

Veritiv Corp
Form 10-Q
August 09, 2018

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

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2018

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 001-36479

VERITIV CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 46-3234977
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

1000 Abernathy Road NE
Building 400, Suite 1700
Atlanta, Georgia 30328
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)
(770) 391-8200
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable
(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer
Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company
Emerging growth company

Edgar Filing: Veritiv Corp - Form 10-Q

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

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

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's common stock as of August 3, 2018 was 15,846,139.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | Page |
|--|-----------|
| <u>Part I: FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u> | |
| <u>Item 1. Financial Statements (Unaudited)</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018 and 2017</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Loss for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018 and 2017</u> | <u>2</u> |
| <u>Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of June 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the six months ended June 30, 2018 and 2017</u> | <u>4</u> |
| <u>Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u> | <u>5</u> |
| <u>Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u> | <u>25</u> |
| <u>Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u> | <u>36</u> |
| <u>Item 4. Controls and Procedures</u> | <u>37</u> |
| | |
| <u>Part II: OTHER INFORMATION</u> | |
| <u>Item 1. Legal Proceedings</u> | <u>38</u> |
| <u>Item 1A. Risk Factors</u> | <u>38</u> |
| <u>Item 6. Exhibits</u> | <u>38</u> |
| <u>SIGNATURES</u> | <u>39</u> |

Table of Contents

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

VERITIV CORPORATION

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(in millions, except per share data, unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended | | Six Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|
| | June 30, | | June 30, | |
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Net sales (including sales to related party of \$7.8, \$7.4, \$14.7 and \$16.3, respectively) | \$2,171.9 | \$2,028.9 | \$4,272.9 | \$4,023.5 |
| Cost of products sold (including purchases from related party of \$35.8, \$45.2, \$77.9 and \$92.3, respectively) (exclusive of depreciation and amortization shown separately below) | 1,788.5 | 1,660.5 | 3,518.0 | 3,289.8 |
| Distribution expenses | 132.0 | 122.7 | 265.1 | 248.9 |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 223.6 | 211.0 | 446.3 | 423.3 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 14.0 | 13.7 | 28.4 | 26.8 |
| Integration and acquisition expenses | 8.4 | 7.5 | 16.7 | 13.9 |
| Restructuring charges, net | 11.4 | 23.2 | 23.3 | 27.3 |
| Operating loss | (6.0) | (9.7) | (24.9) | (6.5) |
| Interest expense, net | 10.2 | 7.4 | 19.5 | 13.8 |
| Other (income) expense, net | (2.9) | (0.3) | (13.4) | 0.1 |
| Loss before income taxes | (13.3) | (16.8) | (31.0) | (20.4) |
| Income tax benefit | (2.7) | (7.7) | (4.6) | (9.1) |
| Net loss | \$(10.6) | \$(9.1) | \$(26.4) | \$(11.3) |
| Loss per share: | | | | |
| Basic and diluted | \$(0.67) | \$(0.58) | \$(1.67) | \$(0.72) |
| Weighted average shares outstanding: | | | | |
| Basic and diluted | 15.84 | 15.70 | 15.80 | 15.70 |

See accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

VERITIV CORPORATION
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE LOSS
 (in millions, unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended June 30, 2018 | | Six Months Ended June 30, 2018 | |
|---|---|----------|---|----------|
| | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 |
| Net loss | \$(9.1) | \$(10.6) | \$(11.3) | \$(26.4) |
| Other comprehensive (loss) income: | | | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | 2.6 | (3.9) | 5.4 | (4.1) |
| Change in fair value of cash flow hedge, net of \$0.0, \$0.0, \$0.2 and \$0.0 tax, respectively | 0.0 | 0.1 | (0.1) | 0.1 |
| Pension liability adjustments, net of \$0.0, \$0.0, \$0.7 and \$0.0 tax, respectively | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | (0.6) |
| Other comprehensive (loss) income | 2.6 | (3.8) | 5.4 | (4.6) |
| Total comprehensive loss | \$(6.5) | \$(14.4) | \$(5.9) | \$(31.0) |

See accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

VERITIV CORPORATION
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
 (dollars in millions, except par value, unaudited)

| | June 30, 2018 | December 31, 2017 |
|--|------------------|----------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash | \$69.5 | \$80.3 |
| Accounts receivable, less allowances of \$52.5 and \$44.0, respectively | 1,175.4 | 1,174.3 |
| Related party receivable | 3.4 | 3.3 |
| Inventories | 719.8 | 722.7 |
| Other current assets | 137.3 | 133.5 |
| Total current assets | 2,105.4 | 2,114.1 |
| Property and equipment (net of depreciation and amortization of \$309.6 and \$314.6, respectively) | 207.1 | 340.2 |
| Goodwill | 99.6 | 99.6 |
| Other intangibles, net | 60.2 | 64.1 |
| Deferred income tax assets | 64.8 | 59.6 |
| Other non-current assets | 29.6 | 30.8 |
| Total assets | \$2,566.7 | \$2,708.4 |
| Liabilities and shareholders' equity | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable | \$709.2 | \$680.1 |
| Related party payable | 7.8 | 8.5 |
| Accrued payroll and benefits | 54.8 | 73.5 |
| Other accrued liabilities | 128.8 | 134.6 |
| Current maturities of long-term debt | 6.0 | 2.9 |
| Financing obligations, current portion (including obligations to related party of \$0.0 and \$7.1, respectively) | 0.7 | 7.8 |
| Total current liabilities | 907.3 | 907.4 |
| Long-term debt, net of current maturities | 957.1 | 908.3 |
| Financing obligations, less current portion (including obligations to related party of \$0.0 and \$155.2, respectively) | 24.8 | 181.6 |
| Defined benefit pension obligations | 21.3 | 24.4 |
| Other non-current liabilities | 128.0 | 137.0 |
| Total liabilities | 2,038.5 | 2,158.7 |
| Commitments and contingencies (Note 12) | | |
| Shareholders' equity: | | |
| Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, 10.0 million shares authorized, none issued | — | — |
| Common stock, \$0.01 par value, 100.0 million shares authorized; shares issued - 16.2 million and 16.0 million, respectively; shares outstanding - 15.9 million and 15.7 million, respectively | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 598.9 | 590.2 |
| Accumulated (deficit) earnings | (19.2 |) 6.4 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (38.1 |) (33.5) |
| Treasury stock at cost - 0.3 million shares at June 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017 | (13.6 |) (13.6) |
| Total shareholders' equity | 528.2 | 549.7 |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | \$2,566.7 | \$2,708.4 |

See accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

3

Table of Contents

VERITIV CORPORATION
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
 (in millions, unaudited)

| | Six Months Ended June 30, | |
|--|------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2018 | 2017 |
| Operating activities | | |
| Net loss | \$(26.4) | \$(11.3) |
| Depreciation and amortization | 28.4 | 26.8 |
| Amortization of deferred financing fees | 1.3 | 1.3 |
| Net gains on dispositions of property and equipment | (2.5) | (1.1) |
| Long-lived asset impairment charges | 0.0 | 0.7 |
| Provision for allowance for doubtful accounts | 10.4 | 3.7 |
| Deferred income tax (benefit) | (5.9) | (10.5) |
| Stock-based compensation | 10.7 | 7.8 |
| Other non-cash items, net | (10.0) | 2.0 |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities | | |
| Accounts receivable and related party receivable | (15.9) | (4.4) |
| Inventories | (1.2) | (2.7) |
| Other current assets | (13.6) | (2.9) |
| Accounts payable and related party payable | 39.2 | 10.2 |
| Accrued payroll and benefits | (18.5) | (26.9) |
| Other accrued liabilities | 15.3 | (3.5) |
| Other | (3.3) | 6.9 |
| Net cash provided by (used for) operating activities | 8.0 | (3.9) |
| Investing activities | | |
| Property and equipment additions | (21.5) | (21.3) |
| Proceeds from asset sales | 4.0 | 11.1 |
| Net cash used for investing activities | (17.5) | (10.2) |
| Financing activities | | |
| Change in book overdrafts | (8.1) | (44.3) |
| Borrowings of long-term debt | 2,603.8 | 2,353.0 |
| Repayments of long-term debt | (2,572.5) | (2,291.8) |
| Payments under equipment capital lease obligations | (3.2) | (2.0) |
| Payments under financing obligations (including obligations to related party of \$8.6 and \$7.2, respectively) | (8.9) | (7.4) |
| Payments under Tax Receivable Agreement | (9.9) | (8.5) |
| Other | (2.1) | — |
| Net cash used for financing activities | (0.9) | (1.0) |
| Effect of exchange rate changes on cash | (0.4) | 0.8 |
| Net change in cash | (10.8) | (14.3) |
| Cash at beginning of period | 80.3 | 69.6 |
| Cash at end of period | \$69.5 | \$55.3 |
| Supplemental cash flow information | | |
| Cash paid for income taxes, net of refunds | \$0.1 | \$0.4 |
| Cash paid for interest | 17.9 | 12.2 |
| Non-cash investing and financing activities | | |
| Non-cash additions to property and equipment | \$26.2 | \$8.2 |

See accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

4

Table of Contents

VERITIV CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. BUSINESS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Description of Business

Veritiv Corporation ("Veritiv" or the "Company") is a North American business-to-business distributor of packaging, facility solutions, print and publishing products and services. Additionally, Veritiv provides logistics and supply chain management solutions to its customers. Veritiv was established in 2014, following the merger (the "Merger") of International Paper Company's xpedx distribution solutions business ("xpedx") and UWW Holdings, Inc. ("UWWH"), the parent company of Unisource Worldwide, Inc. ("Unisource"). Veritiv operates from approximately 160 distribution centers primarily throughout the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") for interim financial information and with the instructions to Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by U.S. GAAP for a complete set of annual audited financial statements.

The accompanying unaudited financial information should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes contained in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") for the year ended December 31, 2017. In the opinion of management, all adjustments, including normal recurring accruals and other adjustments, considered necessary for a fair presentation of the interim financial information have been included. Additionally, certain prior-year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation. The operating results for the interim periods are not necessarily indicative of results for the full year. These financial statements include all of the Company's subsidiaries. All significant intercompany transactions between Veritiv's businesses have been eliminated.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of unaudited financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, revenue and expenses and certain financial statement disclosures. Estimates and assumptions are used for, but not limited to, revenue recognition (including determining the transaction price and allocating the revenue to performance obligations), accounts receivable valuation, inventory valuation including estimated returns, employee benefit plans, income tax contingency accruals and valuation allowances, recognition of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the "Tax Act"), multi-employer pension plan withdrawal liabilities, contingency accruals and goodwill and other intangible asset valuations. Although these estimates are based on management's knowledge of current events and actions it may undertake in the future, actual results may ultimately differ from these estimates and assumptions. Estimates are revised as additional information becomes available.

Accounting Pronouncements

Effective January 1, 2018, the Company adopted Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606) ("Topic 606"). The standard replaces previous revenue recognition standards

and significantly expands the disclosure requirements for revenue arrangements. The guidance may be adopted either retrospectively or on a modified retrospective basis for new contracts and existing contracts with remaining performance obligations as of the effective date. The effective date for Veritiv, without early adoption, was January 1, 2018. Veritiv adopted this ASU applying the modified retrospective transition method; accordingly, prior periods have not been adjusted to conform to the new guidance. There was determined to be no cumulative effect after applying the new guidance to all contracts with customers that were not completed as of January 1, 2018. The adoption is not expected to have a material impact on future financial results, as the adoption did not change the recognition pattern for the Company's existing revenue streams. The Company implemented new internal controls related to contract reviews and revenue recognition disclosures. Additional disclosures will be made as needed in future reports as a result of the adoption. See Note 2, Revenue Recognition, for additional information related to the Company's revenues and the Topic 606 adoption impacts.

Table of Contents

Effective January 1, 2018, the Company adopted ASU 2017-07, Compensation-Retirement Benefits (Topic 715). The standard requires employers to disaggregate the service cost component from the other components of net benefit cost and disclose by line item the amount of net benefit cost that is included in the statement of operations or capitalized in assets. The standard requires employers to report the service cost component in the same line item(s) as other compensation costs and to report other pension-related costs (which include interest costs, amortization of pension-related costs from prior periods and the gains or losses on plan assets) separately and exclude them from the subtotal of operating income. The standard also allows only the service cost component to be eligible for capitalization when applicable. The guidance requires application on a retrospective basis for the presentation of the service cost component and the other components of net periodic pension cost and net periodic postretirement benefit cost in the statement of operations and on a prospective basis for the capitalization of the service cost component of net periodic pension cost and net periodic postretirement benefit in assets. The effective date for Veritiv, without early adoption, was January 1, 2018. The Company adopted this guidance on a retrospective basis; accordingly, prior periods have been adjusted to conform to the new guidance. The Company elected to use the practical expedient that permits entities to use the amounts disclosed in their pension and other postretirement benefit plan notes for the prior comparative periods as the basis of estimation for applying the retrospective presentation requirements. The Company does not currently capitalize service costs. The effect of the retrospective presentation change related to the net periodic cost of the Company's defined benefit pension and other postretirement employee benefits plans on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations was as follows:

| (in millions) | Three Months Ended June 30, 2017 | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| | As Revised | Previously Reported | Effect of Change Higher/(Lower) |
| Selling and administrative expenses | \$211.0 | \$ 210.1 | \$ 0.9 |
| Operating loss | (9.7) | (8.8) | (0.9) |
| Other (income) expense, net | (0.3) | 0.6 | (0.9) |
| (in millions) | Six Months Ended June 30, 2017 | | |
| | As Revised | Previously Reported | Effect of Change Higher/(Lower) |
| Selling and administrative expenses | \$423.3 | \$ 421.7 | \$ 1.6 |
| Operating loss | (6.5) | (4.9) | (1.6) |
| Other (income) expense, net | 0.1 | 1.7 | (1.6) |

Effective January 1, 2018, the Company early adopted ASU 2018-02, Income Statement-Reporting Comprehensive Income (Topic 220). The standard allows companies to reclassify the effect of the change in tax laws and rates on deferred tax assets and liabilities as part of the Tax Act from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) to retained earnings. The guidance is to be applied to each period in which the effect of the Tax Act (or portion thereof) is recorded and companies may apply it either (i) retrospectively as of the date of enactment or (ii) as of the beginning of the period of adoption. The Company elected to apply the guidance as of the beginning of the period of adoption. The guidance would have been effective for Veritiv on January 1, 2019 had the Company not early adopted. See Note 6, Income Taxes, for additional information related to the adoption impact of ASU 2018-02.

Effective March 31, 2018, the Company adopted ASU 2018-05, Income Taxes (Topic 740). The standard amends SEC paragraphs in Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 740 to reflect Staff Accounting Bulletin 118 ("SAB 118") to provide guidance for companies that are not able to complete their accounting for the income tax effects of the Tax Act in the period of enactment. SAB 118 provides a measurement period that should not extend beyond one year from the Tax Act enactment date for companies to complete accounting under ASC 740. In accordance with SAB 118,

a company must reflect the income tax effects of those aspects of the Tax Act for which the accounting under ASC 740 is complete. To the extent that a company's accounting for certain income tax effects of the Tax Act is incomplete, but it is able to determine a reasonable estimate, it must record a provisional estimate in the financial statements. If a company cannot determine a provisional estimate to be included in the financial statements, it should continue to apply ASC 740 on the basis of the provisions of the tax laws that were in effect immediately before the enactment of the Tax Act. The guidance is effective

Table of Contents

upon addition to the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") ASC and early adoption is permitted. See Note 6, Income Taxes, for additional information regarding the adoption of this standard.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards Not Yet Adopted

| Standard | Description | Effective Date | Effect on the Financial Statements or Other Significant Matters |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|
| ASU 2016-02, Leases (Topic 842) | <p>The standard requires lessees to put most leases on their balance sheet but recognize expenses in their statement of operations in a manner similar to current accounting guidance. The new standard also eliminates the current guidance related to real estate specific provisions. The guidance requires application on a modified retrospective basis to leases that existed at the beginning of the earliest period presented and those entered into thereafter but prior to the effective date. The standard permits entities to elect a package of practical expedients which must be applied consistently to all leases that commenced prior to the effective date. If the package of practical expedients is elected, entities do not need to reassess: (i) whether expired or existing contracts contain leases; (ii) lease classification for any expired or existing leases; and (iii) initial direct costs for any existing leases. The guidance also allows entities to make certain policy elections under the new standard, including: (i) the use of hindsight to determine lease term and when assessing existing right of use assets for impairment; (ii) a policy to not record short-term leases on the balance sheet; and (iii) a policy to not separate lease and non-lease components.</p> <p>In July 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-11, Leases (Topic 842), to provide another optional transition method in addition to the existing transition method by allowing entities to initially apply the new leases standard at the adoption date (January 1, 2019, for the Company) and recognize a cumulative-effect adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings in the period of adoption. Consequently, an</p> | January 1, 2019; early adoption is permitted | The Company is currently evaluating this standard and anticipates that its adoption will have a material impact on the Consolidated Financial Statements and related disclosures as it will result in recording substantially all operating leases on the balance sheet as a lease obligation and right of use asset. Lease software has been implemented that will better enable the Company to implement the standard. The Company's efforts are focused on populating and testing the new software. This is a time-consuming process and is expected to continue through the third quarter of 2018. The Company currently anticipates electing to apply the package of practical expedients to all leases that commenced prior to the date of adoption. Based on the analysis performed to date, the Company anticipates making a policy election to exclude short-term leases from the Consolidated Balance Sheets, but is still evaluating the election to separate lease and non-lease components. The Company currently does not anticipate making a policy election to use hindsight to determine lease term. The assessment is ongoing and the preliminary conclusions are subject to change. At this time the Company is unable to quantify the impact that the adoption of this standard will have on the Consolidated Financial Statements and related disclosures. The Company currently plans to adopt this ASU on January 1, 2019, using the transition method provided by ASU 2018-11. |

entity's reporting for the comparative periods presented in the financial statements in which it adopts the new leases standard will continue to be in accordance with current GAAP (Topic 840, Leases).

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| ASU 2016-13, Financial Instruments-Credit Losses (Topic 326) | The standard will replace the currently required incurred loss impairment methodology with guidance that reflects expected credit losses and requires consideration of a broader range of reasonable and supportable information to be considered in making credit loss estimates. The guidance requires application on a modified retrospective basis. Other application requirements exist for specific assets impacted by a more-than-insignificant credit deterioration since origination. | January 1, 2020; early adoption is permitted for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018 | The Company is currently evaluating the impact this ASU will have on its Consolidated Financial Statements and related disclosures. The Company currently plans to adopt this ASU on January 1, 2020. |
|---|--|--|---|

Table of Contents

Other Recently Adopted Accounting Standards

| Standard | Description | Effective Date | Effect on the Financial Statements or Other Significant Matters |
|--|---|-----------------|--|
| ASU 2016-15, Statement of Cash Flows (Topic 230) | The standard addresses eight specific cash flow issues and is intended to reduce diversity in practice in how certain cash receipts and cash payments are presented and classified in the statement of cash flows. The guidance requires application on a retrospective basis. | January 1, 2018 | The Company adopted this ASU on January 1, 2018. The adoption did not materially impact the Company's historical Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows or related disclosures. Impacts to future results and disclosures will be dependent upon the presence of any items noted in the standard. |
| ASU 2017-01, Business Combinations (Topic 805) | The standard clarifies the definition of a business with the objective of adding guidance to assist entities with evaluating whether transactions should be accounted for as acquisitions (or disposals) of assets or businesses. The guidance requires application on a prospective basis. | January 1, 2018 | The Company adopted this ASU on January 1, 2018. |

2. REVENUE RECOGNITION

Adoption

In May 2014, the FASB issued Topic 606, including Subtopic 340-40, Other Assets and Deferred Costs - Contracts with Customers, which requires the deferral of incremental costs of obtaining a contract with a customer, and costs to fulfill a contract when the costs meet certain criteria. The new standard is effective for public business entities with annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017, including interim periods within those reporting periods. The new guidance replaces numerous requirements in U.S. GAAP and provides a single revenue recognition model for recognizing revenue from contracts with customers. The adoption of Topic 606 represents a change in accounting principle that will more closely depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The guidance also requires disclosures regarding the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from contracts with customers. The two permitted transition methods are (i) the full retrospective method, in which case the standard would be applied to each prior reporting period presented and the cumulative effect would be recognized at the earliest period shown, or (ii) the modified retrospective method in which an entity would apply the new guidance only to contracts not completed at the adoption date, would not adjust prior reporting periods and the cumulative effect would be recognized in retained earnings in the period of adoption.

The Company adopted Topic 606, on January 1, 2018, using the modified retrospective method for all contracts not completed as of the date of adoption, with no impact to the opening retained earnings. Results for periods beginning after January 1, 2018 are presented following the guidance of Topic 606, while prior period amounts are not adjusted and continue to be reported following the Company's historical accounting under the accounting standards in effect for those periods. For information regarding these prior period accounting policies, refer to the information disclosed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. The Company elected to adopt certain practical expedients outlined in Topic 606. As such, Veritiv does not include sales tax in the transaction price and does recognize revenue in the amount to which it has a right to invoice the customer as it believes that amount corresponds directly with the value provided to the customer. Additionally, Veritiv has utilized certain exceptions allowed under Topic 606 including not assessing whether promised goods or services are performance obligations if they are immaterial in the context of the contract with the customer and not disclosing the value of unsatisfied

performance obligations for contracts with an original estimated length of time to convert of one year or less.

Revenue Recognition

In order to achieve compliance with the accounting principles of Topic 606, Veritiv applies the five step model to assess its contracts with customers. The Company's revenue is reported as net sales and is measured as the determinable transaction price, net of any variable consideration (e.g., sales incentives and rights to return product) and any taxes collected from customers and remitted to governmental authorities.

Table of Contents

When the Company enters into a sales arrangement with a customer, it believes it is probable that it will collect substantially all of the consideration to which it will be entitled in exchange for the goods or services that will be transferred to the customer. The Company has established credit and collection processes whereby collection assessments are performed and allowances for bad debt are recognized. As a normal business practice, Veritiv does not enter into contracts that require more than one year to complete or that contain significant financing components.

Additionally, Veritiv enters into incentive programs with certain of its customers, which are generally based on sales to those same customers. Veritiv follows the expected value method when estimating its retrospective incentives and records the estimated amount as a reduction to gross sales when revenue is recognized. Estimates of the variable consideration are based primarily on contract terms, current customer forecasts as well as historical experience.

Customer product returns are estimated based on historical experience and the identification of specific events necessitating an adjustment. The estimated return value is recognized as a reduction of gross sales and related cost of products sold. The estimated inventory returns value is recognized as part of inventories, while the estimated customer refund liability is recognized as part of other accrued liabilities on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet.

In accordance with Topic 606, a customer contract liability will arise when Veritiv has received payment for goods and services, but has not yet transferred the items to a customer and satisfied its performance obligations. Veritiv records a customer contract liability for performance obligations outstanding related to payments received in advance for customer deposits on equipment sales and its bill-and-hold arrangements. Veritiv expects to satisfy these remaining performance obligations and recognize the related revenues upon delivery of the goods and services to the customer's designated location within 12 months following receipt of the payment. Most equipment sales deposits are held for approximately 90 days and most bill-and-hold arrangements initially cover a 90 day period, but can be renewed by the customer.

As of June 30, 2018, the Company recognized estimated inventory returns of approximately \$2.6 million, which is included in inventories on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet. Additionally, the Company recognized approximately \$19.2 million of customer contract liabilities related to its customer deposits for equipment sales and payments received for bill-and-hold arrangements, which are included in accounts payable on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet. See the table below for a summary of the changes to the customer contract liabilities for the six months ended June 30, 2018:

| (in millions) | Customer Contract Liabilities | |
|---|-------------------------------|------|
| Balance at January 1, 2018 | \$ | 20.5 |
| Payments received | | 24.2 |
| Revenue recognized from beginning balance | (13.8 |) |
| Revenue recognized from current year receipts | (11.7 |) |
| Balance at June 30, 2018 | \$ | 19.2 |

Revenue Composition

Veritiv's revenues are primarily derived from purchase orders and rate agreements associated with (i) the delivery of standard listed products with observable standalone sale prices or (ii) transportation and warehousing services. Revenue generally consists of a single performance obligation to transfer a promised good or service and is short term in nature. Revenues are recognized when control of the promised goods or services is transferred to Veritiv's customers and in an amount that reflects the consideration the Company expects to be entitled to in exchange for those goods and services. Sales transactions with customers are designated free on board ("f.o.b.") destination and revenue is recorded at the point in time when the product is delivered to the customer's designated location or when the customer has otherwise obtained the benefit of the goods, when title and risk of loss are transferred. Revenues from Veritiv's transportation services are recognized upon completion of the related delivery services and revenues from warehousing services are recognized over time as the storage services are provided. Certain revenues are derived from shipments which are made directly from a manufacturer to a Veritiv customer. The Company is considered to be a principal to these transactions because, among other factors, it maintains control of the goods after they leave the supplier and before they are received at the customer's location, in most cases it selects the supplier and sets the price to the customer, and it bears the risk of the customer defaulting on payment or rejecting

Table of Contents

the goods. Revenues from these sales are reported on a gross basis in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and have historically represented approximately one-third of Veritiv's total net sales.

The Company has determined that certain services provided to customers represent activities necessary to obtain or fulfill the contract and deliver the end product to the customer's designated location. These costs have been evaluated and do not meet the criteria for recognition as capitalizable costs. Taxes collected from customers relating to product sales and remitted to governmental authorities are excluded from both net sales and expenses.

Veritiv evaluated the nature of the products and services provided to its customers as well as the nature of the customer and the geographical distribution of its customer base and determined that the best representative level of disaggregated revenue is the product category basis as shown in the segment results. The Company is able to serve a wide variety of customers, from large national companies to small local customers through its distribution network. Historically, the Company's ten largest customers have generated less than 10% of its consolidated annual net sales. Veritiv's principal markets are concentrated across North America, primarily the U.S. (90%), Canada (8%) and Mexico (1%).

The following is a brief description of the four reportable segments, organized by major product category:

Packaging – The Packaging segment provides standard as well as custom and comprehensive packaging solutions for customers based in North America and in key global markets. The business is strategically focused on higher growth industries including light industrial/general manufacturing, food production, fulfillment and internet retail, as well as niche verticals based on geographical and functional expertise. This segment also provides supply chain solutions, structural and graphic packaging design and engineering, automation, workflow and equipment services and kitting and fulfillment.

Facility Solutions – The Facility Solutions segment sources and sells cleaning, break-room and other supplies such as towels, tissues, wipers and dispensers, can liners, commercial cleaning chemicals, soaps and sanitizers, sanitary maintenance supplies and equipment, safety and hazard supplies, and shampoos and amenities primarily in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Additionally, the Company offers total cost of ownership solutions with re-merchandising, budgeting and compliance reporting, and inventory management.

Print – The Print segment sells and distributes commercial printing, writing, copying, digital, wide format and specialty paper products, graphics consumables and graphics equipment primarily in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. This segment also includes customized paper conversion services of commercial printing paper for distribution to document centers and form printers. Veritiv's broad geographic platform of operations coupled with the breadth of paper and graphics products, including exclusive private brand offerings, provides a foundation to service national, regional and local customers across North America.

Publishing – The Publishing segment sells and distributes coated and uncoated commercial printing papers to publishers, retailers, converters, printers and specialty businesses for use in magazines, catalogs, books, directories, gaming, couponing, retail inserts and direct mail. This segment also provides print management, procurement and supply chain management solutions to simplify paper and print procurement processes for its customers.

The Company's consolidated financial results also include a "Corporate & Other" category which includes certain assets and costs not primarily attributable to any of the reportable segments. Corporate & Other also includes the Veritiv logistics solutions business which provides transportation and warehousing solutions.

See Note 13, Segment Information, for the disaggregation of revenue and other information related to the Company's reportable segments and Corporate & Other.

3. 2017 ACQUISITION

Acquisition of All American Containers - August 2017

On August 31, 2017 (the "Acquisition Date"), Veritiv completed its acquisition of 100% of the equity interest in various All American Containers entities (collectively, "AAC"), a family owned and operated distributor of rigid packaging products, including plastic, glass and metal containers, caps, closures and plastic pouches.

Table of Contents

See Note 4, Integration, Acquisition and Restructuring Charges, for additional information regarding the charges incurred for the AAC integration and acquisition activities. These charges related primarily to legal, consulting and other professional fees, retention and other costs to integrate the business.

The acquisition of AAC was accounted for in the Company's financial statements using the acquisition method of accounting. The total consideration to complete the acquisition was approximately \$169.8 million. The purchase price is preliminary as it is subject to a final working capital adjustment. The preliminary purchase price was allocated to tangible and intangible assets and liabilities based upon their respective estimated fair values. The following table summarizes the components of the preliminary estimated purchase price for AAC:

Preliminary estimated purchase price:

| | (in millions) |
|--|------------------|
| Cash consideration | \$ 112.0 |
| Loan pay-off | 34.3 |
| Contingent consideration | 22.2 |
| Other | 1.3 |
| Total preliminary estimated purchase price | \$ 169.8 |

The following table summarizes the allocation, as of June 30, 2018, of the preliminary estimated purchase price to assets acquired and liabilities assumed as of the Acquisition Date based on available valuation information, estimates and assumptions. See Note 9, Fair Value Measurements, for additional information related to the fair value of the contingent consideration related to the earn-out.

Preliminary allocation:

| | (in millions) | |
|--|---------------|---|
| Cash | \$ 1.5 | |
| Accounts receivable | 30.4 | |
| Inventories | 38.5 | |
| Other current assets | 5.7 | |
| Property and equipment | 3.5 | |
| Goodwill | 55.5 | |
| Other intangible assets | 49.0 | |
| Other non-current assets | 1.4 | |
| Accounts payable | (12.4 |) |
| Other current liabilities | (2.7 |) |
| Other non-current liabilities | (0.6 |) |
| Total preliminary estimated purchase price | \$ 169.8 | |

Preliminary goodwill of \$55.5 million arising from the acquisition of AAC consists largely of the expected synergies and other benefits from combining operations and is expected to be deductible for tax purposes. The goodwill was allocated 100% to the Company's Packaging reportable segment.

Table of Contents

4. INTEGRATION, ACQUISITION AND RESTRUCTURING CHARGES

Merger of xpedx and Unisource

The Company currently expects net costs and charges associated with achieving anticipated cost savings and other synergies from the Merger (excluding charges relating to the complete or partial withdrawal from multi-employer pension plans ("MEPP"), some of which are uncertain at this time, and including cash proceeds from sales of assets related to consolidation), to be approximately \$250 million to \$275 million through December 31, 2018. Included in the estimate is approximately \$100 million for capital expenditures, primarily consisting of information technology infrastructure, systems integration and planning. Through June 30, 2018, the Company has incurred approximately \$260 million in costs and charges, including approximately \$93 million for capital expenditures.

Integration and Acquisition Expenses

During the three and six months ended June 30, 2018 and 2017, Veritiv incurred costs and charges related primarily to: internally dedicated integration management resources, retention compensation, information technology conversion costs, rebranding, professional services and other costs to integrate its businesses.

The following table summarizes the components of integration and acquisition expenses:

| | Three Months Ended June 30, | | Six Months Ended June 30, | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|--------|
| (in millions) | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Integration management | \$4.5 | \$3.7 | \$8.9 | \$6.7 |
| Retention compensation | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Information technology conversion costs | 2.4 | 2.2 | 4.5 | 4.0 |
| Rebranding | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Legal, consulting and other professional fees | 0.1 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.9 |
| Other | 0.9 | 0.8 | 1.5 | 1.8 |
| AAC integration and acquisition | 0.4 | — | 1.4 | — |
| Total integration and acquisition expenses | \$8.4 | \$7.5 | \$16.7 | \$13.9 |

Veritiv Restructuring Plan: Merger Related

As part of the Merger, the Company is executing on a multi-year restructuring program of its North American operations intended to integrate the legacy xpedx and Unisource operations, generate cost savings and capture synergies across the combined company. The restructuring plan includes initiatives to: (i) consolidate warehouse facilities in overlapping markets, (ii) improve efficiency of the delivery network, (iii) consolidate customer service centers, (iv) reorganize the field sales and operations functions and (v) restructure the corporate general and administrative functions. As part of its restructuring efforts, the Company continues to evaluate its operations outside of North America to identify additional cost saving opportunities. The Company may elect to restructure its operations in specific countries, which may include staff reductions, lease terminations and facility closures, or the complete exit of a market. The Company may continue to record restructuring charges in the future as restructuring activities progress, which may include gains or losses from the disposition of assets. See Note 13, Segment Information, for the impact these charges had on the Company's reportable segments.

Related to these company-wide initiatives, the Company recorded net restructuring charges of \$11.1 million and \$23.2 million for the three months ended June 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively, and \$13.7 million and \$27.3 million for the six months ended June 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. As described in Note 5, Debt and Other Obligations, on June 30, 2018, the related party failed sale-leaseback agreements, originally entered into with Georgia-Pacific, expired in accordance with their terms. The agreements contained provisions that required Veritiv to incur costs during the lease term related to general repairs and maintenance. Certain termination and repair costs were incurred at or near the end of the agreements' expirations. For those costs related to properties that were exited as part of the restructuring plan, they were classified within restructuring, net, on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations, and totaled \$10.0 million and \$10.4 million for

Table of Contents

the three and six months ended June 30, 2018. During the three and six months ended June 30, 2018, the Company recognized a \$2.1 million gain on the sale of a facility. As of June 30, 2018, the Company held for sale \$1.3 million in assets related to these activities, which are included in other current assets on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Other direct costs reported in the tables below include facility closing costs, actual and estimated MEPP withdrawal charges and other incidental costs associated with the development, communication, administration and implementation of these initiatives.

The following table presents a summary of restructuring charges, net, that were incurred during the current fiscal year and prior fiscal year, as well as the cumulative recorded amounts since the initiative began:

| (in millions) | Severance and Related Costs | Other Direct Costs | (Gain) Loss on Sale of Assets and Other (non-cash portion) | Total |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|---------|
| 2018 (year-to-date) | \$ 0.5 | \$ 15.7 | \$ (2.5) | \$ 13.7 |
| 2017 | 7.5 | 33.6 | (24.4) | 16.7 |
| Cumulative | 20.5 | 63.6 | (24.9) | 59.2 |

The following is a summary of the Company's restructuring liability activity for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018 (costs incurred exclude any non-cash portion of restructuring gains or losses on asset disposals):

| (in millions) | Severance and Related Costs | Other Direct Costs | Total |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| Balance at December 31, 2017 | \$ 4.4 | \$ 25.2 | \$ 29.6 |
| Costs incurred | 0.2 | 2.4 | 2.6 |
| Payments | (1.0) | (2.1) | (3.1) |
| Balance at March 31, 2018 | 3.6 | 25.5 | 29.1 |
| Costs incurred | 0.3 | 13.3 | 13.6 |
| Payments | (0.3) | (8.9) | (9.2) |
| Balance at June 30, 2018 | \$ 3.6 | \$ 29.9 | \$ 33.5 |

The following is a summary of the Company's restructuring liability activity for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 (costs incurred exclude any non-cash portion of restructuring gains or losses on asset disposals):

| (in millions) | Severance and Related Costs | Other Direct Costs | Total |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------|
| Balance at December 31, 2016 | \$ 1.8 | \$ 8.0 | \$ 9.8 |
| Costs incurred | 1.4 | 3.1 | 4.5 |
| Payments | (1.2) | (2.8) | (4.0) |
| Balance at March 31, 2017 | 2.0 | 8.3 | 10.3 |
| Costs incurred | 3.9 | 19.7 | 23.6 |
| Payments | (2.0) | (5.4) | (7.4) |

Edgar Filing: Veritiv Corp - Form 10-Q

Balance at June 30, 2017 \$ 3.9 \$22.6 \$26.5

13

Table of Contents

Veritiv Restructuring Plan: Print Segment

To ensure Veritiv is appropriately positioned to respond to the secular decline in the paper industry, the Company is currently focused on restructuring its Print segment. The restructuring plan includes initiatives within the Company's Print segment to improve the sustainability of the print business, better serve its customers' needs and work more effectively with suppliers. The Company is streamlining and shifting its Print segment to incorporate a more customer focused, collaborative, team-selling approach as well as to better align its support functions. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2018 the Company incurred charges of \$0.3 million and \$9.6 million, respectively, related to this restructuring plan. The Company anticipates recording additional restructuring charges during 2018 as its activities progress. The restructuring plan is still evolving and total charges related to the Print segment restructuring plan are not expected to exceed \$15.0 million.

The following is a summary of the Company's Print restructuring liability activity for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018:

| (in millions) | Severance and Related Costs | Other Direct Costs | Total |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------|
| Balance at December 31, 2017 | \$ — | \$ — | \$ — |
| Costs incurred | 9.2 | 0.1 | 9.3 |
| Payments | (0.7) | 0.0 | (0.7) |
| Balance at March 31, 2018 | 8.5 | 0.1 | 8.6 |
| Costs incurred | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| Payments | (3.0) | (0.3) | (3.3) |
| Balance at June 30, 2018 | \$ 5.5 | \$ 0.1 | \$ 5.6 |

5. DEBT AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS

The Company's long-term debt obligations were as follows:

| (in millions) | June 30, 2018 | December 31, 2017 |
|---|------------------|----------------------|
| Asset-Based Lending Facility (the "ABL Facility") | \$926.8 | \$ 897.7 |
| Equipment capital leases | 36.3 | 13.5 |
| Total debt | 963.1 | 911.2 |
| Less: current maturities of long-term debt | (6.0) | (2.9) |
| Long-term debt, net of current maturities | \$957.1 | \$ 908.3 |

Availability under the ABL Facility is determined based upon a monthly borrowing base calculation which includes eligible customer receivables and inventory, less outstanding borrowings, letters of credit and certain designated reserves. As of June 30, 2018, the available additional borrowing capacity under the ABL Facility was approximately \$273.3 million. As of June 30, 2018, the Company held \$10.1 million in outstanding letters of credit.

The ABL Facility has a springing minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of at least 1.00 to 1.00 on a trailing four-quarter basis, which will be tested only when specified availability is less than the limits outlined under the ABL Facility. At June 30, 2018, the above test was not applicable and it is not expected to be applicable in the next 12 months.

Table of Contents

The Company's long-term financing obligations were as follows:

| (in millions) | June 30, 2018 | December 31, 2017 |
|--|---------------------|----------------------|
| Obligations to related party | \$— | \$ 162.3 |
| Obligations - other financing | 25.5 | 27.1 |
| Total financing obligations | 25.5 | 189.4 |
| Less: current portion of financing obligations | (0.7) | (7.8) |
| Financing obligations, less current portion | \$24.8 | \$ 181.6 |

As of June 30, 2018, the financing obligations for all of the related party financed properties were either terminated early or have expired in accordance with their terms. Through formal termination or natural expiration of these agreements, the involvement of Georgia-Pacific (the related party) ceased and the leases no longer qualified as failed sale-leaseback financing obligations. Of the original 38 financing obligations to related party properties, 27 were settled by the return of the properties to the landlord.

Upon termination or expiration of a property's financing agreement, the Company recognized the non-cash effects of the derecognition of (i) the property and equipment and (ii) the corresponding financing obligation, as other non-cash items, net, on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows. Any gain or loss realized upon derecognition has been included in other (income) expense, net or restructuring charges, net on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations, based upon the rationale for the termination. See the table below for the non-cash effects of the derecognition of (i) the property and equipment and (ii) the corresponding financing obligation (total of current and non-current portions):

| (in millions) | Three Months Ended June 30, 2018 | | 2017 |
|------------------------|--|--------|------|
| Property and equipment | \$ 149.1 | \$ 7.8 | |
| Financing obligations | 149.3 | 8.0 | |

| (in millions) | Six Months Ended June 30, 2018 | | 2017 |
|------------------------|---|--------|------|
| Property and equipment | \$ 155.2 | \$ 9.3 | |
| Financing obligations | 155.6 | 9.6 | |

In April 2016, Veritiv assumed ownership of a warehouse and distribution facility located in Austin, Texas that had been sub-leased from Georgia Pacific and was a related party financed obligation. The transaction was accounted for as a settlement of the financing obligation. In May 2017, the Company entered into a purchase and sale agreement under which Veritiv agreed to sell the previously acquired Austin, Texas facility to an unrelated third party. Upon the closing of the sale, Veritiv entered into a lease of the facility for an initial period of ten years with two optional five-year renewal terms. The sale-leaseback transaction does not provide for any continuing involvement by the Company other than a normal lease for use of the property during the lease term. The transaction resulted in net cash proceeds of \$9.1 million and a related deferred gain of \$5.4 million. The Company is currently recognizing the gain

over the initial ten-year lease period on a straight-line basis as a reduction to selling and administrative expenses in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations. The current portion of the deferred gain is included in other accrued liabilities and the non-current portion of the deferred gain is included in other non-current liabilities on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

See Note 4, Integration, Acquisition and Restructuring Charges, for additional information related to charges incurred as a result of the termination or expiration of the related party financing obligations.

Table of Contents

6. INCOME TAXES

The Company has historically calculated the provision or benefit for income taxes during interim reporting periods, including the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, by applying an estimate of the annual effective tax rate for the full fiscal year to “ordinary” income or loss (pre-tax income or loss excluding unusual or infrequently occurring discrete items) for the reporting period. The Company determined that since small changes in estimated “ordinary” income would result in significant changes in the estimated annual effective tax rate, the historical method would not provide a reliable estimate for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018. Accordingly, Veritiv used a discrete effective tax rate method to calculate taxes for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018.

The following table presents the benefit for income taxes and the effective tax rates for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018 and 2017:

| (in millions) | Three Months Ended June 30, | | Six Months Ended June 30, | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|----------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Loss before income taxes | \$(13.3) | \$(16.8) | \$(31.0) | \$(20.4) |
| Income tax benefit | (2.7) | (7.7) | (4.6) | (9.1) |
| Effective tax rate | 20.3 % | 45.8 % | 14.8 % | 44.6 % |

The difference between the Company’s effective tax rates for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018 and 2017 and the U.S. statutory tax rates of 21.0% and 35.0%, respectively, primarily relates to state income taxes (net of federal income tax benefit), non-deductible expenses, and the Company's income (loss) by jurisdiction. Additionally, the effective tax rate for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018 includes estimates for tax expense for stock compensation vesting and the impact of the Tax Act. The effective tax rate for full year 2018 may vary significantly due to potential fluctuations in the amount and source, including both foreign and domestic, of pre-tax income and changes in amounts of non-deductible expenses and other items that could impact the effective tax rate.

The Tax Act was enacted on December 22, 2017. The Tax Act reduced the U.S. federal corporate income tax rate from 35.0% to 21.0%, required companies to pay a one-time transition tax on earnings of certain foreign subsidiaries that were previously tax deferred and created new taxes on certain foreign sourced earnings. The Company is applying the guidance in SAB 118 when accounting for the enactment date effects of the Tax Act. The Company determined that remeasurement of its deferred tax assets and liabilities, one-time transition tax, impact of the Tax Act on state taxes, and tax liability associated with investments in non-U.S. subsidiaries where book basis exceeds tax basis are provisional amounts and reasonable estimates at December 31, 2017. At June 30, 2018, the Company has not completed its accounting for all of the tax effects of the Tax Act and has not made any additional measurement-period adjustments related to these items during the quarter while awaiting completion of the Company's 2017 U.S. federal and state tax returns in 2018, completion of foreign earnings and profits computations and completion of foreign income tax calculations for the Company's non-U.S. subsidiaries. Additional work is necessary for a more detailed analysis of Veritiv's deferred tax assets and liabilities and its historical foreign earnings as well as potential adjustments. The Company is continuing to gather additional information to complete its accounting for these items and expects to complete its accounting within the prescribed measurement period. Any subsequent adjustment to these amounts will be recorded to tax expense (benefit) in the quarter of 2018 when the analysis is complete.

The Tax Act subjects a U.S. shareholder to tax on Global Intangible Low-Taxed Income ("GILTI") earned by certain foreign subsidiaries. The FASB Staff Q&A, Topic 740, No. 5, Accounting for GILTI, states that an entity can make an accounting policy election to either recognize deferred taxes for temporary basis differences expected to reverse as GILTI in future years or to provide for the tax expense related to GILTI in the year the tax is incurred as a period expense only. Given the complexity of the GILTI provisions, the Company is still evaluating the effects of the GILTI

provisions and has not yet determined its accounting policy. As of June 30, 2018, the Company has included estimated GILTI effects in its calculation of tax expense for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018. The Company has not provided deferred taxes related to GILTI as of June 30, 2018.

In January 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-02, Income Statement - Reporting Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Reclassification of Certain Tax Effects from accumulated other comprehensive income (AOCI) ("AOCI"), which gives companies the option to reclassify to retained earnings tax effects resulting from the Tax Act related to items in AOCI that the

Table of Contents

FASB refers to as having been stranded in AOCI. Veritiv elected to early adopt ASU 2018-02 as of January 1, 2018. As a result of adopting this standard, the Company reclassified \$0.8 million from Veritiv's accumulated other comprehensive loss to retained earnings.

7. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Agreements with the UWWH Stockholder

In January 2018 and 2017, in connection with the Tax Receivable Agreement ("TRA") executed at the time of the Merger, Veritiv paid \$10.1 million and \$8.7 million, respectively, in principal and interest, to UWW Holdings, LLC (the "UWWH Stockholder"), one of Veritiv's existing stockholders and the former sole stockholder of UWWH, for the utilization of pre-merger net operating losses ("NOL" or "NOLs") in its 2016 and 2015 federal and state tax returns, respectively. See Note 9, Fair Value Measurements, for additional information regarding the TRA.

On March 22, 2017, the UWWH Stockholder, sold 1.80 million shares of Veritiv common stock in a block trade. The Company did not sell any shares and did not receive any of the proceeds. In conjunction with this transaction, Veritiv incurred approximately \$0.2 million in transaction-related fees, which are included in selling and administrative expenses on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations. The UWWH Stockholder beneficially owned 4,283,840 shares of Veritiv's outstanding common stock as of June 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, based on publicly available data.

Transactions with Georgia-Pacific

Veritiv purchases certain inventory items from, and sells certain inventory items to, Georgia-Pacific in the normal course of business. As a result of the Merger and related private placement, Georgia-Pacific, as joint owner of the UWWH Stockholder, is a related party.

The following tables summarize the financial impact of these related party transactions with Georgia-Pacific:

| | Three Months Ended June 30, | Six Months Ended June 30, | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|--------|
| (in millions) | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Sales to Georgia-Pacific, reflected in net sales | \$7.8 | \$7.4 | \$14.7 | \$16.3 |
| Purchases of inventory from Georgia-Pacific, recognized in cost of products sold | 35.8 | 45.2 | 77.9 | 92.3 |
| | June 30, | December 31, | | |
| (in millions) | 2018 | 2017 | | |
| Inventories purchased from Georgia-Pacific that remained on Veritiv's balance sheet | \$ 19.4 | \$ 22.7 | | |
| Related party payable to Georgia-Pacific | 7.8 | 8.5 | | |
| Related party receivable from Georgia-Pacific | 3.4 | 3.3 | | |

Table of Contents

8. DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS

In conjunction with the Merger, Veritiv assumed responsibility for Unisource's defined benefit plans and Supplemental Executive Retirement Plans in the U.S. and Canada. Net periodic benefit (credit) cost associated with these plans is summarized below:

| (in millions) | Three Months | | Three Months | |
|---|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|
| | Ended June | | Ended June | |
| | 30, 2018 | | 30, 2017 | |
| | U.S. | Canada | U.S. | Canada |
| Components of net periodic benefit (credit) cost: | | | | |
| Service cost | \$0.5 | \$0.1 | \$0.5 | \$0.1 |
| Interest cost | \$0.7 | \$0.7 | \$0.7 | \$0.6 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (1.3) | (1.0) | (1.3) | (0.9) |
| Amortization of net loss | — | 0.0 | — | 0.0 |
| Total other components | \$(0.6) | \$(0.3) | \$(0.6) | \$(0.3) |
| Net periodic benefit (credit) cost | \$(0.1) | \$(0.2) | \$(0.1) | \$(0.2) |

| (in millions) | Six Months | | Six Months | |
|---|------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Ended June | | Ended June | |
| | 30, 2018 | | 30, 2017 | |
| | U.S. | Canada | U.S. | Canada |
| Components of net periodic benefit (credit) cost: | | | | |
| Service cost | \$1.0 | \$0.2 | \$1.0 | \$0.2 |
| Interest cost | \$1.3 | \$1.4 | \$1.4 | \$1.3 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (2.7) | (2.0) | (2.6) | (1.8) |
| Amortization of net loss | — | 0.1 | — | 0.1 |
| Total other components | \$(1.4) | \$(0.5) | \$(1.2) | \$(0.4) |
| Net periodic benefit (credit) cost | \$(0.4) | \$(0.3) | \$(0.2) | \$(0.2) |

9. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

At June 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, the carrying amounts of cash, receivables, payables and other components of other current assets and other current liabilities approximate their fair values due to the short maturity of these items.

Borrowings under the ABL Facility are at variable market interest rates and, accordingly, the carrying amount approximates fair value.

Certain of the Company's assets and liabilities are also subject to nonrecurring fair value measurements. Generally, assets are recorded at their fair values on a nonrecurring basis as a result of impairment charges. There were no impairment charges recorded for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, the Company recognized no charge and a \$0.7 million non-restructuring impairment charge, respectively, related to a software asset which was not placed into service and had no alternative use. The impairment charge for 2017 was recorded in selling and administrative expenses on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of

Operations.

18

Table of Contents

The Company's liabilities disclosed at fair value at June 30, 2018 were as follows:

| (in millions) | Total | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| ABL Facility | \$926.8 | | \$926.8 | |
| Tax Receivable Agreement | 39.7 | | | 39.7 |
| AAC contingent consideration | 12.9 | | | 12.9 |

The Company's liabilities disclosed at fair value at December 31, 2017 were as follows:

| (in millions) | Total | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| ABL Facility | \$897.7 | | \$897.7 | |
| Tax Receivable Agreement | 50.0 | | | 50.0 |
| AAC contingent consideration | 24.2 | | | 24.2 |

At the time of the Merger, the Company recorded a \$59.4 million contingent liability associated with the TRA at fair value using a discounted cash flow model that reflected management's expectations about probability of payment. The fair value of the TRA is a Level 3 measurement, which relied upon both Level 2 data (publicly observable data such as market interest rates) and Level 3 data (internal data such as the Company's projected revenues, taxable income and assumptions about the utilization of Unisource's NOLs, attributable to taxable periods prior to the Merger, by the Company). The amount payable under the TRA is contingent on the Company generating a certain level of taxable income prior to the expiration of the NOL carryforwards. Moreover, future trading of Company stock by significant shareholders may result in additional ownership changes as defined under Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code, further limiting the use of Unisource's NOLs and the amount ultimately payable under the TRA. The contingent liability is remeasured at fair value at each reporting period end with the change in fair value recognized in other (income) expense, net on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations. At June 30, 2018, the Company remeasured the contingent liability using a discount rate of 4.8% (Moody's daily long-term corporate BAA bond yield). For the TRA contingent liability, there have been no transfers between the fair value measurement levels for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018. The Company recognizes transfers between the fair value measurement levels at the end of the reporting period.

The following table provides a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balance of the TRA contingent liability for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018:

| (in millions) | TRA Contingent Liability |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2017 | \$ 50.0 |
| Change in fair value adjustment recorded in other (income) expense, net | (0.2) |
| Principal payment | (9.9) |
| Balance at March 31, 2018 | 39.9 |
| Change in fair value adjustment recorded in other (income) expense, net | (0.2) |
| Balance at June 30, 2018 | \$ 39.7 |

Table of Contents

The following table provides a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balance of the TRA contingent liability for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017:

| (in millions) | TRA Contingent Liability |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2016 | \$ 67.9 |
| Change in fair value adjustment recorded in other (income) expense, net | 0.9 |
| Principal payment | (8.5) |
| Balance at March 31, 2017 | 60.3 |
| Change in fair value adjustment recorded in other (income) expense, net | 1.1 |
| Balance at June 30, 2017 | \$ 61.4 |

The preliminary purchase price allocation for the acquisition of AAC, described in Note 3, 2017 Acquisition, includes \$22.2 million for the estimated fair value of contingent consideration. The maximum amount payable for the contingent consideration is \$50.0 million, with up to \$25.0 million payable at each of the first and second anniversaries of the Acquisition Date. The final amount will be determined based on actual growth rates in revenue and gross profit. The preliminary fair value estimate was based on historic growth patterns and future forecasts, which are Level 3 data. The valuation of contingent consideration uses assumptions and estimates to forecast a range of outcomes and probabilities for the contingent consideration. The contingent consideration is valued using a Monte Carlo simulation model. The Company assesses these assumptions and estimates on a quarterly basis as additional data impacting the assumptions is obtained. Any changes in the fair value of contingent consideration related to updated assumptions and estimates are recognized within other (income) expense, net, in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations during the period in which the change occurs.

The following table provides a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balance of the AAC contingent liability for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018:

| (in millions) | AAC Contingent Liability |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2017 | \$ 24.2 |
| Change in fair value adjustment recorded in other (income) expense, net | (8.3) |
| Balance at March 31, 2018 | 15.9 |
| Change in fair value adjustment recorded in other (income) expense, net | (3.0) |
| Balance at June 30, 2018 | \$ 12.9 |

10. LOSS PER SHARE

Basic loss per share for Veritiv common stock is calculated by dividing net loss by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share is similarly calculated, except that the denominator is increased to include the number of additional common shares that would have been outstanding if the dilutive potential common shares had been issued, except where the inclusion of such common shares would have an antidilutive impact.

Table of Contents

A summary of the numerators and denominators used in the basic and diluted loss per share calculations is as follows:

| (in millions, except per share data) | Three Months Ended June 30, | | Six Months Ended June 30, | |
|---|-----------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|----------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Numerator: | | | | |
| Net loss | \$(10.6) | \$(9.1) | \$(26.4) | \$(11.3) |
| Denominator: | | | | |
| Weighted average number of shares outstanding – basic and diluted | 15.84 | 15.70 | 15.80 | 15.70 |
| Loss per share: | | | | |
| Basic and diluted | \$(0.67) | \$(0.58) | \$(1.67) | \$(0.72) |
| Antidilutive stock-based awards excluded from computation of diluted earnings per share ("EPS") | 1.08 | 0.46 | 1.14 | 0.43 |
| Performance stock-based awards excluded from computation of diluted EPS because performance conditions had not been met | 0.58 | 0.45 | 0.58 | 0.45 |

During the first and second quarters of 2018, in accordance with the Company's 2014 Omnibus Incentive Plan, as amended and restated as of March 8, 2017, shares of the Company's common stock were issued to plan participants whose Restricted Stock Units and/or Performance Condition Share Units vested during those periods. The Company issued approximately 200,000 and 13,000 shares, respectively, and simultaneously recovered approximately 70,000 and 5,000 shares, respectively, for purposes of covering the related minimum tax withholdings. The net share issuance is included in additional paid-in capital on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet for the period ended June 30, 2018. For additional information related to these plans refer to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017.

11. ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS

The following table provides the components of accumulated other comprehensive loss ("AOCL") at June 30, 2018 (amounts are shown net of their related income tax effect, if any):

| (in millions) | Foreign currency translation adjustments | Retirement liabilities | Interest rate swap | AOCL |
|---|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Balance at December 31, 2017 | \$ (23.5) | \$ (9.3) | \$ (0.7) | \$(33.5) |
| Unrealized net (losses) arising during the period | (0.2) | — | — | (0.2) |
| Amounts reclassified from AOCL | — | (0.6) | — | (0.6) |
| Net current period other comprehensive (loss) | (0.2) | (0.6) | — | (0.8) |
| Balance at March 31, 2018 | (23.7) | (9.9) | (0.7) | (34.3) |
| Unrealized net (losses) gains arising during the period | (3.9) | — | 0.1 | (3.8) |
| Net current period other comprehensive (loss) income | (3.9) | — | 0.1 | (3.8) |
| Balance at June 30, 2018 | \$ (27.6) | \$ (9.9) | \$ (0.6) | \$(38.1) |

Table of Contents

The following table provides the components of AOCL at June 30, 2017 (amounts are shown net of their related income tax effect, if any):

| (in millions) | Foreign currency translation adjustments | Retirement liabilities | Interest rate swap | AOCL |
|---|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Balance at December 31, 2016 | \$ (29.2) | \$ (9.1) | \$ (0.7) | \$(39.0) |
| Unrealized net gains (losses) arising during the period | 2.8 | 0.1 | (0.1) | 2.8 |
| Net current period other comprehensive income (loss) | 2.8 | 0.1 | (0.1) | 2.8 |
| Balance at March 31, 2017 | (26.4) | (9.0) | (0.8) | (36.2) |
| Unrealized net gains arising during the period | 2.6 | — | — | 2.6 |
| Net current period other comprehensive income | 2.6 | — | — | 2.6 |
| Balance at June 30, 2017 | \$ (23.8) | \$ (9.0) | \$ (0.8) | \$(33.6) |

See Note 6, Income Taxes, for information related to the Company's adoption of ASU 2018-02.

12. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Legal Proceedings

From time to time, the Company is involved in various lawsuits, claims and regulatory and administrative proceedings arising out of its business relating to general commercial and contractual matters, governmental regulations, intellectual property rights, labor and employment matters, tax and other actions.

Although the ultimate outcome of any legal proceeding or investigation cannot be predicted with certainty, based on present information, including the Company's assessment of the merits of the particular claim, the Company does not expect that any asserted or unasserted legal claims or proceedings, individually or in the aggregate, will have a material adverse effect on its results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

Escheat Audit

In 2013, Unisource was notified by the State of Delaware that it intended to examine the books and records of Unisource to determine compliance with Delaware escheat laws. Since that date, seven other states have joined with Delaware in the audit process, which is conducted by an outside firm on behalf of the states.

During the fourth quarter of 2017, the Company filed an election to convert the Delaware portion of the audit into a review under the State of Delaware's Voluntary Disclosure Agreement Program ("VDA"). Under the VDA, the Company will continue to identify source documents that support the historical treatment of the transactions at issue to determine the amount it believes is owed to Delaware. Similarly, the Company will continue to identify source documents that support the historical treatment of the transactions under audit by the other participating states.

As of June 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, the Company has recognized an estimated liability of approximately \$7.5 million based upon the information available to date. The Company anticipates that it may take more than a year to complete the VDA and audit. Due to the inherent uncertainties with respect to the ultimate outcome of these matters, any updates to this estimate of loss could have a material impact on the Company's results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

13. SEGMENT INFORMATION

Veritiv's business is organized under four reportable segments: Packaging, Facility Solutions, Print, and Publishing and Print Management ("Publishing"). This segment structure is consistent with the way the Chief Operating Decision Maker, who is Veritiv's Chief Executive Officer, makes operating decisions and manages the growth and profitability of the Company's business. The Company also has a Corporate & Other category, which includes certain assets and costs not

22

Table of Contents

primarily attributable to any of the reportable segments, as well as the Veritiv logistics solutions business which provides transportation and warehousing solutions.

The following tables present net sales, Adjusted EBITDA (earnings before interest, income taxes, depreciation and amortization, restructuring charges, net, integration and acquisition expenses and other similar charges including any severance costs, costs associated with warehouse and office openings or closings, consolidation, and relocation and other business optimization expenses, stock-based compensation expense, changes in the LIFO reserve, non-restructuring asset impairment charges, non-restructuring severance charges, non-restructuring pension charges, net, fair value adjustments related to contingent liabilities assumed in mergers and acquisitions and certain other adjustments), which is the metric management uses to assess operating performance of the segments, and certain other measures for each of the reportable segments and Corporate & Other for the periods presented:

| (in millions) | Packaging | Facility Solutions | Print | Publishing | Total Reportable Segments | Corporate & Other | Total |
|----------------------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|------------|---------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Three Months Ended June 30, 2018 | | | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$ 887.1 | \$ 334.4 | \$ 679.1 | \$ 238.3 | \$ 2,138.9 | \$ 33.0 | \$ 2,171.9 |
| Adjusted EBITDA | 64.4 | 7.6 | 19.4 | 4.8 | 96.2 | (50.8) | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 5.3 | 1.7 | 2.3 | 0.2 | 9.5 | 4.5 | 14.0 |
| Restructuring charges, net | 5.0 | 2.1 | 4.2 | 0.0 | 11.3 | 0.1 | 11.4 |
| Three Months Ended June 30, 2017 | | | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$ 744.6 | \$ 329.1 | \$ 694.8 | \$ 223.9 | \$ 1,992.4 | \$ 36.5 | \$ 2,028.9 |
| Adjusted EBITDA | 54.1 | 9.8 | 17.6 | 6.0 | 87.5 | (45.0) | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 3.3 | 1.5 | 2.6 | 0.5 | 7.9 | 5.8 | 13.7 |
| Restructuring charges, net | 4.9 | 2.9 | 4.4 | 0.0 | 12.2 | 11.0 | 23.2 |
| Six Months Ended June 30, 2018 | | | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$ 1,732.3 | \$ 655.0 | \$ 1,339.9 | \$ 476.4 | \$ 4,203.6 | \$ 69.3 | \$ 4,272.9 |
| Adjusted EBITDA | 118.0 | 11.7 | 33.1 | 11.6 | 174.4 | (99.3) | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 10.6 | 3.5 | 4.8 | 0.4 | 19.3 | 9.1 | 28.4 |
| Restructuring charges, net | 5.9 | 2.5 | 14.6 | 0.0 | 23.0 | 0.3 | 23.3 |
| Six Months Ended June 30, 2017 | | | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$ 1,466.4 | \$ 635.9 | \$ 1,393.5 | \$ 457.9 | \$ 3,953.7 | \$ 69.8 | \$ 4,023.5 |
| Adjusted EBITDA | 104.6 | 14.8 | 31.7 | 12.1 | 163.2 | (90.9) | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 6.5 | 2.9 | 5.2 | 1.1 | 15.7 | 11.1 | 26.8 |
| Restructuring charges, net | 6.5 | 3.3 | 6.3 | 0.0 | 16.1 | 11.2 | 27.3 |

Table of Contents

The table below presents a reconciliation of loss before income taxes as reflected in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations to Adjusted EBITDA for the reportable segments:

| | Three Months | | Six Months | |
|---|--------------|----------|------------|----------|
| | Ended | | Ended | |
| (in millions) | June 30, | | June 30, | |
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Loss before income taxes | \$(13.3) | \$(16.8) | \$(31.0) | \$(20.4) |
| Interest expense, net | 10.2 | 7.4 | 19.5 | 13.8 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 14.0 | 13.7 | 28.4 | 26.8 |
| Restructuring charges, net | 11.4 | 23.2 | 23.3 | 27.3 |
| Stock-based compensation | 5.1 | 4.1 | 10.7 | 7.8 |
| LIFO reserve increase (decrease) | 8.7 | 2.2 | 14.4 | (0.3) |
| Non-restructuring asset impairment charges | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.7 |
| Non-restructuring severance charges | 0.5 | 0.5 | 1.8 | 1.0 |
| Non-restructuring pension charges, net | 0.0 | (1.1) | (0.7) | (1.1) |
| Integration and acquisition expenses | 8.4 | 7.5 | 16.7 | 13.9 |
| Fair value adjustments on TRA contingent liability | (0.2) | 1.1 | (0.4) | 2.0 |
| Fair value adjustment on contingent consideration liability | (3.0) | — | (11.3) | — |
| Other | 3.6 | 0.7 | 3.7 | 0.8 |
| Adjustment for Corporate & Other | 50.8 | 45.0 | 99.3 | 90.9 |
| Adjusted EBITDA for reportable segments | \$96.2 | \$87.5 | \$174.4 | \$163.2 |

Table of Contents

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Certain statements contained in this report regarding the Company's future operating results, performance, business plans, prospects, guidance and any other statements not constituting historical fact are "forward-looking statements" subject to the safe harbor created by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Where possible, the words "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "continue," "intend," "should," "will," "would," "planned," "estimated," "potential," "goal," "outlook," "may," "predicts," "could," or the negative of such terms, or other comparable expressions, as they relate to the Company or its business, have been used to identify such forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements reflect only the Company's current beliefs and assumptions with respect to future operating results, performance, business plans, prospects, guidance and other matters, and are based on information currently available to the Company. Accordingly, the statements are subject to significant risks, uncertainties and contingencies, which could cause the Company's actual operating results, performance, business plans or prospects to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, these statements.

Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from current expectations include risks and other factors described under "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K and elsewhere in the Company's publicly available reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), which contain a discussion of various factors that may affect the Company's business or financial results. Such risks and other factors, which in some instances are beyond the Company's control, include: the industry-wide decline in demand for paper and related products; increased competition from existing and non-traditional sources; adverse developments in general business and economic conditions as well as conditions in the global capital and credit markets; foreign currency fluctuations; our ability to attract, train and retain highly qualified employees; the effects of work stoppages, union negotiations and labor disputes; the loss of any of our significant customers; changes in business conditions in our international operations; procurement and other risks in obtaining packaging, paper and facility products from our suppliers for resale to our customers; changes in prices for raw materials; fuel cost increases; inclement weather, anti-terrorism measures and other disruptions to the transportation network; our dependence on a variety of IT and telecommunications systems and the Internet; our reliance on third-party vendors for various services; cyber-security risks; costs to comply with laws, rules and regulations, including environmental, health and safety laws, and to satisfy any liability or obligation imposed under such laws; regulatory changes and judicial rulings impacting our business; adverse results from litigation, governmental investigations or audits, or tax-related proceedings or audits; our inability to renew existing leases on acceptable terms, negotiate rent decreases or concessions and identify affordable real estate; our ability to adequately protect our material intellectual property and other proprietary rights, or to defend successfully against intellectual property infringement claims by third parties; our pension and health care costs and participation in multi-employer pension, health and welfare plans; increasing interest rates; our ability to generate sufficient cash to service our debt; our ability to comply with the covenants contained in our debt agreements; our ability to refinance or restructure our debt on reasonable terms and conditions as might be necessary from time to time; changes in accounting standards and methodologies; our ability to realize the full benefit of the anticipated synergies, cost savings and growth opportunities from the merger transaction and our ability to integrate the xpedx business with the Unisource business; the possibility of incurring expenditures in excess of those currently budgeted in connection with the integration; and other events of which we are presently unaware or that we currently deem immaterial that may result in unexpected adverse operating results.

For a more detailed discussion of these factors, see the information under the heading "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K and in other filings we make with the SEC. Forward-looking statements are made only as of the date hereof, and the Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise the forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law. In addition, historical information

should not be considered as an indicator of future performance.

The following discussion of the Company's results of operations for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018 should be read in conjunction with the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes thereto, included elsewhere in this report.

25

Table of Contents

Executive Overview

Business Overview

Veritiv Corporation ("Veritiv" or the "Company") is a leading North American business-to-business distributor of packaging, facility solutions, print and publishing products and services. Additionally, Veritiv provides logistics and supply chain management solutions to its customers. Veritiv was established in 2014, following the merger (the "Merger") of International Paper Company's xpedx distribution solutions business and UWW Holdings, Inc., the parent company of Unisource Worldwide, Inc.

As described in Note 3, 2017 Acquisition, on August 31, 2017, Veritiv completed its acquisition of 100% of the equity interest in various All American Containers entities (collectively, "AAC") through additional borrowings under the Company's asset-based lending facility (the "ABL Facility"). AAC was a family owned and operated distributor of rigid packaging products, including plastic, glass and metal containers, caps, closures and plastic pouches.

Veritiv operates from approximately 160 distribution centers primarily throughout the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

Veritiv's business is organized under four reportable segments: Packaging, Facility Solutions, Print, and Publishing and Print Management ("Publishing"). This segment structure is consistent with the way the Chief Operating Decision Maker, who is Veritiv's Chief Executive Officer, makes operating decisions and manages the growth and profitability of the Company's business. The Company also has a Corporate & Other category, which includes certain assets and costs not primarily attributable to any of the reportable segments, as well as the Veritiv logistics solutions business, which provides transportation and warehousing solutions. The following summary describes the products and services offered in each of the reportable segments:

Packaging – The Packaging segment provides standard as well as custom and comprehensive packaging solutions for customers based in North America and in key global markets. The business is strategically focused on higher growth industries including light industrial/general manufacturing, food production, fulfillment and internet retail, as well as niche verticals based on geographical and functional expertise. Veritiv's packaging professionals create customer value through supply chain solutions, structural and graphic packaging design and engineering, automation, workflow and equipment services and kitting and fulfillment.

Facility Solutions – The Facility Solutions segment sources and sells cleaning, break-room and other supplies such as towels, tissues, wipers and dispensers, can liners, commercial cleaning chemicals, soaps and sanitizers, sanitary maintenance supplies and equipment, safety and hazard supplies, and shampoos and amenities primarily in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Veritiv is a leading distributor in the Facility Solutions segment. Through this segment, Veritiv manages a world class network of leading suppliers in most facilities solutions categories. Additionally, the Company offers total cost of ownership solutions with re-merchandising, budgeting and compliance reporting, inventory management and a sales-force trained to bring leading vertical expertise to the major North American geographies.

Print – The Print segment sells and distributes commercial printing, writing, copying, digital, wide format and specialty paper products, graphics consumables and graphics equipment primarily in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. This segment also includes customized paper conversion services of commercial printing paper for distribution to document centers and form printers. Veritiv's broad geographic platform of operations coupled with the breadth of paper and graphics products, including exclusive private brand offerings, provides a foundation to service national, regional and local customers across North America.

•

Publishing – The Publishing segment sells and distributes coated and uncoated commercial printing papers to publishers, retailers, converters, printers and specialty businesses for use in magazines, catalogs, books, directories, gaming, couponing, retail inserts and direct mail. This segment also provides print management, procurement and supply chain management solutions to simplify paper and print procurement processes for Veritiv's customers.

Seasonality

The Company's operating results are subject to seasonal influences. Historically, the Company's higher consolidated net sales occur during the third and fourth quarters while the lowest consolidated net sales occur during the first quarter. The Packaging segment net sales tend to increase each quarter throughout the year and net sales for the first quarter are typically less than net sales for the fourth quarter of the preceding year. Production schedules for non-durable goods that build up to the holidays and peak in the fourth quarter drive this seasonal net sales pattern. Net sales for the Facility Solutions segment tend to

Table of Contents

be highest during the third and fourth quarters due to increased summer demand in the away-from-home resort, cruise and hospitality markets, activities related to back-to-school and increased retail activity during the holidays. Within the Print and Publishing segments, seasonality is driven by increased magazine advertising page counts, retail inserts, catalogs and direct mail primarily due to back-to-school, political election and holiday-related advertising and promotions in the second half of the year.

Results of Operations, Including Business Segments

The following discussion compares the consolidated operating results of Veritiv for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018 and 2017:

| (in millions) | Three Months Ended June 30, | | Increase (Decrease) | | Six Months Ended June 30, | | Increase (Decrease) | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------|---------------------|---------|---------------------------|-----------|---------------------|---------|--|
| | 2018 | 2017 | \$ | % | 2018 | 2017 | \$ | % | |
| Net sales | \$2,171.9 | \$2,028.9 | \$143.0 | 7.0 % | \$4,272.9 | \$4,023.5 | \$249.4 | 6.2 % | |
| Cost of products sold (exclusive of depreciation and amortization shown separately below) | 1,788.5 | 1,660.5 | 128.0 | 7.7 % | 3,518.0 | 3,289.8 | 228.2 | 6.9 % | |
| Distribution expenses | 132.0 | 122.7 | 9.3 | 7.6 % | 265.1 | 248.9 | 16.2 | 6.5 % | |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 223.6 | 211.0 | 12.6 | 6.0 % | 446.3 | 423.3 | 23.0 | 5.4 % | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 14.0 | 13.7 | 0.3 | 2.2 % | 28.4 | 26.8 | 1.6 | 6.0 % | |
| Integration and acquisition expenses | 8.4 | 7.5 | 0.9 | 12.0 % | 16.7 | 13.9 | 2.8 | 20.1 % | |
| Restructuring charges, net | 11.4 | 23.2 | (11.8) | (50.9)% | 23.3 | 27.3 | (4.0) | (14.7)% | |
| Operating loss | (6.0) | (9.7) | 3.7 | (38.1)% | (24.9) | (6.5) | (18.4) | * | |
| Interest expense, net | 10.2 | 7.4 | 2.8 | 37.8 % | 19.5 | 13.8 | 5.7 | 41.3 % | |
| Other (income) expense, net | (2.9) | (0.3) | (2.6) | * | (13.4) | 0.1 | (13.5) | * | |
| Loss before income taxes | (13.3) | (16.8) | 3.5 | (20.8)% | (31.0) | (20.4) | (10.6) | 52.0 % | |
| Income tax benefit | (2.7) | (7.7) | 5.0 | (64.9)% | (4.6) | (9.1) | 4.5 | (49.5)% | |
| Net loss | \$(10.6) | \$(9.1) | \$(1.5) | 16.5 % | \$(26.4) | \$(11.3) | \$(15.1) | 133.6 % | |

* - not meaningful

Net Sales

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2018, net sales increased primarily due to increases in the Packaging, Publishing and Facility Solutions segments, which were partially offset by declines in the Print segment. The incremental increase in net sales resulting from the AAC acquisition for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018 was \$65.5 million and \$126.4 million, respectively. See the "Segment Results" section for additional discussion.

Cost of Products Sold (exclusive of depreciation and amortization shown separately below)

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2018, cost of products sold increased primarily due to higher net sales.

Distribution Expenses

For the three months ended June 30, 2018, distribution expenses increased by \$9.3 million or 7.6%. The increase was primarily due to (i) a \$3.8 million increase related to the acquisition of AAC, (ii) a \$2.3 million increase in facilities rent and other related expenses, primarily due to replacing certain property leases, which were previously treated as financing arrangements, with operating leases, (iii) a \$2.1 million increase in personnel expenses, primarily driven by activity related to increased net sales volume and (iv) a \$0.8 million increase in freight and logistics expenses driven

mostly by increased third-party freight and diesel fuel prices.

For the six months ended June 30, 2018, distribution expenses increased by \$16.2 million or 6.5%. The increase was primarily due to (i) a \$7.6 million increase related to the acquisition of AAC, (ii) a \$4.7 million increase in freight and logistics

27

Table of Contents

expenses driven mostly by increased third-party freight and diesel fuel prices, (iii) a \$1.8 million increase in personnel expenses, primarily driven by activity related to increased net sales volume and (iv) a \$1.4 million increase in facilities rent and other related expenses, primarily due to replacing certain property leases, which were previously treated as financing arrangements, with operating leases.

Selling and Administrative Expenses

For the three months ended June 30, 2018, selling and administrative expenses increased by \$12.6 million or 6.0%. The increase was primarily due to (i) a \$6.6 million increase related to the acquisition of AAC, (ii) a \$3.5 million increase in bad debt expense primarily driven by the Print segment and (iii) a \$2.3 million increase in professional fees expense.

For the six months ended June 30, 2018, selling and administrative expenses increased by \$23.0 million or 5.4%. The increase was primarily due to (i) a \$12.8 million increase related to the acquisition of AAC, (ii) a \$6.8 million increase in bad debt expense primarily driven by the Print segment, (iii) a \$3.2 million increase in personnel expenses primarily due to an increase in incentive compensation, partially offset by a decrease in commissions and travel and entertainment expenses and (iv) a \$3.1 million increase in professional fees expense. These increases were partially offset by a \$1.7 million decrease in marketing and communications expense.

Depreciation and Amortization

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2018, depreciation and amortization increased by \$0.3 million and \$1.6 million, respectively. This was largely related to the acquisition of AAC.

Integration and Acquisition Expenses

See Note 4, Integration, Acquisition and Restructuring Charges, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for information related to the Company's integration and acquisition efforts.

Restructuring Charges, Net

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2018, restructuring charges, net, decreased \$11.8 million and \$4.0 million, respectively. Restructuring charges were incurred during the three and six months ended June 30, 2018, totaling \$10.0 million and \$10.4 million respectively, for termination and repair costs related to the exit of certain facilities categorized as financing obligations with related party. Additionally, during the three and six months ended June 30, 2018, the Company recognized a \$2.1 million gain on the sale of a facility. See Note 4, Integration, Acquisition and Restructuring Charges, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information related to the Company's restructuring efforts. The Company may continue to record restructuring charges in the future as restructuring activities progress, which may include gains or losses from the disposition of assets.

Interest Expense, Net

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2018, interest expense, net increased \$2.8 million and \$5.7 million, respectively. Interest expense increased due to (i) an increased average balance on the Company's ABL Facility and (ii) increased interest rates due primarily to an increase in LIBOR. See Note 5, Debt and Other Obligations, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for information related to the ABL Facility. The increased average balance on the ABL Facility was primarily due to the acquisition of AAC on August 31, 2017. See Note 3, 2017 Acquisition, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for additional details related to the acquisition of AAC.

Other (Income) Expense, Net

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2018, other (income) expense, net, was income of \$2.9 million and \$13.4 million, respectively. This was a net expense decrease of \$2.6 million and \$13.5 million, respectively, compared to the

same periods in 2017. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2018, there was a \$3.0 million and \$11.3 million reduction in the estimated fair value of the AAC contingent consideration, respectively. See Note 9, Fair Value Measurements, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information. The remaining income was primarily driven by changes associated with the Tax Receivable Agreement.

Effective Tax Rate

Veritiv's effective tax rates were 20.3% and 45.8% for the three months ended June 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively, and 14.8% and 44.6% for the six months ended June 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. The difference between the Company's effective tax rates and the U.S. statutory tax rates of 21.0% and 35.0%, respectively, primarily relates to state income taxes (net of

Table of Contents

federal income tax benefit), non-deductible expenses and the Company's income (loss) by jurisdiction. Additionally, the effective tax rate for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018 includes estimates for tax expense for stock compensation vesting and the impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the "Tax Act"). The Tax Act makes broad and complex changes to the U.S. tax code that are included as provisional estimates in the Company's income tax during 2017 as well as changes included in the Company's 2018 income tax estimate. The Company has not made any additional measurement-period adjustments related to the provisional estimates.

The volatility of the Company's effective tax rate has been primarily due to both the level of pre-tax income as well as variations in the Company's income (loss) by jurisdiction. Additionally, uncertainty related to the future impact of the Tax Act may increase effective tax rate volatility. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2018, the Company's provision for income taxes is highly sensitive to certain estimates resulting in the use of a discrete effective tax rate method. However, the Company expects a volatile effective tax rate for the full year 2018, potentially exceeding 100%. While we expect effective tax rate volatility, cash taxes paid in 2018 likely will not exceed \$5 million. Pending further evaluation of the Tax Act, over time and with increasing pre-tax income, the Company estimates its effective tax rate will trend toward approximately 26%. However, the effective tax rate may vary significantly due to potential fluctuations in the amount and source, including both foreign and domestic, of pre-tax income and changes in amounts of non-deductible expenses and other items that could impact the effective tax rate.

Segment Results

Adjusted EBITDA (earnings before interest, income taxes, depreciation and amortization, restructuring charges, net, integration and acquisition expenses and other similar charges including any severance costs, costs associated with warehouse and office openings or closings, consolidation, and relocation and other business optimization expenses, stock-based compensation expense, changes in the LIFO reserve, non-restructuring asset impairment charges, non-restructuring severance charges, non-restructuring pension charges, net, fair value adjustments related to contingent liabilities assumed in mergers and acquisitions and certain other adjustments) is the primary financial performance measure Veritiv uses to manage its businesses, to monitor its results of operations, to measure its performance against the ABL Facility and to incentivize its management.

Veritiv believes investors commonly use Adjusted EBITDA as a key financial metric for valuing companies. In addition, the credit agreement governing the ABL Facility permits the Company to exclude these and other charges in calculating Consolidated EBITDA, as defined in the ABL Facility. This common metric is intended to align shareholders, debt holders and management. Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP financial measure and is not an alternative to net income, operating income or any other measure prescribed by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("U.S. GAAP").

Adjusted EBITDA has limitations as an analytical tool and should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for analysis of Veritiv's results as reported under U.S. GAAP. For example, Adjusted EBITDA:

Does not reflect the Company's income tax expenses or the cash requirements to pay its taxes; and
Although depreciation and amortization charges are non-cash charges, it does not reflect that the assets being depreciated and amortized will often have to be replaced in the future and the foregoing metrics do not reflect any cash requirements for such replacements.

Other companies in the industry may calculate Adjusted EBITDA differently than Veritiv does, limiting its usefulness as a comparative measure. Because of these limitations, Adjusted EBITDA should not be considered as a measure of discretionary cash available to Veritiv to invest in the growth of its business. Veritiv compensates for these limitations by relying on the Company's U.S. GAAP results and by using Adjusted EBITDA for supplemental purposes. Additionally, Adjusted EBITDA is not an alternative measure of financial performance under U.S. GAAP and therefore should be considered in conjunction with net income and other performance measures such as operating income or net cash provided by operating activities and not as an alternative to such U.S. GAAP measures.

Due to the shared nature of the distribution network, distribution expenses are not a specific charge to each segment, but are instead allocated to each segment based primarily on operational metrics that correlate with changes in volume. Accordingly, distribution expenses allocated to each segment are highly interdependent on the results of other segments. Lower volume in any segment that is not offset by a reduction in distribution expenses can result in the other segments absorbing a larger share of distribution expenses. Conversely, higher volume in any segment can result in the other segments absorbing a smaller share of distribution expenses. The impact of this at the segment level is that the changes in distribution expense trends may not correspond with volume trends within a particular segment. The Company sells thousands of products. In the Packaging, Facility Solutions and Print segments, Veritiv is unable to compute the impact of changes in sales volume based on changes in sales of each individual product. Rather, the Company assumes that the margin stays constant and estimates the volume impact based on changes in cost of products sold as a proxy for

Table of Contents

the change in sales volume. After any other significant sales variances are identified, the remaining sales variance is attributed to price/mix.

The Company approximates foreign currency effects by applying the foreign currency exchange rate for the prior period to the local currency results for the current period. We believe the elimination of the foreign currency translation impact provides better year-to-year comparability without the distortion of foreign currency fluctuations. The Company believes that the decline in demand for paper and related products is due to the widespread use of electronic media and permanent product substitution, more e-commerce, less print advertising, fewer catalogs and a reduced volume of direct mail, among other factors. This trend is expected to continue and will place continued pressure on the Company's revenues and profit margins and make it more difficult to maintain or grow Adjusted EBITDA within the Print and Publishing segments.

Included in the following table are net sales and Adjusted EBITDA for each of the reportable segments and Corporate & Other:

| (in millions) | Packaging | Facility Solutions | Print | Publishing | Corporate & Other |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|------------|----------------------|
| Three Months Ended June 30, 2018 | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$887.1 | \$334.4 | \$679.1 | \$238.3 | \$33.0 |
| Adjusted EBITDA | 64.4 | 7.6 | 19.4 | 4.8 | (50.8) |
| Adjusted EBITDA as a % of net sales | 7.3 | % 2.3 | % 2.9 | % 2.0 | % * |
| Three Months Ended June 30, 2017 | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$744.6 | \$329.1 | \$694.8 | \$223.9 | \$36.5 |
| Adjusted EBITDA | 54.1 | 9.8 | 17.6 | 6.0 | (45.0) |
| Adjusted EBITDA as a % of net sales | 7.3 | % 3.0 | % 2.5 | % 2.7 | % * |
| Six Months Ended June 30, 2018 | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$1,732.3 | \$655.0 | \$1,339.9 | \$476.4 | \$69.3 |
| Adjusted EBITDA | 118.0 | 11.7 | 33.1 | 11.6 | (99.3) |
| Adjusted EBITDA as a % of net sales | 6.8 | % 1.8 | % 2.5 | % 2.4 | % * |
| Six Months Ended June 30, 2017 | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$1,466.4 | \$635.9 | \$1,393.5 | \$457.9 | \$69.8 |
| Adjusted EBITDA | 104.6 | 14.8 | 31.7 | 12.1 | (90.9) |
| Adjusted EBITDA as a % of net sales | 7.1 | % 2.3 | % 2.3 | % 2.6 | % * |

* - not meaningful

See Note 13, Segment Information, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information related to Adjusted EBITDA, including a reconciliation of loss before income taxes as reflected in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations to Adjusted EBITDA for reportable segments.

Table of Contents

Packaging

The table below presents selected data for the Packaging segment:

| (in millions) | Three Months | | Increase | | Six Months Ended June | | Increase | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------|------------|-------|-----------------------|-----------|------------|-------|
| | Ended June 30, | | (Decrease) | | 30, | | (Decrease) | |
| | 2018 | 2017 | \$ | % | 2018 | 2017 | \$ | % |
| Net sales | \$887.1 | \$744.6 | \$142.5 | 19.1% | \$1,732.3 | \$1,466.4 | \$265.9 | 18.1% |
| Adjusted EBITDA | 64.4 | 54.1 | 10.3 | 19.0% | 118.0 | 104.6 | 13.4 | 12.8% |
| Adjusted EBITDA as a % of net sales | 7.3 | % 7.3 | % | | 6.8 | % 7.1 | % | |

The table below presents the components of the net sales change compared to the prior year:

| (in millions) | Increase | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| | (Decrease) | |
| | Three Months Ended June 30, 2018 | Six Months Ended June 30, 2018 vs. 2017 |
| Volume | \$141.8 | \$269.0 |
| Foreign currency | 3.0 | 6.8 |
| Price/Mix | (2.3) | (9.9) |
| Total change | \$142.5 | \$265.9 |

Comparison of the Three Months Ended June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2017

Net sales increased \$142.5 million, or 19.1%, compared to the same period in 2017. The net sales increase was primarily attributable to an increase in sales of corrugated products and equipment and parts due to increases in volume and market prices. In addition, \$65.5 million of rigid packaging products were sold in the current period relating to the AAC business acquired in August 2017.

Adjusted EBITDA increased \$10.3 million, or 19.0%, compared to the same period in 2017. The increase in Adjusted EBITDA was primarily attributable to the increase in net sales. The increase in net sales was partially offset by (i) an \$11.0 million increase in selling and administrative expenses, (ii) a \$10.2 million increase in distribution expenses and (iii) cost of products sold increasing at a faster rate than net sales. The increase in selling and administrative expenses was primarily driven by (i) a \$6.6 million increase related to the acquisition of AAC, (ii) a \$2.9 million increase in personnel expenses associated with increased headcount to support the Company's Packaging growth strategy and (iii) a \$1.2 million increase in bad debt expense. The increase in distribution expenses was primarily driven by increased utilization of the distribution network, which was evidenced by (i) a \$3.2 million increase in facilities rent and other related expenses, (ii) a \$1.7 million increase in personnel expenses and (iii) a \$1.1 million increase in freight and logistics expenses primarily driven by increased third-party freight and diesel fuel prices. Facilities rent and other related expenses were negatively impacted due to replacing certain properties previously treated as financing arrangements with operating leases. Additionally, the acquisition of AAC resulted in a \$3.8 million increase in distribution expenses.

Comparison of the Six Months Ended June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2017

Net sales increased \$265.9 million, or 18.1%, compared to the same period in 2017. The net sales increase was primarily attributable to an increase in sales of corrugated products, cushioning products, and equipment and parts due to increases in volume and market prices. In addition, \$126.4 million of rigid packaging products were sold in the current period relating to the AAC business acquired in August 2017.

Adjusted EBITDA increased \$13.4 million, or 12.8%, compared to the same period in 2017. The increase in Adjusted EBITDA was primarily attributable to the increase in net sales. The increase in net sales was partially offset by (i) a \$21.1 million increase in distribution expenses, (ii) a \$20.7 million increase in selling and administrative expenses and (iii) cost of products sold increasing at a faster rate than net sales. The increase in distribution expenses was primarily driven by increased utilization of the distribution network, which was evidenced by (i) a \$5.2 million increase in facilities rent and other related expenses, (ii) a \$3.7 million increase in freight and logistics expenses driven mostly by increased third-party freight and diesel fuel prices and (iii) a \$3.6 million increase in personnel expenses. Additionally, the acquisition of AAC resulted in a \$7.6 million increase in

Table of Contents

distribution expenses. The increase in selling and administrative expenses was driven by (i) a \$12.8 million increase related to the acquisition of AAC, (ii) a \$5.7 million increase in personnel expenses associated with increased headcount to support the Company's Packaging growth strategy and (iii) a \$2.3 million increase in bad debt expense.

Facility Solutions

The table below presents selected data for the Facility Solutions segment:

| (in millions) | Three Months Ended June 30, | | Increase (Decrease) | | Six Months Ended June 30, | | Increase (Decrease) | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | \$ | % | 2018 | 2017 | \$ | % |
| Net sales | \$334.4 | \$329.1 | \$5.3 | 1.6 % | \$655.0 | \$635.9 | \$19.1 | 3.0 % |
| Adjusted EBITDA | 7.6 | 9.8 | (2.2) | (22.4)% | 11.7 | 14.8 | (3.1) | (20.9)% |
| Adjusted EBITDA as a % of net sales | 2.3 % | 3.0 % | | | 1.8 % | 2.3 % | | |

The table below presents the components of the net sales change compared to the prior year:

| (in millions) | Increase (Decrease) | |
|------------------|---|---|
| | Three Months Ended June 30, 2018 vs. 2017 | Six Months Ended June 30, 2018 vs. 2017 |
| Volume | \$6.0 | \$18.0 |
| Foreign currency | 2.8 | 5.6 |
| Price/Mix | (3.5) | (4.5) |
| Total change | \$5.3 | \$19.1 |

Comparison of the Three Months Ended June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2017

Net sales increased \$5.3 million, or 1.6%, compared to the same period in 2017. The net sales increase was primarily attributable to increased sales of food service products, towel and tissue products, can liners and safety supplies.

Adjusted EBITDA decreased \$2.2 million, or 22.4%, compared to the same period in 2017. The increase in net sales was more than offset by (i) cost of products sold increasing at a faster rate than net sales and (ii) a \$1.1 million increase in distribution expenses. The increase in distribution expenses was primarily driven by increased utilization of the distribution network and was evidenced by (i) a \$0.5 million increase in freight and logistics expenses driven mostly by increased diesel fuel prices and (ii) a \$0.3 million increase in personnel expenses.

Comparison of the Six Months Ended June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2017

Net sales increased \$19.1 million, or 3.0%, compared to the same period in 2017. The net sales increase was primarily attributable to increased sales of food service products, towel and tissue products, can liners and safety supplies.

Adjusted EBITDA decreased \$3.1 million, or 20.9% compared to the same period in 2017. The increase in net sales was more than offset by (i) a \$3.9 million increase in distribution expenses and (ii) cost of products sold increasing at a faster rate than net sales. The increase in distribution expenses was primarily driven by increased utilization of the distribution network and was evidenced by (i) a \$2.2 million increase in freight and logistics expenses driven mostly by increased third-party freight and diesel fuel prices and (ii) a \$1.3 million increase in personnel expenses.

Table of Contents

Print

The table below presents selected data for the Print segment:

| (in millions) | Three Months Ended June 30, | | Increase (Decrease) | | Six Months Ended June 30, | | Increase (Decrease) | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|---------------------|--------|---------------------------|-----------|---------------------|--------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | \$ | % | 2018 | 2017 | \$ | % |
| Net sales | \$679.1 | \$694.8 | \$(15.7) | (2.3)% | \$1,339.9 | \$1,393.5 | \$(53.6) | (3.8)% |
| Adjusted EBITDA | 19.4 | 17.6 | 1.8 | 10.2% | 33.1 | 31.7 | 1.4 | 4.4% |
| Adjusted EBITDA as a % of net sales | 2.9% | 2.5% | | | 2.5% | 2.3% | | |

The table below presents the components of the net sales change compared to the prior year:

| (in millions) | Increase (Decrease) | |
|------------------|---|---|
| | Three Months Ended June 30, 2018 vs. 2017 | Six Months Ended June 30, 2018 vs. 2017 |
| Volume | \$(13.7) | \$(48.5) |
| Foreign currency | 2.1 | 4.2 |
| Price/Mix | (4.1) | (9.3) |
| Total change | \$(15.7) | \$(53.6) |

Comparison of the Three Months Ended June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2017

Net sales decreased \$15.7 million, or 2.3%, compared to the same period in 2017. The net sales decrease was primarily attributable to the continued secular decline in the paper industry.

Adjusted EBITDA increased \$1.8 million, or 10.2%, compared to the same period in 2017. The Adjusted EBITDA increase was primarily driven by (i) a \$5.9 million decrease in selling and administration expenses and (ii) a \$1.7 million decrease in distribution expenses, which more than offset the impact of cost of products sold increasing at a faster rate than net sales and the decline in net sales. The decrease in selling and administration expenses was primarily due to a \$7.9 million decrease in personnel expenses due to a decrease in headcount and commission expense primarily related to the Print segment restructuring plan and a decrease in net sales, partially offset by a \$2.8 million increase in bad debt expense. The increase in bad debt expense was primarily due to additional reserves related to certain customers with declining financial conditions. See Note 4, Integration, Acquisition and Restructuring Charges, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding the Print segment restructuring plan. The decrease in distribution expenses was driven by decreased utilization of the distribution network and was evidenced by (i) a \$1.0 million decrease in personnel expenses and (ii) a \$0.7 million decrease in facilities rent and other related expenses.

Comparison of the Six Months Ended June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2017

Net sales decreased \$53.6 million, or 3.8%, compared to the same period in 2017. The net sales decrease was primarily attributable to the continued secular decline in the paper industry.

Adjusted EBITDA increased \$1.4 million, or 4.4%, compared to the same period in 2017. The Adjusted EBITDA increase was primarily driven by (i) a \$10.7 million decrease in selling and administrative expenses and (ii) a \$6.6 million decrease in distribution expenses, which more than offset the decline in net sales and the impact of cost of products sold increasing at a faster rate than net sales. The decrease in selling and administrative expenses was driven by a \$13.8 million decrease in personnel expenses due to a decrease in headcount and commission expense primarily related to the Print segment restructuring plan and a decrease in net sales, partially offset by a \$4.5 million increase in bad debt expense. The increase in bad debt expense was primarily due to additional reserves related to certain customers with declining financial conditions. See Note 4, Integration, Acquisition and Restructuring Charges, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding the Print segment restructuring plan. The decrease in distribution expenses was primarily due to decreased utilization of the distribution network and was evidenced by (i) a \$3.3 million decrease in facilities rent and other related expenses and (ii) a \$3.1 million decrease in personnel expenses.

Table of Contents

Publishing

The table below presents selected data for the Publishing segment:

| (in millions) | Three Months | | Increase | | Six Months Ended | | Increase | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------|------------|---------|------------------|---------|------------|--------|
| | Ended June 30, | | (Decrease) | | June 30, | | (Decrease) | |
| | 2018 | 2017 | \$ | % | 2018 | 2017 | \$ | % |
| Net sales | \$238.3 | \$223.9 | \$14.4 | 6.4 % | \$476.4 | \$457.9 | \$18.5 | 4.0 % |
| Adjusted EBITDA | 4.8 | 6.0 | (1.2) | (20.0)% | 11.6 | 12.1 | (0.5) | (4.1)% |
| Adjusted EBITDA as a % of net sales | 2.0 | % 2.7 | % | | 2.4 | % 2.6 | % | |

The table below presents the components of the net sales change compared to the prior year:

| (in millions) | Increase (Decrease) | |
|------------------|---|---|
| | Three Months Ended June 30, 2018 | Six Months Ended June 30, 2018 vs. 2017 |
| | vs. 2017 | vs. 2017 |
| Volume | \$2.3 | \$ 5.9 |
| Foreign currency | 0.5 | 1.2 |
| Price/Mix | 11.6 | 11.4 |
| Total change | \$14.4 | \$ 18.5 |

Comparison of the Three Months Ended June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2017

Net sales increased \$14.4 million, or 6.4%, compared to the same period in 2017. The net sales increase was primarily attributable to increases in price.

Adjusted EBITDA decreased \$1.2 million, or 20.0%, compared to the same period in 2017. The Adjusted EBITDA decrease was primarily attributable to cost of products sold increasing at a faster rate than net sales partially offset by an increase in net sales.

Comparison of the Six Months Ended June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2017

Net sales increased \$18.5 million, or 4.0%, compared to the same period in 2017. The net sales increase was primarily attributable to increases in price and volume.

Adjusted EBITDA decreased \$0.5 million, or 4.1%, compared to the same period in 2017. The Adjusted EBITDA decrease was primarily attributable to cost of products sold increasing at a faster rate than net sales partially offset by a \$1.7 million decrease in selling and administrative expenses which was primarily driven by a \$2.1 million decrease in personnel costs.

Table of Contents

Corporate & Other

The table below presents selected data for Corporate & Other:

| | Three Months | | Increase | | Six Months | | Increase | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------|------------|---------|------------|--------|------------|--------|
| | Ended June | | (Decrease) | | Ended June | | (Decrease) | |
| (in millions) | 2018 | 2017 | \$ | % | 2018 | 2017 | \$ | % |
| Net sales | \$33.0 | \$36.5 | \$(3.5) | (9.6)% | \$69.3 | \$69.8 | \$(0.5) | (0.7)% |
| Adjusted EBITDA | (50.8) | (45.0) | (5.8) | (12.9)% | (99.3) | (90.9) | (8.4) | (9.2)% |

Comparison of the Three Months Ended June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2017

Net sales decreased \$3.5 million, or 9.6%, compared to the same period in 2017. The net sales decrease was primarily attributable to a decrease in freight brokerage services.

Adjusted EBITDA decreased \$5.8 million, or 12.9%, compared to the same period in 2017. The decrease in Adjusted EBITDA was primarily driven by a \$6.4 million increase in selling and administrative expenses, partially offset by a \$0.8 million decrease in freight and logistics expense. The increase in selling and administrative expenses was primarily driven by an increase in personnel expenses primarily due to higher incentive compensation and health and welfare expenses.

Comparison of the Six Months Ended June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2017

Net sales decreased \$0.5 million, or 0.7%, compared to the same period in 2017. The net sales decrease was primarily attributable to a decrease in freight brokerage services.

Adjusted EBITDA decreased \$8.4 million, or 9.2%, compared to the same period in 2017. The decrease in Adjusted EBITDA was primarily driven by a \$10.9 million increase in selling and administrative expenses, partially offset by a \$1.4 million decrease in freight and logistics expense. The increase in selling and administrative expenses was primarily driven by an increase in personnel expenses primarily due to higher incentive compensation and health and welfare expenses.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The cash requirements of the Company are provided by cash flows from operations and borrowings under the ABL Facility. The following table sets forth a summary of cash flows:

| | Six Months | |
|----------------------------------|------------|---------|
| | Ended June | |
| (in millions) | 2018 | 2017 |
| Net cash provided by (used for): | | |
| Operating activities | \$8.0 | \$(3.9) |
| Investing activities | (17.5) | (10.2) |
| Financing activities | (0.9) | (1.0) |
| Operating Activities | | |

Net cash provided by operating activities improved by \$11.9 million compared to the prior year as a result of the combination of improvements in the changes in operating assets and liabilities, partially offset by a decline in operating results. The improvements in changes in operating assets and liabilities were primarily driven by (i) a decrease in working capital primarily due to increases in accounts payable, which more than offset increases in accounts receivable and inventory, driven by management's focus on working capital improvement and (ii) increases in other accrued liabilities, offset by decreases in other operating activities, primarily driven by accruals for estimated inventory returns as well as the restructuring activities described in Note 4, Integration, Acquisition and Restructuring Charges, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Investing Activities

Net cash used for investing activities increased by \$7.3 million compared to the prior year primarily due to lower proceeds from the sale of assets. See Note 5, Debt and Other Obligations, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding the Company's sale of its warehouse and distribution facility in Austin, Texas in 2017.

Table of Contents

Financing Activities

Net cash used for financing activities improved by \$0.1 million compared to the prior year primarily due to a favorable change in the balance of outstanding checks offset by lower net borrowings under the Company's ABL Facility. See Note 5, Debt and Other Obligations, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information regarding the Company's debt position.

Funding and Liquidity Strategy

Availability under the ABL Facility is determined based upon a monthly borrowing base calculation which includes eligible customer receivables and inventory, less outstanding borrowings, letters of credit and certain designated reserves. As of June 30, 2018, the available additional borrowing capacity under the ABL Facility was approximately \$273.3 million. As of June 30, 2018, the Company held \$10.1 million in outstanding letters of credit. See Note 5, Debt and Other Obligations, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information regarding the Company's debt position.

The ABL Facility has a springing minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of at least 1.00 to 1.00 on a trailing four-quarter basis, which will be tested only when specified availability is less than the limits outlined under the ABL Facility. At June 30, 2018, the above test was not applicable and it is not expected to be applicable in the next 12 months.

Veritiv's ability to fund its capital needs will depend on its ongoing ability to generate cash from operations, borrowings under the ABL Facility and funds received from capital market offerings. If Veritiv's cash flows from operating activities are lower than expected, the Company will need to borrow under the ABL Facility and may need to incur additional debt or issue additional equity. Although management believes that the arrangements currently in place will permit Veritiv to finance its operations on acceptable terms and conditions, the Company's access to, and the availability of, financing on acceptable terms and conditions in the future will be impacted by many factors, including the liquidity of the overall capital markets and the current state of the economy.

Veritiv's management expects that the Company's primary future cash needs will be for working capital, capital expenditures, contractual commitments and strategic investments. Additionally, management expects that cash provided by operating activities and available capacity under the ABL Facility will provide sufficient funds to operate the business and meet other liquidity needs.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

Veritiv does not have any off-balance sheet arrangements as of June 30, 2018, other than operating lease obligations and the letters of credit under the ABL Facility. The Company does not have any off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a material current or future effect on its financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources.

Contractual Obligations

There have been no material changes to the Company's contractual obligations from those disclosed in Veritiv's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

See Note 2, Revenue Recognition, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for a description of the impact that adoption of Accounting Standards Update 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606) had on the Company's financial results and related disclosures. There have been no material changes to the Company's critical accounting policies and estimates from those disclosed in Veritiv's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards

See Note 1, Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding recently issued accounting standards.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Table of Contents

There have been no material changes in market risk from the information provided in Item 7A "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk" of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

The Company's management has carried out an evaluation, with the participation of its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Based upon such evaluation, management has concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of June 30, 2018.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There have been no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended June 30, 2018 that has materially affected, or is likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting. During the third quarter of 2017, the Company completed the acquisition of AAC. As permitted by SEC staff interpretive guidance that an assessment of a recently acquired business may be omitted from the scope of evaluation for one year from the date of acquisition, management excluded AAC from its interim evaluation of internal control over financial reporting.

Table of Contents

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Refer to Note 12. Commitments and Contingencies, to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

There have been no material changes from the risk factors previously disclosed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

Exhibit No. Description

- 31.1* Rule 13a-14(a) Certification of the Chief Executive Officer.
- 31.2* Rule 13a-14(a) Certification of the Chief Financial Officer.
- 32.1* Section 1350 Certification of the Chief Executive Officer.
- 32.2* Section 1350 Certification of the Chief Financial Officer.
- 101.INS* XBRL Instance Document.
- 101.SCH* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.
- 101.CAL* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document.
- 101.DEF* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document.
- 101.LAB* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document.
- 101.PRE* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document.

* Filed herewith

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

VERITIV CORPORATION
(Registrant)

Date: August 9, 2018 By: /s/ Stephen J. Smith
Name: Stephen J. Smith
Title: Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)

Date: August 9, 2018 By: /s/ Andrew E. Magley
Name: Andrew E. Magley
Title: Chief Accounting Officer
(Principal Accounting Officer)