## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

# **FORM 10-Q**

or

X QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIESEXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2019

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

For the transition period from to

**COMMISSION FILE NUMBER: 001-33988** 

# **Graphic Packaging Holding Company**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

1500 Riveredge Parkway, Suite 100

Atlanta, Georgia (Address of principal executive offices)

30328 (Zip Code)

26-0405422

(I.R.S. employer

identification no.)

(770) 240-7200

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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  $\square$  No  $\square$ 

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, a 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. (Check one):

> Large accelerated filer ☑ Non-accelerated filer  $\Box$  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Accelerated filer  $\Box$ 

Smaller reporting company  $\Box$ Emerging growth company  $\Box$ 

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.  $\Box$ 

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

As of October 21, 2019, there were 290,246,907 shares of the registrant's Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share, outstanding.

## Information Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements regarding the expectations of Graphic Packaging Holding Company ("GPHC" and, together with its subsidiaries, the "Company"), including, but not limited to, the deductibility of goodwill for tax purposes, the availability of net operating losses to offset U.S. federal income taxes and the timing related to the Company's future U.S. federal income tax payments, reclassification of loss on derivative instruments, termination of the U.S. pension plan and charges related thereto, charges associated with CRB mill exit activities, capital investment, depreciation and amortization, interest expense, pension plan contributions and post-retirement health care benefit payments in this report constitute "forward-looking statements" as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements are based on currently available operating, financial and competitive information and are subject to various risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the Company's historical experience and its present expectations. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, inflation of and volatility in raw material and energy costs, changes in consumer buying habits and product preferences, competition with other paperboard manufacturers and converters, product substitution, the Company's ability to implement its business strategies, including strategic acquisitions, the Company's ability to successfully integrate acquisitions, productivity initiatives and cost reduction plans, the Company's ability to utilize its net operating business internationally, and the impact of regulatory and litigation matters, including those that could impact the Company's ability to utilize its net operating business as use statements speak only as of the date on which they are made and the Company undertakes no obligation to update such statements, except as may be required by law. Additional information regarding these and other risks is contained in Part I, "Item 1

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## PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## **ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

## GRAPHIC PACKAGING HOLDING COMPANY CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30,			Nine Moi Septen			
In millions, except per share amounts		2019		2018	2019		2018
Net Sales	\$	1,581.6	\$	1,531.8	\$ 4,640.3	\$	4,520.1
Cost of Sales		1,315.2		1,273.5	3,820.0		3,800.4
Selling, General and Administrative		131.3		118.6	387.8		357.4
Other Expense, Net		4.2		0.7	7.1		4.1
Business Combinations, Shutdown and Other Special Charges and (Gain) on Sale of Assets, Net		8.2		(27.4)	24.3		7.5
Income from Operations		122.7		166.4	401.1		350.7
Nonoperating Pension and Postretirement Benefit Income (Expense)		_		4.1	(0.1)		12.4
Interest Expense, Net		(35.9)		(31.0)	(106.4)		(90.1)
Loss on Modification or Extinguishment of Debt		—		—	—		(1.9)
Income before Income Taxes and Equity Income of Unconsolidated Entity		86.8		139.5	294.6		271.1
Income Tax Expense		(16.9)		(17.8)	(60.9)		(41.4)
Income before Equity Income of Unconsolidated Entity		69.9		121.7	233.7		229.7
Equity Income of Unconsolidated Entity		0.1		0.3	0.5		1.0
Net Income		70.0		122.0	234.2		230.7
Net Income Attributable to Noncontrolling Interest		(17.9)		(27.7)	(60.4)		(57.1)
Net Income Attributable to Graphic Packaging Holding Company	\$	52.1	\$	94.3	\$ 173.8	\$	173.6
Net Income Per Share Attributable to Graphic Packaging Holding Company — Basic	\$	0.18	\$	0.30	\$ 0.59	\$	0.56
Net Income Per Share Attributable to Graphic Packaging Holding Company - Diluted	\$	0.18	\$	0.30	\$ 0.59	\$	0.56
Cash Dividends Declared Per Share	\$	0.075	\$	0.075	\$ 0.225	\$	0.225

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

# GRAPHIC PACKAGING HOLDING COMPANY CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (Unaudited)

#### Three Months Ended September 30, 2019

	2019					
In millions		Р	Graphic ackaging Holding Company	Noncontrolling Interest	Redeemable Noncontrolling Interest	Total
Net Income		\$	52.1 \$	13.8	\$ 4.1 \$	70.0
Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), Net of Tax:						
Pension and Postretirement Benefit Plans			1.1	0.3	0.1	1.5
Currency Translation Adjustment			(14.6)	(3.1)	(0.9)	(18.6)
Total Other Comprehensive Loss, Net of Tax			(13.5)	(2.8)	(0.8)	(17.1)
Total Comprehensive Income		\$	38.6 \$	11.0	\$ 3.3 \$	52.9
	2018					
Net Income		\$	94.3 \$	21.3	\$ 6.4 \$	122.0
Other Comprehensive Income, Net of Tax:						
Derivative Instruments			1.3		—	1.3
Pension and Postretirement Benefit Plans			0.7		_	0.7
Currency Translation Adjustment			1.2	0.8	0.2	2.2
Total Other Comprehensive Income, Net of Tax			3.2	0.8	0.2	4.2
Total Comprehensive Income		\$	97.5 \$	22.1	\$ 6.6 \$	126.2

Nine Months Ended September 30,

20	10	

In millions		I	Graphic Packaging Holding Company	Noncontrolling Interest	Redeemable Noncontrolling Interest	Total
Net Income		\$	173.8	\$ 46.6	\$ 13.8	\$ 234.2
Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income, Net of Tax:						
Derivative Instruments			(4.8)	(1.4)	(0.4)	(6.6)
Pension and Postretirement Benefit Plans			3.2	0.9	0.3	4.4
Currency Translation Adjustment			(13.3)	(2.8)	(0.9)	(17.0)
Total Other Comprehensive Loss, Net of Tax			(14.9)	(3.3)	(1.0)	(19.2)
Total Comprehensive Income		\$	158.9	\$ 43.3	\$ 12.8	\$ 215.0
	2018					
Net Income	:	\$	173.6	\$ 44.0	\$ 13.1	\$ 230.7
Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), Net of Tax:						
Derivative Instruments			2.7	0.2	0.1	3.0
Pension and Postretirement Benefit Plans			2.0	0.2	0.1	2.3
Currency Translation Adjustment			(7.6)	(0.7)	(0.3)	(8.6)
Total Other Comprehensive Loss, Net of Tax			(2.9)	(0.3)	(0.1)	(3.3)
Total Comprehensive Income		\$	170.7	\$ 43.7	\$ 13.0	\$ 227.4

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

## GRAPHIC PACKAGING HOLDING COMPANY CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited)

(Unaudited)				
In millions, except share and per share amounts	Se	ptember 30, 2019	D	ecember 31, 2018
ASSETS		2017		2010
Current Assets:				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	48.7	\$	70.5
Receivables, Net		591.9		572.9
Inventories, Net		1,075.2		1,014.4
Other Current Assets		55.2		106.0
Total Current Assets		1,771.0		1,763.8
Property, Plant and Equipment, Net		3,208.0		3,239.7
Goodwill		1,468.4		1,460.6
Intangible Assets, Net		481.0		523.8
Other Assets		265.7		71.3
Total Assets	\$	7,194.1	\$	7,059.2
LIABILITIES				
Current Liabilities:				
Short-Term Debt and Current Portion of Long-Term Debt	\$	54.4	\$	52.0
Accounts Payable		628.7		711.6
Compensation and Employee Benefits		144.2		154.4
Other Accrued Liabilities		264.5		254.3
Total Current Liabilities		1,091.8		1,172.3
Long-Term Debt		2,935.0		2,905.1
Deferred Income Tax Liabilities		495.1		462.2
Accrued Pension and Postretirement Benefits		102.1		107.5
Other Noncurrent Liabilities		264.2		117.8
Redeemable Noncontrolling Interest (Note 14)		271.3		275.8
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY				
Preferred Stock, par value \$0.01 per share; 100,000,000 shares authorized; no shares issued or outstanding		—		—
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share; 1,000,000,000 shares authorized; 290,244,799 and 299,891,585 shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively		2.9		3.0
Capital in Excess of Par Value		1,901.4		1,944.4
Retained Earnings		45.1		10.0
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss		(392.8)		(377.9)
Total Graphic Packaging Holding Company Shareholders' Equity		1,556.6		1,579.5
Noncontrolling Interest		478.0		439.0
Total Equity		2,034.6		2,018.5
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	\$	7,194.1	\$	7,059.2

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

## GRAPHIC PACKAGING HOLDING COMPANY CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY (Unaudited)

_	Common S	tock	_	Capital in		А	.ccumulated Other				
In millions, except share amounts	Shares	Amount		Excess of Par Value		Retained Earnings		Comprehensive (Loss) Income	Noncontrolling Interests	То	otal Equity
Balances at December 31, 2018	299,807,779	\$ 3.0	\$	1,944.4	\$	10.0	\$	(377.9)	\$ 439.0	\$	2,018.5
Net Income	_	_		_		57.9		_	15.6		73.5
Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income, Net of Tax:											
Derivative Instruments	—	_		_		_		(0.4)	(0.1)		(0.5)
Pension and Postretirement Benefit Plans	—	—		—		—		1.2	0.2		1.4
Currency Translation Adjustment	—	_		_		_		3.9	0.9		4.8
Repurchase of Common Stock <sup>(a)</sup>	(5,033,426)	(0.1)	)	(27.2)		(32.2)		—	—		(59.5)
Dividends Declared	_	_		_		(22.1)		_	_		(22.1)
Reclassification of Redeemable Noncontrolling Interest for Share Repurchases	_	_		_		_		_	(6.7)		(6.7)
Distribution of Membership Interest	—	_		_		_		—	(5.0)		(5.0)
Recognition of Stock-Based Compensation, Net	—	_		0.9		_		—	—		0.9
Issuance of Shares for Stock-Based Awards	530,196	_		_		_		_	_		_
Balances at March 31, 2019	295,304,549	\$ 2.9	\$	1,918.1	\$	13.6	\$	(373.2)	\$ 443.9	\$	2,005.3
Net Income	_	_		_		63.8		_	17.2		81.0
Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income, Net of Tax:											
Derivative Instruments	_	_		_		_		(4.4)	(1.3)		(5.7)
Pension and Postretirement Benefit Plans	—	—		—		—		0.9	0.4		1.3
Currency Translation Adjustment	—	_		_		_		(2.6)	(0.6)		(3.2)
Repurchase of Common Stock	(1,428,470)	_		(7.7)		(10.6)		—	—		(18.3)
Dividends Declared	_	_		_		(22.1)		_	_		(22.1)
Reclassification of Redeemable Noncontrolling Interest for Share Repurchases	_	_		—		—		_	19.1		19.1
Distribution of Membership Interest	—	_		_		_		—	(6.4)		(6.4)
Recognition of Stock-Based Compensation, Net	—	_		5.9		_		—	—		5.9
Issuance of Shares for Stock-Based Awards	94,327	_		_		_		_	—		_
Balances at June 30, 2019	293,970,406	\$ 2.9	\$	1,916.3	\$	44.7	\$	(379.3)	\$ 472.3	\$	2,056.9
Net Income	_	_		_		52.1		_	13.8		65.9
Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), Net of Tax:											
Pension and Postretirement Benefit Plans	_	_		_		_		1.1	0.3		1.4
Currency Translation Adjustment	—	—		—		—		(14.6)	(3.1)		(17.7)
Repurchase of Common Stock	(3,729,361)	_		(20.2)		(29.9)		_	_		(50.1)
Dividends Declared	—	_		—		(21.8)		—	—		(21.8)
Distribution of Membership Interest	—	_		_		_		_	(5.3)		(5.3)
Recognition of Stock-Based Compensation, Net	—	—		5.3		—		_	—		5.3
Issuance of Shares for Stock-Based Awards	3,754	_		_		_		_	_		_
Balances at September 30, 2019	290,244,799	\$ 2.9	\$	1,901.4	\$	45.1	\$	(392.8)	\$ 478.0	\$	2,034.6

 $^{(a)}$  Includes 33,263 shares repurchased but not yet settled as of March 31, 2019.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

## GRAPHIC PACKAGING HOLDING COMPANY CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY (Unaudited)

	Common St	ock			Capital in		(Accumulated	Accumulated Other			
In millions, except share amounts	Shares	Aı	nount	Е	xcess of Par Value	D	eficit) Retained Earnings	Comprehensive (Loss) Income	Noncontrolling Interests	То	otal Equity
Balances at December 31, 2017	309,715,624	\$	3.1	\$	1,683.6	\$	(56.0)	\$ (338.8)	s —	\$	1,291.9
NACP Combination	_		_		395.1		_	_	439.8		834.9
Net Income	_		_				29.9	_	9.9		39.8
Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income, Net of Tax:											
Derivative Instruments	—		_		_		_	(0.6)	(0.2)		(0.8)
Pension and Postretirement Benefit Plans	_		_		_		_	0.5	0.1		0.6
Currency Translation Adjustment	—		_		—		_	16.0	3.2		19.2
Dividends Declared	_		_		_		(23.3)		_		(23.3)
Distribution of Membership Interest	_		_		—		_	_	(3.6)		(3.6)
Recognition of Stock-Based Compensation, Net	_		_		(0.9)		_		_		(0.9)
Issuance of Shares for Stock-Based Awards	563,903		—		_		_	_	_		_
Balances at March 31, 2018	310,279,527	\$	3.1	\$	2,077.8	\$	(49.4)	\$ (322.9)	\$ 449.2	\$	2,157.8
NACP Combination	—		—		(5.0)		_	_	3.9		(1.1)
Net Income	_		_		_		49.4	_	12.8		62.2
Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), Net of Tax:											
Derivative Instruments	_		_				_	2.0	0.4		2.4
Pension and Postretirement Benefit Plans	—		_		—		_	0.8	0.1		0.9
Currency Translation Adjustment	_		_		_		_	(24.8)	(4.7)		(29.5)
Dividends Declared	—						(23.3)	—	—		(23.3)
Distribution of Membership Interest	_		_					_	(5.8)		(5.8)
Recognition of Stock-Based Compensation, Net	—		_		4.8		_	_	_		4.8
Issuance of Shares for Stock-Based Awards	64,309		_				_	_	_		_
Balances at June 30, 2018	310,343,836	\$	3.1	\$	2,077.6	\$	(23.3)	\$ (344.9)	\$ 455.9	\$	2,168.4
NACP Combination	_		_		0.1		_	_	(0.1)		_
Net Income	—		_		—		94.3	_	21.3		115.6
Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), Net of Tax:											
Derivative Instruments	—		—				_	1.3	—		1.3
Pension and Postretirement Benefit Plans	—		—		—		—	0.7	—		0.7
Currency Translation Adjustment	—		—		—		_	1.2	0.8		2.0
Dividends Declared	—		—		—		(23.2)	—	—		(23.2)
Distribution of Membership Interest	—		—				—	—	(4.8)		(4.8)
Recognition of Stock-Based Compensation, Net	_		_		1.7		_	_	—		1.7
Issuance of Shares for Stock-Based Awards	1,087						—	—	—		—
Balances at September 30, 2018	310,344,923	\$	3.1	\$	2,079.4	\$	47.8	\$ (341.7)	\$ 473.1	\$	2,261.7

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

## GRAPHIC PACKAGING HOLDING COMPANY CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)

(Unautieu)		Nine Mo	nths E	nded
			nber 3	60,
In millions		2019		2018
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:				
Net Income	\$	234.2	\$	230.7
Adjustments to Reconcile Net Income to Net Cash Used in Operating Activities:				
Depreciation and Amortization		337.8		331.8
Deferred Income Taxes		34.0		19.9
Amount of Postretirement Expense Greater (Less) Than Funding		0.6		(2.5)
Gain on the Sale of Assets		—		(38.6)
Other, Net		18.4		31.5
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities		(324.3)		(872.8)
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities		300.7		(300.0)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:				
Capital Spending		(213.1)		(258.6)
Packaging Machinery Spending		(16.8)		(11.4)
Acquisition of Businesses, Net of Cash Acquired		(52.9)		(89.0)
Proceeds Received from the Sale of Assets, Net of Selling Costs		—		49.4
Beneficial Interest on Sold Receivables		320.3		902.8
Beneficial Interest Obtained in Exchange for Proceeds		(155.4)		(226.9)
Other, Net		(3.5)		(6.0)
Net Cash (Used in) Provided by Investing Activities		(121.4)		360.3
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:				
Repurchase of Common Stock		(128.8)		_
Payments on Debt		(27.4)		(143.3)
Proceeds from Issuance of Debt		300.0		_
Borrowings under Revolving Credit Facilities		1,970.7		1,297.5
Payments on Revolving Credit Facilities		(2,216.0)		(1,148.5)
Repurchase of Common Stock related to Share-Based Payments		(4.1)		(4.1)
Debt Issuance Costs		(5.0)		(7.9)
Dividends and Distributions Paid to GPIP Partner		(87.0)		(82.1)
Other, Net		(3.2)		1.2
Net Cash Used in Financing Activities		(200.8)		(87.2)
Effect of Exchange Rate Changes on Cash		(0.3)		(0.8)
Net Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents		(21.8)		(27.7)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period		70.5		67.4
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD	\$	48.7	\$	39.7
Non-cash Investing Activities:				
Beneficial Interest (Sold) Obtained in Exchange for Trade Receivables	\$	(91.7)	\$	874.6
Non-cash Investment in NACP Combination	Ý		-14	1,235.7
Non-cash Investing Activities	\$	(91.7)	\$	2,110.3
Non-cash Financing Activities:				,
Non-cash Financing of NACP Combination	\$	_	\$	660.0
Non-Cash Financing Activities	\$	_	\$	660.0
	3		φ	000.0

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

## NOTE 1 — GENERAL INFORMATION

## Nature of Business and Basis of Presentation

Graphic Packaging Holding Company ("GPHC" and, together with its subsidiaries, the "Company") is committed to providing consumer packaging that makes a world of difference. The Company is a leading provider of paper-based packaging solutions for a wide variety of products to food, beverage, foodservice and other consumer products companies. The Company operates on a global basis, is one of the largest producers of folding cartons in the United States ("U.S.") and holds leading market positions in coated-recycled paperboard ("CRB"), coated unbleached kraft paperboard ("CUK") and solid bleached sulfate paperboard ("SBS").

The Company's customers include many of the world's most widely recognized companies and brands with prominent market positions in beverage, food, foodservice, and other consumer products. The Company strives to provide its customers with packaging solutions designed to deliver marketing and performance benefits at a competitive cost by capitalizing on its low-cost paperboard mills and converting facilities, its proprietary carton and packaging designs, and its commitment to quality and service. On January 1, 2018, GPHC, a Delaware corporation, International Paper Company, a New York corporation ("IP"), Graphic Packaging International Partners, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company formerly known as Gazelle Newco LLC and a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company ("GPIP"), and Graphic Packaging International, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company formerly known as Graphic Packaging International, Inc. and a subsidiary of GPIP ("GPIL"), completed a series of transactions pursuant to an agreement dated October 23, 2017, among the foregoing parties (the "Transaction Agreement"). Pursuant to the Transaction Agreement (i) a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company transferred its ownership interest in GPIL to GPIP; (ii) IP transferred its North America Consumer Packaging ("NACP") business to GPIP, which was then subsequently transferred to GPIL; (iii) GPIP issued membership interests to IP, and IP was admitted as a member of GPIP; and (iv) GPIL assumed certain indebtedness of IP (the "NACP Combination"). For more information regarding the NACP Combination, see "*Note 1 — Nature of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*" of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company's 2018 Form 10-K.

The Company's Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements include all subsidiaries in which the Company has the ability to exercise direct or indirect control over operating and financial policies. Intercompany transactions and balances are eliminated in consolidation.

In the Company's opinion, the accompanying Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements contain all normal recurring adjustments necessary to present fairly the financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the interim periods. The Company's year end Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet data was derived from audited financial statements. The accompanying unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with instructions to Form 10-Q and Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X and do not include all the information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") for complete financial Statements. Therefore, these Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with GPHC's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018. In addition, the preparation of the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual amounts could differ from those estimates and changes in these estimates are recorded when known.

The Company has reclassified the presentation of certain prior period information to conform to the current presentation. This reclassification had no impact on operating income.

For a summary of the Company's significant accounting policies, please refer to GPHC's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018.

## **Revenue Recognition**

The Company has two primary activities, the manufacturing and converting of paperboard, from which it generates revenue from contracts with customers. Revenue is disaggregated primarily by geography and type of activity as further explained in "*Note 12-Segments*." All reportable segments and the Australia and Pacific Rim operating segments recognize revenue under the same method, allocate transaction price using similar methods, and have similar economic factors impacting the uncertainty of revenue and related cash flows.

Revenue is recognized on the Company's annual and multi-year supply contracts when the Company satisfies the performance obligation by transferring control over the product or service to a customer, which is generally based on shipping terms and passage of title under the point-in-time method of recognition. For the three months ended September 30, 2019 and 2018, the Company recognized \$1,577.6 million and \$1,527.5 million, respectively, of revenue from contracts with customers. For the nine months ended September 30, 2019 and 2018, the Company recognized \$4,627.2 million and \$4,507.5 million, respectively, of revenue from contracts with customers.

The transaction price allocated to each performance obligation consists of the stand alone selling price, estimates of rebates and other sales or contract renewal incentives, and cash discounts and sales returns ("Variable Consideration") and excludes sales tax. Estimates are made for Variable Consideration based on contract terms and historical experience of actual results and are applied to the performance obligations as they are satisfied. Purchases by the Company's principal customers are manufactured and shipped with minimal lead time, therefore performance obligations are generally satisfied shortly after manufacturing and shipment. The Company uses payment terms that are consistent with industry practice.

The Company's contract assets consist primarily of contract renewal incentive payments to customers which are amortized over the period in which performance obligations related to the contract renewal are satisfied. As of September 30, 2019 and December 31, 2018, contract assets were \$19.0 million and \$19.6 million, respectively. The Company's contract liabilities consist principally of rebates, and as of September 30, 2019 and December 31, 2018 were \$41.3 million and \$42.5 million, respectively.

The Company did not have a material amount relating to backlog orders at September 30, 2019 or December 31, 2018.

#### Accounts Receivable and Allowances

The Company has entered into agreements to sell, on a revolving basis, certain trade accounts receivable to third party financial institutions. Transfers under these agreements meet the requirements to be accounted for as sales in accordance with the *Transfers and Servicing* topic of the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification (the "Codification"). The loss on sale is not material and is included in Other Expense, Net on the Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations. The following table summarizes the activity under these programs as of September 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively:

	Nine M	Nine Months Ende		
	Sep	tember	30,	
In millions	2019		2018	
Receivables Sold and Derecognized	\$ 2,033.1	\$	2,507.2	
Proceeds Collected on Behalf of Financial Institutions	1,660.0		2,449.8	
Net Proceeds Received From (Paid to) Financial Institutions	37.9		(121.7)	
Deferred Purchase Price <sup>(a)</sup>	4.9		282.3	
Pledged Receivables	93.1			

(a) Included in Other Current Assets and represents a beneficial interest in the receivables sold to the financial institutions, which is a Level 3 fair value measure.

The Company has also entered into various factoring and supply chain financing arrangements, which also qualify for sale accounting in accordance with the *Bransfers and Servicing* topic of the FASB Codification. For the nine months ended September 30, 2019 and 2018, the Company sold receivables of approximately \$29 million and \$86 million, respectively, related to these factoring arrangements.

Receivables sold under all programs subject to continuing involvement, which consist principally of collection services, at September 30, 2019 and December 31, 2018, were approximately \$535 million and \$602 million, respectively.

#### **Capital Allocation Plan**

During the first nine months of 2019, the Company's board of directors declared three regular quarterly dividends of \$0.075 per share of common stock to shareholders of record as follows:

Date Declared	Record Date	Payment Date
February 21, 2019	March 15, 2019	April 5, 2019
May 22, 2019	June 15, 2019	July 5, 2019
July 25, 2019	September 15, 2019	October 5, 2019

On January 28, 2019, the Company's board of directors authorized an additional share repurchase program to allow the Company to purchase up to \$00 million of the Company's issued and outstanding shares of common stock through open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions and Rule 10b5-1 plans (the "2019 share repurchase program"). The previous \$250 million share repurchase program was authorized on January 10, 2017 (the "2017 share repurchase program"). During the first nine months of 2019, the Company repurchased 10,191,257 shares of its common stock at an average price of \$2.55, including 7.4 million shares repurchase dude the 2017 share repurchase program thereby completing that program. The Company did not repurchase any shares of its common stock during the nine months ended September 30, 2018. As of September 30, 2019, the Company has approximately \$462 million available for additional repurchases under the 2019 share repurchase program.

## Business Combinations, Shutdown and Other Special Charges and (Gain) on Sale of Assets, Net

The following table summarizes the transactions recorded in Business Combinations, Shutdown and Other Special Charges and (Gain) on Sale of Assets, Net in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations:

	Three Mo	Ended	Nine Months Ended				
	Septe	30,	Septe	mber 3	;0,		
In millions	 2019		2018	2019		2018	
Charges Associated with Business Combinations	\$ 0.6	\$	8.3	\$ 3.2	\$	41.9	
Shutdown and Other Special Charges	4.6		1.4	18.1		4.2	
Exit Activities <sup>(a)</sup>	3.0			3.0		—	
Gain on Sale of Assets			(37.1)	_		(38.6)	
Total	\$ 8.2	\$	(27.4)	\$ 24.3	\$	7.5	

(a) Relates to the Company's CRB mills exit activities (see "Note 16 - Exit Activities").

2019

On August 1, 2019, the Company acquired substantially all the assets of Artistic Carton Company ("Artistic"), a diversified producer of folding cartons and CRB. The acquisition included two converting facilities located in Auburn, Indiana and Elgin, Illinois (included in the Americas Paperboard Packaging reportable segment) and one CRB paperboard mill located in White Pigeon, Michigan (included in the Paperboard Mills reportable segment).

2018

On September 30, 2018, the Company acquired substantially all the assets of the foodservice business of Letica Corporation, a subsidiary of RPC Group PLC ("Letica Foodservice"), a producer of paperboard-based cold and hot cups and cartons. The acquisition included two facilities located in Clarksville, Tennessee and Pittston, Pennsylvania. Letica Foodservice is included in the Americas Paperboard Packaging reportable segment.

On June 12, 2018, the Company acquired substantially all the assets of PFP, LLC and its related entity, PFP Dallas Converting, LLC (collectively, "PFP"), a converter focused on the production of paperboard based air filter frames. The acquisition included two facilities located in Lebanon, Tennessee and Lancaster, Texas. PFP is included in the Americas Paperboard Packaging reportable segment.

On January 1, 2018, the Company completed the NACP Combination. The NACP business produces SBS paperboard and paper-based foodservice products. The NACP business included two SBS mills located in Augusta, Georgia and Texarkana, Texas (included in Paperboard Mills reportable segment), three converting facilities in the U.S. (included in Americas Paperboard Packaging reportable segment) and one in the United Kingdom ("U.K.") (included in the Europe Paperboard Packaging reportable segment).

PFP and Letica Foodservice are referred to collectively as the "2018 Acquisitions."

Charges associated with all acquisitions are included in Charges Associated with Business Combinations in the table above.

During 2019, the Company began a three-year program to dismantle and dispose of idle and abandoned assets primarily at the paperboard mills. Expected charges for this program are approximately \$40 million. Charges associated with this program are included in Shutdown and Other Special Charges in the table above.

## Adoption of New Accounting Standards

Effective January 1, 2019, the Company adopted Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2017-12, Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815); Targeted Improvements to Accounting for Hedging Activities. The amendments in this ASU better align the risk management activities and financial reporting for these hedging relationships through changes to both the designation and measurement guidance for qualifying hedging relationships and presentation of hedge results. The adoption of this standard did not have a material impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

Effective January 1, 2019, the Company adopted ASU No. 2018-02, *Income Statement - Reporting Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Reclassification of Certain Tax Effects from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income*. The amendment allows a reclassification from accumulated other comprehensive income to retained earnings for stranded tax effects resulting from the 2017 Tax Cuts and Job Act ("The Act"). The Company adopted the amendment effective January 1, 2019 and elected not to reclassify the income tax effects of The Act from other comprehensive income to retained earnings. The Company's policy with respect to stranded income tax effects in accumulated other comprehensive loss is to release these effects using the aggregate portfolio approach.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-02, *Leases (Topic 842) ("ASC 842")*. The amendments in this ASU require an entity to recognize a right-of-use asset and lease liability for all leases with terms of more than 12 months. Recognition, measurement and presentation of expenses will depend on classification as a finance or operating lease. The amendments also require certain quantitative and qualitative disclosures about leasing arrangements. The Company adopted ASC 842 effective January 1, 2019, prospectively. The adoption of this standard had a material impact on the Company's financial position, with no material impact on the results of operations and cash flows (see *"Note 5 - Leases"*).

## Accounting Standards Not Yet Adopted

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-13, *Financial Instruments - Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments* which amends the FASB's guidance on the impairment of financial instruments. The ASU adds to U.S. GAAP an impairment model (known as the "current expected credit loss model") that is based on expected losses rather than incurred losses. ASU 2016-13 is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2019, including interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company does not expect the adoption of this ASU to have a material impact on its financial statements.

In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU No. 2017-04 Intangibles - Goodwill and Other (Topic 350); Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment which simplifies how an entity is required to test goodwill for impairment by eliminating Step 2 of the goodwill impairment model. Step 2 measures a goodwill impairment loss by comparing the implied value of a reporting unit's goodwill with the carrying amount of that goodwill. An entity would recognize an impairment charge for the amount by which the carrying amount of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value; however, the loss recognized is limited to the amount of goodwill allocated to that reporting unit. The guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019. Early adoption is permitted for any impairment tests performed after January 1, 2017.

In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-13, Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Disclosure Framework - Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Fair Value Measurement. This amendment modifies the disclosure requirements on fair value measurements. The guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019, and interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this new guidance.

In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-14, Compensation - Retirement Benefits - Defined Benefit Plans - General (Subtopic 715-20); Disclosure Framework -Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Defined Benefit Plans. This amendment removes certain disclosures that are not considered cost beneficial, clarifies certain required disclosures and adds additional disclosures. The guidance is effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2020 and would be applied on a retrospective basis. The Company is currently evaluating the impact this guidance will have on its related disclosures.

## NOTE 2 — INVENTORIES, NET

Inventories, Net by major class:

	Sej			
In millions		2019	Decen	mber 31, 2018
Finished Goods	\$	429.2	\$	426.9
Work in Progress		122.9		102.2
Raw Materials		352.9		319.9
Supplies		170.2		165.4
Total	\$	1,075.2	\$	1,014.4

#### NOTE 3 — BUSINESS COMBINATIONS

On August 1, 2019, the Company completed the acquisition of Artistic, a diversified producer of folding cartons and CRB. The acquisition included two converting facilities located in Auburn, Indiana and Elgin, Illinois and one CRB paperboard mill located in White Pigeon, Michigan. The Company paid approximately \$\$1 million using existing cash and borrowings under its revolving credit facility. The purchase price allocation for the Artistic acquisition is preliminary as the Company is still reviewing the allocation to tangible and intangible assets, taxes and working capital. Management believes that the purchase price attributable to goodwill represents the benefits expected as the acquisition was made to continue to integrate paperboard from the Company's mills, to expand its product offering and to further optimize the Company's supply chain footprint.

Tangible assets and liabilities were valued as of the acquisition date using a market analysis and intangible assets were valued using a discounted cash flow analysis, which represents a Level 3 measurement. The Company recorded \$6.5 million related to identifiable intangible assets (customer relationships), \$40.0 million related to tangible assets (primarily working capital, land/buildings and equipment) and \$4.5 million related to goodwill. Goodwill was recorded in the Paperboard Mills and Americas Paperboard Packaging segments. The Company expects the goodwill to be deductible for tax purposes.



As disclosed in "Note 1 - General Information," the Company completed the NACP Combination, and the PFP and Letica Foodservice acquisitions in 2018.

The Company paid approximately \$129 million for the PFP and Letica Foodservice acquisitions using existing cash and borrowings under its revolving line of credit.

Total consideration for the NACP Combination, including debt assumed of \$660 million, was \$1.8 billion.

The acquisition accounting for the NACP Combination and PFP acquisition was completed on December 31, 2018.

During the quarter ended March 31, 2019, the acquisition accounting for Letica Foodservice was finalized, resulting in an approximately \$\$ million reduction in the value of property, plant and equipment.

The year over year Net Sales and Loss from Operations impact for Letica Foodservice, PFP and Artistic acquisitions were 96.0 million and \$8.3 million, respectively.

## NOTE 4 — DEBT

For more information regarding the Company's debt, see "Note 5 — Debt" of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company's 2018 Form 10-K.

On June 25, 2019, GPIL completed a private offering of \$300.0 million aggregate principal amount of its senior unsecured notes due 2027. The Senior Notes will bear interest at an annual rate of 4.75%. The net proceeds were used by the Company to repay a portion of the outstanding borrowings under GPIL's revolving credit facility, which is under its senior secured credit facility.

Long-Term Debt is comprised of the following:

millions		ptember 30, 2019	D	ecember 31, 2018
Senior Notes with interest payable semi-annually at 4.75%, effective rate of 4.83%, payable in 2027	\$	300.0	\$	_
Senior Notes with interest payable semi-annually at 4.125%, effective rate of 4.17%, payable in 2024		300.0		300.0
Senior Notes with interest payable semi-annually at 4.875%, effective rate of 4.91%, payable in 2022		250.0		250.0
Senior Notes with interest payable semi-annually at 4.75%, effective rate of 4.77%, payable in 2021		425.0		425.0
Senior Secured Term Loan Facilities with interest payable at various dates at floating rates \$.49% at September 30, 2019) payable through 2023		1,405.3		1,432.6
Senior Secured Revolving Facilities with interest payable at floating rates Q.51% at September 30, 2019) payable in 2023		168.1		399.0
Finance Leases		135.4		122.9
Other		5.6		26.5
Total Long-Term Debt		2,989.4		2,956.0
Less: Current Portion		41.0		40.3
		2,948.4		2,915.7
Less: Unamortized Deferred Debt Issuance Costs		13.4		10.6
Total	\$	2,935.0	\$	2,905.1



At September 30, 2019, the Company and its U.S. and international subsidiaries had the following commitments, amounts outstanding and amounts available under revolving credit facilities:

In millions	Co	Total mmitments	Total Outstanding	То	otal Available
Senior Secured Domestic Revolving Credit Facility <sup>(a)</sup>	\$	1,450.0	\$ 88.0	\$	1,344.5
Senior Secured International Revolving Credit Facility		173.6	80.1		93.5
Other International Facilities		60.1	19.0		41.1
Total	\$	1,683.7	\$ 187.1	\$	1,479.1

(a) In accordance with its debt agreements, the Company's availability under its revolving credit facilities has been reduced by the amount of standby letters of credit issued of \$17.5 million as of September 30, 2019. These letters of credit are primarily used as security against the Company's self-insurance obligations and workers' compensation obligations. These letters of credit expire at various dates through 2019 and 2020 unless extended.

The Credit Agreement and the 4.75% Senior Notes due 2027 are guaranteed by GPIP and certain domestic subsidiaries, and the 4.75% Senior Notes due 2021, 4.875% Senior Notes due 2022 and 4.125% Senior Notes due 2024 are guaranteed by GPHC and certain domestic subsidiaries. For additional information on the financial statements of GPIP, see "*Note 14 - Guarantor Condensed Consolidating Financial Statements*" of the Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of GPIL in its Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2019 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The Credit Agreement and the indentures governing the 4.75% Senior Notes due 2021, 4.875% Senior Notes due 2022, 4.125% Senior Notes due 2024 and 4.75% Senior Notes due 2027 (the "Indentures") limit the Company's ability to incur additional indebtedness. Additional covenants contained in the Credit Agreement and the Indentures may, among other things, restrict the ability of the Company to dispose of assets, incur guarantee obligations, prepay other indebtedness, repurchase stock, pay dividends and make other restricted payments, create liens, make equity or debt investments, make acquisitions, modify terms of the Indenture, engage in mergers or consolidations, change the business conducted by the Company and its subsidiaries, and engage in certain transactions with affiliates. Such restrictions could limit the Company's ability to respond to changing market conditions, fund its capital spending program, provide for unexpected capital investments or take advantage of business opportunities.

As of September 30, 2019, the Company was in compliance with the covenants in the Credit Agreement and the Indentures.

## NOTE 5 — LEASES

Effective January 1, 2019 the Company adopted ASC 842, which requires recognition of a right-of-use asset and lease liability for all leases at the commencement date based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term. Additional qualitative and quantitative disclosures regarding the Company's leasing arrangements are also required. The Company adopted ASC 842 prospectively and elected the package of transition practical expedients that does not require reassessment of: (1) whether any existing or expired contracts are or contain leases, (2) lease classification and (3) initial direct costs. In addition, the Company has elected other available practical expedients to not separate lease and nonlease components, which consist principally of common area maintenance charges, for all classes of underlying assets and to exclude leases with an initial term of 12 months or less.

The Company determines if a contract is or contains a lease at inception. The Company has operating and finance leases for warehouses, corporate and regional offices, and machinery and equipment. The Company enters into lease contracts ranging from one to 25 years with the majority of leases having terms of three toseven years, many of which include options to extend in various increments. Variable lease costs consist primarily of variable warehousing costs, common area maintenance, taxes, and insurance. The Company's leases do not have any significant residual value guarantees or restrictive covenants.

As the implicit rate is not readily determinable for most of the Company's leases agreements, the Company uses an estimated incremental borrowing rate to determine the initial present value of lease payments. These discount rates for leases are calculated using the Company's credit spread adjusted for current market factors, including fixed rate swaps, LIBOR, and foreign currency rates.

The components of lease costs are as follows:

In millions	Three Months Ended September 30, 2019	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2019
Finance lease costs:		
Amortization of right-of-use asset	\$ 1.9	\$ 5.5
Interest on lease liabilities	2.0	5.8
Operating lease costs	15.9	47.9
Short-term lease costs	3.7	10.2
Variable lease costs	1.6	3.7
Total lease costs, net	\$ 25.1	\$ 73.1

Supplemental cash flow information related to leases was as follows:

In millions	onths Ended ber 30, 2019
Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities:	
Operating cash flows from operating leases	\$ 47.5
Operating cash flows from finance leases	5.8
Financing cash flows from finance leases	2.9
Right-of-use assets obtained in exchange for lease obligations:	
Operating leases	49.3
Finance leases	15.5

Supplemental balance sheet information related to leases was as follows:

In millions, except lease term and discount rate	Balance Sheet Classification	Septe	mber 30, 2019
Operating Leases:			
Operating lease right-of-use asset	Other Assets	\$	191.5
Current operating lease liabilities	Other Current Liabilities	\$	52.9
Noncurrent operating lease liabilities	Other Noncurrent Liabilities		143.5
Total operating lease liabilities		\$	196.4
Finance Leases:			
Property, Plant and Equipment		\$	142.1
Accumulated depreciation			(10.3)
Property, Plant and Equipment, net		\$	131.8
Current finance lease liabilities	Short-Term Debt and Current Portion of Long-Term Debt	\$	4.5
Noncurrent finance lease liabilities	Long-Term Debt		130.9
Total finance lease liabilities		\$	135.4
Weighted Average Remaining Lease Term (Years)			
Operating leases			5
Finance leases			18
Weighted Average Discount Rate			
Operating leases			3.65 %
Finance leases			5.59 %

Maturities of lease liabilities are as follows:

In millions

/ear ending December 31,		g F	Finance Leases		
2019 (excluding the nine months ended September 30, 2019)	\$ 1	6.5 \$	3.2		
2020	5	5.8	12.5		
2021	4	3.6	12.6		
2022	3	4.3	12.2		
2023	2	5.3	12.4		
Thereafter	3	9.4	170.6		
Total lease payments	21	4.9	223.5		
Less imputed interest	(1	8.5)	(88.1)		
Total	\$ 19	6.4 \$	135.4		

## NOTE 6 — STOCK INCENTIVE PLANS

The Company has one active equity compensation plan from which new grants may be made, the Graphic Packaging Holding Company 2014 Omnibus Stock and Incentive Compensation Plan (the "2014 Plan"). Under the 2014 Plan, the Company may grant stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units ("RSUs") and other types of stock-based and cash awards. Awards under the 2014 Plan generally vest and expire in accordance with terms established at the time of grant. Shares issued pursuant to awards under the 2014 Plan are from the Company's authorized but unissued shares. Compensation costs are recognized on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the award.

## Stock Awards, Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units

Under the 2014 Plan, all RSUs generally vest and become payable infhree years from date of grant. RSUs granted to employees generally contain some combination of service and performance objectives based on various financial targets and relative total shareholder return that must be met for the RSUs to vest. Stock awards granted to non-employee directors as part of their compensation for service on the Board are unrestricted on the grant date.

Data concerning RSUs granted in the first nine months of 2019 is as follows:

	RSUs	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value Per Share
RSUs — Employees	2,117,999	\$ 12.30
Stock Awards — Board of Directors	74,760	\$ 12.84

During the nine months ended September 30, 2019 and 2018, \$16.1 million and \$9.7 million, respectively, was charged to compensation expense for stock incentive plans.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2019 and 2018,0.6 million and 0.6 million shares were issued, respectively. The shares issued were primarily related to RSUs granted during 2016 and 2015, respectively.

## NOTE 7 — PENSIONS AND OTHER POSTRETIREMENT BENEFITS

The Company maintains both defined benefit pension plans and postretirement health care plans that provide medical and life insurance coverage to eligible salaried and hourly retired employees in North America and their dependents. The Company maintains international defined benefit pension plans which are either noncontributory or contributory and are funded in accordance with applicable local laws. Pension or termination benefits are based primarily on years of service and the employee's compensation.

During 2018, the Company began the process of terminating its largest U.S. pension plan (the "US Plan"). This included freezing the plan as of December 31, 2018 and spinning off the active participants to the plan established as part of the NACP Combination (the "NACP Plan"). The NACP plan is open for union and non-union hourly employees of locations that were part of the NACP Combination. During the third quarter of 2019, the Company offered a lump-sum benefit option to certain participants of the payouts. In the first quarter of 2020, the Company anticipates purchasing a group annuity contract that will transfer the remaining pension benefit obligation under the US Plan to an insurance company and will incur an additional non-cash settlement charge related to this transfer. These non-cash settlement charges relate to Net Actuarial Loss recognized in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss. As of September 30, 2019, the Net Actuarial Loss was approximately \$ 218 million. The expected benefit obligation associated with the termination of the US Plan is approximately \$800 million.

#### Pension and Postretirement Expense

The pension and postretirement expenses related to the Company's plans consisted of the following:

	Pension Benefits									Postretirement Health Care Benefits									Postretirement Health C								
	 Three Months Ended         Nine Months Ended           September 30,         September 30,						Three M Sept	1onths tember		Nine Months Ended September 30,																	
In millions	 2019 2018			2019	2018			2019		2018	2019		2018														
Components of Net Periodic Cost:																											
Service Cost	\$ 3.5	\$	4.6	\$	10.5	\$	13.8	\$	0.1	\$	0.2	\$	0.4	\$	0.5												
Interest Cost	11.5		10.4		34.5		31.4		0.3		0.3		0.9		0.9												
Administrative Expenses	_		0.1		0.2		0.3				_		_		_												
Expected Return on Plan Assets	(13.6)		(15.9)		(41.1)		(47.8)				—		_		—												
Amortization:																											
Prior Service Cost (Credit)	—		0.1		—		0.3		(0.1)		—		(0.2)		(0.1)												
Actuarial Loss (Gain)	2.5		1.4		7.6		4.2		(0.6)		(0.5)		(1.8)		(1.4)												
Net Periodic Cost (Benefit)	\$ 3.9	\$	0.7	\$	11.7	\$	2.2	\$	(0.3)	\$	_	\$	(0.7)	\$	(0.1)												

#### **Employer Contributions**

The Company made contributions of \$8.2 million and \$2.8 million to its pension plans during the first nine months of 2019 and 2018, respectively. The Company expects to make contributions of approximately \$10 million for the full year 2019. During 2018, the Company made \$5.8 million of contributions to its pension plans.

The Company made postretirement health care benefit payments of \$2.2 million and \$1.8 million during the first nine months of 2019 and 2018, respectively. The Company estimates its postretirement health care benefit payments for the full year 2019 to be approximately \$3 million. During 2018, the Company made postretirement health care benefit payments of \$1.9 million.

## NOTE 8 — FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT

The Company enters into derivative instruments for risk management purposes only, including derivatives designated as hedging instruments under the *Derivatives and Hedging* topic of the FASB Codification and those not designated as hedging instruments under this guidance. The Company uses interest rate swaps, natural gas swap contracts, and forward exchange contracts. These derivative instruments are designated as cash flow hedges and, to the extent they are effective in offsetting the variability of the hedged cash flows, changes in the derivatives' fair value are not included in current earnings but are included in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss. These changes in fair value will subsequently be reclassified to earnings, contemporaneously with and offsetting changes in the related hedged exposure, and presented in the same line of the income statement expected for the hedged item.

For more information regarding the Company's financial instruments and fair value measurement, see "Note 9 — Financial Instruments, Derivatives and Hedging Activities" and "Note 10 — Fair Value Measurement" of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company's 2018 Form 10-K.

#### Interest Rate Risk

The Company uses interest rate swaps to manage interest rate risks on future interest payments caused by interest rate changes on its variable rate term loan facility. Changes in fair value will subsequently be reclassified into earnings as a component of Interest Expense, Net as interest is incurred on amounts outstanding under the term loan facility. The following table summarizes the Company's current interest rate swap positions for each period presented as of September 30, 2019:

Start	End	(In Millions) Notional Amoun	t Weighted Average Interest Rate
04/03/201	18 01/01/2020	\$150.0	2.25%
04/03/201	18 10/01/2020	\$150.0	2.36%
12/03/201	18 01/01/2022	\$120.0	2.92%
12/03/201	18 01/04/2022	\$80.0	2.79%

During the first nine months of 2019 and 2018, there wereno amounts of ineffectiveness related to changes in the fair value of interest rate swap agreements. Additionally, there were no amounts excluded from the measure of effectiveness.

## **Commodity Risk**

To manage risks associated with future variability in cash flows and price risk attributable to purchases of natural gas, the Company enters into natural gas swap contracts to hedge prices for a designated percentage of its expected natural gas usage. Such contracts are designated as cash flow hedges. The contracts are carried at fair value with changes in fair value recognized in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss and resulting gain or loss reclassified into Cost of Sales concurrently with the recognition of the commodity consumed. The Company has hedged approximately 69%, 53%, and 15% of its expected natural gas usage for the remainder of 2019, 2020 and 2021, respectively.

During the first nine months of 2019 and 2018, there wereno and minimal amounts of ineffectiveness related to changes in the fair value of natural gas swap contracts, respectively. Additionally, there were no amounts excluded from the measure of effectiveness.

#### Foreign Currency Risk

The Company enters into forward exchange contracts to manage risks associated with foreign currency transactions and future variability of cash flows arising from those transactions that may be adversely affected by changes in exchange rates. The contracts are carried at fair value with changes in fair value recognized in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss and gains/losses related to these contracts are recognized in Other Expense, Net or Net Sales, when appropriate.

At September 30, 2019, multiple forward exchange contracts existed that expire on various dates through the remainder of 2019. Those purchased forward exchange contracts outstanding at September 30, 2019 and December 31, 2018, when aggregated and



measured in U.S. dollars at contractual rates at September 30, 2019 and December 31, 2018, had notional amounts totaling \$0.5 million and \$51.6 million, respectively.

No amounts were reclassified to earnings during the first nine months of 2019 or during 2018 in connection with forecasted transactions that were considered probable of not occurring and there was no amount of ineffectiveness related to changes in the fair value of foreign currency forward contracts. Additionally, there wereno amounts excluded from the measure of effectiveness.

#### Derivatives not Designated as Hedges

The Company enters into forward exchange contracts to effectively hedge substantially all of its accounts receivables resulting from sales transactions and intercompany loans denominated in foreign currencies in order to manage risks associated with variability in cash flows that may be adversely affected by changes in exchange rates. At September 30, 2019 and December 31, 2018, multiple foreign currency forward exchange contracts existed, with maturities ranging up to three months. Those foreign currency exchange contracts outstanding at September 30, 2019 and December 31, 2018, had net notional amounts totaling \$63.9 million and \$62.2 million, respectively. Unrealized gains and losses resulting from these contracts are recognized in Other Expense, Net and approximately offset corresponding recognized but unrealized gains and losses on the remeasurement of these accounts receivable.

#### Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company's derivative instruments are carried at fair value. The Company has determined that the inputs to the valuation of these derivative instruments are Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy. Level 2 inputs are defined as quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets or inputs that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly through market corroboration, for substantially the full term of the financial instrument. The Company uses valuation techniques based on discounted cash flow analyses, which reflect the terms of the derivatives and use observable market-based inputs, including forward rates, and uses market price quotations obtained from independent derivatives brokers, corroborated with information obtained from independent pricing service providers.

As of September 30, 2019, there has not been any significant impact to the fair value of the Company's derivative liabilities due to its own credit risk. Similarly, there has not been any significant adverse impact to the Company's derivative assets based on evaluation of the Company's counterparties' credit risks. The following table summarizes the fair value of the Company's derivative instruments:

		Derivative Assets <sup>(a)</sup>				Derivative L	liabilities <sup>(b)</sup>		
	September 30, December 31,			September 30,	Decen	ıber 31,			
In millions	2019 2018 201		2019 2018 2019		2019	2	018		
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments:									
Interest rate contracts	\$	0.4	\$	0.8	\$	8.3	\$	2.7	
Foreign currency contracts		0.5		—				0.5	
Commodity contracts		—		_		3.1		0.2	
Total Derivatives	\$	0.9	\$	0.8	\$	11.4	\$	3.4	

(a) Derivative assets of \$0.9 million and \$0.7 million are included in Other Current Assets as of September 30, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively. Derivative assets of \$0.1 million are included in Other Assets as of December 31, 2018.

(b) Derivative liabilities of \$7.1 million and \$1.3 million are included in Other Accrued Liabilities as of September 30, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively. Derivative liabilities of \$4.3 million and \$2.1 million are included in Other Noncurrent Liabilities as of September 30, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively.

The fair values of the Company's other financial assets and liabilities at September 30, 2019 and December 31, 2018 approximately equal the carrying values reported on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets except for Long-Term Debt. The fair value of the Company's Long-Term Debt (excluding finance leases and deferred financing fees) was \$2,908.0 million and \$2,762.5 million as compared to the carrying amounts of \$2,854.0 million and \$2,833.1 million as of September 30, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively. The fair value of the Company's Total Debt, including the Senior Notes, are based on quoted market prices (Level 2 inputs). Level 2 valuation techniques for Long-Term Debt are based on quotations obtained from independent pricing service providers.

## Effect of Derivative Instruments

The pre-tax effect of derivative instruments in cash flow hedging relationships in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations is as follows:

	Am	ount of (C	Gain)	) Loss Reco Compreh			umul	lated Other		Amount	of (Ga	,	Recog ration	nized in St 18	atem	ent of
	1	Three Months Ended         Nine Months Ended           September 30,         September 30,				_		onths Ended ember 30,		Nine Mo Septer						
In millions	2	2019		2018		2019		2018	Location in Statement of Operations	 2019		2018		2019		2018
Commodity Contracts	\$	(0.2)	\$	(0.2)	\$	2.5	\$	(1.1)	Cost of Sales	\$ (0.5)	\$	_	\$	(0.4)	\$	(0.4)
Foreign Currency Contracts		(0.6)		(0.3)		(1.5)		(0.6)	Other Expense, Net	(0.2)		0.2		(0.9)		1.2
Interest Rate Swap Agreements		0.5		(1.5)		6.3		(2.2)	Interest Expense, Net	0.3		(0.5)		0.4		(0.9)
Total	\$	(0.3)	\$	(2.0)	\$	7.3	\$	(3.9)		\$ (0.4)	\$	(0.3)	\$	(0.9)	\$	(0.1)

The effect of derivative instruments not designated as hedging instruments on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations is as follows:

		 Three Months Ended Se	eptember 30,	Nine Months Ended S	September 30,
In millions		 2019	2018	2019	2018
Foreign Currency Contracts	Other Expense, Net	\$ 1.9 \$	1.9 \$	3.3 \$	5.8

## Accumulated Derivative Instruments Loss

The following is a rollforward of pre-tax Accumulated Derivative Instruments Loss which is included in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2019:

In millions	
Balance at December 31, 2018	\$ (1.9)
Reclassification to Earnings	(0.9)
Current Period Change in Fair Value	(7.3)
Balance at September 30, 2019	\$ (10.1)

At September 30, 2019, the Company expects to reclassify \$5.5 million of losses in the next twelve months from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss to earnings, contemporaneously with and offsetting changes in the related hedged exposure. The actual amount that will be reclassified to future earnings may vary from this amount as a result of changes in market conditions.

## NOTE 9 — INCOME TAXES

Substantially all of the Company's operations are held through its majority investment in GPIP, a subsidiary that is classified as a partnership for U.S. income tax purposes and is generally not subject to domestic income tax expense. As a result, the consolidated financial statements exclude the domestic tax effect of the earnings attributable to the minority partner's interest in GPIP.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2019, the Company recognized Income Tax Expense of \$60.9 million on Income before Income Taxes and Equity Income of Unconsolidated Entity of \$294.6 million. The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 is lower than the statutory rate primarily due to the tax effect of income attributable to noncontrolling interests as well as the mix and levels of earnings between foreign and domestic tax jurisdictions.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Company recognized Income Tax Expense of \$41.4 million on Income before Income Taxes and Equity Income of Unconsolidated Entity of \$271.1 million. The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 was lower than the statutory rate primarily due to the tax effect of income attributable to non-controlling interests as well as the mix and levels of earnings between foreign and domestic tax jurisdictions. In addition, during the nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Company recorded discrete benefits of approximately \$4 million, \$11 million and \$2 million associated with the indirect impacts of the NACP Combination, an adjustment to the estimated tax effects of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("the Act") and the release of a valuation allowance against the net deferred tax assets of the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary in France, respectively.

As of December 31, 2018, the Company had approximately \$168 million of Net Operating Losses ("NOLs") for U.S. federal income tax purposes which may be used to offset future taxable income. Based on these NOLs, other tax attributes, and tax benefits associated with planned capital projects, the Company does not expect to be a meaningful U.S. federal cash taxpayer until 2022.

## NOTE 10 - ENVIRONMENTAL AND LEGAL MATTERS

#### **Environmental Matters**

The Company is subject to a broad range of foreign, federal, state and local environmental, health and safety laws and regulations, including those governing discharges to air, soil and water, the management, treatment and disposal of hazardous substances, solid waste and hazardous wastes, the investigation and remediation of contamination resulting from historical site operations and releases of hazardous substances, and the health and safety of employees. Compliance initiatives could result in significant costs, which could negatively impact the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows. Any failure to comply with environmental or health and safety laws and regulations or any permits and authorizations required thereunder could subject the Company to fines, corrective action or other sanctions.

Some of the Company's current and former facilities are the subject of environmental investigations and remediations resulting from historic operations and the release of hazardous substances or other constituents. Some current and former facilities have a history of industrial usage for which investigation and remediation obligations may be imposed in the future or for which indemnification claims may be asserted against the Company. Also, closures or sales of facilities may necessitate investigation and may result in remediation activities at those facilities.

The Company has established reserves for those facilities or issues where a liability is probable and the costs are reasonably estimable. The Company believes that the amounts accrued for its loss contingencies, and the reasonably possible loss beyond the amounts accrued, are not material to the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows. The Company cannot estimate with certainty other future compliance, investigation or remediation costs. Some costs relating to historic usage that the Company considers to be reasonably possible of resulting in liability are not quantifiable at this time. The Company will continue to monitor environmental issues at each of its facilities, as well as regulatory developments, and will revise its accruals, estimates and disclosures relating to past, present and future operations, as additional information is obtained.

## Legal Matters

The Company is a party to a number of lawsuits arising in the ordinary conduct of its business. Although the timing and outcome of these lawsuits cannot be predicted with certainty, the Company does not believe that disposition of these lawsuits will have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

## NOTE 11 — RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

In connection with the NACP Combination, the Company entered into agreements with IP for transition services, fiber procurement fees and corrugated products and ink supply. Payments to IP for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 under these agreements were \$0.1 million, \$8.6 million (related to pass through wood purchases of approximately \$178 million) and \$19.7 million, respectively. Payments to IP for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 under these agreements were \$0.1 million, \$12.4 million (related to pass through wood purchases of approximately \$100 million) and \$21.8 million, respectively. In addition, approximately \$3 million and \$5 million of payments were made for purchases unrelated to these agreements for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

## NOTE 12 — SEGMENT INFORMATION

On January 1, 2018, the Company aggregated the three converting plants from the NACP Combination with America's Converting operating segment into ne reportable segment. The Company has three reportable segments as follows:

Paperboard Mills includes the nine North American paperboard mills which produce primarily CRB, CUK, and SBS, which is consumed internally to produce paperboard packaging for the Americas and Europe Paperboard Packaging segments. The remaining paperboard is sold externally to a wide variety of paperboard packaging converters and brokers. The Paperboard Mills segment Net Sales represent the sale of paperboard only to external customers. The effect of intercompany transfers to the paperboard packaging segments has been eliminated from the Paperboard Mills segment to reflect the economics of the integration of these segments.

*Americas Paperboard Packaging* includes paperboard packaging, primarily folding cartons, sold primarily to Consumer Packaged Goods ("CPG") companies, and cups, lids and food containers sold primarily to foodservice companies and quick-service restaurants ("QSR"), all serving the food, beverage, and consumer product markets in the Americas.

Europe Paperboard Packaging includes paperboard packaging, primarily folding cartons, sold primarily to CPG companies serving the food, beverage and consumer product markets in Europe.

The Company allocates certain mill and corporate costs to the reportable segments to appropriately represent the economics of these segments. The Corporate and Other caption includes the Pacific Rim and Australia operating segments and unallocated corporate and one-time costs.



These segments are evaluated by the chief operating decision maker based primarily on Income from Operations, as adjusted for depreciation and amortization. The accounting policies of the reportable segments are the same as those described above in "Note 1 - General Information."

Segment information is as follows:

	Three Mo			Nine Mo		
	 Septe	mber	,	Septer	nber	-
In millions	2019		2018	 2019		2018
NET SALES:						
Paperboard Mills	\$ 279.2	\$	274.8	\$ 833.9	\$	820.4
Americas Paperboard Packaging	1,091.1		1,042.0	3,176.6		3,056.7
Europe Paperboard Packaging	171.0		166.9	522.0		526.3
Corporate/Other/Eliminations <sup>(a)</sup>	40.3		48.1	107.8		116.7
Total	\$ 1,581.6	\$	1,531.8	\$ 4,640.3	\$	4,520.1
INCOME (LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS:						
Paperboard Mills	\$ 10.7	\$	10.0	\$ 19.2	\$	(5.1)
Americas Paperboard Packaging	112.2		128.0	363.1		354.3
Europe Paperboard Packaging	8.6		12.8	43.3		40.3
Corporate and Other <sup>(b)</sup>	(8.8)		15.6	(24.5)		(38.8)
Total	\$ 122.7	\$	166.4	\$ 401.1	\$	350.7
DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION:						
Paperboard Mills	\$ 54.0	\$	53.6	\$ 162.6	\$	162.3
Americas Paperboard Packaging	39.9		40.7	124.5		119.0
Europe Paperboard Packaging	11.5		11.7	35.1		36.5
Corporate and Other	5.1		4.7	 15.6		14.0
Total	\$ 110.5	\$	110.7	\$ 337.8	\$	331.8

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes Revenue from contracts with customers for the Australia and Pacific Rim operating segments.
 <sup>(b)</sup> Includes expenses related to business combinations, exit activities, gain on sale of assets and shutdown and other special charges.

For more information regarding the Company's business segments, see "Note 15 – Business Segment and Geographic Area Information" of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company's 2018 Form 10-K.

## NOTE 13 — EARNINGS PER SHARE

	Three Mo	onths	Ended	Nine Mo	nths E	nded
	Septe	mber	30,	Septe	mber 3	0,
In millions, except per share data	 2019		2018	2019		2018
Net Income Attributable to Graphic Packaging Holding Company	\$ 52.1	\$	94.3	\$ 173.8	\$	173.6
Weighted Average Shares:						
Basic	292.9		310.8	295.2		310.7
Dilutive Effect of RSUs	0.8		0.7	0.7		0.6
Diluted	293.7		311.5	295.9		311.3
Income Per Share — Basic	\$ 0.18	\$	0.30	\$ 0.59	\$	0.56
Income Per Share — Diluted	\$ 0.18	\$	0.30	\$ 0.59	\$	0.56

## NOTE 14 — REDEEMABLE NONCONTROLLING INTEREST

For information regarding the Company's Redeemable Noncontrolling Interest, see 'Note 14 — Redeemable Noncontrolling Interest" of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company's 2018 Form 10-K.

At September 30, 2019, the redeemable noncontrolling interest was determined as follows:

In millions	
Balance at December 31, 2018	\$ 275.8
Net Income Attributable to Redeemable Noncontrolling Interest	13.8
Other Comprehensive Loss, Net of Tax	(1.0)
Reclassification to Noncontrolling Interest for Share Repurchases <sup>(a)</sup>	(12.5)
Distributions of Membership Interest	(4.8)
Balance at September 30, 2019	\$ 271.3

(a) In the second quarter of 2019, the Company recorded a reversal for a previous reclassification to redeemable noncontrolling interest back to noncontrolling interest related to share repurchases. The Company determined that this reclassification due to the share repurchases was not required.

Redeemable Noncontrolling Interest is recorded at the greater of carrying amount or redemption value at the end of each period. The redemption value is determined by the closing price of the Company's common stock.

## NOTE 15 — ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS

The changes in the components of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss attributable to GPHC for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 are as follow(s):

In millions	Derivatives nstruments	Pension and Postretirement Benefit Plans	T	Currency Translation djustments	Total
Balance at December 31, 2018	\$ (11.3)	\$ (246.1)	\$	(120.5)	\$ (377.9)
Other Comprehensive Loss before Reclassifications	(5.9)	(0.1)		(17.0)	(23.0)
Amounts Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income(b)	(0.7)	4.5		—	3.8
Net Current-period Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income	(6.6)	4.4		(17.0)	(19.2)
Less:					
Net Current-period Other Comprehensive Loss (Income) Attributable to Noncontrolling Interest <sup>(c)</sup>	1.8	(1.2)		3.7	4.3
Balance at September 30, 2019	\$ (16.1)	\$ (242.9)	\$	(133.8)	\$ (392.8)

(a) All amounts are net-of-tax.

<sup>(b)</sup> See following table for details about these reclassifications.

<sup>(c)</sup> Includes amounts related to redeemable noncontrolling interest which are separately classified outside of permanent equity in the mezzanine section of the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.



The following represents reclassifications out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss for the nine months ended September 30, 2019:

In millions				
Details about Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss Components		Amount Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss		Affected Line Item in the Statement Where Net Income is Presented
Derivatives Instruments:				
Commodity Contracts	\$	(0.4)		Cost of Sales
Foreign Currency Contracts		(0.9)		Other Expense, Net
Interest Rate Swap Agreements		0.4		Interest Expense, Net
		(0.9)		Total before Tax
		0.2		Tax Expense
	\$	(0.7)	-	Net of Tax
Amortization of Defined Benefit Pension Plans:				
Prior Service Costs	\$	—	(a)	
Actuarial Losses		7.6	(a)	
		7.6	-	Total before Tax
		(1.5)		Tax Benefit
	\$	6.1	_	Net of Tax
Amortization of Postretirement Benefit Plans:				
Prior Service Credits	\$	(0.2)	(a)	
Actuarial Gains		(1.8)	(a)	
		(2.0)		Total before Tax
		0.4		Tax Expense
	\$	(1.6)	-	Net of Tax
Total Reclassifications for the Period	\$	3.8		
	_			

(a) These accumulated other comprehensive income components are included in the computation of net periodic pension cost (see 'Note 7 – Pensions and Other Postretirement Benefits").

## NOTE 16 — EXIT ACTIVITIES

On September 24, 2019, the Company announced its plans to invest approximately \$600 million in a new CRB Mill in Kalamazoo, MI. In conjunction with the completion of this project, the Company currently expects to shutdown the K3 paper machine in Kalamazoo, MI and close two of its smaller CRB Mills in 2022 in order to remain capacity neutral.

The Company will account for the costs associated with these closures in accordance with ASC 360,*Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets ("ASC 360")*, ASC 420, *Exit or Disposal Costs Obligations ("ASC 420") and ASC 712 Compensation-Nonretirement Post Employment Benefits ("ASC 712")*. The Company currently estimates charges associated with these activities for accelerated depreciation to be in the range of \$50 million to \$60 million and for post-employment benefits, retention bonuses and incentives in the range of \$15 million to \$20 million. During the third quarter of 2019, the Company recorded \$3.0 million of the post-employment benefits in accordance with ASC 712, with the remainder to be recorded through the closure date due to service requirements. No cash was paid related to these activities during the third quarter of 2019. Other costs associated with the start up of the new CRB mill will be recorded in the period in which they are incurred.

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

## INTRODUCTION

This management's discussion and analysis of financial conditions and results of operations is intended to provide investors with an understanding of the Company's past performance, financial condition and prospects. The following will be discussed and analyzed:

- ➢ Overview of Business
- Overview of 2019 Results
- > Results of Operations
- > Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources
- Critical Accounting Policies
- New Accounting Standards
- Business Outlook

## **OVERVIEW OF BUSINESS**

The Company's objective is to strengthen its position as a leading provider of paper-based packaging solutions. To achieve this objective, the Company offers customers its paperboard, cartons, cups, lids, foodservice containers and packaging machines, either as an integrated solution or separately. Cartons, carriers and containers are designed to protect and hold products. Product offerings include a variety of laminated, coated and printed packaging structures that are produced from the Company's coated recycled board ("CRB"), coated unbleached kraft ("CUK") and solid bleached sulfate ("SBS"). Innovative designs and combinations of paperboard, films, foils, metallization, holographics and embossing are customized to the individual needs of the customers.

The Company is implementing strategies (i) to expand market share in its current markets and to identify and penetrate new markets; (ii) to capitalize on the Company's customer relationships, business competencies, and mills and folding carton assets; (iii) to develop and market innovative, sustainable products and applications; and (iv) to continue to reduce costs by focusing on operational improvements. The Company's ability to fully implement its strategies and achieve its objectives may be influenced by a variety of factors, many of which are beyond its control, such as inflation of raw material and other costs, which the Company cannot always pass through to its customers, and the effect of overcapacity in the worldwide paperboard packaging industry.

#### Significant Factors That Impact The Company's Business

*Impact of Inflation/Deflation.* The Company's cost of sales consists primarily of energy (including natural gas, fuel oil and electricity), pine and hardwood fiber, chemicals, secondary fibers, purchased paperboard, aluminum foil, ink, plastic films and resins, depreciation expense and labor. Costs increased in the first nine months of 2019 by \$73.3 million, compared to the first nine months of 2018. The higher costs in the nine months ended September 30, 2019 were due to wood (\$37.4 million), labor and benefit costs (\$29.9 million), external board (\$9.9 million), and other costs, net (\$2.6 million), partially offset by lower secondary fiber cost (\$6.5 million). Because the price of natural gas experiences significant volatility, the Company has entered into contracts designed to manage risks associated with future variability in cash flows caused by changes in the price of natural gas. The Company has entered into natural gas swap contracts to hedge prices for a portion of its expected usage for the remainder of 2019, 2020 and 2021. Since negotiated sales contracts and the market largely determine the pricing for its products, the Company is at times limited in its ability to raise prices and pass through to its customers any inflationary or other cost increases that the Company may incur.

Commitment to Cost Reduction. In light of continuing margin pressure throughout the packaging industry, the Company has programs in place that are designed to reduce costs, improve productivity and increase profitability. The Company utilizes a global continuous improvement initiative that uses statistical process control to help design and manage many types of activities, including production and maintenance. This includes a Six Sigma process focused on reducing variable and fixed manufacturing and administrative costs. The Company has expanded the continuous improvement initiative to include the deployment of Lean Sigma principles into manufacturing and supply chain services.

The Company's ability to continue to successfully implement its business strategies and to realize anticipated savings and operating efficiencies is subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are beyond the Company's control. If the Company cannot successfully implement the strategic cost reductions or other cost savings plans, it may not be able to continue to compete successfully against other manufacturers. In addition, any failure to generate the anticipated efficiencies and savings could adversely affect the Company's financial results.



Competition and Market Factors. As some products can be packaged in different types of materials, the Company's sales are affected by competition from other manufacturers' CRB, CUK, SBS, folding box board, and recycled clay-coated news. Additional substitute products also include plastic, shrink film and corrugated containers. In addition, while the Company has long-term relationships with many of its customers, the underlying contracts may be re-bid or renegotiated from time to time, and the Company may not be successful in renewing on favorable terms or at all. The Company works to maintain market share through efficiency, product innovation and strategic sourcing to its customers; however, pricing and other competitive pressures may occasionally result in the loss of a customer relationship.

In addition, the Company's sales historically are driven by consumer buying habits in the markets its customers serve. Changes in consumer dietary habits and preferences, increases in the costs of living, unemployment rates, access to credit markets, as well as other macroeconomic factors, may negatively affect consumer spending behavior. New product introductions and promotional activity by the Company's customers and the Company's introduction of new packaging products also impact its sales.

Debt Obligations. The Company had an aggregate principal amount of \$3,002.8 million of outstanding debt obligations as of September 30, 2019. This debt has consequences for the Company, as it requires a portion of cash flow from operations to be used for the payment of principal and interest, exposes the Company to the risk of increased interest rates and may restrict the Company's ability to obtain additional financing. Covenants in the Company's Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, the Term Loan Credit Agreement and Indentures may, among other things, restrict the ability of the Company to dispose of assets, incur guarantee obligations, prepay other indebtedness, repurchase stock, pay dividends, make other restricted payments and make acquisitions or other investments. The Amended and Restated Credit Agreement and the Term Loan Credit Agreement also require compliance with a maximum consolidated leverage ratio and a minimum consolidated interest coverage ratio. The Company's ability to comply in future periods with the financial covenants will depend on its ongoing financial and operating performance, which in turn will be subject to many other factors, many of which are beyond the Company's control. See "Covenant Restrictions" in "Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources" for additional information regarding the Company's debt obligations.

The debt and the restrictions under the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, the Term Loan Credit Agreement and the Indentures could limit the Company's flexibility to respond to changing market conditions and competitive pressures. The outstanding debt obligations and the restrictions may also leave the Company more vulnerable to a downturn in general economic conditions or its business, or unable to carry out capital expenditures that are necessary or important to its growth strategy and productivity improvement programs.

## **OVERVIEW OF THIRD QUARTER 2019 RESULTS**

This management's discussion and analysis contains an analysis of Net Sales, Income from Operations and other information relevant to an understanding of the Company's results of operations. On a Consolidated basis:

- Net Sales for the three months ended September 30, 2019, increased \$49.8 million or 3.3% to \$1,581.6 million from \$1,531.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018, due to higher selling prices, volume growth, and the Artistic and 2018 Acquisitions discussed below, partially offset by unfavorable foreign currency exchange rates.
- Income from Operations for the three months ended September 30, 2019 decreased \$43.7 million or 26.3% to \$122.7 million from \$166.4 million for the three months
  ended September 30, 2018 due to the gain on sale of assets in 2018, lower net performance, higher inflation and unfavorable foreign currency exchange rates, partially
  offset by the higher selling prices.

## Acquisitions

- On August 1, 2019, the Company acquired substantially all the assets of Artistic Carton Company ("Artistic"), a diversified producer of folding cartons and CRB. The
  acquisition included two converting facilities located in Auburn, Indiana and Elgin, Illinois (included in the Americas Paperboard Packaging reportable segment) and one
  CRB paperboard mill located in White Pigeon, Michigan (included in the Paperboard Mills reportable segment).
- On September 30, 2018, the Company acquired substantially all the assets of the foodservice business of Letica Corporation, a subsidiary of RPC Group PLC ("Letica Foodservice"), a producer of paperboard-based cold cups, hot cups and cartons. The acquisition included two facilities located in Clarksville, Tennessee and Pittston, Pennsylvania.
- On June 12, 2018, the Company acquired substantially all the assets of PFP, LLC and its related entity, PFP Dallas Converting, LLC (collectively, "PFP"), a converter focused on the production of paperboard-based air filter frames. The acquisition included two facilities located in Lebanon, Tennessee and Lancaster, Texas. PFP and Letica Foodservice are referred to collectively as the "2018 Acquisitions."



## **Capital Allocations**

- On July 25, 2019, the Company's board of directors declared a regular quarterly dividend of \$0.075 per share of common stock paid on October 5, 2019 to shareholders
  of record as of September 15, 2019.
- On January 28, 2019, the Company's board of directors authorized an additional share repurchase program to allow the Company to purchase up to \$500 million of the Company's issued and outstanding shares of common stock through open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions and Rule 10b5-1 plans (the "2019 share repurchase program"). The previous \$250 million share repurchase program was authorized on January 10, 2017 (the "2017 share repurchase program"). During the first nine months of 2019, the Company repurchased 10,191,257 shares of its common stock at an average price of \$12.55, including 7.4 million shares repurchased under the 2017 share repurchase program thereby completing that program. The Company did not repurchase any shares of its common stock during the nine months ended September 30, 2018. As of September 30, 2019, the Company has approximately \$462 million available for additional repurchases under the 2019 share repurchase grogram.

## **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

	Three Mo Septer	 	Nine Mor Septer	
In millions	2019	2018	2019	2018
Net Sales	\$ 1,581.6	\$ 1,531.8	\$ 4,640.3	\$ 4,520.1
Income from Operations	122.7	166.4	401.1	350.7
Nonoperating Pension and Postretirement Benefit Income (Expense)	—	4.1	(0.1)	12.4
Interest Expense, Net	(35.9)	(31.0)	(106.4)	(90.1)
Loss on Modification or Extinguishment of Debt	—	—	—	(1.9)
Income before Income Taxes and Equity Income of Unconsolidated Entity	86.8	139.5	294.6	271.1
Income Tax Expense	(16.9)	(17.8)	(60.9)	(41.4)
Income before Equity Income of Unconsolidated Entity	69.9	121.7	233.7	229.7
Equity Income of Unconsolidated Entity	0.1	0.3	0.5	1.0
Net Income	\$ 70.0	\$ 122.0	\$ 234.2	\$ 230.7

## THIRD QUARTER 2019 COMPARED WITH THIRD QUARTER 2018

Net Sales

		Three Months E	nded S	September 30,	
In millions	2019	2018		Increase	Percent Change
Consolidated	\$ 1,581.6	\$ 1,531.8	\$	49.8	3.3 %

The components of the change in Net Sales are as follows:

			Three Months En	ded S	eptember 30,			
			Vari	iances				
In millions	2018	 Price	Volume/Mix		Exchange	Total	_	2019
Consolidated	\$ 1,531.8	\$ 33.8	\$ 27.9	\$	(11.9)	\$ 49.8	\$	1,581.6

The Company's Net Sales for the three months ended September 30, 2019 increased by \$49.8 million or 3.3% to \$1,581.6 million from \$1,531.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018, due to Net Sales of \$34.7 million from the Artistic and 2018 Acquisitions, higher selling prices and volume growth. These increases were offset by unfavorable foreign currency exchange rates, primarily the Euro, British Pound and Australian dollar. The higher selling prices are the results of announced price increases which benefit from inflationary pass throughs in the converting business as well as open market sales. Core converting volumes were up, primarily in global beverage volumes offset by declines in dry and frozen foods and away from home, including cups.

## Income from Operations

		Three Months I	Inded	September 30,	
In millions	2019	2018		Decrease	Percent Change
Consolidated	\$ 122.7	\$ 166.4	\$	(43.7)	(26.3)%

The components of the change in Income from Operations are as follows:

					Т	hree l	Months End	led Se	ptember 3	D,			
	Variances												
In millions	2018		Price	Vo	lume/Mix	]	Inflation	E	xchange	C	Other <sup>(a)</sup>	Total	2019
Consolidated	\$ 166.4	\$	33.8	\$	(5.6)	\$	(19.6)	\$	(2.7)	\$	(49.6)	\$ (43.7)	\$ 122.7

(a) Includes the Company's cost reduction initiatives and expenses related to acquisitions and integration activities, exit activities, gain on sale of assets and shutdown and other special charges.

Income from Operations for the three months ended September 30, 2019 decreased \$43.7 million or 26.3% to \$122.7 million from \$166.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018 due to the 2018 gain of \$37.1 million from the sale of the Santa Clara mill site, higher inflation, start-up costs associated with the Monroe, LA folding carton facility, costs related to a mill maintenance outage, increased incentive costs and unfavorable foreign currency exchange rate. These decreases were partially offset by the higher selling prices, cost savings through continuous improvement programs, benefits from completed capital projects and synergies. Inflation for the three months ended September 30, 2019 increased due to labor and benefit costs (\$10.6 million), wood (\$9.9 million), and external board (\$3.0 million), partially offset by lower secondary fiber cost (\$3.5 million) and other costs (\$0.4 million).

## Interest Expense, Net

Interest Expense, Net was \$35.9 million and \$31.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively. Interest Expense, Net increased due primarily to higher interest rates as compared to the same period in the prior year. As of September 30, 2019, approximately 37% of the Company's total debt was subject to floating interest rates.

## Income Tax Expense

During the three months ended September 30, 2019, the Company recognized Income Tax Expense of \$16.9 million on Income before Income Taxes and Equity Income of Unconsolidated Entity of \$86.8 million. The effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2019 is different than the statutory rate primarily due to the tax effect of income attributable to noncontrolling interests as well as the mix and levels of earnings between foreign and domestic tax jurisdictions.

During the three months ended September 30, 2018, the Company recognized Income Tax Expense of \$17.8 million on Income before Income Taxes and Equity Income of Unconsolidated Entity of \$139.5 million. The effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2018 was different than the statutory rate primarily due to the tax effect of income attributable to noncontrolling interests as well as the mix and levels of earnings between foreign and domestic tax jurisdictions. In addition, during the three months ended September 30, 2018, the Company recorded discrete benefits of approximately \$11 million and \$2 million associated with the adjustment to the estimated tax effects of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("the Act") and the release of a valuation allowance against the net deferred tax assets of the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary in France, respectively.

As of December 31, 2018, the Company had approximately \$168 million of Net Operating Losses ("NOLs") for U.S. federal income tax purposes which may be used to offset future taxable income. Based on these NOLs, other tax attributes, and tax benefits associated with planned capital projects, the Company does not expect to be a meaningful U.S. federal cash taxpayer until 2022.



## FIRST NINE MONTHS 2019 COMPARED WITH FIRST NINE MONTHS 2018

## Net Sales

	 Nine Months Ended September 30,							
In millions	2019		2018		Increase	Percent Change		
Consolidated	\$ 4,640.3	\$	4,520.1	\$	120.2	2.7 %		

#### The components of the change in Net Sales are as follows:

	Nine Months Ended September 30,										
	 Variances										
In millions	2018		Price		Volume/Mix		Exchange		Total	-	2019
Consolidated	\$ 4,520.1	\$	105.8	\$	60.9	\$	(46.5)	\$	120.2	\$	4,640.3

The Company's Net Sales for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 increased by \$120.2 million or 2.7% to \$4,640.3 million from \$4,520.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018, due to higher selling prices and Net Sales of \$96.0 million from the Artistic and 2018 Acquisitions. These increases were partially offset by lower converting and open market volume and unfavorable foreign currency exchange rates, primarily the Euro, British Pound and Australian dollar. The higher selling prices are the results of announced price increases which benefit from inflationary pass throughs in the converting business as well as open market sales. Core converting volumes were down, primarily in dry and frozen foods, away from home, including cups, and cereal, partially offset by higher global beverage volumes and new product introductions.

#### **Income from Operations**

	 Nine Months Ended September 30,							
In millions	 2019	2018		Increase	Percent Change			
Consolidated	\$ 401.1	\$	350.7	\$	50.4	14.4%		

The components of the change in Income from Operations are as follows:

		Nine Months Ended September 30,								
		Variances								
In millions	2018	Price	Volume/Mix	Inflation	Exchange	Other (a)	Total	2019		
Consolidated	\$ 350.7	\$ 105.8	\$ (13.9)	\$ (73.3)	\$ (8.2)	\$ 40.0	\$ 50.4	\$ 401.1		

(a) Includes the Company's cost reduction initiatives and expenses related to acquisitions and integration activities, exit activities, gain on sale of assets and shutdown and other special charges.

Income from Operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 increased \$50.4 million or 14.4% to \$401.1 million from \$350.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 due to the higher selling prices, cost savings through continuous improvement programs, benefits from completed capital projects and synergies and lower expenses related to acquisition and integration activities. These increases were partially offset by higher inflation, start-up costs associated with the Monroe, LA folding carton facility, the gain on the sale of Santa Clara in 2018, increased incentive costs and unfavorable foreign currency exchange rates. Inflation for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 increased primarily due to wood (\$37.4 million), labor and benefit costs (\$29.9 million), external board (\$9.9 million), and other costs, net (\$2.6 million), partially offset by lower secondary fiber cost (\$6.5 million).

## Interest Expense, Net

Interest Expense, Net was \$106.4 million and \$90.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively. Interest Expense, Net increased due primarily to higher interest rates as compared to the same period in the prior year.

## Income Tax Expense

During the nine months ended September 30, 2019, the Company recognized Income Tax Expense of \$60.9 million on Income before Income Taxes and Equity Income of Unconsolidated Entity of \$294.6 million. The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 is different than the statutory rate primarily due to the tax effect of income attributable to noncontrolling interests as well as the mix and levels of earnings between foreign and domestic tax jurisdictions.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Company recognized Income Tax Expense of \$41.4 million on Income before Income Taxes and Equity Income of Unconsolidated Entity of \$271.1 million. The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 was different than the statutory rate primarily due to the tax effect of income attributable to noncontrolling interests as well as the mix and levels of earnings between foreign and domestic tax jurisdictions. In addition, during the nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Company recorded discrete benefits of approximately \$4 million, \$11 million and \$2 million associated with the indirect impacts of the NACP Combination, an adjustment to the estimated tax effects of the Act and the release of a valuation allowance against the net deferred tax assets of the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary in France, respectively.

## Segment Reporting

The Company has three reportable segments as follows:

Paperboard Mills includes the nine North American paperboard mills which produce primarily CRB, CUK, and SBS, which is consumed internally to produce paperboard packaging for the Americas and Europe Paperboard Packaging segments. The remaining paperboard is sold externally to a wide variety of paperboard packaging converters and brokers. The Paperboard Mills segment Net Sales represent the sale of paperboard only to external customers. The effect of intercompany transfers to the paperboard packaging segments has been eliminated from the Paperboard Mills segment to reflect the economics of the integration of these segments.

Americas Paperboard Packaging includes paperboard packaging folding cartons and cups, lids, and food containers sold primarily to consumer packaged goods, quickservice restaurants and foodservice companies serving the food, beverage, and consumer product markets in the Americas.

Europe Paperboard Packaging includes paperboard packaging, primarily folding cartons, sold primarily to consumer packaged goods companies serving the food, beverage and consumer product markets in Europe.

The Company allocates certain mill and corporate costs to the reportable segments to appropriately represent the economics of these segments. The Corporate and Other caption includes the Pacific Rim and Australia operating segments and unallocated corporate and one-time costs.

These segments are evaluated by the chief operating decision maker based primarily on Income from Operations, as adjusted for depreciation and amortization. The accounting policies of the reportable segments are the same as those described above in "Note I - General Information."

	Three Mo	onths l	Ended	Nine Months Ended				
	September 30,				Septe	mber 3	30,	
In millions	2019		2018		2019		2018	
NET SALES:								
Paperboard Mills	\$ 279.2	\$	274.8	\$	833.9	\$	820.4	
Americas Paperboard Packaging	1,091.1		1,042.0		3,176.6		3,056.7	
Europe Paperboard Packaging	171.0		166.9		522.0		526.3	
Corporate/Other/Eliminations <sup>(a)</sup>	40.3		48.1		107.8		116.7	
Total	\$ 1,581.6	\$	1,531.8	\$	4,640.3	\$	4,520.1	
INCOME (LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS:								
Paperboard Mills	\$ 10.7	\$	10.0	\$	19.2	\$	(5.1)	
Americas Paperboard Packaging	112.2		128.0		363.1		354.3	
Europe Paperboard Packaging	8.6		12.8		43.3		40.3	
Corporate and Other <sup>(b)</sup>	(8.8)		15.6		(24.5)		(38.8)	
Total	\$ 122.7	\$	166.4	\$	401.1	\$	350.7	

(a) Includes Revenue from contracts with customers for the Australia and Pacific Rim operating segments.

(b) Includes expenses related to business combinations, exit activities, gain on sale of assets and shutdown and other special charges.



## 2019 COMPARED WITH 2018 Third Quarter 2019 Compared to Third Quarter 2018

#### Paperboard Mills

Net Sales increased from prior year due to higher selling prices and higher open market volume of CRB, including the White Pigeon mill, which was acquired as part of Artistic, and SBS. The Company also internalized more paperboard across all substrates.

Income from Operations increased due to the increased selling prices and productivity improvements, including benefits from capital projects, and lower inflation, partially offset by the maintenance outage at the Texarkana, TX mill. The lower inflation was primarily due to lower prices for secondary fiber partially offset by increased wood and labor and benefits.

## Americas Paperboard Packaging

Net Sales increased due to higher selling prices and the Artistic and 2018 Acquisitions. Lower volumes for certain consumer products, primarily dry and frozen foods and away from home, including cups, were partially offset by higher beverage volumes and new product introductions. In beverage, soft drink, craft and specialty volumes increased while big beer volumes declined.

Income from Operations decreased due to higher inflation and start-up costs associated with the Monroe, LA folding carton facility. These decreases were partially offset by the higher selling prices and productivity improvements. The higher inflation was primarily for labor and benefits and external board.

#### Europe Paperboard Packaging

Net Sales increased as higher pricing and increased volumes, led by beverage, were partially offset by unfavorable foreign currency exchange rates.

Income from Operations decreased due to higher inflation, primarily labor and benefits and external board, unfavorable foreign currency exchange rate and higher outsourcing costs. These decreases were partially offset by the higher selling prices and increased volumes.

#### First Nine Months of 2019 Compared to First Nine Months of 2018

#### Paperboard Mills

Net Sales increased from prior year due to higher selling prices and higher open market volume of CUK, partially offset by lower open market volume for CRB, SBS and corrugated medium. The Company also internalized more CUK and SBS paperboard.

Income from Operations increased due to the increased selling prices and productivity improvements, including benefits from capital projects, partially offset by higher inflation and market downtime taken for SBS. The higher inflation was primarily due to wood and labor and benefits partially offset by lower prices for secondary fiber.

## Americas Paperboard Packaging

Net Sales increased due to higher selling prices and the Artistic and 2018 Acquisitions. Lower volumes for certain consumer products, primarily dry and frozen foods, cereal and away from home, including cups were partially offset by new product introductions. Beverage volumes rose slightly across all categories, except big beer volumes declined.

Income from Operations increased due to the higher selling prices and productivity improvements partially offset by higher inflation and start-up costs associated with the Monroe, LA folding carton facility. The higher inflation was primarily for labor and benefits and external board.

## Europe Paperboard Packaging

Net Sales decreased slightly as increased beverage, consumer product and convenience volumes and higher selling prices were offset by unfavorable foreign currency exchange rates. The higher volumes reflect the increase in multi-pack beverage and a shift from plastics into paperboard solutions.

Income from Operations increased due to the higher selling prices, the improved volumes and cost savings through continuous improvement programs, partially offset by inflation, primarily labor and benefits and external board, unfavorable foreign currency exchange rates and higher outsourcing costs.



## FINANCIAL CONDITION, LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The Company broadly defines liquidity as its ability to generate sufficient funds from both internal and external sources to meet its obligations and commitments. In addition, liquidity includes the ability to obtain appropriate debt and equity financing and to convert into cash those assets that are no longer required to meet existing strategic and financial objectives. Therefore, liquidity cannot be considered separately from capital resources that consist of current or potentially available funds for use in achieving long-range business objectives and meeting debt service commitments.

## **Cash Flows**

	Nine Months Ended				
	September 30,				
In millions	2019		2018		
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities	\$ 300.7	\$	(300.0)		
Net Cash (Used in) Provided by Investing Activities	\$ (121.4)	\$	360.3		
Net Cash Used in Financing Activities	\$ (200.8)	\$	(87.2)		

Effective January 1, 2018, the Company adopted ASU No. 2016-15, Statement of Cash Flows (Topic 230); Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments, which required the Company to classify consideration received for beneficial interest obtained for transferring trade receivables as investing activities instead of operating activities.

Net cash provided by operating activities for the first nine months of 2019 totaled \$300.7 million, compared to \$300.0 million used in operating activities for the same period in 2018. The increase was due primarily to the restructuring of certain of the Company's accounts receivable sale and securitization programs as well as improved operations as compared to the same period in the prior year, partially offset by an increase in inventory. Pension contributions for the first nine months of 2019 and 2018 were \$8.2 million and \$2.8 million, respectively.

Net cash used in investing activities for the first nine months of 2019 totaled \$121.4 million, compared to \$360.3 million provided by investing activities for the same period in 2018. Capital spending was \$229.9 million and \$270.0 million in 2019 and 2018, respectively. In 2019, the Company paid the remaining \$2.0 million for the Letica acquisition and paid \$50.9 million for the Artistic acquisition. Net beneficial interest decreased by \$511.0 million as a result of the restructuring of certain of the Company's accounts receivable sale and securitization programs. In 2018, the Company paid \$89.0 million for acquisitions, which included cash received for the working capital settlement for the NACP Combination. Net cash receipts related to the accounts receivable securitization and sale programs were \$164.9 million and \$675.9 million in 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Net cash used in financing activities for the first nine months of 2019 totaled \$200.8 million, compared to \$87.2 million for the same period in 2018. Current year activities include a debt offering of \$300 million aggregate principal amount of 4.75% senior notes due 2027. The Company used the net proceeds to repay a portion of its outstanding borrowings under its senior secured revolving credit facility. Additionally, the Company made borrowings under revolving credit facilities primarily for capital spending, repurchase of common stock of \$128.8 million and payments on debt of \$27.4 million. The Company also paid dividends and distributions of \$87.0 million and withheld \$4.1 million of restricted stock units to satisfy tax withholding obligations related to the payout of restricted stock units. In the prior year period, the Company had net borrowings under revolving credit facilities of \$149.0 million and made payments on debt of \$143.3 million. In addition, the Company paid dividends and distributions of \$82.1 million and withheld \$4.1 million of restricted stock units to satisfy tax withholding payments related to the payout of restricted stock units.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company's liquidity needs arise primarily from debt service on its indebtedness, the funding of its capital expenditures, ongoing operating costs, working capital, share repurchases and dividend payments. Principal and interest payments under the term loan facilities and the revolving credit facilities, together with principal and interest payments on the Company's 4.75% Senior Notes due 2021, 4.875% Senior Notes due 2022, 4.125% Senior Notes due 2024 and 4.75% Senior Notes due 2027 (the "Notes"), represent liquidity requirements for the Company. Based upon current levels of operations, anticipated cost savings and expectations as to future growth, the Company believes that cash generated from operations, together with amounts available under its revolving credit facilities and other available financing sources, will be adequate to permit the Company to meet its debt service obligations, necessary capital expenditure program requirements and ongoing operating costs and working capital needs, although no assurance can be given in this regard. The Company's future financial and operating performance, ability to service or refinance its debt adbility to comply with the covenants and restrictions contained in its debt agreements (see "Covenant Restrictions" below) will be substantially dependent on the selling prices and demand for the Company's products, raw material and energy costs, and the Company's ability to successfully implement its overall business and profitability strategies.



The Company has entered into agreements to sell, on a revolving basis, certain trade accounts receivable to third party financial institutions. Transfers under these agreements meet the requirements to be accounted for as sales in accordance with the *Transfers and Servicing* topic of the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification (the "Codification"). The loss on sale is not material and is included in Other Expense, Net line item on the Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations. The following table summarizes the activity under these programs as of September 30, 2019 and September 30, 2018, respectively:

	Nine Months Ended								
	September 30,								
In millions	 2019		2018						
Receivables Sold and Derecognized	\$ 2,033.1	\$	2,507.2						
Proceeds Collected on Behalf of Financial Institutions	1,660.0		2,449.8						
Net Proceeds Received From (Paid to) Financial Institutions	37.9		(121.7)						
Deferred Purchase Price <sup>(a)</sup>	4.9		282.3						
Pledged Receivables	93.1		_						

(a) Included in Other Current Assets and represents a beneficial interest in the receivables sold to the financial institutions, which is a Level 3 fair value measure.

The Company has also entered into various factoring and supply chain financing arrangements which also qualify for sale accounting in accordance with the *Aransfers and Servicing* topic of the FASB Codification. For the nine months ended September 30, 2019 and 2018, the Company sold receivables of approximately \$129 million and \$86 million, respectively, related to these factoring arrangements.

Receivables sold under all programs subject to continuing involvement, which consist principally of collection services, were approximately \$535 million and \$602 million as of September 30, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively.

## **Covenant Restrictions**

Covenants contained in the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, the Term Loan Credit Agreement (collectively, the "Credit Agreement") and the Indentures may, among other things, limit the ability to incur additional indebtedness, restrict the ability of the Company to dispose of assets, incur guarantee obligations, prepay other indebtedness, repurchase shares, pay dividends and make other restricted payments, create liens, make equity or debt investments, make acquisitions, modify terms of the indentures under which the Notes are issued, engage in mergers or consolidations, change the business conducted by the Company and its subsidiaries, and engage in certain transactions with affiliates. Such restrictions, together with disruptions in the credit markets, could limit the Company's ability to respond to changing market conditions, fund its capital spending program, provide for unexpected capital investments or take advantage of business opportunities.

Under the terms of the Credit Agreement, the Company must comply with a maximum Consolidated Total Leverage Ratio covenant and a minimum Consolidated Interest Expense Ratio covenant. The Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, which contains the definitions of these covenants, was filed as an exhibit to the Company's Form 8-K filed on January 2, 2018.

The Credit Agreement requires that the Company maintain a maximum Consolidated Total Leverage Ratio of less than 4.25 to 1.00. At September 30, 2019, the Company was in compliance with such covenant and the ratio was 2.70 to 1.00.

The Company must also comply with a minimum Consolidated Interest Expense Ratio of 3.00 to 1.00. At September 30, 2019, the Company was in compliance with such covenant and the ratio was 7.78 to 1.00.

As of September 30, 2019, the Company's credit was rated BB+ by Standard & Poor's and Ba1 by Moody's Investor Services. Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services' ratings on the Company included a stable outlook.

## **Capital Investment**

The Company's capital investment in the first nine months of 2019 was \$229.9 million compared to \$270.0 million in the first nine months of 2018. The capital investments were primarily due to planned asset upgrades at the U.S.-based mills and continued investments made as part of the integration of acquisitions.

#### **Environmental Matters**

Some of the Company's current and former facilities are the subject of environmental investigations and remediations resulting from historical operations and the release of hazardous substances or other constituents. Some current and former facilities have a history of industrial usage for which investigation and remediation obligations may be imposed in the future or for which indemnification claims may be asserted against the Company. Also, closures or sales of facilities may necessitate further investigation and may result in remediation at those facilities. The Company has established reserves for those facilities or issues where liability is probable and the costs are reasonably estimable.

For further discussion of the Company's environmental matters, see "Note 10 - Environmental and Legal Matters" in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

## CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of net sales and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates, and changes in these estimates are recorded when known. The critical accounting policies used by management in the preparation of the Company's condensed consolidated financial statements are those that are important both to the presentation of the Company's financial condition and results of operations and require significant judgments by management with regard to estimates used.

The Company's most critical accounting policies, which require significant judgment or involve complex estimations, are described in GPHC's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018.

#### NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

For a discussion of recent accounting pronouncements impacting the Company, see "Note 1 - General Information" in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

## **BUSINESS OUTLOOK**

Total capital investment for 2019 is expected to be approximately \$350 million and is expected to relate principally to the Company's process capability improvements (approximately \$290 million), acquiring capital spares (approximately \$40 million), and producing packaging machinery (approximately \$20 million).

The Company also expects the following in 2019:

- · Depreciation and amortization expense to be approximately \$455 million, excluding approximately \$10 million of pension amortization.
- Interest expense of approximately \$140 million, including approximately \$5 million of non-cash interest expense associated with amortization of debt issuance costs.
- · Pension plan contributions of approximately \$10 million.

## ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURE ABOUT MARKET RISK

For a discussion of certain market risks related to the Company, see Part II, "Item 7A, Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure about Market Risk", in GPHC's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018. There have been no significant developments with respect to derivatives or exposure to market risk during the first nine months of 2019. For a discussion of the Company's Financial Instruments, Derivatives and Hedging Activities, see GPHC's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018 and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources."

## **ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

#### 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 pursuant to Rule 13a-15 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 September 30, 2019.

## Remediation of Previously Identified Material Weakness in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In connection with the Company's evaluation of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018, management determined that certain management review controls and documentation, related to the accounting for business combinations, were not properly designed and executed.

While this deficiency in controls did not result in a material misstatement of the Company's 2018 consolidated financial statements, the Company concluded this deficiency represented a material weakness in internal controls over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018. As noted below, this material weakness was remediated in the first quarter of 2019.

#### Remediation Process

In order to remediate the material weakness in internal control related to accounting for business combinations, management designed, executed and maintained appropriate documentation related to internal controls over business combination accounting related to a business combination that was consummated on September 30, 2018, for which acquisition accounting was preliminary at December 31, 2018. These new controls included documentation to evidence the effective design and functioning of internal controls related to various aspects of accounting projected financial information. The implementation and related documentation of these internal controls were completed by the end of the first quarter of 2019. Accordingly, management concluded this material weakness was remediated as of March 31, 2019.

## Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Other than as noted above, there was no change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2019 that has materially affected, or is likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.



## PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

## **ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

The Company is a party to a number of lawsuits arising in the ordinary conduct of its business. Although the timing and outcome of these lawsuits cannot be predicted with certainty, the Company does not believe that disposition of these lawsuits will have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows. For more information see "Note 10 - Environmental and Legal Matters" in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

## **ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

There have been no material changes from the risk factors previously disclosed in GPHC's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018.

#### ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

The Company purchases shares of its common stock from time to time pursuant to the 2017 and 2019 share repurchase programs announced on January 10, 2017 and January 28, 2019, respectively. Management is allowed to purchase up to \$250 million and \$500 million of the Company's issued and outstanding common stock per the 2017 and 2019 programs, respectively. During the third quarter of 2019, the Company repurchased 3,729,361 shares including 0.9 million shares repurchased under the 2017 share repurchase program thereby completing that program.

During the third quarter of 2019, the Company purchased shares of its common stock through a broker in the open market as follows:

## **Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

Period (2019)	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid Per Share		Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Maximum Number of Shares That May Yet Be Purchased Under the Publicly Announced Program <sup>(a)</sup>
July 1, through July 31,	_	\$	—	39,317,939	34,472,856
August 1, through August 31,	2,597,568	\$	13.27	41,915,507	34,597,426
September 1, through September 30,	1,131,793	\$	13.82	43,047,300	31,332,061
Total	3,729,361	\$	13.44		

<sup>(a)</sup> Based on the closing price of the Company's common stock at the end of each period.

## **ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES**

None.



ITEM 6. EXHIBITS	
Exhibit Number	Description
10.1*	Fifth Amendment to the GPI US Consolidated Pension Plan, dated September 19, 2019.
31.1	Certification required by Rule 13a-14(a).
31.2	Certification required by Rule 13a-14(a).
32.1	Certification required by Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code.
32.2	Certification required by Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code.
101.INS	Instance Document - the instance document does not appear in the Interactive Data File because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document.
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase

## SIGNATURES

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

# GRAPHIC PACKAGING HOLDING COMPANY (Registrant)

/s/ STEPHEN R. SCHERGER	
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Stephen R. Scherger

October 22, 2019 Financial Officer) /s/ DEBORAH R. FRANK Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer (Principal October 22, 2019 Deborah R. Frank Accounting Officer)

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal

## FIFTH AMENDMENT TO THE GPI US Consolidated Pension Plan (As Amended and Restated Effective January 1, 2017)

WHEREAS, Graphic Packaging International, LLC (the "Company") maintains for the benefit of its employees the GPI US Consolidated Pension Plan (the "Plan"); and

WHEREAS, Section 4.1 of the Plan authorizes the Board of Directors of Graphic Packaging Holding Company (the "Board") to amend the Plan at any time; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has delegated to the Retirement Committee of Graphic Packaging International, LLC (the "Retirement Committee") the responsibility to make certain amendments to the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Retirement Committee deems it desirable to amend the Riverwood International Hourly Retirement Subplan of the Plan (the "Riverwood Hourly Subplan"), consistent with recent collective bargaining, to restore disability benefits for employees at the Company's Monroe, Louisiana Operations Plant (formerly known as its West Monroe, Louisiana Beverage Carton Plant) represented by Local 654 of the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied-Industrial and Service Workers International Union, which had previously had been eliminated;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** effective as of the date this amendment to the Plan is executed, paragraph (5) of the section of Appendix D of the Riverwood Hourly Subplan entitled "PROVISIONS RESPECTING THE FREEZING OF BENEFIT ACCRUALS FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS AND THE CLOSING OF THIS APPENDIX D TO NEW MEMBERS" is amended to read as follows:

(5) A Non-Grandfathered Member, including a Member who makes the election to be treated as a NonGrandfathered Member in accordance with the subparagraph (2) above, shall remain eligible for a Disability Retirement in accordance with the terms of the Plan.

[signatures on the following page]

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Retirement Committee has approved this Fifth Amendment to the GPI US Consolidated Pension Plan this <u>19<sup>th</sup></u> day of September, 2019.

# GRAPHIC PACKAGING INTERNATIONAL, LLC RETIREMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

By:/s/ STEPHEN R. SCHERGER

Stephen R. Scherger

By:/s/ STACEY PANAYIOTOU

Stacey Panayiotou

By:/s/ BRAD ANKERHOLZ

Brad Ankerholz

By:/s/ DEBBIE FRANK

Debbie Frank

By:/s/ BRIAN A. WILSON

Brian A. Wilson

## CERTIFICATION

I, Michael P. Doss certify that:

- 1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Graphic Packaging Holding Company;
- Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of
  the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ Michael P. Doss

Michael P. Doss, President and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer) October 22, 2019

## CERTIFICATION

I, Stephen R. Scherger certify that:

- 1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Graphic Packaging Holding Company;
- 2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ Stephen R. Scherger

Stephen R. Scherger Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer) October 22, 2019

## CERTIFICATION Pursuant to 18 United States Code Section 1350, As adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

The undersigned hereby certifies that, to my knowledge, the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2019 of Graphic Packaging Holding Company (the "Company") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that the information contained in such report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Michael P. Doss

Name: Michael P. Doss, Title: President and Chief Executive Officer October 22, 2019

## CERTIFICATION Pursuant to 18 United States Code Section 1350, As adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

The undersigned hereby certifies that, to my knowledge, the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2019 of Graphic Packaging Holding Company (the "Company") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that the information contained in such report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Stephen R. Scherger

Name: Stephen R. Scherger Title: Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer October 22, 2019