HELEN OF TROY LTD
Form 10-Q
July 10, 2017
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended May 31, 2017
or

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

For the transition period from $\qquad$ to .....

Commission file number: 001-14669

HELEN OF TROY LIMITED
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| Bermuda <br> (State or other jurisdiction of | $74-2692550$ <br> (I.R.S. |
| :--- | :--- |
| incorporation or organization) | Employer <br> Identification <br> No.) |
| Clarendon House |  |
| 2 Church Street |  |
| Hamilton, Bermuda <br> (Address of principal executive offices) |  |
| 1 Helen of Troy Plaza <br> El Paso, Texas <br> (Registrant's United States Mailing Address) | (Zip Code) |

(915) 225-8000
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer $\begin{aligned} & \text { Smaller reporting } \\ & \text { company }\end{aligned} \quad$ 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.

Yes No

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

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

Class
Common Shares, $\$ 0.10$ par value, per share

Outstanding at July 5, 2017
27,224,833 shares

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## PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## HELEN OF TROY LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Condensed Balance Sheets (Unaudited)

|  | May 31, | February 28, |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| (in thousands, except shares and par value) | 2017 | 2017 |
| Assets |  |  |
| Assets, current: | $\$ 16,508$ | $\$ 23,087$ |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 207,795 | 229,928 |
| Receivables - principally trade, less allowances of $\$ 8,296$ and $\$ 5,656$ | 312,025 | 289,122 |
| Inventory | 11,874 | 11,699 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 2,942 | 2,242 |
| Income taxes receivable | 551,144 | 556,078 |
| Total assets, current |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of $\$ 110,022$ and | 135,599 | 134,935 |
| \$106,561 | 672,929 | 698,929 |
| Goodwill | 411,002 | 419,489 |
| Other intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of $\$ 172,072$ and $\$ 165,388$ |  |  |
| Deferred tax assets, net | 2,046 | 1,955 |
| Other assets, net of accumulated amortization of $\$ 1,953$ and $\$ 1,930$ | 1,963 | 1,710 |
| Total assets | $\$ 1,774,683$ | $\$ 1,813,096$ |
|  |  |  |
| Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity |  |  |
| Liabilities, current: | $\$ 136,426$ | $\$ 111,763$ |
| Accounts payable, principally trade | 133,771 | 153,200 |
| Accrued expenses and other current liabilities | 20,601 | 24,404 |
| Long-term debt, current maturities | 290,798 | 289,367 |
| Total liabilities, current | 433,240 | 461,211 |
| Long-term debt, excluding current maturities | 7,637 | 20,091 |
| Deferred tax liabilities, net | 18,569 | 21,661 |
| Other liabilities, noncurrent | 750,244 | 792,330 |
| Total liabilities |  |  |
| Commitments and contingencies |  |  |
| Stockholders' equity: |  |  |

Cumulative preferred stock, non-voting, $\$ 1.00$ par. Authorized 2,000,000 shares; none issued
Common stock, $\$ 0.10$ par. Authorized 50,000,000 shares; 27,219,125 and 27,028,665 shares

| issued and outstanding | 2,722 | 2,703 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Additional paid in capital | 218,724 | 218,760 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) | $(1,004)$ | 1,173 |
| Retained earnings | 803,997 | 798,130 |
| Total stockholders' equity | $1,024,439$ | $1,020,766$ |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | $\$ 1,774,683$ | $\$ 1,813,096$ |

See accompanying notes to consolidated condensed financial statements.

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## HELEN OF TROY LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income (Unaudited)

|  | Three Months Ended <br> May 31, |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| (in thousands, except per share data) | 2017 | 2016 |
| Sales revenue, net | $\$ 359,605$ | $\$ 347,938$ |
| Cost of goods sold | 203,156 | 195,511 |
| Gross profit | 156,449 | 152,427 |
|  |  |  |
| Selling, general and administrative expense ("SG\&A") | 123,683 | 122,129 |
| Asset impairment charges | 36,000 | 7,400 |
| Operating income (loss) | $(3,234)$ | 22,898 |
|  |  |  |
| Nonoperating income, net | 166 | 149 |
| Interest expense | $(3,839)$ | $(3,651)$ |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | $(6,907)$ | 19,396 |
|  |  |  |
| Income tax expense (benefit): | $(601)$ | 3,772 |
| Current | $(12,174)$ | $3,402)$ |
| Deferred | $\$ 5,868$ | $\$ 19,026$ |
| Net income |  |  |
| Earnings per share: | $\$ 0.22$ | $\$ 0.69$ |
| Basic | $\$ 0.22$ | $\$ 0.68$ |
| Diluted |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Weighted average shares of common stock used in | 27,076 | 27,773 |
| computing net earnings per share: | 27,245 | 28,147 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated condensed financial statements.

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## HELEN OF TROY LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Condensed Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) (Unaudited)

| (in thousands) | Three Months Ended May 31, |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2017 |  |  | 2016 |  |  |
|  | Before Tax | Tax | Net of Tax | Before Tax | Tax | Net of Tax |
| Income (loss) | \$ $(6,907)$ | \$ 12,775 | \$ 5,868 | \$ 19,396 | \$ (370) | \$ 19,026 |
| Cash flow hedge activity - foreign currency contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Changes in fair market value | $(2,245)$ | 316 | $(1,929)$ | $(1,019)$ | 233 | (786) |
| Settlements reclassified to income | (302) | 54 | (248) | 158 | (56) | 102 |
| Total other comprehensive income (loss) | $(2,547)$ | 370 | $(2,177)$ | (861) | 177 | (684) |
| Comprehensive income (loss) | \$ $(9,454)$ | \$ 13,145 | \$ 3,691 | \$ 18,535 | \$ (193) | \$ 18,342 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated condensed financial statements.

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## HELEN OF TROY LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Condensed Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

|  | Three Months Ended May 31, |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (in thousands) | 2017 | 2016 |
| Cash provided (used) by operating activities: |  |  |
| Net income | \$ 5,868 | \$ 19,026 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |  |  |
| Depreciation and amortization | 10,797 | 10,956 |
| Amortization of financing costs | 325 | 290 |
| Provision for doubtful receivables | (37) | 347 |
| Non-cash share-based compensation | 3,191 | 5,614 |
| Non-cash intangible asset impairment charges | 36,000 | 7,400 |
| (Gain) loss on the sale or disposal of property and equipment | (10) | 20 |
| Deferred income taxes and tax credits | $(12,174)$ | $(3,458)$ |
| Changes in operating capital, net of effects of acquisition of businesses: |  |  |
| Receivables | 22,170 | 20,524 |
| Inventories | $(22,903)$ | $(11,160)$ |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | $(1,182)$ | $(3,393)$ |
| Other assets and liabilities, net | $(2,725)$ | $(4,934)$ |
| Accounts payable | 24,713 | 4,819 |
| Accrued expenses and other current liabilities | $(20,954)$ | $(7,021)$ |
| Accrued income taxes | $(1,336)$ | 2,706 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 41,743 | 41,736 |
| Cash provided (used) by investing activities: |  |  |
| Capital and intangible asset expenditures | $(13,027)$ | $(5,154)$ |
| Proceeds from the sale of property and equipment | 13 | 2 |
| Payments to acquire businesses, net of cash acquired | - | $(209,258)$ |
| Net cash used by investing activities | $(13,014)$ | $(214,410)$ |
| Cash provided (used) by financing activities: |  |  |
| Proceeds from line of credit | 131,200 | 100,200 |
| Repayment of line of credit | $(157,600)$ | $(129,100)$ |
| Repayment of long-term debt | $(5,700)$ | $(3,800)$ |
| Payment of financing costs | - | (14) |
| Proceeds from share issuances under share-based compensation plans | 3,580 | 3,127 |
| Payment of tax obligations resulting from cashless share award settlements | $(6,788)$ | (424) |
| Net cash used by financing activities | $(35,308)$ | $(30,011)$ |
| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents | $(6,579)$ | $(202,685)$ |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning balance | 23,087 | 225,800 |
| Cash and cash equivalents, ending balance | \$ 16,508 | \$ 23,115 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated condensed financial statements.

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# HELEN OF TROY LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES <br> NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) 

May 31, 2017

Note 1 - Basis of Presentation and Related Information

The accompanying consolidated condensed financial statements contain all adjustments (consisting of only normal recurring adjustments) necessary to present fairly our consolidated financial position as of May 31, 2017 and February 28, 2017, and the results of our consolidated operations for the interim periods presented. We follow the same accounting policies when preparing quarterly financial data as we use for preparing annual data. These statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the notes included in our latest annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 28, 2017, and our other reports on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC").

In this report and the accompanying consolidated condensed financial statements and notes, unless otherwise indicated or the context suggests otherwise, references to "the Company", "our Company", "Helen of Troy", "we", "us", or "our" refer t Helen of Troy Limited and its subsidiaries. References to "the FASB" refer to the Financial Accounting Standards Board. References to "GAAP" refer to U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. References to "ASU" refer to the codification of GAAP in the Accounting Standards Updates issued by the FASB. References to "ASC" refer to the codification of GAAP in the Accounting Standards Codification issued by the FASB.

We incorporated as Helen of Troy Corporation in Texas in 1968 and were reorganized as Helen of Troy Limited in Bermuda in 1994. We are a global designer, developer, importer, marketer, and distributor of an expanding portfolio of brand-name consumer products. We have four segments: Housewares, Health \& Home, Nutritional Supplements, and Beauty. Our Housewares segment provides a broad range of innovative consumer products for the home. Product offerings include food preparation tools and storage containers; cleaning, bath and garden tools and accessories; infant and toddler care products; and insulated beverage and food containers. The Health \& Home segment focuses on healthcare devices such as thermometers, humidifiers, blood pressure monitors, and heating pads; water filtration systems; and small home appliances such as portable heaters, fans, air purifiers, and insect control devices. Our Nutritional Supplements segment is a leading provider of premium branded vitamins, minerals and supplements, topical skin products and other health products sold directly to consumers. Our Beauty segment products include electric hair care, beauty care and wellness appliances; grooming tools and accessories; and liquid-, solid- and powder-based personal care and grooming products.

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Our business is seasonal due to different calendar events, holidays and seasonal weather patterns. Historically, our highest sales volume and operating income occur in our third fiscal quarter ending November 30th. We purchase our products from unaffiliated manufacturers, most of which are located in China, Mexico and the United States.

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in our consolidated condensed financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ materially from those estimates.

Our consolidated condensed financial statements are prepared in U.S. Dollars and include the accounts of Helen of Troy Limited and its wholly owned subsidiaries. All intercompany accounts and transactions are eliminated in consolidation.

We have reclassified, combined or separately disclosed certain amounts in the prior years' consolidated condensed financial statements and accompanying footnotes to conform to the current year's presentation.

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Note 2 - New Accounting Pronouncements

Not Yet Adopted

In October 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-16, "Accounting for Income Taxes: Intra-Entity Asset Transfers of Assets Other Than Inventory." ASU 2016-16 amends accounting guidance for intra-entity transfers of assets other than inventory to require the recognition of taxes when the transfer occurs. The amendment will be effective for us in fiscal 2019 with early adoption permitted as of the beginning of an annual reporting period for which financial statements have not been issued or made available for issuance. A modified retrospective approach will be required for transition to the new guidance, with a cumulative-effect adjustment consisting of the net impact from (1) the write-off of any unamortized expense previously deferred and (2) recognition of any previously unrecognized deferred tax assets, net of any valuation allowance. The new guidance does not include any specific new disclosure requirements. The new guidance may impact our effective tax rate, after adoption. We are currently evaluating the impact this guidance may have on our consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, "Leases." ASU 2016-02 will require lessees to recognize on their balance sheets "right-of-use assets" and corresponding lease liabilities, measured on a discounted basis over the lease term. Virtually all leases will be subject to this treatment except leases that meet the definition of a "short-term lease." For expense recognition, the dual model requiring leases to be classified as either operating or finance leases has been retained from the prior standard. Operating leases will result in straight-line expense while finance leases will result in a front-loaded expense pattern. Classification will use criteria very similar to those applied in current lease accounting, but without explicit bright lines. The new lease guidance will essentially eliminate off-balance sheet financing. The guidance is effective for us in fiscal 2021. The new standard must be adopted using a modified retrospective transition and requires the new guidance to be applied at the beginning of the earliest comparative period presented. We are currently evaluating the effect this new accounting guidance may have on our consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers", issued as a new Topic, ASC Topic 606. The new revenue recognition standard provides a five-step analysis of transactions to determine when and how revenue is recognized. The core principle of the guidance is that a company should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. We will be required to adopt the new standard in fiscal 2019 and can adopt either retrospectively or as a cumulative effect adjustment as of the date of adoption. We are currently evaluating the effect of this new accounting guidance. Therefore, we have not yet selected a transition method nor have we determined the impact that the new standard may have on our consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

Unless otherwise discussed above, we believe the impact of recently issued standards that are not yet effective will not have a material impact on our consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows upon adoption.

Adopted

In January 2017, the FASB, issued ASU 2017-04, "Intangibles-Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment." This guidance provides for a single-step quantitative test to identify and measure impairment, requiring an entity to recognize an impairment charge for the amount by which the goodwill carrying amount exceeds the reporting unit's fair value. We adopted the new guidance in the first quarter of fiscal 2018, applying it on a prospective basis. The application of this guidance has not had a material impact on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

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Note 3 - Commitments and Contingencies


#### Abstract

Thermometer Patent Litigation - In January 2016, a jury ruled against the Company in a case that involved claims by Exergen Corporation. The case involved the alleged patent infringement related to two forehead thermometer models sold by our subsidiary, Kaz USA, Inc., in the United States. As a result of the jury verdict, we recorded a charge in fiscal 2016, including legal fees and other related expenses, of $\$ 17.8$ million (before and after tax). In June 2016, certain post-trial motions were concluded with Exergen Corporation being awarded an additional $\$ 1.5$ million of pre-judgment compensation. We accrued this additional amount in May 2016. In July 2016, we appealed the judgment to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. The Company continues to vigorously pursue its appellate rights and defend against the underlying judgment.


Other Matters - We are involved in various other legal claims and proceedings in the normal course of operations. We believe the outcome of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations or liquidity.

Product Warranties - Most of our products are under warranty against defects in material and workmanship for periods ranging from two to five years. We estimate our warranty accrual using our historical experience and believe that this is the most reliable method by which we can estimate our warranty liability. The following table summarizes the activity in our accrual for the periods shown:

## ACCRUAL FOR WARRANTY RETURNS

|  | Three Months Ended |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| May 31, |  |  |
| (in thousands) | 2017 | 2016 |
| Beginning balance | $\$ 21,766$ | $\$ 20,622$ |
| Additions to the accrual | 12,239 | 14,523 |
| Reductions of the accrual - payments and credits issued | $(13,376)$ | $(16,164)$ |
| Ending balance | $\$ 20,629$ | $\$ 18,981$ |

Notes 7, 10, 12 and 13 to these consolidated condensed financial statements provide additional information regarding certain of our significant commitments and contingencies.

Note 4 - Earnings per Share

We compute basic earnings per share using the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. We compute diluted earnings per share using the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding plus the effect of dilutive securities. Dilutive securities at any given point in time may consist of outstanding options to purchase common stock and issued and contingently issuable unvested restricted share units (RSUs) and performance-based restricted share units (PSUs). Options for common stock are excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share if their effect is antidilutive. See Note 15 to these consolidated condensed financial statements for more information regarding share-based payment awards.

The following table presents our basic and diluted shares for the periods shown:

## WEIGHTED AVERAGE DILUTED SECURITIES

|  | Three Months |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Ended May 31, |  |
| (in thousands) | 2017 | 2016 |
| Weighted average shares outstanding, basic | 27,076 | 27,773 |
| Incremental shares from share-based payment arrangements | 169 | 374 |
| Weighted average shares outstanding, diluted | 27,245 | 28,147 |
|  |  |  |
| Dilutive securities, stock options | 253 | 425 |
| Dilutive securities, unvested or unsettled stock awards | 79 | 333 |
| Antidilutive securities, stock options and unvested or unsettled stock awards | 378 | 143 |

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Note 5 - Segment Information

The following tables present segment information for the periods shown:

## THREE MONTHS ENDED

| (in thousands) | Nutritional |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Housewares | Health \& |  |  |  |
| May 31, 2017 | (1) | Home | Supplements | Beauty | Total |
| Sales revenue, net | \$ 98,428 | \$ 150,266 | \$ 31,619 | \$ 79,292 | \$ 359,605 |
| Asset impairment charges | - | - | 32,000 | 4,000 | 36,000 |
| Operating income (loss) | 18,106 | 14,560 | $(34,599)$ | $(1,301)$ | $(3,234)$ |
| Capital and intangible asset expenditures | 2,491 | 1,113 | 8,945 | 478 | 13,027 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 1,427 | 4,138 | 2,456 | 2,776 | 10,797 |


|  |  |  | Nutritional |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Housewares | Health \& |  |  |  |
| May 31, 2016 | $(1)$ | Home | Supplements | Beauty | Total |
| Sales revenue, net | $\$ 84,603$ | $\$ 146,355$ | $\$ 35,940$ | $\$ 81,040$ | $\$ 347,938$ |
| Asset impairment charges | - | - | 5,000 | 2,400 | 7,400 |
| Operating income (loss) | 15,500 | 9,604 | $(5,272)$ | 3,066 | 22,898 |
| Capital and intangible asset |  |  |  |  |  |
| expenditures | 589 | 1,189 | 1,562 | 1,814 | 5,154 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 1,329 | 5,233 | 1,960 | 2,434 | 10,956 |

(1) The three months ended May 31, 2017 includes a full three months of operating results for Hydro Flask compared to two and a half months for the three months ended May 31, 2016.

We compute segment operating income based on net sales revenue, less cost of goods sold, SG\&A, and any asset impairment charges associated with the segment. The SG\&A used to compute each segment's operating income is directly associated with the segment, plus shared service and corporate overhead expenses that are allocable to the segment. We do not allocate nonoperating income and expense, including interest or income taxes, to operating segments.

Note 6 - Comprehensive Income (Loss)

The changes in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) by component and related tax effects for the fiscal 2018 year-to-date are as follows:

## CHANGES IN ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS) BY COMPONENT

(in thousands)
Balance at February 28, 2017
Other comprehensive income before reclassification
Amounts reclassified out of accumulated other comprehensive income
Tax effects
Other comprehensive income (loss)
Balance at May 31, 2017

Unrealized Holding Gains (Losses) on Cash Flow Hedges (1)
\$ 1,173
$(2,245)$
(302)

370
$(2,177)$
\$ $(1,004)$
(1) Represents activity associated with certain foreign currency contracts. Balances at May 31, 2017 and February 28, 2017 include net deferred tax benefits (expense) of $\$ 0.1$ and ( $\$ 0.2$ ) million, respectively.

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Note 7 - Supplemental Balance Sheet Information

## PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

|  | Estimated <br> Useful Lives <br> (Years) | May 31, <br> 2017 | February 28, |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| (in thousands) | - | $\$ 12,800$ | $\$ 12,800$ |
| Land | $3-$ | 40 | 109,046 |
| Building and improvements | $3-15$ | 84,083 | 8109,026 |
| Computer, furniture and other equipment | $1-$ | 10 | 31,876 |
| Tools, molds and other production equipment | - | 7,816 | 31,157 |
| Construction in progress |  | 7,391 |  |
| Property and equipment, gross |  | $(110,022)$ | 241,496 |
| Less accumulated depreciation |  | $\$ 135,599$ | $\$ 134,935$ |

## ACCRUED EXPENSES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES

|  | May 31, | February 28, |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| (in thousands) | 2017 | 2017 |
| Accrued compensation, benefits and payroll taxes | $\$ 20,158$ | $\$ 34,917$ |
| Accrued sales returns, discounts and allowances | 22,719 | 27,377 |
| Accrued warranty returns | 20,629 | 21,766 |
| Accrued advertising | 21,410 | 23,747 |
| Accrued legal fees and settlements | 17,347 | 16,908 |
| Accrued royalties | 9,107 | 9,553 |
| Accrued property, sales and other taxes | 7,443 | 6,564 |
| Accrued freight and duty | 4,407 | 3,454 |
| Accrued product liability | 1,805 | 2,141 |
| Derivative liabilities, current | 1,572 | 47 |
| Other | 7,174 | 6,726 |
| Total accrued expenses and other current liabilities | $\$ 133,771$ | $\$ 153,200$ |


|  | May 31, | February 28, |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| (in thousands) | 2017 | 2017 |
| Deferred compensation liability | $\$ 4,016$ | $\$ 6,560$ |
| Liability for uncertain tax positions | 5,975 | 6,611 |
| Other liabilities | 8,578 | 8,490 |
| Total other liabilities, noncurrent | $\$ 18,569$ | $\$ 21,661$ |

Note 8 - Goodwill and Intangible Assets

Impairments in the First Quarter of Fiscal 2018 - We continue to evaluate strategic alternatives for our Nutritional Supplements business, which could include a transaction to divest the business, investments in online interface and e-commerce platforms, restructuring or realignment programs, and consolidating our operations and functions. We believe that over the longer-term, these alternatives are designed to enhance revenue growth and profitability; however, over the short-term, certain of these alternatives may have a disproportionate impact on our income relative to the cost savings or generate other charges or losses. During the first quarter of 2018, we received information regarding the potential fair value of our Nutritional Supplements business that we concluded should be considered when determining if impairments of our long-lived assets, including goodwill, had occurred. Consequently, we performed interim impairment testing to determine whether our long-lived assets, including goodwill, associated with our Nutritional Supplements segment were impaired. As a result of our testing, we recorded non-cash asset impairment charges totaling $\$ 32.0$ million ( $\$ 19.6$ million after tax), consisting of $\$ 6.0$ million ( $\$ 3.7$ million after tax) to the segment's indefinite-lived trademarks, and $\$ 26.0$ million ( $\$ 15.9$ million after tax) to the segment's goodwill.

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The fair values used in our impairment tests were determined using a weighted average of various valuation methods including estimated future discounted cash flows and other market data. The valuation techniques utilized assumptions we believed to be appropriate in the circumstances; however, future circumstances attributable to a strategic change in the Nutritional Supplements segment, such as those mentioned in previous paragraph, could result in changes to those assumptions and other charges or losses relating to the segment may be recorded and could be material. For example, if we determine that a divestiture is the probable outcome of our strategic review, we expect to perform additional impairment tests with updated assumptions. We are unable to project what, if any, expense, charges or losses will be in future periods.

In our Beauty segment, we performed interim impairment testing in the first quarter of fiscal 2018 for a certain brand as a result of a revised financial projection. As a result of our testing, we recorded a non-cash impairment charge of $\$ 4.0$ million ( $\$ 3.5$ million after tax).

Impairment Testing in Fiscal 2017 - Our annual impairment testing for goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets had historically occurred in the first quarter of our fiscal year. In December 2016, we elected to change our annual impairment testing to the fourth quarter of our fiscal year. Accordingly, for fiscal 2017 we completed impairment tests during the first and fourth fiscal quarters. As a result of our testing of indefinite-lived trademarks in the fourth quarter, we recorded non-cash asset impairment charges of $\$ 5.0$ million ( $\$ 3.2$ million after tax). As a result of our testing of indefinite-lived trademarks in the first quarter, we recorded non-cash asset impairment charges of $\$ 7.4$ million ( $\$ 5.1$ million after tax). The charges in both quarters were related to certain brand assets and trademarks in our Beauty and Nutritional Supplements segments, which were written down to their estimated fair values, determined on the basis of our estimated future discounted cash flows using the relief from royalty valuation method.

Due to recent declines in revenue associated with our Nutritional Supplements segment, our annual impairment testing of goodwill and other intangible assets for the segment reflected a fair value that was in excess of the carrying value by a smaller margin than occurred in previous impairment tests. In addition, the fair value of the indefinite-lived brand asset was determined to be less than the carrying value and impairments of $\$ 9.5$ million were recorded during fiscal 2017. The fair values used for our impairment testing in fiscal 2017 were estimated using a weighted average approach, which heavily weighted a valuation derived from a discounted cash flow model based on the Company's estimates of future cash flows and based on management's intentions with respect to the business.

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The following table summarizes the carrying amounts and associated accumulated amortization for all intangible assets by operating segment as of the end of the periods shown:

GOODWILL AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS


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Total
Nutritional

| Supplements | 198,809 | $(26,000)$ | $(18,553)$ | 154,256 | 196,809 | - | $(16,715)$ | 18 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Beauty: <br> Goodwill | 81,841 | $(46,490)$ | - | 35,351 | 81,841 | $(46,490)$ | - |  |
| Trademarks - <br> indefinite | 41,854 | - | - | 41,854 | 45,854 | - | - | 45 |
| Trademarks - <br> finite | 150 | - | $(93)$ | 57 | 150 | - | $(92)$ | 58 |
| Licenses - <br> indefinite | 10,300 | - | - | 10,300 | 10,300 | - | - | 10 |
| Licenses - <br> finite | 13,696 | - | $(11,928)$ | 1,768 | 13,696 | - | $(11,849)$ | 1,8 |
| Other <br> intangibles - <br> finite <br> Total Beauty <br> Total <br> goodwill and <br> intangible <br> assets | 46,402 | - | $(41,262)$ | 5,140 | 46,402 | - | $(39,929)$ | 6,4 |

The following table summarizes the amortization expense attributable to intangible assets recorded in SG\&A in the consolidated condensed statements of income for the periods shown below, as well as our estimated amortization expense for fiscal 2018 through 2023.

## AMORTIZATION OF INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Aggregate Amortization Expense (in thousands)
For the three months ended
May 31, 2017
\$ 6,685
May 31, 2016
\$ 7,204

Estimated Amortization Expense (in thousands)
Fiscal 2018 \$ 25,965
Fiscal 2019 \$ 21,025
Fiscal 2020 \$ 19,910
Fiscal 2021 \$ 17,349
Fiscal 2022 \$ 6,841
Fiscal 2023 \$ 4,700

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Note 9 - Acquisitions

Hydro Flask Acquisition - On March 18, 2016, we completed the acquisition of all membership units of Steel Technology, LLC, doing business as Hydro Flask. Hydro Flask is a leading designer, distributor and marketer of high performance insulated stainless steel food and beverage containers for active lifestyles. The aggregate purchase price for the transaction was approximately $\$ 209.3$ million, net of cash acquired. Significant assets acquired include receivables, inventory, prepaid expenses, property and equipment, trade names, technology assets, customer relationships, and goodwill. Acquisition-related expenses, incurred during fiscal 2016, were approximately $\$ 0.7$ million (before and after tax).

We accounted for the acquisition as the purchase of a business and recorded the excess purchase price as goodwill, which is not expected to be deductible for income tax purposes. We completed our analysis of the economic lives of all the assets acquired and determined the appropriate fair values of the acquired assets. We assigned $\$ 59.0$ million to trade names with indefinite economic lives. We assigned $\$ 10.3$ million to technology assets and $\$ 14.2$ million to customer relationships and are amortizing these assets over expected lives of 10 and 24 years, respectively. For technology assets, we considered the average life cycle of the underlying products, which range from $7-15$ years, and the overall average life of the associated patent portfolio. For the customer relationships, we used historical attrition rates to assign an expected life.

The following schedule presents the net assets of Hydro Flask recorded at the acquisition date, excluding cash acquired:

HYDRO FLASK - NET ASSETS RECORDED UPON ACQUISITION AT MARCH 18, 2016
(in thousands)

Assets:
Receivables \$7,955
Inventory 6,243
Prepaid expenses and other current assets 336
Property and equipment 1,108
Goodwill 116,053
Trade names - indefinite $\quad 59,000$
Technology assets - definite $\quad 10,300$
Customer relationships - definite 14,200
Subtotal - assets 215,195
Liabilities:
Accounts payable ..... 2,275
Accrued expenses ..... 3,662
Subtotal - liabilities ..... 5,937
Net assets recorded ..... \$ 209,258

The fair values of the above assets acquired and liabilities assumed were estimated by applying income and market approaches. Key assumptions include various discount rates based upon a $12.3 \%$ weighted average cost of capital; royalty rates used in the determination of trade names and technology asset values of $6 \%$ and $2 \%$, respectively; and a customer attrition rate used in the determination of customer relationship values of approximately $4 \%$ per year.

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## Note 10 - Long-Term Debt

We have a credit agreement (the "Credit Agreement") with Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, and other lenders that provided for an unsecured total revolving commitment of $\$ 1$ billion as of May 31, 2017. The commitment under the Credit Agreement terminates on December 7, 2021. Borrowings accrue interest under one of two alternative methods as described in the Credit Agreement. With each borrowing against our credit line, we can elect the interest rate method based on our funding needs at the time. We also incur loan commitment fees and letter of credit fees under the Credit Agreement. Outstanding letters of credit reduce the borrowing availability under the Credit Agreement on a dollar-for-dollar basis. As of May 31, 2017, the outstanding revolving loan principal balance was $\$ 414.3$ million and the face amount of outstanding letters of credit was $\$ 1.5$ million. For the fiscal quarter ended May 31, 2017, borrowings under the Credit Agreement incurred interest charges at rates ranging from 2.3\% to 4.5\%. For the fiscal quarter ended May 31, 2016, borrowings under the Credit Agreement incurred interest charges at rates ranging from $1.9 \%$ to $4.0 \%$. As of May 31, 2017, the amount available for borrowings under the Credit Agreement was $\$ 584.2$ million. Covenants in our debt agreements limit the amount of total indebtedness we can incur. As of May 31,2017 , these covenants effectively limited our ability to incur more than $\$ 309.8$ million of additional debt from all sources, including our Credit Agreement.

The following table summarizes our long-term debt as of the end of the periods shown:

## LONG-TERM DEBT



| Credit Agreement | $01 / 15$ | Floating | $12 / 21$ | 409,800 | 435,949 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Total long-term debt |  |  | 453,841 | 485,615 |  |
| Less current maturities of long-term debt |  |  | $(20,601)$ | $(24,404)$ |  |
| Long-term debt, excluding current <br> maturities |  |  | $\$ 433,240$ | $\$ 461,211$ |  |

(1) A $\$ 5.7$ million principal payment was made on March 1, 2017. The remaining principal balance of the MBFC loan is payable as follows: $\$ 1.9$ million annually on March 1, 2018 through 2022; and $\$ 14.8$ million on March 1, 2023. Any remaining outstanding principal and interest is due upon maturity on March 1, 2023.

The fair market value of the fixed rate debt at May 31, 2017, computed using a discounted cash flow analysis and comparable market rates was $\$ 20.1$ million, compared to the $\$ 19.8$ million book value. Our other long-term debt has floating interest rates, and its book value approximates its fair value at May 31, 2017.

All of our debt is unconditionally guaranteed, on a joint and several basis, by the Company and certain of its subsidiaries. Our debt agreements require the maintenance of certain financial covenants, including maximum leverage ratios, minimum interest coverage ratios and minimum consolidated net worth levels (as each of these terms is defined in the various agreements). Our debt agreements also contain other customary covenants. We were in compliance with the terms of these agreements as of May 31, 2017.

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Note 11 - Income Taxes

Due to the Company's organization in Bermuda and the ownership structure of its foreign subsidiaries, many of which are not owned directly or indirectly by a U.S. parent company, an immaterial amount of our foreign income is subject to U.S. taxation on a permanent basis under current law. Additionally, our intellectual property is largely owned by foreign subsidiaries, resulting in proportionally higher earnings in jurisdictions with lower statutory tax rates, which decreases our overall effective tax rate.

Income taxes for the three months ended May 31, 2017 provided a benefit of $\$ 12.8$ million, compared to tax expense of $\$ 0.4$ million for the same period last year. Income taxes for the three months ended May 31, 2017 includes a $\$ 12.9$ million benefit associated with impairment charges, $\$ 2.5$ million benefit from the recognition of excess tax benefits from share-based compensation settlements and exercises and a $\$ 0.6$ million benefit from the lapse of the statute of limitations related to an uncertain tax position. Income taxes for the three months ended May 31, 2016 includes a $\$ 1.1$ million tax benefit from the recognition of excess tax benefits from share-based compensation settlements and exercises and a $\$ 1.4$ million benefit from the resolution of an uncertain tax position.

Note 12 - Fair Value

We classify our various assets and liabilities recorded or reported at fair value under a hierarchy prescribed by GAAP that prioritizes inputs to fair value measurement techniques into three broad levels:

- Level 1: Observable inputs such as quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Level 2: Observable inputs other than quoted prices that are directly or indirectly observable for the asset or liability, including quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for similar or identical assets or liabilities in markets that are not active; and model-derived valuations whose inputs are observable or whose significant value drivers are observable; and

[^0]Assets and liabilities subject to classification are classified upon acquisition. When circumstances dictate the transfer of an asset or liability to a different level, our policy is to recognize the transfer at the beginning of the reporting period in which the event resulting in the transfer occurred.

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The following tables present the fair value of our financial assets and liabilities measured on a recurring basis as of the end of the periods shown:

## FAIR VALUES OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

|  | Fair Values at <br> May 31, 2017 <br> (Level 2) (1) |
| :--- | :--- |
| (in thousands) |  |
| Assets: |  |
| Money market accounts | $\$ 3,517$ |
| Foreign currency contracts | 716 |
| Total assets | $\$ 4,233$ |
| Liabilities: |  |
| Fixed rate debt (2) | $\$ 20,127$ |
| Floating rate debt | 434,006 |
| Foreign currency contracts | 1,692 |
| Total liabilities | $\$ 455,825$ |
|  |  |
|  | Fair Values at |
|  | February 28, |
|  | 2017 |
| (Level 2) (1) |  |

(1) Our financial assets and liabilities are classified as Level 2 because their valuation is dependent on observable inputs and other quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities, or model-derived valuations whose significant value drivers are observable.
(2) Debt values are reported at estimated fair value in these tables, but are recorded in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets at the undiscounted value of remaining principal payments due.

The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, receivables and accounts payable approximate fair value because of the short maturity of these items. Money market accounts are included in cash and cash equivalents in the accompanying consolidated condensed balance sheets and are classified as Level 2 items.

We use derivatives for hedging purposes and our derivatives are primarily foreign currency contracts and cross-currency debt swaps. See Notes 6, 7 and 13 to these consolidated condensed financial statements for more information on our hedging activities.

We classify our fixed and floating rate debt as Level 2 items because the estimation of the fair market value of these financial assets requires the use of a discount rate based upon current market rates of interest for obligations with comparable remaining terms. Such comparable rates are considered significant other observable market inputs. The fair market value of the fixed rate debt was computed using a discounted cash flow analysis and discount rates of $1.3 \%$ at May 31, 2017 and $1.8 \%$ at February 28, 2017. All other long-term debt has floating interest rates, and its book value approximates its fair value as of the reporting date.

Our other non-financial assets include goodwill and other intangible assets, which we classify as Level 3 items. These assets are measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis as part of our impairment testing. Note 8 to these

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consolidated condensed financial statements contains additional information regarding impairment testing and related intangible asset impairments.

Note 13 - Financial Instruments and Risk Management

Foreign Currency Risk - Our functional currency is the U.S. Dollar. By operating internationally, we are subject to foreign currency risk from transactions denominated in currencies other than the U.S. Dollar ("foreign currencies"). Such transactions include sales, certain inventory purchases and operating expenses. As a result of such transactions, portions of our cash, trade accounts receivable and trade accounts payable are denominated in foreign currencies. During the three months ended May 31, 2017, approximately $12 \%$ of our net sales revenue was in foreign currencies. During the three months ended May 31, 2016, approximately $14 \%$ of our net sales revenue was in foreign currencies. These sales were primarily denominated in British Pounds, Euros, Mexican Pesos and Canadian Dollars. We make most of our inventory purchases from the Far East and primarily use the U.S. Dollar for such purchases. In our consolidated condensed statements of income, exchange gains and losses resulting from the remeasurement of foreign taxes receivable, taxes payable, deferred tax assets, and deferred tax liabilities, are recognized in their respective income tax lines, and all other foreign exchange gains and losses from remeasurement of the balance sheet are recognized in SG\&A. For the three months ended May 31, 2017, we recorded net foreign exchange gains (losses) from remeasurement, including the impact of foreign currency hedges and cross-currency debt swaps, of $\$ 0.6$ million in SG\&A, and (\$0.1) million in income tax expense. For the three months ended May 31, 2016, we recorded net foreign exchange gains (losses) from remeasurement, including the impact of foreign currency hedges and cross-currency debt swaps, of $\$ 0.2$ million in SG\&A.

We hedge against certain foreign currency exchange rate risk by using a series of forward contracts designated as cash flow hedges and mark-to-market derivatives to protect against the foreign currency exchange risk inherent in our forecasted transactions denominated in currencies other than the U.S. Dollar. We do not enter into any forward exchange contracts or similar instruments for trading or other speculative purposes.

Interest Rate Risk - Interest on our outstanding debt as of May 31, 2017 is both floating and fixed. Fixed rates are in place on $\$ 20$ million of Senior Notes at $3.9 \%$ and floating rates are in place on the balance of all other debt outstanding, which totaled $\$ 438.6$ million as of May 31, 2017. If short-term interest rates increase, we will incur higher interest rates on any future outstanding balances of floating rate debt.

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The following table summarizes the fair values of our derivative instruments as of the end of the periods shown:

## FAIR VALUES OF DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS

May 31, 2017

| (in thousands) |  | Final <br> Settlement | Notional | Prepaid <br> Expenses and Other Current | Other | Accrued Expenses and Other Current |  | Other Liabilities, |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Derivatives designated as hedging instruments | Hedge Type | Date | Amount | Assets | Assets | Liabilities |  | Non-current |
| Foreign currency contracts - sell Euro | Cash flow | 5/2018 | € 29,750 | \$ |  | \$ 995 |  | \$ |
| Foreign currency contracts - sell |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Canadian Dollars | Cash flow | 6/2018 | \$ 20,750 | 425 | 15 | - |  | - |
| Foreign currency contracts - sell |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pounds | Cash flow | 2/2018 | £ 15,250 | - | - | 292 |  | - |
| Foreign currency contracts - sell |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mexican Pesos | Cash flow | 2/2018 | \$ 50,000 | - | - | 285 |  | - |
| Subtotal |  |  |  | 425 | 15 | 1,572 |  | - |
| Derivatives not designated under hedge accounting |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Foreign currency contracts -cross-currency debt swaps - Euro | (1) | 4/2020 | \$ 5,280 | - | 276 | - |  | - |
| Foreign currency contracts -cross-currency debt |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| swaps - Pound | (1) | 4/2020 | \$ 6,395 | - | - | - |  | 120 |
| Subtotal |  |  |  | - | 276 | - |  | 120 |
| Total fair value |  |  |  | \$ 425 | \$ 291 | \$ 1,572 |  | \$ 120 |

February 28, 2017

(1) These are foreign currency contracts for which we have not elected hedge accounting. We refer to them as "cross-currency debt swaps". They in effect adjust the currency denomination of a portion of our outstanding debt to the Euro and British Pound for the notional amounts reported, creating an economic hedge against currency movements.

The following table summarizes the pre-tax effect of derivative instruments for the periods shown:

## PRE-TAX EFFECT OF DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS

| $l$ | Three Months Ended May 31, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Gain / (Loss) Reclassified |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Currency contracts cash flow hedges Cross-currency debt swaps - principal Total

| - | - | - | - | SG\&A | $(549)$ | 52 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\$(2,245)$ | $\$(1,019)$ | $\$ 302$ | $\$(158)$ |  | $\$(549)$ | $\$ 52$ |

We expect pre-tax net losses of $\$ 1.1$ million associated with foreign currency contracts currently reported in accumulated other comprehensive income, to be reclassified into income over the next twelve months. The amount ultimately realized, however, will differ as exchange rates change and the underlying contracts settle.

Counterparty Credit Risk - Financial instruments, including foreign currency contracts and cross currency debt swaps, expose us to counterparty credit risk for nonperformance. We manage our exposure to counterparty credit risk by only dealing with counterparties who are substantial international financial institutions with significant experience using such derivative instruments. Although our theoretical credit risk is the replacement cost at the then-estimated fair value of these instruments, we believe that the risk of incurring credit losses is remote.

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Note 14 - Repurchase of Helen of Troy Common Stock

On May 10, 2017, our Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of up to $\$ 400$ million of our outstanding common stock. The new authorization is effective for a period of three years and replaced our existing repurchase authorization, of which approximately $\$ 82$ million remained. These repurchases may include open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions, block trades, accelerated stock repurchase transactions, or any combination of such methods. The number of shares purchased and the timing of the purchases will depend on a number of factors, including share price, trading volume and general market conditions, working capital requirements, general business conditions, financial conditions, any applicable contractual limitations, and other factors, including alternative investment opportunities. As of May 31, 2017, our repurchase authorization allowed for the purchase of $\$ 394.3$ million of common stock.

Our current equity-based compensation plans include provisions that allow for the "net exercise" of share settled awards by all plan participants. In a net exercise, any required payroll taxes, federal withholding taxes and exercise price of the shares due from the option holder can be paid for by having the option holder tender back to the Company a number of shares at fair value equal to the amounts due. Net exercises are accounted for as a purchase and retirement of shares.

The following table summarizes our share repurchase activity for the periods shown:

## SHARE REPURCHASES

|  | Three Months Ended |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
|  | May 31, |  |
| (in thousands, except per share data) | 2017 | 2016 |
| Common stock received in connection with share-based compensation: |  |  |
| Number of shares | 70,707 | 4,606 |
| Aggregate value of shares (in thousands) | $\$ 6,788$ | $\$ 442$ |
| Average price per share | $\$ 95.99$ | $\$ 96.03$ |

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Note 15 - Share-Based Compensation Plans

We have equity awards outstanding under several share-based compensation plans. During the three months ended May 31, 2017, we had the following share-based compensation activity:

- We issued 1,424 restricted shares to non-employee Board members with a total grant date fair value of $\$ 0.1$ million and an average share price of $\$ 98.45$.
- We granted time-vested restricted stock units ("RSUs") that may be settled for 69,807 shares of common stock with average fair values at the grant dates of $\$ 95.87$ per unit. We also granted performance-based restricted stock units ("PSUs") for 65,010 shares of common stock, with an average fair value of $\$ 96.80$ per unit.
- Employee RSUs for 33,266 shares vested and settled with a total grant date fair value of $\$ 3.3$ million, and an average share price of $\$ 98.39$. Employee PSUs for 149,884 shares vested and settled with a total grant date fair value of $\$ 14.3$ million, and an average share price of $\$ 95.55$.
- Employees exercised stock options to purchase 76,593 shares of common stock.

We recorded the following share-based compensation expense in SG\&A for the periods shown below:

## SHARE-BASED PAYMENT EXPENSE

\left.|  | Three Months Ended |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| May 31, |  |  |$\right] 2016$

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Earnings per share impact of share-based payment expense:
Basic \$ 0.10 \$ 0.15
Diluted \$ 0.10 \$ 0.15

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

This management's discussion and analysis ("MD\&A") contains a number of forward-looking statements, all of which are based on current expectations. Actual results may differ materially due to a number of factors, including those discussed in Part I, Item 3."Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk" and "Information Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" in this report and "Risk Factors" in the Company's most recent annual report on Form 10-K and its other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). This discussion should be read in conjunction with our consolidated condensed financial statements included under Part I, Item 1. of this report.

Throughout MD\&A, we refer to certain measures used by management to evaluate financial performance. We also may refer to a number of financial measures that are not defined under GAAP, but have corresponding GAAP-based measures. Where non-GAAP measures appear, we provide tables reconciling these to their corresponding GAAP-based measures and refer to a discussion of their use. We believe these measures provide investors with important information that is useful in understanding our business results and trends.

## OVERVIEW

We incorporated as Helen of Troy Corporation in Texas in 1968 and were reorganized as Helen of Troy Limited in Bermuda in 1994. We are a leading global consumer products company offering creative products and solutions for our customers through a diversified portfolio of well-recognized and widely-trusted brands. We have built leading market positions through new product innovation, product quality and competitive pricing. We operate in four segments consisting of Housewares, Health \& Home, Nutritional Supplements, and Beauty. In fiscal 2015, we launched a transformational strategy to improve the performance of our business segments and strengthen our shared service capabilities. We believe we continue to make progress on achieving our strategic objectives.

## Significant Trends Impacting the Business

## Nutritional Supplements Business

Due to recent declines in revenue associated with our Nutritional Supplements segment, our annual impairment testing of goodwill and other intangible assets for the segment reflected a fair value that was in excess of the carrying value of the segment by a smaller margin than occurred in previous impairment tests. In addition, the fair value of the
indefinite lived brand asset was determined to be less than the carrying value and impairments of $\$ 9.5$ million were recorded during fiscal 2017. The fair values used for our impairment testing in fiscal 2017 were estimated using a weighted average approach, which heavily weighted a valuation derived from a discounted cash flow model based on the Company's estimates of future cash flows and based on management's intentions with respect to the business.

We continue to evaluate strategic alternatives for our Nutritional Supplements business, which could include a transaction to divest the business, investments in online interface and e-commerce platforms, restructuring or realignment programs, and consolidating our operations and functions. We believe that over the longer-term, these alternatives are designed to enhance revenue growth and profitability; however, over the transitional near-term, certain of these alternatives may have a disproportionate impact on our income relative to the cost savings or generate other charges or losses. During the first quarter of 2018, we received information regarding the potential fair value of our Nutritional Supplements business that we concluded should be considered when determining if impairments of our long-lived assets, including goodwill, had occurred. Consequently, we performed interim impairment testing to determine whether our long-lived assets, including goodwill, associated with our Nutritional Supplements segment were impaired. As a result of our testing, we recorded non-cash asset impairment charges totaling $\$ 32.0$ million ( $\$ 19.6$ million after tax), consisting of $\$ 6.0$ million ( $\$ 3.7$ million after tax) to the segment's indefinite-lived trademarks, and $\$ 26.0$ million ( $\$ 15.9$ million after tax) to the segment's goodwill.

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The fair values used in our impairment tests were determined using a weighted average of various valuation methods including estimated future discounted cash flows and using other market data. The valuation techniques utilized assumptions we believed to be appropriate in the circumstances; however, future circumstances attributable to a strategic change in the Nutritional Supplements segment, such as those mentioned in previous paragraph, could result in changes to those assumptions and other charges or losses relating to the segment may be recorded and could be material. For example, if we determine that a divestiture is the probable outcome of our strategic review, we expect to perform additional impairment tests with updated assumptions. We are unable to project what, if any, expense, charges or losses will be in future periods.

## Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Fluctuations

Due to the nature of our operations, we have exposure to the impact of fluctuations in exchange rates from transactions that are denominated in a currency other than our reporting currency (the U.S. Dollar). The most significant currencies affecting our operating results are the British Pound, Euro, Canadian Dollar, and Mexican Peso. For the three months ended May 31, 2017, the impact of net foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations negatively impacted our consolidated U.S. dollar reported net sales revenue by approximately $\$ 2.2$ million. Over the last three fiscal years, these currencies have been generally weakening against the U.S. Dollar. Although the foreign currencies referred to above generally strengthened toward the end of the fiscal quarter, weighted average exchange rates for the three months ended May 31, 2017 were still unfavorable compared to the same period last year.

## Consumer Spending and Changes in Shopping Preferences

Our business depends upon discretionary consumer demand for most of our products and primarily operates within mature and highly developed consumer markets. The principal driver of our operating performance is the strength of the U.S. retail economy, as approximately $81 \%, 80 \%$ and $79 \%$ of our consolidated net sales were from U.S. shipments in fiscal 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively. Additionally, the shift in consumer shopping preferences to online or multichannel shopping experiences has shifted the concentration of our sales. For fiscal 2017, 2016 and 2015, our net sales to customers fulfilling end-consumer online orders and online sales directly to consumers comprised approximately $13 \%, 10 \%$ and $9 \%$, respectively, of our total consolidated net sales revenue for each fiscal year and grew over 30\% in fiscal 2017. For the first quarter of fiscal 2018, our net sales to customers fulfilling end-consumer online orders and online sales directly to consumers comprised approximately $13.6 \%$ of our total consolidated net sales revenue and grew approximately $30 \%$ compared to the same period last year. With the continued growth in online sales across the retail landscape, many brick and mortar retailers are aggressively looking for ways to improve their customer delivery capabilities to be able to meet customer expectations. As a result, it will become increasingly important for us to leverage our distribution capabilities in order to meet the changing demands of our customers, as well as to increase our online capabilities to support our direct-to-consumer sales channels and online channel sales by our retail customers.

Variability of the Cough/Cold/Flu Season

Sales in several of our Health \& Home segment categories are highly correlated to the severity of winter weather and cough/cold/flu incidence. In the U.S., the cough/cold/flu season historically runs from November through March, with peak activity normally in January to March. For the 2016-2017 season, fall and winter season weather was mild and reports of cough/cold/flu incidence were below the 2015-2016 season, which was a below average season. We expect that the weakness in the most recent cough/cold/flu season will have an unfavorable impact on initial replenishment of affected categories during fiscal 2018, due to high retail inventory levels.

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First Quarter Fiscal 2018 Financial Results

- Consolidated net sales revenue increased $3.4 \%$, or $\$ 11.7$ million, to $\$ 359.6$ million for the three months ended May 31, 2017, compared to $\$ 347.9$ million for the same period last year.
- Consolidated operating loss was $\$ 3.2$ million for the three months ended May 31, 2017, compared to operating income of $\$ 22.9$ million in the same period last year. Consolidated operating loss for the three months ended May 31, 2017 includes pre-tax non-cash impairment charges of $\$ 36.0$ million, compared to $\$ 7.4$ million in the same period last year.
- Consolidated adjusted operating income decreased $4.4 \%$, or $\$ 1.9$ million, to $\$ 42.6$ million for the three months ended May 31, 2017, compared to $\$ 44.6$ million in the same period last year. Consolidated adjusted operating margin decreased 0.9 percentage points to $11.9 \%$ of consolidated net sales revenue in the three months ended May 31,2017 , compared to $12.8 \%$ in the same period last year.
- Net income was $\$ 5.9$ million for the three months ended May 31, 2017, compared to $\$ 19.0$ million for the same period last year. Diluted EPS decreased to $\$ 0.22$ in the three months ended May 31, 2017, compared to $\$ 0.68$ in the same period last year.
- Adjusted income increased $4.3 \%$ to $\$ 37.4$ million in the three months ended May 31, 2017, compared to $\$ 35.9$ million in the same period last year. Adjusted diluted EPS increased $7.9 \%$ to $\$ 1.37$ in the three months ended May 31,2017 , compared to $\$ 1.27$ in the same period last year.
Adjusted operating income, adjusted operating margin, adjusted income, and adjusted diluted EPS as discussed above and on the pages that follow are non GAAP financial measures as contemplated by SEC Regulation G, Rule 100. These measures are discussed further, and reconciled to their applicable GAAP based measures, on pages 25 through 29.

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## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, our selected operating data, in U.S. Dollars, as a year-over-year percentage change and as a percentage of net sales revenue. We will refer to this table in the discussion of results of operations which follows:

(1) The three months ended May 31, 2017 includes approximately one-half month of incremental operating results from Hydro Flask, which was acquired on March 18, 2016.

[^1]Comparison of First Quarter Fiscal 2018 to First Quarter Fiscal 2017

The following table summarizes the impact that core business, foreign exchange and acquisitions had on our net sales revenue by segment:

| (in thousands) | Three Months Ended May 31, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Housewares |  | Health \& |  | Nutritional | Beauty |  | Total |  |  |
|  | (1) |  | Home |  | Supplements |  |  |  |  |  |
| First quarter fiscal 2017 | 84,603 |  | 146,355 |  | 35,940 |  | 81,040 |  | 347,938 |  |
| sales revenues, net | \$ | \$ |  | \$ |  | \$ |  | \$ |  |  |
| Core business | 8,165 |  | 5,017 |  | $(4,321)$ |  | $(1,117)$ |  | 7,744 |  |
| Impact of foreign currency | (488) |  | $(1,106)$ |  | - |  | (631) |  | $(2,225)$ |  |
| Acquisitions | 6,148 |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | 6,148 |  |
| Change in sales revenue, net | 13,825 |  | 3,911 |  | $(4,321)$ |  | $(1,748)$ |  | 11,667 |  |
| First quarter fiscal 2018 | 98,428 |  | 150,266 |  | 31,619 |  | 79,292 |  | 359,605 |  |
| sales revenues, net | \$ |  | \$ |  | \$ |  | \$ |  | \$ |  |
| Total net sales revenue growth | 16.3 | \% | 2.7 | \% | (12.0) | \% | (2.2) | \% | 3.4 | \% |
| Core business | 9.7 | \% | 3.4 | \% | (12.0) | \% | (1.4) | \% | 2.2 | \% |
| Impact of foreign currency | (0.6) | \% | (0.8) | \% | 0.0 | \% | (0.8) | \% | (0.6) | \% |
| Acquisitions | 7.3 | \% | 0.0 | \% | 0.0 | \% | 0.0 | \% | 1.8 | \% |

(1) Includes approximately one-half month of incremental operating results from Hydro Flask, which was acquired on March 18, 2016.

In the above table, core business refers to our net sales revenue associated with product lines or brands after the first twelve months from the date the product line or brand is acquired, excluding the impact that foreign currency had on reported net sales. Net sales revenue from internally developed brands or product lines is considered core business activity.

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## Consolidated Net Sales Revenue

Consolidated net sales revenue increased $\$ 11.7$ million, or $3.4 \%$, to $\$ 359.6$ million for the three months ended May 31,2017 , compared to $\$ 347.9$ million for the same period last year. The change was primarily driven by:

- a core business increase of $\$ 7.7$ million, or $2.2 \%$, primarily due to:
o new product introductions, strong online customer growth, incremental distribution and growth in international sales, partially offset by:
o a decline in the Nutritional Supplements segment of $\$ 4.3$ million, or $12.0 \%$;
o declines in our personal care category sales;
o the impact of lower store traffic and soft consumer spending at traditional brick and mortar retail; and
- growth from acquisitions of $\$ 6.1$ million, or $1.8 \%$.

These factors were partially offset by the unfavorable impact from foreign currency fluctuations of approximately $\$ 2.2$ million, or $0.6 \%$.

## Segment Net Sales Revenue

## Housewares

Net sales revenue in the Housewares segment increased $\$ 13.8$ million, or $16.3 \%$, to $\$ 98.4$ million for the three months ended May 31, 2017, compared to $\$ 84.6$ million for same period last year. The change was primarily due to:

[^2]- growth from acquisitions of $\$ 6.1$ million, or $7.3 \%$, representing an incremental half month of operating results from Hydro Flask, compared to the same period last year.
These factors were partially offset by:
- lower promotional programs in the club channel;
- a reduction in the kitchen electrics product line offerings; and
- the unfavorable impact of net foreign currency fluctuations of approximately $\$ 0.5$ million, or $0.6 \%$. Health \& Home

Net sales revenue in the Health \& Home segment increased $\$ 3.9$ million, or $2.7 \%$, to $\$ 150.3$ million for the three months ended May 31, 2017, compared to $\$ 146.4$ million for the same period last year. The change was primarily driven by a core business increase of $\$ 5.0$ million, or $3.4 \%$, primarily due to incremental distribution and shelf space gains with existing customers, as well as growth in international sales, partially offset by lower sales in certain categories due to unseasonal weather and the unfavorable impact of net foreign currency fluctuations of approximately $\$ 1.1$ million, or $0.8 \%$.

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## Nutritional Supplements

Net sales revenue in the Nutritional Supplements segment decreased $\$ 4.3$ million, or $12.0 \%$, to $\$ 31.6$ million for the three months ended May 31, 2017, compared to $\$ 35.9$ million for the same period last year. The change was primarily driven by a decline in auto-delivery revenue resulting primarily from the transition to new order management and customer relationship management systems; partially offset by increases in direct mail and third-party retail sales. The segment continues to implement a multi-year strategic transition from offline to online channels.

## Beauty

Net sales revenue in the Beauty segment decreased $\$ 1.7$ million, or $2.2 \%$, to $\$ 79.3$ million for the three months ended May 31,2017 , compared to $\$ 81.0$ million for the same period last year. The change was primarily driven by:

- a core business decline of $\$ 1.1$ million, or $1.4 \%$, primarily from declines in the personal care category due to competitive conditions; and
- the unfavorable impact of net foreign currency fluctuations of approximately $\$ 0.6$ million, or $0.8 \%$.

These factors were partially offset by solid growth in professional appliance sales, particularly to online retail customers.

## Gross Profit Margin

Consolidated gross profit as a percentage of net sales revenue for the three months ended May 31, 2017 decreased 0.3 percentage points to $43.5 \%$, compared to $43.8 \%$ for the same period last year. The decrease in consolidated gross profit margin was primarily due to:

- higher overall promotional spending with customers; and
- the unfavorable impact of net foreign currency fluctuations.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses ("SG\&A")
Our consolidated SG\&A ratio, defined as consolidated SG\&A expense as a percent of consolidated net sales, decreased 0.7 percentage points to $34.4 \%$ for the three months ended May 31, 2017, compared to $35.1 \%$ for the same period last year. The decrease in consolidated SG\&A ratio was primarily due to:

- the favorable comparative impact of a $\$ 1.5$ million patent litigation charge in the same period last year;
- lower share-based compensation expense;
- lower license royalty expense; and
- improved distribution and logistics efficiency and lower outbound freight expense.

These factors were partially offset by higher overall marketing, advertising and new product development expense in support of our Leadership Brands.

## Asset Impairment Charges

As previously discussed under the heading "Significant Trends Impacting the Business", we performed interim impairment testing in the first quarter of fiscal 2018 in connection with our continuing evaluation of strategic alternatives for the Nutritional Supplements segment. As a result of our testing, we recorded non-cash asset impairment charges totaling $\$ 32.0$ million ( $\$ 19.6$ million after tax), consisting of $\$ 6.0$ million ( $\$ 3.7$ million after tax) to the segment's indefinite-lived trademarks, and $\$ 26.0$ million ( $\$ 15.9$ million after tax) to the segment's goodwill.

We also performed interim impairment testing in the first quarter of fiscal 2018 for a certain brand in our Beauty segment as a result of a revised financial projection. As a result of our testing, we recorded a non-cash impairment charge of $\$ 4.0$ million ( $\$ 3.5$ million after tax).

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Operating Income, Operating Margin, Adjusted Operating Income (non-GAAP), and Adjusted Operating Margin (non-GAAP) by Segment

In order to provide a better understanding of the comparative impact of certain items on operating income, the tables that follow report the comparative before tax impact of non cash asset impairment charges, patent litigation charges, amortization of intangible assets, and non cash share based compensation, as applicable, on operating income and operating margin for each segment and in total for the periods covered below.

Three Months Ended May 31, 2017

| (In thousands) | Housewares (5) |  | Health \& Home |  |  | Nutritional Supplements |  |  | Beauty |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operating income (loss), as reported (GAAP) | \$ 18,106 | 18.4 \% | \$ 14,560 | 9.7 | \% | \$ $(34,599)$ | (109.4) | \% | \$ $(1,301)$ | (1.6) |  |  |
| Asset impairment charges (1) | - | \% | - | - | \% | 32,000 | 101.2 | \% | 4,000 | 5.0 | \% | 36,000 |
| Subtotal | 18,106 | 18.4 \% | 14,560 | 9.7 | \% | $(2,599)$ | (8.2) | \% | 2,699 | 3.4 | \% | 32,766 |
| Amortization of intangible assets (3) | 644 | 0.7 \% | 2,786 | 1.9 | \% | 1,838 | 5.8 | \% | 1,417 | 1.8 | \% | 6,685 |
| Non-cash <br> share-based <br> compensation (4) | 1,024 | 1.0 \% | 1,080 | 0.7 | \% | 181 | 0.6 | \% | 906 | 1.1 | \% | 3,191 |
| Adjusted operating income (loss)(non-GAAP) | \$ 19,774 | 20.1 \% | \$ 18,426 | 12.3 |  | \$ (580) | (1.8) | \% | \$ 5,022 |  | \% | \$ 42,642 |

Three Months Ended May 31, 2016

| Operating income (loss), as reported (GAAP) | Nutritional |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Housewares |  | Health \& Home |  |  | Supplements |  |  | Beauty |  |  | Total |  |  |
|  | \$ 15,500 | 18.3 \% | \$ 9,604 | 6.6 | \% | \$ $(5,272)$ | (14.7) |  | \$ 3,066 | 3.8 | \% | \$ 22,898 | 6.6 | \% |
| Asset impairment charges (1) | - | \% | - | - | \% | 5,000 | 13.9 | \% | 2,400 | 3.0 | \% | 7,400 | 2.1 | \% |
| Patent | - | - \% | 1,468 | 1.0 | \% | - | - | \% | - |  | \% | 1,468 | 0.4 | \% |
| litigation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

charge (2)
Subtotal Amortization of intangible assets (3)
Non-cash share-based compensation (4)

Adjusted operating income


In the tables above, footnote references (1) to (4) correspond to the notes beginning on page 29 under the heading entitled "Net Income, EPS, Adjusted Income (non-GAAP) and Adjusted EPS (non-GAAP)." Adjusted operating income and adjusted operating margin may be considered non-GAAP financial measures as set forth in SEC Regulation G, Rule 100. An explanation of the reasons why the Company believes the non-GAAP financial information is useful and the nature and limitations of the non-GAAP financial measures, is furnished beginning on page 29.
(5) Includes approximately one-half month of incremental operating results from Hydro Flask, which was acquired on March 18, 2016.

## Consolidated

Consolidated operating loss was $\$ 3.2$ million, or ( $0.9 \%$ ) of net sales, compared to $\$ 22.9$ million, or $6.6 \%$ of net sales, for the same period last year. The three months ended May 31, 2017 includes pre-tax non-cash asset impairment charges totaling $\$ 36.0$ million ( $\$ 23.1$ million after tax), compared to $\$ 7.4$ million ( $\$ 5.1$ million after tax) in the same period last year, which unfavorably impacted the year-over-year comparison of operating margin by 7.9 percentage points. The remaining increase in consolidated operating margin primarily reflects:

- a higher mix of housewares sales at higher operating margins;
- lower share-based compensation expense;
- lower license royalty expense;
- the comparative impact of a patent litigation charge of $\$ 1.5$ million in the same period last year; and improved distribution and logistics efficiency and lower outbound freight costs.
These factors were partially offset by:
- lower operating leverage in the Nutritional Supplements and Beauty segments;
- higher marketing, advertising and new product development expense in support of our Leadership Brands; and


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- the unfavorable impact from foreign currency fluctuations.

Consolidated adjusted operating income was $\$ 42.6$ million, or $11.9 \%$ of net sales, compared to $\$ 44.6$ million, or $12.8 \%$ of net sales, in the same period last year.

## Housewares

The Housewares segment's operating income was $\$ 18.1$ million, or $18.4 \%$ of net sales, compared to $\$ 15.5$ million, or $18.3 \%$ of net sales, for the same period last year. The 0.1 percentage point increase in segment operating margin is primarily due to growth in the Hydro Flask business, partially offset by:

- higher marketing, advertising and new product development expense; and
- the unfavorable impact of foreign currency fluctuations.

Segment adjusted operating income increased $15.1 \%$ to $\$ 19.8$ million, or $20.1 \%$ of segment net sales, compared to $\$ 17.2$ million, or $20.3 \%$ of segment net sales, in the same period last year.

## Health \& Home

The Health \& Home segment's operating income was $\$ 14.6$ million, or $9.7 \%$ of segment net sales, compared to $\$ 9.6$ million, or $6.6 \%$ of segment net sales, in the same period last year. The 3.1 percentage point increase in segment operating margin is primarily due to:

- lower royalty expense;
- the comparative impact of a $\$ 1.5$ million patent litigation charge in the same period last year;
- lower share-based compensation expense;
- improved distribution and logistics efficiency and lower outbound freight costs; and
- lower legal fee expense.

These factors were partially offset by:

- an increase in new product development expense; and
- the unfavorable impact of foreign currency fluctuations.

Segment adjusted operating income increased $11.5 \%$ to $\$ 18.4$ million, or $12.3 \%$ of segment net sales, compared to $\$ 16.5$ million, or $11.3 \%$ of segment net sales, in the same period last year.

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The Nutritional Supplements segment's operating loss was $\$ 34.6$ million for the three months ended May 31, 2017, compared to an operating loss of $\$ 5.3$ million in the same period last year. The increase in the segment operating loss is primarily due to:

- the comparative impact of pre-tax non-cash asset impairment charges of $\$ 32.0$ million recorded during the three months ended May 31, 2017, compared to $\$ 5.0$ million recorded in the same period last year;
- the net sales decline and its unfavorable impact on operating leverage; and
- higher promotion, advertising and customer acquisition costs.

These factors were partially offset by lower personnel expense.
Segment adjusted operating loss was $\$ 0.6$ million compared to segment adjusted operating income of $\$ 2.3$ million in the same period last year.

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## Beauty

The Beauty segment's operating loss was $\$ 1.3$ million for the three months ended May 31, 2017, compared to operating income of $\$ 3.1$ million in the same period last year. The three months ended May 31, 2017 includes a non-cash asset impairment charge of $\$ 4.0$ million, compared to $\$ 2.4$ million in the same period last year. The remaining decrease in operating income is primarily due to:

- the net sales decline in the personal care category and its unfavorable impact on sales mix and operating leverage;
- higher marketing and advertising expense; and
- the unfavorable impact of foreign currency fluctuations.

Segment adjusted operating income decreased $41.2 \%$ to $\$ 5.0$ million, or $6.3 \%$ of segment net sales, compared to $\$ 8.5$ million, or $10.5 \%$ of segment net sales, in the same period last year.

## Interest Expense

Interest expense was $\$ 3.8$ million for the three months ended May 31, 2017 compared to $\$ 3.7$ million in the same period last year. The increase in interest expense is due to higher overall average interest rates partially offset by lower average levels of debt held during the three months ended May 31, 2017.

## Income Tax Expense

The year-over-year comparison of our effective tax rates is impacted by the mix of taxable income in our various tax jurisdictions. Due to our organization in Bermuda and the ownership structure of our foreign subsidiaries, many of which are not owned directly or indirectly by a U.S. parent company, an immaterial amount of our foreign income is subject to U.S. taxation on a permanent basis under current law. Additionally, our intellectual property is largely owned by our foreign subsidiaries, resulting in proportionally higher earnings in jurisdictions with lower statutory tax rates, which decreases our overall effective tax rate.

Income taxes for the three months ended May 31, 2017 provided a benefit of $\$ 12.8$ million, compared to tax expense of $\$ 0.4$ million for the same period last year. Income taxes for the three months ended May 31, 2017 includes a $\$ 12.9$ million benefit associated with impairment charges, a $\$ 2.5$ million benefit from the recognition of excess tax benefits from share-based compensation settlements and exercises and a $\$ 0.6$ million benefit from the lapse of the statute of limitations related to an uncertain tax position. Income taxes for the three months ended May 31, 2016 includes a $\$ 1.1$ million tax benefit from the recognition of excess tax benefits from share-based compensation settlements and exercises and a $\$ 1.4$ million benefit from the resolution of an uncertain tax position.

Net Income, EPS, Adjusted Income (non-GAAP), and Adjusted EPS (non-GAAP)

In order to provide a better understanding of the impact of certain items on our net income and EPS, the analysis that follows reports the comparative after tax impact of non cash asset impairment charges, patent litigation charges, amortization of intangible assets, and non cash share based compensation, as applicable, on our net income, and basic and diluted EPS for the periods covered below.

|  | Three Mo May 31, | Ended | Basic E |  | Diluted EPS |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (in thousands, except per share data) | 2017 | 2016 | 2017 | 2016 | 2017 | 2016 |
| Net income as reported (GAAP) | \$ 5,868 | \$ 19,026 | \$ 0.22 | \$ 0.69 | \$ 0.22 | \$ 0.68 |
| Asset impairment charges, net of tax (1) | 23,128 | 5,097 | 0.85 | 0.18 | 0.85 | 0.18 |
| Patent litigation charge, net of tax (2) | - | 1,464 | - | 0.05 | - | 0.05 |
| Subtotal | 28,996 | 25,587 | 1.07 | 0.92 | 1.06 | 0.91 |
| Amortization of intangible assets, net of tax (3) | 5,742 | 6,202 | 0.21 | 0.22 | 0.21 | 0.22 |
| Non-cash share-based compensation, net of tax (4) | 2,701 | 4,093 | 0.10 | 0.15 | 0.10 | 0.15 |
| Adjusted income (non-GAAP) | \$ 37,439 | \$ 35,882 | \$ 1.38 | \$ 1.29 | \$ 1.37 | \$ 1.27 |

Weighted average shares of common stock used in

| computing basic and diluted EPS | 27,076 | 27,773 | 27,245 | 28,147 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

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(1)Includes non-cash intangible asset impairment charges for the three months ended May 31, 2017 and 2016 of $\$ 36.0$ million ( $\$ 23.1$ million after tax) and $\$ 7.4$ million ( $\$ 5.1$ million after tax), respectively.
(2)Includes a patent litigation charge for the three months ended May 31, 2016 of $\$ 1.5$ million (before and after tax).
(3) Includes amortization of intangible assets for the three months ended May 31, 2017 and 2016 of $\$ 6.7$ million ( $\$ 5.7$ million after tax) and $\$ 7.2$ million ( $\$ 6.2$ million after tax), respectively.
(4) Includes non-cash share-based compensation for the three months ended May 31, 2017 and 2016 of $\$ 3.2$ million ( $\$ 2.7$ million after tax) and $\$ 5.6$ million ( $\$ 4.1$ million after tax), respectively.

Our net income was $\$ 5.9$ million for the three months ended May 31, 2017 compared to $\$ 19.0$ million for the same period last year. Our diluted earnings per share decreased to $\$ 0.22$ for the three months ended May 31, 2017 compared to $\$ 0.68$ for the same period last year.

Adjusted income increased $\$ 1.6$ million, or $4.3 \%$, for the three months ended May 31, 2017 compared to the same period last year. Adjusted diluted EPS was $\$ 1.37$ for the three months ended May 31, 2017 compared to $\$ 1.27$ for the same period last year. Adjusted diluted EPS increased primarily due to the impact of higher earnings and lower weighted average diluted shares outstanding for the three months ended May 31, 2017 compared to the same period last year.

The tables referred to beginning on pages 25 and 28 under the headings "Operating Income, Operating Margin, Adjusted Operating Income (non-GAAP) and Adjusted Operating Margin (non-GAAP) by Segment" and "Net Income, EPS, Adjusted Income (non-GAAP), and Adjusted EPS (non-GAAP)," respectively report operating income, operating margin, net income and EPS without the impact of non-cash asset impairment charges, patent litigation charges, amortization of intangible assets, and non-cash share-based compensation for the periods presented, as applicable. These measures may be considered non-GAAP financial information as set forth in SEC Regulation G, Rule 100. The preceding table reconciles these measures to their corresponding GAAP-based measures presented in our consolidated statements of income. We believe that adjusted operating income, adjusted operating margin, adjusted income and adjusted EPS provide useful information to management and investors regarding financial and business trends relating to our financial condition and results of operations. We believe that these non-GAAP financial measures, in combination with our financial results calculated in accordance with GAAP, provide investors with additional perspective regarding the impact of such charges on net income and earnings per share. We also believe that these non-GAAP measures facilitate a more direct comparison of our performance with our competitors. We further believe that including the excluded charges would not accurately reflect the underlying performance of our
continuing operations for the period in which the charges are incurred, even though such charges may be incurred and reflected in our GAAP financial results in the near future. The material limitation associated with the use of the non-GAAP financial measures is that the non-GAAP measures do not reflect the full economic impact of our activities. Our adjusted operating income, adjusted operating margin, adjusted income and adjusted EPS are not prepared in accordance with GAAP, are not an alternative to GAAP financial information and may be calculated differently than non-GAAP financial information disclosed by other companies. Accordingly, undue reliance should not be placed on non-GAAP information.

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Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources

Selected measures of our liquidity and capital resources are shown for the periods below:

## SELECTED MEASURES OF OUR LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL UTILIZATION

|  | Three Months Ended <br>  <br> May 31, |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2017 | 2016 |  |
|  | 54.4 | 54.1 |  |
| Accounts Receivable Turnover (Days) (1) | 2.8 | 2.8 |  |
| Inventory Turnover (Times) (1) | $\$ 260,346$ | $\$ 283,023$ |  |
| Working Capital (in thousands) | $1.9: 1$ | $2.0: 1$ |  |
| Current Ratio | 44.3 | $\%$ | 61.4 |
| Ending Debt to Ending Equity Ratio | 12.8 | $\%$ | 10.6 |
| Return on Average Equity (1) (2) |  |  | $\%$ |

(1) Accounts receivable turnover, inventory turnover and return on average equity computations use 12 month trailing net sales revenue, cost of goods sold or net income components as required by the particular measure. The current and four prior quarters' ending balances of accounts receivable, inventory and equity are used for the purposes of computing the average balance component as required by the particular measure.
(2) Net income and average equity reported above include the twelve month trailing impacts, after tax, of non-cash asset impairment charges and patent litigation charges, as applicable to each period. For the periods reported above, these items had an unfavorable impact of 3.1 and 5.1 percentage points, respectively, on the return on average equity.

Operating Activities

Operating activities provided $\$ 41.7$ million of cash during each of the three months ended May 31, 2017 and 2016.

Accounts receivable decreased $\$ 22.1$ million, to $\$ 207.8$ million as of May 31, 2017, compared to $\$ 229.9$ million at the end of fiscal year 2017. Accounts receivable turnover was 54.4 days at May 31, 2017, compared to 54.1 days for the same period last year.

Inventory increased $\$ 22.9$ million, to $\$ 312.0$ million as of May 31,2017 , compared to $\$ 289.1$ million at the end of fiscal year 2017. Inventory turnover was 2.8 times at both May 31, 2017 and 2016.

Working capital was $\$ 260.3$ million at May 31, 2017, compared to $\$ 283.0$ million at May 31, 2016 and our current ratio was 1.9:1 at May 31, 2017, compared to 2.0:1 as of May 31, 2016.

Investing Activities

Investing activities used $\$ 13.0$ million of cash during the three months ended May 31, 2017. We spent $\$ 3.6$ million on computers, furniture and other equipment and $\$ 1.2$ million on tools, molds and other capital asset additions.

Financing Activities

Financing activities used $\$ 35.3$ million of cash during the three months ended May 31, 2017. Highlights of those activities follow:
we had draws of $\$ 131.2$ million against our credit agreement;

- we repaid $\$ 157.6$ million drawn against our credit agreement;
- we repaid $\$ 5.7$ million of our long-term debt;
- employees exercised options to purchase 76,593 shares of common stock, providing $\$ 3.6$ million of cash; and
- we paid $\$ 6.8$ million in tax obligations resulting from cashless share award settlements.

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Credit and Other Debt Agreements

## Credit Agreement

We have a credit agreement (the "Credit Agreement") with Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, and other lenders that provides for an unsecured total revolving commitment of $\$ 1$ billion as of May 31, 2017. The commitment under the Credit Agreement terminates on December 7, 2021. Borrowings accrue interest under one of two alternative methods as described in the Credit Agreement. With each borrowing against our credit line, we can elect the interest rate method based on our funding needs at the time. We also incur loan commitment and letter of credit fees under the Credit Agreement. Outstanding letters of credit reduce the borrowing availability under the Credit Agreement on a dollar-for-dollar basis. As of May 31, 2017, the outstanding revolving loan principal balance was $\$ 414.3$ million and the balance of outstanding letters of credit was $\$ 1.5$ million. As of May 31, 2017, the amount available for borrowings under the Credit Agreement was $\$ 584.2$ million. Covenants in our debt agreements limit the amount of total indebtedness we can incur. As of May 31, 2017, these covenants effectively limited our ability to incur more than $\$ 309.8$ million of additional debt from all sources, including our Credit Agreement.

Other Debt Agreements
In addition to the Credit Agreement, at May 31, 2017, we had an aggregate principal balance of $\$ 20$ million of 3.9\% Senior Notes due January 2018 with one remaining installment due in January 2018.

We also have an aggregate principal balance of $\$ 24.3$ million under a loan agreement with the Mississippi Business Finance Corporation (the "MBFC Loan"). The borrowings were used to fund construction of our Olive Branch, Mississippi distribution facility. The remaining loan balance is payable as follows: $\$ 1.9$ million annually on March 1, 2018 through 2022; and $\$ 14.8$ million on March 1, 2023. Any remaining outstanding principal and interest is due upon maturity on March 1, 2023.

Our debt agreements require the maintenance of certain key financial covenants, defined in the table below. Our debt agreements also contain other customary covenants, including, among other things, covenants restricting or limiting us, except under certain conditions set forth therein, from (1) incurring debt, (2) incurring liens on its properties, (3) making certain types of investments, (4) selling certain assets or making other fundamental changes relating to mergers and consolidations, and (5) repurchasing shares of our common stock and paying dividends. Our debt agreements also contain customary events of default, including failure to pay principal or interest when due, among others. Our debt agreements are cross-defaulted to each other. Upon an event of default under our debt agreements, the holders or lenders may, among other things, accelerate the maturity of any amounts outstanding under our debt agreements. The commitments of the lenders to make loans to us under the Credit Agreement are several and not joint. Accordingly, if any lender fails to make loans to us, our available liquidity could be reduced by an amount up to the
aggregate amount of such lender's commitments under the Credit Agreement.

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The table below provides the formulas currently in effect for certain key financial covenants as defined under our debt agreements:

| Applicable Financial CovenantCredit Agreement and MBFC Loan |  | 3.9\% Senior Notes |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Minimum Consolidated Net Worth | None | \$500 Million |
|  |  | + |
|  |  | 25\% of Fiscal Quarter Net Earnings After August 31, 2010 (1) |
| Interest Coverage Ratio | EBIT (2) | EBIT (2) |
|  | $\div$ |  |
|  | Interest Expense (2) | Interest Expense (2) |
|  | Minimum Required: 3.00 to 1.00 | Minimum Required: 2.50 to 1.00 |
| Maximum Leverage Ratio | Total Current and Long Term Debt (3) | Total Current and Long Term Debt (3) |
|  | [EBITDA (2) + Pro Forma Effect of Acquisitions] | [EBITDA (2) + Pro Forma Effect of Acquisitions] |

Maximum Currently Allowed: 3.25 to 1.00Maximum Allowed: 3.25 to 1.00

Key Definitions:

EBIT: Earnings Before Non-Cash Charges, Interest Expense and Taxes
EBITDA: $\quad$ EBIT + Depreciation and Amortization Expense + Share Based Compensation

Pro Forma Effect of For any acquisition, pre-acquisition EBITDA of the acquired business is included so that the Acquisitions: EBITDA of the acquired business included in the computation equals its twelve month trailing total.

Notes:
(1) Excluding any fiscal quarter net losses.
(2) Computed using totals for the latest reported four consecutive fiscal quarters.
(3) Computed using the ending balances as of the latest reported fiscal quarter.

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Contractual obligations
Our contractual obligations and commercial commitments in effect as of May 31, 2017, were:

PAYMENTS DUE BY PERIOD - TWELVE MONTHS ENDED THE LAST DAY OF MAY:

(1) We estimate our future obligations for interest on our floating rate debt by assuming the weighted average interest rates in effect on each floating rate debt obligation at May 31, 2017 remain constant into the future. This is an estimate, as actual rates will vary over time. In addition, for the Credit Agreement, we assume that the balance outstanding as of May 31, 2017 remains the same for the remaining term of the agreement. The actual balance outstanding under our Credit Agreement may fluctuate significantly in future periods, depending on the availability of cash flow from operations and future investing and financing considerations.
(2) In addition to the contractual obligations and commercial commitments in the table above, as of May 31, 2017, we have recorded total provisions for our uncertain tax positions totaling $\$ 6.0$ million. We are unable to reliably estimate the timing of most of the future payments, if any, related to uncertain tax positions. Therefore, we have
excluded these tax liabilities from the table above.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We have no existing activities involving special purpose entities or off-balance sheet financing.

## Current and Future Capital Needs

Based on our current financial condition and current operations, we believe that cash flows from operations and available financing sources will continue to provide sufficient capital resources to fund our foreseeable short- and long-term liquidity requirements. We expect our capital needs to stem primarily from the need to purchase sufficient levels of inventory and to carry normal levels of accounts receivable on our balance sheet. In addition, we continue to evaluate acquisition opportunities on a regular basis. We may finance acquisition activity with available cash, the issuance of shares of common stock, additional debt, or other sources of financing, depending upon the size and nature of any such transaction and the status of the capital markets at the time of such acquisition. We may also elect to repurchase additional shares of common stock up to the balance of its current authorization over the next three fiscal years, subject to limitations contained in its debt agreements and based upon its assessment of a number of factors, including share price, trading volume and general market conditions, as well as on working capital requirements, general business conditions, financial conditions, any applicable contractual limitations and other factors, including alternative investment opportunities.

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

There have been no material changes in the information provided in the section entitled "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended February 28, 2017. Additional information regarding risk management activities can be found in Note 13 to the accompanying consolidated condensed financial statements.

Information Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Certain written and oral statements in this Form 10-Q may constitute "forward-looking statements" as defined under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. This includes statements made in this report, in other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), in press releases, and in certain other oral and written presentations. Generally, the words "anticipates", "believes", "expects", "plans", "may", "will", "should", "seeks", "estimates", "project", "predict", "potential", "continue", "intends", and other similar words identify forward-looking statements. All statements that address operating results, events or developments that may occur in the future, including statements related to sales, earnings per share results, and statements expressing general expectations about future operating results, are forward-looking statements and are based upon our current expectations and various assumptions. We believe there is a reasonable basis for our expectations and assumptions, but there can be no assurance that we will realize our expectations or that our assumptions will prove correct. Forward-looking statements are subject to risks that could cause them to differ materially from actual results. Accordingly, we caution readers not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. We believe that these risks include but are not limited to the risks described in this report under Item 1A., "Risk Factors" and that are otherwise described from time to time in our SEC reports as filed. As described later in this report, such risks, uncertainties and other important factors include, among others:
our ability to deliver products to our customers in a timely manner and according to their fulfillment standards;
the costs of complying with the business demands and requirements of large sophisticated customers;

- our relationship with key customers and licensors;
our dependence on the strength of retail economies and vulnerabilities to any prolonged economic downturn;
- our dependence on sales to several large customers and the risk associated with any loss or substantial decline in sales to top customers;
- expectations regarding our recent and future acquisitions or divestitures, including our ability to realize anticipated cost savings, synergies and other benefits along with our ability to effectively integrate acquired businesses or separate divested businesses;
- circumstances which may contribute to future impairment of goodwill, intangible or other long-lived assets;
- the retention and recruitment of key personnel;
- foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations;
- disruptions in U.S., U.K., Euro zone, and other international credit markets;
risks associated with weather conditions, the duration and severity of the cold and flu season and other related factors;
- our dependence on foreign sources of supply and foreign manufacturing, and associated operational risks including, but not limited to, long lead times, consistent local labor availability and capacity, and timely availability of sufficient shipping carrier capacity;


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- risks to the Nutritional Supplements segment associated with the availability, purity and integrity of materials used in the manufacture of vitamins, minerals and supplements;
- the impact of changing costs of raw materials, labor and energy on cost of goods sold and certain operating expenses;
- the geographic concentration and peak season capacity of certain U.S. distribution facilities increases our exposure to significant shipping disruptions and added shipping and storage costs;
- our projections of product demand, sales, and net income are highly subjective in nature and future sales and net income could vary in a material amount from such projections;
- the risks associated with the use of trademarks licensed from and to third parties;
our ability to develop and introduce a continuing stream of new products to meet changing consumer preferences;
increased product liability and reputational risks associated with the formulation and distribution of vitamins, minerals and supplements;
- the risks associated with adverse publicity and negative public perception regarding the use of vitamins, minerals and supplements;
- trade barriers, exchange controls, expropriations, and other risks associated with U.S. and foreign operations;
- the risks to our liquidity as a result of changes to capital market conditions and other constraints or events that impose constraints on our cash resources and ability to operate our business;
the costs, complexity and challenges of upgrading and managing our global information systems;
the risks associated with information security breaches;
the increased complexity of compliance with a number of new government regulations covering vitamins, minerals and supplements;
- the risks associated with product recalls, product liability, other claims, and related litigation against us;
- the risks associated with tax positions, tax audits and related disputes with taxing authorities;
- the risk of potential changes in laws in the U.S. or abroad, including tax laws, regulations or treaties, employment and health insurance laws and regulations, and laws relating to environmental policy, financial regulation, transportation policy and infrastructure policy along with the costs and complexities of compliance with such laws; and
- our ability to continue to avoid classification as a controlled foreign corporation.

We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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## ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

## DISCLOSURE CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Our management, under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO), maintains disclosure controls and procedures as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act that are designed to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to management, including the CEO and CFO, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures. Because of inherent limitations, disclosure controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance that the objectives of disclosure controls and procedures are met.

Our management, including our CEO and CFO, has evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the fiscal quarter ended May 31, 2017. Based upon that evaluation, the CEO and CFO concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at a reasonable level of assurance as of May 31, 2017, the end of the period covered by this quarterly report on Form 10-Q.

## CHANGES IN INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

In connection with the evaluation described above, we identified no change in our internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) of the Exchange Act that occurred during our fiscal quarter ended May 31, 2017, that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

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## PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

## ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We are involved in various legal claims and proceedings in the normal course of operations. We believe the outcome of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations or liquidity.

## ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

The ownership of our common stock involves a number of risks and uncertainties. When evaluating the Company and our business before making an investment decision regarding our securities, potential investors should carefully consider the risk factors and uncertainties described in Part 1, Item 1A. "Risk Factors" of our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 28, 2017. Since the filing of our annual report on Form 10-K, there have been no material changes in our risk factors from those disclosed therein.

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

## Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

On May 10, 2017, our Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of up to $\$ 400$ million of our outstanding common stock. The new authorization is effective for a period of three years and replaced our existing repurchase authorization of which approximately $\$ 82$ million remained. These repurchases may include open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions, block trades, accelerated stock repurchase transactions, or any combination of such methods. The number of shares purchased and the timing of the purchases will depend on a number of factors, including share price, trading volume and general market conditions, working capital requirements, general business conditions, financial conditions, any applicable contractual limitations, and other factors, including alternative investment opportunities. As of May 31, 2017, our repurchase authorization allowed for the purchase of $\$ 394.3$ million of common stock.

Our current equity-based compensation plans include provisions that allow for the "net exercise" of share settled awards by all plan participants. In a net exercise, any required payroll taxes, federal withholding taxes and exercise price of the shares due from the option holder can be paid for by having the option holder tender back to the Company a number of shares at fair value equal to the amounts due. Net exercises are accounted for as a purchase and retirement of shares.

The following table summarizes our share repurchase activity for the periods shown:

ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED MAY 31, 2017


Edgar Filing: HELEN OF TROY LTD - Form 10-Q
Total
70,707
\$ 95.99
70,707

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## ITEM

6. EXHIBITS
(a) Exhibits
31.1* Certification of the Chief Executive Officer required by Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15d-14(a) pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2* Certification of the Chief Financial Officer required by Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15d-14(a) pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

32** Joint certification of the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS * XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema
*
101.CAL XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase
*
101.DEF XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase
*
101.LAB XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase
*
101.PRE XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase *

* Filed herewith.
** Furnished herewith.


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## SIGNATURES

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

HELEN OF TROY LIMITED
(Registrant)

Date: July 10, 2017 /s/ Julien R. Mininberg
Julien R. Mininberg
Chief Executive Officer,
Director and Principal Executive Officer

Date: July 10, 2017 /s/ Brian L. Grass
Brian L. Grass
Chief Financial Officer and Principal Financial Officer

Date: July 10, 2017 /s/ Richard J. Oppenheim
Richard J. Oppenheim
Vice President and Principal Accounting Officer

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Index to Exhibits
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*
101.LABXBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase
*
101.PRE XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase *

* Filed herewith.
** Furnished herewith.


[^0]:    - Level 3: Unobservable inputs that reflect the reporting entity's own assumptions.

[^1]:    * Calculation is not meaningful

[^2]:    - a core business increase of $\$ 8.2$ million, or $9.7 \%$, driven by growth in online sales and new product introductions for both Hydro Flask and OXO brands, and expanded international distribution; and

