LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS INC Form 10-Q July 26, 2016 <u>Table of Contents</u>

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 FORM 10-Q x QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 C 1934 For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2016 or "TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 O 1934 For the transition period from to Commission File Number: 0-1402	OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF
LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS, INC. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)	
Ohio	34-1860551
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	
22801 St. Clair Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio	44117
(Address of principal executive offices) (216) 481-8100	(Zip Code)
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code) Not applicable	
(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if chan	nged since last report)
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed al Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 mo required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such 90 days. Yes x No o	onths (or for such shorter period that the registrant was
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (o to submit and post such files). Yes x No o	d posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accel or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. Large accelerated filer x	
Non-accelerated filer o (Do not check if a smaller reporting	
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell comp Yes o No x	

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's common shares as of June 30, 2016 was 67,264,898.

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Certification of the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer) and	
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PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (UNAUDITED)

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

	Three Months Ended		Six Months	Ended June
	June 30,	0015	30, 201 <i>C</i>	2015
	2016	2015	2016	2015
Net sales	\$592,418	\$664,740	\$1,143,140	\$1,322,640
Cost of goods sold	389,491	438,959	751,111	876,469
Gross profit	202,927	225,781	392,029	446,171
Selling, general & administrative expenses	120,497	127,755	234,307	257,646
Rationalization and asset impairment charges		1,239		1,239
Loss on deconsolidation of Venezuelan subsidiary	34,348		34,348	
Operating income	48,082	96,787	123,374	187,286
Other income (expense):				
Interest income	435	738	865	1,331
Equity earnings in affiliates	839	979	1,465	1,828
Other income	588	317	1,249	2,927
Interest expense	(4,186)	(4,387)	(8,013)	(6,231)
Total other income (expense)	(2,324)	(2,353)	(4,434)	(145)
Income before income taxes	45,758	94,434	118,940	187,141
Income taxes	14,449	23,558	34,007	47,947
Net income including non-controlling interests	31,309	70,876	84,933	139,194
Non-controlling interests in subsidiaries' loss	-	-	-	(58)
Net income	\$31,317	\$70,898	\$84,955	\$139,252
Basic earnings per share	\$0.46	\$0.95	\$1.23	\$1.84
Diluted earnings per share	\$0.45	\$0.94	\$1.22	\$1.82
Cash dividends declared per share	\$0.32	\$0.29	\$0.64	\$0.58
-				

See notes to these consolidated financial statements.

LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (UNAUDITED) (In thousands)

	Three Months Ended June 30,	Six Months Ended June 30,
	2016 2015	2016 2015
Net income including non-controlling interests	\$31,309 \$70,876	\$84,933 \$139,194
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:		
Unrealized gain (loss) on derivatives designated and qualifying as cash flow	V	
hedges, net of tax of \$207 and \$4 in the three and six months ended June	(645) (579) 191 521
30, 2016; \$160 and \$218 in the three and six months ended June 30, 2015		
Defined benefit pension plan activity, net of tax of \$1,132 and \$2,043 in the	2	
three and six months ended June 30, 2016; \$1,975 and \$4,370 in the three	2,617 3,571	4,235 7,109
and six months ended June 30, 2015		
Currency translation adjustment	(18,997) 15,150	5,252 (41,402)
Other comprehensive income (loss):	(17,025) 18,142	9,678 (33,772)
Comprehensive income	14,284 89,018	94,611 105,422
Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to non-controlling interests	(58) 5	(57) (572)
Comprehensive income attributable to shareholders	\$14,342 \$89,013	\$94,668 \$105,994

See notes to these consolidated financial statements.

LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS, INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (In thousands)

	June 30, 2016	December 31, 2015
	(UNAUDITED) (NOTE I)
ASSETS Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 237,019	\$304,183
Accounts receivable (less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$7,363 in 2016; \$7,299	in	·
2015)	291,645	264,715
Inventories:		
Raw materials	85,249	87,919
Work-in-process	45,770	39,555
Finished goods	161,568	148,456
Total inventory	292,587	275,930
Other current assets	100,367	91,167
Total Current Assets	921,618	935,995
Property, Plant and Equipment		
Land	46,157	45,775
Buildings	340,763	362,325
Machinery and equipment	706,821	696,849
Property, plant and equipment	1,093,741	1,104,949
Less accumulated depreciation	709,874	693,626
Property, Plant and Equipment, Net	383,867	411,323
Goodwill	237,457	187,504
Non-current assets	294,459	249,349
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,837,401	\$1,784,171
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Current Liabilities		
Short-term debt	\$ 159,908	\$4,278
Trade accounts payable	173,037	152,620
Other current liabilities	226,845	213,224
Total Current Liabilities	559,790	370,122
Long-Term Liabilities		
Long-term debt, less current portion	360,931	350,347
Other long-term liabilities	124,266	131,254
Total Long-Term Liabilities	485,197	481,601
Shareholders' Equity		
Common shares	9,858	9,858
Additional paid-in capital	283,166	272,908
Retained earnings	2,167,000	2,125,838
Accumulated other comprehensive loss) (296,267)
Treasury shares	(1,381,860) (1,180,750)

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS INC - Form 10-QTotal Shareholders' Equity791,610931,587Non-controlling interests804861Total Equity792,414932,448TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY\$ 1,837,401\$ 1,784,171See notes to these consolidated financial statements.55

LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED) (In thousands)

(In thousands)		
	Six Mont	ths Ended
	June 30,	
	2016	2015
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net income	\$84,955	\$139,252
Non-controlling interests in subsidiaries' loss	(22) (58)
Net income including non-controlling interests	84,933	139,194
Adjustments to reconcile Net income including non-controlling interests to Net cash		
provided by operating activities:		
Rationalization and asset impairment charges		30
Loss on deconsolidation of Venezuelan subsidiary	34,348	
Depreciation and amortization	32,232	31,718
Equity earnings in affiliates, net	(58) (488)
Deferred income taxes	•) (6,337)
Stock-based compensation	4,843	, , , ,
Pension expense	9,256	-
Pension contributions and payments) (47,705)
Other, net	(2,075) (3,342)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects from acquisitions:	(2,075) (0,012)
Increase in accounts receivable	(22,393) (13,682)
(Increase) decrease in inventories	(15,492	
(Increase) decrease in other current assets) 30,632
Increase (decrease) in trade accounts payable	22,228	(31,217)
Increase in other current liabilities	9,616	
Net change in other long-term assets and liabilities) 2,031
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	125,357	130,070
NET CASHTIKO VIDED DI OFEKATING ACTIVITIES	125,557	150,070
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Capital expenditures	(24.770)) (29,217)
Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired	(71,567) (29,217)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	679) <u> </u>
Other investing activities) 2,024
NET CASH USED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
NET CASH USED BT INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(95,950) (25,772)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from short-term borrowings	1,892	1,729
Payments on short-term borrowings	(1,522) (6,968)
	159,090	
Amounts due banks, net Proceeds from long-term borrowings	139,090 261	2,451
		152,500
Payments on long-term borrowings	(451) (5,662) 4,036
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	5,715	-
Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation	1,522	1,293
Purchase of shares for treasury	-) $(158,468)$
Cash dividends paid to shareholders	-) (44,248)
Other financing activities	(18,244) (7,996)

NET CASH USED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES	(99,317)	(61,333)
Effect of exchange rate changes on Cash and cash equivalents (DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	2,746 (67,164)	(8,607 34,358)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD See notes to these consolidated financial statements.	304,183 \$237,019	278,379 \$312,737	7

Table of Contents LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS, INC. NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts

NOTE 1 — SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Principles of Consolidation

As used in this report, the term "Company," except as otherwise indicated by the context, means Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc. and its wholly-owned and majority-owned subsidiaries for which it has a controlling interest. The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of all legal entities in which the Company holds a controlling financial interest. The Company is also considered to have a controlling financial interest in a variable interest entity ("VIE") if the Company determines it is the primary beneficiary of the VIE. Investments in legal entities in which the Company does not own a majority interest but has the ability to exercise significant influence over operating and financial policies are accounted for using the equity method.

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("GAAP") for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, these unaudited consolidated financial statements do not include all of the information and notes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. However, in the opinion of management, these unaudited consolidated financial statements contain all the adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary to present fairly the financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the interim periods. Operating results for the six months ended June 30, 2016 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the year ending December 31, 2016.

The accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31, 2015 has been derived from the audited financial statements at that date, but does not include all of the information and notes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015.

Certain reclassifications have been made to the prior year financial statements to conform to current year classifications.

Venezuela — Deconsolidation

Effective June 30, 2016, the Company determined that deteriorating conditions in Venezuela have led the Company to no longer meet the accounting criteria for control over its Venezuelan subsidiary. Therefore, as of June 30, 2016, the Company deconsolidated the financial statements of its subsidiary in Venezuela and began reporting the results under the cost method of accounting. As a result of the deconsolidation, the Company recorded a pretax charge of \$34,348 (\$33,251 after-tax) in the second quarter of 2016. The pretax charge includes the write-off of the Company's investment in Venezuela, including all inter-company balances and \$283 of Cash and cash equivalents. Additionally, the charge includes foreign currency translation losses and pension losses previously included in Accumulated other comprehensive loss.

The restrictive exchange controls in Venezuela and the lack of access to U.S. dollars through official currency exchange mechanisms have resulted in an other-than-temporary lack of exchangeability between the Venezuela bolivar and the U.S. dollar, and have restricted the Venezuela operations ability to pay dividends and satisfy other obligations denominated in U.S. dollars. Additionally, other operating restrictions including government controls on pricing, profits, imports and restrictive labor laws have significantly impacted the Company's ability to make key operational decisions, including the ability to manage its capital structure, purchasing, product pricing and labor relations. The Company expects these conditions will continue for the foreseeable future.

Subsequent to the deconsolidation under the voting interest consolidation model, the Company determined that the Venezuelan subsidiary is considered to be a VIE. As the Company does not have the power to direct the activities that most significantly affect the Venezuela subsidiary's economic performance, the Company is not the primary beneficiary of the VIE and therefore would not consolidate the entity under the VIE consolidation model. Due to the lack of ability to settle U.S. dollar obligations, the Company does not intend to sell into nor purchase inventory from the Venezuela entity at this time. Additionally, the Company has no remaining financial commitments to the

Venezuelan subsidiary and therefore believes the exposure to future losses are not material.

Although the Venezuela operations will continue to operate in future periods under the cost method of accounting, the Company will no longer include the results of the Venezuelan subsidiary in its Consolidated Financial Statements. Under the cost method of accounting, if cash were to be received from the Venezuela entity in future periods from the sale of inventory, dividends or royalties, income would be recognized. The Company does not anticipate dividend or royalty payments being made in the foreseeable future.

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LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS, INC. NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts

Prior to deconsolidation, the financial statements of the Company's Venezuelan operation had been reported under highly inflationary accounting rules since January 1, 2010. Under highly inflationary accounting, the financial statements of the Company's Venezuelan operation had been remeasured into the Company's reporting currency and exchange gains and losses from the remeasurement of monetary assets and liabilities were reflected in current earnings.

In February 2015, the Venezuelan government announced a new exchange market called the Marginal Currency System ("SIMADI"), which allows for trading based on supply and demand. At September 30, 2015, the Company determined that the rate used in remeasuring the Venezuelan operation's financial statements into U.S. dollars would change to the SIMADI rate, as the SIMADI rate most appropriately approximates the rates used to transact business in its Venezuelan operations. At September 30, 2015, the SIMADI rate was 199.4 bolivars to the U.S. dollar, resulting in a remeasurement charge on the bolivar-denominated monetary net asset position of \$4,334. This foreign exchange loss was recorded in Selling, general & administrative expenses during the three months ended September 30, 2015. Additionally, the Company recorded lower of cost or net realizable value inventory adjustments of \$22,880 within Cost of goods sold, related to the adoption of the SIMADI rate.

In the first quarter of 2016, the Venezuelan government reduced its three-tier system of exchange rates to two tiers and stated that the SIMADI rate, which was renamed DICOM, would be free floating. As of June 30, 2016, the DICOM rate was 628.3 bolivars to the U.S. dollar.

New Accounting Pronouncements Adopted:

In February 2015, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standard Update ("ASU") No. 2015-02, "Consolidation (Topic 810): Amendments to the Consolidation Analysis." ASU 2015-02 modifies the evaluation of whether limited partnership and similar legal entities are VIEs or voting interest entities; affects the consolidation analysis of reporting entities that are involved with VIEs; and provides scope exceptions. The amendment may be applied using a modified-retrospective approach, through a cumulative-effect adjustment to retained earnings as of the beginning of the first reporting period in which the guidance is effective or retrospectively. ASU 2015-02 was adopted by the Company effective January 1, 2016 and did not have an impact on the Company's financial statements.

New Accounting Pronouncements Yet to be Adopted:

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-13, "Financial Instruments - Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments." ASU 2016-13 requires financial assets measured at amortized cost basis to be presented at the net amount expected to be collected. The allowance for credit losses is a valuation account that is deducted from the amortized cost basis of the financial asset to present the net carrying value at the amount expected to be collected on the financial asset. The income statement reflects the measurement of credit losses for newly recognized financial assets, as well as the expected increases or decrease of expected credit losses that have taken place during the period. The amendment should be applied using a modified-retrospective approach, through a cumulative-effect adjustment to retained earnings as of the beginning of the first reporting period in which the guidance is effective. ASU 2016-13 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019, including interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of ASU 2016-13 on the Company's financial statements.

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-09, "Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting." ASU 2016-09 amends several aspects of the accounting for share-based payment transactions including the income tax consequences, classification of awards as either equity or liabilities and classification on the statement of cash flows. ASU 2016-09 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016, including interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted. If early adopted, an entity must adopt all of the amendments in the same period. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of ASU 2016-09 on the Company's financial statements.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-02, "Leases (Topic 842)." ASU 2016-02 aims to increase transparency and comparability among organizations by recognizing lease assets and lease liabilities on the balance sheet and requiring disclosure of key information about leasing agreements. Entities are required to recognize and measure leases at the beginning of the earliest period presented using a modified retrospective approach. ASU 2016-02 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018, including interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of ASU 2016-02 on the Company's financial statements.

Table of Contents LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS, INC. NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-09, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)." ASU 2014-09 requires an entity to recognize revenue in a manner that depicts 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. To achieve that core principle, the amendment provides five steps that an entity should apply when recognizing revenue. The amendment also specifies the accounting of some costs to obtain or fulfill a contract with a customer and expands the disclosure requirements around contracts with customers. An entity can either adopt this amendment retrospectively to each prior reporting period presented or retrospectively with the cumulative effect of initially applying the update recognized at the date of initial application. In August 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-14, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606): Deferral of the Effective Date," which deferred the effective date of ASU 2014-09 to annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017, and interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted as of annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of ASU 2014-09 on the Company's financial statements.

NOTE 2 — EARNINGS PER SHARE

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share:

	Three Months		Six Mon	ths Ended	
	Ended June 30,		June 30,		
	2016	2015	2016	2015	
Numerator:					
Net income	\$31,317	\$70,898	\$84,955	\$139,252	
Denominator (shares in 000's):					
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	68,181	75,000	68,883	75,621	
Effect of dilutive securities - Stock options and awards	709	773	686	795	
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	68,890	75,773	69,569	76,416	
Basic earnings per share	\$0.46	\$0.95	\$1.23	\$1.84	
Diluted earnings per share	\$0.45	\$0.94	\$1.22	\$1.82	

For the three months ended June 30, 2016 and 2015, common shares subject to equity-based awards of 810,200 and 556,371, respectively, were excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share because the effect of their exercise would be anti-dilutive. For the six months ended June 30, 2016 and 2015, common shares subject to equity-based awards of 750,209 and 481,831, respectively, were excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share because the effect of their exercise would be anti-dilutive.

NOTE 3 — ACQUISITIONS

During May 2016, the Company acquired Vizient Manufacturing Solutions ("Vizient"). Vizient, based in Bettendorf, Iowa, is a robotic integrator specializing in custom engineered tooling and automated arc welding systems for general and heavy fabrication applications. The acquisition will assist in diversifying end-market exposure and broadening global growth opportunities.

During August 2015, the Company acquired Specialised Welding Products ("SWP"). SWP, based in Melbourne, Australia, is a provider of specialty welding consumables and fabrication, maintenance and repair services for alloy and wear resistant products commonly used in mining and energy sector applications. The acquisition broadens the Company's presence and specialty alloy offering in Australia and New Zealand.

During August 2015, the Company acquired Rimrock Holdings Corporation ("Rimrock"). Rimrock is a manufacturer of industrial automation products and robotic systems with two divisions, Wolf Robotics LLC, based in Fort Collins, Colorado, and Rimrock Corporation, based in Columbus, Ohio. Wolf Robotics integrates robotic welding and cutting systems predominantly for heavy fabrication and transportation OEMs and suppliers. The acquisition advances the

Company's leadership position in automated welding and cutting solutions. Rimrock Corporation designs and manufactures automated spray systems and turnkey robotic systems for the die casting, foundry and forging markets.

Table of Contents LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS, INC. NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts

Pro forma information related to these acquisitions have not been presented because the impact on the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations is not material. Acquired companies are included in the Company's consolidated financial statements as of the date of acquisition.

NOTE 4 — SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Company's primary business is the design and manufacture of arc welding and cutting products, manufacturing a broad line of arc welding equipment, consumable welding products and other welding and cutting products. Welding products include arc welding power sources, CNC and plasma cutters, wire feeding systems, robotic welding packages, integrated automation systems, fume extraction equipment, consumable electrodes, fluxes and welding accessories. The Company's product offering also includes oxy-fuel cutting systems and regulators and torches used in oxy-fuel welding, cutting and brazing. In addition, the Company has a leading global position in the brazing and soldering alloys market.

During the first quarter of 2016, the Company realigned its organizational and leadership structure into three operating segments to support growth strategies and enhance the utilization of the Company's worldwide resources and global sourcing initiatives. The operating segments consist of Americas Welding, International Welding and The Harris Products Group. The Americas Welding segment includes welding operations in North and South America. The International Welding segment primarily includes welding operations in Europe, Africa, Asia and Australia. The Harris Products Group includes the Company's global cutting, soldering and brazing businesses as well as its retail business in the United States. All prior period results have been revised to reflect the realigned segment structure. Segment performance is measured and resources are allocated based on a number of factors, the primary profit measure being adjusted earnings before interest and income taxes ("Adjusted EBIT"). EBIT is defined as Operating income plus Equity earnings in affiliates and Other income. Segment EBIT is adjusted for special items as determined by management such as the impact of rationalization activities, certain asset impairment charges and gains or losses on disposals of assets.

<u>Table of Contents</u> LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS, INC. NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts

Financial information for the reportable segments follows:

	C	International	The Harris Products Group	Corporate / Eliminations	Consolidated
Three Months Ended June 30, 2016 Net sales Inter-segment sales Total	23,456	\$ 132,815 3,841 \$ 136,656	\$71,231 2,824 \$74,055	()	\$592,418 \$592,418
Adjusted EBIT Special items charge EBIT Interest income Interest expense Income before income taxes	\$65,201 — \$65,201	\$ 9,670 \$ 9,670	\$9,284 \$9,284	34,348	\$83,857 34,348 \$49,509 435 (4,186) \$45,758
Three Months Ended June 30, 2015 Net sales Inter-segment sales Total	23,902	\$ 141,927 5,311 \$ 147,238	\$71,812 2,716 \$74,528	\$— (31,929) \$(31,929)	\$664,740 — \$664,740
Adjusted EBIT Special items charge EBIT Interest income Interest expense Income before income taxes	\$79,421 \$79,421	\$ 11,017 1,239 \$ 9,778	\$8,250 \$8,250	\$ 634 \$ 634	\$99,322 1,239 \$98,083 738 (4,387) \$94,434
Six Months Ended June 30, 2016 Net sales Inter-segment sales Total	47,287	\$ 257,120 8,267 \$ 265,387	\$ 138,640 5,127 \$ 143,767	(60,681)	\$1,143,140 \$1,143,140
Adjusted EBIT Special items charge EBIT Interest income Interest expense Income before income taxes	\$126,639 \$126,639	\$ 15,903 \$ 15,903	\$16,995 — \$16,995	\$ 899 34,348 \$ (33,449)	\$160,436 34,348 \$126,088 865 (8,013) \$118,940
Six months ended June 30, 2015 Net sales Inter-segment sales Total	46,925	\$ 281,174 10,338 \$ 291,512	\$ 141,628 4,727 \$ 146,355	(61,990)	\$1,322,640
Adjusted EBIT	\$154,836	\$ 21,951	\$15,799	\$ 694	\$193,280

Special items charge EBIT	 \$154,836	1,239 \$ 20,712	 \$ 15,799	 \$ 694	1,239 \$192,041	
Interest income					1,331	
Interest expense					(6,231)
Income before income taxes					\$187,141	

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LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS, INC.

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts

In the three and six months ended June 30, 2016, special items within Corporate/Eliminations reflect a loss on the deconsolidation of the Venezuelan subsidiary.

In the three and six months ended June 30, 2015, special items in International Welding reflect rationalization activity charges.

NOTE 5 — RATIONALIZATION AND ASSET IMPAIRMENTS

In prior periods, the Company initiated various rationalization plans whose costs were substantially recognized in the prior year. As such, no charges were recorded in the six months ended June 30, 2016. A description of each restructuring plan and the related costs follows:

Americas Welding Plans:

During 2015, the Company initiated a rationalization plan within Americas Welding that included a voluntary separation incentive program covering certain U.S.-based employees. The plan was completed during 2016. International Welding Plans:

During 2015, the Company initiated rationalization plans within International Welding. The plans include headcount restructuring to better align cost structures with economic conditions and operating needs. The Company does not anticipate any additional charges related to the completion of these plans. At June 30, 2016, liabilities relating to the International Welding plans of \$6,411 were recognized in Other current liabilities.

The Company believes the rationalization actions will positively impact future results of operations and will not have a material effect on liquidity and sources and uses of capital. The Company continues to evaluate its cost structure and additional rationalization actions may result in charges in future periods. The following tables summarize the activity related to the rationalization liabilities by segment for the six months ended June 30, 2016:

	Americas	International	Consolidated
	Welding	Welding	Consolidated
Balance, December 31, 2015	\$ 67	\$ 7,598	\$ 7,665
Payments and other adjustments	(67)	(1,187)	(1,254)
Charged to expense			
Balance, June 30, 2016	\$ —	\$ 6,411	\$ 6,411

NOTE 6 — EQUITY

Changes in equity for the six months ended June 30, 2016 are as follows:

	Shareholders Equity	'Non-controllin Interests	^{1g} Total Equity
Balance at December 31, 2015	\$ 931,587	\$ 861	\$ 932,448
Comprehensive income (loss):			
Net income (loss)	84,955	(22	84,933
Other comprehensive income (loss)	9,713	(35	9,678
Total comprehensive income (loss)	94,668	(57)	94,611
Cash dividends declared - \$0.64 per share Issuance of shares under benefit plans Purchase of shares for treasury Balance at June 30, 2016	(43,792) 12,080 (202,933) \$791,610	 \$ 804	(43,792) 12,080 (202,933) \$792,414

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In April 2016, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a new share repurchase program, which increased the total number of the Company's common shares authorized to be repurchased to 55 million shares. At management's discretion, the Company repurchases its common shares from time to time in the open market, depending on market conditions, stock price and other factors. During the three and six month period ended June 30, 2016, the Company purchased a total of 1.7 million and 3.6 million shares, respectively. As of June 30, 2016, there remained 11.1 million common shares available for repurchase under this program. The repurchased common shares remain in treasury and have not been retired.

The following tables set forth the total changes in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) ("AOCI") by component, net of taxes for the three months ended June 30, 2016 and 2015: Three Months Ended June 30, 2016

	Unrea gain (loss) on deriva design and qualify as cash flow	tive ate ying	Defined ebenefit dpension plan gactivity	Currency translation adjustment	Total
Balance at March 31, 2016	hedges \$1,384		\$(98,158)	\$(172,805)	\$(269,579)
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassification	(339)	5	(21,790) ³	(22,124)
Amounts reclassified from AOCI	(306)1	2,612 2	4 2,843 4	5,149
Net current-period other comprehensive income (loss)	(645)	2,617	(18,947)	(16,975)
Balance at June 30, 2016	\$739		\$(95,541)	\$(191,752)	\$(286,554)
	Unrea gain (loss) on deriva design and	lize tive ate ying	onths Ended J od Defined esbenefit dpension plan gactivity	une 30, 2015 Currency translation adjustment	Total
Balance at March 31, 2015 Other comprehensive income (loss)	\$1,09		\$(194,355)	,	
before reclassification	(893)	—		14,230
Amounts reclassified from AOCI	314	1	3,571 2	!	3,885

Net current-period other	(579)	2 571	15.123	18.115
comprehensive income (loss)	(379)	5,571	13,125	16,115
Balance at June 30, 2015	\$512	\$(190,784)	\$(131,608)	\$(321,880)

During the 2016 period, this AOCI reclassification is a component of Net sales of \$(152) (net of tax of \$(69)) and 1 Cost of goods sold of \$(154) (net of tax of \$(16)); during the 2015 period, the reclassification is a component of Net sales of \$ (net of tax of \$(75)) and Cost of goods sold of \$306 (net of tax of \$205). (See Note 14 - Derivatives for additional details.)

This AOCI component is included in the computation of net periodic pension costs (net of tax of \$1,132 and \$1,975 2during the three months ended June 30, 2016 and 2015, respectively). (See Note 12 - Retirement and Postretirement Benefit Plans for additional details.)

The Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications excludes (51) and 27 attributable to

³Non-controlling interests in the three months ended June 30, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

⁴ The reclassification from AOCI reflects foreign currency translation losses recognized due to the Company's deconsolidation of its Venezuelan subsidiary. (See Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies for additional details.)

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The following tables set forth the total changes in AOCI by component, net of taxes for the six months ended June 30, 2016 and 2015:

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2016						
	Unreali	zed					
	gain						
	(loss)						
	on derivati	Defined ves benefit	Currency				
	designa	ted . pension	translation	Total			
	and	nlan	adjustment				
	as	ng activity					
	cash						
	flow hedges						
Balance at December 31, 2015	\$548	\$(99,776)	\$(197,039)	\$(296,267)			
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassification	1,360	(15)	2,444 3	3,789			
Amounts reclassified from AOCI Net current-period other comprehensive income (loss) Balance at June 30, 2016	(1,1691	4,250	² 2,843 ⁴	5,924			
	191	4,235	5,287	9,713			
	\$739	\$(95,541)	\$(191,752)	\$(286,554)			
	Unreali gain (loss) on derivati designa and	nths Ended J zed Defined ves benefit ted pension plan ng activity	une 30, 2015 Currency translation adjustment	Total			
Balance at December 31, 2014	Unreali gain (loss) on derivati designa and qualifyi as cash flow	zed Defined Ves benefit ted pension	Currency translation adjustment				
Balance at December 31, 2014 Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassification	Unreali gain (loss) on derivati designa and qualifyi as cash flow hedges	zed Defined Ves benefit ted pension plan ng activity	Currency translation adjustment \$(90,720)				
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassification Amounts reclassified from AOCI	Unreali gain (loss) on derivati designa and qualifyi as cash flow hedges \$(9) 429	zed Defined benefit ted pension plan ng activity \$(197,893)	Currency translation adjustment \$(90,720)	\$(288,622)			
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassification	Unreali gain (loss) on derivati designa and qualifyi as cash flow hedges \$(9) 429	zed Defined benefit ted pension plan ng activity \$(197,893)	Currency translation adjustment \$(90,720) (40,888) ³	\$(288,622) (40,459)			

1 During the 2016 period, this AOCI reclassification is a component of Net sales of \$(939) (net of tax of \$(347)) and Cost of goods sold of \$(230) (net of tax of \$6); during the 2015 period, the reclassification is a component of Net

sales of \$(521) (net of tax of \$(324)) and Cost of goods sold of \$613 (net of tax of \$407). (See Note 14 - Derivatives for additional details.)

This AOCI component is included in the computation of net periodic pension costs (net of tax of \$2,043 and

2 \$4,370 during the six months ended June 30, 2016 and 2015, respectively). (See Note 12 - Retirement and Postretirement Benefit Plans for additional details.)

³The Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications excludes \$(36) and \$(514) attributable to Non-controlling interests in the six months ended June 30, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

The reclassification from AOCI reflects foreign currency translation losses recognized due to the Company's

⁴ deconsolidation of its Venezuelan subsidiary. (See Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies for additional details.)

NOTE 7 — INVENTORY VALUATION

The valuation of last-in, first-out ("LIFO") method inventories is made at the end of each year based on inventory levels and costs at that time. Accordingly, interim LIFO calculations are based on management's estimates of expected year-end inventory levels and costs. Actual year-end costs and inventory levels may differ from interim LIFO inventory valuations. The excess of current cost over LIFO cost was \$61,787 at June 30, 2016 and \$59,765 at December 31, 2015.

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NOTE 8 — ACCRUED EMPLOYEE BONUS

Other current liabilities at June 30, 2016 and 2015 include accruals for year-end bonuses and related payroll taxes of \$48,506 and \$59,402, respectively, related to the Company's employees worldwide. The payment of bonuses is discretionary and subject to approval by the Board of Directors. A majority of annual bonuses are paid in December, resulting in an increasing bonus accrual during the Company's fiscal year.

NOTE 9 — CONTINGENCIES

The Company, like other manufacturers, is subject from time to time to a variety of civil and administrative proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. Such claims and litigation include, without limitation, product liability claims, regulatory claims and health, safety and environmental claims, some of which relate to cases alleging asbestos induced illnesses. The claimants in the asbestos cases seek compensatory and punitive damages, in most cases for unspecified amounts. The Company believes it has meritorious defenses to these claims and intends to contest such suits vigorously.

The Company accrues its best estimate of the probable costs, after a review of the facts with management and counsel and taking into account past experience. If an unfavorable outcome is determined to be reasonably possible but not probable, or if the amount of loss cannot be reasonably estimated, disclosure is provided for material claims or litigation. Many of the current cases are in differing procedural stages and information on the circumstances of each claimant, which forms the basis for judgments as to the validity or ultimate disposition of such actions, varies greatly. Therefore, in many situations a range of possible losses cannot be made. Reserves are adjusted as facts and circumstances change and related management assessments of the underlying merits and the likelihood of outcomes change. Moreover, reserves only cover identified and/or asserted claims. Future claims could, therefore, give rise to increases to such reserves.

Based on the Company's historical experience in litigating product liability claims, including a significant number of dismissals, summary judgments and defense verdicts in many cases and immaterial settlement amounts, as well as the Company's current assessment of the underlying merits of the claims and applicable insurance, the Company believes resolution of these claims and proceedings, individually or in the aggregate, will not have a material effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

NOTE 10 — PRODUCT WARRANTY COSTS

The changes in the carrying amount of product warranty accruals for the six months ended June 30, 2016 and 2015 are as follows:

Six Months Ended			
June 30,			
2016	2015		
\$19,469	\$15,579		
6,444	7,327		
(6,178)	(6,796)		
107	(229)		
\$19,842	\$15,881		
	June 30, 2016 \$19,469 6,444 (6,178)		

NOTE 11 — DEBT

Revolving Credit Agreement

The Company has a line of credit totaling \$400,000 through the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement (the "Credit Agreement"), which was entered into on September 12, 2014. The Credit Agreement contains customary affirmative, negative and financial covenants for credit facilities of this type, including limitations on the Company and its subsidiaries with respect to liens, investments, distributions, mergers and acquisitions, dispositions of assets,

transactions with affiliates and a fixed charges coverage ratio and total leverage ratio. As of June 30, 2016, the Company was in compliance with all of its covenants and had \$135,000 in outstanding borrowings under the Credit Agreement which was recorded in Short-term debt. The Credit Agreement has a five-year term and may be increased, subject to certain conditions, by an additional amount up to \$100,000.

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LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS, INC. NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts

The interest rate on borrowings is based on either LIBOR or the prime rate, plus a spread based on the Company's leverage ratio, at the Company's election.

Senior Unsecured Notes

On April 1, 2015, the Company entered into a Note Purchase Agreement pursuant to which it agreed to issue Senior Unsecured Notes (the "Notes") in the aggregate principal amount of \$350,000 through a private placement. At June 30, 2016, \$349,175, net of debt issuance costs of \$825 and excluding accretion of original issuance costs, was outstanding and recorded in Long-term debt, less current portion. The proceeds are being used for general corporate purposes. The Notes, as shown in the table below, have maturities ranging from 10 to 30 years with a weighted average effective interest rate of 3.5%, excluding accretion of original issuance costs, and an average tenure of 19 years. Interest is payable semi-annually. The Notes contain certain affirmative and negative covenants. As of June 30, 2016, the Company was in compliance with all of its debt covenants.

The maturity and interest rates of the Notes are as follows:

Amount	Maturity Date	Interest
Amount	Maturity Date	Rate
Series A \$100,000	August 20, 2025	3.15 %
Series B 100,000	August 20, 2030	3.35 %
Series C 50,000	April 1, 2035	3.61 %
Series D 100,000	April 1, 2045	4.02 %

NOTE 12 — RETIREMENT AND POSTRETIREMENT BENEFIT PLANS

The components of total pension cost were as follows:

	Three Mc	onths	Six Months	s Ended
	Ended Jun	ne 30,	June 30,	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
Service cost	\$4,439	\$5,038	\$8,869	\$10,460
Interest cost	6,018	10,413	12,029	20,744
Expected return on plan assets	(8,894)	(16,242)	(17,758)	(31,980)
Amortization of prior service cost	(99)	(156)	(198)	(312)
Amortization of net loss	3,648 ¹	5,872	6,314 ¹	11,692
Defined benefit plans	5,112	4,925	9,256	10,604
Multi-employer plans	193	211	395	428
Defined contribution plans	2,192	2,945	4,161	5,961
Total pension cost	\$7,497	\$8,081	\$13,812	\$16,993

¹The amortization of net loss includes a \$959 charge resulting from the deconsolidation of the Venezuelan subsidiary during the three and six months ended June 30, 2016.

The Company voluntarily contributed \$20,000 to its defined benefit plans in the United States during the six months ended June 30, 2016. The decrease in the components of total pension cost for the defined benefit plans in 2016 was primarily due to the purchase of a group annuity contract in August 2015.

NOTE 13 — INCOME TAXES

The Company recognized \$34,007 of tax expense on pretax income of \$118,940, resulting in an effective income tax rate of 28.6% for the six months ended June 30, 2016. The effective income tax rate was 25.6% for the six months ended June 30, 2015. The 2016 and 2015 effective income tax rates were lower than the Company's statutory rate primarily due to the utilization of U.S. tax credits, income earned in lower tax rate jurisdictions and the reversal of an income tax valuation allowance as a result of a legal entity change to realign the Company's tax structure. The 2015

effective income tax rate was also lower due to refund interest recognized as a reduction to tax expense. As of June 30, 2016, the Company had \$14,496 of unrecognized tax benefits. If recognized, approximately \$8,880 would be reflected as a component of income tax expense.

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LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS, INC. NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts

The Company files income tax returns in the U.S. and various state, local and foreign jurisdictions. With few exceptions, the Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal, state and local or non-U.S. income tax examinations by tax authorities for years before 2011. The Company is currently subject to various U.S. state and non-U.S. income tax audits.

Unrecognized tax benefits are reviewed on an ongoing basis and are adjusted for changing facts and circumstances, including progress of tax audits and closing of statutes of limitations. Based on information currently available, management believes that additional audit activity could be completed and/or statutes of limitations may close relating to existing unrecognized tax benefits. It is reasonably possible there could be a reduction of \$2,384 in previously unrecognized tax benefits by the end of the second quarter 2017.

NOTE 14 — DERIVATIVES

The Company uses derivatives to manage exposures to currency exchange rates, interest rates and commodity prices arising in the normal course of business. Both at inception and on an ongoing basis, the derivative instruments that qualify for hedge accounting are assessed as to their effectiveness, when applicable. Hedge ineffectiveness was immaterial in the six months ended June 30, 2016 and 2015.

The Company is subject to the credit risk of the counterparties to derivative instruments. Counterparties include a number of major banks and financial institutions. None of the concentrations of risk with any individual counterparty was considered significant at June 30, 2016. The Company does not expect any counterparties to fail to meet their obligations.

Cash Flow Hedges

Certain foreign currency forward contracts and interest rate swap agreements were qualified and designated as cash flow hedges. The dollar equivalent gross notional amount of these short-term contracts was \$121,144 at June 30, 2016 and \$30,388 at December 31, 2015.

Net Investment Hedges

The Company has foreign currency forward contracts that were qualified and designated as net investment hedges. No such contracts were outstanding at June 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015.

Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments

The Company has certain foreign exchange forward contracts that are not designated as hedges. These derivatives are held as economic hedges of certain balance sheet exposures. The dollar equivalent gross notional amount of these contracts was \$296,373 at June 30, 2016 and \$267,626 at December 31, 2015.

The Company had short-term silver forward contracts with notional amounts of \$2,804 at December 31, 2015. Fair values of derivative instruments in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets follow:

	June 30, 2016		December 31, 2015	
Derivatives by hedge designation		Other t Current Liabilities	Curre	Other nCurrent sLiabilities
Designated as hedging instruments:				
Foreign exchange contracts	\$499	\$ 568	\$178	\$ 731
Interest rate swap agreements		162		
Not designated as hedging instruments:				
Foreign exchange contracts	3,982	3,732	625	2,303
Commodity contracts	_	_	40	8
Total derivatives	\$4,481	\$ 4,462	\$843	\$ 3,042

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The effects of undesignated derivative instruments on the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three and six months ended June 30, 2016 and 2015 consisted of the following:

		Three Mor	nths	Six Mont	hs Ended
		Ended Jun	e 30,	June 30,	
Derivatives by hedge designation	Classification of gain (loss)	2016	2015	2016	2015
Not designated as hedges:					
Foreign exchange contracts	Selling, general & administrative expenses	\$(10,507)	\$2,512	\$(6,910)	\$(7,092)
Commodity contracts	Cost of goods sold	(373)	194	(742)	50
The effects of designated hedges	on AOCI and the Company's Consolidated S	statements of	of Opera	tions cons	isted of the
following:					
	Juna				

Total gain (loss) recognized in AOCI, net of tax	June 30, 2016	December 31, 2015
Foreign exchange contracts	\$(260)	\$ (551)
Net investment contracts	1,099	1,099
Interest rate swap agreements	(100)	_

The Company expects a loss of \$260 related to existing contracts to be reclassified from AOCI, net of tax, to earnings over the next 12 months as the hedged transactions are realized.

		Three			
		Months Six Months		nths	
		Ended.	June	Ended.	June 30,
		30,			
Derivative type	Gain (loss) reclassified from AOCI to:	2016	2015	2016	2015
Foreign exchange contracts	Sales	\$(152)	\$8	\$(939)	\$(521)
	Cost of goods sold	(154)	306	(230)	613

NOTE 15 - FAIR VALUE

The following table provides a summary of assets and liabilities as of June 30, 2016, measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

Description	as of	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Asset or Liabilities (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Assets:				
Foreign exchange contracts	\$4,481	\$ -	-\$4,481	\$ — \$ —
Total assets	\$4,481	\$ -	-\$4,481	\$ —
Liabilities:				
Foreign exchange contracts	\$4,300	\$ –	-\$4,300	\$ —
Interest rate swap agreements	162		162	
Contingent considerations	9,251	_		9,251
Forward contract	14,936	_		14,936
Deferred compensation	24,266		24,266	
Total liabilities	\$52,915	\$ –	-\$ 28,728	\$ 24,187

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The following table provides a summary of assets and liabilities as of December 31, 2015, measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

Description	Balance as of December 31, 2015	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Asset or Liabilities (Level 1)	Significant Other Observables Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Assets:				
Foreign exchange contracts	\$ 803	\$ -	-\$ 803	\$ —
Commodity contracts	40	_	40	
Total assets	\$ 843	\$ -	-\$ 843	\$ —
Liabilities:				
Foreign exchange contracts		\$ -	-\$ 3,034	\$ —
Commodity contracts	8		8	
Contingent considerations	9,184			9,184
Forward contract	26,484			26,484
Deferred compensation	23,201		23,201	
Total liabilities	\$ 61,911	\$ -	-\$ 26,243	\$ 35,668

The Company's derivative contracts are valued at fair value using the market approach. The Company measures the fair value of foreign exchange contracts and interest rate swap agreements using Level 2 inputs based on observable spot and forward rates in active markets. The Company measures the fair value of commodity contracts using Level 2 inputs through observable market transactions in active markets provided by financial institutions. During the six months ended June 30, 2016, there were no transfers between Levels 1, 2 or 3.

In connection with acquisitions, the Company recorded contingent considerations fair valued at \$9,251 as of June 30, 2016. Under the contingent consideration agreements, the amounts to be paid are based upon actual financial results of the acquired entities for specified future periods. The fair value of the contingent considerations are a Level 3 valuation and fair valued using probability weighted discounted cash flow analyses.

In connection with an acquisition, the Company obtained a controlling financial interest in the acquired entity and at the same time entered into a contract to obtain the remaining financial interest in the entity over a three-year period. The amount to be paid to obtain the remaining financial interest will be based upon actual financial results of the entity through 2016. A liability was recorded for the Canadian dollar denominated forward contract at a fair value of \$14,936 as of June 30, 2016. The change in liability from December 31, 2015 was primarily the result of a \$14,438 payment to acquire an additional financial interest in the entity offset by foreign exchange translation and additional accruals of \$531 for the six months ended June 30, 2016. The fair value of the contract is a Level 3 valuation and is based on the present value of the expected future payments. The expected future payments are based on a multiple of forecasted earnings and cash flows over the three-year period ending December 31, 2016, present valued utilizing a risk based discount rate of 3.5% reflective of the Company's cost of debt and 13.7% as a risk adjusted cost of capital. The deferred compensation liability is the Company's obligation under its executive deferred compensation plan. The Company measures the fair value of the liability using the market values of the participants' underlying investment fund elections.

The fair value of Cash and cash equivalents, Accounts receivable, Short-term debt excluding the current portion of long-term debt and Trade accounts payable approximated book value due to the short-term nature of these instruments at both June 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015. The fair value of long-term debt at June 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015, including the current portion, was approximately \$381,128 and \$342,602, respectively, which was determined

using available market information and methodologies requiring judgment. The carrying value of this debt at such dates was \$361,089 and \$351,803, respectively. Since considerable judgment is required in interpreting market information, the fair value of the debt is not necessarily the amount that could be realized in a current market exchange.

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts)

This Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations should be read together with the Company's unaudited consolidated financial statements and other financial information included elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

General

The Company is the world's largest designer and manufacturer of arc welding and cutting products, manufacturing a broad line of arc welding equipment, consumable welding products and other welding and cutting products. Welding products include arc welding power sources, CNC and plasma cutters, wire feeding systems, robotic welding packages, integrated automation systems, fume extraction equipment, consumable electrodes, fluxes and welding accessories. The Company's product offering also includes oxy-fuel cutting systems and regulators and torches used in oxy-fuel welding, cutting and brazing. In addition, the Company has a leading global position in the brazing and soldering alloys market.

The Company's products are sold in both domestic and international markets. In North America, products are sold principally through industrial distributors, retailers and directly to users of welding products. Outside of North America, the Company has an international sales organization comprised of Company employees and agents who sell products from the Company's various manufacturing sites to distributors and product users.

During the first quarter of 2016, the Company realigned its organizational and leadership structure into three operating segments to support growth strategies and enhance the utilization of the Company's worldwide resources and global sourcing initiatives. The operating segments consist of Americas Welding, International Welding and The Harris Products Group. The Americas Welding segment includes welding operations in North and South America. The International Welding segment primarily includes welding operations in Europe, Africa, Asia and Australia. The Harris Products Group includes the Company's global cutting, soldering and brazing businesses as well as its retail business in the United States. All prior period results have been revised to reflect the realigned segment structure. As further described in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, effective June 30, 2016, the Company determined that it no longer had control of its subsidiary in Venezuela as a result of restrictive exchange controls and Venezuelan operating restrictions that have significantly impacted the ability to make key operational decisions. As a result, the Company has deconsolidated its subsidiary in Venezuela. Operating results through June 30, 2016 include the results of the Venezuelan subsidiary.

Results of Operations

Three Months Ended June 30, 2016 Compared with Three Months Ended June 30, 2015

	Three Months Ended June 30,									
	2016			2015	Change					
	Amount	% of \$	Sales	Amount	% of Sale	s Amount %				
Net sales	\$592,418	100.0	%	\$664,740	100.0 %	\$(72,322) (10.9 %)				
Cost of goods sold	389,491	65.7	%	438,959	66.0 %	(49,468) (11.3%)				
Gross profit	202,927	34.3	%	225,781	34.0 %	(22,854) (10.1%)				
Selling, general & administrative expenses	120,497	20.3	%	127,755	19.2 %	(7,258) (5.7%)				
Rationalization and asset impairment charges				1,239	0.2 %	(1,239) (100.0%)				
Loss on deconsolidation of Venezuelan subsidiary	34,348	5.8	%			34,348 100.0 %				
Operating income	48,082	8.1	%	96,787	14.6 %	(48,705) (50.3%)				
Interest income	435	0.1	%	738	0.1 %	(303) (41.1 %)				
Equity earnings in affiliates	839	0.1	%	979	0.1 %	(140) (14.3%)				
Other income	588	0.1	%	317		271 85.5 %				
Interest expense	(4,186)	0.7	%)	(4,387)	(0.7 %)	201 4.6 %				
Income before income taxes	45,758	7.7	%	94,434	14.2 %	(48,676) (51.5 %)				
Income taxes	14,449	2.4	%	23,558	3.5 %	(9,109) (38.7 %)				
Net income including non-controlling interests	31,309	5.3	%	70,876	10.7 %	(39,567) (55.8%)				
Non-controlling interests in subsidiaries' loss	(8)) —		(22)		14 63.6 %				
Net income	\$31,317	5.3	%	\$70,898	10.7 %	\$(39,581) (55.8 %)				

Net Sales: Net sales for the second quarter of 2016 decreased 10.9% from the second quarter 2015. The sales decrease reflects volume decreases of 9.7%, price increases of 28.4%, increases from acquisitions of 3.0% and unfavorable impacts from foreign exchange of 32.6%. Sales volumes decreased primarily as a result of softer demand associated with the current economic environment and weakness in oil & gas and U.S. export markets. Product pricing increased from prior year levels reflecting the highly inflationary environment in Venezuela. Excluding Venezuela, pricing and foreign exchange had unfavorable impacts of 0.9% and 1.5%, respectively.

Gross Profit: Gross profit decreased 10.1% to \$202,927 for the second quarter 2016 compared with \$225,781 in the second quarter 2015. As a percentage of Net sales, Gross profit increased to 34.3% in the second quarter 2016 from 34.0% in the second quarter 2015. Gross margins increased due to lower raw material costs and the benefit of cost reduction actions. The second quarter 2016 includes a LIFO charge of \$2,022 compared with a credit of \$2,930 in the prior year period.

Selling, General & Administrative ("SG&A") Expenses: SG&A expenses were lower by \$7,258, or 5.7%, in the second quarter 2016 compared with the second quarter of 2015. As a percentage of Net sales, SG&A expenses were 20.3% and 19.2% in the second quarter 2016 and 2015, respectively. The decrease in SG&A expenses was predominantly due to lower bonus expense of \$6,091, lower salaries and wages of \$2,203 and lower foreign exchange transaction losses of \$2,264, partially offset by incremental SG&A from acquisitions of \$3,986. Foreign currency exchange rates had a \$2,749 favorable translation impact on SG&A expenses.

Loss on Deconsolidation of Venezuelan Subsidiary: In the second quarter 2016, the Company recorded a loss of \$34,348, \$33,251 after-tax, related to the deconsolidation of its Venezuelan subsidiary. See Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements for additional information.

Interest Expense: Interest expense decreased to \$4,186 in the second quarter 2016 from \$4,387 in the second quarter of 2015. The decrease is due to an adjustment to the consideration expected to be paid to acquire additional ownership interests of a majority-owned subsidiary in the prior-year period.

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Income Taxes: The Company recognized \$14,449 of tax expense on pretax income of \$45,758, resulting in an effective income tax rate of 31.6% for the three months ended June 30, 2016 compared with an effective income tax rate of 24.9% in the second quarter of 2015. The effective income tax rate is higher in the current period as compared to the second quarter of 2015 due to the impact of the deconsolidation of Venezuela partially offset by the reversal of an income tax valuation allowance as a result of a legal entity change to realign the Company's tax structure. Net Income: Net income for the second quarter 2016 was \$31,317 compared with \$70,898 in the second quarter of 2015. Diluted earnings per share for the second quarter 2016 were \$0.45 compared with \$0.94 in the second quarter of 2015. Reported net income includes a loss related to the deconsolidation of the Company's Venezuelan subsidiary partially offset by reduced income tax associated with the reversal of valuation allowances on deferred tax assets more-likely-than-not to be realized.

Segment Results

Net Sales: The table below summarizes the impacts of volume, acquisitions, price and foreign currency exchange rates on Net sales for the three months ended June 30, 2016:

	Change in Net Sales due to:										
	Net Sales 2015	Volume		Acquisitions		Price		Foreign Exchange		Net Sales 2016	S
Operating Segments	* • * * * * * * *	* .=		*		* • • • • • •	-	*		****	_
Americas Welding	\$451,001))	\$16,323		\$193,70	6	\$(212,65	9)	\$388,372	2
International Welding	141,927	(5,112)	3,702		(3,883)	(3,819)	132,815	
The Harris Products Group	71,812	736				(809)	(508)	71,231	
Consolidated	\$664,740	\$(64,375	5)	\$20,025		\$189,01	4	\$(216,98	6)	\$592,418	8
Americas Welding (excluding Venezuela)	427,649	(55,013)	16,323		(1,071)	(5,349)	382,539	
Consolidated (excluding Venezuela)	641,389	(59,389)	20,025		(5,764)	(9,676)	586,585	
~ ~											
% Change		(12.2	(\mathcal{A})	2.6	~	12.0	Ø	(17.0		(12.0	(\mathcal{A})
Americas Welding		(13.3		3.6		43.0		(47.2		(13.9	%)
International Welding		(3.6		2.6	%	(2.7		(2.7		(6.4	%)
The Harris Products Group		1.0		—		(1.1		(0.7		(0.8	%)
Consolidated		(9.7	%)	3.0	%	28.4	%	(32.6	%)	(10.9	%)
Americas Welding (excluding Venezuela)		(12.9	%)	3.8	%	(0.3	%)	(1.3	%)	(10.5	%)
Consolidated (excluding Venezuela)		(9.3	%)	3.1	%	(0.9	%)	(1.5	%)	(8.5	%)

Net sales volumes for the second quarter of 2016 decreased for Americas Welding and International Welding due to softer demand associated with the current economic environment and weakness in oil and gas markets. Americas Welding volumes also decreased due to weakness in U.S. exports. Volumes increased for The Harris Products Group primarily from the retail market. The product pricing increase was driven by the Americas Welding due to the highly inflationary environment in Venezuela. Excluding Venezuela, pricing had a 0.9% unfavorable impact on sales in the quarter. The increase in Net sales from acquisitions was primarily driven by the acquisition of Rimrock Holdings Corporation ("Rimrock") within Americas Welding (see Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements for a discussion of the Company's recent acquisitions). All segments sales decreased due to a stronger U.S. dollar.

Adjusted Earnings Before Interest and Income Taxes ("Adjusted EBIT"): Segment performance is measured and resources are allocated based on a number of factors, the primary profit measure being Adjusted EBIT. EBIT is defined as Operating income plus Equity earnings in affiliates and Other income. Segment EBIT is adjusted for special items as determined by management such as the impact of rationalization activities, certain asset impairment charges and gains or losses on disposals of assets. The following table presents Adjusted EBIT for the three months ended June 30, 2016 by segment compared with the comparable period in 2015:

Three Months Ended										
	June 30,									
	2016		2015	\$ Chan	ge	% Cha	% Change			
Americas Welding:					C		e			
Net sales	\$388,372		\$451,001	(62,629))	(13.9	%)			
Inter-segment sales	23,456		23,902	(446)	(1.9	%)			
Total Sales	\$411,828		\$474,903	(63,075	5)	(13.3	%)			
Adjusted EBIT	\$65,201		\$79,421	(14,220))	(17.9	%)			
As a percent of total sales	15.8	%		70	ĺ	(0.9	%)			
International Welding:						`	,			
Net sales	\$132,815		\$141,927	(9,112)	(6.4	%)			
Inter-segment sales	3,841		5,311	(1,470)	(27.7	%)			
Total Sales	\$136,656		\$147,238	(10,582	2)	(7.2	%)			
Adjusted EBIT	\$9,670		\$11,017	(1,347)	(12.2	%)			
As a percent of total sales	7.1	%	7.5	6		(0.4	%)			
The Harris Products Group:							,			
Net sales	\$71,231		\$71,812	(581)	(0.8	%)			
Inter-segment sales	2,824		2,716	108		4.0	%			
Total Sales	\$74,055		\$74,528	(473)	(0.6	%)			
Adjusted EBIT	\$9,284		\$8,250	1,034		12.5	%			
As a percent of total sales	12.5	%	11.1	%		1.4	%			
Corporate / Eliminations:										
Inter-segment sales	\$(30,121)	\$(31,929)	1,808		(5.7	%)			
Adjusted EBIT	(298)	634	(932)	(147.0	%)			
Consolidated:										
Net sales	\$592,418		\$664,740	(72,322	2)	(10.9	%)			
Adjusted EBIT	\$83,857		\$99,322	(15,465	5)	(15.6	%)			
As a percent of sales	14.2	%	14.9	%		(0.7	%)			

Adjusted EBIT decreased for Americas Welding and International Welding in the three months ended June 30, 2016 as compared with the same period of the prior year primarily due to lower volumes. The increase in The Harris Products Group is primarily due to higher volumes and improved margins from favorable mix.

In the three months ended June 30, 2016, special items include a loss of \$34,348 related to the deconsolidation of its Venezuelan subsidiary. The charge includes the write-off of the Company's investment in Venezuela, including inter-company balances and \$283 of Cash and cash equivalents. The charge also includes foreign currency translation losses and pension losses previously included in Accumulated other comprehensive loss. In the three months ended June 30, 2015, special items include net charges of \$1,239 in International Welding

primarily related to employee severance and other costs.

Six Months Ended June 30, 2016 Compared with Six Months Ended June 30, 2015

	Six Months Ended June 30,									
	2016	2015				Change				
	Amount	% of Sales Amount			% of \$	Sales	Amount	%		
Net sales	\$1,143,140	100.0	%	\$1,322,640	100.0	%	\$(179,500	0) (13.6	%)	
Cost of goods sold	751,111	65.7	%	876,469	66.3	%	(125,358) (14.3	%)	
Gross profit	392,029	34.3	%	446,171	33.7	%	(54,142) (12.1	%)	
Selling, general & administrative expenses	234,307	20.5	%	257,646	19.5	%	(23,339) (9.1	%)	
Rationalization and asset impairment				1 220	0.1	01	(1.020) (100 ((α)	
charges				1,239	0.1	%	(1,239) (100.0	0%)	
Loss on deconsolidation of Venezuelan	24 249	2.0	%				21 240	100.0	01	
subsidiary	34,348	3.0	%				34,348	100.0	%0	
Operating income	123,374	10.8	%	187,286	14.2	%	(63,912) (34.1	%)	
Interest income	865	0.1	%	1,331	0.1	%	(466) (35.0	%)	
Equity earnings in affiliates	1,465	0.1	%	1,828	0.1	%	(363) (19.9	%)	
Other income	1,249	0.1	%	2,927	0.2	%	(1,678) (57.3	%)	
Interest expense	(8,013) (0.7	%)	(6,231) (0.5	%)	(1,782) (28.6	%)	
Income before income taxes	118,940	10.4	%	187,141	14.1	%	(68,201) (36.4	%)	
Income taxes	34,007	3.0	%	47,947	3.6	%	(13,940) (29.1	%)	
Net income including non-controlling	94.022	7 4	01	120 104	10.5	07	(51 261) (20.0	(7)	
interests	84,933	7.4	%	139,194	10.5	%	(54,261) (39.0	%)	
Non-controlling interests in subsidiaries' los	s (22) —		(58) —		36	62.1	%	
Net income	\$84,955	7.4	%	\$139,252	10.5	%	\$(54,297) (39.0	%)	

Net Sales: Net sales for the six months ended June 30, 2016 decreased 13.6% from the comparable period in 2015. The sales decrease reflects volume decreases of 11.9%, price increases of 19.9%, increases from acquisitions of 2.3% and unfavorable impacts from foreign exchange of 23.9%. Sales volumes decreased as a result of softer demand associated with the current economic environment and weakness in oil & gas and U.S. export markets. Product pricing increased from prior year levels, reflecting the highly inflationary environment in Venezuela. Excluding Venezuela, pricing and foreign exchange had unfavorable impacts of 1.0% and 1.9%, respectively.

Gross Profit: Gross profit decreased 12.1% to \$392,029 for the six months ended June 30, 2016 compared with \$446,171 in the comparable period in 2015. As a percentage of Net sales, Gross profit increased to 34.3% in the six months ended June 30, 2016 from 33.7% in the comparable period in 2015. Gross margins increased due to lower raw material costs and the benefit of cost reduction actions. The six months ended June 30, 2016 includes a LIFO charge of \$2,022 compared with a credit of \$3,146 in the prior year period.

SG&A: SG&A expenses were lower by \$23,339, or 9.1%, in the six months ended June 30, 2016 compared with the comparable period in 2015. As a percentage of Net sales, SG&A expenses were 20.5% and 19.5% in the six months ended June 30, 2016 and 2015, respectively. The decrease in SG&A expenses was primarily due to lower bonus expense of \$12,018, lower foreign exchange transaction losses of \$7,284 and lower salaries and wages of \$4,778, partially offset by incremental SG&A from acquisitions of \$6,720. Foreign currency exchange rates had a \$5,903 favorable translation impact on SG&A expenses.

Loss on Deconsolidation of Venezuelan Subsidiary: In the six months ended June 30, 2016, the Company recorded a loss of \$34,348, \$33,251 after-tax, related to the deconsolidation of its Venezuelan subsidiary. See Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements for additional information.

Other Income: Other income decreased to \$1,249 in the six months ended June 30, 2016 from \$2,927 in the comparable period in 2015. The decrease was the result of a gain associated with the liquidation of a foreign subsidiary and the related non-controlling interest in 2015.

Interest Expense: Interest expense increased to \$8,013 in the six months ended June 30, 2016 from \$6,231 in the comparable period in 2015. The increase was due to interest accrued on higher borrowings.

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Income Taxes: The Company recognized \$34,007 of tax expense on pretax income of \$118,940, resulting in an effective income tax rate of 28.6% for the six months ended June 30, 2016 compared with an effective income tax rate of 25.6% for the six months ended June 30, 2015. The effective income tax rate is higher in the current period as compared with the comparable period in 2015 due to the impact of the deconsolidation of Venezuela partially offset by the reversal of an income tax valuation allowance as a result of a legal entity change to realign the Company's tax structure.

Net Income: Net income for the six months ended June 30, 2016 was \$84,955 compared with Net income of \$139,252 in the six months ended June 30, 2015. Diluted earnings per share for the six months ended June 30, 2016 was \$1.22 compared with \$1.82 in the comparable period in 2015. Reported net income includes a loss related to the deconsolidation of the Company's Venezuelan subsidiary partially offset by reduced income tax associated with the reversal of valuation allowances on deferred tax assets more-likely-than-not to be realized.

Segment Results

Net Sales: The table below summarizes the impacts of volume, acquisitions, price and foreign currency exchange rates on Net sales for the six months ended June 30, 2016:

	Change in Net Sales due to:									
	Net Sales 2015	Volume		Acquisitio	ons	Price		Foreign Exchange		Net Sales 2016
Operating Segments								-		
Americas Welding	\$899,838	\$(145,062	2)	\$23,300		\$274,026)	\$(304,722	2)	\$747,380
International Welding	281,174	(14,934)	7,168		(6,988)	(9,300)	257,120
The Harris Products Group	141,628	2,126				(3,213)	(1,901)	138,640
Consolidated	\$1,322,640	\$(157,870))	\$ 30,468		\$263,825	i	\$(315,923	3)	\$1,143,140
Americas Welding (excluding Venezuela)	\$853,607	\$(125,817	')	\$23,300		\$(2,052)	\$(12,472)	\$736,566
Consolidated (excluding Venezuela)	\$1,276,410	\$(138,626	5)	\$ 30,468		\$(12,253)	\$(23,672)	\$1,132,327
% Change Americas Welding		(16.1	%)	2.6	%	30.5	%	(33.9	%)	