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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

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**Form 10-K**

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

**For the Fiscal Year Ended April 2, 2017**

**Commission File No. 0-7647**

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**HAWKINS, INC.**

**(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)**

Minnesota  
(State of Incorporation)

2381 Rosegate, Roseville, Minnesota  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(612) 331-6910

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

41-0771293  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)  
55113  
(Zip Code)

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Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:	Common Stock, par value \$.05 per share
Name of exchange on which registered:	NASDAQ Global Market
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:	None

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Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes  No

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

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

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

Emerging growth company

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

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

The aggregate market value of voting stock held by non-affiliates of the Registrant on October 2, 2016 (the last business day of the Registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter) was approximately \$409.3 million based upon the closing sale price for the Registrant's common stock on that date as reported by The NASDAQ Stock Market, excluding all shares held by officers and directors of the Registrant and by the Trustees of the Registrant's Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust.

As of May 26, 2017, the Registrant had 10,619,541 shares of common stock outstanding.

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**DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of our definitive Proxy Statement for the annual meeting of shareholders to be held August 9, 2017, are incorporated by reference in Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K

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## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

The information presented in this Annual Report on Form 10-K contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”). These forward-looking statements have been made pursuant to the provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are not historical facts, but rather are based on our current expectations, estimates and projections, and our beliefs and assumptions. Words such as “anticipate,” “expect,” “intend,” “plan,” “believe,” “seek,” “estimate,” “will” and similar expressions may identify forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and other factors, some of which are beyond our control and are difficult to predict. These factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or forecasted in the forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties are described in the risk factors and elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. We caution you not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect our management’s view only as of the date of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. We are not obligated to update these statements or publicly release the result of any revisions to them to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this Annual Report on Form 10-K or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

As used in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, except where otherwise stated or indicated by the context, “Hawkins,” “we,” “us,” “the Company,” “our,” or “the Registrant” means Hawkins, Inc. References to “fiscal 2018” means our fiscal year ending April 1, 2018, “fiscal 2017” means our fiscal year ended April 2, 2017, “fiscal 2016” means our fiscal year ended April 3, 2016, and “fiscal 2015” means our fiscal year ended March 29, 2015.

**Hawkins, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended April 2, 2017**

	<u>Page</u>
<b>PART I</b>	
ITEM 1. <a href="#">Business</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
ITEM 1A. <a href="#">Risk Factors</a>	<a href="#">4</a>
ITEM 1B. <a href="#">Unresolved Staff Comments</a>	<a href="#">9</a>
ITEM 2. <a href="#">Properties</a>	<a href="#">10</a>
ITEM 3. <a href="#">Legal Proceedings</a>	<a href="#">11</a>
ITEM 4. <a href="#">Mine Safety Disclosures</a>	<a href="#">11</a>
<b>PART II</b>	
ITEM 5. <a href="#">Market for the Company's Common Equity, Related Shareholder Matters, and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</a>	<a href="#">12</a>
ITEM 6. <a href="#">Selected Financial Data</a>	<a href="#">14</a>
ITEM 7. <a href="#">Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</a>	<a href="#">14</a>
ITEM 7A. <a href="#">Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk</a>	<a href="#">23</a>
ITEM 8. <a href="#">Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</a>	<a href="#">24</a>
ITEM 9. <a href="#">Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</a>	<a href="#">46</a>
ITEM 9A. <a href="#">Controls and Procedures</a>	<a href="#">46</a>
ITEM 9B. <a href="#">Other Information</a>	<a href="#">47</a>
<b>PART III</b>	
ITEM 10. <a href="#">Directors, Executive Officers, and Corporate Governance</a>	<a href="#">48</a>
ITEM 11. <a href="#">Executive Compensation</a>	<a href="#">49</a>
ITEM 12. <a href="#">Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management And Related Stockholder Matters</a>	<a href="#">49</a>
ITEM 13. <a href="#">Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</a>	<a href="#">49</a>
ITEM 14. <a href="#">Principal Accountant Fees and Services</a>	<a href="#">49</a>
<b>PART IV</b>	
ITEM 15. <a href="#">Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</a>	<a href="#">50</a>
ITEM 16. <a href="#">Form 10-K Summary</a>	<a href="#">50</a>

## PART I

### ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Hawkins, Inc. distributes, blends and manufactures chemicals and specialty ingredients for our customers in a wide variety of industries. We began our operations primarily as a distributor of bulk chemicals with a strong customer focus. Over the years, we have maintained our strong customer focus and have expanded our business by increasing our sales of value-added chemical products and specialty ingredients, including manufacturing, blending and repackaging certain products. We believe that we create value for our customers through superb service and support, quality products, personalized applications and trustworthy, creative employees.

We currently conduct our business in three segments: Industrial, Water Treatment, and Health and Nutrition. Our Health and Nutrition segment was established as a result of our acquisition of Stauber Performance Ingredients (“Stauber”) in December 2015. Financial information regarding these segments is reported in Item 7 and note 13 of Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

*Industrial Segment.* Our Industrial Group specializes in providing industrial chemicals, products and services to industries such as agriculture, chemical processing, electronics, energy, food, pharmaceutical and plating. This group’s principal products are acids, alkalis and industrial and food-grade salts.

The Industrial Group:

- Receives, stores and distributes various chemicals in bulk quantities, including liquid caustic soda, sulfuric acid, hydrochloric acid, phosphoric acid, potassium hydroxide and aqua ammonia;
- Manufactures sodium hypochlorite (bleach), agricultural products and certain food-grade products, including liquid phosphates, lactates and other blended products;
- Repackages water treatment chemicals for our Water Treatment Group and bulk industrial chemicals to sell in smaller quantities to our customers;
- Performs custom blending of chemicals according to customer formulas and specifications; and
- Performs contract and private label bleach packaging.

The group’s sales are concentrated primarily in Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Tennessee and Wisconsin, while the group’s products sold into the food and pharmaceutical markets are sold nationally. The Industrial Group relies on a specially trained sales staff that works directly with customers on their specific needs. The group conducts its business primarily through distribution centers and terminal operations. Agricultural sales within this group tend to be seasonal, with higher sales due to the application of fertilizer during the planting season of March through June given the regions of the country where we are located.

*Water Treatment Segment.* Our Water Treatment Group specializes in providing chemicals, equipment and solutions for potable water, municipal and industrial wastewater, industrial process water and non-residential swimming pool water. This group has the resources and flexibility to treat systems ranging in size from a single small well to a multi-million-gallon-per-day facility.

The group utilizes delivery routes operated by our employees who typically serve as route driver, salesperson and trained technician to deliver our products and diagnose our customers’ water treatment needs. We believe that the high level of service provided by these individuals allows us to serve as the trusted water treatment expert for many of the municipalities and other customers that we serve. We also believe that there are significant synergies between our Water Treatment and Industrial Groups in that we are able to obtain a competitive cost position on many of the chemicals sold by the Water Treatment Group due to the volumes of these chemicals purchased by our Industrial Group. In addition, our Industrial and Water Treatment groups share certain of our facilities, which leverage fixed costs across both groups.

The group operates out of warehouses in 29 cities supplying products and services to customers primarily in Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Wyoming. We added two new Water Treatment branches in fiscal 2016. We entered the Florida market in fiscal 2015 through our acquisition of substantially all the assets of The Dumont Company, Inc. (“Dumont”), with seven operating locations. We expect to continue to invest in existing and new branches to expand the group’s geographic coverage. Our Water

Treatment Group has historically experienced higher sales during April to September, primarily due to a seasonal increase in chemicals used by municipal water treatment facilities.

*Health and Nutrition Segment.* We established the Health and Nutrition segment of our business in December 2015 through our acquisition of Stauber. Our Health and Nutrition Group specializes in providing ingredient distribution, processing and formulation solutions to manufacturers of nutraceutical, functional food and beverage, personal care, dietary supplement and other nutritional food, health and wellness products. This group offers a diverse product portfolio including minerals, botanicals and herbs, vitamins and amino acids, excipients, joint products, sweeteners and enzymes.

The Health and Nutrition Group relies on a specially trained sales and product development staff that works directly with customers on their specific needs. The group's extensive product portfolio combined with value-added services, including product formulation, sourcing and distribution, processing and blending and quality control and compliance, positions this group as a one-stop ingredient solutions provider to its customers. The group operates out of facilities in California and New York and its products are sold nationally and, in certain cases, internationally.

*Raw Materials.* We have numerous suppliers, including many of the major chemical producers in the United States. We source our health and nutrition ingredients from a wide array of domestic and international vendors. We typically have written distributorship agreements or supply contracts with our chemical suppliers that are periodically renewed. We believe that most of the products we purchase can be obtained from alternative sources should existing relationships be terminated. We are dependent upon the availability of our raw materials. While we believe that we have adequate sources of supply for our raw material and product requirements, we cannot be sure that supplies will be consistently available in the future. In the event that certain raw materials become generally unavailable, suppliers may extend lead times or limit or cut off the supply of materials to us. As a result, we may not be able to supply or manufacture products for our customers.

*Intellectual Property.* Our intellectual property portfolio is of economic importance to our business. When appropriate, we have pursued, and we will continue to pursue, patents covering our products. We also have obtained certain trademarks for our products to distinguish them from our competitors' products. We regard much of the formulae, information and processes that we generate and use in the conduct of our business as proprietary and protectable under applicable copyright, patent, trademark, trade secret and unfair competition laws.

*Customer Concentration.* In fiscal 2017, none of our customers accounted for 10% or more of our total sales. Sales to our largest customer, which is in our Industrial segment, represented approximately 4% of our total sales in fiscal 2017, 5% of our total sales in fiscal 2016 and 6% of our total sales in fiscal 2015. Aggregate sales to our five largest customers, four of which are in our Industrial segment and one of which is in our Health and Nutrition segment, represented approximately 12% of our total sales in fiscal 2017, 14% of our total sales in fiscal 2016 and 18% of our total sales in fiscal 2015. No other customer represented more than 2% of our total sales in fiscal 2017. The loss of any of our largest customers, or a substantial portion of their business, could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

*Competition.* We operate in a competitive industry and compete with many producers, distributors and sales agents offering products equivalent to substantially all of the products we offer. Many of our competitors are larger than we are and may have greater financial resources, although no one competitor is dominant in the markets we serve. We compete by offering quality products at competitive prices coupled with outstanding customer service and value-added services or product formulation where needed. Because of our long-standing relationships with many of our suppliers, we are often able to leverage those relationships to obtain products when supplies are scarce or to obtain competitive pricing.

*Geographic Information.* Substantially all of our revenues are generated by sales to customers within, and long-lived assets are located in, the United States. Approximately 2% of our total revenues were from sales to customers outside of the U.S. in fiscal 2017, and approximately 1% of our revenues were from sales to customers outside of the U.S. in both fiscal 2016 and fiscal 2015.

*Working Capital.* Due to the nature of our operations, which includes purchases of large quantities of bulk chemicals, the timing of purchases can result in significant changes in working capital and the resulting operating cash flow. Historically, our cash requirements for working capital increase during the period from April through November as caustic soda inventory levels increase with most of the barges received during this period. Additionally, due to seasonality of the Water Treatment business, our accounts receivable balance is generally higher during the period of April through September.

*Employees.* We had 659 employees as of April 2, 2017, including 58 covered by collective bargaining agreements.

*About Us.* Hawkins, Inc. was founded in 1938 and incorporated in Minnesota in 1955. We became a publicly-traded company in 1972. Our principal executive offices are located at 2381 Rosegate, Roseville, Minnesota.

*Available Information.* We have made available, free of charge, through our Internet website (<http://www.hawkinsinc.com>), our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and, if applicable, amendments to those reports, as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file these materials with, or furnish them to, the Securities and Exchange Commission. Reports of beneficial ownership filed by our directors and executive officers pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act are also available on our website. We are not including the information contained on our website as part of, or incorporating it by reference into, this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

## ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

*You should consider carefully the following risks when reading the information, including the financial information, contained in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.*

### ***We operate in a highly competitive environment and face significant competition and price pressure.***

We operate in a highly competitive industry and compete with producers, manufacturers, distributors and sales agents offering products equivalent to substantially all of the products we offer. Competition is based on several key criteria, including product price, product performance, product quality, product availability and security of supply, breadth of product offerings, geographic reach, responsiveness of product development in cooperation with customers, technical expertise and customer service. Many of our competitors are larger than we are and may have greater financial resources, more product offerings and a broader geographic reach. As a result, these competitors may be able to offer a broader array of products to a larger geographic area and may be better able than us to withstand changes in conditions within our industry, changes in the prices and availability of raw materials and changes in general economic conditions as well as be able to introduce innovative products that reduce demand for or the profit of our products. Additionally, competitors' pricing decisions could compel us to decrease our prices, which could adversely affect our margins and profitability. Our ability to maintain or increase our profitability would be dependent upon our ability to offset competitive decreases in the prices and margins of our products by improving production efficiency, investing in infrastructure to reduce freight costs, identifying and selling higher margin products, providing higher levels of technical expertise and customer service, and improving existing products through innovation and research and development. If we are unable to maintain our profitability or competitive position, we could lose market share to our competitors and experience reduced profitability.

### ***Fluctuations in the prices and availability of our raw materials, which may be cyclical in nature, could have a material adverse effect on our operations and the margins we receive on sales of our products.***

We experience regular and recurring fluctuations in the pricing of our raw materials. Those fluctuations can be significant and occur rapidly. The cyclicity of commodity markets, such as caustic soda, primarily results from changes in the balance between supply and demand and the level of general economic activity. We cannot predict whether the markets for our raw materials will favorably impact or negatively impact the margins we can realize.

Our principal chemical raw materials are generally purchased under supply contracts. The prices we pay under these contracts generally lag the market prices of the underlying raw material and the cost of inventory we have on hand, particularly inventories of our bulk commodity chemicals where we have significant volumes stored at our facilities, generally will lag the current market pricing of such inventory. The pricing within our supply contracts generally adjusts quarterly or monthly. While we attempt to maintain competitive pricing and stable margin dollars, the potential variance in our cost of inventory from the current market pricing can cause significant volatility in our margins realized. In periods of rapidly increasing market prices, our inventory cost position will tend to be favorable, possibly by material amounts, which may positively impact our margins. Conversely, in periods of rapidly decreasing market prices, our inventory cost position will tend to be unfavorable, possibly by material amounts, which may negatively impact our margins. We do not engage in futures or other derivatives contracts to hedge against fluctuations in future prices. We may enter into sales contracts where the selling prices for our products are fixed for a period of time, exposing us to volatility in raw materials prices that we acquire on a spot market or short-term contractual basis. We attempt to pass commodity pricing changes to our customers, but we may be unable to or be delayed in doing so. Our inability to pass through price increases or any limitation or delay in our passing through price increases could adversely affect our profit margins.

We are also dependent upon the availability of our raw materials. In the event that raw materials are in short supply or unavailable, raw material suppliers may extend lead times or limit or cut off supplies. As a result, we may not be able to supply or manufacture products for some or all of our customers. Constraints on the supply or delivery of critical raw materials could disrupt our operations and adversely affect the performance of our businesses.

### ***Demand for our products is affected by general economic conditions and by the cyclical nature of many of the industries we serve, which could cause significant fluctuations in our sales volumes and results.***

Demand for our products is affected by general economic conditions. A decline in general economic or business conditions in the industries served by our customers could have a material adverse effect on our businesses. Although we sell to areas traditionally considered non-cyclical, such as water treatment, food products and health and nutritional ingredients, many of our customers are in businesses that are cyclical in nature, such as the industrial manufacturing and energy industries which include the ethanol and agriculture industries. Downturns in these industries could adversely affect our sales and our financial results by affecting demand for and pricing of our products.

***Changes in our customers' needs or failure of our products to meet customers' specifications could adversely affect our sales and profitability.***

Our products are used for a broad range of applications by our customers. Changes in our customers' product needs or processes may enable our customers to reduce or eliminate consumption of the products that we provide. Customers may also find alternative materials or processes that no longer require our products. Consequently, it is important that we develop new products to replace the sales of products that mature and decline in use.

Our products provide important performance attributes to our customers' products. If our products fail to meet the customers' specifications, perform in a manner inconsistent with the customers' expectations or have a shorter useful life than required, a customer could seek replacement of the product or damages for costs incurred as a result of the product failure. A successful claim or series of claims against us could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations and could result in a loss of one or more customers.

***Our business is subject to hazards common to chemical businesses, any of which could interrupt our production and adversely affect our results of operations.***

Our business is subject to hazards common to chemical manufacturing, blending, storage, handling and transportation, including explosions, fires, severe weather, natural disasters, mechanical failure, unscheduled downtime, transportation interruptions, traffic accidents involving our delivery vehicles, chemical spills, discharges or releases of toxic or hazardous substances or gases and other risks. These hazards could cause personal injury and loss of life, severe damage to or destruction of property and equipment, and environmental contamination. In addition, the occurrence of material operating problems at any of our facilities due to any of these hazards may make it impossible for us to make sales to our customers and may result in a negative public or political reaction. Many of our facilities are near significant residential populations which increases the risk of negative public or political reaction should an environmental issue occur and could lead to adverse zoning or other regulatory actions that could limit our ability to operate our business in those locations. Accordingly, these hazards and their consequences could have a material adverse effect on our operations as a whole, including our results of operations and cash flows, both during and after the period of operational difficulties.

***We are highly dependent upon transportation infrastructure to ship and receive our products and delays in these shipments could adversely affect our results of operations.***

Although we maintain a number of owned trucks and trailers, we rely heavily upon transportation provided by third parties (including common carriers, barge companies, rail companies and trans-ocean cargo companies) to deliver products to us and to our customers. Our access to third-party transportation is not guaranteed, and we may be unable to transport our products in a timely manner, or at all, in certain circumstances, or at economically attractive rates. Disruptions in transportation are common, are often out of our control, and can happen suddenly and without warning. Rail limitations, such as limitations in rail capacity, availability of railcars and adverse weather conditions have disrupted or delayed rail shipments in the past and we expect they will continue into the future. Barge shipments are delayed or impossible under certain circumstances, including during times of high or low water levels, when waterways are frozen and when locks and dams are inoperable. Truck transportation has been negatively impacted by a number of factors, including limited availability of qualified drivers and equipment, and limitations on drivers' hours of service, and may be further impacted by the implementation of federally mandated electronic log books, and we expect these conditions will continue into the future. The volumes handled by, and operating challenges at, ocean ports have at times been volatile and can delay the receipt of goods, or cause the cost of shipping goods to be more expensive. Our failure to ship or receive products in a timely and efficient manner could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

***Environmental, health and safety, transportation and storage laws and regulations cause us to incur substantial costs and may subject us to future liabilities and risks.***

We are subject to numerous federal, state and local environmental, health and safety laws and regulations in the jurisdictions in which we operate, including the management, storage, transportation and disposal of chemicals and wastes; product regulation; air water and soil contamination; and the investigation and cleanup of any spills or releases that may result from our management, handling, storage, sale, or transportation of chemicals and other products. The nature of our business exposes us to risks of liability under these laws and regulations. Ongoing compliance with such laws and regulations is an important consideration for us and we invest substantial capital and incur significant operating costs in our compliance efforts. In addition, societal concerns regarding the safety of chemicals in commerce and their potential impact on the environment have resulted in a growing trend towards increasing levels of product safety and environmental protection regulations. These concerns have led to, and could continue to result in, more stringent regulatory intervention by governmental authorities. In addition, these concerns could influence public



perceptions, impact the commercial viability of the products we sell and increase the costs to comply with increasingly complex regulations, which could have a negative impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, we operate a fleet of more than 150 vehicles, primarily in our Water Treatment Group, which are highly regulated, including by the U.S. Department of Transportation (“DOT”). The DOT governs transportation matters including authorization to engage in motor carrier service, including the necessary permits to conduct our businesses, equipment operation, and safety. We are audited periodically by the DOT to ensure that we are in compliance with various safety, hours-of-service, and other rules and regulations. If we were found to be out of compliance, the DOT could severely restrict or otherwise impact our operations, which could have a material adverse effect on our operations as a whole, including our results of operations and cash flows.

If we violate applicable laws or regulations, in addition to being required to correct such violations, we could be held liable in administrative, civil or criminal proceedings for substantial fines and other sanctions that could disrupt, limit or halt our operations, which could have a material adverse effect on our operations as a whole, including our results of operations and cash flows. Liabilities associated with the investigation and cleanup of releases of hazardous substances, as well as personal injury, property damages or natural resource damages arising out of such releases of hazardous substances, may be imposed in many situations without regard to violations of laws or regulations or other fault, and may also be imposed jointly and severally (so that a responsible party may be held liable for more than its share of the losses involved, or even the entire loss). Such liabilities can be difficult to identify and the extent of any such liabilities can be difficult to predict. We use, and in the past have used, hazardous substances at many of our facilities, and have generated, and continue to generate, hazardous wastes at a number of our facilities. We have in the past been, and may in the future be, subject to claims relating to exposure to hazardous materials and the associated liabilities may be material.

***Our food, pharmaceutical and nutritional products are subject to government regulation, both in the United States and abroad, which could increase our costs significantly and limit or prevent the sale of such products.***

The manufacture, packaging, labeling, advertising, promotion, distribution and sale of our food, pharmaceutical and nutritional products are subject to regulation by numerous national and local governmental agencies in the United States and other countries. The primary regulatory bodies in the United States are the Food and Drug Administration (the “FDA”), the United States Department of Agriculture and the Federal Trade Commission, and we are also subject to similar regulators in other countries. Failure to comply with these regulatory requirements may result in various types of penalties or fines. These include injunctions, product withdrawals, recalls, product seizures, fines and criminal prosecutions. Individual states also regulate dietary supplements. A state may interpret claims or products presumptively valid under federal law as illegal under that state’s regulations. Approvals or licensing may be conditioned on reformulation of products or may be unavailable with respect to certain products or product ingredients. Any of these government agencies, as well as legislative bodies, can change existing regulations, or impose new ones, or could take aggressive measures, causing or contributing to a variety of negative consequences, including:

- requirements for the reformulation of certain or all products to meet new standards,
- the recall or discontinuance of certain or all products,
- additional record-keeping requirements,
- expanded documentation of the properties of certain or all products,
- expanded or different labeling,
- adverse event tracking and reporting, and
- additional scientific substantiation.

In particular, the FDA’s current good manufacturing practices (“GMPs”) describe policies and procedures designed to ensure that nutraceuticals, pharmaceuticals and dietary supplements are produced in a quality manner, do not contain contaminants or impurities, and are accurately labeled and cover the manufacturing, packaging, labeling and storing of supplements, with requirements for quality control, design and construction of manufacturing plants, testing of ingredients and final products, record keeping, and complaints processes. Those who manufacture, package or store dietary supplements must comply with current GMPs. If we or our suppliers fail to comply with current GMPs, the FDA may take enforcement action against us or our suppliers.

Any or all of the potential negative consequences described above could have a material adverse effect on us or substantially increase the cost of doing business in this area. There can be no assurance that the regulatory environment in which we operate will not change or that such regulatory environment, or any specific action taken against us, will not result in a material adverse effect on us.

***Our businesses expose us to potential product liability claims and recalls, which could adversely affect our financial condition and performance.***

The repackaging, blending, mixing and distribution of products by us, including chemical products and products used in food or food ingredients or with medical, pharmaceutical or dietary supplement applications, involve an inherent risk of exposure to product liability claims, product recalls, product seizures and related adverse publicity, including, without limitation, claims for exposure to our products, spills or escape of our products, personal injuries, food-related claims and property damage or environmental claims. A product liability claim, judgment or recall against our customers could also result in substantial and unexpected expenditures for us, affect consumer confidence in our products and divert management's attention from other responsibilities. Although we maintain product liability insurance, there can be no assurance that the type or level of coverage is adequate or that we will be able to continue to maintain our existing insurance or obtain comparable insurance at a reasonable cost, if at all. A product recall or a partially or completely uninsured judgment against us could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

***Demand for our food and nutritional products is highly dependent upon consumers' perception of the safety and quality of our products, our customers' products as well as similar products distributed by other companies, and adverse publicity and negative public perception regarding particular ingredients or products or the nutraceuticals industry in general could limit our ability to increase revenue and grow that portion of our business.***

Purchasing decisions made by consumers of products that contain our ingredients may be affected by adverse publicity or negative public perception regarding particular ingredients or products or the nutraceuticals industry in general. This negative public perception may include publicity regarding the legality or quality of particular ingredients or products in general or of other companies or our products or ingredients specifically. Negative public perception may also arise from regulatory investigations, regardless of whether those investigations involve us. We are highly dependent upon consumers' perception of the safety and quality of products that contain our ingredients as well as similar products distributed by other companies. Thus, the mere publication of reports asserting that such products may be harmful could have a material adverse effect on us, regardless of whether these reports are scientifically supported. Publicity related to dietary supplements may also result in increased regulatory scrutiny of our industry. Adverse publicity may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. There can be no assurance of future favorable scientific results and media attention or of the absence of unfavorable or inconsistent findings.

***Our Water Treatment Group and our agricultural product sales within our Industrial Group are subject to seasonality and weather conditions, which could adversely affect our results of operations.***

Our Water Treatment Group has historically experienced higher sales during April to September, primarily due to a seasonal increase in chemicals used by municipal water treatment facilities. Our agricultural product sales are also seasonal, primarily corresponding with the planting and harvesting seasons. Demand in both of these areas is also affected by weather conditions, as either higher or lower than normal precipitation or temperatures may affect water usage and the timing and the amount of consumption of our products. We cannot assure you that seasonality or fluctuating weather conditions will not have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

***The insurance that we maintain may not fully cover all potential exposures.***

We maintain property, business interruption and casualty insurance, but such insurance may not cover all risks associated with the hazards of our businesses and is subject to limitations, including deductibles and limits on the liabilities covered. We may incur losses beyond the limits or outside the coverage of our insurance policies, including liabilities for environmental remediation and product liability. In addition, from time to time, various types of insurance for companies in the chemical or food and nutritional products industry have not been available on commercially acceptable terms or, in some cases, have not been available at all. In the future, we may not be able to obtain coverage at current levels, and our premiums may increase significantly on coverage that we maintain.

***We entered into a credit facility, and failure to comply with the covenants thereunder may have a material adverse effect.***

In December 2015, we entered into a credit agreement (the "Credit Agreement") with U.S. Bank National Association and other lenders from time to time party thereto (collectively, the "Lenders"), which included senior secured credit facilities (the "Credit Facility") totaling \$165.0 million, consisting of (i) a \$100.0 million senior secured term loan credit facility (the "Term Loan Facility") and (ii) a \$65.0 million senior secured revolving loan credit facility (the "Revolving Loan Facility"). The Revolving Loan Facility includes a \$5.0 million letter of credit subfacility and \$8.0 million swingline subfacility. Loans under the Term Loan

Facility are to be repaid in quarterly installments on the last day of each fiscal quarter, with \$5.0 million paid in year one, \$7.5 million to be paid in year two, and \$10.0 million to be paid in years three through five. As of April 2, 2017, we had \$93.1 million outstanding under the Term Loan Facility and \$10.0 million outstanding under the Revolving Loan Facility. The remaining outstanding balance on these credit facilities will be repaid in full after five years.

If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow or otherwise obtain funds necessary to make required payments on the Credit Facility, we will be in default. We are also required to comply with several financial covenants under the Credit Agreement. Our ability to comply with such financial covenants may be affected by events beyond our control, which could result in a default under the Credit Agreement; such default may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, operating results or cash flows.

The Credit Agreement also contains other customary affirmative and negative covenants, including covenants that restrict the ability of the Company and its subsidiaries to incur additional indebtedness, dispose of significant assets, make certain investments, including any acquisitions other than permitted acquisitions, make certain payments, enter into sale and leaseback transactions, grant liens on its assets or rate management transactions, subject to certain limitations. These restrictions may adversely affect our business.

***Impairment to the carrying value of our goodwill or other intangible assets could adversely affect our financial condition and consolidated results of operations.***

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of acquired businesses over the fair value of identifiable tangible net assets and identifiable intangible assets purchased. Goodwill is tested at least annually for impairment, and is tested for impairment more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the asset might be impaired. Our annual test for impairment is as of the first day of our fourth fiscal quarter, or January 2, 2017 for fiscal 2017. Goodwill impairment testing is at the reporting unit level. For our Industrial and Water Treatment reporting units, we performed an analysis of qualitative factors to determine if it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount. If that qualitative analysis indicates that an impairment may exist, then we would calculate the amount of the impairment by comparing the fair value of the assets and liabilities to the fair value of the reporting unit. For our Health and Nutrition reporting unit, we performed a quantitative goodwill impairment analysis, which required us to estimate the fair value of this reporting unit and compare the fair value to the reporting unit's carrying value. The fair value of the reporting unit in excess of the value of the assets and liabilities is the implied fair value of the goodwill. If this amount is less than the carrying amount of goodwill, impairment is recognized for the difference. As of January 2, 2017, the excess fair value over the carrying value of our Health and Nutrition reporting unit was \$7.4 million, or 4.8%. A significant amount of judgment is involved in determining if an indication of impairment exists. Factors may include, among others: a significant decline in our expected future cash flows; a sustained, significant decline in our stock price and market capitalization; a significant adverse change in the business climate; unanticipated competition; and slower growth rates. An adverse change in these factors may have a significant impact on the recoverability of the net assets recorded, and the resulting impairment charge could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and consolidated results of operations.

We evaluate the useful lives of our intangible assets to determine if they are definite- or indefinite-lived. Reaching a determination on useful life requires significant judgments and assumptions regarding the future effects of obsolescence, demand, competition, other economic factors (such as the stability of the industry, legislative action that results in an uncertain or changing regulatory environment, and expected changes in distribution channels), and the expected lives of other related groups of assets.

We cannot accurately predict the amount and timing of any impairment of goodwill and other intangible assets. Should the value of these assets become impaired, there could be a material adverse effect on our financial condition and consolidated results of operations.

***If we are unable to retain key personnel or attract new skilled personnel, it could have an adverse impact on our businesses.***

Because of the specialized and technical nature of our businesses, our future performance is dependent on the continued service of, and on our ability to attract and retain, qualified management, scientific, technical and support personnel. The unanticipated departure of key members of our management team could have an adverse impact on our business.

***We may not be able to successfully consummate future acquisitions or integrate acquisitions into our business, which could result in unanticipated expenses and losses.***

As part of our business growth strategy, we have acquired businesses and may pursue acquisitions in the future. Our ability to pursue this strategy will be limited by our ability to identify appropriate acquisition candidates and our financial resources, including

available cash and borrowing capacity. The expense incurred in consummating acquisitions, the time it takes to integrate an acquisition or our failure to integrate businesses successfully could result in unanticipated expenses and losses. Furthermore, we may not be able to realize the anticipated benefits from acquisitions.

The process of integrating acquired operations into our existing operations may result in unforeseen operating difficulties and may require significant financial resources that would otherwise be available for the ongoing development or expansion of existing operations. The risks associated with the integration of acquisitions include potential disruption of our ongoing businesses and distraction of management, unforeseen claims, liabilities, adjustments, charges and write-offs, difficulty in conforming the acquired business' standards, processes, procedures and controls with our operations, and challenges arising from the increased scope, geographic diversity and complexity of the expanded operations.

***Our businesses are subject to risks stemming from natural disasters or other extraordinary events outside of our control, which could interrupt our production and adversely affect our results of operations.***

Natural disasters have the potential of interrupting our operations and damaging our properties, which could adversely affect our businesses. Flooding of the Mississippi River has temporarily shifted the Company's terminal operations out of its buildings three times since the spring of 2010. We can give no assurance that flooding or other natural disasters will not recur or that there will not be material damage or interruption to our operations in the future from such disasters.

Chemical-related assets may be at greater risk of future terrorist attacks than other possible targets in the United States. Federal law imposes site security requirements, specifically on chemical facilities, which have increased our overhead expenses. Federal regulations have also been adopted to increase the security of the transportation of hazardous chemicals in the United States. We ship and receive materials that are classified as hazardous and we believe we have met these requirements, but additional federal and local regulations that limit the distribution of hazardous materials are being considered. Bans on movement of hazardous materials through certain cities could adversely affect the efficiency of our logistical operations. Broader restrictions on hazardous material movements could lead to additional investment and could change where and what products we provide.

The occurrence of extraordinary events, including future terrorist attacks and the outbreak or escalation of hostilities, cannot be predicted, but their occurrence can be expected to negatively affect the economy in general, and specifically the markets for our products. The resulting damage from a direct attack on our assets, or assets used by us, could include loss of life and property damage. In addition, available insurance coverage may not be sufficient to cover all of the damage incurred or, if available, may be prohibitively expensive.

***We may not be able to renew our leases of land where four of our operations facilities reside.***

We lease the land where our three main terminals are located and where another significant manufacturing plant is located. We do not have guaranteed lease renewal options and may not be able to renew our leases in the future. Our current lease renewal periods extend out to 2023, 2028, 2029 and 2034. The failure to secure extended lease terms on any one of these facilities may have a material adverse impact on our business, as they are where a portion of our chemicals are manufactured and where the majority of our bulk chemicals are stored. While we can make no assurances, based on historical experience and anticipated future needs, we intend to extend these leases and believe that we will be able to renew our leases as the renewal periods expire. If we are unable to renew three of our leases (two relate to terminals and one to manufacturing) any property remaining on the land becomes the property of the lessor, and the lessor has the option to either maintain the property or remove the property at our expense. The fourth lease provides that we turn any property remaining on the land over to the lessor for them to maintain or remove at their expense. The cost to relocate our operations could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

#### **ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS**

None.

**ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**

Our corporate office is located in Roseville, Minnesota, where we lease approximately 40,000 square feet under a lease with an initial term through December 31, 2021. We own our principal manufacturing, warehousing, and distribution location in Minneapolis, Minnesota, which consists of approximately 11 acres of land, with six buildings containing a total of 177,000 square feet of office and warehouse space primarily used by our Industrial Group. We have installed sprinkler systems in substantially all of our warehouse facilities for fire protection. We believe that we carry customary levels of insurance covering the replacement of damaged property.

In addition to the facilities described previously, our other facilities are described below. We believe that these facilities, together with those described above, are adequate and suitable for the purposes they serve. Unless noted, each facility is owned by us and is primarily used as office and warehouse.

<b>Group</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Approx. Square Feet</b>
Industrial	Camanche, IA	95,000
	Centralia, IL (1)	77,000
	Dupo, IL (2)	64,000
	St. Paul, MN (3)	32,000
	Rosemount, MN (4)	63,000
	St Louis, MO	6,000
Water Treatment	Ft. Smith, AR (5)	17,000
	Apopka, FL	32,100
	Big Pine Key, FL (5)	4,200
	Hollywood, FL (5)	5,400
	LaBelle, FL (5)	8,200
	Thomasville, GA (5)	35,800
	Brooker, FL	4,640
	Tarrytown, FL (5)	6,500
	Swainsboro, GA	57,000
	Eldridge, IA	6,000
	Slater, IA	12,000
	Centralia, IL	39,000
	Havana, IL	16,000
	Peotone, IL (5)	18,000
	Muncie, IN	12,000
	Garnett, KS	18,000
	Frankfort, KY	20,000
	Columbia, MO (5)	14,000
	Billings, MT	9,000
	Fargo, ND	20,000
	Washburn, ND	14,000
	Lincoln, NE (5)	16,000
	Tulsa, OK	7,300
Sioux Falls, SD	27,000	
Rapid City, SD	9,000	
Fond du Lac, WI	24,000	
Superior, WI	17,000	
Industrial and Water Treatment	St. Paul, MN (6)	59,000
	Memphis, TN	41,000
Health and Nutrition	Fullerton, CA (7)	55,800
	Florida, NY (8)	107,000

- (1) This facility includes 10 acres of land located in Centralia, Illinois owned by the Company. The facility includes manufacturing capacity and primarily serves our food-grade products and agriculture businesses.
- (2) The land for this manufacturing and packaging facility is leased from a third party, with the lease expiring in May 2023.
- (3) Our terminal operations, located at two sites on opposite sides of the Mississippi River, are made up of three buildings, outside storage tanks for the storage of liquid bulk chemicals, including caustic soda, as well as numerous smaller tanks for storing and mixing chemicals. The land is leased from the Port Authority of the City of St. Paul, Minnesota. One of the applicable leases runs through 2028, while the other one runs through 2034.
- (4) This facility includes 28 acres of land owned by the Company. This manufacturing facility was constructed by us and has outside storage tanks for the storage of bulk chemicals, as well as numerous smaller tanks for storing and mixing chemicals.
- (5) This facility is leased from a third party and is warehouse space.
- (6) Our Red Rock facility, which consists of a 59,000 square-foot building located on approximately 10 acres of land, has outside storage capacity for liquid bulk chemicals, as well as numerous smaller tanks for storing and mixing chemicals. The land is leased from the Port Authority of the City of St. Paul, Minnesota and the lease runs until 2029.
- (7) This is a leased facility comprising administrative offices and a distribution facility. The lease runs through January 2021.
- (8) This is comprised of a 79,000 square foot manufacturing plant which sits on approximately 16 acres, as well as a leased 28,000 square foot warehouse located in close proximity.

### **ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

There are no material pending legal proceedings, other than ordinary routine litigation incidental to the business, to which we or any of our subsidiaries are a party or of which any of our property is the subject.

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

Not applicable.

## PART II

## ITEM 5. MARKET FOR THE COMPANY'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED SHAREHOLDER MATTERS, AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

<u>Quarterly Stock Data</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Fiscal 2017		
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	\$ 54.80	\$ 46.55
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	54.50	38.60
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	45.50	40.62
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	45.65	35.44
Fiscal 2016		
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	\$ 37.63	\$ 30.53
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	43.17	34.74
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	44.00	33.94
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	43.75	37.45

<u>Cash Dividends</u>	<u>Declared</u>	<u>Paid</u>
Fiscal 2018		
1st Quarter	—	\$ 0.42
Fiscal 2017		
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	\$ 0.42	—
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	—	\$ 0.42
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	\$ 0.42	—
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	—	\$ 0.40
Fiscal 2016		
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	\$ 0.40	—
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	—	\$ 0.40
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	\$ 0.40	—
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	—	\$ 0.38

Our common shares are traded on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "HWKN." The price information represents sales prices as reported by The NASDAQ Global Market. As of May 26, 2017, shares of our common stock were held by approximately 422 shareholders of record.

We first started paying cash dividends in 1985 and have continued to do so since. Future dividend levels will be dependent upon our consolidated results of operations, financial position, cash flows and other factors, and are subject to approval by our Board of Directors.

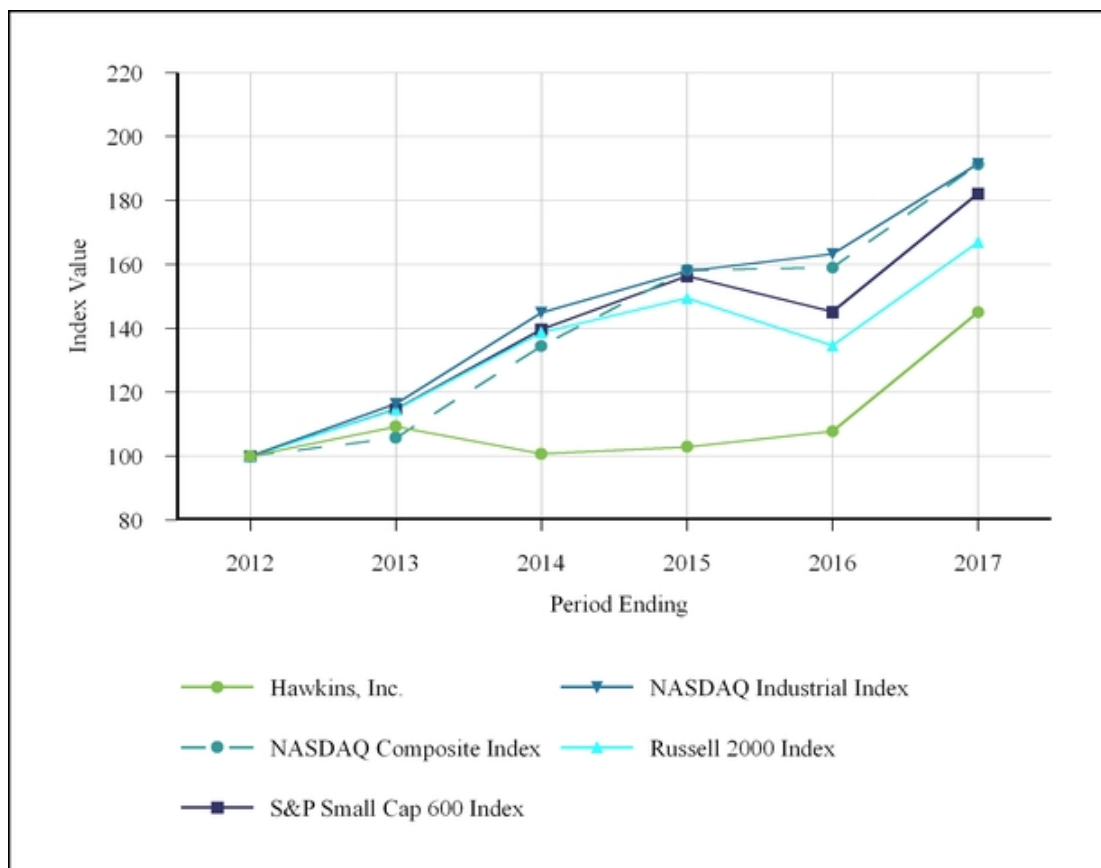
We had the following share repurchase activity in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2017:

<u>Period</u>	<u>Total Number of Shares Purchased</u>	<u>Average Price Paid Per Share</u>	<u>Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of a Publicly Announced Plan or Program</u>	<u>Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet be Purchased under Plans or Programs (2)</u>
1/2/2017-1/29/2017	—	—	—	112,546
1/30/2017-2/26/2017	—	—	—	112,546
2/26/2017-04/2/2017	13,015 (1)	48.45	—	112,546
Total	13,015	—	—	

(1) The shares of common stock in this row represent shares that were surrendered to us by stock plan participants to satisfy minimum withholding tax obligations related to the vesting of restricted stock awards and are not shares purchased under the Board of Directors authorization described above.

(2) Our Board of Directors has authorized a share repurchase program of up to 300,000 shares of our outstanding common stock. The shares may be repurchased on the open market or in privately negotiated transactions subject to applicable securities laws and regulations. We did not sell or purchase any shares of our common stock during fiscal 2017. As of April 2, 2017, the maximum number of shares available to be repurchased under the share repurchase program was 112,546.

The following graph compares the cumulative total shareholder return on our common shares with the cumulative total returns of the NASDAQ Industrial Index, the NASDAQ Composite Index, the Russell 2000 Index and the Standard & Poor's ("S&P") Small Cap 600 Index for our last five completed fiscal years. The graph assumes the investment of \$100 in our stock, the NASDAQ Industrial Index, the NASDAQ Composite Index, the Russell 2000 Index and the S&P Small Cap 600 Index on April 1, 2012, and reinvestment of all dividends.





## ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

Selected financial data for the Company is presented in the table below and should be read in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations included in Item 7 and the Company's Financial Statements and Notes to Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Total assets shown below are for the Company's total operations.

	Fiscal Year				
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
	(In thousands, except per share data)				
Sales	\$ 483,593	\$ 413,976	\$ 364,023	\$ 348,263	\$ 350,387
Gross profit	98,073	80,257	65,791	61,600	56,936
Net Income <sup>(1)</sup>	22,555	18,143	19,214	18,094	17,108
Basic earnings per common share	2.14	1.72	1.82	1.72	1.64
Diluted earnings per common share	2.13	1.72	1.81	1.71	1.62
Cash dividends declared per common share	0.84	0.80	0.76	0.72	0.68
Cash dividends paid per common share	0.82	0.78	0.74	0.70	0.66
Total assets	\$ 418,584	\$ 436,491	\$ 248,462	\$ 237,193	\$ 222,148

(1) - The reported number for fiscal 2013 is net income from continuing operations.

We acquired Stauber Performance Ingredients near the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2016, and we acquired substantially all the assets of Davis Supply, Inc. near the end of the second quarter of fiscal 2016 and The Dumont Company, Inc. in the third quarter of fiscal 2015. The results of these operations since the acquisition dates are included in our consolidated results of operations.

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

The following is a discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations for fiscal 2017, 2016 and 2015. Fiscal 2016 was a 53-week year, whereas fiscal 2017 and 2015 were 52-week years. This discussion should be read in conjunction with the consolidated Financial Statements and Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

### Overview

We derive substantially all of our revenues from the sale of chemicals and specialty ingredients to our customers in a wide variety of industries. We began our operations primarily as a distributor of bulk chemicals with a strong customer focus. Over the years, we have maintained the strong customer focus and have expanded our business by increasing our sales of value-added chemical products and specialty ingredients, including manufacturing, blending and repackaging certain products.

### Acquisitions and Business Expansion

Near the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2016, we acquired Stauber Performance Ingredients ("Stauber") for \$157.0 million on a cash-free, debt-free basis, subject to a customary working capital adjustment. The total consideration for the acquisition was \$158.2 million (\$156.7 million net of cash acquired). Stauber operates out of facilities in New York and California and blends and distributes specialty products and ingredients to manufacturers of nutraceutical, functional food and beverage, personal care, dietary supplement, and other nutritional food, health and wellness products. The acquisition expanded our portfolio of value-added specialty products within new markets. The results of operations since the acquisition date, and the assets, including the goodwill associated with the acquisition, are reported in our Health and Nutrition operating segment, starting with our results for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2016. Direct costs of \$3.3 million related to this acquisition, consisting mainly of professional and consulting fees, were expensed as incurred during the fiscal year, and are classified as selling, general and administrative expenses in our consolidated statement of income.

In the second quarter of fiscal 2016, we acquired substantially all the assets of Davis Supply, Inc. (“Davis”) for \$4.5 million under the terms of an asset purchase agreement with Davis and its shareholders. Davis was a water treatment chemical distribution company operating in Florida, and upon acquisition we integrated this business into our existing Florida locations. The results of operations after the date of acquisition and the acquired assets are included in our Water Treatment Segment.

In the third quarter of fiscal 2015, we acquired substantially all the assets of The Dumont Company, Inc. (“Dumont”) for \$10.1 million under the terms of an asset purchase agreement with Dumont and its shareholders. Dumont was a water treatment chemical distribution company serving municipal water and wastewater treatment, private utilities, commercial swimming pools, irrigation water treatment and food processing chemical markets. Through this acquisition we added seven operating locations across Florida. The results of operations since the acquisition date are included in our Water Treatment Segment.

In addition to the acquisitions discussed above, we opened two new branches for our Water Treatment Group in fiscal 2016. We expect to continue to invest in existing and new branches to expand our Water Treatment Group’s geographic coverage. The cost of any one of these expansion branches is not expected to be material. In addition, over the past three years, we have proactively added route sales and other support personnel to Water Treatment Group branch offices within our existing geographic coverage area. While these additions add costs in the near term, we expect these investments to better position us for future growth.

#### *New Operating Segment*

In connection with the Stauber acquisition in fiscal 2016, we established our Health and Nutrition operating segment. This segment specializes in providing ingredient distribution, processing and formulation solutions to manufacturers of nutraceutical, functional food and beverage, personal care, dietary supplement and other nutritional food, health and wellness products. This group offers a diverse product portfolio including minerals, botanicals and herbs, vitamins and amino acids, excipients, joint products, sweeteners and enzymes.

Because this segment began in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2016, there is no comparison to the prior year in the fiscal 2016 to fiscal 2015 year-over-year discussion below.

#### *Share Repurchase Program*

In fiscal 2015, our Board of Directors authorized a share repurchase program of up to 300,000 shares of our outstanding common stock. The shares may be repurchased on the open market or in privately negotiated transactions subject to applicable securities laws and regulations. The primary objective of the share repurchase program is to offset the impact of dilution from issuances relating to employee and director equity grants and our employee stock purchase program. No shares were repurchased during fiscal 2017. During fiscal 2016, we repurchased 127,852 shares of common stock with an aggregate purchase price of \$4.8 million, and during fiscal 2015 we repurchased 59,602 shares of common stock with an aggregate purchase price of \$2.2 million. The remaining balance of shares available to be purchased under the share repurchase program is 112,546 shares.

#### *Financial Overview*

An overview of our financial performance in fiscal 2017 is provided below:

- Sales of \$483.6 million, a 16.8% increase from fiscal 2016;
- Gross profit of \$98.1 million, a \$17.8 million, or 22.2%, increase from fiscal 2016; and
- Net cash provided by operating activities of \$44.9 million.

We seek to maintain relatively constant gross profit dollars per unit sold on each of our products as the cost of our raw materials increase or decrease, subject to competitive pricing pressures that may negatively impact our gross profit dollars per unit sold. Since we expect that we will continue to experience fluctuations in our raw material costs and resulting prices in the future, we believe that gross profit dollars is the best measure of our profitability from the sale of our products, as opposed to gross profit as a percentage of sales.

We use the last in, first out (“LIFO”) method of valuing the majority of our inventory, which causes the most recent product costs to be recognized in our income statement. The valuation of LIFO inventory for interim periods is based on our estimates of fiscal year-end inventory levels and costs. The LIFO inventory valuation method and the resulting cost of sales are consistent with our business practices of pricing to current chemical raw material prices. Our LIFO reserve decreased by \$2.7 million in fiscal 2017 due to a reduction in inventory costs per unit over a wide variety of products and lower volumes of certain inventory on hand,

resulting in an increase to our reported gross profit for the year. Our LIFO reserve decreased by \$1.4 million in fiscal 2016 due to a decrease in certain inventory volumes on hand, along with lower commodity prices, resulting in an increase to our reported gross profit for the year.

We disclose the sales of our bulk commodity products as a percentage of total sales dollars for our Industrial and Water Treatment segments. Our definition of bulk commodity products includes products that we do not modify in any way, but receive, store, and ship from our facilities, or direct ship to our customers in large quantities. We review our sales reporting on a periodic basis to ensure we are including all products that meet this definition. The disclosures in this document referring to sales of bulk commodity products have been updated for all periods presented based on the most recent review.

## Results of Operations

The following table sets forth certain items from our statement of income as a percentage of sales from period to period:

	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2016	Fiscal 2015
Sales	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %
Cost of sales	(79.7)%	(80.6)%	(81.9)%
Gross profit	20.3 %	19.4 %	18.1 %
Selling, general and administrative expenses	(12.3)%	(11.9)%	(9.7)%
Operating income	8.0 %	7.5 %	8.4 %
Interest (expense) income, net	(0.5)%	(0.2)%	— %
Income before income taxes	7.5 %	7.3 %	8.4 %
Income tax provision	(2.8)%	(3.0)%	(3.1)%
Net income	4.7 %	4.4 %	5.3 %

## Fiscal 2017 Compared to Fiscal 2016

### Sales

Sales increased \$69.6 million, or 16.8%, to \$483.6 million for fiscal 2017, as compared to sales of \$414.0 million for fiscal 2016. Fiscal 2017 includes a full year of operating results for our Health and Nutrition segment whereas fiscal 2016 included only one quarter of Health and Nutrition segment results due to the timing of the Stauber acquisition.

*Industrial Segment.* Industrial segment sales decreased \$13.2 million, or 5.2%, to \$238.6 million for fiscal 2017. Sales of bulk commodity products in the Industrial segment were approximately 19% of sales in fiscal 2017 compared to 20% in fiscal 2016. Sales volumes were down year over year, largely driven by the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in the prior year. These lower volumes, together with lower raw material costs on certain products which drove lower selling prices, resulted in the decrease in sales dollars.

*Water Treatment Segment.* Water Treatment segment sales increased \$0.6 million, or 0.5%, to \$129.0 million for fiscal 2017. Sales of bulk commodity products in the Water Treatment segment were approximately 15% of sales in fiscal 2017 compared to 16% in fiscal 2016. Sales dollars increased slightly, despite the inclusion of the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in the prior year, due to the business we acquired late in the second quarter of fiscal 2016 and increased volumes of specialized products.

*Health and Nutrition Segment.* Sales for our Health and Nutrition segment were \$116.1 million in fiscal 2017, compared to \$33.9 million for fiscal 2016, as the prior year included only one quarter of activity due to the timing of the Stauber acquisition. This compares to pro forma sales of \$121.6 million for the comparable prior full-year period, which included the 53<sup>rd</sup> week.

### Gross Profit

Gross profit was \$98.1 million, or 20.3% of sales, for fiscal 2017, an increase of \$17.8 million from \$80.3 million, or 19.4% of sales, for fiscal 2016. The current year includes a full year of operating results for our Health and Nutrition segment as opposed to just one quarter of Health and Nutrition segment results in the prior year due to the timing of the Stauber acquisition. We estimated the total gross profit impact of the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in fiscal 2016 year to be approximately \$2.1 million of additional gross profit in that year. The LIFO method of valuing inventory increased gross profit by \$2.7 million for fiscal 2017, and increased gross profit by \$1.4 million for fiscal 2016.

*Industrial Segment.* Gross profit for the Industrial segment was \$38.9 million, or 16.3% of sales, for fiscal 2017, an increase of \$0.9 million from \$38.0 million, or 15.1% of sales, for fiscal 2016. The LIFO method of valuing inventory increased gross profit by \$2.0 million in the current year and \$1.0 million in the prior year. We estimated the gross profit impact of the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in our Industrial segment in fiscal 2016 to be approximately \$1.0 million of additional gross profit in that year. Despite lower sales volumes, driven largely by the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in the prior year, gross profit dollars increased due to improved per-unit margins from certain of our specialized products, and the year-over-year impact from LIFO. Gross profit as a percentage of sales improved over the prior year because of the same drivers noted above in addition to lower selling prices in the current year driven by lower raw material costs on certain products.

*Water Treatment Segment.* Gross profit for the Water Treatment segment increased \$0.5 million to \$36.0 million, or 27.9% of sales, for fiscal 2017, as compared to \$35.5 million, or 27.6% of sales, for fiscal 2016. The LIFO method of valuing inventory increased gross profit by \$0.7 million in the current and \$0.4 million in the prior year. We estimated the gross profit impact of the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in fiscal 2016 to be approximately \$0.6 million of additional gross profit in that year. Gross profit increased due to increased sales volumes of specialized products that have higher per-unit margins as well as profits from the business we acquired late in the second quarter of fiscal 2016.

*Health and Nutrition Segment.* Gross profit for our Health and Nutrition segment was \$23.2 million, or 20.0% of sales, in fiscal 2017, compared to \$6.8 million, or 20.1% of sales, for fiscal 2016, as the prior year included only one quarter of activity due to the timing of the Stauber acquisition. Inventories in this segment are valued using the first-in, first-out (“FIFO”) method. We estimated the gross profit impact of the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in fiscal 2016 to be approximately \$0.5 million of additional gross profit in that year.

#### *Selling, General and Administrative Expenses*

Selling, general and administrative (“SG&A”) expenses increased \$10.3 million to \$59.4 million, or 12.3% of sales, for fiscal 2017, as compared to \$49.1 million, or 11.9% of sales, for fiscal 2016. We estimated the total impact to SG&A expenses of the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in fiscal 2016 to be approximately \$0.9 million of additional expense in that year. We allocate certain corporate expenses to our operating segments, and we began allocating a portion of these costs to the Health and Nutrition segment in fiscal 2017. Corporate costs allocated to Health and Nutrition were \$1.9 million for fiscal 2017; these costs would have been allocated to Industrial (approximately \$1.2 million) and Water Treatment (approximately \$0.7 million) in past years. Excluding the impact of corporate allocations, SG&A expenses in our Health and Nutrition segment increased by \$8.1 million in fiscal 2017 as compared to fiscal 2016. Fiscal 2016 included only one quarter of activity due to the timing of the Stauber acquisition, and included \$3.3 million of non-recurring costs directly related to the Stauber acquisition. SG&A expenses in our Health and Nutrition segment include \$4.8 million of amortization expense on acquired intangible assets in fiscal 2017 and \$1.2 million in fiscal 2016. SG&A expenses incurred elsewhere in the company increased by \$2.2 million compared to the prior year, largely due to the addition of sales and support personnel in our Industrial and Water Treatment segments.

#### *Operating Income*

Operating income was \$38.7 million, or 8.0% of sales, for fiscal 2017, as compared to \$31.2 million, or 7.5% of sales, for fiscal 2016. Operating income reported in our segments is impacted by corporate allocations of certain SG&A costs. After corporate allocations, operating income in our Health and Nutrition segment was \$5.5 million for fiscal 2017, compared to a loss of \$0.9 million for fiscal 2016, which included only one quarter of operations and included \$3.3 million of expenses related to our acquisition of Stauber. Operating income in our Industrial segment increased by \$1.2 million primarily as a result of the gross profit improvement discussed above. Operating income for the Water Treatment segment was flat compared to the prior year as the increase in gross profit was offset by increased SG&A expenses.

#### *Interest (Expense) Income, Net*

Interest expense increased by \$1.8 million for fiscal 2017 due to the interest costs on the debt added at the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2016 to partially fund the Stauber acquisition.

#### *Income Tax Provision*

Our effective income tax rate was 37.4% for fiscal 2017 compared to 40.2% for fiscal 2016. Our effective tax rate for fiscal 2016 was negatively impacted by income tax expense of approximately \$0.5 million associated with \$1.4 million of Stauber acquisition related expenditures which were not deductible for tax purposes and were recorded as discrete items during fiscal 2016. Our effective tax rate for 2016 was also negatively impacted by \$0.2 million related to a preliminary audit finding by a state income

tax jurisdiction covering multiple years. The effective tax rate is generally impacted by projected levels of taxable income, permanent items, and state taxes.

## **Fiscal 2016 Compared to Fiscal 2015**

### *Sales*

Sales increased \$50.0 million, or 13.7%, to \$414.0 million for fiscal 2016, as compared to sales of \$364.0 million for fiscal 2015. Our newly-established Health and Nutrition segment accounted for \$33.9 million of the year-over-year increase and water treatment locations acquired in fiscal 2015 and 2016 accounted for \$12.6 million of the increase.

*Industrial Segment.* Industrial segment sales increased \$2.7 million, or 1.1%, to \$251.7 million for fiscal 2016. Sales of bulk commodity products in the Industrial segment were approximately 20% of sales in fiscal 2016 compared to 23% in fiscal 2015. An overall increase in sales volumes, driven in part by the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in fiscal 2016, along with a shift in product mix to more sales of products that carry higher per-unit selling prices, more than offset the impact of lower selling prices due to lower product costs and lower volumes sold on certain bulk commodity products.

*Water Treatment Segment.* Water Treatment segment sales increased \$13.4 million, or 11.6%, to \$128.3 million for fiscal 2016. Sales of bulk commodity products in the Water Treatment segment were approximately 16% of sales in fiscal 2016 compared to 19% in fiscal 2015. Our locations acquired in fiscal 2015 and 2016 accounted for \$12.6 million of the total increase in sales. Also contributing to the year-over-year increase was an overall increase in sales volumes at our other locations, driven by the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in fiscal 2016, and higher sales volumes of specialty products, partially offset by lower volumes sold and lower selling prices on certain bulk commodity products.

*Health and Nutrition Segment.* Sales for our newly established Health and Nutrition segment were \$33.9 million for the fourth quarter and full year of fiscal 2016.

### *Gross Profit*

Gross profit was \$80.3 million, or 19.4% of sales, for fiscal 2016, an increase of \$14.5 million from \$65.8 million, or 18.1% of sales, for fiscal 2015. Our newly established Health and Nutrition segment accounted for \$6.8 million of the increase, including an estimated \$0.5 million related to the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in fiscal 2016. Including the Health and Nutrition segment, we estimate the total gross profit impact of the 53<sup>rd</sup> week to be approximately \$2.1 million of additional gross profit for the year. The LIFO method of valuing inventory increased gross profit by \$1.4 million for fiscal 2016, while it decreased gross profit by \$0.4 million for fiscal 2015.

*Industrial Segment.* Gross profit for the Industrial segment was \$38.0 million, or 15.1% of sales, for fiscal 2016, an increase of \$4.3 million from \$33.6 million, or 13.5% of sales, for fiscal 2015. We estimate the gross profit impact of the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in the Industrial segment to be approximately \$1.0 million of additional gross profit for the year. An increase in sales of specialized products that carry higher per-unit margins were partially offset by lower sales of bulk commodity products, which carry lower per-unit margins. The LIFO method of valuing inventory increased gross profit in our industrial segment by \$1.0 million in fiscal 2016, while it decreased gross profit by \$0.3 million in fiscal 2015.

*Water Treatment Segment.* Gross profit for the Water Treatment segment increased \$3.3 million to \$35.5 million, or 27.6% of sales, for fiscal 2016, as compared to \$32.2 million, or 28.0% of sales, for fiscal 2015. The increase in gross profit dollars was largely driven by profits from our locations acquired in fiscal 2015 and 2016. We estimate the gross profit impact of the 53<sup>rd</sup> week to be approximately \$0.6 million of additional gross profit for the year. In addition, product margins at many of our other locations increased year over year on increased volumes, offset somewhat by increased operating expenses. The LIFO method of valuing inventory increased gross profit by \$0.4 million in fiscal 2016, while it decreased gross profit by \$0.1 million in fiscal 2015.

*Health and Nutrition Segment.* Gross profit for our newly established Health and Nutrition segment was \$6.8 million for the fourth quarter and full year of fiscal 2016. We estimate the gross profit impact of the 53<sup>rd</sup> week to be approximately \$0.5 million of additional gross profit for the year. Inventories in this segment are valued using the FIFO method.

### *Selling, General and Administrative Expenses*

SG&A expenses increased \$13.7 million to \$49.1 million, or 11.9% of sales, for fiscal 2016, as compared to \$35.4 million, or 9.7% of sales, for fiscal 2015. Our newly established Health and Nutrition segment accounted for \$7.7 million of the increase,

including \$3.3 million in non-recurring costs directly related to the acquisition and \$0.3 million related to the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in fiscal 2016. SG&A expenses from our Water Treatment locations acquired in fiscal 2015 and 2016 accounted for \$1.8 million of the increase. Other drivers of the remaining expense increase are the addition of sales personnel in both our Water Treatment and Industrial segments and added administrative positions to support our business growth needs, with an estimated \$0.6 million of the increase attributable to the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in fiscal 2016.

#### *Operating Income*

Operating income was \$31.2 million, or 7.5% of sales, for fiscal 2016, as compared to \$30.4 million, or 8.4% of sales, for fiscal 2015. Operating income was negatively impacted by \$3.3 million of non-recurring costs directly associated with the acquisition, which are included in our Health and Nutrition Segment. Operating income for the Industrial segment increased by \$2.0 million as a result of the gross profit and SG&A changes discussed above. Operating income for the Water Treatment segment decreased \$0.4 million, as increased SG&A expenses more than offset increases in gross profit as discussed above.

#### *Interest (Expense) Income, Net*

Interest expense increased by \$0.8 million for fiscal 2016 due to the interest costs on the debt added in fiscal 2016 to partially fund the Stauber acquisition.

#### *Income Tax Provision*

Our effective income tax rate was 40.2% for fiscal 2016 compared to 36.9% for fiscal 2015. Our effective tax rate for fiscal 2016 was negatively impacted by income tax expense of approximately \$0.5 million associated with \$1.4 million of Stauber acquisition related expenditures which were not deductible for tax purposes and were recorded as discrete items during fiscal 2016. Our effective tax rate for 2016 was also negatively impacted by \$0.2 million related to a preliminary audit finding by a state income tax jurisdiction covering multiple years. The effective tax rate is generally impacted by projected levels of taxable income, permanent items, and state taxes.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Cash provided by operating activities in fiscal 2017 was \$44.9 million compared to \$36.3 million in fiscal 2016 and \$20.7 million in fiscal 2015. The increase in cash provided by operating activities in fiscal 2017 as compared to fiscal 2016 was primarily due to the added operating activity of the Health and Nutrition segment established near the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2016. The increase in cash provided by operating activities from fiscal 2015 to fiscal 2016 was driven by the timing of inventory purchases. Our inventory levels at the start of fiscal 2015 were low and we expended significant dollars to increase our inventories during that fiscal year. Due to the nature of our operations, which includes purchases of large quantities of bulk chemicals, the timing of purchases can result in significant changes in working capital and the resulting operating cash flow. Historically, our cash requirements for working capital increase during the period from April through November as caustic soda inventory levels increase as most of our barges are received during this period.

Cash used in investing activities was \$23.5 million in fiscal 2017 compared to \$151.4 million in fiscal 2016 and \$26.4 million in fiscal 2015. Capital expenditures were \$21.6 million in fiscal 2017, \$24.2 million in fiscal 2016 and \$14.6 million in fiscal 2015. Capital expenditures in fiscal 2017 included \$10.7 million related to facility improvements, replacement equipment, new and replacement containers and Water Treatment trucks, and \$8.4 million related to business expansion, inventory storage and process improvements, including the purchase of two of our previously-leased Florida locations. Total capital spending in fiscal 2018 is currently expected to be comparable to fiscal 2017. We paid \$2.2 million of additional purchase price for Stauber as closing cash, debt, and working capital balances were finalized early in fiscal 2017. In fiscal 2016, we expended \$159.0 million, net of cash acquired, to complete the Stauber and Davis acquisitions, and in fiscal 2015 we expended \$10.1 million for the Dumont acquisition. Net cash of \$31.7 million was provided by sales of investments during fiscal 2016 as we liquidated our investments to partially fund the Stauber acquisition.

Cash used in financing activities was \$34.5 million in fiscal 2017, as compared to cash provided by financing activities of \$116.4 million in fiscal 2016 and cash used in financing activities of \$9.1 million in fiscal 2015. Included in cash used in financing activities for fiscal 2017 were debt repayments of \$5.6 million on our Term Loan Facility (as defined below) and \$21.0 million on our Revolving Loan Facility (as defined below). During fiscal 2016, we received \$131.0 million in connection with the credit facility we entered into to fund the Stauber acquisition. We paid out cash dividends of \$8.7 million in fiscal 2017, \$8.3 million in fiscal 2016 and \$7.9 million in fiscal 2015. We used \$4.8 million in fiscal 2016 and \$2.2 million in fiscal 2015 for share repurchases under our board-authorized share repurchase program. We did not repurchase any shares under the program in fiscal 2017.

Our cash balance was \$6.9 million at April 2, 2017, a decrease of \$13.2 million as compared with April 3, 2016. Cash flows generated by operations during fiscal 2017 were offset by debt repayments, capital expenditures and dividend payments.

In December 2015, in connection with the Stauber acquisition described more fully in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements, we entered into a credit agreement (the "Credit Agreement") with U.S. Bank National Association ("U.S. Bank") as Sole Lead Arranger and Sole Book Runner and other lenders from time to time party thereto (collectively, the "Lenders"), whereby U.S. Bank is also serving as Administrative Agent. The Credit Agreement included senior secured credit facilities (the "Credit Facility") totaling \$165.0 million, consisting of a \$100.0 million senior secured term loan credit facility (the "Term Loan Facility") and a \$65.0 million senior secured revolving loan credit facility (the "Revolving Loan Facility"). The Revolving Loan Facility includes a letter of credit subfacility in the amount of \$5.0 million and a swingline subfacility in the amount of \$8.0 million. The Term Loan facility requires mandatory quarterly repayments as outlined in Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements, with the balance due at maturity. The Credit Facility is scheduled to terminate on December 23, 2020. The Credit Facility is secured by substantially all our personal property assets and those of our subsidiaries.

Borrowings under the Credit Facility bear interest at a rate per annum equal to one of the following, plus, in both cases, an applicable margin based upon our leverage ratio: (a) LIBOR for an interest period of one, two, three or six months as selected by us, reset at the end of the selected interest period, or (b) a base rate determined by reference to the highest of (1) U.S. Bank's prime rate, (2) the Federal Funds Effective Rate plus 0.5%, or (3) one-month LIBOR for U.S. dollars plus 1.0%. The LIBOR margin is 1.125%, 1.25% or 1.5%, depending on our leverage ratio. The base rate margin is 0.125%, 0.25% or 0.5%, depending on our leverage ratio. At April 2, 2017, the effective interest rate on our borrowings was approximately 2.2%.

On September 20, 2016, we entered into an interest rate swap agreement to manage the risk associated with a portion of our variable-rate debt. We do not utilize derivative instruments for speculative purposes. The interest rate swap involves the exchange of fixed-rate and variable-rate payments without the exchange of the underlying notional amount on which the interest payments are calculated. The new swap agreement will begin September 1, 2017 and will terminate concurrently with the expiration of our credit facility on December 23, 2020. The notional amount of the swap agreement is \$40 million from September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2018, \$30 million from September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2019 and \$20 million from September 1, 2019 through December 23, 2020. We have designated this swap as a cash flow hedge and have determined that it qualifies for hedge accounting treatment. For so long as the hedge is effective, changes in fair value of the cash flow hedge are recorded in other comprehensive loss (net of tax) until income or loss from the cash flows of the hedged item is realized.

We used \$131.0 million of the proceeds from the Credit Facility to fund our acquisition of Stauber in fiscal 2016. During fiscal 2017, we repaid \$5.6 million on the Term Loan Facility as required under the Credit Agreement and repaid \$21.0 million on the Revolving Loan Facility. Accordingly, as of April 2, 2017, we had \$55.0 million remaining available under the Credit Facility, which may be used for working capital, capital expenditures, restricted payments, acquisitions permitted under the credit agreement, and other general corporate purposes.

In addition to paying interest on the outstanding principal under the Credit Facility, we are required to pay a commitment fee on the unutilized commitments thereunder. The commitment fee is 0.25% to 0.3%, depending on our leverage ratio.

Debt issuance costs of \$0.7 million paid to lenders are reflected as a reduction of long-term debt and will be amortized as interest expense over the term of the credit facility. As of April 2, 2017, the unamortized balance of these costs was \$0.5 million, and is reflected as a reduction of debt on our consolidated balance sheet.

The Credit Agreement requires us to maintain (a) a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.15 to 1.00 and (b) a maximum total cash flow leverage ratio of 3.0 to 1.0. The Credit Agreement also contains other customary affirmative and negative covenants, including covenants that restrict our ability to incur additional indebtedness, dispose of significant assets, make certain investments, including any acquisitions other than permitted acquisitions, make certain payments, enter into sale and leaseback transactions, grant liens on our assets or enter into rate management transactions, subject to certain limitations. We are permitted to make distributions, pay dividends and repurchase shares so long as no default or event of default exists or would exist as a result thereof. As of April 2, 2017, we were in compliance with all required covenants.

The Credit Agreement contains customary events of default, including failure to make payments under the Term Loan Facility, failure to comply with covenants in the Credit Agreement and other loan documents, cross default to other material indebtedness, failure by us to pay or discharge material judgments, bankruptcy, and change of control. The occurrence of an event of default would permit the lenders to terminate their commitments and accelerate loans under the Credit Facility.

As part of our growth strategy, we have acquired businesses and may pursue acquisitions or other strategic relationships in the future that we believe will complement or expand our existing businesses or increase our customer base. We believe we could borrow additional funds under our current or new credit facilities or sell equity for strategic reasons or to further strengthen our financial position.

### Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not have any off-balance sheet arrangements.

### Contractual Obligations and Commercial Commitments

The following table provides aggregate information about our contractual payment obligations and the periods in which payments are due:

Contractual Obligation	Payments Due by Fiscal Period						Total
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	More than 5 Years	
	(In thousands)						
Senior secured term loan (1)	\$ 8,125	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 65,000	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 93,125
Senior secured revolver (2)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 10,000	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 10,000
Interest payments (3)	\$ 2,344	\$ 2,145	\$ 1,925	\$ 1,358	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 7,772
Operating lease obligations	\$ 2,705	\$ 2,317	\$ 2,041	\$ 1,795	\$ 1,105	\$ 2,933	\$ 12,896
Pension withdrawal liability (4)	\$ 467	\$ 467	\$ 467	\$ 467	\$ 467	\$ 5,373	\$ 7,708

(1) Represents principal payments only. See Note 7 of our consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

(2) Represents balance outstanding as of April 2, 2017, and assumes such amount remains outstanding until its maturity date. See Note 7 of our consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

(3) Represents interest payments and commitment fees payable on outstanding balances under our term loan and revolver, and assumes interest rates remain unchanged from the rate as of April 2, 2017.

(4) This relates to our withdrawal from a multiemployer pension plan. Payments on this obligation began in fiscal 2014 and will continue through 2034.

### Critical Accounting Policies

In preparing the financial statements, we follow U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”). The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, sales and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. We re-evaluate our estimates on an on-going basis. Our estimates are based on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions and conditions. We consider the following policies to involve the most judgment in the preparation of our financial statements.

**Revenue Recognition** - We recognize revenue when there is evidence that the customer has agreed to purchase the product, the price and terms of the sale are fixed, the product has shipped and title has passed to our customer, performance has occurred, and collection of the receivable is reasonably assured.

**LIFO Reserve** - Certain of our inventories are valued at the lower of cost or market with cost being determined using the LIFO method. We may incur significant fluctuations in our LIFO reserve and, as a result, gross margins, due primarily to changes in the level of inventory on hand and the per-unit cost of large-volume components of our inventory. The prices for this inventory fluctuate depending on the balance between supply and demand. Management reviews the LIFO reserve on a quarterly basis. Inventories not valued used the LIFO method are valued at the lower of cost or market with cost being determined using the FIFO method.

**Goodwill and Infinite-life Intangible Assets** - Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of acquired businesses over the fair value of identifiable tangible net assets and identifiable intangible assets purchased. Goodwill is tested at least annually for impairment, and is tested for impairment more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the asset might be impaired. Our annual test for impairment is as of the first day of our fourth fiscal quarter, or January 2, 2017 for fiscal 2017. For our Industrial and Water Treatment reporting units, we performed an analysis of qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of either of these reporting units is less than its carrying amount as a basis for determining whether it is



necessary to perform a quantitative goodwill impairment test. Based on management's analysis of qualitative factors, we determined that it was not necessary to perform a quantitative goodwill impairment test for either of these reporting units.

For our Health and Nutrition reporting unit, we performed a quantitative goodwill impairment analysis, which required us to estimate the fair value of this reporting unit and compare the fair value to the reporting unit's carrying value. We determined the fair value of this reporting unit using a discounted cash flow approach, guideline company market approach and reference transaction market approach. The discounted cash flow approach calculates the present value of projected future cash flows using appropriate discount rates. The guideline company market approach provides indications of value based on market multiples (enterprise value divided by earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization "EBITDA") for selected public companies involved in similar lines of business, and the reference transaction market approach provides indications of value based on multiples paid for recent selected acquisitions by companies in similar lines of business. The fair values derived from these valuation methods are then weighted to determine an estimated fair value for the reporting unit, which is compared to the carrying value of the reporting unit to determine whether impairment exists. We then compared the total fair values for all reporting units to our overall market capitalization as a test of the reasonableness of this approach. For this comparison, the fair value of the Industrial and Water Treatment reporting units was estimated based on a multiple of EBITDA.

We early adopted ASU 2017-04, which simplifies the accounting for goodwill impairment. This new guidance removes step two of the goodwill impairment test, which required a hypothetical purchase price allocation. Instead, to the extent a reporting unit's carrying amount exceeds its fair value, the reporting unit's goodwill is considered impaired, and we must recognize an impairment charge for the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the reporting unit's fair value.

In determining the fair value of our Health and Nutrition reporting unit using the discounted cash flow approach, we considered our projected operating results and then made a number of assumptions. These assumptions included future business plans, economic projections and market data as well as management estimates regarding future cash flows and operating results. The key assumptions we used in preparing our discounted cash flow analysis are (1) projected cash flows, (2) risk adjusted discount rate, and (3) expected long term growth rate.

The assumptions we used in estimating our Health and Nutrition reporting unit fair value are sensitive and variances in these assumptions could have a significant effect on the determination of impairment of our indefinite-lived intangible assets. Further, we cannot predict what future events may occur that could adversely affect the reported value of our indefinite-lived intangible assets. If we are required to take an impairment charge in the future, it could have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements. However, any such charge, if taken, will not have any impact on our ability to comply with the covenants contained in our current credit agreement because non-cash charges required by GAAP, including goodwill impairment charges, are excluded from the calculation of adjusted EBITDA for purposes of meeting the fixed charge coverage ratio or total cash flow leverage ratio in that agreement.

The resulting fair values for each method were weighted using 50% for the discounted cash flow method, and 25% for both of the market approaches, to determine a concluded enterprise value for the Health and Nutrition reporting unit. Our Health and Nutrition reporting unit passed the impairment test, as its estimated fair value was in excess of its carrying value. The excess fair value of this reporting unit was \$7.4 million, or 4.8%. The amount of goodwill in our Health and Nutrition reporting unit is \$84.1 million. We will continue to monitor this reporting unit for potential impairment.

*Business Acquisitions* - We account for acquired businesses using the acquisition method of accounting which requires that the assets acquired and liabilities assumed be recorded at the date of acquisition at their respective fair values. The judgments made in determining the estimated fair value assigned to each class of assets acquired and liabilities assumed, as well as asset lives, can materially impact net income. Accordingly, for significant items, we typically obtain assistance from a third-party valuation expert.

There are several methods that can be used to determine the fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed in a business combination. For intangible assets, we normally utilize one or more forms of the "income method." This method starts with a forecast of all of the expected future net cash flows attributable to the subject intangible asset. These cash flows are then adjusted to present value by applying an appropriate discount rate that reflects the risk factors associated with the cash flow streams. Some of the more significant estimates and assumptions inherent in the income method (or other methods) include the projected future cash flows (including timing) and the discount rate reflecting the risks inherent in the future cash flows.

Estimating the useful life of an intangible asset also requires judgment. For example, different types of intangible assets will have different useful lives, influenced by the nature of the asset, competitive environment, and rate of change in the industry. Certain assets may even be considered to have indefinite useful lives. All of these judgments and estimates can significantly impact the determination of the amortization period of the intangible asset, and thus net income.

## Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

In March 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) 2016-09 which provides accounting guidance intended to improve the accounting for share-based payment transactions. This guidance outlines new provisions intended to simplify various aspects related to accounting for share-based payments and their presentation in the financial statements and will be effective for years beginning after December 15, 2016 (our fiscal year ending April 1, 2018) and interim periods within those years. We do not expect the impact of this guidance to have a material impact on our results of operations and financial position.

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02 which provides new accounting guidance requiring lessees to recognize most leases as assets and liabilities on the balance sheet. This guidance will be effective for interim periods beginning after December 15, 2018 (our fiscal year ended March 30, 2020). We are currently evaluating the impact of this accounting pronouncement on our results of operations and financial position.

In January 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-01 which provides guidance that addresses certain aspects of recognition, measurement, presentation, and disclosure of financial instruments. This guidance will be effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017 (our fiscal year ending March 31, 2019), and interim periods within those annual periods. Early adoption is not permitted. We are currently evaluating the impact that this guidance will have on our results of operations and financial position.

In July 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-11 which requires companies to change the measurement principal for inventory measured using the FIFO or average cost method from the lower of cost or market to the lower of cost and net realizable value. Treatment of inventory valued under the LIFO method is unchanged by this guidance. The new guidance will be applied prospectively and will be effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016 (our fiscal year ending April 1, 2018), and interim periods within those years. We do not expect the impact of this guidance to have a material impact on our results of operations and financial position.

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09 which provides new accounting requirements for recognition of revenue from contracts with customers. The requirements of the new standard will be effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017 (our fiscal year ending March 31, 2019), and interim periods within those annual periods. We have performed a preliminary evaluation of the effect of adoption on our consolidated financial statements, and we do not currently expect a material impact on our results of operations, cash flows or financial position. We anticipate we will expand our consolidated financial statement disclosures to comply with the ASU. We have not yet decided on our transition method upon adoption.

See Item 8, “Note 1 - Nature of Business and Significant Accounting Policies” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding recently adopted accounting standards.

## **ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURE ABOUT MARKET RISK**

We are subject to the risk inherent in the cyclical nature of commodity chemical prices. However, we do not currently purchase forward contracts or otherwise engage in hedging activities with respect to the purchase of commodity chemicals. We attempt to pass changes in the cost of our materials on to our customers; however, there are no assurances that we will be able to pass on the increases in the future.

We are exposed to market risks related to interest rates. Our exposure to changes in interest rates is limited to borrowings under our credit facility. A 25 basis point change in interest rates on the variable-rate portion of debt not covered by the interest rate swap would potentially increase or decrease annual interest expense by approximately \$0.2 million. Other types of market risk, such as foreign currency risk, do not arise in the normal course of our business activities.

## ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

### Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Stockholders of Hawkins, Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Hawkins, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) as of April 2, 2017 and April 3, 2016, and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended April 2, 2017. In connection with our audits of the consolidated financial statements, we also have audited the financial statement schedule for each of the years in the three-year period ended April 2, 2017, listed in schedule II of this Form 10-K. We also have audited the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of April 2, 2017, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company's management is responsible for these consolidated financial statements, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule and an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement and whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audits of the consolidated financial statements included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audits also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

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

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

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Hawkins, Inc. and subsidiaries as of April 2, 2017, and April 3, 2016, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended April 2, 2017, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Also, in our opinion, the financial statement schedule referred to above, when considered in relation to the basic consolidated financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein. Also in our opinion, Hawkins, Inc. and subsidiaries maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of April 2, 2017, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

/s/ KPMG LLP  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
June 1, 2017

**HAWKINS, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
(In thousands, except share and per-share data)

	April 2, 2017	April 3, 2016
<b>ASSETS</b>		
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,861	\$ 20,014
Trade receivables, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$468 for 2017 and \$602 for 2016	57,298	59,271
Inventories	51,249	47,719
Income taxes receivable	1,273	6,062
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	4,238	4,222
Total current assets	120,919	137,288
PROPERTY, PLANT, AND EQUIPMENT:		
Land	9,097	9,085
Buildings and improvements	89,840	84,391
Machinery and equipment	82,910	75,132
Transportation equipment	24,398	22,442
Office furniture and equipment including computer systems	15,273	13,798
	221,518	204,848
Less accumulated depreciation	99,978	88,527
Net property, plant, and equipment	121,540	116,321
OTHER ASSETS:		
Goodwill	97,556	97,724
Intangible assets, net	76,883	82,934
Other	1,686	2,224
Total other assets	176,125	182,882
Total assets	\$ 418,584	\$ 436,491
<b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Accounts payable — trade	\$ 29,756	\$ 30,121
Dividends payable	4,466	4,226
Accrued payroll and employee benefits	9,979	8,787
Current portion of long-term debt	7,989	5,489
Due to sellers of acquired business	341	6,829
Container deposits	1,174	1,081
Other current liabilities	1,967	3,232
Total current liabilities	55,672	59,765
LONG-TERM DEBT, LESS CURRENT PORTION	94,626	123,616
PENSION WITHDRAWAL LIABILITY	5,968	6,282
OTHER LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	2,450	3,611
DEFERRED INCOME TAXES	42,040	42,242
Total liabilities	200,756	235,516
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES		
	—	—
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY:		
Common stock; authorized: 30,000,000 shares of \$0.05 par value; 10,582,596 and 10,512,471 shares issued and outstanding for 2017 and 2016, respectively	529	526
Additional paid-in capital	51,104	48,189
Retained earnings	165,897	152,265
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	298	(5)
Total shareholders' equity	217,828	200,975
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 418,584	\$ 436,491

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**HAWKINS, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME**  
(In thousands, except share and per-share data)

	Fiscal Year Ended		
	April 2, 2017	April 3, 2016	March 29, 2015
Sales	\$ 483,593	\$ 413,976	\$ 364,023
Cost of sales	(385,520)	(333,719)	(298,232)
Gross profit	98,073	80,257	65,791
Selling, general and administrative expenses	(59,381)	(49,086)	(35,375)
Operating income	38,692	31,171	30,416
Interest (expense) income, net	(2,644)	(805)	38
Income before income taxes	36,048	30,366	30,454
Income tax provision	(13,493)	(12,223)	(11,240)
Net income	\$ 22,555	\$ 18,143	\$ 19,214
Weighted average number of shares outstanding-basic	10,536,347	10,524,730	10,568,582
Weighted average number of shares outstanding-diluted	10,596,110	10,578,042	10,633,554
Basic earnings per share	\$ 2.14	\$ 1.72	\$ 1.82
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 2.13	\$ 1.72	\$ 1.81
Cash dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.76

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**HAWKINS, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
(In thousands, except share data)

(In thousands)

	April 2, 2017	April 3, 2016	March 29, 2015
Net income	\$ 22,555	\$ 18,143	\$ 19,214
Other comprehensive income, net of tax:			
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale investments	—	25	11
Unrealized gain on interest rate swap	301	—	—
Unrealized gain on post-retirement liability	2	2	1
<b>Total other comprehensive income</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>\$ 22,858</b>	<b>\$ 18,170</b>	<b>\$ 19,226</b>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**HAWKINS, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY**  
(In thousands, except share data)

	Common Stock		Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Total Shareholders' Equity
	Shares	Amount				
BALANCE — March 30, 2014	10,562,400	\$ 528	\$ 50,502	\$ 131,427	\$ (44)	\$ 182,413
Cash dividends declared				(8,074)		(8,074)
Share-based compensation expense			1,631			1,631
Tax benefit on share-based compensation plans			92			92
Vesting of restricted stock	29,355	1	(1)			—
Shares surrendered for payroll taxes	(7,920)		(295)			(295)
Stock options exercised	9,333		186			186
ESPP shares issued	31,383	2	986			988
Shares repurchased	(59,602)	(3)	(2,200)			(2,203)
Other comprehensive income, net of tax					12	12
Net income				19,214		19,214
BALANCE — March 29, 2015	10,564,949	\$ 528	\$ 50,901	\$ 142,567	\$ (32)	\$ 193,964
Cash dividends declared				(8,445)		(8,445)
Share-based compensation expense			1,706			1,706
Tax benefit on share-based compensation plans			(1)			(1)
Vesting of restricted stock	60,658	3	(3)			—
Shares surrendered for payroll taxes	(18,834)	(1)	(698)			(699)
ESPP shares issued	33,550	2	1,079			1,081
Shares repurchased	(127,852)	(6)	(4,795)			(4,801)
Other comprehensive income, net of tax					27	27
Net income				18,143		18,143
BALANCE — April 3, 2016	10,512,471	\$ 526	\$ 48,189	\$ 152,265	\$ (5)	\$ 200,975
Cash dividends declared				(8,923)		(8,923)
Share-based compensation expense			2,127			2,127
Tax benefit on share-based compensation plans			131			131
Vesting of restricted stock	44,113	2	(2)			—
Shares surrendered for payroll taxes	(12,974)	(1)	(630)			(631)
ESPP shares issued	38,986	2	1,289			1,291
Other comprehensive income, net of tax					303	303
Net income				22,555		22,555
BALANCE — April 2, 2017	10,582,596	\$ 529	\$ 51,104	\$ 165,897	\$ 298	\$ 217,828

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**HAWKINS, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
(In thousands)

	Fiscal Year Ended		
	April 2, 2017	April 3, 2016	March 29, 2015
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Net income	\$ 22,555	\$ 18,143	\$ 19,214
Reconciliation to cash flows:			
Depreciation and amortization	20,875	15,511	13,015
Amortization of debt issuance costs	136	34	—
Loss on disposal of investments	—	104	—
Deferred income taxes	(525)	1,103	(418)
Share-based compensation expense	2,127	1,706	1,631
(Gain) loss from property disposals	322	(33)	45
Changes in operating accounts (using) providing cash, net of effects of acquisition:			
Trade receivables	2,259	(2,950)	(1,051)
Inventories	(3,529)	(322)	(9,977)
Accounts payable	562	3,831	563
Accrued liabilities	(416)	242	(506)
Income taxes	569	(701)	(2,177)
Other	(80)	(335)	325
Net cash provided by operating activities	44,855	36,333	20,664
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Additions to property, plant, and equipment	(21,616)	(24,183)	(14,552)
Purchases of investments	—	(6,091)	(15,303)
Sale and maturities of investments	—	37,763	13,280
Proceeds from property disposals	324	358	223
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired	(2,199)	(159,199)	(10,068)
Net cash used in investing activities	(23,491)	(151,352)	(26,420)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Cash dividends paid	(8,683)	(8,257)	(7,859)
New shares issued	1,291	1,081	988
Stock options exercised	—	—	186
Excess tax benefit from share-based compensation	131	(1)	92
Shares surrendered for payroll taxes	(631)	(699)	(295)
Shares repurchased	—	(4,801)	(2,203)
Payments on senior secured term loan	(5,625)	(1,250)	—
Payments on senior secured revolving credit facility	(21,000)	—	—
Payments for debt issuance costs	—	(679)	—
Proceeds from long-term borrowings	—	100,000	—
Proceeds from revolver borrowings	—	31,000	—
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(34,517)	116,394	(9,091)
NET (DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(13,153)	1,375	(14,847)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - beginning of year	20,014	18,639	33,486
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - end of year	\$ 6,861	\$ 20,014	\$ 18,639
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION-</b>			
Cash paid during the year for income taxes	\$ 13,421	\$ 11,811	\$ 13,801
Cash paid for interest	2,341	702	—
Noncash investing activities - Capital expenditures in accounts payable	958	1,884	1,126
Acquisition consideration accrued but not paid	—	2,200	—

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**Note 1 — Nature of Business and Significant Accounting Policies**

**Nature of Business** - We have three reportable segments: Industrial, Water Treatment and Health and Nutrition. The Industrial Group specializes in providing industrial chemicals, products and services to industries such as agriculture, chemical processing, electronics, energy, food, pharmaceutical, plating and power generation. This group also manufactures and sells certain food-grade products, including liquid phosphates, lactates and other blended products. The Water Treatment Group specializes in providing chemicals, equipment and solutions for potable water, municipal and industrial wastewater, industrial process water and non-residential swimming pool water. This group has the resources and flexibility to treat systems ranging in size from a single small well to a multi-million-gallon-per-day facility. We established the Health and Nutrition segment of our business in December 2015 through our acquisition of Stauber Performance Ingredients ("Stauber"). Our Health and Nutrition Group specializes in providing ingredient distribution, processing and formulation solutions to manufacturers of nutraceutical, functional food and beverage, personal care, dietary supplement and other nutritional food and health and wellness products. This group offers a diverse product portfolio including minerals, botanicals and herbs, vitamins and amino acids, excipients, joint products, sweeteners and enzymes.

**Fiscal Year** - Our fiscal year is a 52 or 53-week year ending on the Sunday closest to March 31. Our fiscal years ended April 2, 2017 ("fiscal 2017") and March 29, 2015 ("fiscal 2015") were 52 weeks. Our fiscal year ended April 3, 2016 ("fiscal 2016") was 53 weeks. The fiscal year ending April 1, 2018 ("fiscal 2018") will be 52 weeks.

**Principles of Consolidation** - The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Hawkins, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. All intercompany transactions and accounts have been eliminated.

**Estimates** - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("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 financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Revenue Recognition** - We recognize revenue when there is evidence that the customer has agreed to purchase the product, the price and terms of the sale are fixed, the product has shipped and title has passed to our customer, performance has occurred, and collection of the receivable is reasonably assured.

**Shipping and Handling** - All shipping and handling amounts billed to customers are included in revenues. Costs incurred related to the shipping and the handling of products are included in cost of sales.

**Fair Value Measurements** - The financial assets and liabilities that are re-measured and reported at fair value for each reporting period are an interest rate swap and marketable securities. There are no fair value measurements with respect to nonfinancial assets or liabilities that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in our consolidated financial statements on a recurring basis.

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value are classified using the following hierarchy, which is based upon the transparency of inputs to the valuation as of the measurement date:

*Level 1:* Valuation is based on observable inputs such as quoted market prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets.

*Level 2:* Valuation is based on inputs such as quoted market prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets or other inputs that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the financial instrument.

*Level 3:* Valuation is based upon other unobservable inputs that are significant to the fair value measurement.

In making fair value measurements, observable market data must be used when available. When inputs used to measure fair value fall within different levels of the hierarchy, the level within which the fair value measurement is categorized is based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)**

**Cash Equivalents** - Cash equivalents include all liquid debt instruments (primarily cash funds and money market accounts) purchased with an original maturity of three months or less. The balances maintained at financial institutions may, at times, exceed federally insured limits.

**Investments** - Available-for-sale securities have consisted of certificates of deposit (“CD’s”) and municipal bonds and were valued at current market value, with the resulting unrealized gains and losses excluded from earnings and reported, net of tax, as a separate component of shareholders’ equity until realized. Any impairment loss to reduce an investment’s carrying amount to its fair market value was recognized in income when a decline in the fair market value of an individual security below its cost or carrying value is determined to be other than temporary. As of April 2, 2017 and April 3, 2016, we did not own any available-for-sale securities.

**Trade Receivables and Concentrations of Credit Risk** - Financial instruments, which potentially subject us to a concentration of credit risk, principally consist of trade receivables. We sell our principal products to a large number of customers in many different industries. There are no concentrations of credit risk with a single customer from a particular service or geographic area that would significantly impact us in the near term. To reduce credit risk, we routinely assess the financial strength of our customers. We record an allowance for doubtful accounts to reduce our receivables to an amount we estimate is collectible from our customers. Estimates used in determining the allowance for doubtful accounts are based on historical collection experience, current trends, aging of accounts receivable and periodic evaluations of our customers’ financial condition. Our cash balances are held at two separate financial institutions where the cash balances may exceed federally insured limits. The institutions are two of the largest commercial banking institutions in the country and both have maintained strong credit ratings.

**Inventories** - Inventories, consisting primarily of finished goods, are primarily valued at the lower of cost or net realizable value, with cost for approximately 70% of our inventory determined using the last-in, first-out (“LIFO”) method. Cost for the other 30% of our total inventory is determined using the first-in, first-out (“FIFO”) method.

**Property, Plant and Equipment** - Property is stated at cost and depreciated or amortized over the lives of the assets, using the straight-line method. Estimated lives are: 10 to 40 years for buildings and improvements; 3 to 20 years for machinery and equipment; and 3 to 10 years for transportation equipment and office furniture and equipment including computer systems. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the lesser of their estimated useful lives or the remaining lease term.

Significant improvements that add to productive capacity or extend the lives of properties are capitalized. Costs for repairs and maintenance are charged to expense as incurred. When property is retired or otherwise disposed of, the cost and related accumulated depreciation or amortization are removed from the accounts and any related gains or losses are included in income.

We review the recoverability of long-lived assets to be held and used, such as property, plant and equipment, when events or changes in circumstances occur that indicate the carrying value of the asset group may not be recoverable, such as prolonged industry downturn or significant reductions in projected future cash flows. The assessment of possible impairment is based on our ability to recover the carrying value of the asset group from the expected future pre-tax cash flows (undiscounted) of the related operations. If these cash flows are less than the carrying value of such asset group, an impairment loss would be measured by the amount the carrying value exceeds the fair value of the long-lived asset group. The measurement of impairment requires us to estimate future cash flows and the fair value of long-lived assets. No long-lived assets were determined to be impaired during fiscal years 2017, 2016 or 2015.

**Goodwill and Identifiable Intangible Assets** - Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of acquired businesses over the fair value of identifiable tangible net assets and identifiable intangible assets purchased. Goodwill is tested at least annually for impairment, and is tested for impairment more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the asset might be impaired. Our annual test for impairment is as of the first day of our fourth fiscal quarter. As of January 2, 2017, we performed an analysis of qualitative factors for our Industrial and Water Treatment reporting units to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of either of these reporting units was less than its carrying amount as a basis for determining whether it is necessary to perform a quantitative goodwill impairment test. Based on management’s analysis of qualitative factors, we determined that it was not necessary to perform a quantitative goodwill impairment test for either the Industrial or Water Treatment reporting units.

Because our Health and Nutrition reporting unit was new in fiscal 2016, we performed a quantitative goodwill impairment test. This test, used to identify potential impairment, compares the fair value of the reporting unit with its carrying amount, including indefinite-lived intangible assets. If the fair value exceeds the carrying amount, the goodwill is not considered impaired. If the carrying amount exceeds the fair value, the reporting unit’s goodwill is considered impaired, and we must recognize an impairment charge for the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the reporting unit’s fair value. The fair value of our Health and

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

Nutrition reporting unit exceeded its carrying value as of January 2, 2017, so we did not need to record a goodwill impairment charge.

Our primary identifiable intangible assets include customer lists, trade secrets, non-competition agreements, trademarks and trade names acquired in previous business acquisitions. Identifiable intangible assets with finite lives are amortized whereas identifiable intangible assets with indefinite lives are not amortized. The values assigned to the intangible assets with finite lives are being amortized on average over approximately 14 years. Identifiable intangible assets that are subject to amortization are evaluated for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. Identifiable intangible assets not subject to amortization are tested for impairment annually or more frequently if events warrant. The impairment test consists of a qualitative assessment to determine whether it is more likely than not that the asset is impaired. Based on management's analysis of qualitative factors, we determined that it was not necessary to perform a quantitative impairment test for fiscal 2017.

Impairment assessments were also completed in the fourth quarters of fiscal 2016 and 2015, which resulted in no impairment charges for either of these fiscal years.

**Income Taxes** - In the preparation of our consolidated financial statements, the calculation of income taxes by management is based upon the estimated effective rate applicable to operating results for the full fiscal year. This includes estimating the current tax liability as well as assessing differences resulting from different treatment of items for tax and book accounting purposes. Differences that are temporary in nature result in deferred tax assets and liabilities, which are recorded on the consolidated balance sheet, while differences that are permanent in nature impact the income tax expense recorded on the income statement and impact the effective tax rate for the fiscal year. The deferred tax assets and liabilities are analyzed regularly and management assesses the likelihood that deferred tax assets will be recovered from future taxable income. We record any interest and penalties related to income taxes as income tax expense in the consolidated statements of income.

The effect of income tax positions are recognized only if those positions are more likely than not of being sustained. Changes in recognition or measurement are made as facts and circumstances change. See note 12 for further information regarding the recording of a liability and offsetting receivable regarding an uncertain tax position taken by Stauber prior to its acquisition by us.

**Stock-Based Compensation** - We account for stock-based compensation on a fair value basis. The estimated grant date fair value of each stock-based award is recognized in expense over the requisite service period (generally the vesting period). Non-vested share awards are recorded as expense over the requisite service periods based on the market value on the date of grant.

**Earnings Per Share** - Basic earnings per share ("EPS") are computed by dividing net income by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding. Diluted EPS are computed by dividing net income by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding including the incremental shares assumed to be issued upon the exercise of stock options and the incremental shares assumed to be issued as performance units and restricted stock. Basic and diluted EPS were calculated using the following:

	April 2, 2017	April 3, 2016	March 29, 2015
Weighted average common shares outstanding — basic	10,536,347	10,524,730	10,568,582
Dilutive impact of stock performance units, restricted stock, and stock options	59,763	53,312	64,972
Weighted average common shares outstanding — diluted	10,596,110	10,578,042	10,633,554

There were no shares or stock options excluded from the calculation of weighted average common shares for diluted EPS for fiscal 2017, 2016 or 2015.

**Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities** - We are subject to interest rate risk associated with our variable rate debt. During fiscal 2017, we entered into an interest rate swap which has been designated as a cash flow hedge, the purpose of which is to eliminate the cash flow impact of interest rate changes on a portion of our variable-rate debt starting in September 2017. The hedge was measured at fair value on the contract date and subsequently remeasured to fair value at each reporting date. Changes in the fair value of a derivative that is highly effective, and that is designated and qualifies as a cash flow hedge, are recorded in other comprehensive income, until the consolidated statement of income is affected by the variability in cash flows of the designated hedged item. To the extent that the hedge is ineffective, changes in the fair value are recognized in the Statement of Income.

**Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements**

In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-04 which simplifies the accounting for goodwill impairment. The guidance removes step two of the goodwill impairment test, which required a hypothetical purchase price allocation. We adopted this guidance in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2017.

In September 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-16 which eliminates the requirement for an acquirer to retrospectively adjust the financial statements for measurement-period adjustments that occur in periods after a business combination is consummated. We adopted this guidance in the first quarter of fiscal 2017.

In April 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-03 which simplifies the presentation of debt issuance costs. The new guidance requires debt issuance costs related to a recognized debt liability to be presented as a direct deduction from the debt liability on the balance sheet. The guidance was effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015 (our fiscal 2017), with early adoption permitted. We elected to early adopt this guidance in our third quarter of fiscal 2016.

In November 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-17 requiring entities with a classified balance sheet to present all deferred tax assets and liabilities as non-current. The new guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016 (our fiscal 2018), with early adoption permitted. We elected to early adopt this guidance prospectively at the beginning of our fourth quarter of fiscal 2016.

**Note 2 — Business Combinations**

**Acquisition of Stauber Performance Ingredients:** On December 23, 2015, we acquired Stauber for \$157.0 million on a cash-free, debt-free basis subject to a customary working capital adjustment. The total consideration for the acquisition was \$158.2 million (\$156.7 million net of cash acquired). We paid \$156.0 million in cash at closing and paid an additional \$2.2 million in early fiscal 2017 based upon closing cash, debt and working capital balances. The purchase was funded with \$131.0 million of proceeds from the credit facility described more fully in Note 7 as well as cash on hand.

Stauber operates out of facilities in New York and California and blends and distributes specialty products and ingredients to manufacturers of nutraceutical, functional food and beverage, personal care, dietary supplement, and other nutritional food, health and wellness products. The acquisition expands our portfolio of value-added specialty products within new markets. Stauber had revenues of approximately \$118.0 million for the twelve months ended December 23, 2015, the date of the acquisition. The results of operations since the acquisition date, and the assets, including the goodwill associated with the acquisition, are included in our newly formed Health and Nutrition operating segment.

Direct acquisition costs of \$3.3 million, consisting mainly of professional and consulting fees, were expensed as incurred during fiscal 2016, and are classified as selling, general, and administrative expenses in our consolidated statement of income, and are reported in our Health and Nutrition segment.

The acquisition was accounted for under the acquisition method of accounting. Accordingly, the cost to acquire Stauber was allocated to the underlying net assets in proportion to estimates of their respective fair values.

The fair value of acquired property, plant and equipment of \$11.0 million was valued using a cost approach with consideration given to the continuation of the property in the current operation at the present locations. The fair value of acquired identifiable intangible assets is \$71.5 million. The acquired intangible assets, all of which are finite-lived, have a weighted average useful life of 16.3 years and are being amortized on a straight-line basis. The intangible assets include customer relationships of \$66.0 million (17 years life), trade name of \$4.0 million (10 years life), non-competition agreements of \$1.3 million (3.3 years weighted average life) and order backlog of \$0.1 million.

The fair value of acquired identifiable intangible assets was determined using the income approach. In performing these valuations, the key underlying probability-adjusted assumptions of the discounted cash flows were projected revenues, gross margin expectations and operating cost estimates. The valuations were based on the information that was available as of the acquisition date and the expectations and assumptions that have been deemed reasonable by management. There are inherent uncertainties and management judgment required in these determinations. The fair value measurements of the assets acquired were based on valuations involving significant unobservable inputs, or Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy. None of the intangible assets are

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)**

expected to be deductible for income tax purposes. As a result, a \$28.6 million deferred tax liability was recorded on the opening balance sheet for the amount of non-deductible amortization expense.

The purchase price of Stauber exceeded the net of the acquisition-date amounts of the identifiable assets acquired and the liabilities assumed by \$84.1 million. Cash flows used to determine the purchase price included strategic and synergistic benefits (investment value) specific to Hawkins, which resulted in a purchase price in excess of the fair value of identifiable net assets. The purchase price also included the fair values of other assets that were not identifiable, not separately recognizable under accounting rules (e.g., assembled workforce) or of immaterial value in addition to a going-concern element that represents our ability to earn a higher rate of return on the group of assets than would be expected on the separate assets as determined during the valuation process. None of the goodwill is expected to be deductible for income tax purposes.

The final valuation of assets acquired and liabilities assumed was completed in the third quarter of fiscal 2017. The following table summarizes the fair value measurement of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed as of the acquisition date:

<b>(In thousands)</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Cash and cash equivalents (a)	\$ 1,502
Trade receivables	16,023
Inventories	10,207
Other assets	900
Property, plant, and equipment	10,989
Intangible assets	71,459
Accounts payable	(5,398)
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities (a)	(2,925)
Deferred income taxes	(28,565)
Other non-current liabilities	(77)
Net assets acquired	74,115
Goodwill	84,061
Total preliminary purchase price	158,176
Less acquired cash	(1,502)
Preliminary purchase price, net of cash acquired	\$ 156,674

(a) In addition to these balances, \$7.3 million of cash and current accrued liabilities were recorded that relate to stock and other acquisition-related compensation payments, which were recorded by Stauber as of the acquisition date but were paid subsequent to the acquisition date.

Note: Included in our consolidated balance sheet as of 4/3/2016 is an income tax receivable of \$4.6 million related to pre-acquisition income taxes, with an offsetting liability payable to the prior owners as these amounts will be paid to them upon receipt.

The following pro forma information has been prepared as if the Stauber acquisition and the borrowing to finance the acquisition had occurred as of the beginning of the fiscal years presented. The unaudited pro forma information is not necessarily indicative of what our consolidated results of operations actually would have been had the acquisition occurred at the beginning of each fiscal year, nor is it indicative of our future operational results.

<b>(In thousands, except per share data)</b>	<b>Fiscal year ended April 3, 2016</b>		
	<b>As reported</b>	<b>Pro Forma Stauber Adjustments</b>	<b>Combined Pro Forma Results</b>
Pro forma net sales	\$ 413,976	\$ 87,691	\$ 501,667
Pro forma net income	18,143	4,809	22,952
Pro forma basic earnings per share	\$ 1.72	\$ 0.46	\$ 2.18
Pro forma diluted earnings per share	\$ 1.72	\$ 0.45	\$ 2.17

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

(In thousands, except per share data)	Fiscal year ended March 29, 2015		
	As reported	Pro Forma Stauber Adjustments	Combined Pro Forma Results
Pro forma net sales	\$ 364,023	\$ 105,515	\$ 469,538
Pro forma net income	19,214	2,138	21,352
Pro forma basic earnings per share	\$ 1.82	\$ 0.20	\$ 2.02
Pro forma diluted earnings per share	\$ 1.81	\$ 0.20	\$ 2.01

The unaudited pro forma financial information above is adjusted to reflect the following: (a) interest expense, including amortization of debt issuance costs, related to the \$131.0 million of debt used to fund the acquisition; (b) amortization expense related to the \$71.5 million of identifiable intangible assets recognized in conjunction with the acquisition; (c) elimination of amortization of intangibles and interest expense previously reflected on Stauber's financial statements; (d) elimination of stock and other acquisition-related compensation recorded by Stauber, and transaction-related expenses recorded by us; and (e) recording income taxes at an estimated combined federal and state statutory rate of approximately 38% on these pre-tax adjustments.

**Acquisition of Davis Supply, Inc.:** On September 18, 2015, we acquired substantially all of the assets of Davis Supply, Inc. ("Davis") under the terms of an asset purchase agreement with Davis and its shareholders. We paid \$4.5 million cash at closing, using available cash on hand to fund the acquisition. Davis was a water treatment chemical distribution company operating in Florida with revenues of approximately \$5.0 million in calendar year 2014. We have integrated this business into our existing Florida locations. The results of operations after the date of acquisition and the acquired assets are included in our Water Treatment Segment.

**Acquisition of The Dumont Company, Inc.:** On October 20, 2014, we acquired substantially all of the assets of The Dumont Company, Inc. ("Dumont") under the terms of an asset purchase agreement with Dumont and its shareholders. We paid \$10.1 million in cash including a working capital adjustment, using available cash on hand to fund the acquisition. Dumont was a water treatment chemical distribution company with revenues of approximately \$14.0 million in calendar year 2013. Through this acquisition we added seven operating locations across Florida. The results of operations since the acquisition date, and the assets, including the goodwill associated with this acquisition, are included in our Water Treatment segment.

### Note 3 — Derivative Instruments

On September 20, 2016, we entered into an interest rate swap agreement to manage the risk associated with a portion of our variable-rate debt. We do not utilize derivative instruments for speculative purposes. The interest rate swap involves the exchange of fixed-rate and variable-rate payments without the exchange of the underlying notional amount on which the interest payments are calculated. The new swap agreement will begin September 1, 2017, and will terminate concurrently with the expiration of our credit facility on December 23, 2020. The notional amount of the swap agreement is \$40 million from September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2018, \$30 million from September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2019 and \$20 million from September 1, 2019 through December 23, 2020. We have designated this swap as a cash flow hedge and have determined that it qualifies for hedge accounting treatment. For so long as the hedge is effective, changes in fair value of the cash flow hedge are recorded in other comprehensive loss (net of tax) until income or loss from the cash flows of the hedged item is realized.

As of and for the year ended April 2, 2017, we recorded \$0.3 million in other comprehensive income related to unrealized gains (net of tax) on the cash flow hedge. An asset of \$0.5 million is included in other long-term assets on our condensed consolidated balance sheet as of April 2, 2017. No amounts were reflected in other comprehensive income related to cash flow hedges for the fiscal years ended April 3, 2016 or March 29, 2015, or on the condensed consolidated balance sheet as of April 3, 2016, as we did not hold any derivative instruments at that time.

By their nature, derivative instruments are subject to market risk. Derivative instruments are also subject to credit risk associated with counterparties to the derivative contracts. Credit risk associated with derivatives is measured based on the replacement cost should the counterparty with a contract in a gain position to us fail to perform under the terms of the contract. We do not anticipate nonperformance by the counterparty.

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)****Note 4 – Fair Value Measurements**

Our financial assets and liabilities are measured at fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date (exit price). The carrying value of cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable, and accrued expenses approximate fair value because of the short-term nature of these instruments. Because of the variable-rate nature of our debt under our credit facility, our debt also approximates fair value. We classify the inputs used to measure fair value into the following hierarchy:

- Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2: Quoted prices in active markets for similar assets or liabilities, or quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, or inputs other than quoted prices that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for the asset or liability.
- Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability that are supported by little or no market activity. These fair values are determined using pricing models for which the assumptions utilize management's estimates or market participant assumptions.

**Assets and Liabilities Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis.** The fair value hierarchy requires the use of observable market data when available. In instances where inputs used to measure fair value fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy, the fair value measurement has been determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. Our assessment of the significance of a particular item to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment, including the consideration of inputs specific to the asset or liability.

The fair value of interest rate swaps is determined by the respective counterparties based on interest rate changes. Interest rate swaps are valued based on observable interest rate yield curves for similar instruments.

The following table summarizes the balances of assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of April 2, 2017. There were no assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of April 3, 2016.

(In thousands)	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Interest rate swap	—	\$ 502	—	\$ 502

**Note 5 — Inventories**

Inventories at April 2, 2017 and April 3, 2016 consisted of the following:

(In thousands)	2017	2016
Inventory (FIFO basis)	\$ 52,735	\$ 51,857
LIFO reserve	(1,486)	(4,138)
Net inventory	<u>\$ 51,249</u>	<u>\$ 47,719</u>

The FIFO value of inventories accounted for under the LIFO method was \$37.0 million at April 2, 2017 and \$36.5 million at April 3, 2016. The remainder of the inventory was valued and accounted for under the FIFO method.

We decreased the LIFO reserve by \$2.7 million in fiscal 2017 and by \$1.4 million in fiscal 2016 due to an overall reduction in inventory costs per unit and lower volumes of certain inventory on hand in each of these years.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

## Note 6 — Goodwill and Other Identifiable Intangible Assets

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill for each of our three reportable segments were as follows:

(In thousands)	Industrial	Water Treatment	Health and Nutrition	Total
Balance as of March 29, 2015	\$ 6,495	\$ 5,255	\$ —	\$ 11,750
Addition due to acquisition	—	1,745	84,229	85,974
Balance as of April 3, 2016	6,495	7,000	84,229	97,724
Final purchase price adjustment for prior-year acquisition	—	—	(168)	(168)
Balance as of April 2, 2017	\$ 6,495	\$ 7,000	\$ 84,061	\$ 97,556

As of April 2, 2017, goodwill amounted to \$97.6 million, a decrease of \$0.2 million from the balance at April 3, 2016.

The following is a summary of our identifiable intangible assets as of April 2, 2017 and April 3, 2016:

(In thousands)	2017		
	Gross Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net carrying value
Finite-life intangible assets:			
Customer relationships	\$ 78,383	\$ (7,854)	\$ 70,529
Trademarks and trade names	6,045	(1,790)	4,255
Other finite-life intangible assets	3,648	(2,776)	872
Total finite-life intangible assets	88,076	(12,420)	75,656
Indefinite-life intangible assets	1,227	—	1,227
Total intangible assets, net	\$ 89,303	\$ (12,420)	\$ 76,883

(In thousands)	2016		
	Gross Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net carrying value
Finite-life intangible assets:			
Customer relationships	\$ 78,384	\$ (3,289)	\$ 75,095
Trademarks and trade names	6,045	(1,090)	4,955
Other finite-life intangible assets	3,648	(1,991)	1,657
Total finite-life intangible assets	88,077	(6,370)	81,707
Indefinite-life intangible assets	1,227	—	1,227
Total intangible assets, net	\$ 89,304	\$ (6,370)	\$ 82,934

Intangible asset amortization expense was \$6.1 million during fiscal 2017, \$2.4 million during fiscal 2016, and \$0.9 million during fiscal 2015.

The estimated future amortization expense for identifiable intangible assets during the next five years is as follows:

(In thousands)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Estimated amortization expense	\$ 5,704	\$ 5,454	\$ 5,073	\$ 5,028	\$ 4,891



**Note 7 – Debt**

In December 2015, in connection with the Stauber acquisition described more fully in Note 2, we entered into a credit agreement (the “Credit Agreement”) with U.S. Bank National Association (“U.S. Bank”), as Lead Arranger, and Sole Bookrunner, and other lenders from time to time party thereto (collectively, the “Lenders”), whereby U.S. Bank is also serving as Administrative Agent. The Credit Agreement included senior secured credit facilities (the “Credit Facility”) totaling \$165.0 million, consisting of a \$100.0 million senior secured term loan credit facility (the “Term Loan Facility”) and a \$65.0 million senior secured revolving loan credit facility (the “Revolving Loan Facility”). The Revolving Loan Facility includes a letter of credit subfacility in the amount of \$5.0 million and a swingline subfacility in the amount of \$8.0 million. The Term Loan facility requires mandatory quarterly repayments as outlined in the table below with the remainder of the loan due at maturity. The Credit Facility is scheduled to terminate on December 23, 2020. The Credit Facility is secured by substantially all of our personal property assets and those of our subsidiaries.

Borrowings under the Credit Facility bear interest at a rate per annum equal to one of the following, plus, in both cases, an applicable margin based upon our leverage ratio: (a) LIBOR for an interest period of one, two, three or six months as selected by us, reset at the end of the selected interest period, or (b) a base rate determined by reference to the highest of (1) U. S. Bank’s prime rate, (2) the Federal Funds Effective Rate plus 0.5%, or (3) one-month LIBOR for U.S. dollars plus 1.0%. The LIBOR margin is 1.125%, 1.25% or 1.5%, depending on our leverage ratio. The base rate margin is 0.125%, 0.25% or 0.5%, depending on our leverage ratio. At April 2, 2017, the effective interest rate on our borrowings was approximately 2.2%.

We used \$131.0 million of the proceeds from the Credit Facility to fund our acquisition of Stauber. We may use the remaining \$34.0 million for working capital, capital expenditures, restricted payments and acquisitions permitted under the Credit Facility, and other general corporate purposes.

In addition to paying interest on the outstanding principal under the Credit Facility, we are required to pay a commitment fee on the unutilized commitments thereunder. The commitment fee is 0.25% to 0.3%, depending on our leverage ratio.

Debt issuance costs of \$0.7 million paid to the lenders are reflected as a reduction of debt and are being amortized on a straight line basis over the term of the credit facility. Amortization of debt issuance costs was \$0.1 million for fiscal 2017 and immaterial for fiscal 2016. As of April 2, 2017, \$0.5 million of debt issuance costs were reflected as a reduction of debt on our balance sheet.

The Credit Agreement requires us to maintain (a) a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.15 to 1.00 and (b) a maximum total cash flow leverage ratio of 3.0 to 1.0. The Credit Agreement also contains other customary affirmative and negative covenants, including covenants that restrict our ability to incur additional indebtedness, dispose of significant assets, make certain investments, including any acquisitions other than permitted acquisitions, make certain payments, enter into sale and leaseback transactions, grant liens on our assets or enter into rate management transactions, subject to certain limitations. We are permitted to make distributions, pay dividends and repurchase shares so long as no default or event of default exists or would exist as a result thereof. As of April 2, 2017, we were in compliance with all required covenants.

Debt at April 2, 2017 and April 3, 2016 consisted of the following:

<u>(In thousands)</u>	<u>April 2, 2017</u>	<u>April 3, 2016</u>
Senior secured term loan	\$ 93,125	\$ 98,750
Senior secured revolver	10,000	31,000
Total debt	103,125	129,750
Less: unamortized debt issuance costs	(510)	(645)
Total debt, net of debt issuance costs	102,615	129,105
Less: current portion of long-term debt, net of current unamortized debt issuance costs	(7,989)	(5,489)
Total long-term debt	<u>\$ 94,626</u>	<u>\$ 123,616</u>

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

Scheduled annual maturities of debt as of April 2, 2017 are as follows:

<u>Fiscal year ending</u>	<u>(In thousands)</u>
2018	\$ 8,125
2019	10,000
2020	10,000
2021	75,000
	<u>\$ 103,125</u>

**Note 8 — Share-Based Compensation**

**Performance-Based Restricted Stock Units.** Our Board of Directors has approved a performance-based equity compensation arrangement for our executive officers. This performance-based arrangement provides for the grant of performance-based restricted stock units that represent a possible future issuance of restricted shares of our common stock based on our pre-tax income target for the applicable fiscal year. The actual number of restricted shares to be issued to each executive officer will be determined when our final financial information becomes available after the applicable fiscal year and will be between zero shares and 54,028 shares in the aggregate for fiscal 2017. The restricted shares issued will fully vest two years after the last day of the fiscal year on which the performance is based. We are recording the compensation expense for the outstanding performance share units and then-converted restricted stock over the life of the awards.

The following table represents the restricted stock activity for fiscal 2017:

	<u>Shares</u>	<u>Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value</u>
Outstanding at beginning of year	37,309	\$ 40.89
Granted	28,853	43.10
Vested	(37,309)	40.89
Forfeited or expired	—	—
Outstanding at end of year	<u>28,853</u>	<u>\$ 43.10</u>

The weighted average grant date fair value of performance-based restricted shares issued in fiscal 2017, 2016 and 2015 was \$43.10, \$40.89, and \$34.45, respectively. We recorded compensation expense on performance-based restricted stock of approximately \$1.4 million for fiscal 2017, \$1.2 million for fiscal 2016 and \$1.1 million for fiscal 2015, substantially all of which was recorded in selling, general and administrative (“SG&A”) expense in the Consolidated Statements of Income. The total fair value of performance-based restricted stock units vested in fiscal 2017 was \$1.5 million compared to \$2.0 million in fiscal 2016 and \$0.8 million in fiscal 2015.

Until the performance-based restricted stock units result in the issuance of restricted stock, the amount of expense recorded each period is dependent upon our estimate of the number of shares that will ultimately be issued and our then current common stock price. Upon issuance of restricted stock, we record compensation expense over the remaining vesting period using the award date closing price. Unrecognized compensation expense related to non-vested restricted stock and non-vested restricted share units as of April 2, 2017 was \$1.3 million and is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.5 years.

The benefits of tax deductions that vary from the recognized compensation costs from share-based compensation are recorded as a change in additional paid-in capital rather than a deduction of taxes paid. The amount of excess tax benefit recognized and recorded in additional paid-in capital resulting from share-based compensation cost was \$0.1 million in fiscal 2017, nominal in fiscal 2016 and \$0.1 million in 2015.

**Restricted Stock Awards.** As part of their retainer, our non-employee directors receive restricted stock for their Board services. The restricted stock awards are expensed over the requisite vesting period, which begins on the date of issuance and ends on the date of the next Annual Meeting of Shareholders, based on the market value on the date of grant. The following table represents the Board’s restricted stock activity for fiscal 2017:

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

	Shares	Weighted- Average Grant Date Fair Value
Outstanding at beginning of year	6,804	\$ 36.00
Granted	8,092	43.24
Vested	(6,804)	36.00
Forfeited or expired	—	—
Outstanding at end of year	8,092	\$ 43.24

Annual expense related to the value of restricted stock was \$0.3 million in fiscal 2017, \$0.2 million for both 2016 and 2015, all of which was recorded in SG&A expense in the Consolidated Statements of Income. Unrecognized compensation expense related to non-vested restricted stock awards as of April 2, 2017 was \$0.1 million and is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 0.3 years.

**Stock Option Awards.** Our Board of Directors (the “Board”) previously approved a long-term incentive equity compensation arrangement for our executive officers that provided for the grant of non-qualified stock options that vested at the end of a three-year period, although no stock options have been granted under this arrangement since the fiscal year ended March 28, 2010. As of April 2, 2017 and April 3, 2016 we had no stock options outstanding. During fiscal 2015, 9,333 options were exercised with an exercise price of \$19.90. No expense was recorded in fiscal 2017, 2016 or 2015 related to the value of stock options.

#### Note 9 — Share Repurchase Program

In May 2014, our Board authorized a share repurchase program of up to 300,000 shares of our outstanding common shares. Under the program, we are authorized to repurchase shares for cash on the open market or in privately negotiated transactions subject to applicable securities laws and regulations. Upon repurchase of the shares, we reduce our common stock for the par value of the shares with the excess applied against additional paid-in capital. No shares were repurchased during fiscal 2017. We repurchased 127,852 of common stock at an aggregate purchase price of \$4.8 million during fiscal 2016, and 59,602 shares of common stock at an aggregate purchase price of \$2.2 million during fiscal 2015. As of April 2, 2017, the number of shares available to be purchased under the share repurchase program was 112,546.

#### Note 10 — Profit Sharing, Employee Stock Ownership, Employee Stock Purchase and Pension Plans

**Company Sponsored Plans.** The majority of our non-bargaining unit employees are eligible to participate in a company-sponsored profit sharing plan. Contributions are made at our discretion subject to a maximum amount allowed under the Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”). The profit sharing plan contribution level for each employee depends upon date of hire, with those employees hired after April 1, 2012 eligible to receive a contribution that is 50% of the contribution made for employees hired on or before April 1, 2012. Our contribution to the profit sharing plan for fiscal 2017, fiscal 2016 and fiscal 2015 was 5% of each employee’s eligible compensation for employees hired on or before April 1, 2012. In addition to the discretionary employer contribution described above, the profit sharing plan includes a 401(k) plan that allows employees to contribute pre-tax earnings up to the maximum amount allowed under the IRC, with an employer match of up to 5% of the employee’s eligible compensation.

We have an employee stock ownership plan (“ESOP”) covering the majority of our non-bargaining unit employees. Contributions are made at our discretion subject to a maximum amount allowed under the IRC. The ESOP contribution level for each employee depends upon date of hire, with those employees hired after April 1, 2012 eligible to receive a contribution that is 50% of the contribution made for employees hired on or before April 1, 2012. Our contribution to the ESOP for fiscal 2017, fiscal 2016 and fiscal 2015 was 5% of each employee’s eligible compensation for employees hired on or before April 1, 2012.

During fiscal 2017, we established a nonqualified deferred compensation plan covering employees who are classified as “highly compensated employees” as determined by IRS guidelines for the plan year and who were hired on or before April 1, 2012. Employees who are eligible for the nonqualified deferred compensation plan for any plan year are not eligible for the profit sharing plan contribution or the ESOP contributions described above for that plan year. Our contribution to the nonqualified deferred compensation plan for fiscal 2017 was 10% of each employee’s eligible compensation, subject to the maximum amount allowed under the IRC.

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)**

As described in Note 2, we acquired Stauber on December 23, 2015. Concurrent with the acquisition, Stauber's existing company sponsored plans were terminated. Effective January 1, 2016, Stauber employees became eligible for the 401(k) component of the profit sharing plan described above, including the employer match component.

We have an employee stock purchase plan ("ESPP") covering substantially all of our employees. The ESPP allows employees to purchase newly-issued shares of the Company's common stock at a discount from market. The number of new shares issued under the ESPP was 38,986 in fiscal 2017, 33,550 in fiscal 2016 and 31,383 in fiscal 2015.

In March 2013, concurrent with our withdrawal from a multiemployer pension plan described below, we established a retirement plan and ESOP for our collective bargaining unit employees. Each of these plans is subject to a maximum amount allowed under the IRC. The retirement plan provides for a contribution of 5% of each employee's eligible wages annually for employees who were eligible to enter the plan on March 1, 2013, and a contribution of 2.5% of each employee's eligible wages annually for employees who entered the plan after March 1, 2013. Additionally, the retirement plan includes a 401(k) plan that will allow employees to contribute pre-tax earnings up to the maximum amount allowed under the IRC, with an employer match of up to 5% of the employee's eligible compensation. The ESOP provides for contributions of 5% of each employee's eligible wages annually for employees who were eligible to enter the plan on March 1, 2013, and a contribution of 2.5% of each employee's eligible wages annually for employees who enter the plan after March 1, 2013.

The following represents the contribution expense for the company sponsored profit sharing, ESOP, ESPP and 401(k) plans for fiscal 2017, 2016 and 2015:

(In thousands)	2017	2016	2015
<b>Non-bargaining unit employee plans:</b>			
Profit sharing	\$ 741	\$ 1,393	\$ 1,266
401(k) matching contributions	1,996	1,586	1,216
ESOP	741	1,393	1,266
<b>Nonqualified deferred compensation plan</b>	<b>1,383</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Bargaining unit employee plans</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>450</b>
<b>ESPP - all employees</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>253</b>
Total contribution expense	<u>\$ 5,734</u>	<u>\$ 5,090</u>	<u>\$ 4,451</u>

**Multiemployer Pension Plan.** In fiscal 2013, we concluded negotiations with two collective bargaining units to discontinue our participation in the Central States, Southeast and Southwest Areas Pension Fund ("CSS" or "the plan"), a collectively bargained multiemployer pension plan. Payment of our share of the unfunded vested benefit liability is being made over 20 years and is subject to a cap. At the end of the 20-year period we will have no further liability, even if our share of the unfunded vested benefit liability has not yet been paid in full. The cash payments to be made total approximately \$9.3 million, or \$467,000 per year. Our payments began in fiscal 2014.

**Note 11 — Commitments and Contingencies**

**Leases.** We have various operating leases for buildings and land on which some of our operations are located as well as trucks utilized for deliveries in certain branches. Future minimum lease payments due under operating leases with an initial term of one year or more at April 2, 2017 are as follows:

(In thousands)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Thereafter
Minimum lease payment	\$ 2,705	\$ 2,317	\$ 2,041	\$ 1,795	\$ 1,105	\$ 2,933

Total rental expense for fiscal years 2017, 2016 and 2015 was as follows:

(In thousands)	2017	2016	2015
Minimum rentals	\$ 3,283	\$ 2,890	\$ 1,665
Contingent rentals	28	21	103
Total rental expense	<u>\$ 3,311</u>	<u>\$ 2,911</u>	<u>\$ 1,768</u>

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

**Litigation.** As of April 2, 2017 there were no material pending legal proceedings, other than ordinary routine litigation incidental to the business, to which we or any of our subsidiaries are a party or of which any of our property is the subject. Legal fees associated with such matters are expensed as incurred.

**Asset Retirement Obligations.** We have three leases of land which contain terms that state that at the end of the lease term, we have a specified amount of time to remove the property and buildings. These leases expire in 2023, 2028 and 2034. At that time, anything that remains on the land becomes the property of the lessor, and the lessor has the option to either maintain the property or remove the property at our expense. We have not been able to reasonably estimate the fair value of the asset retirement obligations, primarily due to the combination of the following factors: The leases do not expire in the near future; we have a history of extending the leases with the lessors and currently intend to do so at expiration of the lease periods; the lessors do not have a history of terminating leases with their tenants; and because it is more likely than not that the buildings will have value at the end of the lease life and therefore, may not be removed by either the lessee or the lessor. Therefore, in accordance with accounting guidance related to asset retirement and environmental obligations, we have not recorded an asset retirement obligation as of April 2, 2017. We will continue to monitor the factors surrounding the requirement to record an asset retirement obligation and will recognize the fair value of a liability in the period in which it is incurred and a reasonable estimate can be made.

**Note 12 — Income Taxes**

The provisions for income taxes for fiscal 2017, 2016 and 2015 were as follows:

	2017	2016	2015
<b>(In thousands)</b>			
Federal — current	\$ 11,472	\$ 8,761	\$ 9,574
State — current	2,546	2,238	2,133
Total current	14,018	10,999	11,707
Federal — deferred	(431)	1,027	(517)
State — deferred	(94)	197	50
Total deferred	(525)	1,224	(467)
Total provision	\$ 13,493	\$ 12,223	\$ 11,240

Reconciliations of the provisions for income taxes, based on income from continuing operations, to the applicable federal statutory income tax rate of 35% are listed below.

	2017	2016	2015
Statutory federal income tax	35.0 %	35.0 %	35.0 %
State income taxes, net of federal deduction	4.8 %	5.0 %	4.7 %
ESOP dividend deduction on allocated shares	(0.7)%	(0.7)%	(0.7)%
Domestic production deduction	(1.5)%	(1.5)%	(2.4)%
Non-deductible acquisition costs	— %	1.6 %	— %
Assessment related to state tax audit	— %	0.6 %	— %
Other — net	(0.2)%	0.2 %	0.3 %
Total	37.4 %	40.2 %	36.9 %

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)**

The tax effects of items comprising our net deferred tax liability as of April 2, 2017 and April 3, 2016 are as follows:

(In thousands)	2017	2016
<b>Deferred tax assets:</b>		
Trade receivables	\$ 187	\$ 361
Stock compensation accruals	616	620
Pension withdrawal liability	2,513	2,635
Other	1,639	1,302
<b>Total deferred tax assets</b>	<b>\$ 4,955</b>	<b>\$ 4,918</b>
<b>Deferred tax liabilities:</b>		
Inventories	\$ (4,006)	\$ (2,671)
Prepaid	(1,095)	(975)
Excess of tax over book depreciation	(14,169)	(14,439)
Intangibles	(27,524)	(29,075)
Unrealized gain on interest rate swap	(201)	—
<b>Total deferred tax liabilities</b>	<b>\$ (46,995)</b>	<b>\$ (47,160)</b>
<b>Net deferred tax liabilities</b>	<b>\$ (42,040)</b>	<b>\$ (42,242)</b>

As of April 2, 2017, the Company has determined that it is more likely than not that the deferred tax assets at April 2, 2017 will be realized either through future taxable income or reversals of taxable temporary differences.

During fiscal 2016, we recorded a gross unrecognized tax benefit of \$1.9 million in other long-term liabilities on our consolidated balance sheet as a result of uncertain income tax positions taken by Stauber on its tax returns for periods prior to our acquisition. We had no unrecognized tax benefits prior to the Stauber acquisition. The Stauber acquisition agreement provides the Company with indemnification from the prior owners for any tax liabilities relating to pre-acquisition tax returns. Accordingly, we also recorded an offsetting, long-term receivable for \$1.9 million as of April 3, 2016, and as such any change in the unrecognized tax benefit will not impact our effective tax rate in future periods. During fiscal 2017, the unrecognized tax benefit and the offsetting receivable were reduced to \$0.8 million due to the expiration of the statute of limitations for certain of the taxable periods. As of April 2, 2017 and April 3, 2016, the liability for uncertain tax positions and the corresponding receivable included \$0.1 million and \$0.3 million of interest and penalties, respectively. We expect these uncertain income tax amounts to decrease as the applicable examination periods by the relevant taxing authorities expire.

We are subject to U.S. federal income tax as well as income tax of multiple state jurisdictions. The tax years prior to our fiscal year ended April 3, 2016 are closed to examination by the Internal Revenue Service. Our federal tax return filed for our fiscal year ended March 29, 2015 was examined by the Internal Revenue Service with no adjustments. For state and local income tax jurisdictions, the tax years prior to our fiscal year ended March 30, 2014 are closed to examination, with few exceptions.

**Note 13 — Segment Information**

We have three reportable segments: Industrial, Water Treatment and Health and Nutrition. Our Health and Nutrition segment was established as a result of our acquisition of Stauber near the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2016. The accounting policies of the segments are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies. Product costs and expenses for each segment are based on actual costs incurred along with cost allocations of shared and centralized functions.

We evaluate performance based on profit or loss from operations before income taxes not including nonrecurring gains and losses. Reportable segments are defined primarily by product and type of customer. Segments are responsible for the sales, marketing and development of their products and services. Other than our Health and Nutrition segment, the segments do not have separate accounting, administration, customer service or purchasing functions. We allocate certain corporate expenses to our operating segments, and we began allocating a portion of these costs to the Health and Nutrition segment in fiscal 2017. Corporate costs allocated to Health and Nutrition were \$1.9 million for fiscal 2017; these costs would have been allocated to Industrial (approximately \$1.2 million) and Water Treatment (approximately \$0.7 million) in past years. There are no intersegment sales and no operating segments have been aggregated. Given the nature of our business, it is not practical to disclose revenues from external customers for each product or each group of similar products. No single customer's revenues

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)**

amounted to 10% or more of our total revenue. Sales are primarily within the United States and all assets are located within the United States.

Reportable Segments	Industrial	Water Treatment	Health and Nutrition	Total
<b>(In thousands)</b>				
<b>Fiscal Year Ended April 2, 2017:</b>				
Sales	\$ 238,555	\$ 128,954	\$ 116,084	\$ 483,593
Gross profit	38,886	35,962	23,225	98,073
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	21,818	19,798	17,765	59,381
Operating income	17,068	16,164	5,460	38,692
Identifiable assets*	\$ 159,032	\$ 53,445	\$ 192,047	\$ 404,524
Capital Expenditures	\$ 10,529	\$ 7,777	\$ 3,310	\$ 21,616
<b>Fiscal Year Ended April 3, 2016:</b>				
Sales	\$ 251,749	\$ 128,312	\$ 33,915	\$ 413,976
Gross profit	37,967	35,470	6,820	80,257
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	22,137	19,261	7,688	49,086
Operating income (loss)	15,830	16,209	(868)	31,171
Identifiable assets*	\$ 158,015	\$ 50,013	\$ 195,939	\$ 403,967
Capital Expenditures	\$ 17,712	\$ 6,306	\$ 165	\$ 24,183
<b>Fiscal Year Ended March 29, 2015:</b>				
Sales	\$ 249,066	\$ 114,957	\$ —	\$ 364,023
Gross profit	33,619	32,172	—	65,791
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	19,793	15,582	—	35,375
Operating income	13,826	16,590	—	30,416
Identifiable assets*	\$ 151,157	\$ 42,860	\$ —	\$ 194,017
Capital Expenditures	\$ 10,590	\$ 3,962	\$ —	\$ 14,552

\* Unallocated assets, consisting primarily of cash and cash equivalents, investments and prepaid expenses, were \$13.1 million at April 2, 2017, \$32.8 million at April 3, 2016 and \$53.7 million at March 29, 2015.

In fiscal 2016, operating profit for the Health and Nutrition segment was negatively impacted by \$3.3 million (pre-tax) of non-recurring SG&A expenses directly related to the acquisition by Hawkins.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)**Note 14 — Selected Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)**

(In thousands, except per share data)

	Fiscal 2017			
	First	Second	Third	Fourth
Sales	\$ 131,374	\$ 121,250	\$ 112,351	\$ 118,618
Gross profit	28,216	27,032	20,912	21,913
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	15,126	14,871	14,916	14,468
Operating income	13,090	12,161	5,996	7,445
Net income	\$ 7,604	\$ 7,190	\$ 3,551	\$ 4,210
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.40
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.40

	Fiscal 2016 (1)			
	First	Second	Third	Fourth
Sales	\$ 101,496	\$ 94,592	\$ 88,375	\$ 129,513
Gross profit	20,735	19,811	14,709	25,002
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	9,891	10,303	12,825	16,067
Operating income	10,844	9,508	1,884	8,935
Net income	\$ 6,791	\$ 5,678	\$ 815	\$ 4,859
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.46
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.46

(1) The sum of quarterly per share data may not equal the full year due to rounding.

Operating income in fiscal 2016 was negatively impacted by non-recurring SG&A expenses directly related to the acquisition of Stauber by Hawkins of \$2.7 million (pre-tax) in the third quarter and \$0.6 million (pre-tax) in the fourth quarter.



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

Not applicable.

## ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

### Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K, we conducted an evaluation, under supervision and with the participation of management, including the chief executive officer and chief financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Exchange Act. Based upon that evaluation, our chief executive officer and chief financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective. Disclosure controls and procedures are defined by Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Exchange Act as controls and other procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in reports filed with the SEC under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in reports filed under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive and principal financial officers, or person performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

### Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Securities Exchange Act. Our internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Our internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of our assets; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that our receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorizations of our management and directors; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

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

Management assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of April 2, 2017, based on the criteria described in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on this assessment, management believes that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of April 2, 2017.

Our independent registered public accounting firm has issued an attestation report on our internal control over financial reporting for April 2, 2017 which is included in the Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm in Item 8 of this Annual Report on 10-K.

/s/ Patrick H. Hawkins

Patrick H. Hawkins

Chief Executive Officer and President

June 1, 2017

/s/ Kathleen P. Pepsi

Kathleen P. Pepsi

Vice President, Chief Financial Officer,  
and Treasurer

June 1, 2017

### Attestation Report of Registered Public Accounting Firm

The attestation report required under this Item 9A is contained in Item 8 of this Annual Report on 10-K under the caption "Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm."

**Changes in Internal Control Procedures**

There was no change in our internal control over financial reporting during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2017 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

**ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION**

Not Applicable

## PART III

Certain information required by Part III is incorporated by reference from Hawkins' definitive Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on August 9, 2017 (the "2017 Proxy Statement"). Except for those portions specifically incorporated in this Form 10-K by reference to the 2017 Proxy Statement, no other portions of the 2017 Proxy Statement are deemed to be filed as part of this Form 10-K.

### ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Our executive officers, their ages and offices held, as of June 1, 2017 are set forth below:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Office</u>
Patrick H. Hawkins	46	Chief Executive Officer and President
Kathleen P. Pepski	62	Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer
Richard G. Erstad	53	Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary
Olivier A. Guiot	40	President — Stauber Performance Ingredients
Thomas J. Keller	57	Vice President — Water Treatment Group
Steven D. Matthews II	46	Vice President — Operations
Theresa R. Moran	54	Vice President — Quality and Support
Jeffrey P. Oldenkamp	44	Vice President
John R. Sevenich	59	Vice President — Industrial Group

*Patrick H. Hawkins* has been our Chief Executive Officer and President and member of our board since March 2011. He has held the position of President since March 2010. He joined the Company in 1992 and served as the Business Director - Food and Pharmaceuticals, a position he held from 2009 to 2010. Previously he served as Business Manager - Food and Co-Extrusion Products from 2007 to 2009 and Sales Representative - Food Ingredients from 2002 to 2007. He previously served the Company in various other capacities, including Plant Manager, Quality Director and Technical Director.

*Kathleen P. Pepski* has been our Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer since February 2008 and was Secretary from February 2008 to November 2008. She was the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of PNA Holdings, LLC and Katun Corporation, a supplier of business equipment parts, from 2003 to 2007, the Vice President of Finance of Hoffman Enclosures, a manufacturer of systems enclosures and a subsidiary of Pentair, Inc., from 2002 to 2003, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of BMC Industries, Inc., a manufacturer of lenses and aperture masks, from 2000 to 2001, and Vice President and Controller at Valspar Corporation, a paint and coatings manufacturer, from 1994 to 2000. Ms. Pepski will be retiring in June of 2017.

*Richard G. Erstad* has been our Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary since November 2008. He was General Counsel and Secretary of BUCA, Inc., a restaurant company, from 2005 to 2008. Mr. Erstad had previously been an attorney with the corporate group of Faegre & Benson LLP, a law firm, from 1996 to 2005, where his practice focused on securities law and mergers and acquisitions. He is a member of the Minnesota Bar.

*Olivier A. Guiot* has served as President of Stauber Performance Ingredients since our acquisition of Stauber in December 2015. Prior to that, Mr. Guiot held the position of Executive Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Stauber since 2013 and President of Pharmline, Inc., which was acquired by Stauber, from 2010 to 2013. Mr. Guiot originally joined Pharmline in 2004 and served in various positions before his promotion to President.

*Thomas J. Keller* has been our Vice President - Water Treatment Group since April 2012. Prior to attaining this position, Mr. Keller held various positions since joining the Company in 1980, most recently as its Water Treatment General Manager, a position he held since June 2011. Previously, Mr. Keller served as a Regional Manager of the Water Treatment Group from 2002 to 2011.

*Steven D. Matthews II* has been our Vice President - Operations since December 2013. He was a Regional General Manager in the Paperboard Converting Division of Newark Recycled Paperboard Solutions, a producer of recycled paperboard, from 2012 to 2013. Previously, he spent a total of fifteen years during two different periods at General Electric in a variety of engineering, Six Sigma, supply chain and plant leadership positions in the Plastics, Aircraft Engines, Lighting and Water divisions. From 2005-2008, he was a Corporate Supply Chain Engagement Leader with Ingersoll Rand, a global diversified industrial company.

*Theresa R. Moran* has been our Vice President - Quality and Support since February 2010. Since joining the Company in 1981, Ms. Moran has served the Company in a variety of positions, including Administration Operations Manager from 1999 to 2007 and most recently as Director - Process Improvement, a position she held from 2007 until the time of her promotion.

*Jeffrey P. Oldenkamp* joined Hawkins in May 2017, and will assume the role of Chief Financial Officer, Vice President and Treasurer in June 2017. Prior to joining Hawkins, Mr. Oldenkamp was with MTS Systems Corporation, a supplier of high-performance test systems and sensors, where he served as Chief Financial Officer since January 2015 and Vice President of Finance for the MTS Test business from January 2014 to January 2015, and with Nilfisk-Advance, Inc., a global manufacturer of professional cleaning equipment, where he served as Americas Operations Chief Financial Officer and Vice President from January 2012 to January 2014.

*John R. Sevenich* has been our Vice President - Industrial Group since May 2000. He was the Business Unit Manager of Manufacturing from 1998 to 2000 and was a Sales Representative with the Company from 1989 to 1998.

“Election of Directors,” “Corporate Governance,” and “Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance” of the 2016 Proxy Statement are incorporated herein by reference.

Steven D. Matthews II filed a bankruptcy petition related to the dissolution of a small family business of which Mr. Matthews was an owner and guarantor. The bankruptcy was discharged in 2009.

We have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all of our directors and employees, including our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, controller and other persons performing similar functions. We have posted the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics on our website located at <http://www.hawkinsinc.com>. Hawkins’ Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is also available in print to any shareholder who requests it in writing from our Corporate Secretary. We intend to post on our website any amendment to, or waiver from, a provision of our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, controller and other persons performing similar functions within four business days following the date of such amendment or waiver. We are not including the information contained on our website as part of, or incorporating it by reference into, this report.

#### **ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

“Compensation of Executive Officers and Directors” of the 2017 Proxy Statement is incorporated herein by this reference.

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

“Security Ownership of Management and Beneficial Ownership” and “Equity Compensation Plan Information” of the 2017 Proxy Statement are incorporated herein by this reference.

#### **ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE**

“Election of Directors” and “Related Party Transactions” of the 2017 Proxy Statement are incorporated herein by this reference.

#### **ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES**

“Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm’s Fees” of the 2017 Proxy Statement is incorporated herein by this reference.

**PART IV**

**ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES**

(a)(1) FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY

The following financial statements of Hawkins, Inc. are filed as part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K:

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.

Consolidated Balance Sheets at April 2, 2017 and April 3, 2016.

Consolidated Statements of Income for the fiscal years ended April 2, 2107, April 3, 2016 and March 29, 2015.

Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the fiscal years ended April 2, 2017, April 3, 2016 and March 29, 2015.

Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity for the fiscal years ended April 2, 2017, April 3, 2016 and March 29, 2015.

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the fiscal years ended April 2, 2017, April 3, 2016 and March 29, 2015.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

(a)(2) FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES OF THE COMPANY

The additional financial data listed below is included as a schedule to this Annual Report on Form 10-K and should be read in conjunction with the financial statements presented in Part II, Item 8. Schedules not included with this additional financial data have been omitted because they are not required or the required information is included in the financial statements or the notes.

The following financial statement schedule for the fiscal years 2017, 2016 and 2015.

Schedule II — Valuation and Qualifying Accounts.

(a)(3) EXHIBITS

The exhibits of this Annual Report on Form 10-K included herein are set forth on the attached Exhibit Index.

**ITEM 16. FORM 10-K SUMMARY**

None

## SIGNATURES

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

HAWKINS, INC.

Date: June 1, 2017

By /s/ Patrick H. Hawkins  
Patrick H. Hawkins,  
Chief Executive Officer and President

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has also been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Company and in the capacities indicated on the date set forth beside their signature.

/s/ Patrick H. Hawkins Date: June 1, 2017  
Patrick H. Hawkins, Chief Executive Officer and  
President (Principal Executive Officer) and Director

/s/ Kathleen P. Pepski Date: June 1, 2017  
Kathleen P. Pepski, Vice President, Chief Financial  
Officer, and Treasurer (Principal Financial Officer  
and Principal Accounting Officer)

/s/ John S. McKeon Date: June 1, 2017  
John S. McKeon, Director, Chairman of the Board

/s/ Daniel J. Stauber Date: June 1, 2017  
Daniel J. Stauber, Director

/s/ Duane M. Jergenson Date: June 1, 2017  
Duane M. Jergenson, Director

/s/ Daryl I. Skaar Date: June 1, 2017  
Daryl I. Skaar, Director

/s/ James A. Faulconbridge Date: June 1, 2017  
James A. Faulconbridge, Director

/s/ James T. Thompson Date: June 1, 2017  
James T. Thompson, Director

/s/ Jeffrey L. Wright Date: June 1, 2017  
Jeffrey L. Wright, Director

/s/ Mary J. Schumacher Date: June 1, 2017  
Mary J. Schumacher, Director

**SCHEDULE II**  
**HAWKINS, INC.**

**VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED APRIL 2, 2017, APRIL 3, 2016 AND MARCH 29, 2015**

<u>Description</u>	Balance at Beginning of Year	Additions		Deductions Write-Offs	Balance at End of Year
		Charged to Costs and Expenses	Charged to Other Accounts		
(In thousands)					
Reserve deducted from asset to which it applies:					
Year Ended April 2, 2017:					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 602	\$ 79	\$ —	\$ 213	\$ 468
Year Ended April 3, 2016:					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 445	\$ 272	\$ —	\$ 115	\$ 602
Year Ended March 29, 2015:					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 477	\$ (32)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 445

## Exhibit Index

Unless otherwise indicated, all documents incorporated into this Annual Report on Form 10-K by reference to a document filed with the SEC are located under file number 0-7647.

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Method of Filing</u>
2.1	Stock Purchase Agreement, dated November 23, 2015, by and among the Company, SPH Holdings, Inc., the stockholders of SPH Holdings, Inc. listed therein, and ICV Manager, LLC. (1)	Incorporated by Reference
3.1	Amended and Second Restated Articles of Incorporation.(2)	Incorporated by Reference
3.2	Amended and Restated By-Laws.(3)	Incorporated by Reference
10.1*	Hawkins, Inc. 2004 Omnibus Stock Plan.(4)	Incorporated by Reference
10.2*	Form of Non-Statutory Stock Option Agreement under the Company's 2004 Omnibus Stock Plan.(5)	Incorporated by Reference
10.3*	Hawkins, Inc. 2010 Omnibus Incentive Plan.(6)	Incorporated by Reference
10.4*	Form of Performance-Based Unit Award Notice and Restricted Stock Agreement under the Company's 2010 Omnibus Incentive Plan.(7)	Incorporated by Reference
10.5*	Form of Restricted Stock Agreement under the Company's 2010 Omnibus Incentive Plan.(8)	Incorporated by Reference
10.6*	Hawkins, Inc. Executive Severance Plan.(9)	Incorporated by Reference
10.7	Commitment Letter, dated November 23, 2015, by and among the Company, U.S.Bank National Association, and JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. (10)	Incorporated by Reference
10.8	Credit Agreement dated as of December 23, 2015 among the Company, U.S. Bank National Association, and certain financial institutions.(11)	Incorporated by Reference
21	Subsidiaries of the registrant	Filed Electronically
23.1	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.	Filed Electronically
31.1	Certification by Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) of the Exchange Act.	Filed Electronically
31.2	Certification by Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) of the Exchange Act.	Filed Electronically
32.1	Section 1350 Certification by Chief Executive Officer.	Filed Electronically
32.2	Section 1350 Certification by Chief Financial Officer.	Filed Electronically
101	Financial statements from the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Hawkins, Inc. for the period ended April 2, 2017, filed with the SEC on June 1, 2017, formatted in Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL): (i) the Consolidated Balance Sheets at April 2, 2017 and April 3, 2016, (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Income for the fiscal years ended April 2, 2017, April 3, 2016 and March 29, 2015, (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the fiscal years ended April 2, 2017, April 3, 2016 and March 29, 2015, (iv) the Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity for the fiscal years ended April 2, 2017, April 3, 2016 and March 29, 2015, (v) Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the fiscal years ended April 2, 2017, April 3, 2016 and March 29, 2015, and (iv) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.	Filed Electronically

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\* Management contract or compensation plan or arrangement required to be filed as an exhibit to this Annual Report on Form 10-K.



- (1) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 on the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated November 23, 2015.
- (2) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2010.
- (3) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated October 28, 2009 and filed November 3, 2009.
- (4) Incorporated by reference to Appendix B to the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2004 Annual Meeting of Shareholders filed July 23, 2004.
- (5) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2008.
- (6) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 filed June 6, 2011 (file no. 333-174735).
- (7) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2010.
- (8) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2010.
- (9) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended July 3, 2011.
- (10) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated November 23, 2015
- (11) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 23, 2015.

**Subsidiaries of Hawkins, Inc.**

<u>Subsidiary</u>	<u>State of Organization</u>
Vertex Chemical Corporation	Minnesota
Stauber Performance Ingredients, Inc.	Minnesota
Stauber California, Inc., a subsidiary of Stauber Performance Ingredients, Inc.	California
Stauber New York, Inc., a subsidiary of Stauber Performance Ingredients, Inc.	New York

**CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The Board of Directors

Hawkins, Inc.:

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the registration statement No. 333-87582 on Form S-8 relating to the Hawkins, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan, and Amended and Restated, No. 333-172761 on Form S-8 relating to Hawkins, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan, 333-123080 on Form S-8 relating to the Hawkins, Inc. 2004 Omnibus Stock Plan, and 333-174735 on Form S-8 relating to the Hawkins, Inc. 2010 Omnibus Incentive Plan of our report dated June 1, 2017, with respect to the consolidated balance sheets of Hawkins, Inc. as of April 2, 2017 and April 3, 2016, the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended April 2, 2017, the related financial statement schedule, and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of April 2, 2017, which report appears in the April 2, 2017 annual report on Form 10-K of Hawkins, Inc.

/s/ KPMG LLP  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
June 1, 2017

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 302 OF  
THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

**CERTIFICATIONS**

I, Patrick H. Hawkins, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Hawkins, Inc.;
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 we 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 the 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.
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.

Date: June 1, 2017

/s/ Patrick H. Hawkins

Patrick H. Hawkins

Chief Executive Officer and President

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 302 OF  
THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

**CERTIFICATIONS**

I, Kathleen P. Pepski, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Hawkins, Inc.;
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 we 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 the 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.
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.

Date: June 1, 2017

/s/ Kathleen P. Pepski

Kathleen P. Pepski

Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO  
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,  
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Annual Report of Hawkins, Inc. (the Company) on Form 10-K for the period ended April 2, 2017, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the Report), I, Patrick H. Hawkins, Principal executive officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

(1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934;

and

(2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Patrick H. Hawkins

Patrick H. Hawkins

Chief Executive Officer and President

June 1, 2017

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO  
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,  
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Annual Report of Hawkins, Inc. (the Company) on Form 10-K for the period ended April 2, 2017, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the Report), I, Kathleen P. Pepski, Principal financial and accounting officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

(1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934;

and

(2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Kathleen P. Pepski

Kathleen P. Pepski

Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer

June 1, 2017