

Quad/Graphics, Inc.
Form 10-K
February 23, 2016
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015

or

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

For the transition period from to
Commission File Number 001-34806

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Wisconsin

39-1152983

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or
organization)

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

N61 W23044 Harry's Way, Sussex, Wisconsin
53089-3995

(414) 566-6000

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

Title of Class

Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered

Class A Common Stock, par value \$0.025 per share

The New York Stock Exchange, LLC

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 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

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

Indicate by check mark 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 the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

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

Edgar Filing: Quad/Graphics, Inc. - Form 10-K

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes No
The aggregate market value of the class A common stock (based on the closing price of \$18.51 per share on the New York Stock Exchange, LLC) on June 30, 2015, the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, held by non-affiliates was \$533,245,927. The registrant's class B common stock is not listed on a national securities exchange or traded in an organized over-the-counter market, but each share of the registrant's class B common stock is convertible into one share of the registrant's class A common stock.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock as of the latest practicable date.

Class	Outstanding as of February 18, 2016
Class A Common Stock	35,727,018
Class B Common Stock	14,198,464
Class C Common Stock	—

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Proxy Statement for the registrant's 2016 Annual Meeting of Shareholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

FORM 10-K INDEX

For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

	Page No.
<u>Forward-Looking Statements</u>	<u>1</u>
 <u>Part I</u>	
<u>Item 1. Business</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Item 1A. Risk Factors</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	<u>34</u>
<u>Item 2. Properties</u>	<u>35</u>
<u>Item 3. Legal Proceedings</u>	<u>35</u>
<u>Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures</u>	<u>35</u>
 <u>Part II</u>	
<u>Item 5. Market for the Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>	<u>36</u>
<u>Item 6. Selected Financial Data</u>	<u>38</u>
<u>Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	<u>39</u>
<u>Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	<u>81</u>
<u>Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>	<u>83</u>
<u>Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>	<u>154</u>
<u>Item 9A. Controls and Procedures</u>	<u>154</u>
<u>Item 9B. Other Information</u>	<u>155</u>
 <u>Part III</u>	
<u>Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	<u>156</u>
<u>Item 11. Executive Compensation</u>	<u>156</u>
<u>Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u>	<u>156</u>
<u>Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</u>	<u>157</u>
<u>Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services</u>	<u>157</u>
 <u>Part IV</u>	
<u>Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</u>	<u>158</u>
<u>Signatures</u>	<u>160</u>
<u>Exhibit Index</u>	<u>161</u>

Table of Contents

Forward-Looking Statements

To the extent any statements in this Annual Report on Form 10-K contain information that is not historical, these statements are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These forward-looking statements relate to, among other things, the objectives, goals, strategies, beliefs, intentions, plans, estimates, prospects, projections and outlook of Quad/Graphics, Inc. (the "Company" or "Quad/Graphics"), and can generally be identified by the use of words such as "may," "will," "expect," "intend," "estimate," "anticipate," "plan," "foresee," "believe" or "continue" or the negatives of these terms, variations on them and other similar expressions. In addition, any statements that refer to expectations, projections or other characterizations of future events or circumstances are forward-looking statements.

These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, some of which are beyond the control of the Company. These risks, uncertainties and other factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by those forward-looking statements. Among risks, uncertainties and other factors that may impact Quad/Graphics are those described in Part I, Item 1A, "Risk Factors," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, as such may be amended or supplemented in Part II, Item 1A, "Risk Factors," of the Company's subsequently filed Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and the following:

• The impact of decreasing demand for printed materials and significant overcapacity in the highly competitive commercial printing industry creates downward pricing pressures;

• The inability of the Company to reduce costs and improve operating efficiency rapidly enough to meet market conditions;

• The impact of electronic media and similar technological changes including digital substitution by consumers;

• The impact of changing future economic conditions;

• The impact of the various covenants in the Company's debt facilities that impose restrictions may affect the Company's ability to operate its business;

• The failure of clients to perform under contracts or to renew contracts with clients on favorable terms or at all;

• The impact of fluctuations in costs (including labor and labor-related costs, energy costs, freight rates and raw materials) and the impact of fluctuations in the availability of raw materials;

• The impact of changes in postal rates, service levels or regulations;

• The failure to successfully identify, manage, complete and integrate acquisitions and investments;

• The impact of increased business complexity as a result of the Company's entry into additional markets;

• The impact of regulatory matters and legislative developments or changes in laws, including changes in cyber-security, privacy and environmental laws;

• The impact of an other than temporary decline in operating results and enterprise value that could lead to non-cash impairment charges due to the impairment of property, plant and equipment and other intangible assets;

•

The impact on the holders of Quad/Graphics' class A common stock of a limited active market for such shares and the inability to independently elect directors or control decisions due to the voting power of the class B common stock;

• Significant capital expenditures may be needed to maintain the Company's platform and processes and to remain technologically and economically competitive; and

• The impact of risks associated with the operations outside of the United States, including costs incurred or reputational damage suffered due to improper conduct of its employees, contractors or agents.

Quad/Graphics cautions that the foregoing list of risks, uncertainties and other factors is not exhaustive and you should carefully consider the other factors detailed from time to time in Quad/Graphics' filings with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and other uncertainties and potential events when reviewing the Company's forward-looking statements.

Because forward-looking statements are subject to assumptions and uncertainties, actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such statements, which speak only as of the date of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Except to the extent required by the federal securities laws, Quad/Graphics undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Table of Contents

PART I

Item 1. Business

Overview

At the forefront of innovation for 45 years, Quad/Graphics is a leading print and marketing services provider focused on helping brand owners market their products, services and content more efficiently and effectively across media channels. The Company was founded in Pewaukee, Wisconsin, as a Wisconsin corporation, in 1971 by the late Harry V. Quadracci. As of December 31, 2015, the Company had approximately 22,500 full-time equivalent employees in North America, South America and Europe, and served a diverse base of approximately 9,400 clients from 161 facilities located in 17 countries, as well as strategic investments in printing operations in Brazil and India.

With a consultative approach, worldwide capabilities, leading-edge technology and single-source simplicity, the Company believes it has the resources and knowledge to help a wide variety of clients in vertical industries including, but not limited to, retail, publishing, healthcare, insurance and financial. Quad/Graphics creates value for its clients by helping them perform better in today's rapidly changing world through the integration of print products with complementary services to improve efficiencies, reduce costs, create engagement, lift response and increase revenue.

To better serve the evolving needs of marketers and publishers in today's multimedia world, Quad/Graphics streamlined its United States organizational structure in 2015 by consolidating several print product lines into two main sales groups—Marketing Solutions and Publishing Solutions. The Company believes that this streamlined approach will better align its offerings with its clients' expanding integrated marketing and publishing needs and help drive future innovation. The Company uses a consultative approach to tailor the Company's wide range of print products and complementary services to the unique characteristics of each vertical industry it serves. These products and services include:

Print. Including retail inserts, publications, catalogs, special interest publications, journals, direct mail, books, directories, in-store marketing and promotion, packaging, newspapers, custom print products, other commercial and specialty printed products and global paper procurement.

Logistics. Including mailing solutions, postal consultation, delivery optimization and hygiene services, delivery monitoring and tracking, and distribution, logistics and transportation services.

Digital. Including email, social, mobile (activated print, apps, websites), digital publishing and beacon technology.

Strategy. Including brand, campaign, and media planning and placement.

Data. Including data insights, segmentation and response analysis.

Creative. Including concept and design, page layout and production, copywriting, photography, retouching, mobile, video production and optimization.

Workflow. Including content management, process management, production and facilities management services, color management, and digital file processing and proofing.

Table of Contents

Quad/Graphics proudly partners with leading marketers, brand owners and publishers:

Leading marketers and brand owners include American Eagle Outfitters, American Girl, Best Buy Co., Inc., Bluestem Brands, Charter Communications, Colony Brands, ConAgra Foods, Inc., CVS Health Corporation, Eddie Bauer LLC, Hanesbrands, Inc., Menards, Inc., Mylan N.V., Publishers Clearing House, Inc., Publix Super Markets, Inc., Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc., Tractor Supply Company, Walgreen Co., and Weight Watchers International, Inc.

Leading publishers include Condé Nast, Harlequin Enterprises Limited, Hearst Magazines, hibu plc, McGraw-Hill Education, Meredith Corporation, National Geographic Partners LLC, Rodale Inc., Simon & Schuster, Inc., TEN: The Enthusiast Network LLC, Time Inc., Wenner Media LLC, Yellow Pages Digital and Media Solutions Limited.

The Company benefits from consistent executive leadership who is committed to transforming the Company to remain relevant and competitive, and create value for shareholders. The Company refers to its transformative journey in chapters. The Company's first chapter covers a period of tremendous organic growth that began with its founding in 1971 and concluded in 2010. The Company views this chapter as a 40-year period of building a strong and lasting foundation in which Quad/Graphics established the Company's culture based on strong values that are still in place today. During this period, the Company grew rapidly through greenfield growth; built a premier manufacturing and distribution platform equipped with the latest technology; and established its reputation as one of the industry's foremost innovators. When chapter one culminated in 2010, Quad/Graphics had grown from a tiny upstart into a \$1.8 billion global provider of print and media solutions with approximately 11,600 employees in the United States, South America and Europe operating 11 domestic plants, plus international locations in Poland, Argentina and Brazil.

Quad/Graphics' second chapter began in 2010 and continues today. The Company's second chapter relates to its role as a disciplined industry consolidator. Quad/Graphics saw an opportunity to start participating in industry consolidation in response to economic and industry pressures following the great recession of 2008 and 2009, which severely impacted volumes. At the same time, digital and mobile content delivery methods came of age as consumers rushed to adopt new technologies, creating confusion for marketers on how to use print in combination with other channels as part of a multimedia campaign. This created an opportunity for Quad/Graphics—with manufacturing and distribution economies of scale, a strong balance sheet and access to capital markets—to take advantage of consolidating acquisition opportunities in order to reduce costs and address overcapacity in the industry.

The Company completed a number of value-driven industry consolidation opportunities in recent years, including the July 2010 acquisition of World Color Press Inc. ("World Color Press"), which was a transformative event in the Company's history, as it significantly enhanced Quad/Graphics' size, range of product and service offerings, and overall industry presence. At this time, Quad/Graphics class A common stock began to trade on The New York Stock Exchange, LLC ("NYSE") under the symbol "QUAD." Other consolidating acquisitions have included Vertis Holdings Inc. ("Vertis") in January 2013 and Brown Printing Company ("Brown Printing") in May 2014 as well as the asset swap with Transcontinental Inc. ("Transcontinental") in 2011. Through each of these acquisitions, the Company was able to enhance or expand its product offerings, while removing inefficient and underutilized capacity, pulling out costs, and transitioning work to the most efficient facilities. This includes maximizing capacity utilization at the Company's most efficient, flexible and modern mega plant facilities (facilities greater than 1.0 million square feet) that Quad/Graphics built and maintained during chapter one of the Company's transformative journey, as well as plants that were acquired in which Quad/Graphics continues to make strategic investments.

As the Company transitions from chapter two to chapter three, Quad/Graphics continues to strengthen its core product lines and make the necessary adjustments to quickly respond to ongoing industry pressures, with the goal in chapter three to be the industry's high-quality, low-cost producer to position the Company to take advantage of transformational opportunities. In chapter three, Quad/Graphics will continue to invest in ways to automate and streamline process and workflows to better serve its clients, improve efficiencies and reduce costs. Additionally, with

a strategic account focus in key vertical industries, the Company intends to leverage its extensive relationships with more than 9,400 companies to further develop and grow innovative and complementary products and marketing services. The Company believes these products and services will help its clients drive improved performance and Return On

3

Table of Contents

Investment ("ROI") on their total marketing spend in two distinct ways: first, through helping them market their products and content more effectively across multiple media channels to increase revenue, and second, through improving efficiencies and speed to market through reducing the overall production and distribution costs.

In support of Quad/Graphics' chapter three transformational growth strategy, the Company built upon its strength in printing, supply chain management and logistics, and in 2015 expanded its packaging, in-store promotions and marketing services offering. This expansion also supports the Company's strategic selling approach to the retail industry—a key vertical market for the Company that includes brick and mortar, electronic retail and brand owners—while also allowing the Company to develop its offerings in growth markets. For example, with the acquisition of Wisconsin-based Proteus Packaging ("Proteus") in 2013, the Company entered the high-end paperboard packaging market, including automotive, biotechnology, food, beverage, personal care, pharmaceuticals, software and electronics. In addition, on April 14, 2015, Quad/Graphics completed the acquisition of Copac Global Packaging, Inc. ("Copac,") a leading international provider of innovative packaging and supply chain solutions, including turnkey packaging design, production and fulfillment services across a range of end markets. Copac has production facilities in Spartanburg, South Carolina, and Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, and strategically sources packaging product manufacturing over multiple end markets in Central America and Asia, giving it a global footprint. Copac manufactures products such as folding cartons, labels, inserts, tags and specialty envelopes in vertical industries including apparel, consumer products, tobacco, healthcare, food and beverage. The Company continued to expand in the packaging market with the acquisition of Specialty Finishing, Inc. ("Specialty") on August 25, 2015. Specialty is a full-service paperboard folding carton manufacturer and logistics provider located in Omaha, Nebraska, which serves a variety of vertical industries including food, pharmaceutical and industrial supplies. Upon the completion of the Specialty acquisition, the Company rebranded its newly formed division as QuadPackaging to take advantage of this growing market segment. Given its increased scale, vertical expertise and geographic footprint, QuadPackaging is now positioned to compete for large-volume or multi-location clients in a diverse range of vertical industries across the United States, Europe, Asia, and Central and South America.

In 2015, Quad/Graphics announced the expansion of its existing BlueSoho business, expanding its marketing agency solutions offering into campaign development, shopper activation and mobile/digital programming. The Company believes that BlueSoho will play an important role in defining its path forward in chapter three as it is now uniquely capable of orchestrating cross-media programs that turn shoppers into buyers and buyers into loyal brand advocates. The expanding service set is now comprised of local promotional strategy, conceptual design, media planning and buying, creative development, production services, marketplace deployment and program measurement. This strategic repositioning of BlueSoho as an independent brand enables Quad/Graphics to capture new business, especially among brand owners who understand the benefits of fully orchestrated media execution and actionable brand experiences—from campaign development through all forms of media activation.

As part of the Company's focus on in-store promotion growth opportunities, Quad/Graphics announced the acquisition of Marin's International, S.A. ("Marin's") on February 3, 2015. Marin's is a worldwide leader in the point-of-sale display industry. Marin's specializes in the research and design of display solutions, and uses its own European-based sales force as well as a network of global licensees, including Quad/Graphics, to sell its patented product portfolio. Marin's enhances Quad/Graphics' existing in-store and large-format marketing promotions and, combined with the power of BlueSoho, Marin's will help the Company expand its ability to help retailers and brand marketers promote their brands as part of a global campaign.

Table of Contents

As Quad/Graphics continues on its path forward, the Company remains focused on its five primary strategic goals that support its objective to be the industry's high-quality, low-cost producer to position the Company to take advantage of transformational opportunities and drive improved performance through innovation for its clients. The Company believes these goals will allow it to be successful despite ongoing industry challenges. These strategic goals are described in the "Strategy" section of this document and include the following:

1. Strengthen the core;
2. Grow the business profitably;
3. Walk in the shoes of our clients;
4. Engage employees; and
5. Enhance financial strength and create shareholder value.

More information regarding Quad/Graphics is available on the Company's website at www.QG.com. Quad/Graphics is not including the information contained on or available through its website as part of, or incorporating such information by reference into, this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and any amendments to those reports are made available to the public at no charge through a link appearing on the Company's website. Quad/Graphics provides access to such materials through its website as soon as reasonably practicable after electronically filing such material with, or furnishing it to, the SEC.

Industry

The global commercial printing industry is made up of companies whose capabilities include commercial lithographic printing, gravure printing, flexographic printing, screen printing, quick printing, digital printing, business form printing, prepress services that include adjusting images and text and creating high-quality print files, and postpress services, including trade binding. According to the April 2015 Global Commercial Printing IBISWorld industry report, the global commercial printing industry generates an estimated \$708 billion in annual revenue and has a low level of market share concentration with the four largest players (which includes Quad/Graphics) in the industry accounting for approximately 5% of annual industry revenue.

Quad/Graphics operates primarily in the commercial print portion of the printing industry. According to the October 2015 Printing in the U.S. IBISWorld industry report, the United States commercial printing industry generates an estimated \$82 billion in annual revenue, employs more than 435,000 employees and is comprised of approximately 45,000 companies. The commercial printing industry is also highly fragmented, with the four largest printing companies (which includes Quad/Graphics) accounting for less than 20% of total commercial print industry annual revenue in the United States. Although there has been significant industry consolidation, particularly in the past decade, the largest 400 printers in the printing industry still only represent approximately just over half of the total industry revenue in the United States, according to the December 2015 Printing Impressions PI400.

According to the October 2015 Printing in the U.S. IBISWorld industry report, the commercial print industry in the United States services markets including advertising, publishing, retailers, consumer goods manufacturers, stationery and textile manufacturers, financial and legal firms, and wholesalers with capabilities that include the following:

Commercial Lithographic Printing. Commercial lithographic printing accounts for approximately 55% of industry revenue with primary end uses including advertising, publications, periodicals, catalogs, directories, financial and

legal printing, and labels and wrappers.

Commercial Screen Printing. Commercial screen printing accounts for approximately 9% of industry revenue and derives its revenue from printing on apparel in addition to revenue from advertisers, label printing, and printing decals.

5

Table of Contents

Commercial Flexographic Printing. Commercial flexographic printing accounts for approximately 8% of industry revenue and is mainly used for packaging, labels and wrappers.

Digital Printing. Digital printing accounts for approximately 7% of industry revenue and, since it does not require printing plates and requires less initial setup than many of the other forms of commercial printing, it is very cost effective for small print runs.

Book Printing. Book printing accounts for approximately 5% of industry revenue and involves printing and binding books and pamphlets.

Commercial Gravure Printing. Commercial gravure printing accounts for approximately 4% of industry revenue with primary end uses including advertising, catalogs, directories, publications, periodicals, stationery, and labels.

Quick Printing. Quick printing accounts for approximately 3% of industry revenue and is primarily a business-to-business service that is characterized by its short-run printing and fast copying speeds.

Other Printing. Other printing accounts for approximately 9% of industry revenue and includes printing blank books, loose leaf binders and business forms.

Demand for printed products and related services is affected by real gross domestic product growth, as economic activity and advertising spending are key drivers of consumer demand. In times of global economic uncertainty, advertisers may reduce spending. Magazine publishers, facing diminished advertising pages, reduce total page counts; catalog marketers reduce page counts, circulation and the frequency of print campaigns; retailers curb investments in store inventory and cut back on retail insert circulation and advertising; and other advertisers reduce their direct mail volume, particularly in the banking, insurance, credit card, real estate and nonprofit industries. In addition, the Company believes the commercial print industry has moved toward a demand for shorter print runs, faster product turnaround and increased production efficiency of products with lower page counts and increasing complexity. This, combined with increases in postage expenses (which significantly outpaced inflation over the last ten years) and the increased use of alternative digital marketing technologies have led to excess manufacturing capacity in the industry and this excess capacity has allowed for larger printers with economies of scale, strong balance sheets and access to capital markets the ability to install more efficient equipment, take advantage of consolidating acquisition opportunities to remove excess, inefficient and/or underutilized capacity and reduce overall costs.

Quad/Graphics believes that traditional business users of print and print-related services are focused on generating and tracking the highest returns on their marketing spend. The Company believes that its clients receive the greatest return on their marketing and advertising dollars when they effectively use data to target the appropriate customers and combine digital alternatives with customized print products in a targeted, cross-channel marketing campaign driven by an overall marketing strategy. Quad/Graphics believes it is well positioned to help its clients navigate through this changing media landscape and create innovative ways to connect print with digital channels.

Finally, the Company believes that successful commercial printing companies will invest in mailing and logistics capabilities because, for many clients, mailing and distribution represent their largest cost—typically two to three times the cost of their print expense. Therefore, Quad/Graphics believes a printer's ability to impact mailing and distribution expenses through data hygiene solutions and sophisticated, automated printing, finishing and distribution equipment creates value for clients by minimizing their total manufacturing and distribution cost.

Table of Contents

Seasonality

The Company is subject to seasonality in its quarterly results as net sales and operating income are higher in the third and fourth quarters of the calendar year as compared to the first and second quarters. The fourth quarter is the highest seasonal quarter for cash flows from operating activities and Free Cash Flow due to the reduction of working capital requirements that reach peak levels during the third quarter. Seasonality is driven by increased magazine advertising page counts, retail inserts, catalogs and books primarily due to back-to-school and holiday-related advertising and promotions. The Company expects this seasonality impact to continue in future years.

Strategy

As Quad/Graphics continues on its path forward, the Company remains focused on its five primary strategic goals that support its objective to be the industry's high-quality, low-cost producer to fuel transformative growth and drive improved performance through innovation for its clients. The Company believes the following goals will allow it to be successful despite ongoing industry challenges:

1. Strengthen the Core

Quad/Graphics uses a disciplined return on capital framework and historically has made significant investments in its print manufacturing platform and data management capabilities that have resulted in what it believes is one of the most integrated, automated, efficient and modern manufacturing platforms in the industry. Core or foundational print product lines at Quad/Graphics include retail inserts, publications, catalogs, books and directories, as they represent a large percentage of the Company's revenue. The Company's disciplined focus on maintaining the strength of its core product lines, through investments to streamline, automate and improve efficiencies and throughput while reducing labor, promotes sustainable cash flow and continued value creation. A commitment to Lean Enterprise and a disciplined culture of continuous process improvement is a high priority throughout the Company and supports its goal of strengthening the core product lines to be the industry's high-quality, low-cost producer.

Quad/Graphics believes that its national distribution network is also a key attribute in its ability to strengthen the core foundation of the Company. Quad/Graphics has made strategic capital expenditures and information technology ("IT") investments to build what it believes is one of the most efficient and innovative distribution networks in the commercial printing industry. The Company's goal, and an integral component of how Quad/Graphics creates client value, is to maintain and utilize a fully integrated, national distribution network to help mitigate rising postage costs for its clients by minimizing their total cost of production and distribution.

Quad/Graphics also strengthens the core of the Company through a dedicated focus on having the right people in the right roles at the right time. The Company benefits from leadership consistency and longevity with senior executives having decades of print industry experience, which gives them valuable knowledge and perspective. The Company also continues to enhance its leadership team, bringing aboard complementary, experienced talent who can immediately contribute to advancing the Company's goals.

2. Grow the Business Profitably

The Company believes it is well positioned to grow the business profitably. Key components of this strategy are centered on the Company's ability to grow through ongoing innovation, organic growth and disciplined acquisitions. Innovation takes many different forms at Quad/Graphics. From a client perspective, Quad/Graphics believes that marketing today has been upended due to the proliferation of digital media which has increased complexity and created a crisis in measurement given that many client organizational structures are siloed by media channel expertise. This marketing shift has created an opportunity for both Quad/Graphics and its clients to innovate and create enhanced

value. The Company believes that no channel is an island; each influences and impacts the other. Quad/Graphics also believes that print delivers high levels of marketing ROI, especially when used in combination with other media channels. As supported by the November 2015 InfoTrends study Micro to Mega: Trends in Business Communications, using multiple media channels yields a better response rate for integrated marketing campaigns. Specifically, marketers reported an

7

Table of Contents

average improvement of 28% in response rate when adding email, social media, and mobile application channels to their print campaigns.

The Company leverages knowledge from existing client relationships in key vertical industries to drive innovation and the development of complementary products and services that help brand owners market their products, services and content more efficiently and effectively across media channels. The Company is focused on ensuring it has the right talent in the best positions to have strategic marketing conversations with its clients to define their needs, develop tailored solutions and grow market share. Clients benefit from improved performance and ROI on their marketing spend through better reach and end-user engagement, improved response and increased revenue derived from these cross-channel marketing programs.

From a manufacturing platform perspective, innovation drives the Company's ability to help its clients precisely segment and target their audience to deliver relevant content, ads and offers. Through advanced variable printing capabilities and data management solutions, the Company can provide relevant content to encourage one-to-one end consumer connection and reader engagement. Innovation through automation in the manufacturing platform also allows Quad/Graphics to improve productivity and reduce costs in support of the Company's long standing commitment to be the industry's high-quality, low-cost producer.

Another key attribute of this strategy is the Company's ability to grow the business through compelling, ongoing platform investments that drive profitable organic growth and productivity in the Company's current business, as well as using a disciplined approach to execute on acquisitions that help the Company transition into chapter three of its journey. This includes pursuing growth opportunities that will help transform an existing product line, or expand Quad/Graphics' business into higher growth product and service categories that are a logical extension of its core print product lines. The Company also believes that additional value-driven industry consolidation opportunities will create measurable value through the addition of complementary capabilities, allowing the Company to provide an enhanced range of products and services, and create significant efficiencies in the overall print production and distribution processes.

3. Walk in the Shoes of our Clients

Quad/Graphics believes that every client, regardless of size, is the most important client. A key component of Quad/Graphics' client-facing strategy is to strengthen relationships at different levels inside a client's organization so the Company can better understand, anticipate and exceed the client's needs—sometimes before the client even knows it has a need. The Company's goal is to become an invaluable strategic partner to its clients—a partner who is focused on helping each client successfully navigate today's changing media landscape. While Quad/Graphics has dedicated sales, sales service and customer service representatives, the Company reinforces that all employees, regardless of job title, are part of the Quad/Graphics' client experience team. As such, all employees are responsible for meeting the needs of its clients every day, making it easy to do work with Quad/Graphics, and making the client experience enjoyable at every touchpoint. Quad/Graphics believes its strategy to walk in the shoes of our clients helps all employees focus on the client experience at all touchpoints throughout its end-to-end process to improve client satisfaction and create loyalty to the Quad/Graphics brand. The Company also believes its proactive thought leadership in the key issues facing clients—such as cross-channel marketing and postal reform—will create value and deepen client relationships.

4. Engage Employees

Quad/Graphics' strategy to engage employees builds on key aspects of its distinct corporate culture, including an organization-wide entrepreneurial spirit and opportunity-seeking mentality where employees are encouraged to take pride and ownership in their work; take advantage of continuous learning, apprentice and job-advancement opportunities; share knowledge by mentoring others; and innovate solutions. With the encouragement to do things

differently—and find a better way—the Company believes its employees are more fully engaged in producing better results for clients and the local communities surrounding its facilities, and advancing the Company's strategic goals.

Table of Contents

The Company believes one of the most important ways it can drive employee engagement is by acting on a continuous employee feedback loop. Quad/Graphics believes in transparent and regular two-way communication with employees. The Company provides the opportunity for all employees to have a voice or share an opinion through a number of different channels including surveys and open forums at Company town hall and department meetings. The Company then demonstrates its commitment to their engagement by maintaining a safe work environment while implementing programs and policies that address their needs and/or suggestions. At the same time, the Company consistently reinforces the Company's long-standing eight core values that drive how the Company operates: Believe in People, Do the Right Thing, Trust in Trust, Innovate, Grow, Make Money, Have Fun, and Do Things for the Rose (i.e., do things for the sake of excellence).

5. Enhance Financial Strength and Create Shareholder Value

Quad/Graphics follows a disciplined approach to maintaining and enhancing financial strength to create shareholder value, which is essential given ongoing industry challenges. This key strategic goal is centered on the Company's ability to maximize Free Cash Flow, net earnings and EBITDA; maintain consistent financial policies to ensure a strong balance sheet and liquidity level; and retain the financial flexibility needed to strategically allocate and deploy capital as circumstances change.

The priorities for capital allocation and deployment are adjusted based on prevailing circumstances and what the Company thinks is best for shareholder value creation at any particular point in time. Those priorities currently include the following: (1) deleveraging the Company's balance sheet through debt and pension liability reductions; (2) making compelling investments that drive profitable organic growth and productivity in the Company's current business, as well as executing on acquisitions through a disciplined approach that includes expansion into higher-growth products and services that are complementary to its core product and service lines, and pursuing value-driven industry consolidation; and (3) returning capital to shareholders through dividends and share repurchases.

Competitive Advantages

Quad/Graphics believes its success has been fueled by a number of key competitive advantages that drive its five primary strategic goals. These competitive advantages are an efficient, flexible and modern manufacturing platform; vertically integrated non-print capabilities; a client-centric approach; leading mailing and distribution capabilities; a commitment to ongoing innovation and rapid adoption of technology with a focus on execution and influencing media spend for its clients; a disciplined and consistent financial approach; a well-defined integration process; and a distinct corporate culture that empowers and engages employees to think and act like owners to drive business results.

Efficient, Flexible and Modern Manufacturing Platform

The Company has continuously invested in its manufacturing platform through modern equipment and automation that allow for more pages to be printed for each revolution of the press, reducing the amount of time that each individual printing job takes to complete. In addition, the Company's long-standing commitment to invest in its manufacturing platform to create productivity improvements has led to more automation designed to reduce labor costs, maximize labor productivity and increase throughput. The Company's investment in its manufacturing platform has consistently been based on evaluating the useful economic life of the underlying equipment rather than focusing on the potential mechanical life of the equipment. This discipline is critical in an industry in which technological change can create obsolescence well before the end of the mechanical life of equipment.

Another key aspect of the Company's modern manufacturing platform is the combination of its footprint of mega plants (facilities greater than 1.0 million square feet) that produce a number of different products under one roof; mega

zones where multiple facilities in close geographic proximity are managed as one large facility; and smaller strategically located facilities. The Company has continued to evolve its platform, equipping facilities to be product line agnostic, which enables the Company to maximize equipment utilization. Quad/Graphics believes that the large plant size of certain of its key printing facilities allows the Company to drive savings in certain product lines (such as magazines and catalogs) due to efficiencies of scale and from investments in automation and technology. Complementing its mega plant and mega zone footprints are smaller facilities, strategically located closer to final

Table of Contents

distribution points for expedited delivery. This allows clients greater deadline flexibility for adjusting content or marketing strategy, especially for commercial products, direct mail and retail inserts. The Company's platform provides it with the flexibility to meet complex customer service requirements, such as quick turns for time-sensitive material, or when weather patterns threaten production or delivery in a specific area of the country.

To achieve its goal to be the industry's high-quality, low-cost producer, Quad/Graphics makes a concerted effort to treat all costs as variable and maintains a stringent focus on achieving productivity improvements and sustainable cost reductions through a variety of continuous improvement programs in both manufacturing and administrative areas. The Company believes it is making progress toward this goal by remaining focused on the following:

- the implementation of sustainable reductions in non-labor and indirect labor spending areas;
- a disciplined approach to improving capacity utilization and productivity across the entire platform; and
- a focused effort to take out direct costs through a variety of means, including the maximization of labor mix and the expansion of continuous improvement programs to reduce waste, eliminate redundancies and shorten cycle times.

Vertically Integrated Non-Print Capabilities

Quad/Graphics has a long history of finding a better way to do business. This approach to business gives the Company a competitive advantage in reducing costs and creating efficiencies for its clients and employees. Vertically-integrated non-print capabilities—such as data management, imaging, logistics and distribution, ink manufacturing, paper procurement, equipment research and design, and health and wellness—assist the Company in delivering lower costs for its clients, enhancing customer service levels, allowing substantial control over critical links in the overall print supply chain (such as the Company's ink manufacturing capabilities which help it control the quality, cost and availability of a key input in the printing process), increasing flexibility and providing more aggregated services to each client.

Chemical Research\Technology ("CR\T") is the ink manufacturing subsidiary of Quad/Graphics. With CR\T, Quad/Graphics is one of the largest ink manufacturers in the United States, and the only United States commercial printer that produces its own inks. Quad/Graphics founded CR\T in 1982 to formulate and manufacture its own special blend of inks based on extensive experience working directly with the Company's press operators. The benefits of manufacturing its own inks include better management of the quality and consistency of the product, a better yield per pound of ink, and increased raw materials purchasing power.

Quad/Graphics has been dedicated to research and development to improve its print manufacturing platform for more than 35 years. The Company's research and development designers and systems engineers work closely with the Company's press and finishing operators and IT professionals, and over the years have developed a range of advancements that the Company's management believes puts its print platform at the forefront of print innovation. The value of these innovations to the industry is supported by the fact that these technology solutions are sold by the Company's QuadTech subsidiary to equipment manufacturers and other printers in the commercial, newspaper and packaging printing industries.

Outside of print, Quad/Graphics successfully integrates health and wellness for all employees through the Company's QuadMed subsidiary, which specializes in employer-sponsored health care solutions. QuadMed was founded in 1990 to address the Company's own employees' needs for quality, cost-effective primary care. In 2013, QuadMed acquired Novia CareClinics, LLC ("Novia"), and today provides workplace solutions on a national level to employers of all sizes, including private and public sector companies. These services include 82 on-site and near-site primary care clinics, telemedicine, and comprehensive health and wellness programs.

Table of Contents

Client-Centric Approach

Throughout its 45-year history, Quad/Graphics has put its partnership with clients at the center of its operations, creating solutions clients need to meet their business objectives. Quad/Graphics has made a concerted effort to hire talent with client-side experience who can provide unique insights into how the client operates and where they may be experiencing a marketing challenge the Company can help solve. To better serve the evolving needs of marketers and publishers in today's multimedia world, Quad/Graphics streamlined its United States organization in 2015 by consolidating several print product lines into two main sales groups—Marketing Solutions and Publishing Solutions. The Company believes that this streamlined approach will better align its offerings with its clients' expanding integrated marketing and publishing needs and help drive future innovation. The Company uses a consultative approach to tailor its wide range of print products and complementary services to the unique characteristics of each vertical industry it serves. This consultative approach includes the following:

leveraging its integrated data analytics, finishing technology and logistics operations, which allow clients to create and track customized and relevant communications across channels on a cost-effective basis, with the objective of delivering higher response rates at a lower cost;

consulting with clients on marketing strategies to integrate personalized, targeted print communications (including in-store signage and point-of-purchase displays), with other media channels including mobile, email, the Web, tablets and e-readers, video and social media to drive higher response rates;

improving the cost-effectiveness of local advertising investments through an improved understanding of customers' shopping behavior, messaging preferences and media consumption habits;

developing workflow solutions to help clients streamline content management across multiple channels;

deploying its interactive media capabilities, including planning, executing and monitoring interactive print campaigns, email, personalized URLs, mobile solutions and digital editions, and creating and maintaining microsites in support of effective, cross-channel marketing campaigns to connect print with mobile technologies—such as smartphones and tablets—to create compelling calls to action that drive business results; and

continuing to invest in leading-edge technologies and capabilities to ensure it can provide the most desirable and effective cross-channel solutions to marketers and publishers as technologies and user preferences change.

Quad/Graphics' "high tech/high touch" approach has led to what the Company believes is an excellent client service reputation. The Company uses the latest technology and tools to better connect clients with employees and employees with each other. Its own brand of Smarttools® not only link the Company's people and equipment across its entire network of plants, but extend to the Company's clients as well, creating true, real-time communications integration. For example, the Company's Smarttools® provide clients with access to the very same up-to-the-minute information used by the Company's production, customer service and sales representatives, allowing them to better manage current projects and plan future work.

Quad/Graphics pays particularly close attention to listening to what its clients say about the Company, proactively seeking their input through the annual Quad/Graphics Performance Client Survey. The survey provides sound insights on clients' experience with the Company as well as ways to enhance products, services and overall value. Key concerns are addressed by a Senior Executive Team led by the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, demonstrating the Company's top-down commitment to client satisfaction. Based on survey results, the Company has worked on a series of initiatives to streamline and simplify internal processes to address known pain points; share more information about its expanded product and service offering via a newly launched website (QG.com), including

a focus on its expertise in meeting the needs of specific vertical industries; and provide clients with peer networking and thought leadership opportunities in the key issues facing clients such as cross-channel marketing challenges and postal reform issues. In 2015, the Company held a two-day marketing thought leadership conference where it brought together leading

Table of Contents

marketers and publishers from a diverse group of industries for learning and networking opportunities. The Company's event featured keynote presentations, small group discussions, working breakout sessions and real stories from the front lines of cross-channel marketing. Quad/Graphics' 2015 Postal Conference connected United States Postal Service ("USPS") officials, key Congressional staff and client leadership responsible for circulation, production and marketing with a unique opportunity to share information, and discuss today's most pressing postal issues. Participants took away knowledge to help their business and advance postal regulation and legislation for a sustainable USPS.

Leading Mailing and Distribution Capabilities

Quad/Graphics creates targeted and personalized printed materials for its clients, which helps its clients increase consumer response rates, maximize their return on print spending and reduce overall costs. Quad/Graphics uses its in-data capabilities to analyze mail list data, demographic data, consumer transaction data and other consumer-specific data to help its clients target consumers through personalized printed materials. Personalization and targeting create the opportunity to reach the right recipients with the right (or relevant) message at the right time. The Company believes that integrating its analysis of mail list data with its logistics services allows it to reduce client freight costs for shipments to newsstands and postal centers, while providing a high level of dependability and rapid response times that are crucial to the delivery of time-sensitive materials. Further, the Company uses a national consolidation network to combine like-destination freight to maximize cost-effectiveness.

Postal rates are a significant component of many clients' cost structures, and Quad/Graphics believes that postal costs influence the number of pieces that its clients print and mail. The Company has invested significantly in its mail preparation and distribution capabilities to offset increasing postage costs, and to help clients successfully navigate the ever-changing postal environment. Through its data analytics, unique software to merge mailstreams on a large scale, advanced finishing capabilities and technology, and in-house transportation and logistics operations, the Company manages the mail preparation and distribution of most of its clients' products to maximize efficiency and reduce these costs. The Company helps its United States clients reduce their overall postage costs through what it believes, based on information published by or otherwise made available from its competitors, is the industry's largest co-mail program. The Company's co-mail program involves the sorting and bundling of printed products to be mailed to consumers, in order to facilitate better integration with USPS. The USPS offers significant work-sharing discounts for this sorting, bundling and drop-shipping to more than 300 USPS postal processing centers as it reduces handling by the USPS. By combining the products of multiple clients in the mailstream, the Company leverages the volume from participating clients, regardless of the production facility, to achieve USPS discounts for their benefit. Quad/Graphics co-mailed approximately 5.4 billion magazines, catalogs and direct marketing pieces in 2015. Quad/Graphics estimates that the Company's clients saved an estimated \$260 million in 2015 through the Company's co-mailing programs.

Quad/Graphics is also able to leverage the volume of products running through its plants for further client distribution savings by coordinating and consolidating shipments from single mega plants or multiple plants that create a mega zone, and then routing those shipments directly to thousands of local newspapers, USPS processing facilities or other distribution facilities. In addition, each major United States metropolitan area is within one day's drive of at least one of the Company's strategically located facilities, providing its clients the flexibility to print closest to their end consumers.

Commitment to Ongoing Innovation and Rapid Adoption of Technology with a Focus on Execution and Influencing Media Spend for Its Clients

Over the last five years, Quad/Graphics has invested an average of 3% of its annual net sales for capital expenditures. This investment has resulted in what the Company believes is one of the most advanced and efficient platforms in the

industry and has allowed the Company to reduce the amount invested in recent years without impacting its leading technological excellence. The Company has had a continued commitment to research and development, platform maintenance, manufacturing process improvements and the rapid adoption of technological innovations. For example, in early 2015 the Company announced a three-year plan to transform some of its platform from conventional web offset presses to modern digital presses that will give marketers and publishers a full range of options to produce and deliver relevant direct mail, book and other commercial products faster and more cost-effectively. Another example of Quad/Graphics' innovative approach is the integration of its imaging, manufacturing and distribution networks into a

Table of Contents

single platform using a networked IT infrastructure. This platform—connected via Quad/Graphics' own Smartools®—provides seamless, real-time information flow across sales and estimating, production planning, scheduling, manufacturing, warehousing, logistics, invoicing, reporting and customer service.

From a client-facing technology perspective, Quad/Graphics believes it is at the forefront of the printing industry with creating and/or rapidly adopting services that help marketers and publishers drive improved performance and ROI on their marketing spend. In 2015, Quad/Graphics announced the expansion of its existing BlueSoho business, expanding its marketing agency solutions offering into campaign development, shopper activation and mobile/digital programming. The Company believes that BlueSoho will play an important role in defining its path forward as it is now uniquely capable of orchestrating cross-media programs that turn shoppers into buyers and buyers into loyal brand advocates. The expanding service set is now comprised of local promotional strategy, conceptual design, media planning and buying, creative development, production services, marketplace deployment and program measurement. This strategic repositioning of BlueSoho as an independent brand enables Quad/Graphics to capture new business, especially among brand owners who understand the benefits of fully orchestrated media execution and actionable brand experiences—from campaign development through all forms of media activation.

Data supports the Company's belief that marketers will continue to use a multichannel approach. The November 2015 InfoTrends study Micro to Mega: Trends in Business Communications found that utilizing multiple media channels yielded a better response rate for marketing campaigns. Specifically, marketers reported an average improvement of 28% in response rate when adding email, social media, and mobile application channels to their print campaigns.

The Company has long believed that print possesses the unique ability to create an emotional connection with consumers and readers that promotes engagement and response. Data supports the Company's belief that print works. According to the December 2015 InfoTrends study Direct Marketing Production Printing & Value-Added Services: A Strategy for Growth, 62% of consumers receiving printed catalogs that made a purchase within the last three months were influenced by the catalog. Furthermore, the study found that two-thirds of direct mail is opened and more than 40% of consumers have made a purchase in the last three months because of a piece of direct mail they received.

Quad/Graphics also conducts an annual quantitative research study, Customer Focus®™, which provides consumer views on singular and integrated media usage via an extensive survey. For example, the 2015 Customer Focus® study found that 60% of United States adults use retail inserts to find sales, coupons or promotions, and 65% of United States adults want to receive direct mail that is personalized with customized offers based on needs, interests and purchase history. The survey reveals the unique characteristics of special demographic, generational, gender and socio-economic groups and how they consume advertising and marketing messaging, and their attitudes and engagement preferences in a number of industry segments. The Company's clients use these insights to validate current marketing strategies and form strategies for new programs. Further, when coupled with third-party persona data sources, Customer Focus® provides the Company's clients with a basis for segmentation, creative and messaging relevancy, regardless of delivery channel.

This active response to print has influenced magazines publishers to increase usage of custom product covers to enhance reader engagement and retailers who primarily use digital channels, such as online-only retailers, or electronic-retailers, to incorporate print into their marketing strategy. In the past 24 months, the Company has assisted more than 40 electronic retail clients to mail printed catalogs or direct mail for the first time. Of these clients, 95% continue to market with print and more than 50% have increased page count, circulation or delivery frequency.

Table of Contents

Disciplined and Consistent Financial Approach

As a controlled public company, Quad/Graphics enjoys the competitive advantage of remaining under the leadership and control of the founder's family. The Quadracci family has had consistent control over the Company's operations and decision-making process since its founding in 1971, which allows for a longer-term strategic view with stability of leadership and strategic vision and deployment. As of February 18, 2016, the Quadracci family retains approximately 80% voting control of the Company through the ownership of high-vote stock. This leadership and voting control structure enables the Company to manage the Company's strategy and financial policy by having the foresight to make decisions today that could impact the Company years from now and avoiding the pitfalls of short-term decision-making that could potentially jeopardize the stability and longevity of the Company.

Quad/Graphics believes that its disciplined financial approach of focusing on maximizing earnings and Free Cash Flow, and maintaining a strong balance sheet provides a competitive advantage. Continuous Improvement and Lean Manufacturing methodologies are among the tools that Quad/Graphics uses to improve manufacturing productivity and to ultimately maximize operating margins. The Company applies these same methodologies to its selling, general and administrative functions to create a truly Lean Enterprise. Additionally, Quad/Graphics has a culture of continuous cost reduction that includes minimizing waste, increasing efficiencies and throughput, and simplifying and streamlining processes. The Company has been working diligently to lower its cost structure by consolidating its manufacturing platform into its most efficient facilities, as well as realizing purchasing, mailing and logistics efficiencies by centralizing and consolidating print manufacturing volumes and eliminating redundancies in its administrative and corporate operations. Quad/Graphics believes that its focused efforts to be the high-quality, low-cost producer generates increased Free Cash Flow and allows the Company to maintain a strong balance sheet through debt and pension liability reductions. The Company's disciplined financial approach also allows it to maintain sufficient liquidity as well as to reduce refinancing risk, with the nearest significant maturity not occurring until April 2019.

The Company takes a very disciplined approach to its capital allocation decisions. A key part of this discipline is a goal of having ROI exceed the cost of capital, whether the investments are related to purchasing the right equipment or investing in the right strategic growth initiatives. The Company balances the use of cash between deleveraging the balance sheet through debt and pension liability reductions; making compelling investment opportunities; or returning cash back to shareholders through dividends and share repurchases.

When reviewing an investment opportunity, such as a consolidating acquisition, Quad/Graphics uses a disciplined, value-driven approach to ensure the following criteria are met before any opportunity is selected:

- **Strategic Fit.** The Company conducts a thorough review process to ensure a potential acquisition will be a good strategic fit.

- **Economics Make Sense.** The Company ensures that the economics make sense and will create value through an enhanced range of products and services, revenue-generating solutions and increased efficiencies. Key economics include the negotiated purchase price, targeted efficiencies from integrating the companies together and the necessary cost to achieve those synergies.

- **Executable Integration Plan.** The Company makes certain that the integration plan is executable in a timely manner and without risk of significant client disruption. The Company has a holistic approach to integration and measures success with four key elements: financial metrics, client retention and satisfaction, employee integration, and IT and platform integration.

-

Balance Sheet Integrity. The Company ensures that post-acquisition, it retains the financial strength and flexibility it had prior to the acquisition.

Table of Contents

Well-Defined Integration Process

As Quad/Graphics has grown through acquisitions, it has refined its integration process, creating what it believes to be a very well-defined and disciplined approach. The Company's integration process puts a strong focus on serving clients well—minimizing disruption and maximizing retention—while improving the efficiency and productivity of its platform to drive cost savings. The Company does not simply "bolt on" its acquisitions, leaving them to operate independently and overlooking the opportunities to eliminate redundancies and improve efficiencies. Rather, it seeks to fully integrate the business. Following an integration, Quad/Graphics takes a holistic approach to measuring success, considering client retention and satisfaction, employee integration, IT and platform integration and financial metrics. The Company uses the knowledge gained to improve future integration processes and has applied the same discipline to manage cost reduction initiatives through the Company's Project Management Office.

Given that integrating corporate cultures is one of the most complex and important efforts following an acquisition, the Company puts a strong focus on it. Looking specifically at employee integration efforts, Quad/Graphics spends time helping new employees understand Company culture, including how it runs the business and the values system that drives decision-making and conduct. As necessary, new employees in management and supervisory roles participate in a training program that helps them develop a deeper understanding of the organization and resources.

Distinct Corporate Culture

Quad/Graphics believes that its distinct corporate culture, which evolved from a core set of values conceived by the late founder Harry V. Quadracci, drives thoughtful decision-making, especially with regard to how it manages operations and creates solutions that redefine print in a multichannel media landscape, and better positions the Company to prevail in the dynamic and competitive printing industry. The Company fosters an entrepreneurial environment by inspiring and empowering employees to own projects and enact solutions that advance the Company's goals. Employees in the United States also may have a beneficial ownership interest in the Company through company stock held in an employee stock ownership plan, enhancing their sense of ownership. The Company believes that the empowerment, engagement and development of its employee owners foster a strong partnership approach within the business that delivers results.

To maintain a culture of employee empowerment, the Company helps employees keep current on skills through education and training programs offered on the job and in the classroom. Continuous Improvement classes include Lean Enterprise and Six Sigma training, designed to empower both production and administrative employees to find better ways to do their jobs and improve department and Company performance. Safety initiatives include regular safety huddles and quizzes to discuss safe work conduct and promote a safety mindset, as well as on-site safety classes, including first-responder training. The Company also maintains what it believes to be the industry's premier management training program, also known as the Corporate Training Program, which attracts capable, inspired next-generation talent as well as experienced, ready-to-contribute second-career talent.

Quad/Graphics further invests in its employees by providing personal improvement classes, financial and retirement planning and comprehensive health and wellness benefits. Through its own network of QuadMed primary care clinics located at larger worksite locations, and combined with advanced telemedicine systems, the Company provides high-quality primary medical care and specialty services to employees and their families at a low cost. The Company demonstrates its commitment to wellness through onsite fitness centers at a number of printing plant locations, as well as by offering smoking cessation, weight-management and nutrition classes among other wellness-related programs; providing employee assistance program counseling services; and developing its own programs with financial incentives for managing chronic conditions such as diabetes and asthma (known as Well You) and promoting healthy lifestyles. QuadMed also sells this business model of healthcare services to third-party businesses.

Table of Contents

The Company has a number of programs designed to attract next-generation talent while retaining and engaging existing, valued employees. These programs include "Think Smalls," a small-group gathering outside of work hours to strengthen co-worker relationships and provide a forum for meaningful business discussion; an industry years of service recognition program; and financial and volunteer support in the communities where employees live and work. These programs are part of the Company's "Quad Proud" campaign that recognizes individual employee contributions to the Company's collective success while never forgetting the importance of being a Quad/Graphics team member, which includes the obligation to mentor the next generation of employees.

Quad/Graphics is led by an experienced management team with a proven track record in the printing industry that is committed to preserving the Company's values-based culture. The senior management team includes individuals with long tenure with the Company augmented with seasoned industry talent realized through strategic hiring or recent acquisitions, further supported by managers and employees committed to advancing print solutions in coordination with the ever-evolving multichannel media landscape. The Company believes the experience and stability of senior management, paired with next-generation entrepreneurially minded employees, will contribute to its long-term success as it continues on its path forward.

Segment Description

Quad/Graphics operates primarily in the commercial print portion of the printing industry, with related product and service offerings designed to offer clients complete solutions for communicating their message to target audiences. The Company's operating and reportable segments are aligned with how the chief operating decision maker of the Company currently manages the business. The Company's reportable and operating segments and their product and service offerings are summarized below:

United States Print and Related Services

The United States Print and Related Services segment is predominantly comprised of the Company's United States printing operations and is managed as one integrated platform. This includes retail inserts, publications, catalogs, special interest publications, journals, direct mail, books, directories, in-store marketing and promotion, packaging, newspapers, custom print products, other commercial and specialty printed products and global paper procurement, together with complementary service offerings, including marketing strategy, media planning and placement, data insights, segmentation and response analytics services, creative services, videography, photography, workflow solutions, digital imaging, facilities management services, digital publishing, interactive print solutions including image recognition and near field communication technology, mailing, distribution, logistics, and data optimization and hygiene services. This segment also includes the manufacture of ink. The United States Print and Related Services segment accounted for approximately 92%, 91% and 90% of Quad/Graphics' consolidated net sales in 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

International

The International segment consists of the Company's printing operations in Europe and Latin America, including operations in England, France, Germany, Poland, Argentina, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, as well as strategic investments in printing operations in Brazil and India. This segment provides printed products and complementary service offerings consistent with the United States Print and Related Services segment. The International segment accounted for approximately 8%, 9% and 10% of the Company's consolidated net sales in 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Table of Contents

Corporate

Corporate consists of unallocated general and administrative activities and associated expenses including, in part, executive, legal and finance. In addition, in 2014 and 2015 certain expenses and income from frozen employee retirement plans, such as pension and postretirement benefit plans, are included in Corporate and not allocated to the operating segment.

For additional financial information by segment and geographic area, see Note 22, "Segment Information," and Note 23, "Geographic Area and Product Information," to the consolidated financial statements, respectively, in Part II, Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. For a discussion of the risks attendant to the Company's foreign operations, see the risk factor titled "There are risks associated with the Company's operations outside of the United States" in Item 1A, "Risk Factors," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Competition

The printing industry, with approximately 45,000 companies in the United States, is highly fragmented and competitive. The four largest printing companies account for less than 20% of total commercial print industry annual revenue in the United States, with Quad/Graphics being the second largest. Although there has been significant industry consolidation, particularly in the past decade, the largest 400 printers in the printing industry still only represent just over half of the total industry revenue in the United States, according to the December 2015 Printing Impressions PI400. According to the October 2015 Printing in the U.S. IBISWorld industry report, the majority of commercial printers in the United States are privately owned and generate, on average, less than \$35 million in annual revenue and approximately 70% of firms operating in the industry have fewer than 10 employees.

In addition to being in a highly fragmented industry, the Company also faces competition due to the increased accessibility and quality of digital alternatives to traditional delivery of printed documents through the online distribution and hosting of media content, and the digital distribution of documents and data. In addition, the Company faces competition from print management firms, which look to streamline processes and reduce the overall print spend of the Company's clients, as well as from strategic marketing firms focused on helping businesses integrate multiple channels into their marketing campaigns.

Across Quad/Graphics' range of products and services, competition is based on a number of factors, including the following:

- total price of printing, materials and distribution;
- quality;
- range of services offered, including the ability to provide multichannel marketing campaigns;
- marketing expertise;
- distribution capabilities;
- customer service;
- access to a highly skilled workforce;
- availability to schedule work on appropriate equipment;

• on-time production and delivery; and

• state-of-the-art technology to meet a client's business objectives, including the ability to adopt new technology quickly.

17

Table of Contents

Clients

Quad/Graphics enjoys long-standing relationships with a diverse base of clients, which includes both national and regional corporations in North America, South America, Europe and Asia. The Company's clients include industry-leading blue chip companies that operate in a wide range of industries and serve both businesses and consumers, including retailers, publishers and direct marketers. The Company's relationships with its largest clients average more than 19 years in duration.

In 2015, Quad/Graphics served approximately 9,400 clients, and its 10 largest clients accounted for approximately 15% of consolidated sales, with none representing more than 5% individually. The Company believes that its large and diverse client base, broad geographic coverage and extensive range of printing and print-related capabilities are competitive strengths.

Patents, Trademarks and Trade Names

Quad/Graphics operates research and development facilities that support the development of new equipment, process improvements, raw materials and content management, and distribution technologies to better meet client needs and improve operating efficiencies. The Company continues to innovate within the printing and print-related industry and, as a result, has developed what it believes to be one of the most powerful patent portfolios in the print industry.

Quad/Graphics currently holds or has rights to commercialize a wide variety of worldwide patents and applications relating to its business. The Company intends to continue to file patent applications that it believes will help ensure the continued strength of the Company and its portfolio. Additionally, the Company markets products, services and capabilities under a number of trademarks and trade names. Quad/Graphics aggressively defends its intellectual property rights and intends to continue to do so in the future.

Raw Materials

The primary raw materials that Quad/Graphics uses in its print business are paper, ink and energy. At this time, the Company's supply of raw materials is readily available from numerous vendors; however, based on market conditions, that could change in the future. The Company generally buys these raw materials based upon market prices that are established with the vendor as part of the procurement process.

The majority of paper used by the Company is supplied directly by its clients. For those clients that do not directly supply their own paper, the Company makes use of its purchasing efficiencies to supply paper by negotiating with leading paper vendors, uses a wide variety of paper grades, weights and sizes, and does not rely on any one vendor. In addition, the Company generally includes price adjustment clauses in sales contracts for paper and other critical raw materials in the printing process. Although these clauses generally mitigate paper price risk, higher paper prices and tight paper supplies may have an impact on client demand for printed products. The Company's working capital requirements, including the impact of seasonality, are partially mitigated through the direct purchasing of paper by its clients.

The Company produces the majority of ink used in its print production, allowing it to control the quality, cost and supply of key inputs. Raw materials for the ink manufacturing process are purchased externally from a variety of vendors.

The Company generally cannot pass on to clients the impact of higher electric and natural gas energy prices on its manufacturing costs, and increases in energy prices result in higher manufacturing costs for certain of its operations.

The Company mitigates its risk through natural gas hedges when appropriate. In its logistic operations, however, the Company is able to pass a substantial portion of any increase in fuel prices directly to its clients.

Table of Contents

Environmental Stewardship

As the owner, lessee or operator of various real properties and facilities, Quad/Graphics is subject to various federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations, including those relating to air emissions; waste generation, handling, management and disposal; sanitary and storm water discharge; and remediation of contaminated sites. Historically, compliance with these laws and regulations has not had a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations, financial position or cash flows. Compliance with existing or new environmental laws and regulations may require the Company to make future expenditures.

Quad/Graphics strives to be the leader in the printing industry in adopting new technologies and processes to minimize the Company's impact on the environment. The Company believes it has long been known for its environmental stewardship. Quad/Graphics' proactive approach to incorporate holistic practices has also positively impacted operating costs through the reduction of waste, energy use, emissions, as well as through the implementation of water conservation solutions. The Company has also undertaken steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from its manufacturing processes and to improve fuel efficiency and reduce emissions in its fleet of Company-owned tractor trailers.

Employees

As of December 31, 2015, Quad/Graphics had approximately 22,500 full-time equivalent employees in North America, South America, Europe and Asia. Within the United States, there were approximately 19,600 full-time equivalent employees of which approximately 800 were covered by a collective bargaining agreement. Outside of the United States, there were approximately 2,900 full-time equivalent employees, of which approximately 1,300 were either governed by agreements that apply industry-wide, by a collective bargaining agreement or through works councils or similar arrangements. Quad/Graphics believes that its employee relations are good and that the Company maintains an employee-centric culture.

Business Acquisitions

The following is a listing of the Company's 2015 acquisition activity. For additional information related to the Company's acquisition activity, see Note 2, "Acquisitions and Strategic Investments," to the consolidated financial statements in Part II, Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

- The Company completed the acquisition of Specialty, a full-service paperboard folding carton manufacturer and logistics provider located in Omaha, Nebraska, on August 25, 2015.

The Company completed the acquisition of Copac, a leading international provider of innovative packaging and supply chain solutions, including turnkey packaging design, production and fulfillment services across a range of end markets headquartered in Spartanburg, South Carolina, on April 14, 2015.

The Company completed the acquisition of Marin's, a worldwide leader in the point-of-sale display industry headquartered in Paris, France, on February 3, 2015.

Table of Contents

Executive Officers of Quad/Graphics

The following table sets forth the names, ages (as of February 18, 2016) and positions of Quad/Graphics' executive officers.

Name	Age	Position
J. Joel Quadracci	47	Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer
John C. Fowler	65	Vice Chairman and Executive Vice President of Global Strategy and Corporate Development
Thomas J. Frankowski	55	Chief Operating Officer
Renee B. Badura	52	Executive Vice President of Sales
David A. Blais	53	Executive Vice President of Global Procurement and Platform Strategy
David J. Honan	47	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Jennifer J. Kent	44	Executive Vice President of Administration and General Counsel
Kelly A. Vanderboom	41	President of Logistics, Vice President and Treasurer
Steven D. Jaeger	51	Vice President and Chief Information Officer
Nancy J. Ott	50	Vice President of Human Resources
Maura D. Packham	47	Vice President of Marketing and Communications
Anthony C. Staniak	43	Vice President, Corporate Controller and Chief Accounting Officer

Mr. Quadracci has served as the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Quad/Graphics since January 2010. He previously served as President and Chief Executive Officer from July 2006 to January 2010, President from January 2005 to July 2006 and has served as a director of Quad/Graphics since 2003. Mr. Quadracci joined Quad/Graphics in 1991 and, prior to becoming President and Chief Executive Officer, served in various capacities, including Sales Manager, Regional Sales Strategy Director, Vice President of Print Sales, Senior Vice President of Sales & Administration, and President and Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Quadracci is the brother of Kathryn Quadracci Flores, a director of the Company, and the brother-in-law of Christopher B. Harned, a director of the Company. Quad/Graphics believes that Mr. Quadracci's experience in the printing industry and in leadership positions with the Company qualifies him for service as a director of the Company.

Mr. Fowler has served as Vice Chairman and Executive Vice President of Global Strategy and Corporate Development since March 2014. He previously served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer from July 2010 to March 2014, as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer from May 2005 to July 2010 and as Vice President and Controller from when he joined Quad/Graphics in 1980 (which at the time was the Company's top financial position) until May 2005. Prior to joining Quad/Graphics, Mr. Fowler worked for Arthur Andersen LLP for six years.

Mr. Frankowski has served as Chief Operating Officer since March 2014. He previously served as Executive Vice President of Manufacturing & Operations and President of Europe from July 2010 to March 2014. Prior thereto, Mr. Frankowski was Senior Vice President of Manufacturing from 2004 to July 2010, President of Quad/Graphics Europe, Quad/Graphics' Polish subsidiary, from 2008 to July 2010, and he served in various other capacities since he joined Quad/Graphics in 1979.

Ms. Badura has served as Executive Vice President of Sales since June 2015. She previously served as Vice President of Omnichannel Sales Strategy from February 2014 to June 2015, as Regional Vice President of Sales-Midwest for Marketing Solutions from January 2012 to February 2014, as Vice President of Sales - East Coast for Magazines and Catalogs from April 2007 to December 2011, as Vice President of Sales - West Coast from January 2004 to March 2007 and in various other capacities since she joined Quad/Graphics in 1986.

Table of Contents

Mr. Blais has served as Executive Vice President of Global Procurement and Platform Strategy since March 2014. He previously served as Executive Vice President of Sales and Client Services from January 2012 to March 2014 and as Executive Vice President and President of Magazines and Catalogs from July 2010 to January 2012. Mr. Blais was Senior Vice President of Sales & Administration from May 2005 to July 2010, Quad/Graphics' Vice President of Operations from 1999 to May 2005 and in various other capacities since he joined Quad/Graphics in 1984.

Mr. Honan has served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer since January 2015. He previously served as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer from March 2014 to January 2015, Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer from July 2010 to March 2014, Vice President and Corporate Controller from December 2009 to July 2010 and as the Company's Corporate Controller from when he joined Quad/Graphics in May 2009 until December 2009. Prior to joining Quad/Graphics, Mr. Honan served as Vice President, General Manager and Chief Financial Officer of Journal Community Publishing Group, a subsidiary of media conglomerate Journal Communications Inc., for five years. Before joining Journal Community Publishing Group, Mr. Honan worked in executive-level roles in investor relations and corporate development at Newell Rubbermaid, a global marketer of consumer and commercial products. Prior thereto, Mr. Honan worked at the accounting firm Arthur Andersen LLP for 11 years.

Ms. Kent has served as Executive Vice President of Administration and General Counsel since June 2015. She previously served as Vice President and General Counsel from December 2013 to June 2015 and as the Company's Assistant General Counsel from when she joined Quad/Graphics in August 2010 until December 2013. Prior to joining Quad/Graphics, Ms. Kent held various positions in the legal department at Harley-Davidson Motor Company from March 2003 to July 2010. Prior thereto, Ms. Kent served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin and practiced law at Foley & Lardner LLP, a Milwaukee-based law firm.

Mr. Vanderboom has served as President of Logistics, Vice President and Treasurer since March 2014. He previously served as Quad/Graphics' Vice President & Treasurer from 2008 to March 2014 and as its Treasurer from 2007 to 2008. Prior to becoming Quad/Graphics' Treasurer, Mr. Vanderboom served as Director of Treasury, Risk & Planning from 2006 until 2007, as Controller of Quad/Graphics' Distribution and Facilities departments from 2004 until 2006, and in various other capacities since he joined Quad/Graphics in 1993.

Mr. Jaeger has served as Vice President and Chief Information Officer since November 2015. He previously served as Executive Vice President, President of Direct Marketing and Chief Information Officer from November 2014 to November 2015, as Executive Vice President, President of Direct Marketing and Media Solutions and Chief Information Officer from March 2014 to November 2014, as Corporate Vice President of Information and Technology for Quad/Graphics since 2013, Vice President of Information Systems and Infrastructure from 2007 to 2012 and as President of Quad/Direct since August 2007. Prior thereto, Mr. Jaeger had been Quad/Graphics' Vice President of Information Systems from 1998 to 2006 and had worked in various other capacities since he joined the Company in 1994. Prior to joining Quad/Graphics, Mr. Jaeger worked for Andersen Consulting for eight years.

Ms. Ott has served as Vice President of Human Resources since December 2013. She previously served as the Company's Executive Director of Human Resources from 2009 to 2013, as Manager of Human Resources from 1994 to 2009 and as Employee Services Generalist from 1986 to 1994. Prior to joining Quad/Graphics, Ms. Ott worked for Principal Financial Group.

Ms. Packham has served as Vice President of Marketing and Communications from when she joined Quad/Graphics in July 2010. Prior to joining Quad/Graphics, Ms. Packham served as World Color Press' Vice President of Marketing for North America during 2010 and as World Color Press' Vice President of Marketing for the Marketing Solutions Group from 2003 to 2009. She joined World Color Press in 1995 as a senior financial analyst.

Table of Contents

Mr. Staniak has served as Vice President, Corporate Controller and Chief Accounting Officer since January 2015. He previously served as Executive Director, Financial Controller and Chief Accounting Officer from March 2014 to January 2015, as Executive Director and Financial Controller from March 2013 to March 2014, as Director of Internal Audit from November 2011 to March 2013 and as Director of External Reporting from when he joined Quad/Graphics in October 2009 until November 2011. Prior to joining Quad/Graphics, Mr. Staniak served as Chief Financial Officer for the data consulting firm Sagence, Inc. since 2002. Prior thereto, Mr. Staniak worked in the audit division of the accounting firm Arthur Andersen LLP since 1995.

Executive officers of the Company are elected by and serve at the discretion of the Company's board of directors. Other than described above, there are no family relationships between any directors or executive officers of Quad/Graphics.

Table of Contents

Item 1A. Risk Factors

You should carefully consider each of the risks described below, together with all of the other information contained in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, before making an investment decision with respect to Quad/Graphics' securities. If any of the following risks develop into actual events, the Company's business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially and adversely affected, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

Quad/Graphics operates in a highly competitive industry.

Quad/Graphics operates primarily in the commercial print portion of the printing industry. The printing industry, with approximately 45,000 companies in the United States, is highly fragmented and competitive. The four largest printing companies account for less than 20% of total commercial print industry annual revenue in the United States. Although there has been significant industry consolidation, particularly in the past decade, the largest 400 printers in the printing industry still only represent just over half of the total industry revenue in the United States, according to the December 2015 Printing Impressions PI400. According to the October 2015 Printing in the U.S. IBISWorld Industry Report, the majority of commercial printers in the United States are privately owned and generate, on average, less than \$35 million in annual revenue and approximately 70% of firms operating in the industry have fewer than 10 employees. As such, the Company competes for business not only with large and mid-sized printers, but also with smaller regional printers. In certain circumstances, due primarily to factors such as freight rates and client preference for local services, printers with better access to certain regions of a given country may be preferred by clients in such regions.

In recent years, the printing industry has experienced a reduction in demand for printed materials and overcapacity due to various factors including the great recession of 2008 and 2009, which severely impacted volumes and competition from alternative sources of communication, including email, the Web, electronic readers, interactive television and electronic retailing. The impacts of overcapacity and intense competition have led to continued downward pricing pressures. Printing industry revenues may continue to decrease in the future. Some of the industries that the Company services have been subject to consolidation efforts, leading to a smaller number of potential clients. Furthermore, if the smaller clients of Quad/Graphics are consolidated with larger companies using other printing companies, the Company could lose its clients to competing printing companies.

The printing industry is highly competitive and expected to remain so. Any failure on the part of the Company to compete effectively in the markets it serves could have a material adverse effect on its results of operations, financial condition or cash flows and could require changes to the way it conducts its business or require it to reassess strategic alternatives involving its operations.

Significant downward pricing pressure and decreasing demand for printing services caused by factors outside of the Company's control may adversely affect the Company.

The Company has experienced significant downward pricing pressures for printing services in the past, and pricing for printing services has declined significantly in recent years. Such pricing may continue to decline from current levels. In addition, demand for printing services has decreased in recent years and may continue to decrease. Any increases in the supply of printing services or decreases in demand could cause prices to continue to decline, and prolonged periods of low prices, weak demand and/or excess supply could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business growth, results of operations and liquidity.

Table of Contents

Quad/Graphics may not be able to reduce costs and improve its operating efficiency rapidly enough to meet market conditions.

Because the markets in which the Company competes are highly competitive, Quad/Graphics will need to continue to improve its operating efficiency in order to maintain or improve its profitability. There can be no assurance that the Company's continuing cost reduction efforts will continue to be beneficial to the extent anticipated, or that the estimated productivity, cost savings or cash flow improvements will be realized as anticipated or at all. If the Company's efforts are not successful, it could have an adverse effect on the Company's operations and competitive position. In addition, the need to reduce ongoing operating costs have and, in the future, may continue to result in significant up-front costs to reduce workforce, close or consolidate facilities, or upgrade equipment and technology.

The impact of electronic media and similar technological changes, including the substitution of printed products for digital content, may continue to adversely affect the results of the Company's operations.

The media landscape is experiencing rapid change due to the impact of electronic media and digital content on printed products. Improvements in the accessibility and quality of digital media through the online distribution and hosting of media content, mobile technologies, e-reader technologies, electronic retailing and the digital distribution of documents and data has resulted and may continue to result in increased consumer substitution. Continued consumer acceptance of such digital media, as an alternative to print materials, is uncertain and difficult to predict and may decrease the demand for the Company's printed products, result in reduced pricing for its printing services and additional excess capacity in the printing industry and adversely affect the results of the Company's operations.

Future declines in economic conditions may adversely affect the Company's results of operations.

In general, demand for the Company's products and services is highly related to general economic conditions in the markets Quad/Graphics clients serve. Declines in economic conditions in the United States or in other countries in which the Company operates may adversely impact the Company's financial results, and these impacts may be material. Because such declines in demand are difficult to predict, the Company or the industry may have increased excess capacity as a result. An increase in excess capacity has resulted and may continue to result in declines in prices for the Company's products and services. In addition, a prolonged decline in the global economy and an uncertain economic outlook has and could further reduce the demand in the printing industry. Economic weakness and constrained advertising spending have resulted, and may in the future result, in decreased revenue, operating margin, earnings and growth rates and difficulty in managing inventory levels and collecting accounts receivable. The Company has experienced, and expects to experience in the future, excess capacity and lower demand due to economic factors affecting consumers' and businesses' spending behavior. Uncertainty about future economic conditions makes it difficult for the Company to predict results of operations, financial position and cash flows and to make strategic decisions regarding the allocation and deployment of capital.

Quad/Graphics' debt facilities include various covenants imposing restrictions that may affect the Company's ability to operate its business.

On September 1, 1995, and as last amended on November 24, 2014, Quad/Graphics entered into a senior secured note agreement (the "Master Note and Security Agreement") pursuant to which the Company has issued over time senior notes in an aggregate principal amount of \$1.1 billion in various tranches. As of December 31, 2015, the borrowings outstanding under the Master Note and Security Agreement were \$260.4 million. On April 28, 2014, and as last amended on December 18, 2014, the Company entered into a \$1.6 billion senior secured credit facility (the "Senior Secured Credit Facility,") which includes three different loan facilities, a Term Loan A, a Term Loan B, and a revolving credit facility. The \$850.0 million revolving credit facility and the \$450.0 million Term Loan A mature on April 27, 2019. The \$300.0 million Term Loan B matures on April 27, 2021. As of December 31, 2015, the

borrowings outstanding under the Senior Secured Credit Facility was \$774.6 million. On April 28, 2014, the Company also issued \$300.0 million aggregate principal amount of its unsecured 7.0% senior notes due May 1, 2022 ("Senior Unsecured Notes,") all of which remains outstanding as of December 31, 2015.

Table of Contents

The Company's various lending arrangements include certain financial covenants. In addition to the financial covenants, the debt facilities also include certain limitations on acquisitions, indebtedness, liens, dividends and repurchases of capital stock. As of December 31, 2015, the Company was in compliance with all financial covenants in its debt agreements. While the Company currently expects to be in compliance in future periods with all of the financial covenants, there can be no assurance that these covenants will continue to be met. The Company's failure to maintain compliance with the covenants could prevent the Company from borrowing additional amounts and could result in a default under any of the debt agreements. Such default could cause the outstanding indebtedness to become immediately due and payable, by virtue of cross-acceleration or cross-default provisions.

Quad/Graphics' business depends substantially on customer contract renewals and/or customer retention. Any contract non-renewals, renewals on different terms and conditions or decline in the Company's customer retention or expansion could materially adversely affect Quad/Graphics' results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

The Company has historically derived a significant portion of its revenue from long-term contracts with significant clients. If the Company loses significant clients, is unable to renew such contracts on similar terms and conditions, or at all, or is not awarded new long-term contracts with important clients in the future, its results of operations, financial condition and cash flows may be adversely affected.

The Company is exposed to risks of loss in the event of nonperformance by its clients. Some of the Company's clients are highly leveraged or otherwise subject to their own operating and regulatory risks. Even if the Company's credit review and analysis mechanisms work properly, the Company may experience financial losses and loss of future business if its clients become bankrupt, insolvent or otherwise are unable to pay the Company for its work performed. Any increase in the nonpayment or nonperformance by clients could adversely affect the Company's results of operations and financial condition.

Certain of the industries in which the Company's clients operate are experiencing consolidation. When client consolidation occurs, it is possible that the volume of work performed by the Company for a client after the consolidation will be less than it was before the consolidation or that the client's work will be completely moved to competitors. Any such reduction or loss of work could adversely affect the Company's results of operations and financial condition.

Quad/Graphics may be adversely affected by increases in its operating costs, including the cost and availability of raw materials, labor-related costs, fuel and other energy costs and freight rates.

The primary raw materials that Quad/Graphics uses in its print business are paper, ink and energy. The price of such raw materials has fluctuated over time and has caused fluctuations in the Company's net sales and cost of sales. This volatility may continue and Quad/Graphics may experience increases in the costs of its raw materials in the future as prices in the overall paper, ink and energy markets are expected to remain beyond its control.

The majority of paper used by the Company is supplied by its clients. For those clients that do not directly supply their own paper, the Company generally includes price adjustment clauses in sales contracts for paper and other critical raw materials in the printing process. Although these clauses generally mitigate paper price risk, higher paper prices and tight paper supplies may have an impact on client demand for printed products. If Quad/Graphics passes along increases in the cost of paper and the price of the Company's products and services increases as a result, client demand could be adversely affected, and thereby, negatively impact Quad/Graphics' financial performance. If the Company is unable to continue to pass along increases in the cost of paper to its clients, future increases in paper costs would adversely affect its margins and profits.

Quad/Graphics is dependent upon the vendors within the Company's supply chain to maintain a steady supply of inventory, parts and materials. Many of the Company's products are dependent upon a limited number of vendors, and significant disruptions could adversely affect operations. Under recent market conditions, including the tightening credit market, it is possible that one or more of the Company's vendors will be unable to fulfill their operating obligations due to financial hardships, liquidity issues or other reasons related to the prolonged market recovery.

Table of Contents

Due to the significance of paper in the Company's business, it is dependent on the availability of paper. In periods of high demand, certain paper grades have been in short supply, including grades used in the Company's business. In addition, during periods of tight supply, many paper producers allocate shipments of paper based upon historical purchase levels of customers. Although Quad/Graphics generally has not experienced significant difficulty in obtaining adequate quantities of paper, unforeseen developments in the overall paper markets could result in a decrease in the supply of paper and could adversely affect the Company's revenues or profits.

In addition, the Company may not be able to resell waste paper and other by-products or the prices received for their sale may decline substantially.

The Company has less frequently been able to pass along increases in the cost of ink and energy to its clients. If the Company is unable to pass along increases in the cost of ink and energy, future increases in these items would adversely affect its margins and profits. If Quad/Graphics is able to pass along increases in the costs of ink and energy and the price of the Company's products and services increases as a result, client demand could be adversely affected, and thereby, negatively impact Quad/Graphics' financial performance.

Labor represents a significant component of the cost structure of Quad/Graphics. Increases in wages, salaries and benefits, such as medical, dental, pension and other post-retirement benefits, may impact the Company's financial performance. Changes in interest rates, investment returns or the regulatory environment may impact the amounts the Company will be required to contribute to the pension plans that it sponsors and may affect the solvency of these pension plans. Quad/Graphics may be unable to achieve labor productivity targets, to retain employees or labor may not be adequately available in locations in which the Company operates, which could negatively impact the Company's financial performance.

Freight rates and fuel costs also represent a significant component of the Company's cost structure. In general, the Company has been able to pass along increases in the cost of freight and fuel to many of its clients. If the Company is not able to pass along a substantial portion of increases in freight rates or in the price of fuel, future increases in these items would adversely impact the Company's margin and profits. If Quad/Graphics passes along increases in the cost of freight and fuel and the price of the Company's products and services increases as a result, client demand could be adversely affected, and thereby, negatively impact Quad/Graphics' financial performance.

Changes in postal rates, postal regulations and postal services may adversely impact customers' demand for print products and services.

Postal costs are a significant component of the cost structures of many of the Company's clients and potential clients. Postal rate changes and USPS regulations that result in higher overall costs can influence the volume that these clients will be willing to print and ultimately send through the USPS.

Integrated distribution with the postal service is an important component of the Company's business. Any material change in the current service levels provided by the postal service could impact the demand that clients have for print services. The USPS has reported cumulative net losses totaling more than \$56 billion since 2007. Without increased revenues or action by Congress to reform the USPS' cost structure, these losses will continue into the future. As a result of these financial difficulties, the USPS has come under increased pressure to adjust its postal rates and service levels. In January 2014, the USPS implemented a temporary exigent postage rate increase of 6.0% (includes the normal and expected annual Consumer Price Index ("CPI") increase of 1.7% and an additional 4.3% temporary exigent increase). In January 2015, the USPS filed a proposal with the Postal Regulatory Commission ("PRC") for a CPI increase of 2.0% on April 26, 2015. After being rejected twice by the PRC, the third proposal was approved, and prices were implemented on May 31, 2015. Additionally, the 4.3% temporary exigent increase was extended and is scheduled to end in April 2016. However, the USPS has filed an appeal in federal court requesting that the

"surcharge" be continued and made part of the permanent base postage rate. Additionally, there is legislation pending before Congress that would also make this surcharge a permanent part of the base postage rate. Many of the Company's customers have already budgeted for their postal spend assuming that the current law would be maintained and the surcharge would end as scheduled. A court ruling or passage of legislation that maintains the postage surcharge may result in customers reducing mail volumes and exploring the use of alternative methods for delivering their products, such as continued

Table of Contents

diversion to the Internet and other alternative media channels in order to ensure that they stay within their expected postage budgets.

The USPS does offer "work-share" discounts that provide incentives to co-mail and place product as far down the mail-stream as possible. Discounts are earned as a result of less handling of the mail, and therefore, lower costs for the USPS. As a result, Quad/Graphics has made substantial investments in co-mailing technology and equipment to ensure customers benefit from these discounts. As the USPS reacts to its financial difficulties, it often revises design standards for mail entering its system. These design standards often increase costs for customers and, in turn, minimize the value of the cost reductions that the Company's co-mailing services provide. If the incentives to co-mail are minimized by USPS regulations, the overall cost to mail printed products will increase and may result in print volumes declining.

Current federal law limits postal rate increase (outside of an "exigent circumstance") to the increase in the CPI. This cap works to ensure funding stability and predictability for mailers. However, that same federal statute requires the PRC to conduct a review of the overall rate-making structure for the USPS. This review will begin in late 2016 with new rates going into effect by January 1, 2018. This rate review may result in a substantially altered rate structure for mailers. There is a great deal of uncertainty as to the outcome of this review as it may retain the current CPI cap or, more likely, it will result in a revised structure. The newly revised rates may include a higher rate cap or potentially the elimination of a rate cap altogether which will result in no restrictions on the USPS' ability to increase rates from year to year. That kind of rate-making flexibility may lead to price spikes for mailers and may also reduce the incentive for the USPS to continue to take out costs and instead continue to rely on postage to cover the costs of an outdated postal service that does not reflect the industry's ability or willingness to pay. The end result may be reduced demand for printed products as customers may move more aggressively into other delivery methods such as the many digital and mobile options now available to consumers.

If Quad/Graphics fails to identify, manage, complete and integrate acquisitions, investment opportunities or other significant transactions, it may adversely affect the Company's future results.

As part of Quad/Graphics' growth strategy, the Company may pursue acquisitions of, investment opportunities in or other significant transactions with companies that are complementary to the Company's business. In order to pursue this strategy successfully, the Company must identify attractive acquisition or investment opportunities, successfully complete the transaction, some of which may be large and complex, and manage post-closing issues such as integration of the acquired company or employees. Quad/Graphics may not be able to identify or complete appealing acquisition or investment opportunities given the intense competition for these transactions. Even if the Company identifies and completes suitable corporate transactions, the Company may not be able to successfully address inherent risks in a timely manner, or at all. These inherent risks include, among other things: (1) failure to successfully integrate the purchased operations, technologies, products or services and maintain uniform standard controls, policies and procedures; (2) substantial unanticipated integration costs; (3) loss of key employees including those of the acquired business; (4) diversion of management's attention from other operations; (5) failure to retain the clients of the acquired business; (6) failure to achieve any projected synergies and performance targets; (7) additional debt and/or assumption of known or unknown liabilities; (8) potential dilutive issuances of equity securities; and (9) a write-off of goodwill, client lists, other intangibles and amortization of expenses. If the Company fails to successfully integrate an acquisition, the Company may not realize all or any of the anticipated benefits of the acquisition, and Quad/Graphics' future results of operations could be adversely affected. In addition, the diversion of management's attention from the Company's other operations due to these acquisitions and integration effort could adversely affect its business and have a negative financial impact.

Table of Contents

Quad/Graphics' entry into additional markets increases the complexity of the Company's business, and if the Company is unable to successfully adapt its business processes as required by these new markets, the Company will be at a competitive disadvantage and its ability to grow will be adversely affected.

As the Company expands its product line to provide additional marketing and publishing channels, the overall complexity of the Company's business increases at an accelerated rate and the Company becomes subject to different market dynamics. The new markets into which Quad/Graphics is expanding, or may expand, may have different characteristics from the markets in which the Company currently competes. These different characteristics may include, among other things, demand volume requirements, demand seasonality, product generation development rates, client concentrations and performance and compatibility requirements. The Company's failure to make the necessary adaptations to its business model to address these different characteristics, complexities and new market dynamics could adversely affect the Company's operating results.

Quad/Graphics and its facilities are subject to various consumer protection and privacy laws and regulations, and will become subject to additional laws and regulations in the future. If Quad/Graphics' efforts to comply with such laws or protect the security of information are unsuccessful, any failure may subject the Company to material liability, require it to incur material costs or otherwise adversely affect its results of operations as a result of compliance with such laws, costly enforcement actions and private litigation.

The nature of the Company's business includes the receipt and storage of information about the Company's clients, vendors and the end-users of Quad/Graphics' products and services. Quad/Graphics and its clients are subject to various United States and foreign consumer protection, information security, data privacy and "do not mail" requirements at the federal, states, provincial and local levels. Quad/Graphics is subject to many legislative and regulatory laws and regulations around the world concerning data protection and privacy. In addition, the interpretation and application of consumer and data protection laws in the United States and elsewhere are often fluid and uncertain. To the extent that the Company or its clients become subject to additional or more stringent requirements or that the Company is not successful in its efforts to comply with existing requirements or protect the security of information, demand for the Company's services may decrease and the Company's reputation may suffer, which could adversely affect the Company's results of operations. In addition, such laws may be interpreted and applied in a manner inconsistent with Quad/Graphics' internal policies. If so, the Company could suffer costly enforcement actions (including an order requiring changes to Quad/Graphics' data practices) and private litigation, which could have an adverse effect on the Company's business and results of operations. Complying with these various laws could cause Quad/Graphics to incur substantial costs or require changes to the Company's business practices in a manner adverse to Quad/Graphics' business.

Quad/Graphics may suffer a data-breach of sensitive information. If Quad/Graphics' efforts to protect the security of such information are unsuccessful, any such failure may result in costly government enforcement actions and private litigation, and our sales and reputation could suffer.

Quad/Graphics and its clients are subject to various United States and foreign cyber-security laws, which require the Company to maintain adequate protections for electronically held information. The Company may not be able to anticipate techniques used to gain access to Quad/Graphics' systems or facilities, the Company's clients' systems, vendor systems or implement adequate prevention measures. Moreover, unauthorized parties may attempt to access Quad/Graphics' systems or facilities, the Company's clients' systems or vendor systems through fraud or deception. In the event and to the extent that a data breach occurs, such breach could have an adverse effect on the Company's business and results of operations. Complying with these various laws could cause Quad/Graphics to incur substantial costs or require changes to the Company's business practices in a manner adverse to Quad/Graphics' business.

Table of Contents

An other than temporary decline in operating results and enterprise value could lead to non-cash impairment charges due to the impairment of property, plant and equipment and other intangible assets.

The Company has a material amount of property, plant, equipment and other intangible assets on its balance sheet, due in part to acquisitions. As of December 31, 2015, the Company had the following long-lived assets on its consolidated balance sheet included in Part II, Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K:

- Property, plant and equipment of \$1,675.8 million; and

• Other intangible assets, primarily representing the value of customer relationships acquired, of \$110.5 million.

As of December 31, 2015, these assets represented approximately 63% of the Company's total assets. The Company assesses impairment of property, plant and equipment and other intangible assets based upon the expected future cash flows of the respective assets. These valuations include management's estimates of sales, profitability, cash flow generation, capital structure, cost of debt, interest rates, capital expenditures and other assumptions. A decline in expected profitability, significant negative industry or economic trends, inability to effectively integrate acquired businesses, unexpected significant changes or planned changes in use of the assets or in entity structure, and divestitures may adversely impact the assumptions used in the valuations. As a result, the recoverability of these assets could be called into question, and the Company could be required to write down or write off these assets. Such an occurrence could have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations and financial position.

If Quad/Graphics is not able to take advantage of technological developments in the printing industry on a timely basis, the Company may experience a decline in the demand for its services, be unable to implement its business strategy and experience reduced profits.

The printing industry is experiencing rapid change as new technologies are developed that offer clients an array of choices for their marketing and publication needs. In order to grow and remain competitive, the Company will need to adapt to future changes in technology, enhance the Company's existing offerings and introduce new offerings to address the changing demands of clients. If Quad/Graphics is unable to meet future challenges from competing technologies on a timely basis or at an acceptable cost, the Company could lose clients to competitors. In general, the development of new communication channels inside and outside the printing and media solutions industry requires the Company to anticipate and respond to the varied and continually changing demands of clients. The Company may not be able to accurately predict technological trends or the success of new services in the market.

Currently, there is a limited active market for Quad/Graphics' class A common stock and, as a result, shareholders may be unable to sell their class A common stock without losing a significant portion of their investment.

The Company's class A common stock has been traded on the NYSE under the symbol "QUAD" since July 6, 2010. However, there is currently a limited active market for the class A common shares. The Company cannot predict the extent to which investor interest in the Company will lead to the development of an active trading market for its class A common stock on the NYSE or how liquid that market will become. If a more active trading market does not develop, shareholders may have difficulty selling any class A common stock without negatively affecting the stock price, and thereby, losing a significant portion of their investment.

Table of Contents

Changes in the legal and regulatory environment could limit the Company's business activities, increase its operating costs, reduce demand for its products or result in litigation.

The conduct of the Company's businesses is subject to various laws and regulations administered by federal, state and local government agencies in the United States, as well as to foreign laws and regulations administered by government entities and agencies in markets in which the Company operates. These laws and regulations and interpretations thereof may change, sometimes dramatically, as a result of political, economic or social events. Such regulatory environment changes may include changes in environmental laws, requirements of United States and foreign occupational health and safety laws, accounting standards and taxation requirements. Changes in laws, regulations or governmental policy and the related interpretations may alter the environment in which Quad/Graphics does business, and therefore, may impact its results or increase its costs or liabilities.

In addition, the Company and its subsidiaries are party to a variety of legal and environmental remediation obligations arising in the normal course of business, as well as environmental remediation and related indemnification proceedings in connection with certain historical activities, former facilities and contractual obligations of acquired businesses. Permits are required for the operation of certain parts of the Company's business, and these permits are subject to renewal, modification and, in some circumstances, revocation. Due to regulatory complexities, uncertainties inherent in litigation and the risk of unidentified contaminants on current and former properties, the potential exists for remediation, liability and indemnification costs to differ materially from the costs the Company has estimated. Quad/Graphics cannot assure you that the Company's costs in relation to these matters will not exceed its established liabilities or otherwise have an adverse effect on its results of operations.

Various laws and regulations addressing climate change are being considered at the federal and state levels. Proposals under consideration include limitations on the amount of greenhouse gas that can be emitted (so-called "caps") together with systems of trading allowed emissions capacities. The impacts of such proposals could have a material adverse impact on the Company's financial condition and results of operations.

Quad/Graphics may be required to make capital expenditures to maintain its platform and processes and to remain technologically and economically competitive, which may increase its costs or disrupt its operations.

The Company may need to make significant capital expenditures as it develops and continues to maintain its platform and processes. The Company also may be required to make capital expenditures to develop and integrate new technologies to remain technologically and economically competitive. In order to accomplish this effectively, the Company will need to deploy its resources efficiently, maintain effective cost controls and bear potentially significant market and raw material risks. If the Company's revenues decline, it may impact the Company's ability to expend the capital necessary to develop and implement new technology and be economically competitive. Debt or equity financing, or cash generated from operations, may not be available or sufficient for these requirements or for other corporate purposes or, if debt or equity financing is available, it may not be on terms favorable to the Company. In addition, even if capital is available to the Company, there is risk that the Company's vendors will have discontinued the production of parts needed for repairs, replacements or improvements to the Company's existing manufacturing platform, leading the Company to expend more capital than expected to perform such repairs, replacements or improvements.

Quad/Graphics' revenue is subject to cyclical and seasonal variations.

The Company's business is seasonal, with Quad/Graphics recognizing the majority of its operating income in the third and fourth quarters of the financial year, primarily as a result of the increased magazine advertising page counts and retail inserts, catalogs and books from back-to-school and holiday-related advertising and promotions. The fourth quarter is the highest seasonal quarter for cash flows from operating activities and Free Cash Flow due to the

reduction of working capital requirements that reach peak levels during the third quarter. Within any year, this seasonality could adversely affect the Company's cash flows and results of operations.

Table of Contents

The Company has significant liabilities with respect to defined benefit pension plans that could grow in the future and cause the Company to incur additional costs.

As a result of the 2010 acquisition of World Color Press, the Company assumed frozen single employer defined benefit pension plans for certain of its employees in the United States. The majority of the plans' assets are held in North American and global equity securities and debt securities. The asset allocation as of December 31, 2015, was approximately 54% equity securities and 46% debt securities.

As of December 31, 2015, the Company had underfunded pension liabilities of approximately \$138 million for single employer defined benefit plans in the United States. Under current United States pension law, pension funding deficits are generally required to be funded over a seven-year period. These pension deficits may increase or decrease depending on changes in the levels of interest rates, pension plan investment performance, pension legislation and other factors. Declines in global debt and equity markets would increase the Company's potential pension funding obligations. Any significant increase in the Company's required contributions could have a material adverse impact on its business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

In addition to the single employer defined benefit plans described above, the Company has previously participated in multiemployer pension plans ("MEPPs") in the United States, including the Graphic Communications International Union - Employer Retirement Fund ("GCIU") and the Graphic Communications Conference of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters National Pension Fund ("GCC"). Prior to the acquisition of World Color Press by Quad/Graphics, World Color Press received notice that certain plans in which it participated were in critical status, as defined in Section 432 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"). As a result, the Company could have been subject to increased contribution rates associated with these plans or other MEPPs suffering from declines in their funding levels. Due to the significantly underfunded status of the United States multiemployer plans and the potential increased contribution rates, the Company withdrew from participation in these multiemployer plans and has replaced these pension benefits with a Company-sponsored "pay as you go" defined contribution plan, which is historically the form of retirement benefit provided to the Company's employees.

As of December 31, 2015, the Company estimates and has recorded in its financial statements a pre-tax withdrawal liability for all United States multiemployer plans of approximately \$48 million in the aggregate. There are arbitration proceedings in process with the GCIU, and also both the Company and GCIU have filed lawsuits in Federal court. Arbitration proceedings with the GCC have been completed, both sides have appealed the arbitrator's ruling, and litigation has commenced. Until litigation with the multiemployer plans' trustees is concluded, the exact amount of the withdrawal liability will not be known, and, as such, a difference from the recorded estimate could have an adverse effect on the Company's results of operations, financial position and cash flows.

There are risks associated with the Company's operations outside of the United States.

Although the substantial majority of the Company's business activity takes place in the United States, a portion of Quad/Graphics net sales are derived from operations in foreign countries. The Company's products and services are sold primarily throughout North America, South America and Europe. In addition, the Company strategically sources packaging product manufacturing over multiple end markets in Central America and Asia. The Company's printing operations located in Europe and Latin America include operations in England, France, Germany, Poland, Argentina, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, as well as strategic investments in printing operations in Brazil and India. Net sales from the Company's wholly-owned subsidiaries outside of the United States accounted for approximately 8%, 9% and 10% of its consolidated net sales for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

As a result, the Company is subject to the risks inherent in conducting business outside of the United States, including, but not limited to: the impact of economic and political instability; fluctuations in currency values, foreign-currency exchange rates, devaluation and conversion restrictions; exchange control regulations and other limits on the Company's ability to import raw materials or finished product; tariffs and other trade barriers; political and economic instability; trade restrictions and economic embargoes by the United States or other countries; social unrest, acts of terrorism, force majeure, war or other armed conflicts; inflation and fluctuations in interest rates; language barriers;

Table of Contents

difficulties in staffing, training, employee retention and managing international operations; logistical and communications challenges; differing local business practices and cultural consideration; restrictions on the ability to repatriate funds; foreign ownership restrictions and the potential for nationalization or expropriation of property or other resources; longer accounts receivable payment cycles; potential adverse tax consequences and being subject to different legal and regulatory regimes that may preclude or make more costly certain initiatives or the implementation of certain elements of its business strategy. Any international expansion or acquisition that the Company undertakes could amplify these risks related to operating outside of the United States.

Quad/Graphics is exposed to the economic and political conditions in Argentina. The Argentine economy has experienced significant volatility in recent decades, characterized by periods of low or negative growth, high and variable levels of inflation and currency devaluation. As a consequence, the Company's business and operations have been, and could be in the future, affected from time to time to varying degrees by economic and political developments and other material events affecting the Argentine economy. The majority of the Company's employees in Argentina are covered by a collective bargaining agreement. A strike, work stoppage or other form of labor protest in Argentina in the future could disrupt the Company's operations and result in a material adverse impact to the Company's Argentina operations' financial condition, results of operations and cash flows, which could force the Company to reassess its strategic alternatives involving operations in Argentina. In addition, on March 25, 2015, due to deteriorating economic conditions, including inflation and currency devaluation, combined with uncertain political conditions, declining print volumes and labor challenges, the Company's Argentina subsidiaries commenced bankruptcy restructuring proceedings with a goal of consolidating operations. The Company may be unable to successfully complete such consolidation and such proceedings may not be (in whole or in part) decided in the Company's favor. Any such outcome may result in an adverse effect on the Company's results of operations, financial position and cash flows. As of December 31, 2015, the Company had \$22.1 million of total assets in Argentina, representing 0.8% of Quad/Graphics consolidated total assets. For the year ended December 31, 2015, the Company recognized \$67.4 million of net sales in Argentina, representing 1.4% of Quad/Graphics consolidated net sales.

Quad/Graphics may incur costs or suffer reputational damage due to improper conduct of its employees, contractors or agents.

The Company could be adversely affected by engaging in business practices that are in violation of United States and foreign anti-corruption laws, including the United States Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. The Company operates in parts of the world with developing economies that have experienced governmental corruption to some degree, and in certain circumstances, strict compliance with anti-corruption laws may conflict with local customs and practices. In certain countries, the Company does substantial business with government entities or instrumentalities, which creates enhanced Foreign Corrupt Practices Act risk. There can be no assurance that all of the Company's employees, contractors or agents, including those representing the Company in countries where practices which violate anti-corruption laws may be customary, will not take actions in violation of Quad/Graphics' policies and procedures. The failure to comply with the laws governing international business practices may result in substantial penalties and fines.

Holders of class A common stock are not able to independently elect directors of Quad/Graphics or control any of the Company's management policies or business decisions or its decisions to issue additional shares, declare and pay dividends or enter into corporate transactions because the holders of class A common stock have substantially less voting power than the holders of the Company's class B common stock, all of which is owned by certain members of the Quadracci family, trusts for their benefit or other affiliates of Quad/Graphics, whose interests may be different from the holders of class A common stock.

The Company's outstanding stock is divided into two classes of common stock: class A common stock ("class A stock") and class B common stock ("class B stock"). The class B stock has ten votes per share on all matters and the

class A stock is entitled to one vote per share. As of February 18, 2016, the class B stock constitutes approximately 80% of Quad/Graphics' total voting power. As a result, holders of class B stock are able to exercise a controlling influence over the Company's business, have the power to elect its directors and indirectly control decisions such as whether to issue additional shares, declare and pay dividends or enter into corporate transactions. All of the class B stock is owned by certain members of the Quadracci family or trusts for their benefit, whose interests may differ from the interests of the holders of class A stock.

Table of Contents

Approximately 91% of the outstanding class B stock is held of record by the Quad/Graphics Voting Trust, and that constitutes approximately 72% of the Company's total voting power. The trustees of the Quad/Graphics Voting Trust have the authority to vote the stock held by the Quad/Graphics Voting Trust. Accordingly, the trustees of the Quad/Graphics Voting Trust are able to exercise a controlling influence over the Company's business, have the power to elect its directors and indirectly control decisions such as whether to issue additional shares, declare and pay dividends or enter into corporate transactions.

Quad/Graphics is a controlled company within the meaning of the rules of the NYSE and, as a result, it relies on exemptions from certain corporate governance requirements that provide protection to shareholders of other companies.

Since the Quad/Graphics Voting Trust owns more than 50% of the total voting power of the Company's stock, the Company is considered a controlled company under the corporate governance listing standards of the NYSE. As a controlled company, an exception under the NYSE listing standards exempts the Company from the obligation to comply with certain of the NYSE's corporate governance requirements, including the requirements:

• that a majority of the Company's board of directors consist of independent directors, as defined under the rules of the NYSE;

• that the Company have a corporate governance and nominating committee that is composed entirely of independent directors with a written charter addressing the committee's purpose and responsibilities; and

• that the Company have a compensation committee that is composed entirely of independent directors with a written charter addressing the committee's purpose and responsibilities.

Accordingly, for so long as Quad/Graphics is a controlled company, holders of class A stock will not have the same protections afforded to shareholders of companies that are subject to all of the corporate governance requirements of the NYSE.

The Company is heavily dependent on its Chief Executive Officer, its management team and skilled personnel and, if we are unable to retain or motivate such personnel or hire qualified personnel, the Company may not be able to compete effectively.

The Company's future success depends on its continuing ability to identify, hire, develop, motivate and retain its Chief Executive Officer, the management team and skilled personnel for all areas of the organization. The Company's continued ability to compete effectively depends on its ability to attract new employees and retain and motivate its existing employees.

The Company may not be able to utilize deferred tax assets to offset future taxable income.

As of December 31, 2015, the Company had deferred tax assets, net of valuation allowances, of \$274.7 million. The Company expects to utilize the deferred tax assets to reduce consolidated income tax liabilities in future taxable years. However, the Company may not be able to fully utilize the deferred tax assets if its future taxable income and related income tax liability is insufficient to permit their use. In addition, in the future, the Company may be required to record a valuation allowance against the deferred tax assets if the Company believes it is unable to utilize them, which would have an adverse effect on the Company's results of operations and financial position.

Table of Contents

Quad/Graphics may be adversely affected by interest rates and foreign exchange rates.

As of December 31, 2015, 57% of the Company's borrowings were subject to variable interest rates. As a result, the Company is exposed to market risks associated with fluctuations in interest rates, and increases in interest rates could adversely affect the Company.

Because a portion of the Company's operations are outside of the United States, significant revenues and expenses are denominated in local currencies. Although operating in local currencies may limit the impact of currency rate fluctuations on the results of operations of the Company's non-United States subsidiaries and business units, fluctuations in such rates may affect the translation of these results into the Company's consolidated financial statements. To the extent revenues and expenses are not in the applicable local currency, the Company may enter into foreign exchange forward contracts to hedge the currency risk. There can be no assurance, however, that the Company's efforts at hedging will be successful. There is always a possibility that attempts to hedge currency risks will lead to greater losses than predicted.

Quad/Graphics may be adversely affected by strikes and other labor protests.

As of December 31, 2015, Quad/Graphics had a total of approximately 22,500 full-time equivalent employees, of which approximately 2,100 were covered by a collective bargaining agreement. As of December 31, 2015, the Company had seven collective bargaining agreements in the United States and eight agreements outside of the United States that are either industry-wide individual collective bargaining agreements or works councils or similar arrangements.

While the Company believes its employee relations are good and that the Company maintains an employee-centric culture, and there has not been any material disruption in operations resulting from labor disputes, the Company cannot be certain that it will be able to maintain a productive and efficient labor environment. The Company cannot predict the outcome of any future negotiations relating to the renewal of the collective bargaining agreements, nor can there be any assurance that work stoppages, strikes or other forms of labor protests pending the outcome of any future negotiations will not occur. A strike or other forms of labor protest affecting a series of major plants in the future could materially disrupt the Company's operations and result in a material adverse impact on its financial condition, results of operations and cash flows, which could force the Company to reassess its strategic alternatives involving certain of its operations.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

The Company has no unresolved staff comments to report pursuant to this item.

Table of Contents

Item 2. Properties

Quad/Graphics' corporate office is located in Sussex, Wisconsin. The Company owned or leased 161 facilities located in 17 countries including manufacturing operations, warehouses and office space totaling approximately 33,910,000 square feet, of which approximately 24,700,000 is owned space and approximately 9,210,000 is leased space as of December 31, 2015. In addition to these owned and leased facilities, the Company has strategic investments in printing operations located in Brazil and India.

Within the United States Print and Related Services segment, the Company operated 65 owned or leased manufacturing facilities encompassing approximately 23,705,000 square feet as of December 31, 2015. Within the International segment, the Company operated 7 owned or leased manufacturing facilities encompassing approximately 1,810,000 square feet as of December 31, 2015. The following table lists the Company's operating locations with manufacturing facilities totaling over 500,000 square feet as of December 31, 2015:

Locations	Square Feet	Property Type	Segment
Lomira, Wisconsin, United States	2,174,000	Owned	United States Print and Related Services
Martinsburg, West Virginia, United States	2,123,000	Owned	United States Print and Related Services
Sussex, Wisconsin, United States	1,970,000	Owned	United States Print and Related Services
Hartford, Wisconsin, United States	1,564,000	Owned	United States Print and Related Services
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, United States	1,128,000	Owned	United States Print and Related Services
Versailles, Kentucky, United States	1,065,000	Owned	United States Print and Related Services
Saratoga Springs, New York, United States	1,034,000	Owned	United States Print and Related Services
West Allis, Wisconsin, United States	913,000	Owned	United States Print and Related Services
Waseca, Minnesota, United States	786,000	Owned	United States Print and Related Services
The Rock, Georgia, United States	797,000	Owned	United States Print and Related Services
Wyszkow, Poland	709,000	Owned	International
Franklin, Kentucky, United States	617,000	Owned/Leased	United States Print and Related Services
Effingham, Illinois, United States	564,000	Owned	United States Print and Related Services
Merced, California, United States	539,000	Owned	United States Print and Related Services
Taunton, Massachusetts, United States	513,000	Owned/Leased	United States Print and Related Services
Pewaukee, Wisconsin, United States	504,000	Owned	United States Print and Related Services

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

Quad/Graphics is subject to various legal actions, administrative proceedings and claims arising out of the ordinary course of business. Quad/Graphics believes that such unresolved legal actions, proceedings and claims will not materially adversely affect its results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

Table of Contents

PART II

Item 5. Market for the Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Capital Stock and Dividends

Quad/Graphics' authorized capital stock consists of 80.0 million shares of class A stock, 80.0 million shares of class B stock, 20.0 million shares of class C common stock and 0.5 million shares of preferred stock. The Company's outstanding capital stock as of December 31, 2015, consisted of 35.4 million shares of class A stock, 14.2 million shares of class B stock and no shares of class C common stock or preferred stock. As of February 18, 2016, there were 2,370 record holders of the class A stock and 26 record holders of the class B stock.

The Company's class A stock is listed on the NYSE under the symbol "QUAD". The class A stock is entitled to one vote per share. The Company's class B stock is held by certain members of the Quadracci family or trusts for their benefit (and can only be voluntarily transferred to the Company or to a member of the Quadracci "family group" as defined in the Company's amended and restated articles of incorporation; and any transfer in violation of the Company's amended and restated articles of incorporation results in the automatic conversion of such class B stock into class A stock). The class B stock is entitled to ten votes per share. Each share of class B stock may, at the option of the holder, be converted at any time into one share of class A stock. There is no public trading market for the class B stock.

Pursuant to the Company's amended and restated articles of incorporation, each outstanding class of common stock has equal rights with respect to cash dividends. Pursuant to the Company's debt facilities, the Company is subject to limitations on dividends and repurchases of capital stock. If the Company's total leverage ratio is greater than 3.00 to 1.00 (as defined in the Company's Senior Secured Credit Facility), the Company is prohibited from making greater than \$120.0 million of annual dividend payments, capital stock repurchases and certain other payments. If the total leverage ratio is less than 3.00 to 1.00, there are no such restrictions. For the twelve months ended December 31, 2015, the Company's total leverage ratio was 2.89 to 1.00.

The high and low closing sales prices of the Company's class A stock during each quarter and the quarterly dividends paid per share of each class of common stock then outstanding during the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, are contained in the chart below:

	Dividends Paid		Class A Closing Stock Prices			
	2015	2014	2015 High	2015 Low	2014 High	2014 Low
First Quarter	\$0.30	\$0.30	\$23.90	\$20.04	\$26.39	\$21.89
Second Quarter	0.30	0.30	23.22	18.40	23.64	19.30
Third Quarter	0.30	0.30	18.05	12.10	22.71	19.25
Fourth Quarter	0.30	0.30	13.32	8.73	23.30	18.26

Securities Authorized For Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans

See Part III, Item 12, "Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Shareholder Matters," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for certain information regarding the Company's equity compensation plans.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

On September 6, 2011, the Company's board of directors authorized a share repurchase program of up to \$100.0 million of the Company's outstanding class A stock. Under the authorization, share repurchases may be made at the Company's discretion, from time to time, in the open market and/or in privately negotiated transactions as permitted by federal securities laws and other legal requirements. The timing, manner, price and amount of any repurchase will depend on economic and market conditions, share price, trading volume, applicable legal requirements and other factors.

Table of Contents

The program may be suspended or discontinued at any time. There were no share repurchases made during the year ended December 31, 2015. As of December 31, 2015, there were \$91.8 million of authorized repurchases remaining under the program. Subsequent to December 31, 2015, and through February 18, 2016, the Company repurchased 984,190 shares of its class A stock at a weighted average price of \$8.96 per share for a total purchase price of \$8.8 million.

Stock Performance Information

The following graph compares cumulative shareholder return on Quad/Graphics' class A stock since December 31, 2010, as compared to the Standard & Poor's ("S&P") MidCap 400 Index and the S&P 1500 Commercial Printing Index over the same period. The graph assumes a \$100.00 investment and that all dividends are reinvested. The comparison in the graph below is based upon historical stock performance and should not be considered indicative of future stockholder returns.

Indexed Returns

	Base Period					
	12/31/2010	12/31/2011	12/31/2012	12/31/2013	12/31/2014	12/31/2015
Quad/Graphics, Inc.	\$100.00	\$35.70	\$59.49	\$83.15	\$74.03	\$32.66
S&P MidCap 400 Index	100.00	98.27	115.83	154.64	169.74	166.05
S&P 1500 Commercial Printing Index	100.00	92.60	83.71	170.19	174.23	157.59

Table of Contents

Item 6. Selected Financial Data

The selected consolidated statements of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, and the selected consolidated balance sheets data at December 31, 2015 and 2014, are derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of the Company included in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The selected financial data includes the results of operations prospectively from their respective acquisition dates. For additional information related to the Company's acquisition activity, see Note 2, "Acquisitions and Strategic Investments," to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The selected consolidated statements of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the consolidated balance sheets data at December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, are derived from audited consolidated financial statements not included herein.

SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

(In millions, except per share data)

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Consolidated Statements of Operations Data:					
Net sales	\$4,677.7	\$4,862.4	\$4,795.9	\$4,094.0	\$4,324.6
Operating income (loss) from continuing operations ⁽¹⁾	(830.0)	141.3	142.2	106.5	156.9
Net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders:					
From continuing operations ⁽¹⁾	(641.9)	18.6	32.5	56.6	(8.3)
From discontinued operations ⁽²⁾	—	—	—	30.8	(38.6)
Net earnings (loss) ⁽¹⁾	\$(641.9)	\$18.6	\$32.5	\$87.4	\$(46.9)
Earnings (loss) per diluted share attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders:					
From continuing operations	\$(13.40)	\$0.38	\$0.65	\$1.13	\$(0.18)
From discontinued operations	—	—	—	0.65	(0.82)
Earnings (loss) per diluted share	\$(13.40)	\$0.38	\$0.65	\$1.78	\$(1.00)
Consolidated Balance Sheets Data:					
Total assets ⁽³⁾	\$2,847.5	\$4,008.8	\$4,103.6	\$4,025.3	\$4,628.3
Long-term debt and capital lease obligations (excluding current portion) ⁽³⁾	1,249.6	1,309.4	1,258.2	1,209.1	1,347.5
Other Financial Data:					
Dividends per share of common stock ⁽⁴⁾	\$1.20	\$1.20	\$1.20	\$3.00	\$0.60

(1) Includes restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges of \$164.9 million, \$67.3 million, \$95.3 million, \$118.3 million and \$114.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Includes goodwill impairment charges of \$808.3 million (\$542.4 million, net of tax) for the year ended December 31, 2015.

(2) The results of operations of the Company's Canadian operations have been reported as discontinued operations for all periods presented. Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax, decreased \$35.4 million during the year ended December 31, 2012, to a \$3.2 million loss, which primarily reflects the sale of the Company's Canadian operations on March 1, 2012, and the effect of reporting two months of activity as opposed to twelve months for the year ended December 31, 2011. This \$3.2 million loss was offset by a gain on disposal of discontinued operations, net of tax, of \$34.0 million, resulting in \$30.8 million of earnings from discontinued operations for the year ended December 31, 2012.

(3)

Long-term debt and capital lease obligations (excluding current portion) and total assets presented includes the retrospective adoption of new accounting guidance on the balance sheet presentation of debt issuance costs and deferred taxes issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") in April 2015 and November 2015, respectively, and accordingly, the amounts have been restated for all periods presented. See Note 25, "New Accounting Pronouncements," to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8 "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" for further information.

(4) Dividends per share of common stock in 2012 includes a special dividend of \$2.00 per share, which was declared and paid in December 2012. Excludes aggregate tax distributions declared to S corporation shareholders of \$2.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. There were no tax distributions declared to S corporation shareholders for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, 2013 and 2012.

Table of Contents

Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The following discussion of the financial condition and results of operations of Quad/Graphics should be read together with the Quad/Graphics' audited consolidated financial statements for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2015, including the notes thereto, included in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. This discussion contains forward-looking statements that reflect the Company's plans, estimates and beliefs. The Company's actual results could differ materially from those discussed in these forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to these differences include, but are not limited to, those discussed in "Forward-Looking Statements" and Part I, Item 1A, "Risk Factors," included earlier within this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations is provided as a supplement to the Company's consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes to help provide an understanding of the Company's financial condition, the changes in the Company's financial condition and the Company's results of operations. This discussion and analysis is organized as follows:

Overview. This section includes a general description of the Company's business and segments, an overview of key performance metrics the Company's management measures and utilizes to evaluate business performance, and an overview of trends affecting the Company, including management's actions related to the trends.

Results of Operations. This section contains an analysis of the Company's results of operations by comparing the results for (1) the year ended December 31, 2015, to the year ended December 31, 2014; and (2) the year ended December 31, 2014, to the year ended December 31, 2013. The comparability of the Company's results of operations between periods was impacted by acquisitions, including the 2013 acquisitions of Vertis, Novia, Proteus and Transpak Corporation ("Transpak"); 2014 acquisitions of Brown Printing and UniGraphic, Inc. ("UniGraphic"); and the 2015 acquisitions of Marin's, Copac and Specialty. The results of operations of all acquisitions are included in the Company's consolidated results prospectively from their respective acquisition dates. Forward-looking statements providing a general description of recent and projected industry and Company developments that are important to understanding the Company's results of operations are included in this section. This section also provides a discussion of EBITDA and EBITDA margin, financial measures that the Company uses to assess the performance of its business that are not prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

Liquidity and Capital Resources. This section provides an analysis of the Company's capitalization, cash flows, a statement about off-balance sheet arrangements, and a discussion and table of outstanding debt and commitments. Forward-looking statements important to understanding the Company's financial condition are also included in this section. This section also provides a discussion of Free Cash Flow and Debt Leverage Ratio, non-GAAP financial measures that the Company uses to assess liquidity and capital allocation and deployment.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates. This section contains a discussion of the accounting policies that the Company's management believes are important to the Company's financial condition and results of operations, as well as allowances and reserves that require significant judgment and estimates on the part of the Company's management. In addition, all of the Company's significant accounting policies, including critical accounting policies, are summarized in Note 1, "Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies," to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

New Accounting Pronouncements. This section provides a discussion of new accounting pronouncements and the anticipated impact of those accounting pronouncements to the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

Overview

Business Overview

Quad/Graphics is a leading print and marketing services provider. With a consultative approach, worldwide capabilities, leading-edge technology and single-source simplicity, the Company believes it has the resources and knowledge to help a wide variety of clients in vertical industries including, but not limited to, retail, publishing, healthcare, insurance and financial. The Company uses a consultative approach to tailor the Company's wide range of print products and complementary services to the unique characteristics of each vertical industry it serves. These products and services include:

Print. Including retail inserts, publications, catalogs, special interest publications, journals, direct mail, books, directories, in-store marketing and promotion, packaging, newspapers, custom print products, other commercial and specialty printed products and global paper procurement.

Logistics. Including mailing solutions, postal consultation, delivery optimization and hygiene services, delivery monitoring and tracking, and distribution, logistics and transportation services.

Digital. Including email, social, mobile (activated print, apps, websites), digital publishing and beacon technology.

Strategy. Including brand, campaign, and media planning and placement.

Data. Including data insights, segmentation and response analysis.

Creative. Including concept and design, page layout and production, copywriting, photography, retouching, mobile, video production and optimization.

Workflow. Including content management, process management, production and facilities management services, color management, and digital file processing and proofing.

Quad/Graphics remains focused on its five primary strategic goals that support its objective to be the industry's high-quality, low-cost producer to fuel transformative growth opportunities and drive improved performance through innovation for its clients. The Company believes these goals, which are summarized below, will allow it to be successful despite ongoing industry challenges:

Strengthen the Core. Quad/Graphics core print categories—retail inserts, publications, catalogs, books and directories—have been under pressure in recent years, but remain foundational to most marketers' and publishers' business strategies and generate a significant amount of cash flow for the Company. Quad/Graphics utilizes a disciplined return on capital framework and historically has made significant investments in its print manufacturing platform and data management capabilities that have resulted in what it believes is one of the most integrated, automated, efficient and modern manufacturing platforms in the industry. The Company's ability to maintain the strength of its core product lines promotes sustainable cash flow and continued value creation to support future growth opportunities.

Grow the Business Profitably. The Company believes it is well positioned to grow the business profitably through ongoing innovation, organic growth and disciplined acquisitions that expand the business into new product categories and geographies, transform an existing product line, or create value-driven industry consolidation. Helping clients use print in combination with other media channels, including digital, mobile, social and signage, to increase response rates and deliver high levels of marketing ROI is of particular focus. The Company is adept at leveraging existing

client relationships in key vertical industries to drive innovation and develop complementary products and services that help brand owners market their products, services and content more efficiently and effectively across media channels. The Company will look to grow through compelling, ongoing investments in its platform as well as through acquisitions that

Table of Contents

create value either through providing an enhanced range of products and services or through creating manufacturing and distribution efficiencies.

Walk in the Shoes of our Clients. The Company is focused on creating a client experience that creates loyalty to the Quad/Graphics brand by partnering with our clients to fully understand their internal processes, marketing strategies and challenges so the Company can better deliver the solutions that will help them achieve their business objectives. Quad/Graphics examines everything from clients' marketing strategy—including how clients manage their customer data—to production and marketing workflow processes. Through a consultative approach, the Company's goal is to become an invaluable strategic partner to its clients—a partner who is focused on helping each client successfully navigate today's changing media landscape.

Engage Employees. Quad/Graphics looks to engage employees through the Company's distinct corporate culture, which encourages employees to take pride and ownership in their work; take advantage of continuous learning, apprentice and job-advancement opportunities; share knowledge by mentoring others; and innovate solutions. Quad/Graphics believes one of the most important ways it can drive employee engagement is by acting on a continuous employee feedback loop. Quad/Graphics believes in transparent and regular two-way communication with employees and provides the opportunity for all employees to have a voice or share an opinion through a number of different channels, including surveys and open forums at Company town hall and department meetings.

Enhance Financial Strength and Create Shareholder Value. Quad/Graphics follows a disciplined approach to maintaining and enhancing financial strength to create shareholder value, which is essential given ongoing industry challenges. This key strategic goal is centered on the Company's ability to maximize Free Cash Flow, net earnings and EBITDA; maintain consistent financial policies to ensure a strong balance sheet and liquidity level; and retain the financial flexibility needed to strategically allocate and deploy capital as circumstances change.

Quad/Graphics operates primarily in the commercial print portion of the printing industry, with related product and service offerings designed to offer clients complete solutions for communicating their message to target audiences. The Company's operating and reportable segments are aligned with how the chief operating decision maker of the Company currently manages the business. The Company's reportable and operating segments are summarized below.

The United States Print and Related Services segment is predominantly comprised of the Company's United States printing operations and is managed as one integrated platform. This includes retail inserts, publications, catalogs, special interest publications, journals, direct mail, books, directories, in-store marketing and promotion, packaging, newspapers, custom print products, other commercial and specialty printed products and global paper procurement, together with complementary service offerings, including marketing strategy, media planning and placement, data insights, segmentation and response analytics services, creative services, videography, photography, workflow solutions, digital imaging, facilities management services, digital publishing, interactive print solutions including image recognition and near field communication technology, mailing, distribution, logistics, and data optimization and hygiene services. This segment also includes the manufacture of ink. The United States Print and Related Services segment accounted for approximately 92% of the Company's consolidated net sales during the year ended December 31, 2015.

The International segment consists of the Company's printing operations in Europe and Latin America, including operations in England, France, Germany, Poland, Argentina, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, as well as strategic investments in printing operations in Brazil and India. This segment provides printed products and complementary service offerings consistent with the United States Print and Related Services segment. The International segment accounted for approximately 8% of the Company's consolidated net sales during the year ended December 31, 2015.

Corporate consists of unallocated general and administrative activities and associated expenses including, in part, executive, legal and finance. In addition, in 2014 and 2015 certain expenses and income from frozen employee retirement plans, such as pension and postretirement benefit plans, are included in Corporate and not allocated to the operating segment.

Table of Contents

Key Performance Metrics Overview

The Company's management believes the ability to generate net sales growth, profit increases and positive cash flow, while maintaining the appropriate level of debt, are key indicators of the successful execution of the Company's business strategy and will increase shareholder value. The Company uses period over period net sales growth, EBITDA, EBITDA margin, net cash provided by operating activities, Free Cash Flow and Debt Leverage Ratio as metrics to measure operating performance, financial condition and liquidity. EBITDA, EBITDA margin, Free Cash Flow and Debt Leverage Ratio are non-GAAP financial measures (see the definitions of EBITDA, EBITDA margin and the reconciliation of net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders to EBITDA in the "Results of Operations" section below, and see the definitions of Free Cash Flow and Debt Leverage Ratio, the reconciliation of net cash provided by operating activities to Free Cash Flow, and the calculation of Debt Leverage Ratio in the "Liquidity and Capital Resources" section below).

Net sales growth. The Company uses period over period net sales growth as a key performance metric. The Company's management assesses net sales growth based on the ability to generate increased net sales through increased sales to existing clients, sales to new clients, sales of new or expanded solutions to existing and new clients and opportunities to expand sales through strategic investments, including acquisitions.

EBITDA and EBITDA margin. The Company uses EBITDA and EBITDA margin as metrics to assess operating performance. The Company's management assesses EBITDA and EBITDA margin based on the ability to increase revenues while controlling variable expense growth.

Net cash provided by operating activities. The Company uses net cash provided by operating activities as a metric to assess liquidity. The Company's management assesses net cash provided by operating activities based on the ability to meet recurring cash obligations while increasing available cash to fund integration and restructuring requirements, including acquired operations and other cost reduction activities, as well as to fund capital expenditures, debt service requirements, World Color Press single employer pension plan contributions, World Color Press MEPPs withdrawal liabilities, acquisitions and other investments in future growth, shareholder dividends and share repurchases. Net cash provided by operating activities can be significantly impacted by the timing of non-recurring or infrequent receipts or expenditures.

Free Cash Flow. The Company uses Free Cash Flow as a metric to assess liquidity and capital deployment. The Company's management assesses Free Cash Flow as a measure to quantify cash available for strengthening the balance sheet (debt reduction), for strategic capital allocation and deployment through investments in the business (acquisitions and strategic investments), and returning capital to the shareholders (dividends and share repurchases). The priorities for capital allocation and deployment will change as circumstances dictate for the business, and Free Cash Flow can be significantly impacted by the Company's restructuring activities and other unusual items.

Debt Leverage Ratio. The Company uses the Debt Leverage Ratio as a metric to assess liquidity and the flexibility of its balance sheet. Consistent with other liquidity metrics, the Company monitors the Debt Leverage Ratio as a measure to determine the appropriate level of debt the Company believes is optimal to operate its business, and accordingly, to quantify debt capacity available for strategic capital allocation and deployment through investments in the business (capital expenditures and acquisitions), for strengthening the balance sheet (debt and pension liability reduction), and for returning capital to the shareholders (dividends and share repurchases). The priorities for capital allocation and deployment will change as circumstances dictate for the business, and the Debt Leverage Ratio can be significantly impacted by the amount and timing of large expenditures requiring debt financing, as well as changes in profitability.

Table of Contents

Overview of Trends Affecting Quad/Graphics

Competition in the highly fragmented printing industry remains intense, and the Company believes that there are indicators of heightened competitive pressures. The industry has excess manufacturing capacity created by continued declines in industry volumes which, in turn, has created accelerated downward pricing pressures. In addition, digital delivery of documents and data, including the online distribution and hosting of media content and mobile technologies, offer alternatives to traditional delivery of printed documents. Increasing consumer acceptance of digital delivery of content has resulted in marketers and publishers allocating their marketing and advertising spend across the expanding selection of digital delivery options, which further reduces printing demand and contributes to industry overcapacity. The Company also faces competition from print management firms, which look to streamline processes and reduce the overall print spend of the Company's clients, as well as from strategic marketing firms focused on helping businesses integrate multiple channels into their marketing campaigns.

The Company believes that a disciplined approach for capital management and a strong balance sheet are critical to be able to invest in profitable growth opportunities and technological advances, thereby providing the highest return for shareholders. Management balances the use of cash between compelling investment opportunities, deleveraging the Company's balance sheet (through reduction in debt and pension obligations), and returns to shareholders (through share repurchases and a quarterly dividend of \$0.30 per share).

The Company continues to remain disciplined with its debt leverage. The Company's consolidated debt and capital leases decreased by \$56 million during the year ended December 31, 2015, despite investing \$133 million in capital expenditures and \$143 million in acquisitions (primarily the 2015 Marin's, Copac and Specialty acquisitions). Since the Company completed the World Color Press acquisition in July 2010, the Company has reduced debt and capital leases by \$390 million and has reduced the obligations for pension, postretirement and MEPPs by \$361 million.

The Company has been working diligently to integrate acquired companies, thereby lowering its cost structure by consolidating its manufacturing platform into its most efficient facilities, as well as realizing purchasing, mailing and logistics efficiencies by centralizing and consolidating print manufacturing volumes and eliminating redundancies in its administrative and corporate operations. These efforts include the deployment of the Company's Smartools® platform to streamline workflows and improve data visibility across the consolidated platform. In addition, restructuring actions initiated by the Company beginning in 2010 have resulted in the announcement of 31 plant closures and have reduced headcount by approximately 10,000 employees through December 31, 2015.

In addition to cost savings through acquisition-related synergies, the Company continues its focus on cost reductions through Lean Manufacturing and Continuous Improvement initiatives, both on the production floor and with administrative support, in order to achieve improved efficiencies, reduce waste, lower overall operating costs, enhance quality and timeliness and create a safer work environment for the Company's employees. In January 2016, the Company announced that it had completed its previously announced \$100 million sustainable cost reduction program ahead of schedule, intended to bring the Company's cost structure in line with revenues in light of heightened competitive pressures. The program included reducing excess manufacturing capacity through plant closures; intensifying the Company's focus on productivity; reducing selling, general and administrative costs; and implementing a new streamlined organizational structure. The cost reduction program incrementally reduced the Company's cost structure by \$100 million starting January 1, 2016, and the Company intends to continue reducing costs during 2016 and the years beyond.

Integrated distribution with the postal service is an important component of the Company's business. Any material change in the current service levels provided by the postal service could impact the demand that clients have for print services. The USPS has reported cumulative net losses totaling more than \$56 billion since 2007. Without increased revenues or action by Congress to reform the USPS' cost structure, these losses will continue into the future. As a

result of these financial difficulties, the USPS has come under increased pressure to adjust its postal rates and service levels. In January 2014, the USPS implemented a temporary exigent postage rate increase of 6.0% (includes the normal and expected annual CPI increase of 1.7% and an additional 4.3% temporary exigent increase). In January 2015, the USPS filed a proposal with the PRC for a CPI increase of 2.0% on April 26, 2015. After being rejected twice by the PRC, the third proposal was approved, and prices were implemented on May 31, 2015. Additionally, the 4.3%

Table of Contents

temporary exigent increase was extended and is scheduled to end in April 2016. However, the USPS has filed an appeal in federal court requesting that the "surcharge" be continued and made part of the permanent base postage rate. Additionally, there is legislation pending before Congress that would also make this surcharge a permanent part of the base postage rate. Because of allowances within the law governing the CPI increase, the impact to clients varied greatly, from decreases to double digit increases. Quad/Graphics has invested significantly in its mail preparation and distribution capabilities to mitigate the impact of increases in postage costs, and to help clients successfully navigate the ever-changing postal environment. Through its data analytics, unique software to merge mailstreams on a large scale, advanced finishing capabilities and technology, and in-house transportation and logistics operations, the Company manages the mail preparation and distribution of most of its clients' products to maximize efficiency and partially reduce these costs; however, the net impact of increasing postal costs may create a decrease in client demand for print and mail products.

When making capital investment decisions, management undertakes a thorough process aimed at driving the strongest contribution to long-term profitability, whether those are property, plant and equipment additions, organic growth opportunities, or acquisitions. Some recent examples of capital investments made by the Company include the following:

The Company completed the acquisition of Specialty on August 25, 2015, for a net purchase price of \$62 million, excluding acquired cash. Specialty is a full-service paperboard folding carton manufacturer and logistics provider located in Omaha, Nebraska.

The Company completed the acquisition of Copac on April 14, 2015, for a net purchase price of \$59 million, excluding acquired cash. Copac is a leading international provider of innovative packaging and supply chain solutions, including turnkey packaging design, production and fulfillment services across a range of end markets headquartered in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Copac manufactures products such as folding cartons, labels, inserts, tags and specialty envelopes, and has production facilities in Spartanburg and Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, as well as strategically sourcing packaging product manufacturing over multiple end markets in Central America and Asia, giving it a global footprint.

The Company completed the acquisition of Marin's on February 3, 2015, for a net purchase price of \$21 million, excluding acquired cash. Marin's is a worldwide leader in the point of sale display industry and specializes in the research and design of display solutions headquartered in Paris, France. Marin's products are produced by a global network of licensees, including Quad/Graphics, as well as one wide-format digital print, kitting and fulfillment facility in Paris. Marin's uses its own European-based sales force and the global licensees to sell its patented product portfolio.

The Company announced its plan to invest in multiple high-speed color digital web presses on January 14, 2015, as part of a three-year strategy to transform the Company's book platform to the widest, most productive digital web presses available in the marketplace today. As of December 31, 2015, seven digital web presses have been installed.

The Company completed the acquisition of Brown Printing on May 30, 2014, for a net purchase price of \$98 million, excluding acquired cash. Brown Printing provides magazine and catalog printing, distribution services and integrated media solutions to magazine publishers and catalog marketers in the United States.

The Company completed the acquisition of UniGraphic on February 5, 2014, for a net purchase price of \$11 million, excluding acquired cash. UniGraphic is a commercial and specialty printing company based in the Boston metro area, offers commercial and specialty printing, in-store marketing, digital and fulfillment solutions for a wide variety of industries including arts and entertainment, education, financial, food, healthcare, mass media, pharmaceutical and retail. The acquisition expands Quad/Graphics' capabilities in the commercial and specialty printing market and strengthens the Company's ability to service national retailers' large-format and in-store marketing needs, adding an

East Coast presence to Quad/Graphics existing Midwest and West Coast locations.

Table of Contents

The Company completed the acquisition of Wisconsin-based Proteus, as well as its sister company Transpak, on December 18, 2013, for \$49 million. Proteus is a designer and manufacturer of high-end paperboard packaging, offering packaging solutions for a wide variety of industries, including automotive, biotechnology, food, beverage, personal care, pharmaceuticals, software and electronics. Transpak is a full-service industrial packaging company, offering crating, packaging, warehousing, distribution and logistics services to destinations worldwide. Through the acquisition of the two companies, Quad/Graphics expanded its capabilities to serve the packaging market.

- The Company completed the acquisition of Novia on November 7, 2013, for \$13 million. Novia is a healthcare solutions company that develops and manages onsite and shared primary care clinics for small to medium sized companies and the public sector, such as school districts and city and county governments, and is located in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The Company completed its acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Vertis on January 16, 2013, for \$265 million, including \$95 million for current assets that were in excess of normalized working capital requirements. Vertis is a provider of retail advertising inserts, direct marketing and in-store marketing solutions. The Company believes the acquisition of Vertis strengthened its client offering with an enhanced range of products and services, and also increased manufacturing flexibility and distribution efficiencies from an extended geographic footprint in the United States.

The Company is subject to seasonality in its quarterly results as net sales and operating income are higher in the third and fourth quarters of the calendar year as compared to the first and second quarters. The fourth quarter is the highest seasonal quarter for cash flows from operating activities and Free Cash Flow due to the reduction of working capital requirements that reach peak levels during the third quarter. Seasonality is driven by increased magazine advertising page counts, retail inserts, catalogs and books primarily due to back-to-school and holiday-related advertising and promotions. The Company expects this seasonality impact to continue in future years.

Table of Contents

Results of Operations for the Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2014

Summary Results

The Company's operating income (loss), operating margin, net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders (computed using a 40% normalized tax rate) and diluted earnings (loss) per share attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders for the year ended December 31, 2015, changed from the year ended December 31, 2014, as follows (dollars in millions, except per share data):

	Operating Income (Loss)	Operating Margin	Net Earnings (Loss) Attributable to Quad/Graphics Common Shareholders	Earnings (Loss) Per Share Attributable to Quad/Graphics Common Shareholders—Diluted
For the year ended December 31, 2014	\$ 141.3	2.9	% \$ 18.6	\$ 0.38
2015 restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges ⁽¹⁾	(164.9)	) (3.5	)% (108.0	) (2.25
2014 restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges ⁽²⁾	67.3	1.4	% 40.4	0.83
Goodwill impairment ⁽³⁾	(808.3)	) (17.3	)% (542.4	) (11.32
Decrease in interest expense ⁽⁴⁾	N/A	N/A	2.7	0.06
2014 loss on debt extinguishment ⁽⁵⁾	N/A	N/A	4.3	0.09
Impact of income taxes ⁽⁶⁾	N/A	N/A	(14.4	) (0.30
Decrease attributable to investments in unconsolidated entities and noncontrolling interests, net of tax ⁽⁷⁾	N/A	N/A	(3.9	) (0.08
Decrease in operating income ⁽⁸⁾	(65.4	) (1.2	)% (39.2	) (0.81
For the year ended December 31, 2015	\$ (830.0	) (17.7	)% \$(641.9	) \$ (13.40

(1) Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges of \$164.9 million incurred during the year ended December 31, 2015, included:

a. \$42.1 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs;

b. \$95.3 million of impairment charges including: (1) \$54.7 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Atlanta, Georgia; Augusta, Georgia; Dickson, Tennessee; East Greenville, Pennsylvania; Loveland, Colorado; and Queretaro, Mexico, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives; (2) \$18.6 million of investment-related impairment charges, primarily related to \$16.7 million of impairment charges to reduce the book value of the Company's equity method investment in Quad/Graphics Chile S.A. ("Chile") to fair value (see Note 8, "Equity Method Investments in Unconsolidated Entities," to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, for additional details related to the impairment of the Company's equity method investment in Chile); (3) \$12.7 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Augusta, Georgia and East Greenville, Pennsylvania plant closures; (4) \$7.1 million of customer relationship intangible asset impairments; and (5) \$2.2 million of impairment charges primarily related to the restructuring proceedings in Argentina for the Company's

Argentina subsidiaries, Anselmo L. Morvillo S.A. ("Morvillo") and World Color Argentina, S.A. (the "Argentina Subsidiaries") for land, building, machinery and equipment and other intangible assets;

\$(6.7) million of transaction-related charges (income) including a \$10.0 million non-recurring gain as a result of Courier Corporation's ("Courier") termination of the agreement pursuant to which Quad/Graphics was to acquire Courier, partially offset by \$3.3 million of professional service fees including fees for the terminated acquisition of Courier and the acquisitions of Marin's, Copac and Specialty;

Table of Contents

\$5.1 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to preparing existing facilities to meet new d. production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of the acquired companies; and

\$29.1 million of various other restructuring charges, including a \$6.0 million non-cash and nondeductible expense to e. recognize accumulated foreign exchange losses on the sale of the Chile equity method investment, lease exit charges related to closed facilities, as well as other costs to maintain and exit closed facilities.

The Company expects to incur additional restructuring and integration costs in future reporting periods in connection with eliminating excess manufacturing capacity and properly aligning its cost structure in conjunction with the Company's acquisitions and strategic investments, and other cost reduction programs.

(2) Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges of \$67.3 million incurred during the year ended December 31, 2014, included:

a. \$30.6 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs;

\$14.4 million of impairment charges including: (1) \$8.0 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Atlanta, Georgia; b. Dickson, Tennessee; Mexico City, Mexico; Pomona, California; and St. Cloud, Minnesota, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives and (2) \$6.4 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Bristol, Pennsylvania and Dickson, Tennessee plant closures;

\$2.6 million of transaction-related charges consisting of professional service fees for business acquisition and c. divestiture activities, which primarily includes professional service fees for the acquisitions of Brown Printing and UniGraphic;

\$11.2 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to preparing existing facilities to meet new d. production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of the acquired companies; and

e. \$8.5 million of other restructuring charges, including costs to maintain and exit closed facilities, as well as lease exit charges, presented net of a \$4.9 million gain from the termination of the postretirement medical benefit plan.

(3) Pre-tax non-cash goodwill impairment charges of \$808.3 million (\$542.4 million, net of tax) were recorded during the year ended December 31, 2015, of which \$778.3 million related to the United States Print and Related Services segment and \$30.0 million related to the International segment.

(4) Interest expense decreased \$4.5 million (\$2.7 million, net of tax) during the year ended December 31, 2015, to \$88.4 million. This change was due to a lower weighted average interest rate on borrowings and lower average debt levels in 2015 as compared to 2014.

(5) A non-recurring \$7.2 million loss on debt extinguishment (\$4.3 million, net of tax) was recognized during the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily related to the \$1.9 billion debt financing arrangements completed on April 28, 2014. The \$7.2 million represents certain debt issuance costs that were expensed.

Table of Contents

The decrease in income tax benefit of \$14.4 million as calculated in the following table is primarily due to \$10.4 million in reduced tax benefits in 2015 from a reversal of the liability for unrecognized tax benefits in 2014 based on the expiration of statutes of limitations and \$5.6 million related to losses in foreign jurisdictions in 2015 in excess of 2014 where the Company does not receive a tax benefit. See Note 14, "Income Taxes," to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for further information on income taxes.

	Year Ended December 31,		\$ Change
	2015	2014	
Earnings (loss) before income taxes and equity in loss of unconsolidated entities	\$ (918.4)	\$ 41.2	\$ (959.6)
Goodwill impairment charges	808.3	—	808.3
Nondeductible equity method investment impairment	16.7	—	16.7
Nondeductible foreign exchange losses on the sale of investment	6.0	—	6.0
Income (loss) subject to income taxes	(87.4)	41.2	(128.6)
40% normalized tax rate	40.0	% 40.0	% 40.0 %
Income tax expense (benefit) at 40% normalized tax rate	(35.0)	16.5	(51.5)
Plus: tax benefit related to goodwill impairment charges (Note 14)	(265.9)	—	(265.9)
	(300.9)	16.5	(317.4)
Income tax expense (benefit) from the consolidated statements of operations	(282.8)	20.2	303.0
Impact of income taxes	\$ (18.1)	\$ (3.7)	\$ (14.4)

The decrease attributable to investments in unconsolidated entities and noncontrolling interests, net of tax, of \$3.9 million during the year ended December 31, 2015, was primarily due to a \$2.8 million increase in losses from unconsolidated entities at the Company's investment in Plural Industria Gráfica Ltda ("Plural"), the Company's Brazilian joint venture and a \$0.9 million increase in losses at the Company's investment in Chile that was sold on July 31, 2015.

Operating income (loss), excluding restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges and goodwill impairment charges, decreased \$65.4 million (\$39.2 million, net of tax) primarily due to: (1) a 3.8% reduction in net sales predominantly from ongoing industry volume and pricing pressures; (2) higher labor costs associated with lower productivity; (3) a \$10.8 million charge to reduce a vendor receivable due to collectability concerns; and (4) \$6.1 million in net gains in 2014 related to favorable legal and bankruptcy settlements. These declines were partially offset by: (1) operating results from the additional earnings from the sales attributed to recent acquisitions; (2) a \$4.5 million increase in net gains on the sale of property, plant and equipment; (3) a \$4.5 million decrease in foreign currency losses; (4) \$4.0 million in lower vacation expense due to a change in the vacation policy; (5) a \$2.5 million gain on the sale of a cost method investment; and (6) a \$1.1 million favorable impact from the resolution of certain acquisition related contingencies. The following discussion provides additional details.

Table of Contents

Operating Results

The following table sets forth certain information from the Company's consolidated statements of operations on an absolute dollar basis and as a relative percentage of total net sales for each noted period, together with the relative percentage change in such information between the periods set forth below:

	Year Ended December 31, 2015		2014		\$ Change	% Change	
	Amount	% of Sales	Amount	% of Sales			
Net sales:							
Products	\$4,030.3	86.2	% \$4,197.5	86.3	% \$(167.2)	(4.0)%	
Services	647.4	13.8	% 664.9	13.7	% (17.5)	(2.6)%	
Total net sales	4,677.7	100.0	% 4,862.4	100.0	% (184.7)	(3.8)%	
Cost of sales:							
Products	3,294.1	70.4	% 3,421.4	70.3	% (127.3)	(3.7)%	
Services	466.8	10.0	% 470.5	9.7	% (3.7)	(0.8)%	
Total cost of sales	3,760.9	80.4	% 3,891.9	80.0	% (131.0)	(3.4)%	
Selling, general & administrative expenses	448.3	9.5	% 425.5	8.8	% 22.8	5.4 %	
Depreciation and amortization	325.3	7.0	% 336.4	6.9	% (11.1)	(3.3)%	
Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges	164.9	3.5	% 67.3	1.4	% 97.6	145.0 %	
Goodwill impairment	808.3	17.3	% —	—	% 808.3	nm	
Total operating expenses	5,507.7	117.7	% 4,721.1	97.1	% 786.6	16.7 %	
Operating income (loss)	\$(830.0)	(17.7)%	\$141.3	2.9 %	\$(971.3)	nm	

Net Sales

Product sales decreased \$167.2 million, or 4.0%, for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to a \$260.5 million decrease in product sales in the Company's core print and specialty print product lines owned more than a year predominantly due to ongoing volume and pricing pressures and \$53.3 million in negative foreign exchange impact. These decreases were partially offset by a \$146.6 million increase from acquisitions.

Service sales, which primarily consist of imaging, logistics and distribution services, decreased \$17.5 million, or 2.6%, for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to a decrease in logistics sales resulting from ongoing volume pressures. This decrease was partially offset by \$12.9 million in increased sales of QuadMed medical services and \$9.0 million in increased logistics and imaging sales resulting from acquisitions.

Cost of Sales

Cost of product sales decreased \$127.3 million, or 3.7%, for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared with the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to lower print and paper volumes in product lines owned more than a year and a \$4.0 million vacation reserve reduction due to a vacation policy change. These reductions were partially offset by increased cost of product sales resulting from acquisitions, higher labor costs associated with lower productivity and a \$10.8 million charge to reduce a vendor receivable due to collectability concerns.

Table of Contents

Cost of product sales as a percentage of net sales increased to 70.4% for the year ended December 31, 2015, from 70.3% for the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to the reasons provided above.

Cost of service sales decreased \$3.7 million, or 0.8%, for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared with the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to lower logistics volumes, partially offset by additional costs resulting from QuadMed medical services and increased sales generated by acquisitions.

Cost of service sales as a percentage of net sales increased to 10.0% for the year ended December 31, 2015, from 9.7% for the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to increased costs of QuadMed medical services.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased \$22.8 million, or 5.4%, for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared with the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to: (1) a \$16.7 million increase in employee-related costs due to acquisitions, net of a \$9.8 million reduction in compensation expense recognized related to equity incentive programs; (2) \$6.1 million in net gains in 2014 related to favorable legal and bankruptcy settlements; (3) a \$3.5 million increase in legal and professional fees; and (4) a \$2.5 million increase in general administrative expenses. These increases were partially offset by: (1) a \$4.5 million increase in net gains on the sale of property, plant and equipment; (2) a \$4.5 million decrease in foreign currency losses; (3) a \$2.5 million gain from the sale of a cost investment; and (4) a \$1.1 million favorable impact from the resolution of certain acquisition related contingencies. Selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales increased from 8.8% to 9.5% between years primarily due to the same reasons.

Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization decreased \$11.1 million, or 3.3%, for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared with the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to a \$14.8 million decrease in depreciation expense. The decreased depreciation expense is a result of property, plant and equipment becoming fully depreciated over the past year. This was partially offset by depreciation of property, plant and equipment purchased in acquisitions. The decrease in depreciation expense was partially offset by a \$3.7 million increase in amortization expense, primarily due to amortization of customer relationship intangible assets and other intangible assets from the companies acquired during 2015.

Restructuring, Impairment and Transaction-Related Charges

Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges increased \$97.6 million, or 145.0%, for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared with the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to a \$80.9 million increase in impairment charges, a \$20.6 million increase in other restructuring charges and a \$11.5 million increase in employee termination charges, partially offset by a \$9.3 million decrease in transaction-related charges and a \$6.1 million decrease in acquisition-related integration costs.

Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges of \$164.9 million incurred in the year ended December 31, 2015, included: (1) \$42.1 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$95.3 million of impairment charges, including \$54.7 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Atlanta, Georgia; Augusta, Georgia; Dickson, Tennessee; East Greenville, Pennsylvania; Loveland, Colorado; and Queretaro, Mexico, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives, \$18.6 million of investment related impairment charges, primarily related to \$16.7 million of impairment charges to reduce the book value of the Company's equity method investment in Chile to fair value (see Note 8, "Equity Method Investments in

Unconsolidated Entities," for additional details related to the impairment of the Company's equity method investment in Chile), \$12.7 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Augusta, Georgia and East Greenville, Pennsylvania plant closures, \$7.1 million of customer relationship intangible asset impairments and \$1.2 million of impairment charges for land and building, \$0.9 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment and \$0.1 million of impairment charges for other intangible assets as a result of the Company's Argentina

Table of Contents

Subsidiaries restructuring proceedings; (3) \$(6.7) million of transaction-related charges (income), which includes a \$10.0 million non-recurring gain as a result of Courier's termination of the agreement pursuant to which Quad/Graphics was to acquire Courier, partially offset by \$3.3 million of professional service fees for the terminated acquisition of Courier and the acquisitions of Marin's, Copac and Specialty; (4) \$5.1 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to preparing existing facilities to meet new production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of the acquired companies; and (5) \$29.1 million of other restructuring charges, including a \$6.0 million non-cash expense to recognize accumulated foreign exchange losses on the sale of the Chile equity method investment, as well as lease exit charges and other costs to maintain and exit closed facilities.

Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges of \$67.3 million incurred in the year ended December 31, 2014, included: (1) \$30.6 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$14.4 million of impairment charges, including \$8.0 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Atlanta, Georgia; Dickson, Tennessee; Mexico City, Mexico; Pomona, California; and St. Cloud, Minnesota, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives and \$6.4 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Bristol, Pennsylvania and Dickson, Tennessee plant closures; (3) \$2.6 million of transaction-related charges consisting of professional service fees for business acquisition and divestiture activities, which primarily includes professional service fees for the acquisitions of Brown Printing and UniGraphic; (4) \$11.2 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to preparing existing facilities to meet new production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of the acquired companies; and (5) \$8.5 million of other restructuring charges, including costs to maintain and exit closed facilities, as well as lease exit charges, presented net of a \$4.9 million gain from the termination of the postretirement medical benefit plan.

Goodwill Impairment

On March 25, 2015, due to deteriorating economic conditions, including inflation and currency devaluation, combined with uncertain political conditions, declining print volumes and labor challenges, the Company's Argentina Subsidiaries (included within the Latin America reporting unit) commenced bankruptcy restructuring proceedings with a goal of consolidating operations. The Company conducted an interim goodwill impairment assessment of the Latin America reporting unit, which included comparing the carrying amount of net assets, including goodwill, to its respective fair value as of March 31, 2015, the date of the interim assessment. As a result of the interim goodwill impairment assessment as well as the annual impairment test as of October 31, 2015, the Company's International segment recorded non-cash nondeductible goodwill impairment charges of \$30.0 million in the year ended December 31, 2015, primarily including a \$23.3 million non-cash goodwill impairment charge for the Latin America reporting unit.

Due to the decline in the Company's stock price in the third quarter of 2015, an interim goodwill impairment test of the three reporting units in the United States Print and Related Services segment was performed as of July 31, 2015. As a result of the interim goodwill impairment assessment as well as the annual impairment test as of October 31, 2015, the Company's United States Print and Related Services segment recorded pre-tax non-cash goodwill impairment charges of \$778.3 million (\$512.4 million after tax) in the year ended December 31, 2015, that included impairment charges of \$640.8 million, \$118.9 million and \$18.6 million in the Core Print and Related Services reporting unit, the Specialty Print and Related Services reporting unit and the Other United States Products and Services reporting unit, respectively.

In total, the Company recorded pre-tax non-cash goodwill impairment charges of \$808.3 million (\$542.4 million after tax) in the year ended December 31, 2015.

Table of Contents

EBITDA and EBITDA Margin—Consolidated

EBITDA and EBITDA margin for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to the year ended December 31, 2014, were as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		2014			
	2015	% of Net Sales	Amount	% of Net Sales		
	(dollars in millions)					
EBITDA and EBITDA margin	\$(511.0) (10.9)%	\$468.1	9.6	%

EBITDA decreased \$979.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to: (1) a \$808.3 million non-cash goodwill impairment charge recorded in 2015; (2) \$97.6 million of increased restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges; (3) ongoing volume and pricing pressures from excess capacity in the printing industry; (4) higher labor costs associated with lower productivity; (5) a \$10.8 million charge to reduce a vendor receivable due to collectability concerns; and (6) \$6.1 million in net gains in 2014 related to favorable legal and bankruptcy settlements. These impacts were partially offset by: (1) the additional earnings on sales generated from acquisitions; (2) a \$4.5 million increase in net gains on the sale of property, plant and equipment; (3) a \$4.5 million decrease in foreign currency losses; (4) a \$4.0 million vacation reserve reduction due to a vacation policy change; (5) a \$2.5 million gain on the sale of a cost investment; and (6) a \$1.1 million favorable impact from the resolution of certain acquisition related contingencies.

EBITDA represents net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders, plus (i) interest expense, (ii) income tax expense (if applicable) and (iii) depreciation and amortization, and less income tax benefit (if applicable). EBITDA margin represents EBITDA as a percentage of net sales. EBITDA and EBITDA margin are presented to provide additional information regarding Quad/Graphics' performance and because both are important measures by which Quad/Graphics gauges the profitability and assesses the performance of its business. EBITDA and EBITDA margin are not measures of financial performance in accordance with GAAP. EBITDA and EBITDA margin should not be considered alternatives to net earnings (loss) as a measure of operating performance or to cash flows provided by operating activities as a measure of liquidity. Quad/Graphics' calculation of EBITDA and EBITDA margin may be different from the calculations used by other companies, and therefore, comparability may be limited. A reconciliation of EBITDA to net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders follows:

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2015	2014
	(dollars in millions)	
Net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders ⁽¹⁾	\$(641.9	) \$18.6
Interest expense	88.4	92.9
Income tax expense (benefit)	(282.8	) 20.2
Depreciation and amortization	325.3	336.4
EBITDA	\$(511.0	) \$468.1

⁽¹⁾ Net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders includes the following effects:

a. Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges of \$164.9 million and \$67.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively;

b. Non-cash goodwill impairment charge of \$808.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2015; and

c. Loss on debt extinguishment of \$7.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Table of Contents

United States Print and Related Services

The following table summarizes net sales, operating income (loss), operating margin and certain items impacting comparability within the United States Print and Related Services segment:

	Year Ended December 31,		\$ Change	% Change	
	2015	2014			
	(dollars in millions)				
	Amount	Amount			
Net sales:					
Products	\$3,651.8	\$3,760.6	\$(108.8)	(2.9))%
Services	628.5	645.2	(16.7)	(2.6))%
Operating income (loss) (including restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges and goodwill impairment)	(706.1)	) 197.9	(904.0)	)	nm
Operating margin	(16.5)	)% 4.5	% N/A		N/A
Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges	\$101.4	\$52.1	\$49.3	94.6	%
Goodwill impairment	778.3	—	778.3	nm	

Net Sales

Product sales for the United States Print and Related Services segment decreased \$108.8 million, or 2.9%, for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to a \$242.5 million decrease in product sales in the Company's core print and specialty print product lines owned more than a year predominantly due to ongoing volume and pricing pressures from excess capacity in the printing industry, partially offset by a \$133.7 million increase from acquisitions.

Service sales for the United States Print and Related Services segment decreased \$16.7 million, or 2.6%, for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to a decrease in logistics sales resulting from ongoing volume pressures. This decrease was partially offset by \$12.9 million in increased sales of QuadMed medical services and \$9.0 million in logistics and imaging sales resulting from acquisitions.

Operating Income (Loss)

Operating income (loss) for the United States Print and Related Services segment decreased \$904.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to: (1) a \$778.3 million non-cash goodwill impairment charge; (2) \$49.3 million in increased restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges; (3) ongoing volume and pricing pressures from excess capacity in the printing industry; (4) a \$10.8 million charge to reduce a vendor receivable due to collectability concerns; and (5) \$2.5 million in net gains in 2014 related to favorable legal and bankruptcy settlements. These decreases in operating income were partially offset by: (1) additional earnings from the sales attributed to recent acquisitions; (2) a \$4.5 million increase in net gains on the sale of property, plant and equipment; (3) a \$4.0 million vacation reserve reduction due to a vacation policy change; (4) a \$2.5 million gain on the sale of a cost investment; and (5) a \$1.1 million favorable impact from the resolution of certain acquisition related contingencies.

Operating margin for the United States Print and Related Services segment decreased to (16.5)% for the year ended December 31, 2015, from 4.5% for the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to the reasons provided above.

Restructuring, Impairment and Transaction-Related Charges

Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges for the United States Print and Related Services segment for the year ended December 31, 2015, were \$101.4 million, consisting of: (1) \$27.3 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$50.7 million of impairment charges, including \$33.5 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Atlanta, Georgia; Augusta, Georgia; Dickson, Tennessee; East Greenville, Pennsylvania; and Loveland, Colorado, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives, \$11.2 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Augusta, Georgia and East Greenville, Pennsylvania plant closures and \$6.0 million of customer relationship intangible asset impairments; (3) \$4.6 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to preparing existing facilities to meet new production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of the acquired companies; and (4) \$18.8 million of other restructuring charges, including costs to maintain and exit closed facilities, as well as lease exit charges.

Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges for the United States Print and Related Services segment for the year ended December 31, 2014, were \$52.1 million, consisting of: (1) \$19.9 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$12.7 million of impairment charges, including \$7.0 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Atlanta, Georgia; Dickson, Tennessee; Pomona, California; and St. Cloud, Minnesota, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives and \$5.7 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Bristol, Pennsylvania and Dickson, Tennessee plant closures; (3) \$8.8 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to preparing existing facilities to meet new production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of the acquired companies; and (4) \$10.7 million of other restructuring charges, including costs to maintain and exit closed facilities, as well as lease exit charges.

Goodwill Impairment

Due to the decline in the Company's stock price in the third quarter of 2015, an interim goodwill impairment test of the three reporting units in the United States Print and Related Services segment was performed as of July 31, 2015. As a result of the interim goodwill impairment assessment as well as the annual impairment test as of October 31, 2015, the Company's United States Print and Related Services segment recorded pre-tax non-cash goodwill impairment charges of \$778.3 million (\$512.4 million after tax) in the year ended December 31, 2015, that included impairment charges of \$640.8 million, \$118.9 million and \$18.6 million in the Core Print and Related Services reporting unit, the Specialty Print and Related Services reporting unit and the Other United States Products and Services reporting unit, respectively.

Table of Contents

International

The following table summarizes net sales, operating loss, operating margin, certain items impacting comparability and equity in loss of unconsolidated entities within the International segment:

	Year Ended December 31,		\$ Change	% Change	
	2015	2014			
	(dollars in millions)				
	Amount	Amount			
Net sales:					
Products	\$378.5	\$436.9	\$(58.4)	(13.4))%
Services	18.9	19.7	(0.8)	(4.1))%
Operating loss (including restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges and goodwill impairment)	(63.4)	(11.2)	(52.2)	466.1	%
Operating margin	(16.0)	(2.5)	N/A	N/A	
Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges	\$38.8	\$9.2	\$29.6	321.7	%
Goodwill impairment	30.0	—	30.0	nm	
Equity in loss of unconsolidated entities	(6.3)	(2.7)	(3.6)	nm	

Net Sales

Product sales for the International segment decreased \$58.4 million, or 13.4%, for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to \$53.3 million in foreign exchange losses primarily in Europe, Mexico, Colombia and Argentina and \$28.6 million in lower volumes predominantly in Mexico and Colombia. These decreases were partially offset by \$12.9 million in sales from the Marin's acquisition and a \$10.6 million increase in Europe, primarily due to higher volumes.

Service sales for the International segment decreased \$0.8 million, or 4.1%, for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to a decrease in logistics revenue in Europe.

Operating Loss

Operating loss for the International segment increased \$52.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to: (1) \$30.0 million non-cash nondeductible goodwill impairment charges; (2) \$29.6 million of higher restructuring and impairment expenses, including \$16.7 million of impairment charges to reduce the book value of the Company's equity method investment in Chile and \$6.0 million of non-deductible foreign exchange losses on the sale of the equity method investment in Chile; (3) \$3.6 million in net gains in 2014 related to favorable legal settlements; and (4) a \$3.6 million increase in equity loss of unconsolidated entities, as discussed below. These increases in operating loss were partially offset by a \$4.0 million increase in operating income in Europe and increased operating income in Latin America despite lower product sales in Latin America.

Restructuring, Impairment and Transaction-Related Charges

Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges for the International segment for the year ended December 31, 2015, were \$38.8 million, consisting of: (1) \$7.3 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$22.8 million of

impairment charges, including \$16.7 million of impairment charges to reduce the book value of the Company's equity method investment in Chile to fair value (see Note 8, "Equity Method Investments in Unconsolidated Entities," for additional details related to the impairment of the Company's equity method investment in Chile), \$2.2 million of impairment charges primarily related to the restructuring proceedings in Argentina for the Company's Argentina Subsidiaries for land, building, machinery and equipment and other intangible assets, \$1.5 million of land and building impairment charges, \$1.3 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives and \$1.1 million of customer relationship intangible asset impairments; and (3) \$8.7 million of other restructuring charges, primarily related to the \$6.0 million non-cash expense to recognize accumulated foreign exchange losses on the sale of the Chile equity method investment.

Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges for the International segment for the year ended December 31, 2014, were \$9.2 million, consisting of: (1) \$6.0 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$1.7 million of impairment charges, including \$1.0 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations in Mexico City, Mexico, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives and \$0.7 million of land and building impairment charges as a result of facility consolidations in Poland; and (3) \$1.5 million of other restructuring charges.

Goodwill Impairment

On March 25, 2015, due to deteriorating economic conditions, including inflation and currency devaluation, combined with uncertain political conditions, declining print volumes and labor challenges, the Company's Argentina Subsidiaries (included within the Latin America reporting unit) commenced bankruptcy restructuring proceedings with a goal of consolidating operations. The Company conducted an interim goodwill impairment assessment of the Latin America reporting unit, which included comparing the carrying amount of net assets, including goodwill, to its respective fair value as of March 31, 2015, the date of the interim assessment. As a result of the interim goodwill impairment assessment as well as the annual impairment test as of October 31, 2015, the Company's International segment recorded non-cash nondeductible goodwill impairment charges of \$30.0 million in the year ended December 31, 2015, primarily including a \$23.3 million non-cash goodwill impairment charge for the Latin America reporting unit.

Equity in Loss of Unconsolidated Entities

Investments in entities where Quad/Graphics has the ability to exert significant influence, but not control, are accounted for using the equity method of accounting. The Company holds a 49% ownership interest in Plural, a commercial printer based in São Paulo, Brazil. The Company also held a 50% interest in a joint venture based in Chile that was acquired as part of the World Color Press Inc. acquisition until July 31, 2015, when the investment was sold. The equity in loss of unconsolidated entities in the International segment increased \$3.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to a \$2.8 million increase in equity losses in Plural and a \$0.9 million increase in equity losses in Chile.

Unrestricted Subsidiaries

Unrestricted subsidiaries as defined in the Senior Unsecured Notes indenture represented less than 2.0% of total consolidated net sales for the year ended December 31, 2015.

Table of Contents

Corporate

The following table summarizes unallocated operating expenses presented as Corporate:

	Year Ended December 31,		\$ Change	% Change	
	2015	2014			
	(dollars in millions)				
	Amount	Amount			
Operating expenses (including restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges)	\$60.5	\$45.4	\$15.1	33.3	%
Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges	24.7	6.0	18.7	311.7	%

Operating Expenses

Corporate operating expenses increased \$15.1 million, or 33.3%, for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared with the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to a \$18.7 million increase in restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges, partially offset by \$7.3 million in lower compensation expense related to equity incentive programs.

Restructuring, Impairment and Transaction-Related Charges

Corporate restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges for the year ended December 31, 2015, were \$24.7 million, consisting of: (1) \$7.5 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$21.8 million of impairment charges, including \$19.9 million of impairment charges for corporate equipment and \$1.9 million of investment related impairment charges; (3) \$(6.7) million of transaction-related charges (income), which includes the \$10.0 million non-recurring gain from Courier, partially offset by \$3.3 million of professional service fees, including fees for the terminated acquisition of Courier and the acquisitions of Marin's, Copac and Specialty; (4) \$0.3 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to professional fees; and (5) \$1.8 million of other restructuring charges.

Corporate restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges for the year ended December 31, 2014, were \$6.0 million, consisting of: (1) \$4.7 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$2.6 million of transaction-related charges consisting of professional service fees for business acquisition and divestiture activities, which primarily includes professional service fees for the acquisitions of Brown Printing and UniGraphic; (3) \$2.4 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to professional fees; and (4) \$(3.7) million of other restructuring charges (income), which includes a \$4.9 million gain from the termination of the postretirement medical benefit plan.

Table of Contents

Results of Operations for the Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2013

Summary Results

The Company's operating income from continuing operations, operating margin, net earnings attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders (computed using a 40% normalized tax rate) and diluted earnings per share attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders for the year ended December 31, 2014, changed from the year ended December 31, 2013, as follows (dollars in millions, except per share data):

	Operating Income from Continuing Operations	Operating Margin	Net Earnings Attributable to Quad/Graphics Common Shareholders	Earnings Per Share Attributable to Quad/Graphics Common Shareholders—Diluted
For the year ended December 31, 2013	\$142.2	3.0	% \$32.5	\$ 0.65
2014 restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges ⁽¹⁾	(67.3	) (1.4	)% (40.4	) (0.83
2013 restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges ⁽²⁾	95.3	2.0	% 57.2	1.19
Increase in interest expense ⁽³⁾	N/A	N/A	(4.4	) (0.09
Increase in loss on debt extinguishment ⁽⁴⁾	N/A	N/A	(4.3	) (0.09
Impact of income taxes ⁽⁵⁾	N/A	N/A	(3.1	) (0.06
Decrease attributable to investments in unconsolidated entities and noncontrolling interests, net of tax ⁽⁶⁾	N/A	N/A	(1.5	) (0.03
Decrease in operating income ⁽⁷⁾	(28.9	) (0.7	)% (17.4	) (0.36
For the year ended December 31, 2014	\$141.3	2.9	% \$18.6	\$ 0.38

(1) Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges of \$67.3 million incurred during the year ended December 31, 2014, included:

a. \$30.6 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs;

b. \$14.4 million of impairment charges including: (1) \$8.0 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Atlanta, Georgia; Dickson, Tennessee; Mexico City, Mexico; Pomona, California; and St. Cloud, Minnesota, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives; and (2) \$6.4 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Bristol, Pennsylvania and Dickson, Tennessee plant closures;

c. \$2.6 million of transaction-related charges consisting of professional service fees for business acquisition and divestiture activities, which primarily includes professional service fees for the acquisitions of Brown Printing and UniGraphic;

d. \$11.2 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to preparing existing facilities to meet new production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of the acquired companies; and

\$8.5 million of other restructuring charges, including costs to maintain and exit closed facilities, as well as lease exit charges, presented net of a \$4.9 million gain from the termination of the postretirement medical benefit plan.

The Company expects to incur additional restructuring and integration costs in future reporting periods in connection with eliminating excess manufacturing capacity and properly aligning its cost structure in conjunction with the Company's acquisitions and strategic investments, and other cost reduction programs.

Table of Contents

(2) Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges of \$95.3 million incurred during the year ended December 31, 2013, included:

a. \$15.7 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs;

b. \$21.8 million of impairment charges including: (1) \$11.7 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Dubuque, Iowa; Jonesboro, Arkansas; Pittsburg, California and Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives; and (2) \$10.1 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Corinth, Mississippi; Marengo, Iowa and Mexico City, Mexico plant closures;

c. \$4.0 million of transaction-related charges consisting of professional service fees for business acquisition and divestiture activities, which primarily includes professional service fees for the acquisitions of Vertis, Proteus and Transpak;

d. \$25.2 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to preparing existing facilities to meet new production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of the acquired companies; and

e. \$28.6 million of other restructuring charges, including costs to maintain and exit closed facilities, as well as lease exit charges, presented net of a \$2.1 million pension plan settlement gain.

(3) Interest expense increased \$7.4 million (\$4.4 million, net of tax) during the year ended December 31, 2014, to \$92.9 million. This change was due to a higher weighted average interest rate on borrowings due to the debt financing arrangements completed on April 28, 2014, and increased debt levels in 2014 as compared to 2013, primarily related to acquisitions.

(4) A non-recurring \$7.2 million loss on debt extinguishment (\$4.3 million, net of tax) was recognized during the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily related to the \$1.9 billion debt financing arrangements completed on April 28, 2014. The \$7.2 million represents certain debt issuance costs that were expensed.

(5) The incremental income tax expense of \$3.1 million above the normalized amount as calculated in the following table is primarily due to the following: (1) \$6.8 million of income tax expense recorded in 2014 to establish a valuation allowance for certain operations in Mexico; (2) a \$5.2 million decrease in domestic deductions; and (3) \$1.6 million of one-time foreign benefits in 2013, partially offset by (4) a \$10.5 million tax benefit from reversal of reserves for unrecognized tax benefits related to audit settlements or the expiration of the applicable statutes of limitations.

	Year Ended December 31,		\$ Change
	2014	2013	
Earnings before income taxes and equity in loss of unconsolidated entities	\$41.2	\$56.7	\$(15.5)
40% normalized tax rate	40.0	% 40.0	% 40.0 %
Income tax expense at 40% normalized tax rate	16.5	22.7	(6.2)
Income tax expense from the consolidated statements of operations	20.2	23.3	3.1

Incremental income tax expense above normalized amount \$(3.7) \$(0.6) \$(3.1)

(6) The decrease attributable to investments in unconsolidated entities and noncontrolling interests, net of tax, of \$1.5 million during the year ended December 31, 2014, was primarily due to a decrease of \$1.3 million of excluded noncontrolling interest loss in the Company's consolidated statements of operations related to the Company's ownership in Argentina due to the Company increasing its ownership share from 85% to 100%.

(7) Operating income, excluding restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges, decreased \$28.9 million (\$17.4 million, net of tax) primarily due to a decline in earnings from ongoing industry volume and pricing pressures, as well as \$9.5 million in net gains in 2013 that did not repeat in 2014 related to favorable legal, environmental and bankruptcy related settlements and a gain on the sale of Quad/Graphics' Brazilian operations in January 2013 to the Company's existing Brazilian joint venture with

Table of Contents

Plural. These declines were partially offset by the operating results from the acquisition of Brown Printing and lower employee related costs, including labor productivity improvements. The following discussion provides additional details.

Operating Results

The following table sets forth certain information from the Company's consolidated statements of operations on an absolute dollar basis and as a relative percentage of total net sales for each noted period, together with the relative percentage change in such information between the periods set forth below:

	Year Ended December 31,				\$ Change	% Change	
	2014	2013	Amount	% of Sales			
	(dollars in millions)						
	Amount	% of Sales	Amount	% of Sales			
Net sales:							
Products	\$4,197.5	86.3	% \$4,186.6	87.3	% \$10.9	0.3	%
Services	664.9	13.7	% 609.3	12.7	% 55.6	9.1	%
Total net sales	4,862.4	100.0	% 4,795.9	100.0	% 66.5	1.4	%
Cost of sales:							
Products	3,421.4	70.3	% 3,360.1	70.1	% 61.3	1.8	%
Services	470.5	9.7	% 441.8	9.2	% 28.7	6.5	%
Total cost of sales	3,891.9	80.0	% 3,801.9	79.3	% 90.0	2.4	%
Selling, general & administrative expenses	425.5	8.8	% 416.0	8.6	% 9.5	2.3	%
Depreciation and amortization	336.4	6.9	% 340.5	7.1	% (4.1)	(1.2))%
Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges	67.3	1.4	% 95.3	2.0	% (28.0)	(29.4))%
Total operating expenses	4,721.1	97.1	% 4,653.7	97.0	% 67.4	1.4	%
Operating income from continuing operations	\$141.3	2.9	% \$142.2	3.0	% \$(0.9)	(0.6))%

Net Sales

Product sales increased \$10.9 million, or 0.3%, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to a \$253.7 million increase from acquisitions, primarily the Brown Printing acquisition completed on May 30, 2014. This increase was partially offset by a \$181.2 million decrease in product sales in the Company's United States core print and specialty print product lines due to ongoing volume and pricing pressures, \$33.9 million in lower paper sales and \$22.5 million in foreign exchange losses.

Service sales, which primarily consist of imaging, logistics and distribution services, increased \$55.6 million, or 9.1%, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to \$33.3 million in increased sales of QuadMed medical services and \$22.3 million in increased logistics and imaging sales primarily resulting from acquisitions.

Cost of Sales

Cost of product sales increased \$61.3 million, or 1.8%, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared with the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to a \$217.7 million increase from cost of product sales resulting from

acquisitions, partially offset by lower print and paper volumes and lower employee-related costs in product lines owned more than a year.

Table of Contents

Cost of product sales as a percentage of net sales increased to 70.3% for the year ended December 31, 2014, from 70.1% for the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to the Brown Printing acquisition, which operates with lower gross margins than the Company's historical gross margins.

Cost of service sales increased \$28.7 million, or 6.5%, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared with the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to \$22.6 million in additional cost of service sales resulting from sales generated by the QuadMed medical services and a \$9.5 million increase in freight costs, partially offset by a \$5.1 million reduction in costs of service sales related to imaging.

Cost of service sales as a percentage of net sales increased to 9.7% for the year ended December 31, 2014, from 9.2% for the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to increased costs of QuadMed medical services and increased freight costs.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased \$9.5 million, or 2.3%, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared with the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to an \$8.8 million increase in employee-related costs attributable to acquisitions (predominantly from the Brown Printing acquisition) and \$7.7 million of net gains recorded in 2013 that did not repeat in 2014 or at the same level in 2014, including legal, environmental and bankruptcy related expenses as well as a \$2.8 million gain on the sale of Quad/Graphics' Brazilian operations in January 2013 to the Company's existing Brazilian joint venture with Plural. These increases were partially offset by a \$3.4 million decrease in general administrative and professional fees and a \$3.1 million reduction in sales promotion expense. Selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales increased from 8.6% to 8.8% between years due to the items discussed in the preceding sentence.

Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization decreased \$4.1 million, or 1.2%, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared with the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to a \$9.7 million decrease in depreciation expense. The decreased depreciation expense is a result of property, plant and equipment becoming fully depreciated over the past year, partially offset by depreciation of property, plant and equipment purchased in the Brown acquisition. The decrease in depreciation expense was partially offset by a \$5.6 million increase in amortization expense, primarily due to amortization of customer relationship intangible assets from the companies acquired during 2013 and 2014.

Restructuring, Impairment and Transaction-Related Charges

Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges decreased \$28.0 million, or 29.4%, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared with the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to a \$20.1 million decrease in other restructuring charges, a \$14.0 million decrease in acquisition-related integration costs, a \$7.4 million decrease in impairment charges and a \$1.4 million decrease in transaction-related charges, partially offset by a \$14.9 million increase in employee termination charges.

Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges of \$67.3 million incurred in the year ended December 31, 2014, included: (1) \$30.6 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$14.4 million of impairment charges, including \$8.0 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Atlanta, Georgia; Dickson, Tennessee; Mexico City, Mexico; Pomona, California; and St. Cloud, Minnesota, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives; and \$6.4 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Bristol, Pennsylvania and Dickson, Tennessee plant closures;

(3) \$2.6 million of transaction-related charges consisting of professional service fees for business acquisition and divestiture activities, which primarily includes professional service fees for the acquisitions of Brown Printing and UniGraphic; (4) \$11.2 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to preparing existing facilities to meet new production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of the acquired companies; and (5) \$8.5 million of other restructuring charges, including costs to maintain

Table of Contents

and exit closed facilities, as well as lease exit charges, presented net of a \$4.9 million gain from the termination of the postretirement medical benefit plan.

Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges of \$95.3 million incurred in the year ended December 31, 2013, included: (1) \$15.7 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$21.8 million of impairment charges, including \$11.7 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Dubuque, Iowa; Jonesboro, Arkansas; Pittsburg, California; and Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives; and \$10.1 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Corinth, Mississippi; Marengo, Iowa; and Mexico City, Mexico plant closures; (3) \$4.0 million of transaction-related charges consisting of professional service fees for business acquisition and divestiture activities, which primarily includes professional service fees for the acquisitions of Vertis, Proteus and Transpak; (4) \$25.2 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to preparing existing facilities to meet new production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of the acquired companies; and (5) \$28.6 million of other restructuring charges, including costs to maintain and exit closed facilities, as well as lease exit charges, presented net of a \$2.1 million pension plan settlement gain.

Table of Contents

EBITDA and EBITDA Margin—Consolidated

EBITDA and EBITDA margin for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the year ended December 31, 2013, were as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		2013		
	2014	% of Net Sales	Amount	% of Net Sales	
	(dollars in millions)				
EBITDA and EBITDA margin	\$468.1	9.6	% \$481.8	10.0	%

EBITDA decreased \$13.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to: (1) ongoing volume and pricing pressures from excess capacity in the printing industry; (2) \$11.3 million in net favorable gains in 2013 that did not repeat at the same level in 2014; (3) \$9.5 million of increased selling, general and administrative expenses primarily from the Brown Printing acquisition; and (4) the \$7.2 million loss on debt extinguishment recorded in 2014. These impacts were partially offset by \$28.0 million of decreased restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges and the additional earnings on sales generated from acquisitions. The EBITDA margin decreased from 10.0% for the year ended December 31, 2013, to 9.6% for the year ended December 31, 2014, primarily due to the margin impact from lower print pricing in product lines owned more than a year and the acquired Brown Printing operations, which operate with lower margins than the Company's historical margins.

EBITDA represents net earnings attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders, plus (i) interest expense, (ii) income tax expense (if applicable) and (iii) depreciation and amortization, and less income tax benefit (if applicable). EBITDA margin represents EBITDA as a percentage of net sales. EBITDA and EBITDA margin are presented to provide additional information regarding Quad/Graphics' performance and because both are important measures by which Quad/Graphics gauges the profitability and assesses the performance of its business. EBITDA and EBITDA margin are not measures of financial performance in accordance with GAAP. EBITDA and EBITDA margin should not be considered alternatives to net earnings as a measure of operating performance or to cash flows provided by operating activities as a measure of liquidity. Quad/Graphics' calculation of EBITDA and EBITDA margin may be different from the calculations used by other companies, and therefore, comparability may be limited. A reconciliation of EBITDA to net earnings attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders follows:

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2014	2013
	(dollars in millions)	
Net earnings attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders ⁽¹⁾	\$18.6	\$32.5
Interest expense	92.9	85.5
Income tax expense	20.2	23.3
Depreciation and amortization	336.4	340.5
EBITDA	\$468.1	\$481.8

⁽¹⁾ Net earnings attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders includes the following effects:

a. Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges of \$67.3 million and \$95.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2014, and 2013, respectively; and

b. Loss on debt extinguishment of \$7.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Table of Contents

United States Print and Related Services

The following table summarizes net sales, operating income, operating margin and certain items impacting comparability within the United States Print and Related Services segment:

	Year Ended December 31,		\$ Change	% Change	
	2014	2013			
	(dollars in millions)				
	Amount	Amount			
Net sales:					
Products	\$3,760.6	\$3,746.2	\$14.4	0.4	%
Services	645.2	593.5	51.7	8.7	%
Operating income (including restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges)	197.9	230.7	(32.8	) (14.2)%
Operating margin	4.5	% 5.3	% N/A	N/A	
Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges	\$52.1	\$52.3	\$(0.2	) (0.4)%

Net Sales

Product sales for the United States Print and Related Services segment increased \$14.4 million, or 0.4%, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to a \$253.7 million increase from acquisitions. This increase was partially offset by a \$181.2 million decrease in product sales in the Company's core print and specialty print product lines owned more than a year due to ongoing volume and pricing pressures and a \$45.6 million decrease in paper sales.

Service sales for the United States Print and Related Services segment increased \$51.7 million, or 8.7%, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to \$33.3 million in increased sales of QuadMed medical services and \$18.4 million in increased logistics and imaging sales primarily resulting from acquisitions.

Operating Income

Operating income for the United States Print and Related Services segment decreased \$32.8 million, or 14.2%, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to the ongoing volume and pricing pressures from excess capacity in the printing industry. This decrease in operating income was partially offset by \$30.1 million lower employee-related costs, including labor productivity improvements, and increased operating profit from acquisitions.

Operating margin for the United States Print and Related Services segment decreased to 4.5% for the year ended December 31, 2014, from 5.3% for the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to lower print volumes and pricing and the Brown Printing acquisition, which operates with lower margins than the Company's historical margins.

Restructuring, Impairment and Transaction-Related Charges

Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges for the United States Print and Related Services segment for the year ended December 31, 2014, were \$52.1 million, consisting of: (1) \$19.9 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$12.7 million of impairment charges, including \$7.0 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment

no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Atlanta, Georgia; Dickson, Tennessee; Pomona, California; and St. Cloud, Minnesota, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives and \$5.7 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Bristol, Pennsylvania and Dickson, Tennessee plant closures; (3) \$8.8 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to preparing existing

Table of Contents

facilities to meet new production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of the acquired companies; and (4) \$10.7 million of other restructuring charges, including costs to maintain and exit closed facilities, as well as lease exit charges.

Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges for the United States Print and Related Services segment for the year ended December 31, 2013, were \$52.3 million, consisting of: (1) \$10.0 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$15.6 million of impairment charges, including \$10.3 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Dubuque, Iowa; Jonesboro, Arkansas; Pittsburg, California; and Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives; and \$5.3 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Corinth, Mississippi and Marengo, Iowa plant closures; and (3) \$26.7 million of other restructuring charges, including costs to maintain and exit closed facilities, as well as lease exit charges, presented net of a \$2.1 million pension plan settlement gain.

International

The following table summarizes net sales, operating loss, operating margin, certain items impacting comparability and equity in loss of unconsolidated entities within the International segment:

	Year Ended December 31,		\$ Change	% Change	
	2014	2013			
	(dollars in millions)				
	Amount	Amount			
Net sales:					
Products	\$436.9	\$440.4	\$(3.5)	(0.8))%
Services	19.7	15.8	3.9	24.7	%
Operating loss (including restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges)	(11.2)	(7.7)	(3.5)	(45.5))%
Operating margin	(2.5)	(1.7)	N/A	N/A	
Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges	\$9.2	\$9.6	\$(0.4)	(4.2))%
Equity in loss of unconsolidated entities	(2.7)	(2.5)	(0.2)	8.0	%

Net Sales

Product sales for the International segment decreased \$3.5 million, or 0.8%, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to \$23.7 million of decreased product sales in Latin America as a result of \$23.7 million of foreign exchange losses in Argentina. This decrease was partially offset by \$20.2 million of increased sales in Europe driven by an increase in paper sales, higher volumes and a \$1.2 million positive impact from foreign currency translation in Europe.

Service sales for the International segment increased \$3.9 million, or 24.7%, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to an increase in logistics revenue in Europe.

Operating Loss

Operating loss for the International segment increased \$3.5 million, or 45.5%, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to the margin impact of lower product sales in Latin

America, a \$2.8 million gain on the sale of Quad/Graphics' Brazilian operations in January 2013 to the Company's existing Brazilian joint venture with Plural that did not recur in 2014 and a \$0.2 million increase in equity loss of unconsolidated entities, as discussed below. These increases in operating loss were partially offset by improvement in operating income in Europe.

Table of Contents

Restructuring, Impairment and Transaction-Related Charges

Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges for the International segment for the year ended December 31, 2014, were \$9.2 million, consisting of: (1) \$6.0 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$1.7 million of impairment charges, including \$1.0 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations in Mexico City, Mexico, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives; and \$0.7 million of land and building impairment charges as a result of facility consolidations in Poland; and (3) \$1.5 million of other restructuring charges.

Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges for the International segment for the year ended December 31, 2013, were \$9.6 million, consisting of: (1) \$2.9 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$6.2 million of impairment charges, including \$4.8 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Mexico City, Mexico plant closure and \$1.4 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations in Pila, Poland, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives; (3) \$(0.2) million of an adjustment for updated estimates related to employee related liabilities for the integration of Transcontinental's Mexican operations; and (4) \$0.7 million of other restructuring charges.

Equity in Loss of Unconsolidated Entities

Investments in entities where Quad/Graphics has the ability to exert significant influence, but not control, are accounted for using the equity method of accounting. The Company holds a 49% ownership interest in Plural, a commercial printer based in São Paulo, Brazil. In January 2013, the Company sold 100% of its ownership interest in Quad/Graphics Nordeste Industria Gráfica LTDA. and Quad/Graphics São Paulo Industria Gráfica S.A. to Plural (see Note 8, "Equity Method Investments in Unconsolidated Entities," to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for further discussion). The Company also holds a 50% interest in a joint venture based in Santiago, Chile, Quad/Graphics Chile S.A. ("Chile"), that was acquired as part of the World Color Press acquisition. The equity in loss of unconsolidated entities in the International segment increased \$0.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to a decrease in equity earnings at Chile.

Unrestricted Subsidiaries

Unrestricted subsidiaries as defined in the Senior Unsecured Notes indenture represented less than 2.0% of total consolidated net sales for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Table of Contents

Corporate

The following table summarizes unallocated operating expenses presented as Corporate:

	Year Ended December 31,		\$ Change	% Change
	2014	2013		
	(dollars in millions)			
	Amount	Amount		
Operating expenses (including restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges)	\$45.4	\$80.8	\$(35.4)	(43.8)%
Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges	6.0	33.4	(27.4)	(82.0)%

Operating Expenses

Corporate operating expenses decreased \$35.4 million, or 43.8%, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared with the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to a \$27.4 million decrease in restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges and \$11.1 million in pension and other postretirement income that is being allocated to Corporate in 2014, instead of to the United States Print and Related Services segment (as was done in 2013), partially offset by a \$3.3 million increase in employee-related costs, including costs resulting from the Brown Printing acquisition.

Restructuring, Impairment and Transaction-Related Charges

Corporate restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges for the year ended December 31, 2014, were \$6.0 million, consisting of: (1) \$4.7 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$2.6 million of transaction-related charges consisting of professional service fees for business acquisition and divestiture activities, which primarily includes professional service fees for the acquisitions of Brown Printing and UniGraphic; (3) \$2.4 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to professional fees; and (4) \$(3.7) million of other restructuring charges (income), which includes a \$4.9 million gain from the termination of the postretirement medical benefit plan.

Corporate restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges for the year ended December 31, 2013, were \$33.4 million, consisting of: (1) \$2.8 million of employee termination charges related to workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs; (2) \$4.0 million of transaction-related charges consisting of professional service fees for business acquisition and divestiture activities, which primarily includes professional service fees for the acquisitions of Vertis, Proteus and Transpak; (3) \$25.4 million of acquisition-related integration costs primarily related to preparing existing facilities to meet new production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of the acquired companies; and (4) \$1.2 million of other restructuring charges.

Table of Contents

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company utilizes cash flows from operating activities and borrowings under its credit facilities to satisfy its liquidity and capital requirements. The Company believes its expected future cash flows from operating activities and \$730.9 million of unused capacity under the revolving credit facility, net of \$48.3 million of issued letters of credit, as of December 31, 2015, provide sufficient resources to fund ongoing operating requirements and the integration and restructuring requirements related to acquired operations, as well as future capital expenditures, debt service requirements, World Color Press single employer pension plan contributions, World Color Press MEPPs withdrawal payments, investments in future growth to create value for its shareholders, shareholder dividends and share repurchases. Borrowings under the \$850.0 million revolving credit facility were \$70.8 million as of December 31, 2015, and peak borrowings were \$288.1 million during the year ended December 31, 2015.

Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2014

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$348.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to \$293.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, resulting in a \$54.9 million increase in cash provided by operating activities. The increase was primarily due to a \$163.4 million increase in cash flows from changes in operating assets and liabilities predominantly from improvements in working capital and the \$10.0 million non-recurring cash receipt from Courier's termination of the agreement pursuant to which Quad/Graphics was to acquire Courier, partially offset by a \$118.5 million decrease in cash from earnings.

Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2013

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$293.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to \$441.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, resulting in a \$147.9 million decrease in cash provided by operating activities. The decrease was primarily due to a \$161.3 million decrease in cash flows from changes in operating assets and liabilities and a \$5.0 million decrease in dividends from unconsolidated entities, partially offset by \$18.4 million of improved operating cash flows from earnings (excluding non-cash items). The \$161.3 million decrease in cash flows from changes in operating assets and liabilities was primarily related to an estimated \$90 million one-time benefit realized during 2013 from the restoration of normalized working capital levels following the acquisition of Vertis, which was acquired without normalized levels of accounts payable and certain liabilities. The remaining change is due to an increase of \$71 million in cash used for working capital primarily due to an increase in accounts receivable.

Net Cash Used in Investing Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2014

Net cash used in investing activities was \$216.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to \$224.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, resulting in a \$7.5 million decrease in cash used in investing activities. The decrease was primarily due to \$36.4 million of increased cash proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment and investments in 2015, partially offset by \$30.9 million of increased cash payments related to acquisitions.

Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2013

Net cash used in investing activities was \$224.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to \$430.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, resulting in a \$206.4 million decrease in cash used in investing activities. The decrease was primarily due to \$179.4 million of reduced cash payments related to acquisitions and strategic investments, predominantly driven by the \$235.4 million net cash paid for the Vertis acquisition on January 16, 2013, and the \$43.1 million net cash paid for the Proteus and Transpak acquisitions on December 18, 2013, less the \$96.4 million net cash paid for the Brown Printing acquisition on May 30, 2014. The decrease in cash used in investing

Table of Contents

activities is also attributable to the following: (1) a \$20.3 million increase in receipts of restricted cash and (2) a \$10.3 million decrease in purchases of property, plant and equipment in 2014.

Net Cash Used in Financing Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2014

Net cash used in financing activities was \$127.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to \$71.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, resulting in a \$56.2 million increase in cash used in financing activities. The increase was primarily due to net debt repayments of \$68.9 million in 2015, compared to net debt borrowings of \$11.5 million in 2014, representing an \$80.4 million increase in net cash used in financing activities. This increase was partially offset by: (1) \$16.5 million of debt issuance costs paid in 2014 related to the April 28, 2014 \$1.9 billion debt financing arrangements, the October 10, 2014 redemption of \$108.8 million of its senior notes under the Master Note and Security Agreement and the November 24, 2014 amendment to the master note and security agreement compared to no debt issuance cost payments in 2015 and (2) \$7.9 million of reduced World Color Press bankruptcy claim payments.

Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2013

Net cash used in financing activities was \$71.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to \$10.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, resulting in a \$61.5 million increase in cash used in financing activities. The increase was primarily due to: (1) a \$29.8 million decrease in net debt borrowings in 2014 as compared to 2013; (2) \$16.5 million of debt issuance costs paid in 2014 related to the April 28, 2014 \$1.9 billion debt financing arrangements, the October 10, 2014 redemption of \$108.8 million of its senior notes under the master note and security agreement and the November 24, 2014 amendment to the master note and security agreement; (3) \$6.9 million reduced net cash proceeds from equity incentive instruments; and (4) \$4.8 million higher dividend payments in 2014.

Free Cash Flow

Free Cash Flow is defined as net cash provided by operating activities less purchases of property, plant and equipment.

The Company's management assesses Free Cash Flow as a measure to quantify cash available for (1) strengthening the balance sheet (debt reduction), (2) strategic capital allocation and deployment through investments in the business (acquisitions and strategic investments) and (3) returning capital to the shareholders (dividends and share repurchases). The priorities for capital allocation and deployment will change as circumstances dictate for the business, and Free Cash Flow can be significantly impacted by the Company's restructuring activities and other unusual items.

Free Cash Flow is a non-GAAP measure. Free Cash Flow should not be considered an alternative to cash flows provided by operating activities as a measure of liquidity. Quad/Graphics' calculation of Free Cash Flow may be different from similar calculations used by other companies, and therefore, comparability may be limited.

Table of Contents

Free Cash Flow for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, was as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(dollars in millions)		
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$348.1	\$293.2	\$441.1
Less: purchases of property, plant and equipment	(133.0	) (139.2	) (149.5
Free Cash Flow	\$215.1	\$154.0	\$291.6

(1) Free Cash Flow of \$291.6 million in 2013 includes an estimated \$90 million one-time benefit realized from the restoration of normalized working capital levels following the 2013 acquisition of Vertis. Excluding this \$90 million one-time benefit, Free Cash Flow would have been \$201.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2013.

Free Cash Flow increased \$61.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2015, compared to the year ended December 31, 2014, due to the following: (1) a \$54.9 million increase in net cash provided by operating activities primarily attributable to improvements in working capital and the receipt of the \$10.0 million Courier termination fee and (2) a \$6.2 million decrease in capital expenditures.

Free Cash Flow decreased \$137.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the year ended December 31, 2013, due to a \$147.9 million decrease in net cash provided by operating activities, partially offset by a \$10.3 million decrease in capital expenditures. The \$147.9 million decrease in net cash provided by operating activities includes an estimated \$90 million one-time benefit realized during 2013 from the restoration of normalized working capital levels following the acquisition of Vertis and an increase of \$71 million in cash used for working capital primarily due to an increase in accounts receivable.

See the "Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities" section above for further explanations of the changes in operating cash flows and the "Net Cash Used in Investing Activities" section above for further explanations of the changes in purchases of property, plant and equipment.

Debt Leverage Ratio

The Debt Leverage Ratio is defined as total debt and capital lease obligations divided by the sum of: (1) the last twelve months of EBITDA (see the definition of EBITDA and the reconciliation of net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders to EBITDA in the "Results of Operations" section above); (2) restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges; (3) non-cash goodwill impairment charges; (4) loss on debt extinguishment; and (5) pro forma historical results related to the May 30, 2014, acquisition of Brown Printing.

The Company uses the Debt Leverage Ratio as a metric to assess liquidity and the flexibility of its balance sheet. Consistent with other liquidity metrics, the Company monitors the Debt Leverage Ratio as a measure to determine the appropriate level of debt the Company believes is optimal to operate its business, and accordingly, to quantify debt capacity available for strategic capital allocation and deployment through investments in the business (capital expenditures and acquisitions), for strengthening the balance sheet (debt and pension liability reduction), and for returning capital to the shareholders (dividends and share repurchases). The priorities for capital allocation and deployment will change as circumstances dictate for the business, and the Debt Leverage Ratio can be significantly impacted by the amount and timing of large expenditures requiring debt financing, as well as changes in profitability.

The Debt Leverage Ratio is a non-GAAP measure, and should not be considered an alternative to cash flows provided by operating activities as a measure of liquidity. Quad/Graphics' calculation of the Debt Leverage Ratio may be

different from similar calculations used by other companies, and therefore, comparability may be limited.

Table of Contents

The Debt Leverage Ratio calculated below differs from both the total leverage ratio and senior secured leverage ratio included in the Company's debt covenant calculations (see Note 12, "Debt," to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for further information on debt covenants). The total leverage ratio included in the Company's debt covenants includes letters of credit as debt, excludes non-cash stock-based compensation expense from EBITDA and includes certain pro forma historical results of acquisitions and divestitures in EBITDA. Similarly, the senior secured leverage ratio included in the Company's debt covenants includes and excludes the same adjustments as the total leverage ratio, in addition to the exclusion of the outstanding balance of the Senior Unsecured Notes.

In accordance with the adoption of accounting guidance on the presentation of debt issuance costs as discussed in Note 25, "New Accounting Pronouncements," to the financial statements in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, the Debt Leverage Ratio calculation on December 31, 2015 and 2014, reflects a reduction in long-term debt of \$16.1 million and \$20.0 million, respectively, for debt issuance costs.

The Debt Leverage Ratio as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, was as follows:

	December 31, 2015	December 31, 2014
	(dollars in millions)	
Total debt and capital lease obligations on the consolidated balance sheets	\$1,349.3	\$1,405.6
Divided by:		
Quad/Graphics EBITDA as adjusted for purposes of calculating Debt Leverage Ratio	\$462.2	\$542.6
January 1, 2014 to May 29, 2014 Brown Printing pro forma EBITDA as adjusted for purposes of calculating the Debt Leverage Ratio ⁽¹⁾	—	5.2
Pro forma EBITDA as adjusted for purposes of calculating the Debt Leverage Ratio	\$462.2	\$547.8
Debt Leverage Ratio	2.92	x 2.57 x

As permitted by the Senior Secured Credit Facility, certain pro forma financial information related to the acquisition of Brown Printing was included when calculating the Debt Leverage Ratio as of December 31, 2014. As the acquisition of Brown Printing was completed on May 30, 2014, the \$5.2 million pro forma EBITDA as adjusted for purposes of calculating the Debt Leverage Ratio represents the period from January 1, 2014 to May 29, 2014. Pro forma EBITDA as adjusted for purposes of calculating the Debt Leverage Ratio for Brown

⁽¹⁾ Printing was calculated in a consistent manner with the calculation above for Quad/Graphics. Brown Printing's financial information subsequent to the May 30, 2014 acquisition has been included within the Quad/Graphics EBITDA as adjusted for purposes of calculating the Debt Leverage Ratio as the results of Brown Printing have been consolidated with Quad/Graphics' financial results since that date. If the five months of pro forma EBITDA as adjusted for purposes of calculating the Debt Leverage Ratio for Brown Printing was not included in the calculation, the Company's Debt Leverage Ratio would have been 2.59x as of December 31, 2014.

Table of Contents

The calculation of Quad/Graphics EBITDA as adjusted for purposes of calculating the Debt Leverage Ratio for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, was as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2015	2014
	(dollars in millions)	
Net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders	\$(641.9	) \$18.6
Interest expense	88.4	92.9
Income tax expense (benefit)	(282.8	) 20.2
Depreciation and amortization	325.3	336.4
EBITDA	\$(511.0	) \$468.1
Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges	164.9	67.3
Goodwill impairment	808.3	—
Loss on debt extinguishment	—	7.2
Quad/Graphics EBITDA as adjusted for purposes of calculating Debt Leverage Ratio	\$462.2	\$542.6

The Debt Leverage Ratio increased 0.35x at December 31, 2015, compared to December 31, 2014, primarily due to a decrease in Quad/Graphics EBITDA as adjusted for purposes of calculating the Debt Leverage Ratio predominantly from ongoing industry volume and pricing pressures, partially offset by the impact of a \$56.3 million reduction in debt and capital lease obligations on the consolidated balance sheets. The Debt Leverage Ratio at December 31, 2015 of 2.92x is above management's desired target Debt Leverage Ratio range of 2.0x to 2.5x; however, the Company operates at times above the Debt Leverage Ratio target range depending on the timing of compelling strategic investment opportunities like the Specialty, Copac, Marin's and Brown Printing acquisitions and seasonal working capital needs.

Description of Significant Outstanding Debt Obligations as of December 31, 2015

As of December 31, 2015, the Company utilized a combination of debt instruments to fund cash requirements, including the following:

\$1.9 Billion Debt Financing Arrangements which includes the following:

Senior Secured Credit Facility:

\$850.0 million revolving credit facility (\$70.8 million outstanding as of December 31, 2015);

\$450.0 million Term Loan A (\$410.6 million outstanding as of December 31, 2015); and

\$300.0 million Term Loan B (\$293.2 million outstanding as of December 31, 2015);

Senior Unsecured Notes (\$300.0 million outstanding as of December 31, 2015);

Master Note and Security Agreement (\$260.4 million outstanding as of December 31, 2015).

Table of Contents

\$1.9 Billion Debt Financing Arrangements

The Company completed its \$1.9 billion debt financing agreement on April 28, 2014, which included refinancing, extending and expanding its existing revolving credit facility, Term Loan A and Term Loan B with the \$1.6 billion Senior Secured Credit Facility and the issuance of \$300.0 million aggregate principal amount of its Senior Unsecured Notes. The Senior Secured Credit Facility and the Senior Unsecured Notes were entered into to extend and stagger the Company's debt maturity profile, further diversify its capital structure and provide more borrowing capacity to better position the Company to execute on its strategic goals. The proceeds from the Senior Secured Credit Facility and Senior Unsecured Notes were used to: (1) repay the Company's previous revolving credit facility, Term Loan A, Term Loan B and the international term loan; (2) fund the acquisition of Brown Printing; and (3) for general corporate purposes.

Senior Secured Credit Facility. The Senior Secured Credit Facility consists of three different loan facilities. The first facility is a revolving credit facility in the amount of \$850.0 million with a term of five years maturing on April 27, 2019. The second facility is a Term Loan A in the aggregate amount of \$450.0 million with a term of five years maturing on April 27, 2019, subject to certain required amortization. The third facility is a Term Loan B in the amount of \$300.0 million with a term of seven years maturing on April 27, 2021, subject to certain required amortization.

Borrowings under the revolving credit facility and Term Loan A loans made under the Senior Secured Credit Facility will initially bear interest at 2.00% in excess of reserve adjusted London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR"), or 1.00% in excess of an alternate base rate. The weighted-average interest rate for the revolving credit facility was 2.37% and the weighted-average interest rate for the Term Loan A loans was 2.36% at December 31, 2015, and interest is payable monthly. Term Loan B loans will bear interest at 3.25% in excess of reserve adjusted LIBOR, with a LIBOR floor of 1.00%, or 2.25% in excess of an alternative base rate at the Company's option. The weighted-average interest rate for the Term Loan B loans was 4.25% at December 31, 2015, and interest is payable monthly.

The Senior Secured Credit Facility is secured by substantially all of the unencumbered assets of the Company. The Senior Secured Credit Facility also requires the Company to provide additional collateral to the lenders in certain limited circumstances.

The Company entered into an amendment to the Senior Secured Credit Facility on December 18, 2014, which eliminated the "net debt" concept from the calculation of the total leverage ratio and the senior secured leverage ratio and eliminated the consolidated net worth covenant.

Senior Unsecured Notes. The Company received \$294.8 million in net proceeds from the sale of the \$300.0 million Senior Unsecured Notes, after deducting the initial purchasers' discounts and commissions. The Senior Unsecured Notes bear interest at 7.0% and interest is payable semi-annually. The Senior Unsecured Notes are due May 1, 2022.

Subsequent to December 31, 2015, and through February 18, 2016, the Company repurchased \$27.4 million of Senior Unsecured Notes for a total purchase price of \$18.5 million. All the repurchased notes were canceled.

Each of the Company's existing and future domestic subsidiaries that is a borrower or guarantees indebtedness under the Company's Senior Secured Credit Facility or that guarantees certain of the Company's other indebtedness or indebtedness of the Company's restricted subsidiaries (other than intercompany indebtedness) fully and unconditionally guarantee or, in the case of future subsidiaries, will guarantee, on a joint and several basis, the Senior Unsecured Notes (the "Guarantor Subsidiaries"). All of the current Guarantor Subsidiaries are 100% owned by the Company. Guarantor Subsidiaries will be automatically released from these guarantees upon the occurrence of certain events, including the following: (1) the designation of any of the Guarantor Subsidiaries as an unrestricted subsidiary;

(2) the release or discharge of any guarantee or indebtedness that resulted in the creation of the guarantee of the

71

Table of Contents

Senior Unsecured Notes by any of the Guarantor Subsidiaries; or (3) the sale or disposition, including the sale of substantially all the assets, of any of the Guarantor Subsidiaries.

Master Note and Security Agreement (sometimes referred to as senior notes)

On September 1, 1995, and as last amended on November 24, 2014, the Company entered into the Master Note and Security Agreement pursuant to which the Company issued over time senior notes in an aggregate principal amount of \$1.1 billion in various tranches, of which \$260.4 million was outstanding as of December 31, 2015. The weighted-average interest rate for the senior notes was 7.53% at December 31, 2015, which is fixed to maturity, and interest is payable semiannually. Principal payments commenced September 1997 and extend through April 2031 in various tranches. The notes are collateralized by certain United States land, buildings and press and finishing equipment under the terms of the Master Note and Security Agreement.

The Company redeemed \$108.8 million of its senior notes under the Master Note and Security Agreement for \$109.6 million on October 10, 2014. The Company used its revolving credit facility to effect the redemption. This redemption was primarily completed to reduce interest expense based on then current LIBOR rates.

The Master Note and Security Agreement was amended on November 24, 2014. The amendment, among other things, amended the financial covenants by removing the consolidated net worth requirement and the fixed charge coverage ratio, as well as adding a minimum interest coverage ratio, a maximum total leverage ratio and a maximum senior secured leverage ratio. These amendments align the financial covenants in the Master Note and Security Agreement more closely with the financial covenants in the Senior Secured Credit Facility.

Covenants and Compliance

The Company's various lending arrangements include certain financial covenants (all financial terms, numbers and ratios are as defined in the Company's debt agreements). Among these covenants, the Company was required to maintain the following as of December 31, 2015:

Total Leverage Ratio. On a rolling twelve-month basis, the total leverage ratio, defined as total consolidated debt to consolidated EBITDA, shall not exceed 3.75 to 1.00 (for the twelve months ended December 31, 2015, the Company's total leverage ratio was 2.89 to 1.00).

Senior Secured Leverage Ratio. On a rolling twelve-month basis, the senior secured leverage ratio, defined as senior secured debt to consolidated EBITDA, shall not exceed 3.50 to 1.00 (for the twelve months ended December 31, 2015, the Company's senior secured leverage ratio was 2.26 to 1.00).

Minimum Interest Coverage Ratio. On a rolling twelve-month basis, the minimum interest coverage ratio, defined as consolidated EBITDA to consolidated cash interest expense, shall not be less than 3.50 to 1.00 (for the twelve months ended December 31, 2015, the Company's minimum interest coverage ratio was 5.66 to 1.00).

The indenture underlying the Senior Unsecured Notes contains various covenants, including, but not limited to, covenants that, subject to certain exceptions, limit the Company's and its restricted subsidiaries' ability to: incur and/or guarantee additional debt; pay dividends, repurchase stock or make certain other restricted payments; enter into agreements limiting dividends and certain other restricted payments; prepay, redeem or repurchase subordinated debt; grant liens on assets; enter into sale and leaseback transactions; merge, consolidate, transfer or dispose of substantially all of the Company's consolidated assets; sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of property and assets; and engage in transactions with affiliates.

Table of Contents

The Company was in compliance with all financial covenants in its debt agreements as of December 31, 2015. While the Company currently expects to be in compliance in future periods with all of the financial covenants, there can be no assurance that these covenants will continue to be met. The Company's failure to maintain compliance with the covenants could prevent the Company from borrowing additional amounts and could result in a default under any of the debt agreements. Such default could cause the outstanding indebtedness to become immediately due and payable, by virtue of cross-acceleration or cross-default provisions.

In addition to covenants, the Senior Secured Credit Facility also includes certain limitations on acquisitions, indebtedness, liens, dividends and repurchases of capital stock, including the following:

If the Company's total leverage ratio is greater than 3.00 to 1.00 (as defined in the Senior Secured Credit Facility), the Company is prohibited from making greater than \$120.0 million of annual dividend payments, capital stock repurchases and certain other payments. If the total leverage ratio is less than 3.00 to 1.00, there are no such restrictions.

If the Company's senior secured leverage ratio is greater than 3.00 to 1.00 or the Company's total leverage ratio is greater than 3.50 to 1.00 (these ratios as defined in the Senior Secured Credit Facility), the Company is prohibited from voluntarily prepaying any of the Senior Unsecured Notes and from voluntarily prepaying any other unsecured or subordinated indebtedness, with certain exceptions (including any mandatory prepayments on the Senior Unsecured Notes or any other unsecured or subordinated debt). If the senior secured leverage ratio is less than 3.00 to 1.00 and the total leverage ratio is less than 3.50 to 1.00, there are no such restrictions.

Net Pension Obligations

The net underfunded pension and MEPPs obligations decreased by \$36.3 million during the year ended December 31, 2015, from \$221.7 million at December 31, 2014, to \$185.4 million at December 31, 2015. The decrease is due to the following: (1) \$24.4 million of combined single-employer and MEPP contributions, (2) \$8.0 million of liability reduction as the expected return on plan assets exceeded the interest cost of the frozen plans and (3) a \$3.7 million year-end actuarial valuation adjustment. The Company continues to focus on reducing its net obligation for these underfunded plans through cash contributions to the plans and plan design changes.

Share Repurchase Program

On September 6, 2011, the Company's board of directors authorized a share repurchase program of up to \$100.0 million of the Company's outstanding class A stock. Under the authorization, share repurchases may be made at the Company's discretion, from time to time, in the open market and/or in privately negotiated transactions as permitted by federal securities laws and other legal requirements. The timing, manner, price and amount of any repurchase will depend on economic and market conditions, share price, trading volume, applicable legal requirements and other factors. The program may be suspended or discontinued at any time. There were no stock repurchases made under this share repurchase program during the year ended December 31, 2015. As of December 31, 2015, there were \$91.8 million of authorized repurchases remaining under the program. Subsequent to December 31, 2015, and through February 18, 2016, the Company repurchased 984,190 shares of its class A stock at a weighted average price of \$8.96 per share for a total purchase price of \$8.8 million.

Risk Management

For a discussion of the Company's exposure to market risks and management of those market risks, see Item 7A, "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Table of Contents

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

Except as set forth below in the Contractual Obligations and Other Commitments table and in Note 13, "Lease Obligations," to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K (including operating leases and future interest on debt and capital leases to be incurred), the Company has no off-balance sheet arrangements, financings or special purpose entities that the Company expects to have a material current or future effect on financial condition, changes in financial condition, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures, capital resources or significant components of sales or expenses.

Contractual Obligations and Other Commitments

The Company's contractual cash obligations at December 31, 2015, were as follows (in millions):

	Payments Due by Period						
	Total	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Thereafter
Debt obligations ⁽¹⁾	\$1,674.5	\$159.6	\$142.4	\$146.7	\$439.0	\$76.3	\$710.5
Operating lease obligations	237.0	53.2	46.7	39.6	32.2	21.3	44.0
Pension benefits ⁽²⁾	63.1	2.3	1.1	19.7	18.4	21.6	—
Capital lease obligations ⁽³⁾	15.3	5.3	4.8	2.6	1.2	0.7	0.7
Purchase obligations ⁽⁴⁾	16.5	16.5	—	—	—	—	—
Total ⁽⁵⁾⁽⁶⁾	\$2,006.4	\$236.9	\$195.0	\$208.6	\$490.8	\$119.9	\$755.2

Debt obligations include \$321.7 million for anticipated future interest payments, and exclude \$16.1 million and \$2.2 million for future amortization of debt issuance costs and original issue discount, respectively. With respect to the variable interest rate portions of the debt, the interest amounts were calculated by applying the December 31,

- (1) 2015, weighted-average interest rate to determine the value of future interest payments. For the Master Note and Security Agreement, the weighted-average interest rate of the notes was applied to the average principal balance outstanding for each time period. Amounts included in "Thereafter" include principal payments and estimated interest expense through April 2031.

For the pension benefits, contributions and benefit payments to be funded from Company assets included in the table have been actuarially estimated over a five year period. While benefit payments under these benefit plans are expected to continue beyond 2020, the Company believes that an estimate beyond this period is unreasonable. The contractual obligations table above does not include a \$47.6 million estimated withdrawal liability for the United

- (2) States World Color Press MEPPs due to the uncertainty with the amount and timing of any potential withdrawal liability payment. During 2016, the Company is scheduled to make minimum payments of \$11.1 million, pending no settlement or conclusion to the litigation with the MEPPs' trustees. See Note 17, "Employee Retirement Plans," to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for further discussion of the withdrawal from the MEPPs.

- (3) Capital lease obligations include \$0.5 million for anticipated future interest payments.

- (4) Purchase obligations consist primarily of \$14.9 million in firm commitments to purchase press and finishing equipment, as well as \$1.6 million of other purchase obligations.

- (5) The contractual obligations table above does not include reserves for uncertain tax positions recorded in accordance with the accounting guidance on uncertainties in income taxes. The Company has taken tax positions for which the ultimate amount and the year(s) any necessary payments will be made that pertain to those tax positions is uncertain. The reserve for uncertain tax positions prior to interest and penalties is \$29.8 million as of

December 31, 2015. The Company has also recorded accruals for interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions of \$4.8 million and \$0.4 million, respectively, as of December 31, 2015.

The contractual obligations table above does not include the share repurchase program as no repurchases are⁽⁶⁾ required under the program. See the "Share Repurchase Program" section above for further discussion, including the maximum potential cash payments under the program.

Table of Contents

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The Company's consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with GAAP. The Company's most critical accounting policies are those that are most important to the portrayal of its financial condition and results of operations, and which require the Company to make its most difficult and subjective estimates. Management is required to make judgments and estimates that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The Company bases its estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Company's management believes that such judgments and estimates are made with consistent and appropriate methods based on information available at the time, and that any reasonable deviation from those judgments and estimates would not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial position or results of operations. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. To the extent that the estimates used differ from actual results, adjustments to the consolidated statements of operations and corresponding consolidated balance sheets would be necessary. These adjustments would be made in future statements.

The Company has identified the following as its critical accounting policies and estimates.

Revenue Recognition

The Company recognizes its printing revenues upon transfer of title and the passage of risk of loss, which is generally upon shipment to the customer, and when there is a reasonable assurance as to collectability. Under agreements with certain customers, products may be stored by the Company for future delivery. In these situations, the Company may receive warehouse management fees for the services it provides. Product returns are not significant because the majority of products are customized; however, the Company accrues for the estimated amount of customer allowances at the time of sale based on historical experience and known trends.

Revenue from services is recognized as services are performed. Revenues related to the Company's imaging operations, which include digital content management, photography, color services and page production, are recognized in accordance with the terms of the contract, typically upon completion of the performed service and acceptance by the customer. With respect to the Company's logistics operations, which include the delivery of printed material, the Company recognizes revenue upon completion of services.

Services account for greater than 10% of the Company's consolidated net sales; therefore, net sales and related costs of sales of products and services have been included as separate line items in the consolidated statements of operations in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Certain revenues earned by the Company require judgment to determine if revenue should be recorded gross as a principal or net of related costs as an agent. Billings for third-party shipping and handling costs, primarily in the Company's logistics operations, and out-of-pocket expenses are recorded gross in net sales and cost of sales in the consolidated statements of operations in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Many of the Company's operations process materials, primarily paper, that may be supplied directly by customers or may be purchased by the Company and sold to customers. No revenue is recognized for customer-supplied paper. Revenues for Company-supplied paper are recognized on a gross basis.

Table of Contents

Impairment of Goodwill

The allocation of the purchase price for business combinations requires management estimates and judgment as to expectations for future cash flows of the acquired business and the allocation of those cash flows to identifiable assets and liabilities assumed, including valuations performed by third-party appraisers when appropriate, in determining the estimated fair value for purchase price allocation purposes. Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of identifiable net assets acquired in a business combination. Changes in management's estimates or judgments, including changes based on actual results differing from the estimates and judgments used in the purchase price allocation process, could result in an impairment charge, and such a charge could have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations. Goodwill is assigned to specific reporting units, and in accordance with accounting guidance is tested annually for impairment as of October 31 or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is below its carrying value.

United States Print and Related Services Segment

Due to the decline in the Company's stock price in the third quarter of 2015, an interim goodwill impairment test of the three reporting units in the United States Print and Related Services segment was performed as of July 31, 2015. These reporting units include the Core Print and Related Services reporting unit, the Specialty Print and Related Services reporting unit and the Other United States Products and Services reporting unit with goodwill of \$640.8 million, \$115.6 million and \$18.6 million, respectively, as of July 31, 2015.

In determining the fair value of each reporting unit, the Company used an equal weighting of both the income and market approaches, except for the Other United States Products and Services reporting unit for which only an income approach was used. Significant assumptions used under the income approach included: estimated future cash flows including expected future revenue growth, profit margins, capital expenditures, working capital levels, terminal value multiples and a 10.1% after-tax weighted average cost of capital for the Core Print and Related Services and the Specialty Print and Related Services reporting units and a 10.9% after-tax weighted average cost of capital for the Other United States Products and Services reporting unit. Estimated future cash flows were based on the Company's internal projection models, industry projections and other assumptions deemed reasonable by management. Significant assumptions used under the market approach included: a control premium based on similar transactions, selection of the guideline public companies and selected market multiples. This fair value determination was categorized as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for the definition of Level 3 inputs).

After completing a step one evaluation, the estimated fair value of each of the three reporting units in the United States Print and Related Services segment was determined to be lower than the carrying value of each respective reporting unit. As such, each of the three reporting units failed step one of the goodwill impairment test.

Step two of the goodwill impairment test requires the Company to perform a hypothetical purchase price allocation for each reporting unit to determine the implied fair value of goodwill and compare the implied fair value of goodwill to the carrying amount of goodwill. The estimate of fair value is complex and requires significant judgment. A third-party valuation firm was engaged to assist in the step two valuation process.

As a result of the interim goodwill impairment assessment as well as the annual impairment test as of October 31, 2015, the Company's United States Print and Related Services segment recorded pre-tax non-cash goodwill impairment charges of \$778.3 million (\$512.4 million after tax) in the year ended December 31, 2015, that included impairment charges of \$640.8 million, \$118.9 million and \$18.6 million in the Core Print and Related Services reporting unit, the Specialty Print and Related Services reporting unit and the Other United States Products and

Services reporting unit, respectively. The goodwill impairment charge resulted from a reduction in estimated fair value of the reporting unit based on lower expectations for future revenue, profitability and cash flows primarily due to volume and pricing pressures as compared to expectations in the last annual goodwill impairment assessment performed as of October 31, 2014.

Table of Contents

As of December 31, 2015, there is no goodwill in the United States Print and Related Services segment on the consolidated balance sheets.

International Segment

On March 25, 2015, due to deteriorating economic conditions, including inflation and currency devaluation, combined with uncertain political conditions, declining print volumes and labor challenges, the Company's Argentina Subsidiaries (included within the Latin America reporting unit) commenced bankruptcy restructuring proceedings with a goal of consolidating operations. As a result, the Company conducted an interim goodwill impairment assessment of the Latin America reporting unit, which included comparing the carrying amount of net assets, including goodwill, to its respective fair value as of March 31, 2015, the date of the interim assessment.

In the first step, the Company compared the estimated fair value of the Latin America reporting unit to its carrying amount, including the goodwill. Fair value was determined using an equal weighting of both the income and market approaches. Under the income approach, the Company determined fair value based on estimated future cash flows discounted by an estimated weighted-average cost of capital, which reflects the overall level of inherent risk and the rate of return an outside investor would expect to earn. Under the market approach, the Company derived the fair value of the reporting unit based on market multiples of comparable publicly-traded companies. This fair value determination was categorized as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for the definition of Level 3 inputs). If the carrying amount of such reporting unit exceeds the estimated fair value, step two is completed to determine the amount of the impairment charge.

Step two requires the allocation of the estimated fair value of the Latin America reporting unit to the assets, including any unrecognized intangible assets, and liabilities in a hypothetical purchase price allocation. Any remaining unallocated fair value represents the implied fair value of the goodwill, which is then compared to the corresponding carrying value of the goodwill to compute the goodwill impairment charge. The assumptions used in performing the March 31, 2015, interim goodwill impairment assessment were evaluated in light of market and business conditions. The Company continues to believe that the discounted cash flow model and market multiples model provides a reasonable and meaningful fair value estimate based upon the reporting unit's projections of future operating results and cash flows and replicates how market participants would value the Company's reporting unit.

Significant assumptions used under the income approach included: estimated future cash flows including expected future revenue growth, profit margins, capital expenditures, working capital levels, terminal value multiples and a 13.3% after-tax weighted average cost of capital. Estimated future cash flows were based on the Company's internal projection models, industry projections and other assumptions deemed reasonable by management. Significant assumptions used under the market approach included: a control premium based on similar transactions, selection of the guideline public companies and selected market multiples.

For the interim goodwill impairment assessment of the Latin America reporting unit as of March 31, 2015, the fair value of the reporting unit was below its carrying amount. The Company performed the step two additional fair value measurement calculation as described above to determine whether a Latin America reporting unit impairment charge should be recorded. As part of this calculation, the Company also estimated the fair values of significant tangible and intangible long-lived assets of the Latin America reporting unit.

As a result of the interim goodwill impairment assessment as well as the annual impairment test as of October 31, 2015, the Company's International segment recorded non-cash nondeductible goodwill impairment charges of \$30.0 million in the year ended December 31, 2015, primarily including a \$23.3 million non-cash goodwill

impairment charge for the Latin America reporting unit. The goodwill impairment charge resulted from a reduction in estimated fair value of the reporting unit based on lower expectations for future revenue, profitability and cash flows primarily due to volume and pricing pressures as compared to expectations in the last annual goodwill impairment assessment performed as of October 31, 2014.

Table of Contents

As of December 31, 2015, there is no goodwill in the International segment on the consolidated balance sheets.

Impairment of Property, Plant and Equipment and Finite-lived Intangible Assets

The Company performs impairment evaluations of its long-lived assets whenever business conditions, events or circumstances indicate that those assets may be impaired, including whether the estimated useful life of such long-lived assets may warrant revision or whether the remaining balance of an asset may not be recoverable. The Company's most significant long-lived assets are property, plant and equipment and customer relationship intangible assets recorded in conjunction with an acquisition. Assessing the impairment of long-lived assets requires the Company to make important estimates and assumptions, including, but not limited to, the expected future cash flows that the assets will generate, how the assets will be used based on the strategic direction of the Company, their remaining useful life and their residual value, if any. Considerable judgment is also applied in incorporating the potential impact of the current economic climate on customer demand and selling prices, the cost of production and the limited activity on secondary markets for the assets and on the cost of capital. When the estimated future undiscounted cash flows to be generated by the assets are less than the carrying value of the long-lived assets, the assets are written down to fair value and a charge is recorded to current operations. The Company uses internal undiscounted cash flow estimates, quoted market prices when available and independent appraisals, as appropriate, to determine fair value. This fair value determination was categorized as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for the definition of Level 3 inputs). Based on the assessments completed during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, the Company recognized property, plant and equipment impairment charges of \$69.5 million, \$14.4 million and \$21.8 million, respectively, primarily related to facility consolidations, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives. The Company recorded finite-lived intangible asset impairment charges of \$7.2 million during the year ended December 31, 2015. There were no finite-lived intangible assets impairment charges recorded during the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

The Company continues to monitor groups of assets to identify any new events or changes in circumstances that could indicate that their carrying values are not recoverable, particularly in light of potential declines in profitability that may result from the highly competitive industry landscape and continued uncertainty in the global economy. In the event that there are significant and unanticipated changes in circumstances, such as significant adverse changes in business climate, adverse actions by regulators, unanticipated competition, loss of key customers and/or changes in technology or markets, or that actual results differ from management's estimates, a provision for impairment could be required in a future period.

Pension Plans

As a result of the acquisition of World Color Press, the Company acquired multiple underfunded pension plans. Pension plan costs are determined using actuarial methods and are funded through contributions determined in accordance with the projected benefit method pro-rated on service. The Company records amounts relating to its pension plans based on calculations which include various actuarial assumptions. The Company believes that the two most critical assumptions are the discount rate and assumed rate of return on assets. Changes in these assumptions are primarily influenced by factors outside of the Company's control and can have a significant effect on the amounts reported in the financial statements. The Company reviews its actuarial assumptions on an annual basis and modifies the assumptions based on current rates and trends when it is appropriate to do so. The effects of modifications are recognized immediately on the consolidated balance sheets, but are generally amortized into operating income over future periods, with the deferred amount recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss on the consolidated balance sheets included in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The Company believes that the assumptions utilized in recording its obligations under its plans are

reasonable based on its experience, market conditions and input from its actuaries and investment advisors. When an event gives rise to both a curtailment and a settlement, the curtailment is accounted for prior to the settlement. The Company's measurement date to measure the defined benefit plan assets and the projected benefit obligation is December 31. For the purposes of calculating the expected return on plan assets, those assets are valued at fair value.

Table of Contents

The Company determines its assumption for the discount rate to be used for purposes of computing annual service and interest costs for each pension plan based on an index of high-quality corporate bond yields and matched-funding yield curve analysis as of that date. The weighted-average discount rate used to determine benefit obligations for the pension plans at December 31, 2015, was 4.14%, a 24 basis point increase from the December 31, 2014, discount rate of 3.90%.

A one-percentage point change in the discount rate would have the following impact on the December 31, 2015, projected benefit obligation:

	1%	1%
	Increase	Decrease
	(in millions)	
Projected benefit obligation	\$(60.8	) \$70.8

The Company employs a total return on investment approach for its pension plans whereby a diversified mix of equity securities and debt securities are used to maximize the long-term pension plan assets. The intent of this strategy is to outperform the growth in plan liabilities over the long run, such that plan contributions can be decreased, balanced with maintaining a lower degree of investment risk. Risk tolerance is established through careful consideration of plan liabilities, plan funded status, and corporate financial condition. Equity securities are diversified across geography and market capitalization through investments in United States large-capitalization stocks, United States small-capitalization stocks and international securities. Investment risk is measured and monitored on an ongoing basis through annual liability measurements, periodic asset/liability studies and quarterly investment portfolio reviews. The expected long-term rate of return for plan assets is based upon many factors including expected asset allocations, historical asset returns, current and expected future market conditions and risk. The current target asset allocation for plan assets on a weighted-average basis are 55% equity securities and 45% debt securities. The actual asset allocation as of December 31, 2015, was approximately 54% equity securities and 46% debt securities. The expected return on plan assets assumption at December 31, 2015 and 2014, was 6.5% for the Company's funded United States pension plans. Actual return on plan assets for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, was (0.1)% and 8.2%, respectively. Certain pension plans are unfunded (those plans do not hold plan assets).

A 25 basis point change in the expected return on plan assets would have the following impact on 2016 pension income:

	.25%	.25% Decrease
	Increase	
	(in millions)	
Pension income	\$1.2	\$(1.2)

The Company also participated in MEPPs as a result of the acquisition of World Color Press. Due to the significant underfunded status of the MEPPs, the Company has withdrawn from all significant MEPPs and replaced these union sponsored "promise to pay in the future" defined benefit plans with a Company sponsored "pay as you go" defined contribution plan, which is historically the form of retirement benefit provided to Quad/Graphics' employees. As a result of the decision to withdraw, the Company recorded an estimated withdrawal liability for the MEPPs as part of the World Color Press purchase price allocation process based on information received from the MEPPs' trustees. The estimated withdrawal liability will be updated based on significant events, such as potential new information from the ongoing litigation proceedings with both MEPPs, until the final withdrawal liability is determined. There are arbitration proceedings in process with the GCIU, and also both the Company and GCIU have filed lawsuits in Federal court. Arbitration proceedings with the GCC have been completed, both sides have appealed the arbitrator's ruling, and litigation has commenced. The exact amount of the withdrawal liability could be higher or lower than the estimate depending on, among other things, the nature and timing of any triggering events, the funded status of the plans at that time and the final conclusion of the litigation with the MEPPs' trustees.

Table of Contents

New Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 25, "New Accounting Pronouncements," to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

80

Table of Contents

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

The Company is exposed to a variety of market risks which may adversely impact the Company's results of operations and financial condition, including changes in interest and foreign currency exchange rates, changes in the economic environment that would impact credit positions and changes in the prices of certain commodities. The Company's management takes an active role in the risk management process and has developed policies and procedures that require specific administrative and business functions to assist in the identification, assessment and control of various risks. These risk management strategies may not fully insulate the Company from adverse impacts due to market risks.

Interest Rate Risk

The Company is exposed to interest rate risk on variable rate debt obligations and price risk on fixed rate debt and capital leases. As of December 31, 2015, the Company had fixed rate debt and capital leases outstanding of \$583.7 million at a current weighted average interest rate of 7.1% and variable rate debt outstanding of \$765.6 million at a current weighted average interest rate of 3.1%. The variable rate debt outstanding at December 31, 2015, is primarily comprised of the \$1.6 billion Senior Secured Credit Facility entered into on April 28, 2014, including \$410.6 million outstanding on the \$450.0 million Term Loan A, \$293.2 million outstanding on the \$300.0 million Term Loan B and \$70.8 million outstanding on the \$850.0 million revolving credit facility. The Term Loan B bears interest primarily based on LIBOR; however, it is subject to a 1.0% LIBOR minimum rate and thus the interest rate on the Term Loan B will not begin to fluctuate until LIBOR exceeds that percentage. At December 31, 2015, LIBOR was significantly lower than the 1.0% LIBOR minimum rate, and as a result the interest on the Term Loan B would not fluctuate with a 10% increase in the market interest rate. Excluding the Term Loan B, a hypothetical change in the interest rate of 10% from the Company's current weighted average interest rate on variable rate debt obligations of 2.4% would not have a material impact on the Company's interest expense. A hypothetical 10% change in market interest rates would change the fair value of fixed rate debt at December 31, 2015, by approximately \$23 million.

Foreign Currency Risk and Translation Exposure

The Company is exposed to the impact of foreign currency fluctuations in certain countries in which it operates. The exposure to foreign currency movements is limited in most countries because the operating revenues and expenses of its various subsidiaries and business units are substantially in the local currency of the country in which they operate. To the extent revenues and expenses are not in the applicable local currency, the Company may enter into foreign exchange forward contracts to hedge the currency risk.

Although operating in local currencies may limit the impact of currency rate fluctuations on the results of operations of the Company's non-United States subsidiaries and business units, rate fluctuations may impact the consolidated financial position as the assets and liabilities of its foreign operations are translated into U.S. dollars in preparing the Company's consolidated balance sheets. As of December 31, 2015, the Company's foreign subsidiaries had net current assets (defined as current assets less current liabilities) subject to foreign currency translation risk of \$56.5 million. The potential decrease in net current assets as of December 31, 2015, from a hypothetical 10% adverse change in quoted foreign currency exchange rates would be approximately \$5.7 million. This sensitivity analysis assumes a parallel shift in all major foreign currency exchange rates versus the U.S. dollar. Exchange rates rarely move in the same direction relative to the U.S. dollar due to positive and negative correlations of the various global currencies. This assumption may overstate the impact of changing exchange rates on individual assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency.

The Company's hedging operations have historically not been material, and gains or losses from these operations have not been material to the Company's results of operations, financial position or cash flows. The Company does not use derivative financial instruments for trading or speculative purposes.

Table of Contents

These international operations are subject to risks typical of international operations, including, but not limited to, differing economic conditions, changes in political climate, potential restrictions on the movement of funds, differing tax structures, and other regulations and restrictions. Accordingly, future results could be adversely impacted by changes in these or other factors.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the possibility of loss from a customer's failure to make payments according to contract terms. Prior to granting credit, each customer is evaluated in an underwriting process, taking into consideration the prospective customer's financial condition, past payment experience, credit bureau information and other financial and qualitative factors that may affect the customer's ability to pay. Specific credit reviews and standard industry credit scoring models are used in performing this evaluation. Customers' financial condition is continuously monitored as part of the normal course of business. Some of the Company's customers are highly leveraged or otherwise subject to their own operating and regulatory risks. Based on those customer account reviews and due to the continued uncertainty of the global economy, the Company has established an allowance for doubtful accounts of \$50.1 million as of December 31, 2015.

The Company has a large, diverse customer base and does not have a high degree of concentration with any single customer account. During the year ended December 31, 2015, the Company's largest customer accounted for less than 5% of the Company's net sales. Even if the Company's credit review and analysis mechanisms work properly, the Company may experience financial losses in its dealings with customers and other parties. Any increase in nonpayment or nonperformance by customers could adversely impact the Company's results of operations and financial condition. Economic disruptions could result in significant future charges.

Commodity Risk

The primary raw materials that Quad/Graphics uses in its print business are paper, ink and energy. At this time, the Company's supply of raw materials is readily available from numerous vendors; however, based on market conditions, that could change in the future. The Company generally buys these raw materials based upon market prices that are established with the vendor as part of the procurement process.

The majority of paper used in the printing process is supplied directly by its clients. For those clients that do not directly supply their own paper, the Company makes use of its purchasing efficiencies to supply paper by negotiating with leading paper vendors, uses a wide variety of paper grades, weights and sizes, and does not rely on any one vendor. In addition, the Company generally includes price adjustment clauses in sales contracts for paper and other critical raw materials in the printing process. Although these clauses generally mitigate paper price risk, higher paper prices and tight paper supplies may have an impact on client demand for printed products. The Company's working capital requirements, including the impact of seasonality, are partially mitigated through the direct purchasing of paper by its clients.

The Company produces the majority of ink used in its print production, allowing it to control the quality, cost and supply of key inputs. Raw materials for the ink manufacturing process are purchased externally from a variety of vendors.

The Company generally cannot pass on to clients the impact of higher electric and natural gas energy prices on its manufacturing costs, and increases in energy prices result in higher manufacturing costs for certain of its operations. The Company mitigates its risk through natural gas hedges when appropriate. In its logistic operations, however, the Company is able to pass a substantial portion of any increase in fuel prices directly to its clients.

As a result, management believes a hypothetical 10% change in the price of paper and other raw materials would not have a significant direct impact on the Company's consolidated annual results of operations or cash flows; however, significant increases in commodity pricing or tight supply could influence future client demand for printed products. Inflation has not had a significant impact on the Company historically.

Table of Contents

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)

The following table sets forth selected financial information for each of the eight quarters in the two-year period ended December 31, 2015. This unaudited information has been prepared by the Company on the same basis as the consolidated financial statements and includes all normal recurring adjustments necessary to present this information fairly when read in conjunction with the Company's audited consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto.

UNAUDITED INTERIM FINANCIAL INFORMATION

(In millions, except per share data)

	Year Ended December 31,				
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Full Year
2015					
Net sales ⁽¹⁾	\$1,108.0	\$1,079.0	\$1,156.0	\$1,334.7	\$4,677.7
Goodwill impairment ⁽²⁾	23.3	—	775.0	10.0	808.3
Operating loss ^{(1) (2)}	(11.8)	(25.8)	(772.1)	(20.3)	(830.0)
Net loss attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders ^{(1) (2)}	(35.2)	(45.1)	(552.2)	(9.4)	(641.9)
Loss per diluted share attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders	(0.74)	(0.94)	(11.50)	(0.20)	(13.40)
Closing stock price high	23.90	23.22	18.05	13.32	23.90
Closing stock price low	20.04	18.40	12.10	8.73	8.73
Closing stock price at quarter-end	22.98	18.51	12.10	9.30	9.30
2014					
Net sales ⁽¹⁾	\$1,102.8	\$1,099.0	\$1,236.4	\$1,424.2	\$4,862.4
Operating income ⁽¹⁾	11.0	0.5	53.6	76.2	141.3
Net earnings (loss) ⁽¹⁾	(9.1)	(22.8)	24.4	25.8	18.3
Net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders ⁽¹⁾	(8.8)	(22.8)	24.4	25.8	18.6
Earnings (loss) per diluted share attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders	(0.19)	(0.48)	0.50	0.53	0.38
Closing stock price high	26.39	23.64	22.71	23.30	26.39
Closing stock price low	21.89	19.30	19.25	18.26	18.26
Closing stock price at quarter-end	23.45	22.37	19.25	22.96	22.96

Reflects results of acquired businesses from the relevant acquisition dates, primarily related to acquisitions of

(1) Brown Printing on May 30, 2014, Marin's on February 3, 2015, Copac on April 14, 2015, and Specialty on August 25, 2015, (see Note 2, "Acquisitions and Strategic Investments," to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for further information on the acquisitions).

(2) Reflects pre-tax non-cash goodwill impairment charges of \$808.3 million (\$542.4 million, net of tax) recorded during the year ended December 31, 2015.

Table of Contents

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of
Quad/Graphics, Inc. and subsidiaries
Sussex, WI

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Quad/Graphics, Inc. and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income (loss), shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2015. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements 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, such consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Quad/Graphics, Inc. and subsidiaries at December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2015, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We have also 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, 2015, based on the criteria established in Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated February 23, 2016 expressed an unqualified opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
February 23, 2016

Table of Contents

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of
Quad/Graphics, Inc. and subsidiaries
Sussex, WI

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of Quad/Graphics, Inc. and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 31, 2015, based on the criteria established in Internal Control—Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. 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 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, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and 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 by, or under the supervision of, the company's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, and effected by the company's board of directors, management, and other personnel 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 the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the 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, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015, based on the criteria established in Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2015 of the Company and our report dated February 23, 2016 expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
February 23, 2016

85

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(in millions, except per share data)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
Net sales			
Products	\$4,030.3	\$4,197.5	\$4,186.6
Services	647.4	664.9	609.3
Total net sales	4,677.7	4,862.4	4,795.9
Cost of sales			
Products	3,294.1	3,421.4	3,360.1
Services	466.8	470.5	441.8
Total cost of sales	3,760.9	3,891.9	3,801.9
Operating expenses			
Selling, general and administrative expenses	448.3	425.5	416.0
Depreciation and amortization	325.3	336.4	340.5
Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges	164.9	67.3	95.3
Goodwill impairment	808.3	—	—
Total operating expenses	5,507.7	4,721.1	4,653.7
Operating income (loss)	\$(830.0)	) \$141.3	\$142.2
Interest expense	88.4	92.9	85.5
Loss on debt extinguishment	—	7.2	—
Earnings (loss) before income taxes and equity in loss of unconsolidated entities	(918.4)	) 41.2	56.7
Income tax expense (benefit)	(282.8)	) 20.2	23.3
Earnings (loss) before equity in loss of unconsolidated entities	(635.6)	) 21.0	33.4
Equity in loss of unconsolidated entities	(6.3)	) (2.7)	) (2.5)
Net earnings (loss)	\$(641.9)	) \$18.3	\$30.9
Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interests	—	0.3	1.6
Net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders	\$(641.9)	) \$18.6	\$32.5
Earnings (loss) per share attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders			
Basic	\$(13.40)	) \$0.39	\$0.67
Diluted	\$(13.40)	) \$0.38	\$0.65
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding			
Basic	47.9	47.5	47.0
Diluted	47.9	48.5	48.0

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

(in millions)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
Net earnings (loss)	\$(641.9	) \$18.3	\$30.9
Other comprehensive income (loss)			
Translation adjustments			
Foreign currency translation adjustments	(63.4	) (61.9	) (21.0
Translation of long-term loans to foreign subsidiaries	17.5	16.5	0.8
Revaluation gain on sale of businesses	—	—	(2.4
Revaluation loss on sale of equity method investment	7.7	—	—
Translation adjustments, net	(38.2	) (45.4	) (22.6
Pension and other postretirement benefit plans			
Net gain (loss) arising during period	3.7	(95.2	) 133.6
Amortization of prior service credit included in net earnings (loss)	—	(5.8	) (5.7
Amortization of net actuarial (gain) loss included in net earnings (loss)	—	(0.3	) 0.3
Plan curtailments/settlements included in net earnings (loss)	—	—	(2.1
Postretirement benefit plan termination included in net earnings (loss)	—	(4.9) —
Pension and other postretirement benefit plans, net	3.7	(106.2	) 126.1
Other comprehensive income (loss), before tax	(34.5	) (151.6	) 103.5
Income tax benefit (expense) related to items of other comprehensive income (loss)	(1.4	) 40.6	(48.7
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	(35.9	) (111.0	) 54.8
Total comprehensive income (loss)	(677.8	) (92.7	) 85.7
Less: comprehensive loss attributable to noncontrolling interests	—	0.3	1.6
Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders	\$(677.8	) \$(92.4	) \$87.3

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(in millions, except per share data)

	December 31, 2015	December 31, 2014
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$10.8	\$9.6
Receivables, less allowances for doubtful accounts of \$50.1 at December 31, 2015 and \$57.8 at December 31, 2014	648.7	766.2
Inventories	280.1	287.8
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	38.2	39.1
Restricted cash	13.5	31.2
Total current assets	991.3	1,133.9
Property, plant and equipment—net	1,675.8	1,855.5
Goodwill	—	775.5
Other intangible assets—net	110.5	149.1
Equity method investments in unconsolidated entities	4.4	42.0
Other long-term assets	65.5	52.8
Total assets	\$2,847.5	\$4,008.8
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Accounts payable	\$358.8	\$406.9
Amounts owing in satisfaction of bankruptcy claims	1.4	1.4
Accrued liabilities	347.5	358.1
Short-term debt and current portion of long-term debt	94.6	92.0
Current portion of capital lease obligations	5.1	4.2
Total current liabilities	807.4	862.6
Long-term debt	1,239.9	1,299.7
Unsecured notes to be issued	7.1	9.0
Capital lease obligations	9.7	9.7
Deferred income taxes	59.0	336.0
Other long-term liabilities	300.5	339.3
Total liabilities	2,423.6	2,856.3
Commitments and contingencies (Note 10)		
Shareholders' equity (Note 20)		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; Authorized: 0.5 million shares; Issued: None	—	—
Common stock, Class A, \$0.025 par value; Authorized: 80.0 million shares; Issued: 40.0 million shares at December 31, 2015 and 2014	1.0	1.0
Common stock, Class B, \$0.025 par value; Authorized: 80.0 million shares; Issued: 15.0 million shares at December 31, 2015 and 2014	0.4	0.4
Common stock, Class C, \$0.025 par value; Authorized: 20.0 million shares; Issued: 0.5 million shares at December 31, 2015 and 2014	—	—
Additional paid-in capital	956.7	971.3
Treasury stock, at cost, 5.9 million shares at December 31, 2015 and 6.6 million shares at December 31, 2014	(193.6	) (218.8

Edgar Filing: Quad/Graphics, Inc. - Form 10-K

Retained earnings (accumulated deficit)	(188.1	)	515.2
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(152.5)	(116.6)
Total shareholders' equity	423.9		1,152.5	
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$2,847.5		\$4,008.8	

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(in millions)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net earnings (loss)	\$ (641.9	) \$ 18.3	\$ 30.9
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	325.3	336.4	340.5
Impairment charges	95.3	14.4	21.8
Goodwill impairment	808.3	—	—
Amortization of debt issuance costs and original issue discount	4.4	4.2	4.1
Loss on debt extinguishment	—	7.2	—
Stock-based compensation	7.2	17.3	18.6
Foreign exchange losses on sale of investment	6.0	—	—
Termination/curtailment/settlement gain on pension/postretirement benefit plans	—	(4.9	) (2.1
Loss (gain) on sale or disposal of property, plant and equipment	(4.1	) 0.4	(0.8
Deferred income taxes	(292.5	) 26.8	(11.1
Equity in loss of unconsolidated entities	6.3	2.7	2.5
Dividends from unconsolidated entities	—	—	5.0
Changes in operating assets and liabilities—net of acquisitions:			
Receivables	109.6	(20.4	) 25.7
Inventories	24.6	(3.4	) 0.5
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	4.0	(5.2	) 15.2
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(60.5	) (22.4	) 63.0
Other	(43.9	) (78.2	) (72.7
Net cash provided by operating activities	348.1	293.2	441.1
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(133.0	) (139.2	) (149.5
Cost investment in unconsolidated entities	(1.2	) (4.1	) (2.5
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	29.2	6.8	8.8
Proceeds from the sale of investments	14.0	—	—
Transfers from restricted cash	17.7	24.8	4.5
Acquisition of businesses—net of cash acquired (Note 2)	(143.4	) (112.5	) (291.9
Net cash used in investing activities	(216.7	) (224.2	) (430.6
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	—	1,047.0	—
Payments of long-term debt	(90.9	) (859.4	) (102.7
Payments of capital lease obligations	(5.0	) (8.4	) (9.8
Borrowings on revolving credit facilities	1,462.5	1,409.9	1,628.8
Payments on revolving credit facilities	(1,435.5	) (1,577.6	) (1,475.0
Payments of debt issuance costs	—	(16.5) —
Bankruptcy claim payments on unsecured notes to be issued	(0.1	) (8.0	) (4.5
Sale of stock for options exercised	2.2	2.7	7.2
	(1.6	) (1.0) —

Shares withheld from employees for the tax obligation on equity grants

Tax benefit on equity award activity	2.8	0.8	2.2	
Payment of cash dividends	(62.3	) (61.2	) (56.4)
Net cash used in financing activities	(127.9	) (71.7	) (10.2)
Effect of exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents	(2.3	) (0.8	) (4.1)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	1.2	(3.5	) (3.8)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	9.6	13.1	16.9	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$10.8	\$9.6	\$13.1	

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY
(in millions)

	Common Stock	Additional Paid-in Capital	Treasury Stock Shares	Treasury Stock Amount	Retained Earnings (Accumulated Deficit)	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Shareholders' Equity	Noncontrolling Interests	
Balance at January 1, 2013	55.5	\$ 1.4	\$ 985.6	(8.3)	\$(279.3)	\$ 588.1	\$ (60.4)	\$ 1,235.4	\$ 0.3
Net earnings (loss)	—	—	—	—	—	32.5	—	32.5	(1.6)
Foreign currency translation adjustments	—	—	—	—	—	—	(22.6)	(22.6)	—
Cash dividends declared	—	—	—	—	—	(61.8)	—	(61.8)	—
Stock-based compensation	—	—	18.6	—	—	—	—	18.6	—
Sale of stock for options exercised	—	—	(8.3)	0.4	15.5	—	—	7.2	—
Issuance of restricted stock and deferred stock units	—	—	(15.0)	0.4	15.0	—	—	—	—
Tax benefit on equity award activity	—	—	2.2	—	—	—	—	2.2	—
Pension and other postretirement benefit liability adjustments	—	—	—	—	—	—	77.4	77.4	—
Balance at December 31, 2013	55.5	\$ 1.4	\$ 983.1	(7.5)	\$(248.8)	\$ 558.8	\$ (5.6)	\$ 1,288.9	\$ (1.3)
Net earnings (loss)	—	—	—	—	—	18.6	—	18.6	(0.3)
Foreign currency translation adjustments	—	—	—	—	—	—	(45.4)	(45.4)	—
Cash dividends declared	—	—	—	—	—	(62.2)	—	(62.2)	—
Stock-based compensation	—	—	17.3	—	—	—	—	17.3	—
Sale of stock for options exercised	—	—	(3.6)	0.2	6.3	—	—	2.7	—
Issuance of restricted stock and deferred stock units	—	—	(24.6)	0.7	24.6	—	—	—	—
Tax benefit on equity award activity	—	—	0.8	—	—	—	—	0.8	—
Equity awards vested	—	—	(0.1)	—	0.1	—	—	—	—
Purchase of additional ownership of Morvillo	—	—	(1.6)	—	—	—	—	(1.6)	1.6
Shares withheld from employees for tax obligation on equity	—	—	—	—	(1.0)	—	—	(1.0)	—

Edgar Filing: Quad/Graphics, Inc. - Form 10-K

grants										
Pension and other postretirement benefit liability adjustments	—	—	—	—	—	—	(65.6)	(65.6)	—	—
Balance at December 31, 2014	55.5	\$ 1.4	\$ 971.3	(6.6)	\$(218.8)	\$ 515.2	\$ (116.6)	\$ 1,152.5	\$ —	—
Net loss	—	—	—	—	—	(641.9)	—	(641.9)	—	—
Foreign currency translation adjustments	—	—	—	—	—	—	(38.2)	(38.2)	—	—
Cash dividends declared	—	—	—	—	—	(61.4)	—	(61.4)	—	—
Stock-based compensation	—	—	7.2	—	—	—	—	7.2	—	—
Sale of stock for options exercised	—	—	(3.0)	0.2	5.2	—	—	2.2	—	—
Issuance of restricted stock and deferred stock units	—	—	(21.2)	0.6	21.2	—	—	—	—	—
Tax benefit on equity award activity	—	—	2.8	—	—	—	—	2.8	—	—
Equity awards vested	—	—	(0.4)	—	0.4	—	—	—	—	—
Shares withheld from employees for tax obligation on equity grants	—	—	—	(0.1)	(1.6)	—	—	(1.6)	—	—
Pension benefit liability adjustment	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.3	2.3	—	—
Balance at December 31, 2015	55.5	\$ 1.4	\$ 956.7	(5.9)	\$(193.6)	\$ (188.1)	\$ (152.5)	\$ 423.9	\$ —	—

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Note 1. Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Operations—Quad/Graphics operates primarily in the commercial print portion of the printing industry as a printer of retail inserts, publications, catalogs, special interest publications, journals, direct mail, books, directories, in-store marketing and promotion, packaging, newspapers, custom print products, other commercial and specialty printed products and global paper procurement. The Company also provides complementary service offerings for its customers. The Company's products and services for a variety of industries are sold primarily throughout North America, South America and Europe. In addition, the Company strategically sources packaging product manufacturing over multiple end markets in Central America and Asia.

Principles of Consolidation and Basis of Presentation—The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries and have been prepared in accordance with GAAP. The results of operations and accounts of businesses acquired are included in the consolidated financial statements from the dates of acquisition (see Note 2, "Acquisitions and Strategic Investments"). The consolidated financial statements include the retrospective adoption of new accounting guidance on the balance sheet presentation of debt issuance costs and deferred taxes issued by the FASB in April 2015 and November 2015, respectively, and accordingly, the consolidated balance sheets have been restated for all periods presented (see Note 25, "New Accounting Pronouncements," for further information). The impact of the retrospective adoption of accounting guidance on the financial statement line items within the Company's consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2014, was as follows:

	December 31, 2014, as Originally Reported	Impact of Debt Issuance Costs	Impact of Deferred Taxes	December 31, 2014, as Presented
ASSETS				
Deferred income taxes	\$48.4	\$—	\$(48.4)) \$—
Total current assets	1,182.3	—	(48.4)	) 1,133.9
Other long-term assets	72.8	(20.0)	) —	52.8
Total assets	4,077.2	(20.0)	) (48.4)	) 4,008.8
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY				
Long-term debt	\$1,319.7	\$(20.0)	) \$—	\$1,299.7
Deferred income taxes	384.4	—	(48.4)	) 336.0
Total liabilities	2,924.7	(20.0)	) (48.4)	) 2,856.3
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	4,077.2	(20.0)	) (48.4)	) 4,008.8

Investments in entities where the Company has both the ability to exert significant influence but not control and an ownership interest of 50% or less but more than 20% are accounted for using the equity method of accounting. Investments in entities where the Company does not exert significant influence or control and has an ownership interest of less than 20% are accounted for using the cost method of accounting. Intercompany transactions and

balances have been eliminated in consolidation.

91

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Foreign Operations—Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into United States dollars at the exchange rate existing at the respective balance sheet dates. Income and expense items are translated at the average rates during the respective periods. Translation adjustments resulting from fluctuations in exchange rates are recorded as a separate component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) on the consolidated statements of shareholders' equity while transaction gains and losses are recorded in selling, general and administrative expenses on the consolidated statements of operations. Foreign exchange transactions resulted in pre-tax realized and unrealized losses of \$1.4 million, \$5.9 million and \$5.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

The Company owns 49% of a company in Brazil and owned 50% of a company in Chile, until the Company sold its ownership interest in Chile on July 31, 2015. The Company accounts for those entities using the equity method of accounting (see Note 8, "Equity Method Investments in Unconsolidated Entities," for further discussion). The Company's equity loss of Plural's and Chile's operations was recorded in equity in loss of unconsolidated entities in the Company's consolidated statements of operations, and was included within the International segment. There are no other significant unconsolidated entities.

Use of Estimates—The preparation of consolidated financial statements requires the use of management's estimates and assumptions that affect the reported assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting periods. Actual results could differ from these estimates. Estimates are used when accounting for items and matters including, but not limited to: allowances for doubtful accounts, inventory obsolescence, asset valuations and useful lives, goodwill, pension and postretirement benefits, self-insurance reserves, stock-based compensation, taxes, restructuring and other provisions and contingencies.

Revenue Recognition—The Company recognizes its printing revenues upon transfer of title and the passage of risk of loss, which is generally upon shipment to the customer, and when there is a reasonable assurance as to collectability. Under agreements with certain customers, products may be stored by the Company for future delivery. In these situations, the Company may receive warehouse management fees for the services it provides. Product returns are not significant because the majority of products are customized; however, the Company accrues for the estimated amount of customer allowances at the time of sale based on historical experience and known trends.

Revenue from services is recognized as services are performed. Revenues related to the Company's imaging operations, which include digital content management, photography, color services and page production, are recognized in accordance with the terms of the contract, typically upon completion of the performed service and acceptance by the customer. Revenues related to the Company's logistics operations, which includes the delivery of printed material, are recognized upon completion of services.

Services account for greater than 10% of the Company's consolidated net sales; therefore, net sales and related costs of sales of products and services have been included as separate line items in the consolidated statements of operations.

Certain revenues earned by the Company require judgment to determine if revenue should be recorded gross as a principal or net of related costs as an agent. Billings for third-party shipping and handling costs, primarily in the Company's logistics operations, and out-of-pocket expenses are recorded gross in net sales and cost of sales in the

consolidated statements of operations. Many of the Company's operations process materials, primarily paper, that may be supplied directly by customers or may be purchased by the Company and sold to customers. No revenue is recognized for customer-supplied paper. Revenues for Company-supplied paper are recognized on a gross basis.

Byproduct Recoveries—The Company records the sale of byproducts as net product sales in the consolidated statements of operations.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Financial Instruments—The Company uses derivative financial instruments for the purpose of hedging commodity and foreign exchange exposures that exist as part of ongoing business operations, including natural gas forward purchase contracts and foreign exchange contracts. As a policy, the Company does not engage in speculative or leveraged transactions, nor does the Company hold or issue financial instruments for trading purposes.

Derivative instruments are recorded on the consolidated balance sheets as either assets or liabilities measured at their fair value. If the derivative is designated as a fair value hedge, the changes in the fair value of the derivative and of the hedged item attributable to the hedged risk are recognized in earnings. If the derivative is designated as a cash flow hedge, the effective portion of the changes in the fair value of the derivative are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) and recognized in the consolidated statements of operations when the hedged item affects earnings.

The ineffective portions of the changes in the fair value of hedges are insignificant and recognized in earnings. Cash flows from derivatives that are accounted for as cash flow or fair value hedges are included in the consolidated statements of cash flows in the same category as the item being hedged.

Fair Value Measurement—The Company applies fair value accounting for all assets and liabilities that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in its consolidated financial statements on a recurring basis. Fair value represents the amount that would be received from selling an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. When determining the fair value measurements for assets and liabilities that are required to be recorded at fair value, the Company considers the principal or most advantageous market and the market-based risk measurements or assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. See Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," for further discussion.

Research and Development—Research and development costs related to the development of new products or the adaptation of existing products are expensed as incurred, included in cost of sales and totaled \$10.3 million, \$11.3 million and \$13.4 million during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Cash and Cash Equivalents—The Company considers all highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Receivables—Receivables are stated net of allowances for doubtful accounts. No single customer comprised more than 5% of the Company's consolidated net sales in 2015, 2014 or 2013 or 5% of the Company's consolidated receivables as of December 31, 2015 or 2014. Specific customer provisions are made when a review of significant outstanding amounts, utilizing information about customer creditworthiness and current economic trends, indicates that collection is doubtful. In addition, provisions are made at differing rates, based upon the age of the receivable and the Company's historical collection experience. See Note 5, "Receivables," for further discussion on the transactions affecting the allowances for doubtful accounts.

Inventories—Inventories include material, labor, and plant overhead and are stated at the lower of cost or net realizable value. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, all inventories were valued using the first-in, first-out ("FIFO") method. See Note 6, "Inventories," for a breakdown of the components of the Company's inventories.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Property, Plant and Equipment—Property, plant and equipment are recorded at cost, and are depreciated over the estimated useful lives of the assets using the straight-line method for financial reporting purposes. See Note 7, "Property, Plant and Equipment," for a breakdown of the components of the Company's property, plant and equipment. Major improvements that extend the useful lives of existing assets are capitalized and charged to the asset accounts. Repairs and maintenance, which do not significantly improve or extend the useful lives of the respective assets, are expensed as incurred. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term or the estimated useful life of the respective asset. When an asset is retired or disposed, the associated costs and accumulated depreciation are eliminated, and the resulting profit or loss is recognized in the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

Asset Category	Range of Useful Lives
Buildings	10 to 40 Years
Machinery and equipment	5 to 15 Years
Other	3 to 10 Years

Other Intangible Assets—Identifiable intangible assets are recognized apart from goodwill and are amortized over their estimated useful lives.

Impairment of Long-Lived and Other Intangible Assets—The Company evaluates long-lived assets and other intangible assets (of which the most significant are property, plant and equipment and customer relationship intangible assets) whenever events and circumstances have occurred that indicate the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable. Determining whether impairment has occurred typically requires various estimates and assumptions, including determining which cash flows are directly related to the potentially impaired asset, the useful life over which cash flows will occur, their amount and the asset's residual value, if any. In turn, measurement of an impairment loss requires a determination of recoverability, which is generally estimated by the ability to recover the balance of the assets from expected future operating cash flows on an undiscounted basis. If impairment is determined to exist, any related impairment loss is calculated based on the difference in the fair value and carrying value of the asset.

Goodwill—Goodwill is reviewed annually for impairment as of October 31, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is below its carrying value. In performing this analysis, the Company compares each reporting unit's fair value estimated based on comparable company market valuations and/or expected future discounted cash flows to be generated by the reporting unit to its carrying value. If the carrying value exceeds the reporting unit's fair value, the Company performs a fair value measurement calculation to determine the impairment loss, which would be charged to operations in the period identified. See Note 4, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets," for further discussion.

Income Taxes—The Company accounts for income taxes under the asset and liability method, which requires the recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of items reported in the financial statements. Under this method, deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured based on the differences between the financial statement and tax basis of assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse. The effect of a change in tax rates on deferred tax assets and liabilities is recognized in income in the period that includes the effective date of enactment.

The Company records net deferred tax assets to the extent the Company believes these assets will more likely than not be realized. This determination is based upon all available positive and negative evidence, including future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences, projected future taxable income, tax planning strategies, and recent financial operations. If the Company determines that a deferred income tax asset will not be fully realized in the future, then a valuation allowance is established or increased to reflect the amount at which the asset will more likely than not be realized, which would increase the Company's provision for income taxes. In a period after a valuation allowance has been established, if the Company determines the related deferred income tax assets will be realized in the future in excess of their net recorded amount, then an adjustment to reduce the related valuation allowance will be made, which

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

would reduce the Company's provision for income taxes. The consolidated financial statements include the retrospective adoption of new accounting guidance on the balance sheet presentation of deferred taxes issued by the FASB in November 2015, and accordingly, the consolidated balance sheets have been restated for all periods presented. See Note 25, "New Accounting Pronouncements," for further information.

The Company is regularly audited by foreign and domestic tax authorities. These audits occasionally result in proposed assessments where the ultimate resolution might result in the Company owing additional taxes, including in some cases, penalties and interest. The Company recognizes a tax position in its consolidated financial statements when it is more likely than not that the position would be sustained upon examination by tax authorities. This recognized tax position is then measured at the largest amount of benefit that is greater than fifty-percent likely of being recognized upon ultimate settlement. The Company recognizes interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense.

The determination of the Company's worldwide tax provision and related tax assets and liabilities requires the use of significant judgment in estimating the impact of uncertainties in the application of GAAP and the interpretation of complex tax laws. In the ordinary course of business, there are transactions and calculations where the final tax outcome is uncertain. Where fair market value is required to measure a tax asset or liability for GAAP purposes, the Company periodically obtains independent, third party, assistance to validate that such value is determined in conformity with Internal Revenue Service fair market value guidelines. While the Company believes it has the appropriate support for the positions taken, certain positions may be successfully challenged by taxing authorities. Resolution of these uncertainties in a manner inconsistent with management's expectations could have a material impact on the Company's financial condition and operating results. The Company applies the provisions of the authoritative guidance on accounting for uncertain tax positions to determine the appropriate amount of tax benefits to be recognized with respect to uncertain tax positions. The determination of the Company's worldwide tax provision includes the impact of any changes to the amount of tax benefits recognized with respect to uncertain tax positions. See Note 14, "Income Taxes," for further discussion.

Pension Plans—The Company assumed certain frozen underfunded defined benefit pension plans as part of the 2010 World Color Press acquisition. Pension plan costs are determined using actuarial methods and are funded through contributions. The Company records amounts relating to its pension plans based on calculations which include various actuarial assumptions including discount rates, assumed rates of return, mortality, compensation increases and turnover rates. The Company reviews its actuarial assumptions on an annual basis and modifies the assumptions based on current rates and trends when it is appropriate to do so. The effects of modifications are recognized immediately on the consolidated balance sheets, but are generally amortized into operating income over future periods, with the deferred amount recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss on the consolidated balance sheets. The Company believes that the assumptions utilized in recording its obligations under its plans are reasonable based on its experience, market conditions and input from its actuaries and investment advisors. For the purposes of calculating the expected return on plan assets, those assets are valued at fair value. When an event gives rise to both a curtailment and a settlement, the curtailment is accounted for prior to the settlement. The Company's measurement date to measure the defined benefit plan assets and the projected benefit obligation is December 31.

The Company has previously participated in MEPPs as a result of the acquisition of World Color Press. Due to the significant underfunded status of the MEPPs, the Company has withdrawn from all significant MEPPs and replaced

these union sponsored "promise to pay in the future" defined benefit plans with a Company sponsored "pay as you go" defined contribution plan, which is historically the form of retirement benefit provided to Quad/Graphics' employees. As a result of the decision to withdraw, the Company recorded an estimated withdrawal liability for the MEPPs as part of the World Color Press purchase price allocation process based on information received from the MEPPs' trustees. The estimated withdrawal liability will be updated based on significant events, such as potential new information from the ongoing litigation proceedings with both MEPPs, until the final withdrawal liability is determined. The exact amount of the withdrawal liability could be higher or lower than the estimate depending on, among other things, the nature and

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

timing of any triggering events, the funded status of the plans at that time and the final conclusion of the litigation with the MEPPs' trustees. See Note 17, "Employee Retirement Plans," for further discussion.

Stock-Based Compensation—The Company recognizes stock-based compensation expense over the vesting period for all stock-based awards made to employees and directors based on the fair value of the instrument at the time of grant. See Note 19, "Equity Incentive Programs," for further discussion.

Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)—Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) consists primarily of unrecognized actuarial gains and losses and prior service costs for pension and postretirement plans and foreign currency translation adjustments and is presented in the consolidated statements of shareholders' equity. See Note 21, "Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss," for further discussion.

Supplemental Cash Flow Information—The following table summarizes certain supplemental cash flow information for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013:

	2015	2014	2013
Interest paid, net of amounts capitalized	\$76.5	\$80.8	\$74.2
Income taxes paid	1.5	3.5	22.9
Non-cash investing and financing activities:			
Capital lease additions (see Note 13)	5.9	2.9	—
Leased equipment purchased through term loan (see Note 12)	3.7	—	12.8
Acquisitions of businesses (see Note 2):			
Fair value of assets acquired, net of cash	\$137.0	\$171.1	\$389.9
Liabilities assumed	(28.6	) (66.6	) (74.1
Goodwill	33.8	5.1	8.0
Deposit paid in 2012 related to Vertis acquisition (see Note 2)	—	—	(25.9
Deferred payment for Proteus and Transpak acquisition (see Note 2)	0.6	5.0	(6.0
Deferred payment for UniGraphic acquisition	0.6	(2.1) —
Acquisition of businesses—net of cash acquired	\$143.4	\$112.5	\$291.9

Note 2. Acquisitions and Strategic Investments

2015 Specialty Finishing, Inc. Acquisition

The Company completed the acquisition of Specialty on August 25, 2015, for \$61.8 million. Specialty is a full-service paperboard folding carton manufacturer and logistics provider located in Omaha, Nebraska. The purchase price of \$61.8 million includes \$0.1 million of acquired cash for a net purchase price of \$61.7 million. Included in the preliminary purchase price allocation are \$9.6 million of identifiable intangible assets, which are amortized over their estimated useful lives ranging from three to six years, and \$3.5 million of goodwill. The preliminary purchase price allocation is based on valuations performed to determine the fair value of the net assets as of the acquisition date. The purchase price, as well as the purchase price allocation, is subject to the final determination of acquired working capital and completion of the final valuation of the net assets acquired. The net assets acquired, excluding acquired cash, were classified as Level 3 in the valuation hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value

Measurements," for the definition of Level 3 inputs). Specialty's operations are included in the United States Print and Related Services segment.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

2015 Copac Global Packaging, Inc. Acquisition

The Company completed the acquisition of Copac on April 14, 2015, for \$59.4 million. Copac is a leading international provider of innovative packaging and supply chain solutions, including turnkey packaging design, production and fulfillment services across a range of end markets. Copac manufactures products such as folding cartons, labels, inserts, tags and specialty envelopes, and has production facilities in Spartanburg, South Carolina and Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, as well as strategically sourcing packaging product manufacturing over multiple end markets in Central America and Asia, giving it a global footprint. The purchase price of \$59.4 million includes \$0.9 million of acquired cash for a net purchase price of \$58.5 million. Included in the purchase price allocation are \$22.2 million of identifiable intangible assets, which are amortized over their estimated useful lives of six years, and \$23.5 million of goodwill. The final allocation of the purchase price was based on valuations performed to determine the fair value of the net assets as of the acquisition date. The net assets acquired, excluding acquired cash, were classified as Level 3 in the valuation hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," for the definition of Level 3 inputs). Copac's operations are included in the United States Print and Related Services segment.

2015 Marin's International Acquisition

The Company completed the acquisition of Marin's on February 3, 2015, for \$31.1 million. Marin's, headquartered in Paris, France, is a worldwide leader in the point-of-sale display industry and specializes in the research and design of display solutions. Marin's products are produced by a global network of licensees, including Quad/Graphics, as well as one wide-format digital print, kitting and fulfillment facility in Paris. Marin's uses its own European-based sales force and the global licensees to sell its patented product portfolio. The purchase price of \$31.1 million includes \$10.1 million of acquired cash for a net purchase price of \$21.0 million. Included in the purchase price allocation are \$17.9 million of identifiable intangible assets, which are amortized over their estimated useful lives ranging from three to eight years, and \$6.8 million of goodwill. The final allocation of the purchase price was based on valuations performed to determine the fair value of the net assets as of the acquisition date. The net assets acquired, excluding acquired cash, were classified as Level 3 in the valuation hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," for the definition of Level 3 inputs). Marin's operations are included in the International segment.

2014 Brown Printing Company Acquisition

The Company completed the acquisition of Brown Printing on May 30, 2014, for \$101.1 million. Brown Printing provides magazine and catalog printing, distribution services and integrated media solutions to magazine publishers and catalog marketers in the United States. The Company used cash on hand and borrowings under its revolving credit facility to finance the acquisition.

Brown Printing's operations are included in the United States Print and Related Services segment. Disclosure of the financial results of Brown Printing since the acquisition date is not practicable, as it is not being operated as a standalone business and has been combined with the Company's existing operations.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The Company recorded the allocation of the purchase price to tangible and identifiable intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed, including certain contingent liabilities, based on their fair values as of the May 30, 2014, acquisition date. Included in the purchase price allocation are identifiable customer relationship intangible assets, which are amortized over their estimated useful lives of six years. The final purchase price allocation was as follows:

	Purchase Price Allocation	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$3.6	
Accounts receivable	46.1	
Other current assets	18.8	
Property, plant and equipment	72.1	
Identifiable intangible assets	4.7	
Other long-term assets	7.5	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(35.1)
Other long-term liabilities	(16.6)
Purchase price	\$101.1	

The final allocation of the purchase price and unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information was based on valuations performed to determine the fair value of the net assets as of the acquisition date. The valuation of the \$97.5 million net assets acquired, excluding acquired cash, was classified as Level 3 in the valuation hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," for the definition of Level 3 inputs).

2014 Anselmo L. Morvillo S.A. Investment

The Company invested an additional \$6.5 million in Morvillo in Argentina, which increased its ownership share in Morvillo from 85% to 100% during the year ended December 31, 2014. The Company historically consolidated the results of Morvillo into the Company's consolidated financial statements and presented the 15% portion of Morvillo's results not owned by the Company as noncontrolling interest. The Company no longer presents noncontrolling interest going forward as Morvillo's results are fully consolidated into the Company's consolidated financial statements.

2014 UniGraphic, Inc. Acquisition

The Company completed the acquisition of UniGraphic, a commercial and specialty printing company based in the Boston metro area, on February 5, 2014 for \$11.2 million. UniGraphic offers commercial and specialty printing, in-store marketing, digital and fulfillment solutions for a wide variety of industries including arts and entertainment, education, financial, food, healthcare, mass media, pharmaceutical and retail. The purchase price of \$11.2 million is net of cash acquired. Identifiable customer relationship intangible assets of \$6.9 million have been recorded through the final purchase price allocation and are amortized over six years. The final purchase price allocation was based on valuations performed to determine the fair value of the net assets as of the acquisition date. The net assets acquired, excluding acquired cash, were classified as Level 3 in the valuation hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," for the definition of Level 3 inputs). UniGraphic's operations are included in the United States Print and Related Services segment.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

2013 Proteus Packaging and Transpak Corporation Acquisitions

The Company completed the acquisition of Wisconsin-based Proteus, as well as its sister company Transpak, on December 18, 2013, for \$48.7 million. Payments of \$43.1 million were made on December 18, 2013, upon the completion of the acquisition. The remaining payments of \$5.0 million and \$0.6 million were paid in 2014 and 2015, respectively. Proteus is a designer and manufacturer of high-end paperboard packaging, offering packaging solutions for a wide variety of industries, including automotive, biotechnology, food, beverage, personal care, pharmaceuticals, software and electronics. Transpak is a full-service industrial packaging company, offering crating, packaging, warehousing, distribution and logistics services to destinations worldwide.

The Company recorded the allocation of the purchase price to the acquired tangible and identifiable intangible assets and liabilities assumed based on their fair values as of the December 18, 2013, acquisition date. Included in the purchase price allocation are identifiable customer relationship intangible assets, which are amortized over their estimated useful lives of six years. Goodwill resulting from this acquisition, which is deductible for tax purposes, has been recorded within the United States Print and Related Services segment based on the amount by which the purchase price exceeds the fair value of the net assets acquired. The final purchase price allocation was as follows:

	Purchase Price Allocation	
Accounts receivable	\$4.4	
Other current assets	5.6	
Property, plant and equipment	16.5	
Identifiable intangible assets	14.7	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(3.9)
Other long-term liabilities	(1.7)
Goodwill	13.1	
Purchase price	\$48.7	

The final purchase price allocation was based on valuations performed to determine the fair value of the net assets as of the acquisition date. The valuation of the net assets acquired of \$48.7 million was classified as Level 3 in the valuation hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," for the definition of Level 3 inputs). Proteus' and Transpak's operations are included in the United States Print and Related Services segment.

2013 Novia CareClinics, LLC Acquisition

The Company completed the acquisition Novia, an Indianapolis, Indiana healthcare solutions company, on November 7, 2013, for \$13.3 million. Novia develops and manages onsite and shared primary care clinics for small to medium sized companies and the public sector, such as school districts and city and county governments. Identifiable customer relationships of \$13.5 million have been recorded through the final purchase price allocation. Identifiable customer relationship intangible assets are amortized over their estimated useful lives of six years. The final purchase price allocation was based on valuations performed to determine the fair value of the net assets as of the acquisition date. The valuations of the net assets acquired of \$13.3 million was classified as Level 3 in the valuation hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," for the definition of Level 3 inputs). Novia's

operations are included in the United States Print and Related Services segment.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

2013 Vertis Holdings, Inc. Acquisition

The Company completed the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Vertis on January 16, 2013, for \$265.4 million, pursuant to the terms of the Asset Purchase Agreement ("Asset Agreement"). Vertis was a leading provider of retail inserts, direct marketing and in-store marketing solutions. The acquisition of Vertis enhanced the Company's position as a leader in the production of retail inserts, direct marketing and in-store marketing solutions that the Company can provide to its clients and enhanced its integrated offerings. The purchase of Vertis was accounted for using the acquisition method of accounting under GAAP. The Company did not acquire certain assets and assume certain liabilities of Vertis and its subsidiaries in this asset acquisition, including, among other liabilities, their underfunded pension and postretirement obligations. The Company used cash on hand and borrowings under its revolving credit facility to finance the acquisition.

In October 2012, the Company made a \$25.9 million deposit to be held in escrow, in accordance with the terms of the Asset Agreement. This deposit was applied to the purchase price upon the January 16, 2013, consummation of the acquisition.

Vertis' operations are included in the United States Print and Related Services segment. Disclosure of the financial results of Vertis since the acquisition date is not practicable as it is not being operated as a standalone business, and has been combined with the Company's existing operations.

The Company recorded the allocation of the purchase price to tangible and identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed, including certain contingent liabilities, based on their fair values as of the January 16, 2013, acquisition date. Included in the purchase price allocation are identifiable customer relationship intangible assets, which are amortized over their estimated useful lives of six years. The final purchase price allocation was as follows:

	Purchase Price Allocation	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$4.1	
Accounts receivable	133.4	
Other current assets	40.5	
Property, plant and equipment	127.8	
Identifiable intangible assets	25.6	
Current liabilities	(54.0)
Other long-term liabilities	(12.0)
Purchase price	\$265.4	

The final purchase price allocation and unaudited pro forma condensed consolidated financial information was based on valuations performed to determine the fair value of the net assets as of the acquisition date. The valuation of the net assets acquired of \$265.4 million was classified as Level 3 in the valuation hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," for the definition of Level 3 inputs).

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information

The following unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information presents the Company's results as if the Company had acquired Brown Printing on January 1, 2013, and Vertis on January 1, 2012. The unaudited pro forma information has been prepared with the following considerations:

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information has been prepared using the acquisition method of accounting under existing GAAP. The Company is the acquirer for accounting purposes.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information does not reflect any operating cost synergy savings that the combined companies may achieve as a result of the acquisition, the costs necessary to achieve these operating synergy savings or additional charges necessary as a result of the integration.

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2015 (actual)	2014 (pro forma)	2013 (pro forma)
Net sales	\$4,677.7	\$5,007.6	\$5,233.2
Net earnings (loss) attributable to common shareholders	(641.9	) 17.8	40.9
Diluted net earnings (loss) per share attributable to common shareholders	(13.40	) 0.36	0.83

Note 3. Restructuring, Impairment and Transaction-Related Charges

The Company recorded restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, as follows:

	2015	2014	2013
Employee termination charges	\$42.1	\$30.6	\$15.7
Impairment charges	95.3	14.4	21.8
Transaction-related charges (income)	(6.7	) 2.6	4.0
Integration costs	5.1	11.2	25.2
Other restructuring charges	29.1	8.5	28.6
Total	\$164.9	\$67.3	\$95.3

The costs related to these activities have been recorded on the consolidated statements of operations as restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges. See Note 22, "Segment Information," for restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges by segment.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Restructuring Charges

The Company began a restructuring program in 2010 related to eliminating excess manufacturing capacity and properly aligning its cost structure. The Company has announced a total of 31 plant closures and has reduced headcount by approximately 10,000 employees since 2010.

The Company announced the closures of the Augusta, Georgia; East Greenville, Pennsylvania; Enfield, Connecticut; Loveland, Colorado; Pilar, Argentina; and Queretaro, Mexico plants during the year ended December 31, 2015. The Company recorded the following charges as a result of plant closures and other restructuring programs for the year ended December 31, 2015:

Employee termination charges of \$42.1 million were recorded by the Company as a result of workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs.

Integration costs of \$5.1 million were recorded by the Company primarily related to preparing existing facilities to meet new production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of acquired companies.

Other restructuring charges of \$29.1 million were recorded by the Company, which consisted of: (1) \$11.7 million of vacant facility carrying costs; (2) \$2.8 million of equipment and infrastructure removal costs from closed plants; and (3) \$8.6 million of lease exit charges primarily related to the closure of the Atlanta, Georgia and Loveland, Colorado facilities. The Company also recorded a \$6.0 million non-cash expense to recognize accumulated foreign exchange losses on the sale of the Chile equity method investment (see Note 8, "Equity Method Investments in Unconsolidated Entities," for additional details).

The Company announced the closures of the Atlanta, Georgia; Dickson, Tennessee; Marengo, Iowa; Pomona, California; St. Cloud, Minnesota; and Woodstock, Illinois plants during the year ended December 31, 2014. The Company recorded the following charges as a result of plant closures and other restructuring programs for the year ended December 31, 2014:

Employee termination charges of \$30.6 million were recorded by the Company as a result of workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs.

Integration costs of \$11.2 million were recorded by the Company primarily related to preparing existing facilities to meet new production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of acquired companies.

Other restructuring charges of \$8.5 million were recorded by the Company, which consisted of: (1) \$7.7 million of vacant facility carrying costs; (2) \$2.4 million of legal fees; (3) \$1.8 million of equipment and infrastructure removal costs from closed plants; and (4) \$1.5 million of lease exit charges. Other restructuring charges were presented net of a \$4.9 million gain from the termination of the postretirement medical benefit plan (see Note 17, "Employee Retirement Plans," for further details on the postretirement medical benefit plan termination).

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The Company announced the closures of the Bristol, Pennsylvania; Dubuque, Iowa; Pittsburg, California; and Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada plants during the year ended December 31, 2013. The Company recorded the following charges as a result of plant closures and other restructuring programs for the year ended December 31, 2013:

Employee termination charges of \$15.7 million were recorded by the Company as a result of workforce reductions through facility consolidations and involuntary separation programs.

Integration costs of \$25.2 million were recorded by the Company primarily related to preparing existing facilities to meet new production requirements resulting from work transferring from closed plants, as well as other costs related to the integration of acquired companies.

Other restructuring charges of \$28.6 million were recorded by the Company, which consisted of: (1) \$14.4 million of vacant facility carrying costs; (2) \$6.2 million of equipment and infrastructure removal costs from closed plants; and (3) \$10.1 million of lease exit charges. Other restructuring charges were presented net of a \$2.1 million pension plan settlement gain (see Note 17, "Employee Retirement Plans," for further details on the pension plan settlement gain).

The restructuring charges recorded were based on plans that have been committed to by management and were, in part, based upon management's best estimates of future events. Changes to the estimates may require future restructuring charges and adjustments to the restructuring liabilities. The Company expects to incur additional restructuring charges related to these and other initiatives.

Impairment Charges

The Company recognized impairment charges of \$95.3 million during the year ended December 31, 2015, consisting of: (1) \$54.7 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Atlanta, Georgia; Augusta, Georgia; Dickson, Tennessee; East Greenville, Pennsylvania; Loveland, Colorado; and Queretaro, Mexico, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives; (2) \$18.6 million of investment-related impairment charges, primarily related to \$16.7 million of impairment charges to reduce the book value of the Company's equity method investment in Chile to fair value (see Note 8, "Equity Method Investments in Unconsolidated Entities," for additional details related to the impairment of the Company's equity method investment in Chile); (3) \$12.7 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Augusta, Georgia and East Greenville, Pennsylvania plant closures; (4) \$7.1 million of customer relationship intangible asset impairments; and (5) \$2.2 million of impairment charges primarily related to the restructuring proceedings in Argentina for the Company's Argentina Subsidiaries for land, building, machinery and equipment and other intangible assets.

The Company recognized impairment charges of \$14.4 million during the year ended December 31, 2014, consisting of: (1) \$8.0 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Atlanta, Georgia; Dickson, Tennessee; Mexico City, Mexico; Pomona, California; and St. Cloud, Minnesota, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives; and (2) \$6.4 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Bristol, Pennsylvania and Dickson, Tennessee plant closures.

The Company recognized impairment charges of \$21.8 million during the year ended December 31, 2013, consisting of: (1) \$11.7 million of impairment charges for machinery and equipment no longer being utilized in production as a result of facility consolidations including Dubuque, Iowa; Jonesboro, Arkansas; Pittsburg, California; and Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, as well as other capacity reduction restructuring initiatives; and (2) \$10.1 million of land and building impairment charges primarily related to the Corinth, Mississippi; Marengo, Iowa; and Mexico City, Mexico plant closures.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The fair values of the impaired assets were determined by the Company to be Level 3 under the fair value hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," for the definition of Level 3 inputs) and were estimated based on broker quotes, internal expertise related to current marketplace conditions and estimated future undiscounted cash flows. These assets were adjusted to their estimated fair values at the time of impairment.

The non-cash goodwill impairment charges included in the line item entitled goodwill impairment on the Company's consolidated statements of operations are discussed in Note 4, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets."

Transaction-Related Charges (Income)

The Company incurs transaction-related charges (income) primarily consisting of professional service fees related to business acquisition and divestiture activities. The Company recognized transaction-related charges (income) of \$(6.7) million during the year ended December 31, 2015, which includes a \$10.0 million non-recurring gain as a result of Courier's termination of the agreement pursuant to which Quad/Graphics was to acquire Courier, partially offset by \$3.3 million of professional service fees including fees for the terminated acquisition of Courier and the acquisitions of Marin's, Copac and Specialty. The Company recognized transaction-related charges of \$2.6 million during the year ended December 31, 2014, which primarily includes professional service fees for the acquisitions of Brown Printing and UniGraphic. The Company recognized transaction-related charges of \$4.0 million during the year ended December 31, 2013, which primarily includes professional service fees for the acquisitions of Vertis, Proteus and Transpak. The transaction-related charges were expensed as incurred in accordance with the applicable accounting guidance on business combinations.

Reserves for Restructuring, Impairment and Transaction-Related Charges

Activity impacting the Company's reserves for restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, was as follows:

	Employee Termination Charges	Impairment Charges	Transaction-Related Charges (Income)	Integration Costs	Other Restructuring Charges	Total
Balance at January 1, 2014	\$4.8	\$—	\$ 0.2	\$3.7	\$19.3	\$28.0
Expense	30.6	14.4	2.6	11.2	8.5	67.3
Cash payments	(25.1)	) —	(2.3)	) (11.6)	) (19.9)	) (58.9)
Non-cash adjustments	(0.3)	) (14.4)	) —	(1.5)	) 5.7	(10.5)
Balance at December 31, 2014	\$10.0	\$—	\$ 0.5	\$1.8	\$13.6	\$25.9
Expense (income)	42.1	95.3	(6.7)	) 5.1	29.1	164.9
Cash receipts (payments)	(27.3)	) —	6.3	(5.1)	) (23.8)	) (49.9)
Non-cash adjustments	(0.4)	) (95.3)	) —	(0.4)	) (5.9)	) (102.0)
Balance at December 31, 2015	\$24.4	\$—	\$ 0.1	\$1.4	\$13.0	\$38.9

The Company's restructuring, impairment and transaction-related reserves at December 31, 2015, included a short-term and a long-term component. The short-term portion included \$31.0 million in accrued liabilities (see Note 9, "Accrued Liabilities") and \$1.3 million in accounts payable in the consolidated balance sheets as the Company expects these reserves to be paid within the next twelve months. The long-term portion of \$6.6 million is included in other long-term liabilities (see Note 16, "Other Long-Term Liabilities") in the consolidated balance sheets.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Note 4. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of identifiable net assets acquired in a business combination. Goodwill is assigned to specific reporting units and is tested annually for impairment as of October 31 or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is below its carrying value.

United States Print and Related Services Segment

Due to the decline in the Company's stock price in the third quarter of 2015, an interim goodwill impairment test of the three reporting units in the United States Print and Related Services segment was performed as of July 31, 2015. These reporting units include the Core Print and Related Services reporting unit, the Specialty Print and Related Services reporting unit and the Other United States Products and Services reporting unit with goodwill of \$640.8 million, \$115.6 million and \$18.6 million, respectively, as of July 31, 2015.

In determining the fair value of each reporting unit, the Company used an equal weighting of both the income and market approaches, except for the Other United States Products and Services reporting unit for which only an income approach was used. After completing a step one evaluation, the estimated fair value of each of the three reporting units in the United States Print and Related Services segment was determined to be lower than the carrying value of each respective reporting unit. As such, each of the three reporting units failed step one of the goodwill impairment test.

Step two of the goodwill impairment test requires the Company to perform a hypothetical purchase price allocation for each reporting unit to determine the implied fair value of goodwill and compare the implied fair value of goodwill to the carrying amount of goodwill. The estimate of fair value is complex and requires significant judgment. A third-party valuation firm was engaged to assist in the step two valuation process. This fair value determination was categorized as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," for the definition of Level 3 inputs).

As a result of the interim goodwill impairment assessment as well as the annual impairment test as of October 31, 2015, the Company's United States Print and Related Services segment recorded pre-tax non-cash goodwill impairment charges of \$778.3 million in the year ended December 31, 2015, that included impairment charges of \$640.8 million, \$118.9 million and \$18.6 million in the Core Print and Related Services reporting unit, the Specialty Print and Related Services reporting unit and the Other United States Products and Services reporting unit, respectively. The goodwill impairment charges resulted from a reduction in estimated fair value of each reporting unit based on lower expectations for future revenue, profitability and cash flows due to volume and pricing pressures as compared to expectations in the last annual goodwill impairment assessment performed as of October 31, 2014.

International Segment

On March 25, 2015, due to deteriorating economic conditions, including inflation and currency devaluation, combined with uncertain political conditions, declining print volumes and labor challenges, the Company's Argentina Subsidiaries (included within the Latin America reporting unit) commenced bankruptcy restructuring proceedings with a goal of consolidating operations. As a result, the Company conducted an interim goodwill impairment

assessment of the Latin America reporting unit, which included comparing the carrying amount of net assets, including goodwill, to its respective fair value as of March 31, 2015, the date of the interim assessment.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Fair value was determined using an equal weighting of both the income and market approaches. Under the income approach, the Company determined fair value based on estimated future cash flows discounted by an estimated weighted-average cost of capital, which reflects the overall level of inherent risk and the rate of return an outside investor would expect to earn. Under the market approach, the Company derived the fair value of the reporting units based on market multiples of comparable publicly-traded companies. The Company performed an additional fair value measurement calculation to determine whether a Latin America reporting unit impairment charge should be recorded because the fair value of the reporting unit was below its carrying amount. As part of this calculation, the Company also estimated the fair values of significant tangible and intangible long-lived assets in the Latin America reporting unit. This fair value determination was categorized as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," for the definition of Level 3 inputs).

As a result of the interim goodwill impairment assessment as well as the annual impairment test as of October 31, 2015, the Company's International segment recorded non-cash nondeductible goodwill impairment charges of \$30.0 million in the year ended December 31, 2015, primarily including a \$23.3 million non-cash goodwill impairment charge for the Latin America reporting unit. The goodwill impairment charges resulted from a reduction in estimated fair value of the reporting unit based on lower expectations for future revenue, profitability and cash flows due to volume and pricing pressures as compared to expectations in the last annual goodwill impairment assessment performed as of October 31, 2014.

Goodwill at December 31, 2015, included \$808.3 million of accumulated impairment losses, of which \$778.3 million relates to the United States Print and Related Services segment and \$30.0 million relates to the International segment. Goodwill at December 31, 2014, did not include any accumulated impairment losses. Non-cash goodwill impairment charges of \$808.3 million were recorded during the year ended December 31, 2015. No goodwill impairment charges were recorded during the years ended December 31, 2014 or 2013. Activity impacting goodwill for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, was as follows:

	United States		
	Print and Related Services	International	Total
Balance at January 1, 2014	\$746.2	\$26.9	\$773.1
Proteus and Transpak acquisitions (see Note 2)	5.1	—	5.1
Translation adjustment	—	(2.7	) (2.7
Balance at December 31, 2014	\$751.3	\$24.2	\$775.5
Marin's acquisition (see Note 2)	—	6.8	6.8
Copac acquisition (see Note 2)	23.5	—	23.5
Specialty acquisition (see Note 2)	3.5	—	3.5
Impairment	(778.3	) (30.0	) (808.3
Translation adjustment	—	(1.0	) (1.0
Balance at December 31, 2015	\$—	\$—	\$—

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The components of other intangible assets at December 31, 2015 and 2014, were as follows:

	December 31, 2015			December 31, 2014				
	Weighted Average Amortization Period (Years)	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value	Weighted Average Amortization Period (Years)	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value
Finite-lived intangible assets:								
Trademarks, patents, licenses and agreements	7	\$22.1	\$ (5.5)	\$16.6	5	\$5.1	\$ (3.8)	\$1.3
Capitalized software	5	6.5	(6.2)	0.3	5	6.7	(6.3)	0.4
Acquired technology	5	6.2	(5.9)	0.3	5	6.7	(5.9)	0.8
Customer relationships	6	459.4	(366.1)	93.3	6	445.1	(298.5)	146.6
Total finite-lived intangible assets		\$494.2	\$ (383.7)	\$110.5		\$463.6	\$ (314.5)	\$149.1

During the year ended December 31, 2015, the gross carrying amount of other intangible assets increased primarily due to \$49.7 million of acquired identifiable intangible assets as discussed in Note 2, "Acquisitions and Strategic Investments." The gross carrying amount and accumulated amortization within other intangible assets—net in the consolidated balance sheets at December 31, 2015 and 2014, differs from the value originally recorded at acquisition due to impairment charges recorded and the effects of currency fluctuations between the purchase date and December 31, 2015 and 2014.

Other intangible assets are evaluated for potential impairment whenever events or circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. The Company recorded finite-lived intangible asset impairment charges of \$7.2 million, primarily related to customer relationships, during the year ended December 31, 2015, (see Note 3, "Restructuring, Impairment and Transaction-Related Charges" for further discussion on impairment charges). There were no impairment charges recorded on finite-lived intangible assets for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

Amortization expense for other intangible assets was \$79.6 million, \$75.9 million and \$70.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The following table outlines the estimated future amortization expense related to other intangible assets as of December 31, 2015:

	Amortization Expense
2016	\$49.4
2017	17.8
2018	17.5
2019	13.3

2020	8.2
2021 and thereafter	4.3
Total	\$110.5

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Note 5. Receivables

Activity impacting the allowances for doubtful accounts for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, was as follows:

	2015	2014	2013	
Balance at beginning of year	\$57.8	\$58.9	\$70.8	
Provisions	4.2	5.5	10.4	
Write-offs	(12.0) (9.9) (15.4)
Divestitures	—	—	(6.4)
Translation and other	0.1	3.3	(0.5)
Balance at end of year	\$50.1	\$57.8	\$58.9	

Note 6. Inventories

The components of inventories at December 31, 2015 and 2014, were as follows:

	2015	2014
Raw materials and manufacturing supplies	\$154.8	\$185.4
Work in process	51.0	53.9
Finished goods	74.3	48.5
Total	\$280.1	\$287.8

Note 7. Property, Plant and Equipment

The components of property, plant and equipment at December 31, 2015 and 2014, were as follows:

	2015	2014	
Land	\$135.9	\$143.4	
Buildings	952.6	959.6	
Machinery and equipment	3,603.9	3,600.7	
Other ⁽¹⁾	194.1	229.4	
Construction in progress	24.2	40.1	
Property, plant and equipment—gross	\$4,910.7	\$4,973.2	
Less: accumulated depreciation	(3,234.9) (3,117.7)
Property, plant and equipment—net	\$1,675.8	\$1,855.5	

(1) Other consists of computer equipment, vehicles, furniture and fixtures, leasehold improvements and communication related equipment.

The Company recorded impairment charges of \$69.5 million, \$14.4 million and \$21.8 million during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively, to reduce the carrying amounts of certain property, plant and

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

equipment no longer utilized in production to fair value (see Note 3, "Restructuring, Impairment and Transaction-Related Charges" for further discussion on impairment charges).

The Company recognized depreciation expense of \$245.7 million, \$260.5 million and \$270.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Assets Held for Sale

The Company considered certain closed facilities as held for sale classification on the consolidated balance sheets. The net book value of assets held for sale were \$6.3 million and \$1.8 million as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. These assets were carried at the lesser of original cost or fair value, less the estimated costs to sell. The fair values were determined by the Company to be Level 3 under the fair value hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," for the definition of Level 3 inputs) and were estimated based on broker quotes and internal expertise related to current marketplace conditions. Assets held for sale were included in prepaid expenses and other current assets in the consolidated balance sheets.

Note 8. Equity Method Investments in Unconsolidated Entities

The Company has a 49% ownership interest in Plural, a commercial printer based in São Paulo, Brazil. The Company had a 50% ownership interest in Chile, a commercial printer based in Santiago, Chile, until the Company sold its ownership interest in Chile on July 31, 2015. The Company's ownership interest in Plural and Chile was accounted for using the equity method of accounting for all periods presented. The Company's equity loss of Plural's and Chile's operations was recorded in equity in loss of unconsolidated entities in the Company's consolidated statements of operations, and was included within the International segment.

The Company reviews its equity method investments regularly for indicators of other than temporary impairment. During the second quarter of 2015, the Company recorded a \$16.7 million impairment charge to reduce the book value of the 50% ownership interest in Chile to fair value based on the intent to sell the investment. The impairment is recorded in restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges on the consolidated statement of operations, and is included within the International segment. The fair value measurement of the investment, which was classified as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," for the definition of Level 3 inputs), was determined using internal expertise of current marketplace conditions.

On July 31, 2015, the Company sold its 50% ownership interest in Chile for \$10.5 million. The Company recorded a \$6.0 million non-cash expense to recognize accumulated foreign exchange losses on the sale of the Chile equity method investment during the year ended December 31, 2015, which is recorded within restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges on the consolidated statements of operations.

On January 1, 2013, the Company sold 100% of its ownership interest in two wholly-owned Brazilian entities (Quad/Graphics Nordeste Industria Gráfica LTDA and Quad/Graphics São Paulo Industria Gráfica S.A.) to Plural for a purchase price of \$5.5 million. During the year ended December 31, 2013, the Company recorded a \$2.8 million gain on the sale within selling, general and administrative expenses in the Company's consolidated statements of operations. As a result of the sale to Plural, the Company no longer controls these entities (the Company now owns

49% of these entities through its ownership interest in Plural), and thus, the assets and liabilities of the entities sold have been deconsolidated in accordance with GAAP. Since the sale to Plural, the Company's ownership interest in the results of operations of these entities are included in equity in loss of unconsolidated entities in the consolidated statements of operations.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The condensed balance sheet for Plural at December 31, 2015, and the combined condensed balance sheets for Plural and Chile at December 31, 2014, were as follows:

	2015	2014
Current assets	\$28.9	\$77.9
Long-term assets	26.4	71.1
Total assets	\$55.3	\$149.0
Current liabilities	\$33.9	\$64.4
Long-term liabilities	4.9	10.9
Total liabilities	\$38.8	\$75.3

The combined condensed statements of operations for Plural and Chile for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, are presented below. Results from the Chile equity method investment are included in the following table through the July 31, 2015 sale date:

	2015	2014	2013
Net sales	\$110.7	\$195.8	\$221.2
Operating loss	(10.6	) (3.6	) (0.7
Net loss	(12.8	) (5.2	) (3.9

Note 9. Accrued Liabilities

The components of accrued liabilities at December 31, 2015 and 2014, were as follows:

	2015	2014
Employee-related liabilities	\$177.3	\$191.3
Restructuring liabilities	31.0	16.9
Tax liabilities	29.1	40.1
Interest and rent liabilities	11.0	13.5
Other	99.1	96.3
Total	\$347.5	\$358.1

Employee-related liabilities consist primarily of payroll, bonus, vacation, health, workers' compensation and pension obligations.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Note 10. Commitments and Contingencies

Commitments

The Company had firm commitments of \$14.9 million to purchase press and finishing equipment.

Litigation

The Company is named as a defendant in various lawsuits in which claims are asserted against the Company in the normal course of business. The liabilities, if any, which ultimately result from such lawsuits are not expected by management to have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements of the Company.

Environmental Reserves

The Company is subject to various laws, regulations and government policies relating to health and safety, to the generation, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous substances, and to environment protection in general. The Company provides for expenses associated with environmental remediation obligations when such amounts are probable and can be reasonably estimated. Such reserves are adjusted as new information develops or as circumstances change. The environmental reserves are not discounted. The Company believes it is in compliance with such laws, regulations and government policies in all material respects. Furthermore, the Company does not anticipate that maintaining compliance with such environmental statutes will have a material impact upon the Company's competitive or consolidated financial position.

Note 11. World Color Press Insolvency Proceedings

The Company continues to manage the bankruptcy claim settlement process for the Quebecor World Inc. ("QWI") bankruptcy proceedings in the United States and Canada (QWI changed its name to World Color Press upon emerging from bankruptcy on July 21, 2009). To the extent claims are allowed, the holders of such claims are entitled to receive recovery, with the nature of such recovery dependent upon the type and classification of such claims. In this regard, with respect to certain types of claims, the holders thereof are entitled to receive cash and/or unsecured notes, while the holders of certain other types of claims are entitled to receive a combination of Quad/Graphics common stock and cash, in accordance with the terms of the World Color Press acquisition agreement.

With respect to claims asserted by the holders thereof as being entitled to a priority cash recovery, the Company has estimated that approximately \$1.4 million of such recorded claims have yet to be paid as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and this obligation is classified as amounts owing in satisfaction of bankruptcy claims in the consolidated balance sheets.

With respect to unsecured claims held by creditors of the operating subsidiary debtors of Quebecor World (USA) Inc. (the "Class 3 Claims"), each allowed Class 3 Claim will be entitled to receive an unsecured note in an amount equaling 50% of such creditor's allowed Class 3 Claim, provided, however, that the aggregate principal amount of all such unsecured notes cannot exceed \$75.0 million. Each allowed Class 3 Claim will also receive accrued interest and a 5% prepayment redemption premium thereon (the total aggregate maximum principal, interest and prepayment

redemption premium for all Class 3 Claims is \$89.2 million). In connection with the World Color Press acquisition, the Company was required to deposit the maximum potential payout to the Class 3 Claim creditors of \$89.2 million with a trustee, and that amount will remain with the trustee until either (1) it is paid to a creditor for an allowed Class 3 Claim or (2) excess amounts not required for Class 3 Claim payments will revert to the Company.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

During the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, \$0.1 million and \$8.0 million, respectively, of the restricted cash was paid to Class 3 Claim creditors. The Company also received refunds of \$17.5 million and \$18.9 million of restricted cash during the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. At December 31, 2015, a \$11.5 million maximum potential payout to the Class 3 Claim creditors remains and is classified as restricted cash in the consolidated balance sheets. Based on the Company's analysis of the outstanding claims, the Company has a liability of \$7.1 million at December 31, 2015, classified as unsecured notes to be issued in the consolidated balance sheets. Activity impacting restricted cash and unsecured notes to be issued for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, was as follows:

	Restricted Cash	Unsecured Notes to be Issued
Balance at January 1, 2014	\$56.0	\$18.0
Class 3 Claim payments	(8.0)	) (8.0)
Restricted cash refunded to Quad/Graphics	(18.9)) —
Non-cash adjustments	—	) (1.0)
Balance at December 31, 2014	\$29.1	\$9.0
Class 3 Claim payments	(0.1)	) (0.1)
Restricted cash refunded to Quad/Graphics	(17.5)) —
Non-cash adjustments	—	) (1.8)
Balance at December 31, 2015	\$11.5	\$7.1

The components of restricted cash at December 31, 2015 and 2014, were as follows:

	December 31, 2015	December 31, 2014
Defeasance of unsecured notes to be issued	\$11.5	\$29.1
Other	2.0	2.1
Total restricted cash	\$13.5	\$31.2

While the liabilities recorded for any bankruptcy matters are based on management's current assessment of the amount likely to be paid, it is not possible to identify the final amount of priority cash claims or the amount of Class 3 Claims that will ultimately be allowed by the United States Bankruptcy Court. Therefore, payments for amounts owing in satisfaction of bankruptcy claims could be higher than the amounts accrued on the consolidated balance sheets, which would require additional cash payments to be made and expense to be recorded for the amount exceeding the Company's estimate. Amounts payable related to the unsecured notes could exceed current estimates, which would require additional expense to be recorded. The Company has resolved the majority of claims since acquiring World Color Press in 2010, but the ultimate timing for completion of the bankruptcy process depends on the resolution of the remaining claims.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Note 12. Debt

The components of long-term debt at December 31, 2015 and 2014, were as follows:

	Weighted Average Interest Rate	2015	2014
Master note and security agreement	7.53 %	\$260.4	\$316.6
Term loan A—\$450.0 million due April 2019	2.36 %	410.6	438.8
Term loan B—\$300.0 million due April 2021	4.25 %	293.2	295.8
Revolving credit facility—\$850.0 million due April 2019	2.37 %	70.8	43.9
Senior unsecured notes—\$300.0 million due May 2022	7.00 %	300.0	300.0
International term loan	— %	—	—
International revolving credit facility—\$12.7 million	— %	—	0.2
Equipment term loans	4.18 %	13.4	13.3
Other	20.37 %	2.2	3.1
Debt issuance costs		(16.1	) (20.0
Total debt		\$1,334.5	\$1,391.7
Less: short-term debt and current portion of long-term debt		(94.6	) (92.0
Long-term debt		\$1,239.9	\$1,299.7

Description of Debt Obligations

Master Note and Security Agreement

On September 1, 1995, and as last amended on November 24, 2014, Quad/Graphics entered into its Master Note and Security Agreement. As of December 31, 2015, the borrowings outstanding under the Master Note and Security Agreement were \$260.4 million. The senior notes under the Master Note and Security Agreement have a weighted-average interest rate of 7.53% at December 31, 2015, which is fixed to maturity, with interest payable semiannually. Principal payments commenced September 1997 and extend through April 2031 in various tranches. The notes are collateralized by certain United States land, buildings and press and finishing equipment under the terms of the Master Note and Security Agreement.

The Company redeemed \$108.8 million of its senior notes under the Master Note and Security Agreement for \$109.6 million on October 10, 2014, resulting in a \$0.8 million loss, plus applicable transaction fees of \$0.2 million for a total of \$1.0 million included in loss on debt extinguishment in the consolidated statements of operations. The Company used its revolving credit facility to effect the redemption. This redemption was primarily completed to reduce interest expense based on the then current LIBOR rates.

The Company and certain of its subsidiaries entered into a fourth amendment to the Master Note and Security Agreement on November 24, 2014. The amendment, among other things, amended the financial covenants by removing the consolidated net worth requirement (removed for all periods after December 31, 2014) and the fixed charge coverage ratio, as well as adding a minimum interest coverage ratio, a maximum total leverage ratio and a

maximum senior secured leverage ratio. These amendments align the financial covenants in the Master Note and Security Agreement more closely with the financial covenants in the Senior Secured Credit Facility.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Senior Secured Credit Facility and Senior Unsecured Notes

The Company completed its \$1.9 billion debt financing arrangements on April 28, 2014, which included refinancing, extending and expanding its existing revolving credit facility, Term Loan A and Term Loan B with the \$1.6 billion Senior Secured Credit Facility and the issuance of \$300.0 million aggregate principal amount of its 7.0% Senior Unsecured Notes due May 1, 2022. The Senior Secured Credit Facility and the Senior Unsecured Notes were entered into to extend and stagger the Company's debt maturity profile, further diversify its capital structure and provide more borrowing capacity to better position the Company to execute on its strategic goals. The proceeds from the Senior Secured Credit Facility and Senior Unsecured Notes were used to: (a) repay the Company's previous revolving credit facility, Term Loan A, Term Loan B and the 2008 international term loan; (b) fund the acquisition of Brown Printing; and (c) for general corporate purposes.

The Senior Secured Credit Facility consists of three different loan facilities. The first facility is a revolving credit facility in the amount of \$850.0 million with a term of five years maturing on April 27, 2019. The second facility is a Term Loan A in the aggregate amount of \$450.0 million with a term of five years maturing on April 27, 2019, subject to certain required amortization. The third facility is a Term Loan B in the amount of \$300.0 million with a term of seven years maturing on April 27, 2021, subject to certain required amortization. At December 31, 2015, the Company had borrowings of \$70.8 million on the revolving credit facility, as well as \$48.3 million of issued letters of credit, leaving \$730.9 million available for future borrowings.

Borrowings under the revolving credit facility and Term Loan A loans made under the Senior Secured Credit Facility will initially bear interest at 2.00% in excess of reserve adjusted LIBOR, or 1.00% in excess of an alternate base rate, and Term Loan B loans will bear interest at 3.25% in excess of reserve adjusted LIBOR, with a LIBOR floor of 1.00%, or 2.25% in excess of an alternative base rate at the Company's option. The Senior Secured Credit Facility is secured by substantially all of the unencumbered assets of the Company. The Senior Secured Credit Facility also requires the Company to provide additional collateral to the lenders in certain limited circumstances.

The Company entered into an amendment to the Senior Secured Credit Facility on December 18, 2014, which eliminated the "net debt" concept from the calculation of the total leverage ratio and the senior secured leverage ratio and eliminated the consolidated net worth covenant.

The Company received \$294.8 million in net proceeds from the sale of the Senior Unsecured Notes, after deducting the initial purchasers' discounts and commissions. The Senior Unsecured Notes bear interest at 7.0% and interest is payable semi-annually. The Senior Unsecured Notes are due May 1, 2022. Each of the Company's existing and future domestic subsidiaries that is a borrower or guarantees indebtedness under the Company's Senior Secured Credit Facility or that guarantees certain of the Company's other indebtedness or indebtedness of the Company's restricted subsidiaries (other than intercompany indebtedness) fully and unconditionally guarantee or, in the case of future subsidiaries, will guarantee, on a joint and several basis, the Senior Unsecured Notes (the "Guarantor Subsidiaries"). All of the current Guarantor Subsidiaries are 100% owned by the Company. Guarantor Subsidiaries will be automatically released from these guarantees upon the occurrence of certain events, including (a) the designation of any of the Guarantor Subsidiaries as an unrestricted subsidiary; (b) the release or discharge of any guarantee or indebtedness that resulted in the creation of the guarantee of the Senior Unsecured Notes by any of the Guarantor

Subsidiaries; or (c) the sale or disposition, including the sale of substantially all the assets, of any of the Guarantor Subsidiaries.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

International Debt Obligations

The Company entered into a fixed rate Euro denominated international term loan on December 28, 2015, for purposes of financing certain capital expenditures and general business needs. The \$19.6 million term loan was not funded as of December 31, 2015, but must be funded within one year of the date of the agreement. As the term loan funds over the course of 2016, each tranche will bear interest at a fixed rate of 1.7% plus the bank initiated interest rate swap equivalent of Euro Interbank Offered Rate ("EURIBOR") at the time the tranche is funded. The term loan requires monthly payments and has a term of six years maturing on December 28, 2021.

The multicurrency international revolving credit facility is used for financing working capital and general business needs and will expire on October 31, 2016. At December 31, 2015, the Company had no borrowings on the international revolving credit facility, leaving \$12.7 million available for future borrowing. The terms of the international revolving credit facility includes certain financial covenants, a guarantee of the international revolving credit facility by the Company and a security agreement that includes collateralizing substantially all of the Quad/Graphics Europe Sp. z.o.o. assets. The facilities bear interest at the aggregate of the Warsaw Interbank Offered Rate ("WIBOR") or EURIBOR and margin.

Equipment Term Loans

The Company refinanced certain equipment leases during 2015 with a \$3.7 million equipment term loan secured by the formerly leased equipment. The equipment term loan bears interest at a fixed rate of 2.53%, requires monthly payments and has a term of seven years expiring during 2022. The purchase of this equipment resulted in \$3.7 million of non-cash investing and financing activities (see Note 1, "Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies" for the required supplemental cash flow information).

The Company refinanced certain equipment leases during 2013 with \$17.1 million in equipment term loans secured by the formerly leased equipment. The equipment term loans bear interest at a fixed rate of 4.75%, require quarterly payments and have five year terms expiring during 2018. The purchase of these assets resulted in \$12.8 million of non-cash investing and financing activities, which represents the \$17.1 million in equipment term loans net of \$4.3 million of eliminated capital lease obligations (see Note 1, "Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies" for the required supplemental cash flow information).

Fair Value of Debt

Based upon the interest rates available to the Company for borrowings with similar terms and maturities, the fair value of the Company's total debt was approximately \$1.2 billion and \$1.3 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The fair value determination of the Company's total debt was categorized as Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy (see Note 15, "Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements," for the definition of Level 2 inputs). As of December 31, 2015, approximately \$2.6 billion of the Company's assets were pledged as security under various loans and other agreements.

Debt Issuance Costs and Original Issue Discount

The Company incurred \$14.3 million in debt issuance costs in conjunction with the \$1.9 billion debt financing arrangement completed on April 28, 2014. In accordance with the accounting guidance for the treatment of debt issuance costs in a debt extinguishment, of the \$14.3 million in new debt issuance costs, \$11.0 million was capitalized and classified as a reduction of long-term debt in the consolidated balance sheets as discussed in Note 25, "New Accounting Pronouncements," and \$3.3 million was expensed and classified as loss on debt extinguishment in the consolidated statements of operations. In addition, original issue discount of \$3.0 million related to Term Loan B of the Senior Secured Credit Facility was classified as a reduction of long-term debt in the consolidated balance sheets.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The Company incurred \$1.0 million in debt issuance costs in conjunction with the redemption of \$108.8 million of its senior notes under the master note and security agreement on October 10, 2014. In accordance with the accounting guidance for the treatment of debt issuance costs in a debt extinguishment, the \$1.0 million was expensed and classified as loss on debt extinguishment in the consolidated statements of operations for the year ended December 31, 2014.

The Company incurred \$1.2 million in debt issuance costs in conjunction with the amendment to the master note and security agreement on November 24, 2014. In accordance with the accounting guidance for the treatment of debt issuance costs in a debt extinguishment, of the \$1.2 million in new debt issuance costs, \$1.0 million was capitalized and classified as a reduction of long term debt in the consolidated balance sheets and \$0.2 million was expensed and classified as loss on debt extinguishment in the consolidated statements of operations for the year ended December 31, 2014.

The loss on debt extinguishment recorded in the consolidated statements of operations for the year ended December 31, 2014, was comprised of the following:

	Loss on Debt Extinguishment
Debt issuance costs:	
Loss on debt extinguishment from July 26, 2011 \$1.5 billion debt financing arrangement fees that were previously capitalized	\$2.1
Debt issuance costs from April 28, 2014 \$1.9 billion debt financing arrangement	3.3
Loss on debt extinguishment from October 10, 2014 partial redemption of senior notes under master note and security agreement	1.0
Loss on debt extinguishment from November 24, 2014 amendment to master note and security agreement	0.2
Original issue discount:	
Original issue discount from July 26, 2011 \$1.5 billion debt financing arrangement	0.6
Total	\$7.2

Activity impacting the Company's capitalized debt issuance costs for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, was as follows:

	Capitalized Debt Issuance Costs
Balance at January 1, 2014	\$13.9
Capitalized debt issuance costs from April 28, 2014, \$1.9 billion debt financing arrangement	11.0
Loss on debt extinguishment from July 26, 2011, \$1.5 billion debt financing arrangement fees that were previously capitalized	(2.1)
Capitalized debt issuance costs from November 24, 2014, amendment to master note and security agreement	1.0
Amortization of debt issuance costs	(3.8)

Edgar Filing: Quad/Graphics, Inc. - Form 10-K

Balance at December 31, 2014	\$20.0	
Amortization of debt issuance costs	(3.9)
Balance at December 31, 2015	\$16.1	

116

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Activity impacting the Company's original issue discount for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, was as follows:

	Original Issue Discount	
Balance at January 1, 2014	\$0.7	
Original issue discount from April 28, 2014, \$1.9 billion debt financing arrangement	3.0	
Loss on debt extinguishment from July 26, 2011, \$1.5 billion debt financing arrangement	(0.6)
Amortization of original issue discount	(0.4)
Balance at December 31, 2014	\$2.7	
Amortization of original issue discount	(0.5)
Balance at December 31, 2015	\$2.2	

Amortization expense for debt issuance costs was \$3.9 million, \$3.8 million and \$4.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Amortization expense for original issue discount was \$0.5 million, \$0.4 million and \$0.1 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The debt issuance costs and original issue discount are being amortized on a straight-line basis over the five, seven and eight year lives of the related debt instruments.

Covenants and Compliance

The Company's various lending arrangements include certain financial covenants (all financial terms, numbers and ratios are as defined in the Company's debt agreements). Among these covenants, the Company was required to maintain the following as of December 31, 2015:

Total Leverage Ratio. On a rolling twelve-month basis, the total leverage ratio, defined as total consolidated debt to consolidated EBITDA, shall not exceed 3.75 to 1.00 (for the twelve months ended December 31, 2015, the Company's total leverage ratio was 2.89 to 1.00).

Senior Secured Leverage Ratio. On a rolling twelve-month basis, the senior secured leverage ratio, defined as senior secured debt to consolidated EBITDA, shall not exceed 3.50 to 1.00 (for the twelve months ended December 31, 2015, the Company's senior secured leverage ratio was 2.26 to 1.00).

Minimum Interest Coverage Ratio. On a rolling twelve-month basis, the minimum interest coverage ratio, defined as consolidated EBITDA to consolidated cash interest expense, shall not be less than 3.50 to 1.00 (for the twelve months ended December 31, 2015, the Company's minimum interest coverage ratio was 5.66 to 1.00).

The indenture underlying the Senior Unsecured Notes contains various covenants, including, but not limited to, covenants that, subject to certain exceptions, limit the Company's and its restricted subsidiaries' ability to: incur and/or guarantee additional debt; pay dividends, repurchase stock or make certain other restricted payments; enter into agreements limiting dividends and certain other restricted payments; prepay, redeem or repurchase subordinated debt; grant liens on assets; enter into sale and leaseback transactions; merge, consolidate, transfer or dispose of substantially all of the Company's consolidated assets; sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of property and assets; and engage in transactions with affiliates.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

In addition to covenants, the Senior Secured Credit Facility also includes certain limitations on acquisitions, indebtedness, liens, dividends and repurchases of capital stock, including the following:

If the Company's total leverage ratio is greater than 3.00 to 1.00 (as defined in the Senior Secured Credit Facility), the Company is prohibited from making greater than \$120.0 million of annual dividend payments, capital stock repurchases and certain other payments. If the total leverage ratio is less than 3.00 to 1.00, there are no such restrictions.

If the Company's senior secured leverage ratio is greater than 3.00 to 1.00 or the Company's total leverage ratio is greater than 3.50 to 1.00 (these ratios as defined in the Senior Secured Credit Facility), the Company is prohibited from voluntarily prepaying any of the Senior Unsecured Notes and from voluntarily prepaying any other unsecured or subordinated indebtedness, with certain exceptions (including any mandatory prepayments on the Senior Unsecured Notes or any other unsecured or subordinated debt). If the senior secured leverage ratio is less than 3.00 to 1.00 and the total leverage ratio is less than 3.50 to 1.00, there are no such restrictions.

Estimated Principal Payments

The approximate annual principal amounts due on long-term debt, excluding \$16.1 million for future amortization of debt issuance costs and \$2.2 million for future amortization of original issue discount, at December 31, 2015, were as follows:

	Principle Payments
2016	\$95.5
2017	82.5
2018	90.4
2019	392.7
2020	35.9
2021 – 2025	636.0
2026 – 2030	18.8
2031	1.0
Total	\$1,352.8

Note 13. Lease Obligations

The Company enters into various master lease agreements for press, finishing and transportation equipment. These leases provide the Company with options to purchase the related equipment at the termination value, as defined, and at various early buyout dates during the term of the lease. These leases are accounted for as capital leases on the consolidated balance sheets.

The components of capital lease assets at December 31, 2015 and 2014, were as follows:

	2015	2014
Leased equipment—gross	\$23.6	\$37.1

Edgar Filing: Quad/Graphics, Inc. - Form 10-K

Less: accumulated depreciation	(10.9	) (26.2)
Leased equipment—net	\$12.7	\$10.9	

118

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The future maturities of capitalized leases at December 31, 2015, were as follows:

	Future Maturities of Capitalized Leases	
2016	\$5.3	
2017	4.8	
2018	2.6	
2019	1.2	
2020	0.7	
2021 and thereafter	0.7	
Total minimum payments	\$15.3	
Less: amounts representing interest	(0.5)
Present value of minimum payments	\$14.8	
Less: current portion	(5.1)
Long-term capital lease obligations	\$9.7	

The Company has various operating lease agreements. Future minimum rental commitments under non-cancelable leases at December 31, 2015, were as follows:

	Future Minimum Rental Commitments
2016	\$53.2
2017	46.7
2018	39.6
2019	32.2
2020	21.3
2021 and thereafter	44.0
Total	\$237.0

Rent expense under these operating lease agreements totaled \$44.8 million, \$39.6 million and \$36.9 million during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Note 14. Income Taxes

Income taxes have been based on the following components of earnings (loss) before income taxes and equity in loss of unconsolidated entities for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013:

	2015	2014	2013
United States	\$(855.1	) \$57.4	\$83.0
Foreign	(63.3	) (16.2	) (26.3
Total	\$(918.4	) \$41.2	\$56.7

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The components of income tax expense (benefit) for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, were as follows:

	2015	2014	2013	
Federal:				
Current	\$5.6	\$(11.6	) \$24.9
Deferred	(281.4) 21.1	(7.8)
State:				
Current	0.5	(0.9	) 5.6
Deferred	(13.9) 1.3	(1.4)
Foreign:				
Current	3.6	5.9	3.9	
Deferred	2.8	4.4	(1.9)
Total income tax expense (benefit)	\$(282.8	) \$20.2	\$23.3

The Company recorded \$808.3 million of non-cash goodwill impairment charges during the year ended December 31, 2015, of which \$743.0 million is nondeductible for income tax purposes. The total tax benefit of \$265.9 million was composed of: (1) a \$241.4 million deferred tax benefit associated with the reduction of the deferred tax liability related to the investments in United States subsidiaries due to the lower estimated fair value of the United States Print and Related Services segment and (2) a \$24.5 million tax benefit on the \$65.3 million of deductible goodwill. The deferred tax liability related to the investments in United States subsidiaries was originally established when the former World Color Press entities emerged from bankruptcy in 2009.

The following table outlines the reconciliation of differences between the Federal statutory tax rate and the Company's effective tax rate for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013:

	2015	2014	2013	
Federal statutory rate	35.0	% 35.0	% 35.0	%
Foreign rate differential	0.2	(4.5	) 6.0	
State taxes, net of federal benefit	—	(0.2	) 4.3	
Investment in United States subsidiaries	26.3	—	—	
Nondeductible goodwill impairment	(28.3) —	—	
Nondeductible equity method investment impairment	(0.6) —	—	
Adjustment to valuation allowances	(1.0	) 26.1	13.7	
Impact from foreign branches	(0.3	) 0.6	(5.8)
Adjustment of deferred tax liabilities	(0.1	) 10.1	(1.8)
Adjustment of uncertain tax positions	(0.1	) (22.9	) 1.9	
Domestic production activity deduction	—	(1.6	) (6.0)
Nondeductible transaction costs	—	0.6	0.3	
Other	(0.3	) 5.8	(6.5)
Effective income tax rate	30.8	% 49.0	% 41.1	%

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Deferred Income Taxes

The significant deferred tax assets and liabilities as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, were as follows:

	2015	2014
Deferred tax assets:		
Net operating loss and other tax carryforwards	\$157.7	\$151.6
Pension, postretirement and workers compensation benefits	90.5	98.2
Interest limitation	81.3	115.3
Accrued compensation	42.4	43.0
Accrued liabilities	28.8	24.4
Allowance for doubtful accounts	16.6	18.7
Other	21.8	24.8
Total deferred tax assets	439.1	476.0
Valuation allowance	(164.4	) (156.1
Net deferred tax assets	\$274.7	\$319.9
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Property, plant and equipment	\$(317.1	) \$(359.0
Goodwill and intangible assets	(3.2	) (41.2
Investment in United States subsidiaries	—	(240.9
Other	(13.4	) (14.8
Total deferred tax liabilities	(333.7	) (655.9
Net deferred tax liabilities	\$(59.0	) \$(336.0

At December 31, 2015, the Company had the following gross amounts of tax-related carryforwards:

- Net operating loss carryforwards of \$7.4 million, \$142.0 million and \$675.3 million for federal, foreign and state, respectively. The federal net operating loss carryforwards expire in 2035. Of the foreign net operating loss carryforwards, \$48.7 million are available without expiration, while the remainder expire through 2034. The state net operating loss carryforwards expire in varying amounts through 2035.
- Capital loss carryforwards of \$155.6 million and \$96.1 million for federal and state, respectively. Of the federal capital loss carryforwards, \$149.4 million expires in 2017 and \$6.2 million expires in 2019; and of the state capital loss carryforwards, \$92.5 million expires in 2017 and \$3.6 million expires in 2019.
- Various credit carryforwards of \$1.7 million and \$46.1 million for federal and state, respectively. The state credit carryforwards include \$20.3 million that are available without expiration, while the remainder expire through 2035.

At December 31, 2015, the Company has recorded a valuation allowance of \$164.4 million on its consolidated balance sheet primarily related to the tax-affected amounts of the above carryforwards. The valuation allowance includes \$54.5 million, \$49.4 million and \$60.5 million of federal, foreign and state deferred tax assets, respectively,

that are not expected to be realized.

121

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The Company considers its foreign earnings to be indefinitely invested. Accordingly, the Company does not provide for the additional United States and foreign income taxes which would become payable upon remission of undistributed earnings of foreign subsidiaries. The cumulative undistributed earnings of foreign subsidiaries at December 31, 2015, are not material.

Uncertain Tax Positions

The following table summarizes the activity of the Company's liability for unrecognized tax benefits at December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013:

	2015	2014	2013	
Balance at beginning of period	\$31.1	\$44.5	\$46.5	
Additions for tax positions of the current year	0.7	0.5	0.1	
Additions for tax positions of prior years	1.4	2.4	0.7	
Reductions for tax positions of prior years	(0.9) (5.1) (0.5)
Settlements during the period	(0.8) (0.3) (2.1)
Lapses of applicable statutes of limitations	(1.6) (10.8) (0.2)
Foreign exchange and other	(0.1) (0.1) —)
Balance at end of period	\$29.8	\$31.1	\$44.5	

As of December 31, 2015, \$29.8 million of unrecognized tax benefits would impact the Company's effective tax rate, if recognized. Of that amount, it is reasonably possible that \$1.0 million of the total amount of unrecognized tax benefits will decrease within 12 months due to resolution of audits or statute expirations.

The Company classified interest expense and any related penalties related to income tax uncertainties as a component of income tax expense. The following table summarizes the Company's interest expense (income) related to tax uncertainties and penalties recognized during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013:

	2015	2014	2013	
Interest expense (income)	\$—	\$0.8	\$(1.0)	
Penalties recognized	(0.1) —	(0.2))

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Accrued interest and penalties related to income tax uncertainties are reported as components of other current liabilities and other long-term liabilities on the consolidated balance sheets. The following table summarizes the Company's liabilities for accrued interest and penalties related to income tax uncertainties at December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	2015	2014
Accrued interest		
Other current liabilities	\$—	\$0.1
Other long-term liabilities	4.8	4.8
Total accrued interest	\$4.8	\$4.9
Accrued penalties		
Other current liabilities	\$—	\$—
Other long-term liabilities	0.4	0.5
Total accrued penalties	\$0.4	\$0.5

The Company has tax years from 2012 through 2015 that remain open and subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service. Tax years from 2007 through 2015 remain open and subject to examination in the Company's various major state jurisdictions within the United States.

Note 15. Financial Instruments and Fair Value Measurements

Certain assets and liabilities are required to be recorded at fair value on a recurring basis, while other assets and liabilities are recorded at fair value on a nonrecurring basis, generally as a result of acquisitions or impairment charges. Fair value is determined based on the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. GAAP also classifies the inputs used to measure fair value into the following hierarchy:

Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2: Quoted prices in active markets for similar assets or liabilities, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, or inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability. There are no Level 3 recurring measurements of assets or liabilities as of December 31, 2015.

The Company records the fair value of its forward contracts and pension plan assets on a recurring basis. The fair value of cash and cash equivalents, receivables, inventories, restricted cash, accounts payable, accrued liabilities and amounts owing in satisfaction of bankruptcy claims approximate their carrying values as of December 31, 2015 and 2014. See Note 12, "Debt," for further discussion on the fair value of the Company's debt and Note 17, "Employee Retirement Plans," for the details of Level 1 and Level 2 inputs related to Employee Retirement Plans.

In addition to assets and liabilities that are recorded at fair value on a recurring basis, the Company is required to record certain assets and liabilities at fair value on a nonrecurring basis, generally as a result of acquisitions or the remeasurement of assets resulting in impairment charges. See Note 2, "Acquisitions and Strategic Investments," for further discussion on acquisitions. See Note 3, "Restructuring, Impairment and Transaction-Related Charges," Note 4, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets," Note 7, "Property, Plant and Equipment," and Note 8, "Equity Method

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Investments in Unconsolidated Entities," for further discussion on impairment charges recorded as a result of the remeasurement of certain long-lived assets.

The Company has operations in countries that have transactions outside their functional currencies and periodically enters into foreign exchange contracts. These contracts are used to hedge the net exposures of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and are designated as either cash flow hedges or fair value hedges. Gains or losses on net foreign currency hedges are intended to offset losses or gains on the underlying net exposures in an effort to reduce the earnings volatility resulting from fluctuating foreign currency exchange rates. There were no open foreign currency exchange contracts as of December 31, 2015.

The Company periodically enters into natural gas forward purchase contracts to hedge against increases in commodity costs. The Company's commodity contracts qualified for the exception related to normal purchases and sales during the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, as the Company takes delivery in the normal course of business.

Note 16. Other Long-Term Liabilities

The components of other long-term liabilities at December 31, 2015 and 2014, were as follows:

	2015	2014
Single employer pension and postretirement obligations	\$136.0	\$161.5
Multiemployer pension plans – withdrawal liability	31.0	39.1
Tax-related liabilities	22.2	17.4
Employee-related liabilities	64.6	67.6
Restructuring reserve	6.6	6.1
Other	40.1	47.6
Total	\$300.5	\$339.3

Note 17. Employee Retirement Plans

Defined Contribution Plans

The Quad/Graphics Diversified Plan is comprised of participant directed 401(k) contributions, Company match and profit sharing contributions, with total participant assets of \$1.9 billion as of December 31, 2015. Company 401(k) matching contributions were \$16.6 million, \$14.6 million and \$13.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The Quad/Graphics Employee Stock Ownership Plan holds profit sharing contributions of Company stock, which are made at the discretion of the Company's Board of Directors. There were no profit sharing contributions for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013.

Defined Benefit Plans and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans

The Company assumed various funded and unfunded frozen pension plans for a portion of its full-time employees in the United States as part of the acquisition of World Color Press in 2010. Benefits are generally based upon years of service and compensation. These plans are funded in conformity with the applicable government regulations. The

Company funds at least the minimum amount required for all qualified plans using actuarial cost methods and assumptions acceptable under government regulations. In addition to pension benefits, the Company provided certain healthcare and life insurance benefits for some retired employees. In 2014, the Company eliminated the postretirement medical benefit coverage for all retirees.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The components of the net periodic pension and postretirement benefit income for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, were as follows:

	Pension Benefits			Postretirement Benefits		
	2015	2014	2013	2015	2014	2013
Interest cost	\$(26.9)	\$(29.3)	\$(28.2)	\$—	\$(0.1)	\$(0.1)
Expected return on plan assets	34.9	34.4	30.2	—	—	—
Amortization of prior service credit	—	—	—	—	5.8	5.7
Amortization of actuarial gain (loss)	—	—	(0.3)	—	0.3	—
Net periodic benefit income	8.0	5.1	1.7	—	6.0	5.6
Curtailment/settlement gain	—	—	2.1	—	—	—
Termination gain	—	—	—	—	4.9	—
Total income	\$8.0	\$5.1	\$3.8	\$—	\$10.9	\$5.6

The underfunded pension obligations are calculated using generally accepted actuarial methods and are measured annually as of December 31. The following table provides a reconciliation of the projected benefit obligation, fair value of plan assets and the funded status of the pension plans as of December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	Pension Benefits	
	2015	2014
Changes in benefit obligation		
Projected benefit obligation, beginning of year	\$(711.3)	\$(635.2)
Interest cost	(26.9)	(29.3)
Actuarial gain (loss)	39.3	(104.1)
Benefits paid	53.0	57.3
Projected benefit obligation, end of year	\$(645.9)	\$(711.3)
Changes in plan assets		
Fair value of plan assets, beginning of year	\$548.6	\$525.2
Actual return on plan assets	(0.5)	44.4
Employer contributions	13.0	36.3
Benefits paid	(53.0)	(57.3)
Fair value of plan assets, end of year	\$508.1	\$548.6
Funded status	\$(137.8)	\$(162.7)

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Amounts recognized on the consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, were as follows:

	Pension Benefits	
	2015	2014
Current liabilities	\$(1.8	) \$(1.2
Noncurrent liabilities	(136.0	) (161.5
Total amount recognized	\$(137.8	) \$(162.7

The following table provides a reconciliation of the Company's accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) prior to any deferred tax effects at December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	Pension Benefits	Postretirement Benefits		Total
	Actuarial Gain / (Loss), net	Actuarial Gain / (Loss), net	Prior Service Credit/(Cost)	
Balance at January 1, 2014	\$50.6	\$(11.6	) \$22.6	\$11.0
Amount arising during the period	(95.2) —	—	—
Amortization included in net earnings (loss)	—	(0.3	) (5.8	) (6.1
Impact of plan termination included in net earnings (loss)	—	11.9	(16.8	) (4.9
Balance at December 31, 2014	\$(44.6) \$—	\$—	\$—
Amount arising during the period	3.7	—	—	—
Balance at December 31, 2015	\$(40.9) \$—	\$—	\$—

In 2014, the Company announced the elimination of postretirement medical benefit coverage for all retirees, which resulted in the reduction of plan obligations by \$3.7 million and recognition of a termination gain of \$4.9 million. The termination gain was recorded in restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges in the consolidated statement of operations.

In 2013, the Company paid out lump sums to participants that exceeded the threshold for settlement accounting, which resulted in an acceleration of the recognition of accumulated other comprehensive income and a settlement gain of \$2.1 million. The settlement gain was recorded in restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges in the consolidated statement of operations.

Actuarial gains and losses in excess of 10% of the greater of the projected benefit obligation or the market-related value of plan assets are recognized as a component of net periodic benefit costs over the average remaining service period of a plan's active employees. Unrecognized prior service costs or credits are also recognized as a component of net periodic benefit cost over the average remaining service period of a plan's active employees. No amortization of amounts in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) is expected to be recognized as components of net periodic pension income in 2016.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The weighted-average assumptions, separately for the pension and postretirement benefit plans, used to determine net periodic benefit costs for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, were as follows:

	Pension Benefits			Postretirement Benefits			
	2015	2014	2013	2015	2014	2013	
Discount rate (beginning of year rate)	3.90	% 4.80	% 3.90	% N/A	3.60	% 2.80	%
Expected long-term return on plan assets	6.50	% 6.50	% 6.50	% N/A	N/A	N/A	

The weighted-average assumptions used to determine pension benefit obligations at December 31, 2015 and 2014, were as follows:

	Pension Benefits		
	2015	2014	
Discount rate (end of year rate)	4.14	% 3.90	%

The Company determines its assumed discount rate based on an index of high-quality corporate bond yields and matched-funding yield curve analysis as of the measurement date. For 2015, the Company measured interest costs utilizing a single weighted-average discount rate derived from the yield curve used to measure the plan obligations. Beginning in 2016, the Company will change the approach used to measure interest costs for pension benefits. For 2016, the Company elected to measure interest costs by applying the specific spot rates along that yield curve to the plans' liability cash flows. The new method would also impact the calculation of service costs, but this is not applicable to the Company's pension plans due to their frozen status. The Company believes the new approach provides a more precise measurement of interest costs by aligning the timing of the plans' liability cash flows to the corresponding spot rates on the yield curve. This change does not affect the measurement of the plan obligations. The Company is reflecting this as a change in accounting estimate, and accordingly, is accounting for it on a prospective basis.

Estimated Company Contributions and Benefit Payments

In 2016, the Company expects to make cash contributions of \$0.4 million to its qualified defined benefit pension plans and make estimated benefit payments of \$1.9 million to its non-qualified defined benefit pension plans. The actual pension contributions may differ based on the funding calculations, and the Company may choose to make additional discretionary contributions. The estimated benefit payments may differ based on actual experience.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Estimated Future Benefit Payments by the Plans to or on behalf of Plan Participants

An estimate of the Plans' future benefit payments to be made from funded qualified plans and unfunded non-qualified plans to plan participants at December 31, 2015, were as follows:

	Pension Benefits
2016	\$47.7
2017	46.4
2018	45.9
2019	45.1
2020	44.7
2021 – 2025	210.5
Thereafter	205.6
Total	\$645.9

Plan Assets and Investment Strategy

The Company follows a disciplined investment strategy, which provides diversification of investments by asset class, foreign currency, sector and company. The Pension Committee has an approved investment policy for the pension plan that establishes long-term asset mix targets based on several factors including the following: the funded status, historical returns achieved by worldwide investment markets, the time horizon of the pension plan's obligations, and the investment risk. An allocation range by asset class is developed whereby a mix of equity securities and debt securities are used to provide an appropriate risk-adjusted long-term return on plan assets. Third-party investment managers are employed to invest assets in both passively-indexed and actively-managed strategies and investment returns and risks are monitored on an ongoing basis. Derivatives are used at certain times to hedge foreign currency exposure. Gains or losses on the derivatives are offset by a corresponding change in the value of the hedged assets. Derivatives are strictly used for hedging purposes and not speculative purposes.

The current target allocations for plan assets on a weighted-average basis are 55% equity securities and 45% debt securities, including cash and cash equivalents. The actual asset allocation as of December 31, 2015, was approximately 54% equity securities and 46% debt securities. The actual asset allocation as of December 31, 2014, was approximately 66% equity securities and 34% debt securities. Equity investments are diversified by country, issuer and industry sector. Debt securities primarily consist of government bonds and corporate bonds from diversified industries.

The expected long-term rate of return on assets assumption is selected by first identifying the expected range of long-term rates of return for each major asset class. Expected long-term rates of return are developed based on long-term historical averages, current expectations of future returns and anticipated inflation rates. The expected long-term rate of return on plan assets is then calculated by weighting each asset class.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The fair values of the Company's pension plan assets at December 31, 2015 and 2014, by asset category were as follows:

Asset Category	December 31, 2015				December 31, 2014			
	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Cash and cash equivalents	\$3.7	\$3.7	\$—	\$—	\$1.5	\$1.5	\$—	\$—
Debt securities	228.4	—	228.4	—	187.6	—	187.6	—
Equity securities	276.0	22.9	253.1	—	359.5	105.4	254.1	—
Total	\$508.1	\$26.6	\$481.5	\$—	\$548.6	\$106.9	\$441.7	\$—

There are no Level 3 assets or liabilities as of December 31, 2015 and 2014.

The Company segregated its plan assets by the following major categories and levels for determining their fair value as of December 31, 2015:

Cash and cash equivalents. Carrying value approximates fair value and these assets are classified as Level 1.

Debt Securities. This category consists of bonds, short-term fixed income securities and fixed income pooled funds fair valued based on a compilation of primarily observable market information or broker quotes in over-the-counter markets and are classified as Level 2.

Equity Securities. This category consists of equity investments and equity pooled funds and these assets are classified as Level 1 and Level 2, respectively. The fair value of equity investments is based on quoted prices in an active market. The fair value of the equity pooled funds is based on the funds' Net Asset Value ("NAV") established by the funds' administrator.

The valuation methodologies described above may generate a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or future fair values. While the Company believes the valuation methodologies used are appropriate, the use of different methodologies or assumptions in calculating fair value could result in different amounts. The Company invests in various assets in which valuation is determined by NAV. The Company believes that NAV is representative of fair value at the reporting date, as there are no significant restrictions on redemption on these investments or other reasons to indicate that the investment would be redeemed at an amount different than NAV.

Risk Management

For all directly invested funds, the concentration risk is monitored through specific guidelines in the investment manager mandates. The investment manager mandates were developed by the Company's external investment advisor, and specify diversification standards such as the maximum exposure per issuer, and concentration limits per type of security, industry and country when applicable.

For the investments made through pooled funds, the investment mandates of the funds were again reviewed by the Company's external investment advisor, to determine that the investment objectives and guidelines were consistent with the Company's overall pension plan risk management objectives. In managing the plan assets, management

reviews and manages risk associated with funded status risk, interest rate risk, market risk, counterparty risk, liquidity risk and operational risk. Liability management and asset class diversification are central to the Company's risk management approach and are integral to the overall investment strategy.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Given the process in place to ensure a proper diversification of the portfolio, management believes that the Company pension plan assets are not exposed to significant concentration risk.

Multiemployer Pension Plans

The Company has previously participated in a number of MEPPs under terms of collective bargaining agreements that cover a number of its employees. The risks of participating in these MEPPs are different from single employer plans in the following aspects:

• Assets contributed to the MEPPs by one company may be used to provide benefits to employees of other participating companies.

• If a participating company stops contributing to the plan, the unfunded obligations of the plan may be borne by the remaining participating companies.

• If the Company stops participating in some or all of its MEPPs, and continues in business, the Company would be required to pay an amount, referred to as a withdrawal liability, based on the unfunded status of the plan.

The Company has withdrawn from all significant MEPPs and replaced these union sponsored "promise to pay in the future" defined benefit plans with a Company sponsored "pay as you go" defined contribution plan. The two MEPPs, the GCIU and GCC, are significantly underfunded, and will require the Company to pay a withdrawal liability to fund its pro rata share of the underfunding as of the plan year the full withdrawal was completed. As a result of the decision to withdraw, the Company accrued a \$98.6 million estimated withdrawal liability based on information provided by each plan's trustee, as part of the purchase price allocation for World Color Press. The Company is making required interim payments to the MEPPs for the Company's withdrawal liability from the GCIU and the GCC plans.

The GCIU Plan is a defined benefit plan that provides retirement benefits, total and permanent disability benefits, and pre-retirement death benefits for the participating union employees of the Company. The funded status of the GCIU Plan is classified as critical based on the GCIU Plan's 2015 certification to the United States Department of Labor, as the funded percentage for the plan is less than 65% and is projected to have an accumulated funding deficit over the next four plan years. As a result, the GCIU Plan implemented a rehabilitation plan to improve the plan's funded status.

The GCC Plan is a defined benefit plan that provides retirement benefits, disability benefits, and early retirement benefits for the participating union employees of the Company. The funded status of the GCC Plan is classified as critical and declining based on the GCC Plan's 2015 certification to the United States Department of Labor, as the funded percentage for the plan is less than 65% and is projected to be insolvent within the next fifteen years. As a result, the GCC Plan implemented a rehabilitation plan to improve the plan's funded status.

The Company has received notices of withdrawal and demand for payment letters for both the GCIU and GCC plans, which, in total are in excess of the \$98.6 million in original reserves established by the Company for the withdrawals. The Company is in the process of determining the final withdrawal payments with both MEPPs' administrators, and is currently in litigation with the MEPPs' trustees to determine the amount and duration of payments. There are arbitration proceedings in process with the GCIU, and also both the Company and GCIU have filed lawsuits in

Federal court. Arbitration proceedings with the GCC have been completed, both sides have appealed the arbitrator's ruling, and litigation has commenced. The withdrawal liability reserved by the Company is within the range of the Company's estimated potential outcomes. The Company made monthly payments totaling \$11.4 million, \$13.9 million and \$14.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively, as required by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, although such payments do not waive the Company's rights to object to the withdrawal

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

liabilities submitted by the GCIU and GCC plan administrators. The Company has reserved \$47.6 million as its estimate of the total MEPPs withdrawal liability as of December 31, 2015, of which \$31.0 million is recorded in other long-term liabilities, \$11.1 million is recorded in accrued liabilities and \$5.5 million is recorded in unsecured notes to be issued in the consolidated balance sheets. This estimate may increase or decrease depending on the final conclusion of the litigation with the MEPPs' trustees.

Note 18. Earnings (Loss) Per Share Attributable to Quad/Graphics Common Shareholders

Basic earnings (loss) per share attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders is computed as net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders less the allocation of participating securities, divided by the basic weighted average common shares outstanding of 47.9 million, 47.5 million and 47.0 million shares for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The calculation of diluted earnings per share includes the effect of any dilutive equity incentive instruments. The Company uses the treasury stock method to calculate the effect of outstanding dilutive equity incentive instruments, which requires the Company to compute total proceeds as the sum of (1) the amount the employee must pay upon exercise of the award; (2) the amount of unearned stock-based compensation costs attributed to future services; and (3) the amount of tax benefits, if any, that would be credited to additional paid-in capital assuming exercise of the award. Equity incentive instruments for which the total employee proceeds from exercise exceed the average fair value of the same equity incentive instrument over the period have an anti-dilutive effect on earnings per share during periods with net earnings, and accordingly, the Company excludes them from the calculation. Due to the net loss attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders incurred during the year ended December 31, 2015, the assumed exercise of all equity incentive instruments was anti-dilutive, and therefore, not included in the diluted loss per share attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders calculation for that period. Anti-dilutive equity incentive instruments of 1.8 million and 1.6 million of class A common shares were excluded from the computations of diluted net earnings per share for the years ended December 31, 2014, and 2013, respectively.

Unvested share-based payment awards that contain non-forfeitable rights to dividends or dividend equivalents, whether paid or unpaid, are required to be treated as participating securities and included in the computation of earnings (loss) per share pursuant to the two-class method. The Company had no participating securities during 2015, as the stock options granted on November 18, 2011, became fully vested on November 18, 2014. The Company's participating securities reduced basic and diluted earnings per share attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders by \$0.01 and \$0.02 for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Reconciliations of the numerator and the denominator of the basic and diluted per share computations for the Company's common stock for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, are summarized as follows:

	2015	2014	2013
Numerator:			
Net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders	\$(641.9	) \$18.6	\$32.5
Adjustments to net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders			
Allocation to participating securities	—	(0.3	) (1.1
Net earnings (loss) attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders - adjusted	\$(641.9	) \$18.3	\$31.4
Denominator:			
Basic weighted average number of common shares outstanding for all classes of common shares	47.9	47.5	47.0
Plus: effect of dilutive equity incentive instruments	—	1.0	1.0
Diluted weighted average number of common shares outstanding for all classes of common shares	47.9	48.5	48.0
Earnings (loss) per share attributable to Quad/Graphics common shareholders:			
Basic	\$(13.40	) \$0.39	\$0.67
Diluted	\$(13.40	) \$0.38	\$0.65
Cash dividends paid per common share for all classes of common shares	\$1.20	\$1.20	\$1.20

Note 19. Equity Incentive Programs

The shareholders of the Company approved the Quad/Graphics, Inc. 2010 Omnibus Incentive Plan ("Omnibus Plan") for two complementary purposes: (1) to attract and retain outstanding individuals to serve as directors, officers and employees and (2) to increase shareholder value. The Omnibus plan provides for an aggregate 7,871,652 shares of class A common stock reserved for issuance under the Omnibus Plan. Awards under the Omnibus Plan may consist of incentive awards, stock options, stock appreciation rights, performance shares, performance share units, shares of class A stock, restricted stock, restricted stock units, deferred stock units or other stock-based awards as determined by the Company's Board of Directors. Each stock option granted has an exercise price of no less than 100% of the fair market value of the class A common stock on the date of grant. As of December 31, 2015, there were 1,565,996 shares available for issuance under the Omnibus Plan.

The Company recognizes compensation expense, based on estimated grant date fair values, for all share-based awards issued to employees and non-employee directors, including stock options, performance shares, performance share units, restricted stock, restricted stock units and deferred stock units. The Company recognizes these compensation

costs for only those awards expected to vest, on a straight-line basis over the requisite three to four year service period of the awards, except deferred stock units, which are fully vested and expensed on the grant date. The Company estimated the number of awards expected to vest based, in part, on historical forfeiture rates and also based on management's expectations of employee turnover within the specific employee groups receiving each type of award. Forfeitures are estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods, if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Equity Incentive Compensation Expense

The total compensation expense recognized related to all equity incentive programs was \$7.2 million, \$17.3 million and \$18.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively, and was recorded in selling, general and administrative expenses in the consolidated statements of operations. Total future compensation expense related to all equity incentive programs granted as of December 31, 2015, is estimated to be \$15.4 million. Estimated future compensation expense is \$9.6 million for 2016, \$5.1 million for 2017 and \$0.7 million for 2018.

Net tax benefit on equity award activity, shown as tax benefit on equity award activity in the financing section of the consolidated statements of cash flows, was \$2.8 million, \$0.8 million and \$2.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Stock Options

Options vest over four years, with no vesting in the first year and one-third vesting upon the second, third and fourth anniversary dates. As defined in the individual grant agreements, acceleration of vesting may occur under a change in control, death, disability or normal retirement of the grantee. Options expire no later than the tenth anniversary of the grant date, 24 months after termination for death, 36 months after termination for normal retirement or disability and 90 days after termination of employment for any other reason. Options are not credited with dividend declarations, except for the November 18, 2011 grants. Stock options are only to be granted to employees.

There were no stock options granted during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013. Compensation expense recognized related to stock options was \$0.2 million, \$7.2 million and \$10.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. There is no future compensation expense for stock options granted as of December 31, 2015.

The following table is a summary of the stock option activity for the year ended December 31, 2015:

	Shares Under Option	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (millions)
Outstanding at December 31, 2014	3,477,980	\$21.05	4.7	\$15.6
Granted	—	—		
Exercised	(155,912	) 14.03		
Canceled/forfeited/expired	(31,732	) 23.14		
Outstanding at December 31, 2015	3,290,336	\$21.37	3.6	\$—
Exercisable at December 31, 2015	3,174,420	\$21.63	3.5	\$—

The intrinsic value of options exercisable as of December 31, 2015, and the intrinsic value of options outstanding at December 31, 2015 and 2014, is based on the fair value of the stock price. All outstanding options were either vested or expected to vest at December 31, 2015.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The following table is a summary of the stock option exercises and vesting activity for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013:

	2015	2014	2013
Total intrinsic value of stock options exercised	\$1.3	\$1.5	\$6.3
Cash received from stock option exercises	2.2	2.7	7.2
Total grant date fair value of stock options vested	1.8	3.4	3.7

Performance Share and Performance Share Units

Performance share ("PS") and performance share unit ("PSU") awards consist of shares or the rights to shares of the Company's class A common stock which are awarded to employees of the Company. These shares are payable upon the determination that the Company achieved certain established performance targets and can range from 0% to 200% of the targeted payout based on the actual results. Shares awarded in 2013 have a performance period of three years ending December 31, 2015. As set forth in the individual grant agreements, acceleration of vesting may occur under a change in control, death, disability or normal retirement of the grantee. Grantees receiving PS or PSU grants receive full credit for dividends during the vesting period. All such dividends will be paid to the grantee within 45 days of full vesting. Upon vesting, PSUs will be settled either through cash payment equal to the fair market value of the PSUs on the vesting date or through issuance of Company class A common stock. There are no voting rights with these instruments until vesting occurs and a share of stock is issued.

The following table is a summary of PS and PSU award activity for the year ended December 31, 2015:

	Performance Shares			Performance Share Units		
	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value Per Share	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Term (years)	Units	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value Per Share	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Term (years)
Nonvested at December 31, 2014	343,568	\$20.39	1.2	16,208	\$20.50	1.2
Granted	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vested	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canceled/forfeited	(343,568)	20.39	—	(16,208)	20.50	—
Nonvested at December 31, 2015	—	\$—	0.0	—	\$—	0.0

There were no PS or PSU awards granted during the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014. During the year ended December 31, 2013, PS awards of 389,930 shares and PSU awards of 16,208 units were granted at a weighted-average grant date fair value of \$20.39 and \$20.50, respectively. On the grant dates, the target number of shares was granted. The Company did not achieve the established performance targets for the performance period ended December 31, 2015; therefore the PS and PSU awards were canceled.

Compensation expense for awards granted was recognized based on a best estimate of the anticipated payout, net of estimated forfeitures. Compensation expense (income) recognized related to PS and PSUs was income of \$(4.5) million, expense of \$2.2 million and expense of \$2.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and

2013, respectively. There is no expected future compensation expense for PS and PSUs granted as of December 31, 2015.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units

Restricted stock ("RS") and restricted stock unit ("RSU") awards consist of shares or the rights to shares of the Company's class A common stock which are awarded to employees of the Company. The awards are restricted such that they are subject to substantial risk of forfeiture and to restrictions on their sale or other transfer by the employee. RSU awards are typically granted to eligible employees outside of the United States. As defined in the individual grant agreements, acceleration of vesting may occur under a change in control, death, disability or normal retirement of the grantee. Grantees receiving RS grants are able to exercise full voting rights and receive full credit for dividends during the vesting period. All such dividends will be paid to the RS grantee within 45 days of full vesting. Grantees receiving RSUs granted prior to January 1, 2012 are not entitled to vote and do not earn dividends. Grantees receiving RSUs on or after January 1, 2012 are not entitled to vote but do earn dividends. Upon vesting, RSUs will be settled either through cash payment equal to the fair market value of the RSUs on the vesting date or through issuance of Company class A common stock.

The following table is a summary of RS and RSU award activity for the year ended December 31, 2015:

	Restricted Stock			Restricted Stock Units		
	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value Per Share	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Term (Years)	Units	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value Per Share	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Term (Years)
Nonvested at December 31, 2014	1,311,544	\$20.80	1.5	63,046	\$20.21	1.2
Granted	603,377	22.87		113,792	17.78	
Vested	(269,677)	14.56		(12,608)	14.34	
Forfeited	(95,620)	22.93		(66,484)	22.52	
Nonvested at December 31, 2015	1,549,624	\$22.56	1.3	97,746	\$16.58	1.7

During the year ended December 31, 2015, RS awards of 603,377 shares and RSU awards of 113,792 units were granted at a weighted-average grant date fair value of \$22.87 and \$17.78, respectively. During the year ended December 31, 2014, RS awards of 706,490 shares and RSU awards of 17,767 units were granted at a weighted-average grant date fair value of \$23.44 and \$23.45, respectively. During the year ended December 31, 2013, RS awards of 408,146 shares and RSU awards of 32,671 units were granted at a weighted-average grant date fair value of \$20.39 and \$20.72, respectively. In general, RS and RSU awards will vest on the third anniversary of the grant date, provided the holder of the share is continuously employed by the Company until the vesting date.

Compensation expense recognized for RS and RSUs was \$10.7 million, \$7.3 million, and \$4.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Total future compensation expense for all RS and RSUs granted as of December 31, 2015, is approximately \$15.4 million. Estimated future compensation expense is \$9.6 million for 2016, \$5.1 million for 2017 and \$0.7 million for 2018.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Deferred Stock Units

Deferred stock units ("DSU") are awards of rights to shares of the Company's class A common stock and are awarded to non-employee directors of the Company. The following table is a summary of DSU award activity for the year ended December 31, 2015:

	Deferred Stock Units	
	Units	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value Per Share
Outstanding at December 31, 2014	110,804	\$20.40
Granted	34,139	23.11
Dividend equivalents granted	11,864	14.06
Settled	—	—
Forfeited	—	—
Outstanding at December 31, 2015	156,807	\$20.51

During the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, DSU awards of 34,139, 26,316 and 33,115 units were granted at a weighted-average grant date fair value of \$23.11, \$23.45 and \$20.39, respectively. Each DSU award entitles the grantee to receive one share of class A common stock upon the earlier of the separation date of the grantee or the second anniversary of the grant date, but could be subject to acceleration for a change in control, death or disability as defined in the individual DSU grant agreement. Grantees of DSU awards may not exercise voting rights, but are credited with dividend equivalents and those dividend equivalents will be converted into additional DSU awards based on the closing price of the class A common stock. Dividend equivalents were granted during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, of 11,864, 5,392 and 3,529 units, respectively.

Compensation expense recognized for DSUs was \$0.8 million, \$0.6 million, and \$0.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. As DSU awards are fully vested on the grant date, all compensation expense was recognized at the date of grant.

Other Information

Authorized unissued shares or treasury shares may be used for issuance under the Company's equity incentive programs. The Company intends to use treasury shares of its class A common stock to meet the stock requirements of its awards in the future.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Note 20. Shareholders' Equity

The Company has three classes of common stock as follows (share data in millions):

	Authorized Shares	Issued Common Stock		Total Issued Shares
		Outstanding	Treasury	
Class A stock (\$0.025 par value)	80.0			
December 31, 2015		35.4	4.6	40.0
December 31, 2014		34.7	5.3	40.0
December 31, 2013		33.8	6.2	40.0
Class B stock (\$0.025 par value)	80.0			
December 31, 2015		14.2	0.8	15.0
December 31, 2014		14.2	0.8	15.0
December 31, 2013		14.2	0.8	15.0
Class C stock (\$0.025 par value)	20.0			
December 31, 2015		—	0.5	0.5
December 31, 2014		—	0.5	0.5
December 31, 2013		—	0.5	0.5

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, each class A common share has one vote per share and each class B and class C common share has ten votes per share on all matters voted upon by the Company's shareholders. Liquidation rights are the same for all three classes of stock.

The Company also has 0.5 million shares of \$0.01 par value preferred stock authorized, of which none were issued at December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013. The Company has no present plans to issue any preferred stock.

On September 6, 2011, the Company's board of directors authorized a share repurchase program of up to \$100.0 million of the Company's outstanding class A stock of which \$91.8 million in authorized repurchases remain under the program as of December 31, 2015. The Company repurchased no shares during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, dividends are paid equally for all three classes of common shares. The following table details the dividend activity related to the then outstanding shares of common stock for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013:

	Declaration Date	Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend Amount per Share
2015				
Q4 Dividend	November 3, 2015	December 7, 2015	December 18, 2015	\$0.30
Q3 Dividend	August 4, 2015	September 7, 2015	September 18, 2015	0.30
Q2 Dividend	May 5, 2015	June 8, 2015	June 19, 2015	0.30
Q1 Dividend	February 23, 2015	March 9, 2015	March 20, 2015	0.30
2014				
Q4 Dividend	November 5, 2014	December 8, 2014	December 19, 2014	\$0.30
Q3 Dividend	August 5, 2014	September 8, 2014	September 19, 2014	0.30
Q2 Dividend	May 19, 2014	June 9, 2014	June 20, 2014	0.30
Q1 Dividend	February 26, 2014	March 12, 2014	March 21, 2014	0.30
2013				
Q4 Dividend	November 5, 2013	December 9, 2013	December 20, 2013	\$0.30
Q3 Dividend	August 6, 2013	September 9, 2013	September 20, 2013	0.30
Q2 Dividend	May 20, 2013	June 10, 2013	June 21, 2013	0.30
Q1 Dividend	March 4, 2013	March 18, 2013	March 29, 2013	0.30

Note 21. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss

The changes in accumulated other comprehensive loss by component, net of tax, for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, were as follows:

	Foreign Currency Translation	Pension and Other Postretirement Benefit Liability	Total	
Balance at January 1, 2014	\$(43.3	) \$37.7	\$(5.6)
Other comprehensive loss before reclassifications	(45.4	) (58.7	) (104.1)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss to net earnings (loss)	—	(6.9	) (6.9)
Net other comprehensive loss	(45.4	) (65.6	) (111.0)
Balance at December 31, 2014	\$(88.7	) \$(27.9	) \$(116.6)
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications	(45.9	) 2.3	(43.6)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) to net earnings (loss)	7.7	—	7.7	
Net other comprehensive income (loss)	(38.2	) 2.3	(35.9)
Balance at December 31, 2015	\$(126.9	) \$(25.6	) \$(152.5)

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The details about the reclassifications from accumulated other comprehensive loss to net earnings (loss) for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, were as follows:

Details about Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss Components	Year Ended December 31,			Consolidated Statements of Operations Presentation
	2015	2014	2013	
Revaluation gain on sale of businesses (see Note 8)	\$—	\$—	\$(2.4)	) Selling, general and administrative expenses
Revaluation loss on sale of equity method investment (see Note 8)	7.7	—	—	) Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges
Amortization of prior service credits on postretirement benefit plans	—	(5.8)	(5.7)	) Selling, general and administrative expenses
Impact of income taxes	—	2.2	2.2	) Income tax expense (benefit)
Amortization of prior service credits on postretirement benefit plans, net of tax	—	(3.6)	(3.5)	) Net of tax
Amortization of net actuarial loss on pension and postretirement benefit plans	—	(0.3)	0.3	) Cost of sales
Impact of income taxes	—	0.1	(0.1)	) Income tax expense (benefit)
Amortization of net actuarial loss on pension and postretirement benefit plans, net of tax	—	(0.2)	0.2	) Net of tax
Plan curtailments/settlements on pension and postretirement benefit plans	—	—	(2.1)	) Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges
Impact of income taxes	—	—	0.8	) Income tax expense (benefit)
Plan curtailment/settlements on pension and postretirement benefit plans, net of tax	—	—	(1.3)	) Net of tax
Postretirement benefit plan termination	—	(4.9)	—	) Restructuring, impairment and transaction-related charges
Impact of income taxes	—	1.8	—	) Income tax expense (benefit)
Postretirement benefit plan termination, net of tax	—	(3.1)	—	) Net of tax
Total reclassifications for the period	7.7	(11.0)	(9.9))
Impact of income taxes	—	4.1	2.9)

Total reclassifications for the period, net of tax \$7.7 \$(6.9) \$(7.0)

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

Note 22. Segment Information

The Company operates primarily in the commercial print portion of the printing industry, with related product and service offerings designed to offer clients complete solutions for communicating their message to target audiences. The Company's operating and reportable segments are aligned with how the chief operating decision maker of the Company currently manages the business. The Company's reportable and operating segments and their product and service offerings are summarized below:

United States Print and Related Services

The United States Print and Related Services segment is predominantly comprised of the Company's United States printing operations and is managed as one integrated platform. This includes retail inserts, publications, catalogs, special interest publications, journals, direct mail, books, directories, in-store marketing and promotion, packaging, newspapers, custom print products, other commercial and specialty printed products and global paper procurement, together with complementary service offerings, including marketing strategy, media planning and placement, data insights, segmentation and response analytics services, creative services, videography, photography, workflow solutions, digital imaging, facilities management services, digital publishing, interactive print solutions including image recognition and near field communication technology, mailing, distribution, logistics, and data optimization and hygiene services. This segment also includes the manufacture of ink.

International

The International segment consists of the Company's printing operations in Europe and Latin America, including operations in England, France, Germany, Poland, Argentina, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, as well as strategic investments in printing operations in Brazil and India. This segment provides printed products and complementary service offerings consistent with the United States Print and Related Services segment. Unrestricted subsidiaries as defined in the Senior Unsecured Notes indenture represent less than 2.0% of total consolidated assets as of December 31, 2015, and less than 2.0% of total consolidated net sales for the year ended December 31, 2015.

Corporate

Corporate consists of unallocated general and administrative activities and associated expenses including, in part, executive, legal and finance. In addition, in 2014 and 2015 certain expenses and income from frozen employee retirement plans, such as pension and postretirement benefit plans, are included in Corporate and not allocated to the operating segment.

Table of Contents

QUAD/GRAPHICS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In millions, except share and per share data and unless otherwise indicated)

The following is a summary of segment information for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013:

	Net Sales		Operating Income(Loss)	Depreciation and Amortization	Capital Expenditures	Restructuring, Impairment and Transaction-Related Charges	Goodwill Impairment
	Products	Services					
Year ended December 31, 2015							
United States Print and Related Services	\$3,651.8	\$628.5	\$ (706.1)	\$ 297.5	\$ 121.5	\$ 101.4	\$778.3
International	378.5	18.9	(63.4)	26.1	11.5	38.8	30.0
Total operating segments	4,030.3	647.4	(769.5)	323.6	133.0	140.2	808.3
Corporate	—	—	(60.5)	1.7	—	24.7	