses” and “other accrued liabilities” in the consolidated balance sheet relating to the restructuring and integration activities as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, consisted of the following (in thousands):

	Workforce Reduction	Other Exit Costs	Total
Exit activity liability at December 31, 2012	\$ 2,226	\$1,553	\$3,779
Restructuring and integration costs:			
Amounts provided for during 2013	2,446	911	3,357
Non-cash usage, including asset write-downs	—	(398 )	(398 )
Cash payments	(1,872 )	(1,124 )	(2,996)
Exit activity liability at December 31, 2013	\$ 2,800	\$942	\$3,742
Restructuring and integration costs:			
Amounts provided for during 2014	639	558	1,197
Non-cash usage, including asset write-downs	—	(17 )	(17 )
Cash payments	(2,492 )	(754 )	(3,246)
Exit activity liability at December 31, 2014	\$ 947	\$729	\$1,676

During 2013, we offered a voluntary separation incentive program to certain eligible employees to reduce costs and improve our operating efficiency. Eligible employees, who accepted the program, received enhanced severance and other retiree benefit enhancements. In connection with the program, we have recorded a charge of \$1.8 million during the year ended December 31, 2013.

Liabilities associated with the remaining restructuring and integration costs as of December 31, 2014 relate primarily to employee severance and other retiree benefit enhancements to be paid through 2018 and environmental clean-up costs at our Long Island City, New York location in connection with the closure of our manufacturing operations at the site.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

**Operating Activities.** During 2014, cash provided by operations was \$47 million, compared to \$57.6 million in 2013. Included in cash provided by operations during 2014 was a nonrecurring \$10.6 million cash payment in connection with a settlement agreement in a legal proceeding with a third party. During 2014, (1) the decrease in accounts receivable was \$1.8 million compared to the year-over-year increase in accounts receivable of \$27.3 million in 2013; (2) the increase in inventory was \$6.7 million compared to the year-over-year increase in inventory of \$6.1 million in 2013; (3) the decrease in accounts payable was \$4.3 million compared to the year-over-year increase in accounts payable of \$12.5 million in 2013; and (4) the decrease in sundry payables and accrued expenses was \$7.7 million compared to the year-over-year increase in sundry payables and accrued expenses of \$8.7 million in 2013. We continue to actively manage our working capital to maximize our operating cash flow.

During 2013, cash provided by operations was \$57.6 million, compared to \$93.6 million in 2012. The year-over-year decrease in cash provided by operations is primarily the result of year-over-year increases in accounts receivable, inventory, and prepaid expenses and other current assets partially offset by an increase in accounts payable balances. Accounts receivable balances increased during 2013 resulting in a \$27.3 million cash usage as compared to a decrease in accounts receivable balances during 2012, providing \$15.4 million of operating cash flow. The increase in inventory balances during 2013 resulted in a cash usage of \$6.1 million as compared to a \$1.6 million cash usage in 2012. Prepaid expenses and other current assets increased during 2013 resulting in a \$4 million cash usage as

compared to a \$0.7 million cash usage in 2012. Accounts payable balances increased during 2013 providing \$12.5 million of operating cash flow compared to an increase in 2012, providing \$3.3 million of operating cash flow. The increase in accounts receivable balances reflects the impact of strong fourth quarter 2013 net sales compared net sales in the fourth quarter 2012.

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Investing Activities. Cash used in investing activities was \$51.2 million in 2014, compared to \$24.8 million in 2013 and \$49.9 million in 2012. Investing activities in 2014 consist of (1) our acquisition of certain assets of Pensacola Fuel Injection Inc., our primary vendor for rebuilt diesel fuel injectors and other related diesel products, for \$12.2 million; (2) our acquisition of a 50% interest in the joint venture with Gwo Yng Enterprise Co., Ltd., a China based manufacturer of air conditioning accumulators, filter driers, hose assemblies, and switches for the automotive aftermarket and OEM/OES markets for \$14 million; (3) our acquisition of certain assets of Annex Manufacturing of Fort Worth, Texas, a distributor of a variety of temperature control products for the automotive aftermarket, for \$11.5 million; and (4) capital expenditures of \$13.9 million.

Cash used in investing activities was \$24.8 million in 2013. Cash used in investing activities in 2013 consisted primarily of (1) our acquisition of an approximate 25% minority interest in Orange Electronic Co. Ltd., our supplier of tire pressure monitoring systems located in Taiwan, for \$6.3 million, (2) our acquisition of the original equipment business of Standard Motor Products Holdings Ltd., our former affiliate in the U.K., for \$6.5 million, and (3) \$11.4 million in capital expenditures.

Cash used in investing activities was \$49.9 million in 2012. Cash used in investing activities in 2012 included (1) a cash payment of \$38.6 million related to the asset acquisition of CompressorWorks, Inc. and (2) capital expenditures of \$11.8 million.

Financing Activities. Cash provided by financing activities was \$15.3 million in 2014, compared to cash used in financing activities of \$39.3 million in 2013 and \$42.8 million in 2012. Borrowings under our revolving credit facility in 2014, along with the cash provided by operations, were used to pay dividends and to fund acquisitions, business investments, capital expenditures, and the repurchase of 284,284 shares of our common stock for \$10 million.

Cash used in financing activities was \$39.3 million in 2013. The excess cash provided by operations over cash used in investing activities in 2013 was used to (1) pay down borrowings under our revolving credit facility; (2) to fund the purchase of 209,973 shares of our common stock for \$6.9 million; (3) to pay \$1.3 million of debt issuance costs in connection with our May 2013 amendment to our restated credit agreement; and (4) pay dividends.

Cash used in financing activities was \$42.8 million in 2012. The excess cash provided by operations over cash used in investing activities in 2012 was used to pay down borrowings under our revolving credit facility, to fund the purchase of 380,777 shares of our common stock for \$5 million, and pay dividends.

Dividends of \$11.9 million, \$10.1 million and \$8.2 million were paid in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

## Liquidity

Our primary cash requirements include working capital, capital expenditures, regular quarterly dividends and principal and interest payments on indebtedness. Our primary sources of funds are ongoing net cash flows from operating activities and availability under our secured revolving credit facility (as detailed below).

We have entered into the Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement with General Electric Capital Corporation, as agent, and a syndicate of lenders for a secured revolving credit facility. The restated credit agreement (as amended) provides for a line of credit of up to \$250 million (inclusive of the Canadian revolving credit facility described below) and expires in March 2018. Direct borrowings under the restated credit agreement bear interest at the LIBOR rate plus the applicable margin (as defined), or floating at the index rate plus the applicable margin, at our option. The interest rate may vary depending upon our borrowing availability. The restated credit agreement is guaranteed by certain of our subsidiaries and secured by certain of our assets.



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In February 2013, we amended the restated credit agreement to provide us with greater flexibility regarding the payment of cash dividends and stock repurchases. In May 2013, we further amended our restated credit agreement (1) to extend the maturity date of our credit facility to March 2018; (2) to increase the line of credit from \$200 million to \$250 million (inclusive of the Canadian revolving credit facility described below); (3) to reduce the margin added to the LIBOR rate to 1.50% - 2%; (4) to reduce the margin added to the index rate to 0.50% - 1%; (5) to reduce the unused fee to 0.25%; and (6) to provide us with greater flexibility regarding acquisitions, other permissible debt financing, cash held and capital expenditures, among other matters.

Borrowings under the restated credit agreement are collateralized by substantially all of our assets, including accounts receivable, inventory and fixed assets, and those of certain of our subsidiaries. After taking into account outstanding borrowings under the restated credit agreement, there was an additional \$127.3 million available for us to borrow pursuant to the formula at December 31, 2014. Outstanding borrowings under the restated credit agreement (inclusive of the Canadian revolving credit facility described below), which are classified as current liabilities, were \$56.6 million and \$21.4 million at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Borrowings under the restated credit agreement have been classified as current liabilities based upon the accounting rules and certain provisions in the agreement.

At December 31, 2014, the weighted average interest rate on our restated credit agreement was 1.8%, which consisted of \$53 million in direct borrowings at 1.7% and an index loan of \$3.6 million at 3.8%. At December 31, 2013, the weighted average interest rate on our restated credit agreement was 2%, which consisted of \$18 million in direct borrowings at 1.7% and an index loan of \$3.4 million at 3.8%. During 2014 and 2013, our average daily index loan balance was \$4.4 million and \$4.1 million, respectively.

At any time that our average borrowing availability is less than \$25 million, the terms of our restated credit agreement provide for, among other provisions, a financial covenant requiring us, on a consolidated basis, to maintain specified levels of fixed charge coverage at the end of each fiscal quarter (rolling twelve months). As of December 31, 2014, we were not subject to these covenants. Availability under our restated credit agreement is based on a formula of eligible accounts receivable, eligible inventory and eligible fixed assets. Our restated credit agreement also permits dividends and distributions by us provided specific conditions are met.

Our Canadian Credit Agreement with GE Canada Finance Holding Company, for itself and as agent for the lenders provides for a \$10 million revolving credit facility. The Canadian \$10 million line of credit is part of the \$250 million available for borrowing under our restated credit agreement with General Electric Capital Corporation.

In May 2013, we amended our Canadian Credit Agreement to extend the maturity date of the agreement to March 2018 and modify certain provisions, including interest rates, to parallel the revolving credit provisions of the restated credit agreement (described above). The amended credit agreement is guaranteed and secured by us and certain of our wholly-owned subsidiaries. Direct borrowings under the amended credit agreement bear interest at the same rate as our restated credit agreement with General Electric Capital Corporation. As of December 31, 2014, we have no outstanding borrowings under the Canadian Credit Agreement.

In order to reduce our accounts receivable balances and improve our cash flow, we sell undivided interests in certain of our receivables to financial institutions. We enter these agreements at our discretion when we determine that the cost of factoring is less than the cost of servicing our receivables with existing debt. Under the terms of the agreements, we retain no rights or interest, have no obligations with respect to the sold receivables, and do not service the receivables after the sale. As such, these transactions are being accounted for as a sale.

Pursuant to these agreements, we sold \$690.3 million and \$672.8 million of receivables for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. A charge in the amount of \$13.1 million, \$13.9 million and \$13.7 million related to the sale of receivables is included in selling, general and administrative expenses in our consolidated statements of

operations for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. If we do not enter into these arrangements or if any of the financial institutions with which we enter into these arrangements were to experience financial difficulties or otherwise terminate these arrangements, our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows could be materially and adversely affected by delays or failures to collect future trade accounts receivable.

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In May 2012, our Board of Directors authorized the purchase of up to \$5 million of our common stock under a stock repurchase program. Under this program, during the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, we repurchased 30,601 shares and 312,527 shares, respectively, of our common stock at a total cost of \$0.9 million and \$4.1 million, respectively. No stock repurchases remain available under the 2012 program as the entire \$5 million was utilized.

In February 2013, our Board of Directors authorized the purchase of up to an additional \$6 million of our common stock under a stock repurchase program. During the year ended December 31, 2013, we repurchased 179,372 shares of our common stock under this program at a total cost of \$6 million. No stock repurchases remain available under the 2013 program as the entire \$6 million was utilized.

In February 2014, our Board of Directors authorized the purchase of up to an additional \$10 million of our common stock under a stock repurchase program. During the year ended December 31, 2014, we repurchased 284,284 shares of our common stock under this program at a total cost of \$10 million. No stock repurchases remain available under the 2014 program as the entire \$10 million was utilized.

In February 2015, our Board of Directors authorized the purchase of up to an additional \$10 million of our common stock under a stock repurchase program. Stock will be purchased from time to time, in the open market or through private transactions, as market conditions warrant.

We anticipate that our cash flow from operations, available cash and available borrowings under our revolving credit facility will be adequate to meet our future liquidity needs for at least the next twelve months. Significant assumptions underlie this belief, including, among other things, that there will be no material adverse developments in our business, liquidity or capital requirements. If material adverse developments were to occur in any of these areas, there can be no assurance that our business will generate sufficient cash flow from operations, or that future borrowings will be available to us under our revolving credit facility in amounts sufficient to enable us to pay the principal and interest on our indebtedness, or to fund our other liquidity needs. In addition, if we default on any of our indebtedness, or breach any financial covenant in our revolving credit facility, our business could be adversely affected.

The following table summarizes our contractual commitments as of December 31, 2014 and expiration dates of commitments through 2023:

(In thousands)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020- 2023	Total
Lease obligations	\$7,629	\$6,235	\$4,008	\$2,293	\$865	\$1,356	\$22,386
Postretirement and pension benefits	9,400	1,300	68	64	60	226	11,118
Severance payments related to restructuring and integration	877	39	20	11	—	—	947
Total commitments	\$17,906	\$7,574	\$4,096	\$2,368	\$925	\$1,582	\$34,451

(1) Indebtedness under our revolving credit facilities of \$56.6 million as of December 31, 2014 is not included in the table above as it is reported as a current liability in our consolidated balance sheets.

### Critical Accounting Policies

We have identified the policies below as critical to our business operations and the understanding of our results of operations. The impact and any associated risks related to these policies on our business operations is discussed throughout “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” where such policies affect our reported and expected financial results. For a detailed discussion on the application of these and other accounting policies, see Note 1 of the notes to our consolidated financial statements. You should be aware that

preparation of our consolidated annual and quarterly financial statements requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of our consolidated financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting periods. We can give no assurance that actual results will not differ from those estimates. Although we do not believe that there is a reasonable likelihood that there will be a material change in the future estimate or in the assumptions that we use in calculating the estimate, unforeseen changes in the industry, or business could materially impact the estimate and may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.



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**Revenue Recognition.** We derive our revenue primarily from sales of replacement parts for motor vehicles from both our Engine Management and Temperature Control Segments. We recognize revenues when products are shipped and title has been transferred to a customer, the sales price is fixed and determinable, and collection is reasonably assured. For some of our sales of remanufactured products, we also charge our customers a deposit for the return of a used core component which we can use in our future remanufacturing activities. Such deposit is not recognized as revenue but rather carried as a core liability. The liability is extinguished when a core is actually returned to us. We estimate and record provisions for cash discounts, quantity rebates, sales returns and warranties in the period the sale is recorded, based upon our prior experience and current trends. As described below, significant management judgments and estimates must be made and used in estimating sales returns and allowances relating to revenue recognized in any accounting period.

**Inventory Valuation.** Inventories are valued at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined on the first-in, first-out basis. Where appropriate, standard cost systems are utilized for purposes of determining cost; the standards are adjusted as necessary to ensure they approximate actual costs. Estimates of lower of cost or market value of inventory are determined based upon current economic conditions, historical sales quantities and patterns and, in some cases, the specific risk of loss on specifically identified inventories.

We also evaluate inventories on a regular basis to identify inventory on hand that may be obsolete or in excess of current and future projected market demand. For inventory deemed to be obsolete, we provide a reserve on the full value of the inventory. Inventory that is in excess of current and projected use is reduced by an allowance to a level that approximates our estimate of future demand. Future projected demand requires management judgment and is based upon (a) our review of historical trends and (b) our estimate of projected customer specific buying patterns and trends in the industry and markets in which we do business. Using rolling twelve month historical information, we estimate future demand on a continuous basis. As such, the historical volatility of such estimates has been minimal.

We utilize cores (used parts) in our remanufacturing processes for air conditioning compressors, diesel injectors, diesel pumps, and turbo chargers. The production of air conditioning compressors, diesel injectors, diesel pumps, and turbo chargers, involves the rebuilding of used cores, which we acquire either in outright purchases from used parts brokers or from returns pursuant to an exchange program with customers. Under such exchange programs, we reduce our inventory, through a charge to cost of sales, when we sell a finished good compressor, and put back to inventory the used core exchanged at standard cost through a credit to cost of sales when it is actually received from the customer.

**Sales Returns and Other Allowances and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts.** We must make estimates of potential future product returns related to current period product revenue. We analyze historical returns, current economic trends, and changes in customer demand when evaluating the adequacy of the sales returns and other allowances. Significant judgments and estimates must be made and used in connection with establishing the sales returns and other allowances in any accounting period. At December 31, 2014, the allowance for sales returns was \$30.6 million. Similarly, we must make estimates of the uncollectability of our accounts receivables. We specifically analyze accounts receivable and analyze historical bad debts, customer concentrations, customer credit worthiness, current economic trends and changes in our customer payment terms when evaluating the adequacy of the allowance for doubtful accounts. At December 31, 2014, the allowance for doubtful accounts and for discounts was \$6.4 million.

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**New Customer Acquisition Costs.** New customer acquisition costs refer to arrangements pursuant to which we incur change-over costs to induce a new customer to switch from a competitor's brand. In addition, change-over costs include the costs related to removing the new customer's inventory and replacing it with Standard Motor Products inventory commonly referred to as a stocklift. New customer acquisition costs are recorded as a reduction to revenue when incurred.

**Accounting for Income Taxes.** As part of the process of preparing our consolidated financial statements, we are required to estimate our income taxes in each of the jurisdictions in which we operate. This process involves estimating our actual current tax expense together with assessing temporary differences resulting from differing treatment of items for tax and accounting purposes. These differences result in deferred tax assets and liabilities, which are included within our consolidated balance sheet. We must then assess the likelihood that our deferred tax assets will be recovered from future taxable income, and to the extent we believe that it is more likely than not that the deferred tax assets will not be recovered, we must establish a valuation allowance. To the extent we establish a valuation allowance or increase or decrease this allowance in a period, we must include an expense or recovery, respectively, within the tax provision in the statement of operations.

We maintain valuation allowances when it is more likely than not that all or a portion of a deferred asset will not be realized. In determining whether a valuation allowance is warranted, we evaluate factors such as prior earnings history, expected future earnings, carryback and carryforward periods and tax strategies. We consider all positive and negative evidence to estimate if sufficient future taxable income will be generated to realize the deferred tax asset. We consider cumulative losses in recent years as well as the impact of one-time events in assessing our pre-tax earnings. Assumptions regarding future taxable income require significant judgment. Our assumptions are consistent with estimates and plans used to manage our business, which includes restructuring and integration initiatives that are expected to generate significant savings in future periods.

The valuation allowance of \$0.4 million as of December 31, 2014 is intended to provide for the uncertainty regarding the ultimate realization of our U.S. foreign tax credit carryovers, state investment tax credit carryovers and foreign net operating loss carryovers. The assessment of the adequacy of our valuation allowance is based on our estimates of taxable income in these jurisdictions and the period over which our deferred tax assets will be recoverable. Based on these considerations, we believe it is more likely than not that we will realize the benefit of the net deferred tax asset of \$51.5 million as of December 31, 2014, which is net of the remaining valuation allowance.

In the event that actual results differ from these estimates, or we adjust these estimates in future periods for current trends or expected changes in our estimating assumptions, we may need to modify the level of the valuation allowance which could materially impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.

In accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, we recognize in our financial statements only those tax positions that meet the more-likely-than-not-recognition threshold. We establish tax reserves for uncertain tax positions that do not meet this threshold. As of December 31, 2014, we do not believe there is a need to establish a liability for uncertain tax positions. Penalties associated with income tax matters are included in the provision for income taxes in our consolidated statement of operations.

**Valuation of Long Lived and Intangible Assets and Goodwill.** At acquisition, we estimate and record the fair value of purchased intangible assets, which primarily consists of customer relationships, trademarks and trade names, patents and non-compete agreements. The fair values of these intangible assets are estimated based on our assessment. Goodwill is the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of identifiable net assets acquired in business combinations. Goodwill and certain other intangible assets having indefinite lives are not amortized to earnings, but instead are subject to periodic testing for impairment. Intangible assets determined to have definite lives are amortized over their remaining useful lives.



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We assess the impairment of long lived assets, identifiable intangibles assets and goodwill whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. With respect to goodwill and identifiable intangible assets having indefinite lives, we test for impairment on an annual basis or in interim periods if an event occurs or circumstances change that may indicate the fair value is below its carrying amount. Factors we consider important, which could trigger an impairment review, include the following: (a) significant underperformance relative to expected historical or projected future operating results; (b) significant changes in the manner of our use of the acquired assets or the strategy for our overall business; and (c) significant negative industry or economic trends. We review the fair values using the discounted cash flows method and market multiples.

When performing our evaluation of goodwill for impairment, if we conclude qualitatively that it is not more likely than not that the fair value of the reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, than the two-step impairment test is not required. If we are unable to reach this conclusion, then we would perform the two-step impairment test. Initially, the fair value of the reporting unit is compared to its carrying amount. To the extent the carrying amount of a reporting unit exceeds the fair value of the reporting unit; we are required to perform a second step, as this is an indication that the reporting unit goodwill may be impaired. In this step, we compare the implied fair value of the reporting unit goodwill with the carrying amount of the reporting unit goodwill and recognize a charge for impairment to the extent the carrying value exceeds the implied fair value. The implied fair value of goodwill is determined by allocating the fair value of the reporting unit to all of the assets (recognized and unrecognized) and liabilities of the reporting unit in a manner similar to a purchase price allocation. The residual fair value after this allocation is the implied fair value of the reporting unit goodwill. In addition, identifiable intangible assets having indefinite lives are reviewed for impairment on an annual basis using a methodology consistent with that used to evaluate goodwill.

Intangible assets having definite lives and other long-lived assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events such as product discontinuance, plant closures, product dispositions or other changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. In reviewing for impairment, we compare the carrying value of such assets to the estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected from the use of the assets and their eventual disposition. When the estimated undiscounted future cash flows are less than their carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognized equal to the difference between the assets fair value and their carrying value.

There are inherent assumptions and estimates used in developing future cash flows requiring our judgment in applying these assumptions and estimates to the analysis of identifiable intangibles and long lived asset impairment including projecting revenues, interest rates, tax rates and the cost of capital. Many of the factors used in assessing fair value are outside our control and it is reasonably likely that assumptions and estimates will change in future periods. These changes can result in future impairments. In the event our planning assumptions were modified resulting in impairment to our assets, we would be required to include an expense in our statement of operations, which could materially impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Retirement and Postretirement Medical Benefits. Each year, we calculate the costs of providing retiree benefits under the provisions of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 712, Nonretirement Postemployment Benefits, and FASB ASC 715, Retirement Benefits. The determination of defined benefit pension and postretirement plan obligations and their associated costs requires the use of actuarial computations to estimate participant plan benefits the employees will be entitled to. The key assumptions used in making these calculations are the eligibility criteria of participants and the discount rate used to value the future obligation. The discount rate reflects the yields available on high-quality, fixed-rate debt securities.

Share-Based Compensation. The provisions of FASB ASC 718, Stock Compensation, require the measurement and recognition of compensation expense for all share-based payment awards made to employees and directors based on estimated fair values on the grant date using an option-pricing model. The value of the portion of the award that is ultimately expected to vest is recognized as expense on a straight-line basis over the requisite service periods in our condensed consolidated statement of operations. Forfeitures are estimated at the time of grant based on historical

trends in order to estimate the amount of share-based awards that will ultimately vest. We monitor actual forfeitures for any subsequent adjustment to forfeiture rates.

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**Environmental Reserves.** We are subject to various U.S. Federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations and are involved in certain environmental remediation efforts. We estimate and accrue our liabilities resulting from such matters based upon a variety of factors including the assessments of environmental engineers and consultants who provide estimates of potential liabilities and remediation costs. Such estimates are not discounted to reflect the time value of money due to the uncertainty in estimating the timing of the expenditures, which may extend over several years. Potential recoveries from insurers or other third parties of environmental remediation liabilities are recognized independently from the recorded liability, and any asset related to the recovery will be recognized only when the realization of the claim for recovery is deemed probable.

**Asbestos Litigation.** We are responsible for certain future liabilities relating to alleged exposure to asbestos-containing products. In accordance with our accounting policy, our most recent actuarial study as of August 31, 2014 estimated an undiscounted liability for settlement payments, excluding legal costs and any potential recovery from insurance carriers, ranging from \$36.1 million to \$55.4 million for the period through 2058. Based on the information contained in the actuarial study and all other available information considered by us, we have concluded that no amount within the range of settlement payments was more likely than any other and, therefore, in assessing our asbestos liability we compare the low end of the range to our recorded liability to determine if an adjustment is required. Based upon the results of the August 31, 2014 actuarial study, in September 2014 we increased our asbestos liability to \$36.1 million, the low end of the range, and recorded an incremental pre-tax provision of \$12.8 million in earnings (loss) from discontinued operations in the accompanying statement of operations. In addition, according to the updated study, legal costs, which are expensed as incurred and reported in earnings (loss) from discontinued operations, are estimated to range from \$43 million to \$76.4 million during the same period. We will continue to perform an annual actuarial analysis during the third quarter of each year for the foreseeable future. Based on this analysis and all other available information, we will continue to reassess the recorded liability and, if deemed necessary, record an adjustment to the reserve, which will be reflected as a loss or gain from discontinued operations. The aforementioned estimated settlement payments and legal costs do not reflect any coverage with insurance carriers for certain asbestos-related claims that we may obtain in the future.

**Other Loss Reserves.** We have other loss exposures, for such matters as legal claims and legal proceedings. Establishing loss reserves for these matters requires estimates, judgment of risk exposure, and ultimate liability. We record provisions when the liability is considered probable and reasonably estimable. Significant judgment is required in both the determination of probability and the determination as to whether an exposure can be reasonably estimated. As additional information becomes available, we reassess our potential liability related to these matters. Such revisions of the potential liabilities could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

## Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

### Discontinued Operations and Disclosures of Disposals of Components of an Entity

In April 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) 2014-08, Reporting Discontinued Operations and Disclosures of Disposals of Components of an Entity (“ASU 2014-08”), which changes the criteria for determining which disposals can be presented as discontinued operations and modifies related disclosure requirements. Under the new guidance, a discontinued operation is defined as a disposal of a component or group of components that is disposed of or is classified as held for sale and “represents a strategic shift that has (or will have) a major effect on an entity’s operations and financial results.” The new standard applies prospectively to new disposals and new classifications of disposal groups as held for sale after the effective date. The amendment is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2014, which for us is January 1, 2015, and interim periods within those annual periods. The adoption of this standard will not change the manner in which we currently present discontinued operations in our consolidated financial statements.



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Revenue from Contracts with Customers

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (“ASU 2014-09”), which outlines a single comprehensive model for entities to use in accounting for revenue arising from contracts with customers and supersedes most current revenue recognition guidance, including industry-specific guidance. Under the new guidance, “an entity recognizes revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services.” The new standard provides entities the option of using either a full retrospective or a modified approach to adopt the guidance. The new standard is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016, which for us is January 1, 2017, and interim periods within those annual periods. Early adoption is not permitted. We are currently evaluating the impact, if any, this new standard will have on our consolidated financial statements and have not yet determined the method of adoption.

Disclosure of Uncertainties About an Entity’s Ability to Continue as a Going Concern

In August 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-15, Disclosure of Uncertainties About an Entity’s Ability to Continue as a Going Concern (“ASU 2014-15”), which provides guidance on determining when and how to disclose going concern uncertainties in the consolidated financial statements. Under the new guidance, management would be required to perform interim and annual assessments of an entity’s ability to continue as a going concern within one year of the date the financial statements are issued. Certain disclosures must be provided if “conditions or events raise substantial doubt about an entity’s ability to continue as a going concern.” The new standard is effective for annual reporting periods ending after December 15, 2016, which for us is December 31, 2016, and interim periods thereafter. Early adoption is permitted. Upon adoption, although we do not anticipate that the new standard will have an impact on our disclosures, we will consider the new standard when conducting our interim and annual assessments of our ability to continue as a going concern.

Income Statement - Extraordinary and Unusual Items

In January 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-01, Income Statement – Extraordinary and Unusual Items, (“ASU 2015-01”), which removes the concept of extraordinary items from U.S. GAAP. Under the existing guidance, an entity is required to separately disclose extraordinary items, net of tax, in the income statement after income from continuing operations if an event or transaction is unusual and occurs infrequently. This separate, net-of-tax presentation will no longer be allowed. The existing requirement to separately disclose events or transactions that are unusual or occur infrequently on a pre-tax basis within continuing operations in the income statement has been retained. The new guidance requires similar separate presentation of items that are both unusual and infrequent. The new standard is effective for periods beginning after December 15, 2015, which for us is January 1, 2016. Early adoption is permitted, but only as of the beginning of the fiscal year of adoption. Upon adoption, we will present transactions that are both unusual and infrequent on a pre-tax basis within continuing operations in the income statement.



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ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

We are exposed to market risk, primarily related to foreign currency exchange and interest rates. These exposures are actively monitored by management. Our exposure to foreign exchange rate risk is due to certain costs, revenues and borrowings being denominated in currencies other than one of our subsidiary's functional currency. Similarly, we are exposed to market risk as the result of changes in interest rates, which may affect the cost of our financing. It is our policy and practice to use derivative financial instruments only to the extent necessary to manage exposures. We do not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for trading or speculative purposes. As of December 31, 2014, we did not have any derivative financial instruments.

Exchange Rate Risk

We have exchange rate exposure, primarily, with respect to the Canadian Dollar, the Euro, the British Pound, the Polish Zloty, the Mexican Peso, the Taiwan Dollar, the Chinese Yuan Renminbi and the Hong Kong Dollar. As of December 31, 2014, our monetary assets and liabilities which are subject to this exposure are immaterial, therefore, the potential immediate loss to us that would result from a hypothetical 10% change in foreign currency exchange rates would not be expected to have a material impact on our earnings or cash flows. This sensitivity analysis assumes an unfavorable 10% fluctuation in the exchange rates affecting the foreign currencies in which monetary assets and liabilities are denominated and does not take into account the offsetting effect of such a change on our foreign currency denominated revenues.

Interest Rate Risk

We manage our exposure to interest rate risk through the proportion of fixed rate debt and variable rate debt in our debt portfolio. To manage a portion of our exposure to interest rate changes, we have in the past entered into interest rate swap agreements.

At December 31, 2014, we had approximately \$56.8 million in loans and financing outstanding, of which approximately \$0.2 million bear interest at fixed interest rates and approximately \$56.6 million bear interest at variable rates of interest. We invest our excess cash in highly liquid short term investments. Our percentage of variable rate debt to total debt was 99.5% and 99.6% at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Depending upon the level of borrowings under our revolving credit facility and our excess cash, the effect of a hypothetical, instantaneous and unfavorable change of 100 basis points in the interest rate may have an approximate \$0.7 million negative impact on our earnings or cash flows.

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ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND  
SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

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MANAGEMENT'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL  
OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

To the Stockholders of  
Standard Motor Products, Inc. and Subsidiaries:

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) or 15d-15(f) of the Exchange Act). Our internal control system was designed to provide reasonable assurance to our management and Board of Directors regarding the preparation and fair presentation of published financial statements.

All internal control systems, no matter how well designed, have inherent limitations. Because of these inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and presentation, and may not prevent or detect misstatements. Projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

We assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014. In making this assessment, we used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission ("COSO") in the 2013 Internal Control - Integrated Framework. Based on our assessment using those criteria, we concluded that, as of December 31, 2014, our internal control over financial reporting is effective.

Our independent registered public accounting firm, KPMG LLP, has audited our consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014 and has also audited the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014. KPMG's report appears on the following pages of this "Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data."

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM—  
INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

The Board of Directors and Stockholders of  
Standard Motor Products, Inc. and Subsidiaries

We have audited Standard Motor Products, Inc. and subsidiaries' (the "Company") internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014, based on criteria established in the 2013 Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission ("COSO"). The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, Standard Motor Products, Inc. and subsidiaries maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014, based on criteria established in the 2013 Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of Standard Motor Products, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, changes in stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2014, and our report dated February 27, 2015 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

/s/ KPMG LLP  
New York, New York

February 27, 2015

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM—  
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Board of Directors and Stockholders of  
Standard Motor Products, Inc. and Subsidiaries

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Standard Motor Products, Inc. and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, changes in stockholders’ equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2014. In connection with our audits of the consolidated financial statements, we also have audited the consolidated financial statement Schedule II, Valuation and Qualifying Accounts for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2014. These consolidated financial statements and the accompanying consolidated financial statement schedule are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements and consolidated financial statement schedule based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Standard Motor Products, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2014, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Also in our opinion, the related consolidated financial statement schedule for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2014, when considered in relation to the basic consolidated financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014, based on the criteria established in the 2013 Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (“COSO”), and our report dated February 27, 2015 expressed an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ KPMG LLP  
New York, New York  
February 27, 2015

IndexSTANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
	(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)		
Net sales	\$980,392	\$983,704	\$948,916
Cost of sales	690,762	693,250	689,247
Gross profit	289,630	290,454	259,669
Selling, general and administrative expenses	193,525	201,256	187,495
Litigation charge	10,650	—	—
Restructuring and integration expenses	1,197	3,357	1,437
Other income, net	1,080	1,022	694
Operating income	85,338	86,863	71,431
Other non-operating income (expense), net	(1,969)	) 1	(696)
Interest expense	1,616	1,902	2,788
Earnings from continuing operations before taxes	81,753	84,962	67,947
Provision for income taxes	28,854	31,919	24,978
Earnings from continuing operations	52,899	53,043	42,969
Loss from discontinued operations, net of income tax benefit of \$6,580, \$1,062 and \$1,077	(9,870)	) (1,593)	(1,616)
Net earnings	\$43,029	\$51,450	\$41,353
Net earnings per common share – Basic:			
Earnings from continuing operations	\$2.31	\$2.31	\$1.88
Discontinued operations	(0.43)	) (0.07)	(0.07)
Net earnings per common share – Basic	\$1.88	\$2.24	\$1.81
Net earnings per common share – Diluted:			
Earnings from continuing operations	\$2.28	\$2.28	\$1.86
Discontinued operations	(0.43)	) (0.07)	(0.07)
Net earnings per common share – Diluted	\$1.85	\$2.21	\$1.79
Dividends declared per share	\$0.52	\$0.44	\$0.36
Average number of common shares	22,899,516	22,974,690	22,812,077
Average number of common shares and dilutive common shares	23,239,925	23,270,067	23,050,340

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

IndexSTANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
	(In thousands)		
Net earnings	\$43,029	\$51,450	\$41,353
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:			
Foreign currency translation adjustments	(3,781 )	(1,101 )	1,585
Pension and postretirement plans:			
Amortization of:			
Prior service benefit	(3,017 )	(4,317 )	(4,784 )
Unrecognized loss	2,435	3,123	3,096
Unrecognized amounts	(413 )	(343 )	33
Foreign currency exchange rate changes	(34 )	(32 )	14
Income tax benefit (expense) related to pension and postretirement plans	372	577	636
Pension and postretirement plans, net of tax	(657 )	(992 )	(1,005 )
Total other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	(4,438 )	(2,093 )	580
Comprehensive income	\$38,591	\$49,357	\$41,933

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



IndexSTANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	December 31,	
	2014	2013
	(Dollars in thousands, except share data)	
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,728	\$ 5,559
Accounts receivable, less allowances for discounts and doubtful accounts of \$6,369 and \$6,969 in 2014 and 2013, respectively	126,524	125,201
Inventories, net	278,051	269,447
Deferred income taxes	36,534	35,633
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	11,196	10,237
Total current assets	466,033	446,077
Property, plant and equipment, net	64,611	63,646
Goodwill	54,975	38,005
Other intangibles, net	34,402	34,861
Deferred incomes taxes	14,941	10,278
Other assets	38,589	22,656
Total assets	\$ 673,551	\$ 615,523
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES:</b>		
Notes payable	\$ 56,558	\$ 21,406
Current portion of long-term debt	175	59
Accounts payable	70,674	71,469
Sundry payables and accrued expenses	49,412	41,939
Accrued customer returns	30,621	31,464
Accrued rebates	26,076	28,758
Payroll and commissions	17,313	25,221
Total current liabilities	250,829	220,316
Long-term debt	83	16
Other accrued liabilities	15,024	21,840
Accrued asbestos liabilities	33,462	23,919
Total liabilities	299,398	266,091
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Common Stock - par value \$2.00 per share:		
Authorized 30,000,000 shares, issued 23,936,036 shares	47,872	47,872
Capital in excess of par value	91,411	87,563
Retained earnings	259,160	228,036
Accumulated other comprehensive income	(2,652 )	1,786
Treasury stock - at cost (1,043,064 shares and 981,004 shares in 2014 and 2013, respectively)	(21,638 )	(15,825 )
Total stockholders' equity	374,153	349,432
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 673,551	\$ 615,523

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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IndexSTANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
	(In thousands)		
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Net earnings	\$43,029	\$51,450	\$41,353
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	17,295	17,595	16,466
Amortization of deferred financing cost	699	893	1,161
Increase (decrease) to allowance for doubtful accounts	(497 )	641	(728 )
Increase to inventory reserves	3,553	4,636	4,921
Amortization of deferred gain on sale of buildings	(1,048 )	(1,048 )	(1,048 )
Equity loss from joint ventures	822	285	—
Employee Stock Ownership Plan allocation	1,826	4,376	3,865
Stock-based compensation	4,843	3,668	2,358
Excess tax benefits related to exercise of employee stock grants	(1,269 )	(1,264 )	(343 )
(Increase) decrease in deferred income taxes	(4,959 )	(527 )	6,098
Decrease in unrecognized tax benefit	(350 )	—	—
Decrease in tax valuation allowance	(342 )	(480 )	(669 )
Loss on discontinued operations, net of tax	9,870	1,593	1,616
Change in assets and liabilities:			
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	1,755	(27,278)	15,393
(Increase) in inventories	(6,712 )	(6,094 )	(1,556 )
(Increase) in prepaid expenses and other current assets	(959 )	(4,048 )	(659 )
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	(4,329 )	12,497	3,287
Increase (decrease) in sundry payables and accrued expenses	(7,697 )	8,673	6,837
Net changes in other assets and liabilities	(8,543 )	(7,952 )	(4,792 )
Net cash provided by operating activities	46,987	57,616	93,560
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Acquisitions of and investments in businesses	(37,726)	(12,760)	(38,594)
Capital expenditures	(13,904)	(11,410)	(11,811)
Other investing activities	430	(592 )	493
Net cash used in investing activities	(51,200)	(24,762)	(49,912)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Net borrowings (repayments) under line-of-credit agreements	35,152	(19,046)	(32,547)
Net borrowings (payments) of long-term debt and capital lease obligations	182	(120 )	(105 )
Purchase of treasury stock	(10,000)	(6,864 )	(4,999 )
Increase (decrease) in overdraft balances	522	(3,312 )	2,387
Payments of debt issuance costs	—	(1,261 )	—
Proceeds from exercise of employee stock options	96	151	349
Excess tax benefits related to the exercise of employee stock grants	1,269	1,264	343
Dividends paid	(11,905)	(10,107)	(8,215 )
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	15,316	(39,295)	(42,787)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	(2,934 )	(1,074 )	1,342
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	8,169	(7,515 )	2,203
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS at beginning of year	5,559	13,074	10,871

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CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS at end of year	\$13,728	\$5,559	\$13,074
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:			
Cash paid during the year for:			
Interest	\$882	\$1,050	\$1,636
Income taxes	\$27,562	\$33,489	\$16,087

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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IndexSTANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Years Ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012

	Common Stock	Capital in Excess of Par Value	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	Treasury Stock	Total
(In thousands)						
BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2011	\$47,872	\$79,789	\$153,555	\$ 3,299	\$(12,562)	\$271,953
Net earnings	—	—	41,353	—	—	41,353
Other comprehensive income, net of tax	—	—	—	580	—	580
Cash dividends paid (\$0.36 per share)	—	—	(8,215 )	—	—	(8,215 )
Purchase of treasury stock	—	—	—	—	(4,999 )	(4,999 )
Stock-based compensation and related tax benefits	—	584	—	—	2,010	2,594
Stock options exercised and related tax benefits	—	136	—	—	320	456
Employee Stock Ownership Plan	—	1,839	—	—	2,026	3,865
 BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2012	 47,872	 82,348	 186,693	 3,879	 (13,205)	 307,587
Net earnings	—	—	51,450	—	—	51,450
Other comprehensive loss, net of tax	—	—	—	(2,093 )	—	(2,093 )
Cash dividends paid (\$0.44 per share)	—	—	(10,107 )	—	—	(10,107 )
Purchase of treasury stock	—	—	—	—	(6,864 )	(6,864 )
Stock-based compensation and related tax benefits	—	2,917	—	—	1,933	4,850
Stock options exercised and related tax benefits	—	84	—	—	149	233
Employee Stock Ownership Plan	—	2,214	—	—	2,162	4,376
 BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2013	 47,872	 87,563	 228,036	 1,786	 (15,825)	 349,432
Net earnings	—	—	43,029	—	—	43,029
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	—	—	—	(4,438 )	—	(4,438 )
Cash dividends paid (\$0.52 per share)	—	—	(11,905 )	—	—	(11,905 )
Purchase of treasury stock	—	—	—	—	(10,000)	(10,000 )
Stock-based compensation and related tax benefits	—	3,005	—	—	3,065	6,070
Stock options exercised and related tax benefits	—	17	—	—	122	139
Employee Stock Ownership Plan	—	826	—	—	1,000	1,826
 BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2014	 \$47,872	 \$91,411	 \$259,160	 \$ (2,652 )	 \$(21,638)	 \$374,153

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



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STANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Principles of Consolidation

Standard Motor Products, Inc. and subsidiaries (referred to hereinafter in these notes to the consolidated financial statements as “we,” “us,” “our” or the “Company”) is engaged in the manufacture and distribution of replacement parts for motor vehicles in the automotive aftermarket industry with an increasing focus on heavy duty, industrial equipment and the original equipment service market. The consolidated financial statements include our accounts and all domestic and international companies in which we have more than a 50% equity ownership. Our investments in unconsolidated affiliates are accounted for on the equity method, as we do not have a controlling financial interest. All significant inter-company items have been eliminated.

Use of Estimates

In conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, we have made a number of estimates and assumptions relating to the reporting of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities to prepare these consolidated financial statements. Some of the more significant estimates include allowances for doubtful accounts, cash discounts, valuation of inventory, valuation of long-lived assets, goodwill and other intangible assets, depreciation and amortization of long-lived assets, product liability exposures, pensions and other postretirement benefits, asbestos, environmental and litigation matters, valuation of deferred tax assets, share based compensation and sales returns and other allowances. We can give no assurances that actual results will not differ from those estimates. Although we do not believe that there is a reasonable likelihood that there will be a material change in the future estimate or in the assumptions that we use in calculating the estimate, unforeseen changes in the industry, or business could materially impact the estimate and may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

We consider all highly liquid investments purchased with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts and Cash Discounts

We do not generally require collateral for our trade accounts receivable. Accounts receivable have been reduced by an allowance for amounts that may become uncollectible in the future. These allowances are established based on a combination of write-off history, aging analysis, and specific account evaluations. When a receivable balance is known to be uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance for doubtful accounts. Cash discounts are provided based on an overall average experience rate applied to qualifying accounts receivable balances.

IndexSTANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

## Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost (determined by means of the first-in, first-out method) or market. Where appropriate, standard cost systems are utilized for purposes of determining cost; the standards are adjusted as necessary to ensure they approximate actual costs. Estimates of lower of cost or market are determined based upon current economic conditions, historical sales quantities and patterns and, in some cases, the specific risk of loss on specifically identified inventories.

We also evaluate inventories on a regular basis to identify inventory on hand that may be obsolete or in excess of current and future projected market demand. For inventory deemed to be obsolete, we provide a reserve on the full value of the inventory. Inventory that is in excess of current and projected use is reduced by an allowance to a level that approximates our estimate of future demand. Future projected demand requires management judgment and is based upon (a) our review of historical trends and (b) our estimate of projected customer specific buying patterns and trends in the industry and markets in which we do business. Using rolling twelve month historical information, we estimate future demand on a continuous basis. As such, the historical volatility of such estimates has been minimal. We maintain provisions for inventory reserves of \$45.2 million and \$42.7 million as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

We utilize cores (used parts) in our remanufacturing processes for air conditioning compressors, diesel injectors, diesel pumps, and turbo chargers. The production of air conditioning compressors, diesel injectors, diesel pumps, and turbo chargers, involves the rebuilding of used cores, which we acquire either in outright purchases from used parts brokers, or from returns pursuant to an exchange program with customers. Under such exchange programs, we reduce our inventory, through a charge to cost of sales, when we sell a finished good compressor, and put back to inventory the used core exchanged at standard cost through a credit to cost of sales when it is actually received from the customer.

## Property, Plant and Equipment

These assets are recorded at historical cost and are depreciated using the straight-line method of depreciation over the estimated useful lives as follows:

	Estimated Life
Buildings	25 to 33-1/2 years
Building improvements	10 to 25 years
Machinery and equipment	7 to 12 years
Tools, dies and auxiliary equipment	3 to 8 years
Furniture and fixtures	3 to 12 years

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the estimated useful life or the term of the lease. Costs related to maintenance and repairs which do not prolong the assets useful lives are expensed as incurred. We assess our property, plant and equipment to be held and used for impairment when indicators are present that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

## Valuation of Long-Lived and Intangible Assets and Goodwill

At acquisition, we estimate and record the fair value of purchased intangible assets, which primarily consists of customer relationships, trademarks and trade names, patents and non-compete agreements. The fair values of these



intangible assets are estimated based on our assessment. Goodwill is the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of identifiable net assets acquired in business combinations. Goodwill and certain other intangible assets having indefinite lives are not amortized to earnings, but instead are subject to periodic testing for impairment. Intangible assets determined to have definite lives are amortized over their remaining useful lives.

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STANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

We assess the impairment of long lived assets, identifiable intangibles assets and goodwill whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. With respect to goodwill and identifiable intangible assets having indefinite lives, we test for impairment on an annual basis or in interim periods if an event occurs or circumstances change that may indicate the fair value is below its carrying amount. Factors we consider important, which could trigger an impairment review, include the following: (a) significant underperformance relative to expected historical or projected future operating results; (b) significant changes in the manner of our use of the acquired assets or the strategy for our overall business; and (c) significant negative industry or economic trends. We review the fair values using the discounted cash flows method and market multiples.

When performing our evaluation of goodwill for impairment, if we conclude qualitatively that it is not more likely than not that the fair value of the reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, then the two-step impairment test is not required. If we are unable to reach this conclusion, then we would perform the two-step impairment test. Initially, the fair value of the reporting unit is compared to its carrying amount. To the extent the carrying amount of a reporting unit exceeds the fair value of the reporting unit; we are required to perform a second step, as this is an indication that the reporting unit goodwill may be impaired. In this step, we compare the implied fair value of the reporting unit goodwill with the carrying amount of the reporting unit goodwill and recognize a charge for impairment to the extent the carrying value exceeds the implied fair value. The implied fair value of goodwill is determined by allocating the fair value of the reporting unit to all of the assets (recognized and unrecognized) and liabilities of the reporting unit in a manner similar to a purchase price allocation. The residual fair value after this allocation is the implied fair value of the reporting unit goodwill. In addition, identifiable intangible assets having indefinite lives are reviewed for impairment on an annual basis using a methodology consistent with that used to evaluate goodwill.

Intangible assets having definite lives and other long-lived assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events such as product discontinuance, plant closures, product dispositions or other changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. In reviewing for impairment, we compare the carrying value of such assets to the estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected from the use of the assets and their eventual disposition. When the estimated undiscounted future cash flows are less than their carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognized equal to the difference between the assets fair value and their carrying value.

There are inherent assumptions and estimates used in developing future cash flows requiring our judgment in applying these assumptions and estimates to the analysis of identifiable intangibles and long lived asset impairment including projecting revenues, interest rates, tax rates and the cost of capital. Many of the factors used in assessing fair value are outside our control and it is reasonably likely that assumptions and estimates will change in future periods. These changes can result in future impairments. In the event our planning assumptions were modified resulting in impairment to our assets, we would be required to include an expense in our statement of operations, which could materially impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.

#### New Customer Acquisition Costs

New customer acquisition costs refer to arrangements pursuant to which we incur change-over costs to induce a new customer to switch from a competitor's brand. In addition, change-over costs include the costs related to removing the new customer's inventory and replacing it with our inventory commonly referred to as a stocklift. New customer acquisition costs are recorded as a reduction to revenue when incurred.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Foreign Currency Translation

Assets and liabilities of our foreign operations are translated into U.S. dollars at year-end exchange rates. Income statement accounts are translated using the average exchange rates prevailing during the year. The resulting translation adjustments are recorded as a separate component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) and remains there until the underlying foreign operation is liquidated or substantially disposed of. Foreign currency transaction gains or losses are recorded in the statement of operations under the caption “other non-operating income (expense), net.”

Revenue Recognition

We derive our revenue primarily from sales of replacement parts for motor vehicles from both our Engine Management and Temperature Control Segments. We recognize revenues when products are shipped and title has been transferred to a customer, the sales price is fixed and determinable, and collection is reasonably assured. For some of our sales of remanufactured products, we also charge our customers a deposit for the return of a used core component which we can use in our future remanufacturing activities. Such deposit is not recognized as revenue but rather carried as a core liability. The liability is extinguished when a core is actually returned to us. We estimate and record provisions for cash discounts, quantity rebates, sales returns and warranties in the period the sale is recorded, based upon our prior experience and current trends. Significant management judgments and estimates must be made and used in estimating sales returns and allowances relating to revenue recognized in any accounting period.

Selling, General and Administration Expenses

Selling, general and administration expenses includes shipping costs and advertising, which are expensed as incurred. Shipping and handling charges, as well as freight to customers, are included in distribution expenses as part of selling, general and administration expenses.

Deferred Financing Costs

Deferred financing costs represent costs incurred in conjunction with our debt financing activities and are capitalized and amortized over the life of the related financing arrangements. If the debt is retired early, the related unamortized deferred financing costs are written off in the period the debt is retired and are recorded in the statement of operations under the caption other non-operating income (expense), net.

Retirement and Post-Retirement Medical Benefits

The determination of defined benefit pension and postretirement plan obligations and their associated expenses requires the use of actuarial valuations to estimate participant plan benefits employees earn while working as well as the present value of those benefits. Inherent in these valuations are financial assumptions including discount rates at which liabilities can be settled, rates of increase of health care costs as well as employee demographic assumptions such as retirement patterns, mortality and turnover. Management reviews these assumptions annually with its actuarial advisors. The actuarial assumptions used may differ materially from actual results due to changing market and economic conditions, higher or lower turnover rates or longer or shorter life spans of participants. Benefits are determined primarily based upon employees’ length of service. We recognize the underfunded or overfunded status of a defined benefit pension and postretirement plan as an asset or liability and recognize changes in the funded status in the year in which the changes occur through accumulated other comprehensive income, which is a component of stockholders’ equity.



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Share-Based Compensation

We measure and recognize compensation expense for all share-based payment awards made to employees and directors based on estimated fair values on the grant date. The value of the portion of the award that is ultimately expected to vest is recognized as an expense on a straight-line basis over the requisite service periods in our consolidated statements of operations. Forfeitures are estimated at the time of grant based on historical trends in order to estimate the amount of share-based awards that will ultimately vest. We monitor actual forfeitures for any subsequent adjustment to forfeiture rates.

Accounting for Income Taxes

Income taxes are calculated using the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on the estimated future tax effects of temporary differences between the financial statement carrying amounts and the tax bases of assets and liabilities, as measured by the current enacted tax rates.

We maintain valuation allowances when it is more likely than not that all or a portion of a deferred asset will not be realized. The valuation allowance is intended in part to provide for the uncertainty regarding the ultimate utilization of our U.S. foreign tax credit carryovers, state tax credit carryovers and foreign net operating loss carryovers. In determining whether a valuation allowance is warranted, we consider all positive and negative evidence and all sources of taxable income such as prior earnings history, expected future earnings, carryback and carryforward periods and tax strategies to estimate if sufficient future taxable income will be generated to realize the deferred tax asset. The assessment of the adequacy of our valuation allowance is based on our estimates of taxable income by jurisdiction in which we operate and the period over which our deferred tax assets will be recoverable. In the event that actual results differ from these estimates, or we adjust these estimates in future periods for current trends or expected changes in our estimating assumptions, we may need to modify the level of valuation allowance which could materially impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The valuation allowance of \$0.4 million as of December 31, 2014 is intended to provide for uncertainty regarding the ultimate realization of our U.S. foreign tax credit carryovers, state investment tax credit carryovers and foreign net operating loss carryovers. Based on these considerations, we believe it is more likely than not that we will realize the benefit of the net deferred tax asset of \$51.5 million as of December 31, 2014, which is net of the remaining valuation allowance.

Tax benefits are recognized for an uncertain tax position when, in management's judgment, it is more likely than not that the position will be sustained upon examination by a taxing authority. For a tax position that meets the more-likely-than-not recognition threshold, the tax benefit is measured as the largest amount that is judged to have a greater than 50% likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement with a taxing authority. The liability associated with unrecognized tax benefits is adjusted periodically due to changing circumstances and when new information becomes available. Such adjustments are recognized entirely in the period in which they are identified. The effective tax rate includes the net impact of changes in the liability for uncertain tax positions. As of December 31, 2014, we do not believe there is a need to establish a liability for uncertain tax positions.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

## Net Earnings per Common Share

We present two calculations of earnings per common share. "Basic" earnings per common share equals net income divided by weighted average common shares outstanding during the period. "Diluted" earnings per common share equals net income divided by the sum of weighted average common shares outstanding during the period plus potentially dilutive common shares. Potentially dilutive common shares that are anti-dilutive are excluded from net earnings per common share. The following is a reconciliation of the shares used in calculating basic and dilutive net earnings per common share.

	2014	2013	2012
	(In thousands)		
Weighted average common shares outstanding – Basic	22,900	22,975	22,812
Plus incremental shares from assumed conversions:			
Dilutive effect of restricted shares and performance shares	335	287	231
Dilutive effect of stock options	5	8	7
Weighted average common shares outstanding – Diluted	23,240	23,270	23,050

The average shares listed below were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because to do so would have been anti-dilutive for the periods presented or because they were excluded under the treasury method.

	2014	2013	2012
	(In thousands)		
Stock options	4	8	22
Restricted and performance shares	276	203	200

## Environmental Reserves

We are subject to various U.S. Federal and state and local environmental laws and regulations and are involved in certain environmental remediation efforts. We estimate and accrue our liabilities resulting from such matters based upon a variety of factors including the assessments of environmental engineers and consultants who provide estimates of potential liabilities and remediation costs. Such estimates are not discounted to reflect the time value of money due to the uncertainty in estimating the timing of the expenditures, which may extend over several years. Potential recoveries from insurers or other third parties of environmental remediation liabilities are recognized independently from the recorded liability, and any asset related to the recovery will be recognized only when the realization of the claim for recovery is deemed probable.

## Asbestos Litigation

In evaluating our potential asbestos-related liability, we use an actuarial study that is prepared by a leading actuarial firm with expertise in assessing asbestos-related liabilities. We evaluate the estimate of the range of undiscounted liability to determine which amount to accrue. Based on the information contained in the actuarial study and all other available information considered by us, we have concluded that no amount within the range was more likely than any other and, therefore, in assessing our asbestos liability we compare the low end of the range to our recorded liability to determine if an adjustment is required. Legal costs are expensed as incurred.

## Loss Contingencies

We have loss contingencies, for such matters as legal claims and legal proceedings. Establishing loss reserves for these matters requires estimates, judgment of risk exposure and ultimate liability. We record provisions when the liability is considered probable and reasonably estimable. Significant judgment is required for both the determination of probability and the determination as to whether an exposure can be reasonably estimated. We maintain an ongoing monitoring and identification process to assess how the activities are progressing against the accrued estimated costs. As additional information becomes available, we reassess our potential liability related to these matters. Adjustments to the liabilities are recorded in the statement of operations in the period when additional information becomes available. Such revisions of the potential liabilities could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

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STANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
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Product Warranty and Overstock Returns

Many of our products carry a warranty ranging from a 90-day limited warranty to a lifetime limited warranty, which generally covers defects in materials or workmanship and failure to meet industry published specifications and/or the result of installer error. In addition to warranty returns, we also permit our customers to return products to us within customer-specific limits (which are generally limited to a specified percentage of their annual purchases from us) in the event that they have overstocked their inventories. We accrue for product warranties and overstock returns as a percentage of sales at the time products are sold, based upon estimates established using historical information on the nature, frequency and average cost of claims. Revision to the accrual is made when necessary, based upon changes in these factors. We regularly study trends of such claims.

Trade Receivables

In compliance with accounting standards, sales of accounts receivable are reflected as a reduction of accounts receivable in the consolidated balance sheet at the time of sale and any related expense is included in selling, general and administrative expenses in our consolidated statements of operations.

Concentrations of Credit Risk

Financial instruments that potentially subject us to significant concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash investments and accounts receivable. We place our cash investments with high quality financial institutions and limit the amount of credit exposure to any one institution. Although we are directly affected by developments in the vehicle parts industry, management does not believe significant credit risk exists.

With respect to accounts receivable, such receivables are primarily from warehouse distributors and major retailers in the automotive aftermarket industry located in the U.S. We perform ongoing credit evaluations of our customers' financial conditions. Our five largest individual customers, including members of a marketing group, accounted for approximately 68% of our consolidated net sales in 2014, 66% of our consolidated net sales in 2013 and 64% of our consolidated net sales in 2012. During 2014, O'Reilly Automotive, Inc., NAPA Auto Parts, Advance Auto Parts, Inc., and AutoZone, Inc. accounted for 19%, 19%, 16% and 10% of our consolidated net sales, respectively. Net sales from each of the customers were reported in both our Engine Management and Temperature Control Segments. The loss of one or more of these customers or, a significant reduction in purchases of our products from any one of them, could have a materially adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Substantially all of the cash and cash equivalents, including foreign cash balances, at December 31, 2014 and 2013 were uninsured. Foreign cash balances at December 31, 2014 and 2013 were \$10.7 million and \$4.7 million, respectively.



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STANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
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Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

Discontinued Operations and Disclosures of Disposals of Components of an Entity

In April 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) 2014-08, Reporting Discontinued Operations and Disclosures of Disposals of Components of an Entity (“ASU 2014-08”), which changes the criteria for determining which disposals can be presented as discontinued operations and modifies related disclosure requirements. Under the new guidance, a discontinued operation is defined as a disposal of a component or group of components that is disposed of or is classified as held for sale and “represents a strategic shift that has (or will have) a major effect on an entity’s operations and financial results.” The new standard applies prospectively to new disposals and new classifications of disposal groups as held for sale after the effective date. The amendment is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2014, which for us is January 1, 2015, and interim periods within those annual periods. The adoption of this standard will not change the manner in which we currently present discontinued operations in our consolidated financial statements.

Revenue from Contracts with Customers

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (“ASU 2014-09”), which outlines a single comprehensive model for entities to use in accounting for revenue arising from contracts with customers and supersedes most current revenue recognition guidance, including industry-specific guidance. Under the new guidance, “an entity recognizes revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services.” The new standard provides entities the option of using either a full retrospective or a modified approach to adopt the guidance. The new standard is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016, which for us is January 1, 2017, and interim periods within those annual periods. Early adoption is not permitted. We are currently evaluating the impact, if any, this new standard will have on our consolidated financial statements and have not yet determined the method of adoption.

Disclosure of Uncertainties About an Entity’s Ability to Continue as a Going Concern

In August 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-15, Disclosure of Uncertainties About an Entity’s Ability to Continue as a Going Concern (“ASU 2014-15”), which provides guidance on determining when and how to disclose going concern uncertainties in the consolidated financial statements. Under the new guidance, management would be required to perform interim and annual assessments of an entity’s ability to continue as a going concern within one year of the date the financial statements are issued. Certain disclosures must be provided if “conditions or events raise substantial doubt about an entity’s ability to continue as a going concern.” The new standard is effective for annual reporting periods ending after December 15, 2016, which for us is December 31, 2016, and interim periods thereafter. Early adoption is permitted. Upon adoption, although we do not anticipate that the new standard will have an impact on our disclosures, we will consider the new standard when conducting our interim and annual assessments of our ability to continue as a going concern.

IndexSTANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)Income Statement - Extraordinary and Unusual Items

In January 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-01, Income Statement – Extraordinary and Unusual Items, (“ASU 2015-01”), which removes the concept of extraordinary items from U.S. GAAP. Under the existing guidance, an entity is required to separately disclose extraordinary items, net of tax, in the income statement after income from continuing operations if an event or transaction is unusual and occurs infrequently. This separate, net-of-tax presentation will no longer be allowed. The existing requirement to separately disclose events or transactions that are unusual or occur infrequently on a pre-tax basis within continuing operations in the income statement has been retained. The new guidance requires similar separate presentation of items that are both unusual and infrequent. The new standard is effective for periods beginning after December 15, 2015, which for us is January 1, 2016. Early adoption is permitted, but only as of the beginning of the fiscal year of adoption. Upon adoption, we will present transactions that are both unusual and infrequent on a pre-tax basis within continuing operations in the income statement.

## 2. Business Acquisitions and Investments

## 2014 Business Acquisitions and Investment

Pensacola Fuel Injection, Inc. and Annex Manufacturing Acquisitions

In January 2014, we acquired certain assets and assumed certain liabilities of Pensacola Fuel Injection Inc., a privately held company, for \$12.2 million in cash funded by our revolving credit facility. Pensacola Fuel Injection, Inc., located in Pensacola, Florida, remanufactures and distributes a wide range of diesel injectors, diesel pumps and turbo chargers. Prior to the acquisition, we were the primary purchaser of products supplied by the company.

In April 2014, we acquired certain assets and assumed certain liabilities of Annex Manufacturing, a privately held company, for \$11.5 million in cash funded by our revolving credit facility. Annex Manufacturing, located in Fort Worth, Texas, distributes a variety of temperature control products for the automotive aftermarket. Revenues generated from the acquired business were approximately \$22 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, of which approximately 40% of the volume was sold to us.

The allocation of purchase price to assets acquired and liabilities assumed is based upon their fair values. The following table presents the allocation of purchase price to assets acquired and liabilities assumed (in thousands):

	Pensacola Fuel Injection, Inc.	Annex Manufacturing
Purchase price:	\$12,225	\$11,500
Assets acquired and liabilities assumed:		
Receivables	\$—	\$2,581
Inventory	2,815	2,630
Property, plant and equipment, net	466	128
Intangible assets	—	4,760
Goodwill	12,528	4,567
Current liabilities	(3,584)	(3,166)
Net assets acquired	\$12,225	\$11,500

Goodwill related to the Pensacola Fuel Injection, Inc. and Annex Manufacturing acquisitions of \$12.5 million and \$4.6 million, respectively, was allocated to the Engine Management Segment and Temperature Control Segment,

respectively, and is deductible for income tax purposes. The goodwill reflects business specific knowledge and the replacement cost of an assembled workforce, as well as the value of expected synergies.

Intangible assets acquired in the Annex Manufacturing acquisition consisted of customer relationships of \$4.7 million that will be amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of 7 years and non-compete agreements of \$0.1 million that will be amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of 5 years.

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Revenues included in our consolidated statements of operations for the Annex Manufacturing acquisition from the date of acquisition through December 31, 2014 were \$8.5 million. Revenues from the Pensacola Fuel Injection, Inc. acquisition from the date of acquisition were not material.

Foshan GWO YNG SMP Vehicle Climate Control & Cooling Products Co. Ltd. Equity Investment

In April 2014, we formed a 50/50 joint venture with Gwo Yng Enterprise Co., Ltd., a China-based manufacturer of air conditioning accumulators, filter driers, hose assemblies, and switches for the automotive aftermarket and OEM/OES markets. We acquired our 50% interest in the joint venture for \$14 million in cash funded by our revolving credit facility. We determined that due to a lack of a voting majority and other qualitative factors, we do not control the operations of the joint venture and accordingly, our investment in the joint venture is accounted for under the equity method of accounting.

2013 Business Acquisition and Investment

Orange Electronic Equity Investment

In January 2013, we acquired an approximate 25% minority interest in Orange Electronic Co., Ltd. for \$6.3 million in cash funded by our revolving credit facility. Orange Electronic Co., Ltd. is a manufacturer of tire pressure monitoring system sensors and is located in Taiwan. Our minority interest in Orange Electronic Co., Ltd. is accounted for under the equity method of accounting.

European OE Business Acquisition

In February 2013, we acquired the original equipment business of Standard Motor Products Holdings Ltd. ("SMP Europe"), our former affiliate in the U.K., for £4.2 million (\$6.5 million) in cash funded by our revolving credit facility. SMP Europe was a distributor of original equipment parts that were primarily manufactured in our Bialystok, Poland manufacturing facility.

Intangible assets acquired in the acquisition consisted of \$3.8 million of customer relationships that will be amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of 10 years and goodwill of \$2 million. Goodwill related to the acquisition was allocated to the Engine Management Segment. The goodwill reflects business specific knowledge, replacement cost of an assembled workforce, as well as the value of expected synergies.

Revenues included in our consolidated statements of operations for the SMP Europe acquisition from the date of acquisition through December 31, 2013 and during the year ended December 31, 2014 were not material.

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## 3. Restructuring and Integration Costs

The aggregated liabilities included in “sundry payables and accrued expenses” and “other accrued liabilities” in the consolidated balance sheet relating to the restructuring and integration activities as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, consisted of the following (in thousands):

	Workforce Reduction	Other Exit Costs	Total
Exit activity liability at December 31, 2012	\$ 2,226	\$ 1,553	\$ 3,779
Restructuring and integration costs:			
Amounts provided for during 2013	2,446	911	3,357
Non-cash usage, including asset write-downs	—	(398 )	(398 )
Cash payments	(1,872 )	(1,124 )	(2,996)
Exit activity liability at December 31, 2013	\$ 2,800	\$ 942	\$ 3,742
Restructuring and integration costs:			
Amounts provided for during 2014	639	558	1,197
Non-cash usage, including asset write-downs	—	(17 )	(17 )
Cash payments	(2,492 )	(754 )	(3,246)
Exit activity liability at December 31, 2014	\$ 947	\$ 729	\$ 1,676

During 2013, we offered a voluntary separation incentive program to certain eligible employees to reduce costs and improve our operating efficiency. Eligible employees, who accepted the program, received enhanced severance and other retiree benefit enhancements. In connection with the program, we had recorded a charge of \$1.8 million during the year ended December 31, 2013.

Liabilities associated with the remaining restructuring and integration costs as of December 31, 2014 relate primarily to employee severance and other retiree benefit enhancements to be paid through 2018 and environmental clean-up costs at our Long Island City, New York location in connection with the closure of our manufacturing operations at the site.

## 4. Sale of Receivables

From time to time, we sell undivided interests in certain of our receivables to financial institutions. We enter these agreements at our discretion when we determine that the cost of factoring is less than the cost of servicing our receivables with existing debt. Under the terms of the agreements, we retain no rights or interest, have no obligations with respect to the sold receivables, and do not service the receivables after the sale. As such, these transactions are being accounted for as a sale.

Pursuant to these agreements, we sold \$690.3 million and \$672.8 million of receivables for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. A charge in the amount of \$13.1 million, \$13.9 million and \$13.7 million related to the sale of receivables is included in selling, general and administrative expenses in our consolidated statements of operations for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. If we do not enter into these arrangements or if any of the financial institutions with which we enter into these arrangements were to experience financial difficulties or otherwise terminate these arrangements, our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows could be materially and adversely affected by delays or failures to collect future trade accounts receivable.



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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

## 5. Inventories, Net

	December 31,	
	2014	2013
	(In thousands)	
Finished goods, net	\$185,655	\$181,735
Work-in-process, net	4,722	4,984
Raw materials, net	87,674	82,728
Total inventories, net	\$278,051	\$269,447

## 6. Property, Plant and Equipment

	December 31,	
	2014	2013
	(In thousands)	
Land, buildings and improvements	\$45,050	\$44,930
Machinery and equipment	128,998	128,796
Tools, dies and auxiliary equipment	40,352	36,324
Furniture and fixtures	23,830	23,508
Leasehold improvements	7,436	6,840
Construction-in-progress	7,409	5,917
Total property, plant and equipment	253,075	246,315
Less accumulated depreciation	188,464	182,669
Total property, plant and equipment, net	\$64,611	\$63,646

Depreciation expense was \$11.8 million in 2014, \$12 million in 2013 and \$11.2 million 2012.

## 7. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

## Goodwill

We assess the impairment of long lived and identifiable intangibles assets and goodwill whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. With respect to goodwill, we test for impairment on an annual basis or in interim periods if an event occurs or circumstances change that may indicate the fair value of a reporting unit is below its carrying amount. We completed our annual impairment test of goodwill as of December 31, 2014.

When performing our evaluation of goodwill for impairment, if we conclude qualitatively that it is not more likely than not that the fair value of the reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, then the two-step impairment test is not required. If we are unable to reach this conclusion, then we would perform the two-step impairment test. We have decided to perform the two-step impairment test for goodwill at both the Engine Management and Temperature Control reporting units at December 31, 2014. The first step of the impairment analysis consists of a comparison of the fair value of the reporting units with their respective carrying amounts, including goodwill. If the fair value of the reporting unit exceeds the carrying amount of the reporting unit, step two of the impairment analysis is not required. The fair values of the Engine Management and Temperature Control reporting units were determined based upon the Income Approach, which estimates the fair value based on future discounted cash flows, and the Market Approach, which estimates the fair value based on market prices of comparable companies. We base our fair value estimates on

projected financial information which we believe to be reasonable. We also considered our total market capitalization as of December 31, 2014. Our December 31, 2014 annual goodwill impairment analysis did not result in an impairment charge as it was determined that the fair values of our Engine Management and Temperature Control reporting units were in excess of their carrying amounts. While the fair values exceed the carrying amounts at the present time and we do not believe that impairments are probable, the performance of the business and brands require continued improvement in future periods to sustain their carrying values.



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Changes in the carrying values of goodwill by operating segment during the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 are as follows (in thousands):

	Engine Management	Temperature Control	Total
Balance as of December 31, 2012			
Goodwill	\$ 64,612	\$ 9,703	\$74,315
Accumulated impairment losses	(38,488 )	—	(38,488)
	\$ 26,124	\$ 9,703	\$35,827
Activity in 2013			
Acquisition of European OE Business	\$ 2,027	\$ —	\$2,027
Foreign currency exchange rate change	151	—	151
Balance as of December 31, 2013			
Goodwill	66,790	9,703	76,493
Accumulated impairment losses	(38,488 )	—	(38,488)
	\$ 28,302	\$ 9,703	\$38,005
Activity in 2014			
Acquisition of assets of Pensacola Fuel Injection, Inc.	\$ 12,528	\$ —	\$12,528
Acquisition of assets of Annex Manufacturing	—	4,567	4,567
Foreign currency exchange rate change	(125 )	—	(125 )
Balance as of December 31, 2014			
Goodwill	79,193	14,270	93,463
Accumulated impairment losses	(38,488 )	—	(38,488)
	\$ 40,705	\$ 14,270	\$54,975

In January 2014, we acquired certain assets and assumed certain liabilities of Pensacola Fuel Injection, Inc., a privately held company, for \$12.2 million. The purchase price exceeded the fair value of the acquired net assets and accordingly, \$12.5 million was allocated to goodwill in our consolidated balance sheet.

In April 2014, we acquired certain assets and assumed certain liabilities of Annex Manufacturing, a privately held company, for \$11.5 million. The purchase price exceeded the fair value of the acquired net assets and accordingly, \$4.6 million was allocated to goodwill in our consolidated balance sheet.

In February 2013, we acquired the original equipment business of SMP Europe, our former affiliate in the U.K., for £4.2 million (\$6.5 million). The purchase price exceeded the fair value of the acquired net assets and accordingly, \$2 million was allocated to goodwill in our consolidated balance sheet.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

## Acquired Intangible Assets

Acquired identifiable intangible assets as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 consist of:

	December 31,	
	2014	2013
	(In thousands)	
Customer relationships	\$48,646	\$44,179
Trademarks and trade names	6,800	6,800
Non-compete agreements	970	910
Patents and supply contracts	723	723
Leaseholds	160	160
Total acquired intangible assets	57,299	52,772
Less accumulated amortization (1)	(24,120)	(19,202)
Net acquired intangible assets	\$33,179	\$33,570

(1) Applies to all intangible assets, except for related trademarks and trade names totaling \$5.2 million, which have indefinite useful lives and, as such, are not being amortized.

In April 2014, we acquired certain assets and assumed certain liabilities of Annex Manufacturing. Intangible assets acquired consisted of customer relationships of \$4.7 million that will be amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of 7 years and non-compete agreements of \$0.1 million that will be amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of 5 years.

In February 2013, we acquired the original equipment business of SMP Europe, our former affiliate in the U.K. Intangible assets acquired in the acquisition consist of \$3.8 million of customer relationships that will be amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of 10 years.

Total amortization expense for acquired intangible assets was \$5 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, \$5 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, and \$4.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. Based on the current estimated useful lives assigned to our intangible assets, amortization expense is estimated to be \$5 million for 2015, \$4.9 million in 2016, \$4.7 million in 2017 and \$13.4 million in the aggregate for the years 2018 through 2028.

## Other Intangible Assets

Other intangible assets include computer software. As of December 31, 2014 and 2013, these costs totaled \$17.2 million and \$16.8 million, respectively, and total accumulated computer software amortization was \$16 million and \$15.5 million, respectively. Computer software is amortized over its estimated useful life of 3 to 10 years. Amortization expense for computer software was \$0.5 million, \$0.6 million and \$0.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

## 8. Other Assets

	December 31,	
	2014	2013
	(In thousands)	
Equity in joint ventures	\$20,004	\$6,308

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Deferred financing costs, net	1,570	2,275
Long term receivables	6,513	5,047
Other	10,502	9,026
Total other assets, net	\$38,589	\$22,656

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Included in the above caption "Other" is \$9.8 million and \$8.3 million of assets held in a nonqualified defined contribution pension plan for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

## Equity Method Investments

In April 2014, we formed a 50/50 joint venture with Gwo Yng Enterprise Co., Ltd., a China-based manufacturer of air conditioner accumulators, filter driers, hose assemblies and switches for the automotive aftermarket and OEM/OES markets. We acquired our 50% interest in the joint venture for \$14 million. We determined that due to a lack of a voting majority and other qualitative factors, we do not control the operations of the joint venture and accordingly, our investment in the joint venture is accounted for under the equity method of accounting.

In January 2013, we acquired an approximate 25% minority interest in Orange Electronic Co., Ltd. for \$6.3 million. Orange Electronic Co., Ltd. is a manufacturer of tire pressure monitoring system sensors and is located in Taiwan. Our minority interest in Orange Electronic Co., Ltd. is accounted for using the equity method of accounting.

## 9. Credit Facilities and Long-Term Debt

Total debt outstanding is summarized as follows:

	December 31,	
	2014	2013
	(In thousands)	
Revolving credit facilities	\$56,558	\$21,406
Other	258	75
Total debt	\$56,816	\$21,481
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$56,733	\$21,465
Long-term debt	83	16
Total debt	\$56,816	\$21,481

Maturities of long-term debt are \$0.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2015. Maturities of long-term debt beyond December 31, 2015 are not material.

## Deferred Financing Costs

We had deferred financing costs of \$2.3 million and \$3 million as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Deferred financing costs as of December 31, 2014 are related to our revolving credit facility. In connection with the amendment to our revolving credit facility in May 2013, we incurred and capitalized \$1.3 million of costs related to bank, legal and other professional fees which are being amortized through 2018, the remaining term of the amended revolving credit facility.

Scheduled amortization for future years, assuming no further prepayments of principal is as follows:

(In thousands)	
2015	\$697
2016	697
2017	697

2018	176
Total amortization	\$2,267

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Revolving Credit Facility

We have entered into the Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement with General Electric Capital Corporation, as agent, and a syndicate of lenders for a secured revolving credit facility. The restated credit agreement (as amended) provides for a line of credit of up to \$250 million (inclusive of the Canadian revolving credit facility described below) and expires in March 2018. Direct borrowings under the restated credit agreement bear interest at the LIBOR rate plus the applicable margin (as defined), or floating at the index rate plus the applicable margin, at our option. The interest rate may vary depending upon our borrowing availability. The restated credit agreement is guaranteed by certain of our subsidiaries and secured by certain of our assets.

In February 2013, we amended the restated credit agreement to provide us with greater flexibility regarding the payment of cash dividends and stock repurchases. In May 2013, we further amended our restated credit agreement (1) to extend the maturity date of our credit facility to March 2018; (2) to increase the line of credit from \$200 million to \$250 million (inclusive of the Canadian revolving credit facility described below); (3) to reduce the margin added to the LIBOR rate to 1.50% - 2%; (4) to reduce the margin added to the index rate to 0.50% - 1%; (5) to reduce the unused fee to 0.25%; and (6) to provide us with greater flexibility regarding acquisitions, other permissible debt financing, cash held and capital expenditures, among other matters.

Borrowings under the restated credit agreement are collateralized by substantially all of our assets, including accounts receivable, inventory and fixed assets, and those of certain of our subsidiaries. After taking into account outstanding borrowings under the restated credit agreement, there was an additional \$127.3 million available for us to borrow pursuant to the formula at December 31, 2014. Outstanding borrowings under the restated credit agreement (inclusive of the Canadian revolving credit facility described below), which are classified as current liabilities, were \$56.6 million and \$21.4 million at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Borrowings under the restated credit agreement have been classified as current liabilities based upon the accounting rules and certain provisions in the agreement.

At December 31, 2014, the weighted average interest rate on our restated credit agreement was 1.8%, which consisted of \$53 million in direct borrowings at 1.7% and an index loan of \$3.6 million at 3.8%. At December 31, 2013, the weighted average interest rate on our restated credit agreement was 2%, which consisted of \$18 million in direct borrowings at 1.7% and an index loan of \$3.4 million at 3.8%. During 2014 and 2013, our average daily index loan balance was \$4.4 million and \$4.1 million, respectively.

At any time that our average borrowing availability is less than \$25 million, the terms of our restated credit agreement provide for, among other provisions, a financial covenant requiring us, on a consolidated basis, to maintain specified levels of fixed charge coverage at the end of each fiscal quarter (rolling twelve months). As of December 31, 2014, we were not subject to these covenants. Availability under our restated credit agreement is based on a formula of eligible accounts receivable, eligible inventory and eligible fixed assets. Our restated credit agreement also permits dividends and distributions by us provided specific conditions are met.

Canadian Revolving Credit Facility

Our Canadian Credit Agreement with GE Canada Finance Holding Company, for itself and as agent for the lenders provides for a \$10 million revolving credit facility. The Canadian \$10 million line of credit is part of the \$250 million available for borrowing under our restated credit agreement with General Electric Capital Corporation.

In May 2013, we amended our Canadian Credit Agreement to extend the maturity date of the agreement to March 2018 and modify certain provisions, including interest rates, to parallel the revolving credit provisions of the restated credit agreement (described above). The amended credit agreement is guaranteed and secured by us and certain of our wholly-owned subsidiaries. Direct borrowings under the amended credit agreement bear interest at the same rate as our restated credit agreement with General Electric Capital Corporation. As of December 31, 2014, we have no outstanding borrowings under the Canadian Credit Agreement.

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10. Stockholders' Equity

We have authority to issue 500,000 shares of preferred stock, \$20 par value, and our Board of Directors is vested with the authority to establish and designate any series of preferred, to fix the number of shares therein and the variations in relative rights as between each series. In December 1995, our Board of Directors established a new series of preferred shares designated as Series A Participating Preferred Stock. The number of shares constituting the Series A Preferred Stock is 30,000. The Series A Preferred Stock is designed to participate in dividends, ranks senior to our common stock as to dividends and liquidation rights and has voting rights. Each share of the Series A Preferred Stock shall entitle the holder to one thousand votes on all matters submitted to a vote of the stockholders of the Company. No such shares were outstanding at December 31, 2014 and 2013.

In May 2012, our Board of Directors authorized the purchase of up to \$5 million of our common stock under a stock repurchase program. Under this program, during the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, we repurchased 30,601 shares and 312,527 shares, respectively, of our common stock at a total cost of \$0.9 million and \$4.1 million, respectively. No stock repurchases remain available under the 2012 program as the entire \$5 million was utilized.

In February 2013, our Board of Directors authorized the purchase of up to an additional \$6 million of our common stock under a stock repurchase program. During the year ended December 31, 2013, we repurchased 179,372 shares of our common stock under this program at a total cost of \$6 million. No stock repurchases remain available under the 2013 program as the entire \$6 million was utilized.

In February 2014, our Board of Directors authorized the purchase of up to an additional \$10 million of our common stock under a stock repurchase program. During the year ended December 31, 2014, we repurchased 284,284 shares of our common stock under this program at a total cost of \$10 million. No stock repurchases remain available under the 2014 program as the entire \$10 million was utilized.

In February 2015, our Board of Directors authorized the purchase of up to an additional \$10 million of our common stock under a stock repurchase program. Stock will be purchased from time to time, in the open market or through private transactions, as market conditions warrant.



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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

## 11. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income

## Changes in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income by Component

	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments	Unrecognized Pension and Postretirement Benefit Costs (Credit)	Total
Balance at December 31, 2012	\$ 4,663	\$ (784 )	\$3,879
Other comprehensive income before reclassifications	(1,101 )	(375 )	(1,476)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income	—	(617 )	(617 )
Other comprehensive income, net	(1,101 )	(992 )	(2,093)
Balance at December 31, 2013	\$ 3,562	\$ (1,776 )	\$1,786
Other comprehensive income before reclassifications	(3,781 )	(447 )	(4,228)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income	—	(210 )	(210 )
Other comprehensive income, net	(3,781 )	(657 )	(4,438)
Balance at December 31, 2014	\$ (219 )	\$ (2,433 )	\$ (2,652)

## Reclassifications Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income

Details About Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income Components	Year Ended December 31,	
	2014	2013
Amortization of pension and postretirement benefit plans:		
Prior service benefit (1)	\$(3,017)	\$(4,317)
Unrecognized loss (1)	2,435	3,123
Total before income tax	(582 )	(1,194)
Income tax benefit	372	577
Total reclassifications for the period	\$(210 )	\$(617 )

These accumulated other comprehensive income components are included in the computation of net periodic (1)pension and postretirement benefit costs, which are included in selling, general and administrative expenses in our consolidated statements of operations (see Notes 13 and 14 for additional details).

## 12. Stock-Based Compensation Plans

Our stock-based compensation program is a broad-based program designed to attract and retain employees while also aligning employees' interests with the interests of our shareholders. In addition, members of our Board of Directors participate in our stock-based compensation program in connection with their service on our board. During 2014, we had three active stock-based compensation plans.

We account for our stock-based compensation plans in accordance with the provisions of FASB ASC 718, Stock Compensation, which requires that a company measure the cost of employee services received in exchange for an award of equity instruments based on the grant-date fair value of the award. The service period is the period of time that the grantee must provide services to us before the stock-based compensation is fully vested.



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Under the 2006 Omnibus Incentive Plan, which terminates in May 2016, we are authorized to issue, among other things, stock options, shares of restricted and performance based stock to eligible employees and directors of up to 1,900,000 shares of common stock. Stock options forfeited under the previous stock option plans and equity awards under the incentive plan are eligible to be granted again under the 2006 Omnibus Incentive Plan with respect to stock options and equity awards so forfeited.

Stock-based compensation expense under our existing plans was \$4.3 million (\$2.8 million, net of tax) or \$0.12 per basic and diluted share, \$3.2 million (\$2 million, net of tax) or \$0.09 per basic and diluted share, and \$1.9 million (\$1.2 million, net of tax) or \$0.05 per basic and diluted share for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

## Stock Option Grants

Under the 2004 Omnibus Stock Option Plan, we were authorized to issue options to purchase 500,000 shares of common stock. The options become exercisable over a three to five year period and expire at the end of ten years following the date of grant. At December 31, 2014, there were options outstanding to purchase an aggregate of 7,875 shares of common stock.

Under the 2004 Independent Directors' Stock Option Plan, we were authorized to issue options to purchase an additional 50,000 shares of common stock. The options become exercisable one year after the date of grant and expire at the end of ten years following the date of grant. At December 31, 2014, there were options outstanding to purchase an aggregate of 2,000 shares of common stock.

At December 31, 2014, under all of our stock option plans, there were outstanding options to purchase an aggregate of 9,875 shares of common stock. There were no options outstanding to purchase shares of common stock granted under the 2006 Omnibus Incentive Plan.

The following is a summary of the changes in outstanding stock options for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013:

	Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (Years)
Outstanding at December 31, 2012	29,150	\$ 12.20	1.9
Expired	—	—	—
Exercised	(12,275)	12.29	—
Forfeited, other	—	—	—
Outstanding at December 31, 2013	16,875	12.14	1.0
Expired	—	—	—
Exercised	(7,000 )	13.76	—
Forfeited, other	—	—	—
Outstanding at December 31, 2014	9,875	10.99	0.4

Options exercisable at December 31, 2014    9,875    \$ 10.99    0.4

The aggregate intrinsic value of all outstanding stock options as of December 31, 2014 was \$0.3 million. All outstanding stock options as of December 31, 2014 are fully vested and exercisable. The total intrinsic value of options exercised was \$0.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013. There were no stock options granted in 2014.

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Restricted Stock and Performance Share Grants

As part of the 2006 Omnibus Incentive Plan, we currently grant shares of restricted stock to eligible employees and our independent directors and performance-based stock to eligible employees. Selected executives and other key personnel are granted performance awards whose vesting is contingent upon meeting various performance measures with a retention feature. Performance-based shares are subject to a three year measuring period and the achievement of performance targets and, depending upon the achievement of such performance targets, they may become vested on the third anniversary of the date of grant. Each period we evaluate the probability of achieving the applicable targets and we adjust our accrual accordingly. Restricted shares granted to employees become fully vested upon the third anniversary of the date of grant; and for selected key executives certain additional restricted share grants vest 25% upon the attainment of age 60, 25% upon the attainment of age 63 and become fully vested upon the attainment of age 65. Restricted shares granted to directors become fully vested upon the first anniversary of the date of grant.

Prior to the time a restricted share becomes fully vested or a performance share is issued, the awardees cannot transfer, pledge, hypothecate or encumber such shares. Prior to the time a restricted share is fully vested, the awardees have all other rights of a stockholder, including the right to vote (but not receive dividends during the vesting period). Prior to the time a performance share is issued, the awardees shall have no rights as a stockholder. All shares and rights are subject to forfeiture if certain employment conditions are not met.

Under the 2006 Omnibus Incentive Plan, 1,900,000 shares are authorized to be issued. At December 31, 2014, under the plan, there were an aggregate of (a) 1,388,802 shares of restricted and performance-based stock grants issued, net of forfeitures, and (b) 511,198 shares of common stock available for future grants. For the year ended December 31, 2014, 256,443 restricted and performance-based shares were granted (210,193 restricted shares and 46,250 performance-based shares), and for the year ended December 31, 2013, 215,975 restricted and performance-based shares were granted (172,975 restricted shares and 43,000 performance-based shares).

In determining the grant date fair value, the stock price on the date of grant, as quoted on the New York Stock Exchange, was reduced by the present value of dividends expected to be paid on the shares issued and outstanding during the requisite service period, discounted at a risk-free interest rate. The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury rates at the date of grant with maturity dates approximately equal to the restriction or vesting period at the grant date. The fair value of the shares at the date of grant is amortized to expense ratably over the restriction period. Forfeitures on restricted stock grants are estimated at 5% for employees and 0% for executives and directors, respectively, based on evaluation of historical and expected future turnover.

As related to restricted and performance stock shares, we recorded compensation expense of \$4.3 million (\$2.8 million, net of tax), \$3.2 million (\$2 million, net of tax) and \$1.9 million (\$1.2 million, net of tax), for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The unamortized compensation expense related to our restricted and performance-based shares was \$11.8 million and \$9.5 million at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively and is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 5.1 years and 0.3 years for employees and directors, respectively, as of December 31, 2014 and over a weighted average period of 5.6 years and 0.3 years for employees and directors, respectively, as of December 31, 2013.

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Our restricted and performance-based share activity was as follows for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013:

	Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value per Share
Balance at December 31, 2012	533,625	\$ 13.03
Granted	215,975	30.53
Vested	(108,875)	10.33
Forfeited	(10,125 )	14.49
Balance at December 31, 2013	630,600	19.47
Granted	256,443	32.22
Vested	(132,325)	15.50
Forfeited	(5,700 )	18.77
Balance at December 31, 2014	749,018	\$ 24.62

The weighted-average grant date fair value of restricted and performance-based shares outstanding as of December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 was \$18.4 million (or \$24.62 per share), \$12.3 million (or \$19.47 per share), and \$7 million (or \$13.03 per share), respectively.

## 13. Retirement Benefit Plans

## Defined Contribution Plans

We maintain various defined contribution plans, which include profit sharing and provide retirement benefits for substantially all of our employees. Matching obligations, in connection with the plans which are funded in cash and typically contributed to the plans in March of the following year, are as follows (in thousands):

Year ended December 31,	U.S. Defined Contribution
2014	\$ 8,267
2013	8,115
2012	8,100

We maintain an unfunded Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan for key employees. Under the plan, these employees may elect to defer a portion of their compensation and, in addition, we may at our discretion make contributions to the plan on behalf of the employees. In March 2013, contributions of \$0.5 million were made related to calendar year 2012. In March 2014, contributions of \$0.4 million were made related to calendar year 2013. We have recorded an obligation of \$0.5 million for 2014.

We also have an Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust (“ESOP”) for employees who are not covered by a collective bargaining agreement. In connection therewith, we maintain an employee benefits trust to which we contribute shares of treasury stock. We are authorized to instruct the trustees to distribute such shares toward the

satisfaction of our future obligations under the plan. The shares held in trust are not considered outstanding for purposes of calculating earnings per share until they are committed to be released. The trustees will vote the shares in accordance with its fiduciary duties. During 2014, we contributed to the trust an additional 58,570 shares from our treasury and released 58,600 shares from the trust leaving 400 shares remaining in the trust as of December 31, 2014. The provision for expense in connection with the ESOP was approximately \$1.8 million in 2014, \$4.4 million in 2013 and \$3.9 million in 2012.

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## Multi-Employer Benefit Plans

We participate in multi-employer plans which provide defined benefits to unionized workers at certain of our manufacturing facilities. Contributions to the plans are determined in accordance with the provisions of a negotiated labor contract.

## Defined Benefit Pension Plan

We maintain a defined benefit unfunded Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (“SERP”). The SERP, as amended, is a defined benefit plan pursuant to which we will pay supplemental pension benefits to certain key employees upon the attainment of a contractual participant’s payment date based upon the employees’ years of service and compensation. We use a January 1 measurement date for this plan. Benefit obligations as of the end of each year reflect assumptions in effect as of this date.

The benefit obligation, funded status, and amounts recognized in the consolidated financial statements for the SERP, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, were (in thousands):

	Defined Benefit Retirement Plan	
	2014	2013
Change in benefit obligation:		
Benefit obligation at beginning of year	\$5,661	\$4,725
Service cost	164	180
Interest cost	277	235
Actuarial loss	436	521
Benefit obligation at end of year	\$6,538	\$5,661
Unfunded status of the plan	\$(6,538)	\$(5,661)
Amounts recognized in the balance sheet:		
Accrued postretirement benefit liabilities	\$6,538	\$5,661
Accumulated other comprehensive loss (pre-tax) related to:		
Unrecognized net actuarial losses	1,389	1,342
Unrecognized prior service cost	—	—

The unrecognized amounts recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income will be subsequently recognized as expense consistent with our historical accounting policy for amortizing those amounts. Actuarial gains and losses incurred in future periods and not recognized as expense in those periods will be recognized as increases or decreases in other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax. As they are subsequently recognized as a component of expense, the amounts recorded in other comprehensive income (loss) in prior periods are adjusted.



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The following defined benefit plan amounts were included in other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax, during the year ended December 31, 2014 (in thousands):

	Incurred but Not Recognized	Reclassification Adjustment for Prior Period Amounts Recognized
Actuarial gains (losses)		
SERP defined benefit plan	\$ 261	\$ 233
Prior service (cost) credit		
SERP defined benefit plan	—	—
	\$ 261	\$ 233

Unrecognized net actuarial losses included in accumulated other comprehensive income at the end of 2014 and expected to be recognized in net periodic benefit cost during 2015 is \$0.7 million (\$0.4 million, net of tax).

The components of net periodic benefit cost for our defined benefit plan include the following (in thousands):

	December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Defined benefit retirement plan:			
Service cost	\$164	\$180	\$130
Interest cost	277	235	186
Amortization of prior service cost	—	28	110
Amortization of unrecognized loss	388	690	261
Net periodic benefit cost	\$829	\$1,133	\$687

Actuarial assumptions used to determine costs and benefit obligations related to our defined benefit plan are as follows:

	December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Discount rates	4.00%	4.90%	4.00%
Salary increase	N/A	4.00%	4.00%

The Company's discount rate is determined by considering current yield curves representing high quality, long-term fixed income instruments. We set our discount rate for the plan based on a review of the Mercer Pension Discount Yield Curve and Index Rates. We believe that the timing and amount of cash flows related to these instruments is expected to match the estimated defined benefit payment streams of our plan.

For the defined benefit pension plan, the projected benefit obligation ("PBO"), accumulated benefit obligation ("ABO") and fair value of the plan's assets are as follows (in thousands):

	December 31,	
	2014	2013

Projected benefit obligation	\$6,538	\$5,661
Accumulated benefit obligation	6,538	5,123
Fair value of plan assets	—	—

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The following benefit payments, which reflect expected future service, as appropriate, are expected to be paid as follows (in thousands):

	Plan Benefits
2015	\$ 7,143
2016	—
2017	—
2018	—
2019	—
Years 2020 – 2024	—

## 14. Postretirement Medical Benefits

We provide certain medical and dental care benefits to eligible retired U.S. and Canadian employees. Eligibility for U.S. employees is limited to employees hired before 1995. Under the U.S. plan, a Health Reimbursement Account (“HRA”) was established beginning January 1, 2009 for each qualified U.S. retiree. Monthly, a fixed amount is credited into the HRA to cover both medical and dental costs for all current and future eligible retirees. Under the Canadian plan, retiree medical and dental benefits are funded in a pay-as-you-go basis. The postretirement medical plans to substantially all eligible U.S. and Canadian employees will terminate on December 31, 2016. There will be no change to the eligibility or plan provided to the 41 former union employees.

The benefit obligation, funded status, and amounts recognized in the consolidated financial statements for our postretirement medical benefit plans as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, were as follows (in thousands):

	Postretirement Benefit Plans			
	U.S. Plan		Canadian Plan	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Change in benefit obligation:				
Benefit obligation at beginning of year	\$4,960	\$5,950	\$126	\$156
Service cost	1	1	—	—
Interest cost	26	33	4	5
Benefits paid	(772 )	(850 )	(26 )	(21 )
Actuarial loss (gain)	(23 )	(174 )	17	(4 )
Translation adjustment	—	—	(11 )	(10 )
Benefit obligation at end of year	\$4,192	\$4,960	\$110	\$126
(Unfunded) status of the plans	\$(4,192)	\$(4,960)	\$(110)	\$(126)

	Postretirement Benefit Plans			
	U.S. Plan		Canadian Plan	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Amounts recognized in the balance sheet:				
Accrued postretirement benefit liabilities	\$4,192	\$4,960	\$110	\$126

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Accumulated other comprehensive (income) loss (pre-tax) related to:

Unrecognized net actuarial losses (gains)	2,973	5,087	(65 )	(129)
Unrecognized prior service cost (credit)	—	(2,888)	(201)	(335)

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The estimated net loss and prior service cost (credit) that is expected to be amortized from accumulated other comprehensive income into postretirement medical benefits cost during 2015 are \$1.7 million and \$(0.1) million, respectively.

Net periodic benefit cost related to our plans includes the following components (in thousands):

	December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
U.S. postretirement plan:			
Service cost	\$1	\$1	\$4
Interest cost	26	33	81
Amortization of prior service cost	(2,888)	(4,206)	(4,752)
Amortization of unrecognized loss	2,092	2,548	2,887
Net periodic benefit cost	\$(769)	\$(1,624)	\$(1,780)

Canadian postretirement plan:			
Service cost	\$—	\$—	\$—
Interest cost	4	5	5
Amortization of prior service cost	(129)	(140)	(142)
Amortization of net actuarial loss	(45)	(115)	(52)
Net periodic benefit cost	\$(170)	\$(250)	\$(189)
Total net periodic benefit cost	\$(939)	\$(1,874)	\$(1,969)

Actuarial assumptions used to determine costs and benefit obligations related to our U.S. postretirement plan are as follows:

	December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Discount rate	0.55%	0.45%	0.55%

Actuarial assumptions used to determine costs and benefit obligations related to our Canadian postretirement plan are as follows:

	December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Discount rates	3.00 %	3.50 %	3.00 %
Current medical cost trend rate	6.43 %	7.14 %	8.57 %
Ultimate medical cost trend rate	5 %	5 %	5 %
Year trend rate declines to ultimate	2017	2017	2017

The Company's discount rates are determined by considering current yield curves representing high quality, long-term fixed income instruments. We set our discount rate for the U.S. plan based on a review of the Citigroup Pension Discount Curve and the duration of expected payments in the plan. We set our discount rate for the Canadian plan based upon similar benchmarks in Canada.

The following benefit payments which reflect expected future service, as appropriate, are expected to be paid (in thousands):

2015	\$2,257
2016	1,300
2017	68
2018	64
2019	60
Years 2020 – 2024	226

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IndexSTANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Assumed health care cost trend rates have a significant effect on the amounts reported for the health care plans. A one-percentage-point change in assumed health care cost trend rates would have the following effects for 2015 (in thousands):

	1-Percentage- Point Increase	1-Percentage- Point Decrease
Effect on total of service and interest cost components	\$ 1	\$ (1 )
Effect on postretirement benefit obligation	33	(34 )

## 15. Other Non-Operating Income (Expense), Net

The components of other non-operating income (expense), net are as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
	(In thousands)		
Interest and dividend income	\$296	\$302	\$167
Equity income (loss) from joint ventures	(822 )	(285 )	—
Gain (loss) on foreign exchange	(1,562)	(143)	(380)
Other income (expense), net	119	127	(483)
Total other non-operating income (expense), net	\$(1,969)	\$1	\$(696)

## 16. Income Taxes

The income tax provision (benefit) consists of the following (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Current:			
Domestic	\$30,415	\$31,220	\$17,791
Foreign	3,740	1,706	1,362
Total current	34,155	32,926	19,153
Deferred:			
Domestic	(4,732 )	(1,178 )	5,909
Foreign	(569 )	171	(84 )
Total deferred	(5,301 )	(1,007 )	5,825
Total income tax provision	\$28,854	\$31,919	\$24,978

We have not provided for U.S. income taxes on the undistributed earnings of our foreign subsidiaries that are deferred from U.S. income taxation and that we intend to be permanently reinvested. Cumulative undistributed earnings of foreign subsidiaries on which no U.S. income tax has been provided were \$35.2 million at the end of 2014, \$25.5 million at the end of 2013 and \$27.6 million at the end of 2012. Earnings before income taxes for foreign operations amounted to approximately \$11.6 million, \$6.4 million and \$4.4 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.





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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Reconciliations between taxes at the U.S. Federal income tax rate and taxes at our effective income tax rate on earnings from continuing operations before income taxes are as follows (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
U.S. Federal income tax rate of 35%	\$28,614	\$29,737	\$23,781
Increase (decrease) in tax rate resulting from:			
State and local income taxes, net of federal income tax benefit	2,309	2,936	2,021
Income tax (tax benefits) attributable to foreign income	(1,511 )	(428 )	(852 )
Change in unrecognized tax benefits	(350 )	—	—
Other non-deductible items, net	134	(806 )	697
Change in valuation allowance	(342 )	480	(669 )
Provision for income taxes	\$28,854	\$31,919	\$24,978

The following is a summary of the components of the net deferred tax assets and liabilities recognized in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets (in thousands):

	December 31,	
	2014	2013
Deferred tax assets:		
Inventories	\$17,529	\$16,801
Allowance for customer returns	11,409	11,622
Postretirement benefits	2,155	2,446
Allowance for doubtful accounts	2,347	2,592
Accrued salaries and benefits	10,802	9,110
Capital loss	234	5,999
Tax credit carryforwards	313	695
Deferred gain on building sale	1,299	1,713
Accrued asbestos liabilities	13,625	9,780
	59,713	60,758
Valuation allowance (1)	(353 )	(6,694 )
Total deferred tax assets	59,360	54,064
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Depreciation	7,023	7,583
Promotional costs	124	187
Other	738	383
Total deferred tax liabilities	7,885	8,153
Net deferred tax assets	\$51,475	\$45,911

(1) Current net deferred tax assets are \$36.6 million and \$35.6 million for 2014 and 2013, respectively. Non-current net deferred tax assets are \$14.9 million and \$10.3 million for 2014 and 2013, respectively. The tax valuation allowance was allocated to long term deferred tax assets in the amounts of \$0.4 million and \$6.7 million in 2014 and 2013, respectively. None of the valuation allowance was allocated to current deferred tax assets in 2014 and 2013. The valuation allowance was reduced by \$6 million due to the expiration of the statute of limitations relating to a capital loss carryover.

In assessing the realizability of the deferred tax assets, we consider whether it is more likely than not that some portion or the entire deferred tax asset will be realized. Ultimately, the realization of the deferred tax asset is dependent upon the generation of sufficient taxable income in those periods in which temporary differences become deductible and/or net operating loss carryforwards can be utilized. We consider the level of historical taxable income, scheduled reversal of temporary differences, carryback and carryforward periods, tax planning strategies and projected future taxable income in determining whether a valuation allowance is warranted. We also consider cumulative losses in recent years as well as the impact of one-time events in assessing our pre-tax earnings. Assumptions regarding future taxable income require significant judgment. Our assumptions are consistent with estimates and plans used to manage our business.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

The valuation allowance of \$0.4 million as of December 31, 2014 was intended to provide for uncertainty regarding the ultimate realization of our U.S. foreign tax credit carryovers, state investment tax credit carryovers and foreign net operating loss carryovers. Based on these considerations, we believed it was more likely than not that we would realize the benefit of the net deferred tax asset of \$51.5 million as of December 31, 2014, which was net of the remaining valuation allowance.

At December 31, 2014, we have foreign tax credit carryforwards of approximately \$0.3 million that will expire in varying amounts by 2022.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of unrecognized tax benefits is as follows (in thousands):

Balance at January 1, 2013	\$350
Increase based on tax positions taken in the current year	—
Decrease based on tax positions taken in the current year	—
Balance at December 31, 2013	350
Increase based on tax positions taken in the current year	—
Decrease based on tax positions taken in the current year	(350)
Balance at December 31, 2014	\$—

The amount of uncertain tax positions recognized in the current year reduced our annual effective tax rate by 0.43%.

We are subject to taxation in the U.S. and various state, local and foreign jurisdictions. As of December 31, 2014, the Company is no longer subject to U.S. Federal tax examinations for years before 2011. We remain subject to examination by state and local tax authorities for tax years 2010 through 2014. Foreign jurisdictions have statutes of limitations generally ranging from 2 to 6 years. Years still open to examination by foreign tax authorities in major jurisdictions include Canada (2010 onward), Hong Kong (2009 onward) and Poland (2009 onward). We do not presently anticipate that our unrecognized tax benefits will significantly increase or decrease prior to September 15, 2015, the due date for the U.S. Federal tax return; however, actual developments in this area could differ from those currently expected.

## 17. Industry Segment and Geographic Data

We have two major reportable operating segments, each of which focuses on a specific line of replacement parts. Our Engine Management Segment manufactures and remanufactures ignition and emission parts, ignition wires, battery cables, fuel system parts and sensors for vehicle systems. Our Temperature Control Segment manufactures and remanufactures air conditioning compressors, air conditioning and heating parts, engine cooling system parts, power window accessories and windshield washer system parts.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

The accounting policies of each segment are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies (see Note 1). The following tables contain financial information for each reportable segment (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Net sales:			
Engine Management	\$709,263	\$711,245	\$665,105
Temperature Control	259,065	262,537	268,804
Other	12,064	9,922	15,007
Total net sales	\$980,392	\$983,704	\$948,916
Intersegment sales:			
Engine Management	\$23,633	\$25,720	\$18,234
Temperature Control	6,966	6,329	4,804
Other	(30,599)	(32,049)	(23,038)
Total intersegment sales	\$—	\$—	\$—
Depreciation and amortization:			
Engine Management	\$12,425	\$13,235	\$13,093
Temperature Control	4,171	3,763	2,924
Other	699	597	449
Total depreciation and amortization	\$17,295	\$17,595	\$16,466
Operating income (loss):			
Engine Management	\$103,861	\$96,335	\$69,578
Temperature Control	6,445	9,147	15,019
Other	(24,968)	(18,619)	(13,166)
Total operating income	\$85,338	\$86,863	\$71,431
Investment in equity affiliates:			
Engine Management	\$6,368	\$6,308	\$—
Temperature Control	13,636	—	—
Other	—	—	—
Total investment in equity affiliates	\$20,004	\$6,308	\$—
Capital expenditures:			
Engine Management	\$11,182	\$8,628	\$8,941
Temperature Control	2,650	2,682	2,005
Other	72	100	865
Total capital expenditures	\$13,904	\$11,410	\$11,811
Total assets:			
Engine Management	\$409,275	\$384,712	\$362,824
Temperature Control	173,070	150,280	132,644
Other	91,206	80,531	81,126
Total assets	\$673,551	\$615,523	\$576,594



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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Other consists of items pertaining to our corporate headquarters function, as well as our Canadian business unit that does not meet the criteria of a reportable operating segment.

Reconciliation of segment operating income to net earnings (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Operating income	\$85,338	\$86,863	\$71,431
Other non-operating income (expense)	(1,969 )	1	(696 )
Interest expense	1,616	1,902	2,788
Earnings from continuing operations before taxes	81,753	84,962	67,947
Income tax expense	28,854	31,919	24,978
Earnings from continuing operations	52,899	53,043	42,969
Discontinued operations, net of tax	(9,870 )	(1,593 )	(1,616 )
Net earnings	\$43,029	\$51,450	\$41,353

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Revenues:	(In thousands)		
United States	\$871,665	\$884,380	\$865,861
Canada	53,412	51,853	50,215
Europe	13,299	10,657	8,093
Other foreign	42,016	36,814	24,747
Total revenues	\$980,392	\$983,704	\$948,916

	December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Long-lived assets:	(In thousands)		
United States	\$158,350	\$135,834	\$137,240
Canada	1,546	1,526	1,658
Europe	11,725	11,310	4,161
Other foreign	20,957	10,497	3,897
Total long-lived assets	\$192,578	\$159,167	\$146,956

Revenues are attributed to countries based upon the location of the customer. Long-lived assets are attributed to countries based upon the location of the assets.

Our five largest individual customers, including members of a marketing group, accounted for approximately 68% of our consolidated net sales in 2014, 66% of our consolidated net sales in 2013 and 64% of our consolidated net sales in 2012. During 2014, O'Reilly Automotive, Inc., NAPA Auto Parts, Advance Auto Parts, Inc., and AutoZone, Inc. accounted for 19%, 19%, 16% and 10% of our consolidated net sales, respectively. Net sales from each of the customers were reported in both our Engine Management and Temperature Control Segments.

## 18. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

We follow a three-level fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to measure fair value. This hierarchy requires entities to maximize the use of "observable inputs" and minimize the use of "unobservable inputs." The three levels of

inputs used to measure fair value are as follows:

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets as of the measurement date.

Level 2: Significant other observable inputs other than Level 1 prices such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data.

Level 3: Significant unobservable inputs that reflect assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability.

The following is a summary of the carrying amounts and estimated fair values of our financial instruments at December 31, 2014 and 2013 (in thousands):

	December 31, 2014		December 31, 2013	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
Cash and cash equivalents	\$13,728	\$13,728	\$5,559	\$5,559
Deferred compensation	9,811	9,811	8,289	8,289
Short term borrowings	56,733	56,733	21,465	21,465
Long-term debt	83	83	16	16

For fair value purposes the carrying value of cash and cash equivalents approximates fair value due to the short maturity of those investments. The fair value of the underlying assets held by the deferred compensation plan are based on the quoted market prices of the funds in registered investment companies, which are considered Level 1 inputs. The carrying value of our revolving credit facilities, classified as short term borrowings, equals fair market value because the interest rate reflects current market rates.

## 19. Commitments and Contingencies

Total rent expense for the three years ended December 31, 2014 was as follows (in thousands):

	Total	Real Estate	Other
2014	\$10,107	\$7,760	\$2,347
2013	10,324	7,841	2,483
2012	10,695	7,829	2,866

At December 31, 2014, we are obligated to make minimum rental payments through 2022, under operating leases, which are as follows (in thousands):

2015	\$7,629
2016	6,235
2017	4,008
2018	2,293
2019	865
Thereafter	1,356



Total \$22,386

We generally warrant our products against certain manufacturing and other defects. These product warranties are provided for specific periods of time depending on the nature of the product. As of December 31, 2014 and 2013, we have accrued \$19.3 million and \$18 million, respectively, for estimated product warranty claims included in accrued customer returns. The accrued product warranty costs are based primarily on historical experience of actual warranty claims. Warranty expense for each of the years 2014, 2013 and 2012 were \$84.5 million, \$78.1 million and \$76.5 million, respectively.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

The following table provides the changes in our product warranties:

	December 31,	
	2014	2013
	(In thousands)	
Balance, beginning of period	\$18,041	\$17,288
Liabilities accrued for current year sales	84,480	78,058
Settlements of warranty claims	(83,193)	(77,305)
Balance, end of period	\$19,328	\$18,041

## Letters of Credit

At December 31, 2014, we had outstanding letters of credit with certain vendors aggregating approximately \$4.5 million. These letters of credit are being maintained as security for reimbursements to insurance companies and as security to the landlord of our administrative offices in Long Island City, New York. The contract amount of the letters of credit is a reasonable estimate of their value as the value for each is fixed over the life of the commitment.

## Change of Control Arrangements

We entered into change in control arrangements with two key officers. In the event of a change of control (as defined in the agreement), each executive will receive severance payments and certain other benefits as provided in their respective agreement.

## Asbestos

In 1986, we acquired a brake business, which we subsequently sold in March 1998 and which is accounted for as a discontinued operation. When we originally acquired this brake business, we assumed future liabilities relating to any alleged exposure to asbestos-containing products manufactured by the seller of the acquired brake business. In accordance with the related purchase agreement, we agreed to assume the liabilities for all new claims filed on or after September 2001. Our ultimate exposure will depend upon the number of claims filed against us on or after September 2001 and the amounts paid for indemnity and defense thereof. At December 31, 2014, approximately 2,125 cases were outstanding for which we may be responsible for any related liabilities. Since inception in September 2001 through December 31, 2014, the amounts paid for settled claims are approximately \$17.6 million.

In evaluating our potential asbestos-related liability, we have considered various factors including, among other things, an actuarial study of the asbestos related liabilities performed by an independent actuarial firm, our settlement amounts and whether there are any co-defendants, the jurisdiction in which lawsuits are filed, and the status and results of settlement discussions. As is our accounting policy, we consider the advice of actuarial consultants with experience in assessing asbestos-related liabilities to estimate our potential claim liability. The methodology used to project asbestos-related liabilities and costs in our actuarial study considered: (1) historical data available from publicly available studies; (2) an analysis of our recent claims history to estimate likely filing rates into the future; (3) an analysis of our currently pending claims; and (4) an analysis of our settlements to date in order to develop average settlement values.

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STANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

The most recent actuarial study was performed as of August 31, 2014. The updated study has estimated an undiscounted liability for settlement payments, excluding legal costs and any potential recovery from insurance carriers, ranging from \$36.1 million to \$55.4 million for the period through 2058. The change from the prior year study was an \$11.7 million increase for the low end of the range and an \$18 million increase for the high end of the range. The increase in the estimated undiscounted liability from the prior year study at both the low end and high end of the range reflects historical data and certain assumptions with respect to events that may occur in the future. Based on the information contained in the actuarial study and all other available information considered by us, we have concluded that no amount within the range of settlement payments was more likely than any other and, therefore, in assessing our asbestos liability we compare the low end of the range to our recorded liability to determine if an adjustment is required. Based upon the results of the August 31, 2014 actuarial study, in September 2014 we increased our asbestos liability to \$36.1 million, the low end of the range, and recorded an incremental pre-tax provision of \$12.8 million in earnings (loss) from discontinued operations in the accompanying statement of operations. Legal costs, which are expensed as incurred and reported in earnings (loss) from discontinued operations in the accompanying statement of operations, are estimated, according to the updated study, to range from \$43 million to \$76.4 million for the period through 2058.

We plan to perform an annual actuarial evaluation during the third quarter of each year for the foreseeable future. Given the uncertainties associated with projecting such matters into the future and other factors outside our control, we can give no assurance that additional provisions will not be required. We will continue to monitor the circumstances surrounding these potential liabilities in determining whether additional provisions may be necessary. At the present time, however, we do not believe that any additional provisions would be reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on our liquidity or consolidated financial position.

Litigation Charge

During the second quarter of 2014, we reached a tentative settlement in a legal proceeding with a third party for \$10.6 million. The legal proceeding resulted from the default of a loan by a former supplier and its related businesses and our subsequent purchases of product from a third party that was alleged to be a controlled company of the original supplier. Since the inception of the legal proceeding against us, we vigorously opposed all such allegations and believed that we had meritorious defenses. Prior to reaching the tentative settlement, we considered that the incurrence of a loss contingency related to the lawsuit was not reasonably possible. Accordingly, we did not record any provisions in our financial statements since our potential liability was not considered probable and reasonably estimable. During the second quarter of 2014, at the time of the tentative settlement, we recorded the settlement amount of \$10.6 million. The settlement agreement was approved by the court in August 2014 and payment of the settlement amount was made in September 2014. The settlement amount was funded from cash on hand and available credit under our revolving credit facility.

Other Litigation

We are currently involved in various other legal claims and legal proceedings (some of which may involve substantial amounts), including claims related to commercial disputes, product liability, employment, and environmental. Although these legal claims and legal proceedings are subject to inherent uncertainties, based on our understanding and evaluation of the relevant facts and circumstances, we believe that the ultimate outcome of these matters will not, either individually or in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. We may at any time determine that settling any of these matters is in our best interests, which settlement may include substantial payments. Although we cannot currently predict the specific amount of any liability that may ultimately arise with respect to any of these matters, we will record provisions when the liability is considered

probable and reasonably estimable. Significant judgment is required in both the determination of probability and the determination as to whether an exposure can be reasonably estimated. As additional information becomes available, we reassess our potential liability related to these matters. Such revisions of the potential liabilities could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

## 20. Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)

	2014 Quarter Ended				
	Dec. 31	Sept. 30	June 30	Mar. 31	
	(In thousands, except per share amounts)				
Net sales	\$218,054	\$257,046	\$272,540	\$232,752	
Gross profit	67,094	77,227	77,399	67,910	
Earnings from continuing operations	11,517	17,806	11,169	12,407	
Loss from discontinued operations, net of taxes	(419 )	(8,240 )	(529 )	(682 )	
Net earnings	\$11,098	\$9,566	\$10,640	\$11,725	
Net earnings from continuing operations per common share:					
Basic		\$0.50	\$0.78	\$0.49	\$0.54
Diluted		\$0.50	\$0.77	\$0.48	\$0.53
Net earnings per common share:					
Basic		\$0.48	\$0.42	\$0.47	\$0.51
Diluted		\$0.48	\$0.41	\$0.46	\$0.50

	2013 Quarter Ended				
	Dec. 31	Sept. 30	June 30	Mar. 31	
	(In thousands, except per share amounts)				
Net sales	\$218,708	\$264,162	\$270,126	\$230,708	
Gross profit	66,749	80,081	77,796	65,828	
Earnings from continuing operations	9,391	17,686	16,400	9,566	
Loss from discontinued operations, net of taxes	(455 )	(389 )	(357 )	(392 )	
Net earnings	\$8,936	\$17,297	\$16,043	\$9,174	
Net earnings from continuing operations per common share:					
Basic		\$0.41	\$0.77	\$0.71	\$0.42
Diluted		\$0.40	\$0.76	\$0.71	\$0.41
Net earnings per common share:					
Basic		\$0.39	\$0.75	\$0.70	\$0.40
Diluted		\$0.38	\$0.74	\$0.69	\$0.40

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ITEM CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND  
9. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

None.

ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures.

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in reports we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, we conducted an evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined under Rule 13a-15(e) and Rule 15d-15(e) promulgated under the Exchange Act, as of the end of the period covered by this Report. This evaluation also included consideration of our internal controls and procedures for the preparation of our financial statements as required under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (the "Sarbanes-Oxley Act"). Based upon that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this Report.

(b) Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting.

Pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, as part of this Report we have furnished a report regarding our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014. The report is under the caption "Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting" in "Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," which report is included herein.

(c) Attestation Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.

KPMG LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm, has issued an opinion as to the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014. The opinion is under the caption "Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm—Internal Control Over Financial Reporting" in "Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" for this attestation report, which is included herein.

(d) Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting.

During the quarter ended December 31, 2014 and subsequent to that date, we have not made changes in our internal control over financial reporting that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

During 2014, we adopted the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission ("COSO") in the 2013 Internal Control—Integrated Framework to review, document and test our internal control over financial reporting. We may from time to time make changes aimed at enhancing their effectiveness and to ensure that our systems evolve with our business. These efforts may lead to various changes in our internal control over financial reporting.



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ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

PART III

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the information in our Definitive Proxy Statement to be filed with the SEC in connection with our 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the “2015 Proxy Statement”) set forth under the captions “Election of Directors,” “Management Information,” “Corporate Governance” and “Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance.”

The Board of Directors of the Company has adopted a Code of Ethics that applies to all employees, officers and directors of the Company. The Company’s Code of Ethics is available at [www.smpcorp.com](http://www.smpcorp.com) under “Investor Relations Governance Documents.” The Company intends to satisfy any disclosure requirement under Item 5.05 of Form 8-K regarding an amendment to, or waiver from, a provision of the Company’s Code of Ethics that applies to its principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions, by disclosing such information on the Company’s website, at the address specified above.

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE  
COMPENSATION

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the information in our 2015 Proxy Statement set forth under captions “Corporate Governance,” “Executive Compensation and Related Information” and “Report of the Compensation and Management Development Committee.”

ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND  
RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the information in our 2015 Proxy Statement set forth under the captions “Executive Compensation and Related Information” and “Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management.”

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the information in our 2015 Proxy Statement set forth under the captions “Corporate Governance” and “Executive Compensation and Related Information.”

ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the information in our 2015 Proxy Statement set forth under the captions “Audit and Non-Audit Fees.”



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PART IV

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a)(1) The Index to Consolidated Financial Statements of the Registrant under Item 8 of this Report is incorporated herein by reference as the list of Financial Statements required as part of this Report.

(2) The following financial schedule and related report for the years 2014, 2013 and 2012 is submitted herewith:

Schedule II - Valuation and Qualifying Accounts

All other schedules are omitted because they are not required, not applicable or the information is included in the financial statements or notes thereto.

(3) Exhibits.

The exhibit list in the Exhibit Index is incorporated by reference as the list of exhibits required as part of this Report.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

STANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC.

(Registrant)

/s/ Lawrence I. Sills

Lawrence I. Sills

Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Director

/s/ James J. Burke

James J. Burke

Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer

New York, New York

February 27, 2015

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Lawrence I. Sills and James J. Burke, jointly and severally, as his attorneys-in-fact, each with the power of substitution, for him in any and all capacities, to sign any amendments to this Annual Report on Form 10-K and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, hereby ratifying and confirming all that each of said attorneys-in-fact, or his substitute or substitutes, may do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this Report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated:

February 27, 2015 /s/ Lawrence I. Sills

Lawrence I. Sills

Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Director

(Principal Executive Officer)

February 27, 2015 /s/ James J. Burke

James J. Burke

Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

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February 27, 2015 /s/ Pamela Forbes Lieberman  
Pamela Forbes Lieberman, Director

February 27, 2015 /s/ Joseph W. McDonnell  
Joseph W. McDonnell, Director

February 27, 2015 /s/ Alisa C. Norris  
Alisa C. Norris, Director

February 27, 2015 /s/ Arthur S. Sills  
Arthur S. Sills, Director

February 27, 2015 /s/ Peter J. Sills  
Peter J. Sills, Director

February 27, 2015 /s/ Frederick D. Sturdivant  
Frederick D. Sturdivant, Director

February 27, 2015 /s/ William H. Turner  
William H. Turner, Director

February 27, 2015 /s/ Richard S. Ward  
Richard S. Ward, Director

February 27, 2015 /s/ Roger M. Widmann  
Roger M. Widmann, Director

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- 3.1 Restated By-Laws, dated May 23, 1996, filed as an Exhibit to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1996.
- 3.2 Restated Certificate of Incorporation, dated July 31, 1990, filed as an Exhibit to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10 K for the year ended December 31, 1990.
- 3.3 Certificate of Amendment of the Certificate of Incorporation, dated February 15, 1996, filed as an Exhibit to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 1996.
- 10.1 Amended and Restated Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust, dated January 1, 2011 (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010).
- 10.2 2006 Omnibus Incentive Plan of Standard Motor Products, Inc., as amended (incorporated by reference to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-174330), filed on May 19, 2011).
- 10.3 2004 Omnibus Stock Option Plan of Standard Motor Products, Inc. and 2004 Independent Directors' Stock Option Plan of Standard Motor Products, Inc. (incorporated by reference to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-134239), filed on June 7, 2005).
- 10.4 Supplemental Compensation Plan effective October 1, 2001 (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001).
- 10.5 Severance Compensation Agreement, dated December 12, 2001, between Standard Motor Products, Inc. and John Gethin (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001).
- 10.6 Severance Compensation Agreement, dated December 12, 2001, between Standard Motor Products, Inc. and James Burke (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001).
- 10.7 Credit Agreement, dated as of December 29, 2005, among SMP Motor Products, Ltd., as Borrower, (incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 3, 2006).
- 10.8 Amendment to the Standard Motor Products, Inc. Supplemental Compensation Plan, effective December 1, 2006 (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006).
- 10.9 Retention Bonus and Insurance Agreement dated December 26, 2006, between Standard Motor Products, Inc. and James Burke (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006).
- 10.10 Purchase and Sale Agreement, dated December 21, 2007, between Standard Motors Products, Inc. and EXII Northern Boulevard Acquisition LLC (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007).



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- 10.11 Lease Agreement, dated March 12, 2008, between Standard Motors Products, Inc. and 37-18 Northern Boulevard LLC (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007).
- 10.12 First Amendment Agreement dated as of March 20, 2007, among SMP Motor Products, Ltd., as borrower and the other credit parties thereto, and GE Canada Finance Holding Company, as lender and agent, and the other lenders thereto (incorporated by reference to the Company's Form 8-K filed March 21, 2007).
- 10.13 Second Amendment Agreement dated as of May 1, 2007, among SMP Motor Products, Ltd., as borrower and the other credit parties thereto, and GE Canada Finance Holding Company, as lender and agent, and the other lenders thereto (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009).
- 10.14 Amendment No. 3 to Credit Agreement dated as of December 18, 2008, among SMP Motor Products, Ltd., as borrower and the other credit parties thereto, and GE Canada Finance Holding Company, as lender and agent, and the other lenders thereto (incorporated by reference to the Company's Form 8-K filed December 22, 2008).
- 10.15 Amendment to Severance Compensation Agreement, dated as of December 15, 2008, between Standard Motor Products, Inc. and John Gethin (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009).
- 10.16 Amendment to Severance Compensation Agreement, dated as of December 15, 2008, between Standard Motor Products, Inc. and James Burke (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009).
- 10.17 Amended and Restated Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan, dated as of December 31, 2010 (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010).
- 10.18 Amendment No. 4 to Credit Agreement, dated as of June 26, 2009, among SMP Motor Products, Ltd., as borrower and the other credit parties thereto, and GE Canada Finance Holding Company, as lender and agent, and the other lenders thereto (incorporated by reference to the Company's Form 8-K filed June 29, 2009).
- 10.19 Amendment No. 5 to Credit Agreement, dated as of May 20, 2010, among SMP Motor Products, Ltd., as borrower and the other credit parties thereto, and GE Canada Finance Holding Company, as lender and agent, and the other lenders thereto (incorporated by reference to the Company's Form 8-K filed May 20, 2010).
- 10.20 Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of November 2, 2010, among Standard Motor Products, Inc., as borrower and the other credit parties thereto, and General Electric Capital Corp., as agent and lender, Bank of America, N.A. and Wells Fargo Capital Finance, LLC, as lenders and co-syndication agents, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as lender and as documentation agent, and the other lenders thereto (incorporated by reference to the Company's Form 8-K filed November 12, 2010).



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- 10.21 Amendment No. 6 to Credit Agreement, dated as of November 10, 2010, among SMP Motor Products, Ltd., as borrower and the other credit parties thereto, and GE Canada Finance Holding Company, as lender and agent, and the other lenders thereto (incorporated by reference to the Company's Form 8-K filed November 12, 2010).
- 10.22 Amendment to Severance Compensation Agreement, dated as of March 8, 2011, between Standard Motor Products, Inc. and John Gethin (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010).
- 10.23 Amendment to Severance Compensation Agreement, dated as of March 8, 2011, between Standard Motor Products, Inc. and James Burke (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010).
- 10.24 Amendment No. 1 to Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of September 22, 2011, among Standard Motor Products, Inc., as borrower and the other credit parties thereto, and General Electric Capital Corp., as agent and lender, Bank of America, N.A. and Wells Fargo Capital Finance, LLC, as lenders and co-syndication agents, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as lender and as documentation agent, and the other lenders thereto (incorporated by reference to the Company's Form 8-K filed September 22, 2011).
- 10.25 Amendment No. 7 to Credit Agreement, dated as of September 22, 2011, among SMP Motor Products, Ltd., as borrower and the other credit parties thereto, and GE Canada Finance Holding Company, as lender and agent, and the other lenders thereto (incorporated by reference to the Company's Form 8-K filed September 22, 2011).
- 10.26 Amendment No. 2 to Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of February 22, 2013, among Standard Motor Products, Inc., as borrower and the other credit parties thereto, and General Electric Capital Corp., as agent and lender, Bank of America, N.A. and Wells Fargo Capital Finance, LLC, as lenders and co-syndication agents, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as lender and as documentation agent, and the other lenders thereto (incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed March 8, 2013).
- 10.27 Amendment No. 8 to Credit Agreement, dated as of May 16, 2013, among SMP Motor Products, Ltd., as borrower and the other credit parties thereto, and GE Canada Finance Holding Company, as lender and agent, and the other lenders thereto (incorporated by reference to the Company's Form 8-K filed May 20, 2013).
- 10.28 Amendment No. 3 to Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of May 16, 2013, among Standard Motor Products, Inc., as borrower and the other credit parties thereto, and General Electric Capital Corp., as agent and lender, Bank of America, N.A. and Wells Fargo Capital Finance, LLC, as lenders and co-syndication agents, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as lender and as documentation agent, and the other lenders thereto (incorporated by reference to the Company's Form 8-K filed May 20, 2013).
- 21 List of Subsidiaries of Standard Motor Products, Inc.
- 23.1 Consent of KPMG LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.





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- 24 Power of Attorney (see signature page to Annual Report on Form 10-K).
- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer furnished pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer furnished pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 101.INS\*\* XBRL Instance Document
- 101.SCH\*\* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
- 101.CAL\*\*XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
- 101.LAB\*\*XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
- 101.PRE\*\* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document
- 101.DEF\*\* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document

\*\* In accordance with Regulation S-T, the XBRL-related information in Exhibit 101 to the Original Filing shall be deemed to be “furnished” and not “filed.”

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## Schedule II Valuation and Qualifying Accounts

Years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012

<u>Description</u>	Balance at beginning of year	Additions Charged to costs and expenses	Other	Deductions	Balance at end of year
<u>Year ended December 31, 2014:</u>					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$5,528,000	\$(497,000 )	\$—	\$137,000	\$4,894,000
Allowance for discounts	1,441,000	13,568,000	—	13,534,000	1,475,000
	\$6,969,000	\$13,071,000	\$—	\$13,671,000	\$6,369,000
Allowance for sales returns	\$31,464,000	\$126,608,000	\$—	\$127,451,000	\$30,621,000
<u>Year ended December 31, 2013:</u>					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$4,944,000	\$641,000	\$—	\$57,000	\$5,528,000
Allowance for discounts	1,180,000	14,802,000	—	14,541,000	1,441,000
	\$6,124,000	\$15,443,000	\$—	\$14,598,000	\$6,969,000
Allowance for sales returns	\$29,033,000	\$114,958,000	\$—	\$112,527,000	\$31,464,000
<u>Year ended December 31, 2012:</u>					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$5,386,000	\$(728,000 )	\$414,000 (1)	\$128,000	\$4,944,000
Allowance for discounts	1,323,000	14,023,000	39,000 (1)	14,205,000	1,180,000
	\$6,709,000	\$13,295,000	\$453,000	\$14,333,000	\$6,124,000
Allowance for sales returns	\$25,074,000	\$112,519,000	\$4,128,000(1)	\$112,688,000	\$29,033,000

(1) Allowances acquired through acquisition.