



**BlueLinx Holdings Inc.
2019 Annual Report**



BlueLinx Holdings Inc.
1950 Spectrum Circle
Marietta, Georgia 30067

To the Stockholders of BlueLinx,

2019 was a transitional year for BlueLinx as it marked a period of dramatic change for our organization. We overcame integration challenges as we renewed our historical focus on providing world-class customer service, and made significant investments in improving customer service and operational performance. We invested in our sales organization, while our local teams developed and implemented local market strategies to drive sales revenues. We also successfully executed on our real estate monetization strategy and materially de-levered our balance sheet. We made significant progress in 2019, and entered 2020 wholly focused on profitably growing the business.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically changed our nation, our economy, and our focus. We have responded to this pandemic in a manner to protect the health of our associates while quickly moving to mitigate the likely economic challenges to our industry and company. We developed plans and took immediate actions that should give BlueLinx the financial and operating flexibility necessary to provide long-term value for our stockholders and other stakeholders. Mitigating the impact of this pandemic on our stakeholders has been a complete BlueLinx team effort, which included a voluntary reduction of my base salary to \$1 a month for at least six months beginning April 1, 2020. I am also pleased to inform you that our Board of Directors voluntarily reduced the cash component of its quarterly retainer by 20%, and our entire team of executive officers and vice presidents voluntarily reduced their base salaries by 10% for the same period as well.

Of course, a great deal of uncertainty remains regarding the pandemic's effect on market demand, and it's likely that the coronavirus will cause further disruption and potential market deterioration that will act as headwinds to an otherwise excellent start to the year. However, we feel confident we are taking the necessary steps to continue to support our country's infrastructure and the long-term success of BlueLinx as we navigate these challenging circumstances.

Thank you for your continued support. The entire BlueLinx team wishes you good health and continued safety.

Sincerely,

Mitchell B. Lewis
President & CEO
BlueLinx Holdings Inc.

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

Form 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 28, 2019
OR

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

Commission file number: 1-32383

BlueLinx Holdings Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

77-0627356

*(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)*

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

1950 Spectrum Circle, Suite 300

Marietta GA

30067

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 770-953-7000

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

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share	BXC	New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit 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 Smaller reporting company
Emerging growth company

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

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

The aggregate market value of the registrant's common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of June 29, 2019, was \$179,282,700, based on the closing price on the New York Stock Exchange of \$19.81 per share on June 28, 2019.

As of February 28, 2020, the registrant had 9,366,641 shares of common stock outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K incorporates by reference to the registrant's definitive Proxy Statement, to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission within 120 days of the close of the fiscal year ended December 28, 2019.

BLUELINX HOLDINGS INC.
ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K
For the fiscal year ended December 28, 2019

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I

ITEM 1	Business	4
ITEM 1A	Risk Factors	8
ITEM 1B	Unresolved Staff Comments	20
ITEM 2	Properties	20
ITEM 3	Legal Proceedings	20
ITEM 4	Mine Safety Disclosures	20

PART II

ITEM 5	Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters, and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities	21
ITEM 6	Selected Financial Data	21
ITEM 7	Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	22
ITEM 7A	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk	31
ITEM 8	Financial Statements and Supplementary Data	32
ITEM 9	Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure	64
ITEM 9A	Controls and Procedures	64
ITEM 9B	Other Information	66

PART III

ITEM 10	Directors, Executive Officers, and Corporate Governance	67
ITEM 11	Executive Compensation	67
ITEM 12	Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters	67
ITEM 13	Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence	67
ITEM 14	Principal Accountant Fees and Services	67

PART IV

ITEM 15	Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules	68
ITEM 16	Form 10-K Summary	72
	Signatures	73

As used herein, unless the context otherwise requires, “BlueLinx,” the “Company,” “we,” “us,” and “our” refer to BlueLinx Holdings Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. Reference to “fiscal 2019” refers to the 52-week period ending December 28, 2019. Reference to “fiscal 2018” refers to the 52-week period ended December 29, 2018.

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT CONCERNING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include, without limitation, any statements that predict, forecast, indicate or imply future results, performance, liquidity levels or achievements, and may contain the words “believe,” “anticipate,” “expect,” “estimate,” “intend,” “project,” “plan,” “will be,” “will likely continue,” “will likely result” or words or phrases of similar meaning. Forward-looking statements are based on estimates and assumptions made by our management that, although believed by us to be reasonable, are inherently uncertain. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that may cause our business, strategy, or actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include those discussed under the heading “Risk Factors” in Item 1A, those discussed under the heading “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in Item 7, and those discussed elsewhere in this report and in future reports that we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We operate in a changing environment in which new risks can emerge from time to time. It is not possible for management to predict all of these risks, nor can it assess the extent to which any factor, or a combination of factors, may cause our business, strategy, or actual results to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking statements. Given these risks and uncertainties, we caution you not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. We expressly disclaim any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law.

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Company Overview

We are a leading distributor of building and industrial products in the United States (“U.S.”). We are headquartered in Georgia, with executive offices located at 1950 Spectrum Circle, Marietta, Georgia, and we operate our distribution business through a broad network of distribution centers. We serve many major metropolitan areas in the U.S., and deliver building and industrial products to a variety of wholesale and retail customers.

We were incorporated in the State of Georgia on March 8, 2004, as ABP Distribution Holdings, Inc. (“ABP”). ABP subsequently merged into BlueLinx Holdings Inc., a Delaware corporation formed on August 26, 2004, in connection with the spin-off by Georgia-Pacific Corporation of its building products distribution division. On December 17, 2004, we consummated an initial public offering of our common stock.

Significant Recent Transactions

Real Estate Transactions

During the second quarter of 2019, we completed real estate financing transactions through sale-leaseback arrangements on two of our distribution facilities for gross proceeds of \$45.0 million. Net proceeds from the transactions were used to repay indebtedness under our term loan and revolving credit facility. Upon completion of the transactions, we entered into long-term leases with multiple renewal options on the properties.

Subsequent to the end of fiscal 2019, we completed real estate financing transactions through sale-leaseback arrangements on fourteen of our distribution facilities for gross proceeds of \$78.3 million. Net proceeds from these transactions were used to repay indebtedness under our term loan. Upon completion of the transactions, we entered into long-term leases with multiple renewal options on the properties. These real estate financing transactions are described in further detail in Note 16 to our Consolidated Financial Statements.

Pension Plan - Lump Sum Offer

During the fourth quarter of 2019, we completed the offering of a voluntary lump sum payment option to certain qualified former employees or their beneficiaries who were vested participants in the BlueLinx Corporation Hourly Pension Plan. Lump sum payments made in connection with the offer totaled \$9.7 million, and were funded with existing plan assets. These lump sum payments decreased our related overall projected benefit obligation by approximately \$12.2 million. We also recorded a related settlement charge of \$2.8 million.

Fiscal Year

Fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2018 each were comprised of 52 weeks.

Products and Services

We distribute products in two principal categories: structural products and specialty products. Structural products, which represented approximately 33% and 36% of our fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2018 net sales, respectively, include plywood, oriented strand board, rebar and remesh, lumber and other wood products primarily used for structural support and walls in construction projects. Specialty products, which represented approximately 67% and 64% of our fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2018 net sales, respectively, include engineered wood products, moulding, siding (including vinyl products), cedar, metal products (excluding rebar and remesh) and insulation. In some cases, these products are branded by us.

We also provide a wide range of value-added services and solutions to our customers and suppliers including:

- providing “less-than-truckload” delivery services;
- pre-negotiated program pricing plans;
- inventory stocking;
- automated order processing through an electronic data interchange, or “EDI”, that provides a direct link between us and our customers;
- intermodal distribution services, including railcar unloading and cargo reloading onto customers’ trucks;

- milling and fabrication services; and
- backhaul services, when otherwise empty trucks are returning from customer deliveries.

During fiscal 2019, we changed our internal product hierarchy within our structural and specialty product categories. As a result, amounts for fiscal 2018 disclosed above have been reclassified to conform to the revised product mix of structural and specialty products.

Distribution Channels

We sell products through three main distribution channels: warehouse sales, reload sales, and direct sales.

Warehouse sales are delivered from our warehouses to our customers. Reload sales are similar to warehouse sales but are shipped from third-party warehouses where we store owned product to enhance operating efficiencies. This channel is employed primarily to service strategic customers that would be less economical to service from our warehouses, and to distribute large volumes of imported products from port facilities. Warehouse and reload sales accounted for approximately 82% of our fiscal 2019 and 2018 gross sales.

Direct sales are shipped from the manufacturer to the customer without our taking physical possession of the inventory. This distribution channel requires the lowest amount of committed capital and fixed costs. Direct sales accounted for approximately 18% our fiscal 2019 and 2018 gross sales.

Competition

The U.S. building products distribution market is a highly fragmented market, served by national and multi-regional distributors, regionally focused distributors, and independent local distributors. Local and regional distributors tend to be closely held and often specialize in a limited number of product segments, in which they may offer a broader selection of products. Some of our national and multi-regional competitors are part of larger companies and, therefore, may have access to greater financial and other resources than those to which we have access. We compete on the basis of breadth of product offering, consistent availability of product, product price and quality, reputation, service, and distribution facility location.

Two of our largest competitors are Boise Cascade Company and Weyerhaeuser Company. Most major markets in which we operate are served by the distribution arm of at least one of these companies.

Seasonality

We are exposed to fluctuations in quarterly sales volumes and expenses due to seasonal factors common in the building products distribution industry. The first and fourth quarters are typically our slowest quarters due to the impact of unfavorable weather on the construction market. Our second and third quarters are typically our strongest quarters, reflecting an increase in construction due to more favorable weather conditions. Our working capital, accounts receivable, and accounts payable generally peak in the third quarter, while inventory generally peaks in the second quarter in anticipation of the summer building season.

Employees

As of December 28, 2019, we employed approximately 2,200 employees, of which approximately 99% are full time. Approximately 20% of our employees were covered by collective bargaining agreements (“CBAs”) negotiated between the company and various local unions. Three of those CBAs covering approximately 30 employees are up for renewal in fiscal 2020.

Information About Our Executive Officers

The following are the executive officers of the Company as of March 11, 2020:

Mitchell B. Lewis, age 58, has served as our President and Chief Executive Officer, and as a Director of BlueLinx Holdings Inc., since January 2014. Mr. Lewis has held numerous leadership positions in the building products industry since 1992. Mr. Lewis served as a director and as President and Chief Executive Officer of Euramax Holdings, Inc., a building products manufacturer, from February 2008 through November 2013. Mr. Lewis also served as Chief Operating Officer in 2005, Executive Vice President in 2002, and group Vice President in 1997 of Euramax Holdings, Inc. and its predecessor companies. Prior to being appointed group Vice President, Mr. Lewis served as President of Amerimax Building Products, Inc. Prior to 1992, Mr. Lewis served as Corporate Counsel with Alumax Inc. and practiced law with Alston & Bird LLP, specializing in mergers and acquisitions. Mr. Lewis is currently a director of GMS Inc. (NYSE:GMS). Mr. Lewis received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Emory University, and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Michigan.

Susan C. O'Farrell, age 56, has served as our Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer, and Principal Accounting Officer since 2014. Prior to joining us, Ms. O'Farrell was a senior financial executive holding several roles with The Home Depot, Inc. since 1999. As The Home Depot's Vice President of Finance, she led teams supporting the retail organization. Ms. O'Farrell was also responsible for the finance function for The Home Depot's At Home Services Group. Ms. O'Farrell led the financial operations of The Home Depot, and she served as the VP Finance for the Northern Division of the company. Ms. O'Farrell began her career with Andersen Consulting, LLP (now Accenture), leaving as an Associate Partner in 1996 for a strategic information systems role with AGL Resources (now Southern Company Gas). Ms. O'Farrell earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Auburn University and completed Emory University's Executive Leadership program.

Alexander S. Averitt, age 43, has served as our Chief Operating Officer since April 2018. From September 2017 to April 2018, Mr. Averitt was President and Chief Executive Officer at Cedar Creek, LLC. He joined Cedar Creek in 2005 as a sales manager and served in various roles for the company, including Chief Operating Officer from April 2015 to September 2017, and Vice President of Information Technology from May 2014 to April 2015. Prior to joining Cedar Creek, Mr. Averitt spent nine years in various roles with Jeld-Wen Inc., including as a General Manager. Mr. Averitt earned a Bachelor of Professional Studies degree from Arkansas Tech University.

Shyam K. Reddy, age 45, has served as our Senior Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer, and Senior Vice President, Corporate Development, since May 2019. Before that, he served as our Senior Vice President and Chief Transformation officer from April 2018 to May 2019, as our Senior Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary from May 2017 to April 2018, and as our Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary from June 2015 until May 2017. Prior to joining us, Mr. Reddy served as Senior Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary of Euramax Holdings, Inc., from March 2013 to March 2015. Before joining Euramax Holdings, Inc., Mr. Reddy was the Regional Administrator of the Southeast Sunbelt Region of the U.S. General Services Administration from March 2010 to March 2013. Prior to accepting the Presidential Appointment at the U.S. General Services Administration, Mr. Reddy practiced corporate law as a partner in the Atlanta office of Kilpatrick, Townsend & Stockton LLP. Mr. Reddy received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, and a Master of Public Health degree from Emory University, and also received a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Georgia.

Justin B. Heineman, age 48, has served as our Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary since May 2018. Mr. Heineman joined us after 8 years with NCR Corporation ("NCR"). At NCR, Mr. Heineman served as Law Vice President, Chief Corporate Counsel and Assistant Secretary from October 2015 to May 2018, where he was responsible for oversight of the company's corporate legal function, including mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance and securities law compliance. From February 2010 to October 2015, Mr. Heineman served as NCR's Senior Corporate Counsel and Assistant Secretary. Prior to joining NCR, Mr. Heineman was a partner in the Atlanta office of Kilpatrick, Townsend & Stockton LLP. Mr. Heineman received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Duke University, and a Juris Doctor degree from The University of North Carolina.

Brian J. Sasadu, age 46, has served as our Chief Human Resource Officer since January 2019. Before joining BlueLinx, from 2003 to December 2018, Mr. Sasadu served in various roles with Coca-Cola Refreshments USA, Inc. ("CCR"), the North American bottling and distribution arm of The Coca-Cola Company. From July 2016 to December 2018, Mr. Sasadu served as CCR's Senior Vice President, Human Resources. Before that, Mr. Sasadu served as CCR's Vice President, Human Resources - Supply Chain, US Region and Commercial from April 2014 to July 2016, and as CCR's Vice President, Labor & Employment practices from August 2007 to April 2014. Mr. Sasadu began his career in Atlanta at the international law firm of King & Spalding LLP where he practiced law with the Labor and Employment team. Mr. Sasadu received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Florida.

Environmental and Other Governmental Regulations

The Company is subject to various federal, state, provincial, and local laws, rules, and regulations. We are subject to environmental laws, rules, and regulations that limit discharges into the environment, establish standards for the handling, generation, emission, release, discharge, treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials, substances, and wastes, and require cleanup of contaminated soil and groundwater. These laws, ordinances, and regulations are complex, change frequently, and have tended to become more stringent over time. Many of them provide for substantial fines and penalties, orders (including orders to cease operations), and criminal sanctions for violations. They may also impose liability for property damage and personal injury stemming from the presence of, or exposure to, hazardous substances. In addition, certain of our operations require us to obtain, maintain compliance with, and periodically renew environmental permits.

Certain of these environmental laws, including the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, may require the investigation and cleanup of an entity's or its predecessor's current or former properties, even if the associated contamination was caused by the operations of a third party. These laws also may require the investigation and cleanup of third-party sites at which an entity or its predecessor sent hazardous wastes for disposal, notwithstanding that the original disposal activity accorded with all applicable requirements. Liability under such laws may be imposed jointly and severally, and regardless of fault.

We are also subject to the requirements of the U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA"). In order to maintain compliance with applicable OSHA requirements, we have established uniform safety and compliance procedures for our operations, and implemented measures to prevent workplace injuries.

The U.S. Department of Transportation ("DOT") regulates our operations in domestic interstate commerce. We are subject to safety requirements governing interstate operations prescribed by the DOT. We are also subject to the oversight of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration ("FMCSA"). Additionally, among other things, vehicle dimensions and driver hours of service are subject to both federal and state regulation.

We have incurred and will continue to incur costs to comply with the requirements of environmental, health and safety, and transportation laws, ordinances, and regulations. These requirements could become more stringent in the future, and we cannot assure you that compliance costs will not be material.

Securities Exchange Act Reports

The Company maintains a website at www.BlueLinxCo.com. The information on the Company's website is not incorporated by reference in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. We make available on or through our website certain reports, and amendments to those reports, that we file with or furnish to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These include our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and proxy statements. Additionally, our code of ethical conduct, the board committee charter for each of our audit committee, compensation committee, and nominating and governance committee, and our corporate governance guidelines are available on our website. If we amend our code of ethical conduct, or grant any waiver, including any implicit waiver, for any board member, our chief executive officer, our chief financial officer, or any other executive officer, we will disclose such amendment or waiver on our website.

We make information available on our website free of charge as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file the information with, or furnish it to, the SEC. In addition, copies of this information will be made available, free of charge, on written request, by writing to BlueLinx Holdings Inc., Attn: Corporate Secretary, 1950 Spectrum Circle, Suite 300, Marietta, Georgia, 30067.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

In addition to the other information contained in this Form 10-K, including the information set forth in “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and our financial statements and related notes, the following risk factors should be considered carefully in evaluating our business. Our business, financial condition, or results of operations could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks. Additional risks not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also impair our business and operations.

We may be unable to successfully manage the effects of operational disruption caused by the integration of Cedar Creek or future acquisitions.

The integration of acquisitions, such as the Cedar Creek acquisition, can involve significant anticipated and unanticipated operational challenges, including integrating different computer, enterprise resource planning, and accounting systems, integrating physical facilities and inventories, and integrating acquired personnel and corporate cultures into our business. Addressing these challenges requires the attention of management and the diversion of resources from existing operations. Our failure to manage these operational challenges effectively and at anticipated costs could result in disruptions in overall operating performance and deficiencies in customer service of the combined business. These disruptions and deficiencies could, and in certain cases with respect to the Cedar Creek integration did, lead to increased costs, order and delivery errors, inventory and billing errors, the loss of employees, or the loss of customers, suppliers, or products either overall or in certain markets, which could adversely affect our financial condition, operating results, and cash flows.

As part of our overall strategy, we may make additional acquisitions or investments in the future. These acquisitions or investments would be subject to the same risks and uncertainties described above. If we do not effectively manage those risks and uncertainties, our financial condition, operating results, and cash flows may be negatively affected.

Our level of indebtedness could limit our financial and operating activities and adversely affect our ability to incur additional debt to fund future needs.

At December 28, 2019, we had approximately \$327 million of debt outstanding under our revolving credit facility, and approximately \$147 million of debt outstanding under our term loan facility. While we significantly reduced the debt outstanding under our term loan facility following the end of fiscal 2019, our level of indebtedness could still have considerable consequences for us. For example, our substantial indebtedness could:

- make us more vulnerable to general adverse economic and industry conditions;
- limit our ability to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions, and other general corporate requirements;
- expose us to interest rate fluctuations because the interest rate on the debt under our revolving credit facility is variable;
- require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flows to payments on our debt, thereby reducing the availability of our cash flows for operations and other purposes;
- limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business, and the industry in which we operate; and
- place us at a competitive disadvantage compared to competitors that may have proportionately less debt, and therefore may be in a better position to obtain more favorable credit terms.

If compliance with our debt obligations materially limits our financial or operating activities, or hinders our ability to adapt to changing industry conditions, we may lose market share, our revenue may decline and our operating results may be negatively affected.

Our cash flows and capital resources may be insufficient to make required payments on our indebtedness or future indebtedness.

Our ability to make scheduled payments under our revolving credit facility and term loan facility depends on our successful financial and operating performance, cash flows, and capital resources, which in turn depend upon prevailing economic conditions and certain financial, business, and other factors, many of which are beyond our control. These factors include, among others:

- economic and demand factors affecting the building products distribution industry;
- external factors affecting availability of credit;
- pricing pressures;

- increased operating costs;
- competitive conditions;
- operational disruption associated with the Cedar Creek integration; and
- other operating difficulties.

If our cash flows and capital resources are insufficient to fund our debt service obligations, we may be forced to reduce or delay capital expenditures, sell material assets or operations, obtain additional capital, or restructure our debt. There is no assurance that we could obtain additional capital or refinance our debt on terms acceptable to us, or at all. If we are required to dispose of material assets or operations to meet our debt service and other obligations, the value realized on the disposition of such assets or operations will depend on market conditions and the availability of buyers. Accordingly, any such sale may not, among other things, be for a sufficient dollar amount to repay our indebtedness. If we do not make scheduled payments on our debt, we will be in default and the outstanding principal and interest on our debt could be declared to be due and payable, in which case we could be forced into bankruptcy or liquidation or required to substantially restructure or alter our business operations or debt obligations.

The instruments governing our indebtedness contain various covenants limiting the discretion of our management in operating our business, including requiring us to maintain a minimum level of excess liquidity.

Our revolving credit facility and term loan facility contain various restrictive covenants and restrictions, including customary financial covenants that limit management's discretion in operating our business. In particular, these instruments limit our ability to, among other things:

- incur additional debt;
- grant liens on assets;
- make investments;
- sell or acquire assets, including certain real estate assets, outside the ordinary course of business;
- engage in transactions with affiliates; and
- make fundamental business changes.

The term loan facility also contains certain affirmative covenants, and requires us to comply with a total net leverage ratio regarding our debt relative to our Consolidated EBITDA (as defined in the term loan facility) as long as the principal balance of the facility exceeds \$45.0 million.

Borrowings under the revolving credit facility are subject to availability under the Borrowing Base (as defined in the Credit Agreement). We are required to repay revolving loans thereunder to the extent that they exceed the Borrowing Base then in effect. In addition, if availability above the Borrowing Base (i.e., excess availability) falls below the greater of (i) \$50.0 million and (ii) 10% of the lesser of (a) the Borrowing Base, and (b) the maximum permitted credit at such time, the revolving credit facility requires us to maintain a fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.0 to 1.0 until such time as our excess availability has been at least (i) \$50.0 million and (ii) 10% of the lesser of (a) the Borrowing Base, and (b) the maximum permitted credit at such time for a period of 30 days.

These covenants and restrictions could affect our ability to operate our business, and may limit our ability to react to market conditions or take advantage of potential business opportunities as they arise. Additionally, our ability to comply with these covenants may be affected by events beyond our control, including general economic and credit conditions and industry downturns.

If we fail to comply with these covenants and restrictions, a default may allow the creditors under the relevant instruments to accelerate the related debts and to exercise their remedies under these agreements, which typically will include the right to declare the principal amount of that debt, together with accrued and unpaid interest, and other related amounts, immediately due and payable, to exercise any remedies the creditors may have to foreclose on assets that are subject to liens securing that debt, and to terminate any commitments they had made to supply further funds.

Borrowings under our revolving credit facility and term loan facility bear interest at a variable rate, which subjects us to interest rate risk, which could cause our debt service obligations to increase significantly.

Borrowings under our revolving credit facility and term loan facility are at variable rates of interest and expose us to interest rate risk. If interest rates increase, our debt service obligations on this variable rate indebtedness would increase even though the amount borrowed remained the same. Although we may elect in the future to take certain actions to reduce interest rate

volatility in connection with our variable rate borrowings, we cannot provide assurances that we will be able to do so or that those actions will be effective.

Despite our current levels of debt, we may still incur more debt, which would increase the risks described in these risk factors relating to indebtedness.

The agreements relating to our debt significantly limit, but do not prohibit, our ability to incur additional debt. In addition, certain types of liabilities are not considered “Indebtedness” under the agreements relating to our debt. Accordingly, we could incur additional debt or similar liabilities in the future. If new debt or similar liabilities are added to our current debt levels, the related risks that we now face could increase.

Certain of our products are commodities and fluctuations in prices of these commodities could affect our operating results.

Many of the building products that we distribute, including oriented strand board, plywood, lumber, and rebar, are commodities that are widely available from other distributors or manufacturers, with prices and volumes determined frequently in an auction market based on participants’ perceptions of short-term supply and demand factors. Prices of commodity products can also change as a result of national and international economic conditions, labor and freight costs, competition, market speculation, government regulation, and trade policies, as well as from periodic delays in the delivery of products. Short-term increases in the cost of these materials, some of which are subject to significant fluctuations, are sometimes passed on to our customers, but our pricing quotation periods and pricing pressure from our competitors may limit our ability to pass on such price changes. We may also be limited in our ability to pass on increases in freight costs on our products.

At times, the sale price for any one or more of the products we produce or distribute may fall below our purchase costs, requiring us to incur losses on product sales. Therefore, our profitability with respect to these commodity products depends, in significant part, on managing our cost structure. Commodity product prices could be volatile in response to operating rates and inventory levels in various distribution channels. Commodity price volatility affects our distribution business, with falling price environments generally causing reduced revenues and margins, potentially resulting in substantial declines in profitability and possible net losses.

Adverse housing market conditions may negatively impact our business, liquidity, and results of operations, and increase the credit risk from our customers.

Our business depends to a significant degree on the new residential construction market and, in particular, single family home construction. The homebuilding industry peaked in 2005, and then underwent a significant decline. Although the homebuilding industry has improved and continues to improve, it is still far below its historical averages. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, actual single-family housing starts in the United States during 2019 increased 1.5% from 2018 levels, but remain 41% below their peak in 2005. The multi-year downturn in the homebuilding industry resulted in a substantial reduction in demand for the products we provide. We cannot predict the duration of the current housing industry market conditions or the timing or strength of any continued recovery of housing activity in our markets. The homebuilding industry also may not recover to historical levels. Continued weakness in the new residential construction market would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and operating results. Factors impacting the level of activity in the residential new construction markets include changes in interest rates, unemployment rates, high foreclosure rates and unsold/foreclosure inventory, availability of financing, labor costs and availability, vacancy rates, local, state and federal government regulation (including mortgage interest deductibility and other tax laws), weakening in the U.S. economy or of any regional or local economy in which we operate, availability of supplies, and shifts in populations away from the markets that we serve. In addition, the mortgage markets periodically experience disruption and reduced availability of mortgages for potential homebuyers due to more restrictive standards to qualify for mortgages, including with respect to new home construction loans. Because of these factors, there may be fluctuations in our operating results, and the results for any historical period may not be indicative of results for any future period.

We also rely on residential repair and remodel activity levels. Historically, residential repair and remodeling activity has decreased in slow economic periods. General economic weakness, elevated unemployment levels, mortgage delinquency and foreclosure rates, limitations in the availability of mortgage and home improvement financing, and lower housing turnover all limit consumers’ spending, particularly on discretionary items, and affect their confidence level leading to reduced spending on home improvement projects. Depressed activity levels in consumer spending for home improvement construction would adversely affect our business, liquidity, results of operations, and financial position. Furthermore, economic weakness causes unanticipated shifts in consumer preferences and purchasing practices, and in the business models and strategies of our customers. Such shifts may alter the nature and prices of products demanded by the end consumer, and, in turn, our customers and could adversely affect our operating performance.

In addition, we extend credit to numerous customers who are generally susceptible to the same economic business risks that we are. Unfavorable housing market conditions could result in financial failures of one or more of our significant customers. Furthermore, we may not necessarily be aware of any deterioration in our customers' financial position. If our larger customers' financial positions were to become impaired, our ability to fully collect receivables from such customers could be impaired and negatively affect our operating results, cash flow and liquidity.

We are subject to disintermediation risk.

As customers continue to consolidate or otherwise increase their purchasing power, they are better able, and may choose, to purchase products directly from the same suppliers that use us for distribution. In addition, our suppliers may elect to distribute some or all of their products directly to end-customers in one or more markets. This process of disintermediation can put us at risk of losing business from a customer, or of losing entire product lines or categories, or distribution territories, from suppliers. Disintermediation also adversely impacts our ability to obtain favorable pricing from suppliers and optimize margins and revenue with respect to our customers. As a result, continued disintermediation could have a negative impact on our financial condition and operating results.

Our industry is highly cyclical, and prolonged periods of weak demand or excess supply may reduce our net sales and/or margins, which may cause us to incur losses or reduce our net income.

The building products distribution industry is subject to cyclical market pressures. Prices of building products are determined by overall supply and demand in the market. Market prices of building products historically have been volatile and cyclical, and we have limited ability to control the timing and amount of pricing changes. Demand for building products is driven mainly by factors outside of our control, such as general economic and political conditions, interest rates, availability of mortgage financing, the construction, repair and remodeling markets, industrial markets, weather, and population growth. The supply of building products fluctuates based on available manufacturing capacity, and excess capacity in the industry can result in significant declines in market prices for those products. To the extent that prices and volumes experience a sustained or sharp decline, our net sales and margins likely would decline as well. Because we have substantial fixed costs, a decrease in sales and margin generally may have a significant adverse impact on our financial condition, operating results, and cash flows.

We may be unable to effectively manage our inventory relative to our sales volume or as the prices of the products we distribute fluctuate, which could affect our business, financial condition, and operating results.

We purchase many of our products directly from manufacturers, which are then sold and distributed to customers. We must maintain, and have adequate working capital to purchase, sufficient inventory to meet customer demand. Due to the lead times required by our suppliers, we order products in advance of expected sales. As a result, we are required to forecast our sales and purchase accordingly. In periods characterized by significant changes in the overall economy and activity in the residential and commercial building and home repair and remodel industries, it can be especially difficult to forecast our sales accurately. We must also manage our working capital to fund our inventory purchases. Such issues and risks can be magnified by the diversity of product mix our business units carry, with over 50,000 SKUs across multiple major product categories. Excessive increases in the market prices of certain building products can put negative pressure on our operating cash flows by requiring us to invest more in inventory. In the future, if we are unable to effectively manage our inventory, our cash flows may be negatively affected, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and operating results.

Loss of key products or key suppliers and manufacturers could affect our financial health.

Our ability to offer a wide variety of products to our customers is dependent upon our ability to obtain adequate product supply from manufacturers and other suppliers. Generally, our products are obtainable from various sources and in sufficient quantities. However, the loss of, or a substantial decrease in the availability of, key products from our suppliers, or the loss of key supplier arrangements, could adversely impact our financial condition, operating results, and cash flows. Although in many instances we have agreements with our suppliers, these agreements are generally terminable by either party on limited notice. Failure by our suppliers to continue to supply us with products on commercially reasonable terms, or at all, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, operating results, and cash flows.

Our dependence on international suppliers and manufacturers for certain products exposes us to risks that could affect our financial condition.

Many of our suppliers and manufacturers are located outside of the United States. Thus, import taxes or costs, including new or increased tariffs, anti-dumping duties, countervailing duties, or similar duties, some of which could be applied retroactively, could increase the cost of the products that we distribute. In addition, quotas, embargoes, sanctions, safeguards, and customs

restrictions, as well as foreign labor strikes, work stoppages, or boycotts, could reduce the supply of the products available to us. If we become subject to a reduction in available supply of imported products and we are unable to mitigate that reduction through alternative sources, or if the costs of our imported products increase and we are not able to pass along those increased costs to our customers, then our business, financial condition, and results of operations could be adversely affected.

The rapid spread of contagious illness could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

In December 2019, a novel strain of coronavirus was reported to have surfaced in Wuhan, China. This virus may cause disruption to the global supply chain and financial markets. Disruptions to the global supply chain could impact our ability to source products from our suppliers, many of whom are located outside of the United States, including China. Any disruptions to our supply chain as a result of the recent coronavirus outbreak cannot be reasonably estimated at this time but could, if we are unable to mitigate critical shortages by securing inventory from other sources, have an adverse impact on our financial condition and results of operations in future periods. In addition, a significant outbreak of epidemic, pandemic, or contagious diseases such as the coronavirus in the human population could result in a widespread health crisis that could adversely affect the economies and financial markets of many countries, resulting in an economic downturn that could affect the supply or demand for our products. The extent to which the coronavirus or any other epidemic, pandemic, or contagious disease may have an impact on our results will depend on future developments, which are highly uncertain and cannot be predicted, including new information which may emerge concerning the severity of the coronavirus and the actions to contain the coronavirus or treat its impact, among others.

Our industry is highly fragmented and competitive. If we are unable to compete effectively, our net sales and operating results may be reduced.

The building and industrial products distribution industry is highly fragmented and competitive, and the barriers to entry for local competitors are relatively low. Competitive factors in our industry include pricing, availability of product, service, delivery capabilities, customer relationships, geographic coverage, and breadth of product offerings. Also, financial stability is important to suppliers and customers in choosing distributors for their products, and affects the favorability of the terms on which we are able to obtain our products from our suppliers and sell our products to our customers.

Some of our competitors have less financial leverage or are part of larger companies, and, therefore, may have access to greater financial and other resources than those to which we have access. Finally, we may not be able to maintain our costs at a level sufficiently low for us to compete effectively. If we are unable to compete effectively, our net sales and net income may be reduced.

Consolidation among competitors and customers could negatively impact our business.

Our competitors continue to consolidate. Among other things, this consolidation is being driven by customer needs and supplier capabilities, which could cause markets to become more competitive as greater economies of scale are achieved by distributors. Customers are increasingly aware of the total costs of fulfillment and of the need to have consistent sources of supply at multiple locations. We believe these customer needs could result in fewer distributors as the remaining distributors become larger and capable of being consistent sources of supply. There can be no assurance that we will be able to take advantage effectively of this trend toward consolidation. The trend in our industry toward consolidation could make it more difficult for us to maintain operating margins.

Our customers also continue to consolidate, and this consolidation could result in the loss of existing customers to our competitors. We typically do not enter into minimum purchase contracts with our customers. The loss of one or more of our significant customers, or their decision to purchase our products in significantly lower quantities than they have in the past, could significantly affect our financial condition, operating results, and cash flows.

We are subject to pricing pressures.

Large customers have historically been able to exert pressure on their outside suppliers and distributors to keep prices low in the highly fragmented building materials distribution industry. In addition, continued consolidation among our customers, particularly dealers, and their customers (i.e., homebuilders), and changes in their respective purchasing policies and payment practices, could result in even further pricing pressure. A decline in the prices of the products we distribute could adversely impact our operating results. When the prices of the products we distribute decline, customer demand for lower prices could result in lower sales prices and, to the extent that our inventory at the time was purchased at higher costs, lower margins. Alternatively, in a rising price environment, our suppliers may increase prices or reduce discounts on the products we distribute, and we may be unable to pass on any cost increase to our customers, thereby resulting in reduced margins and

profits. Furthermore, continued consolidation among our suppliers makes it more difficult for us to negotiate favorable pricing, consignment arrangements, and discount programs with our suppliers, thereby resulting in reduced margins and profits. Overall, these pricing pressures may adversely affect our operating results and cash flows.

Our operating results depend on the successful implementation of our strategy. We may not be able to implement our strategic initiatives successfully, on a timely basis, or at all.

We regularly evaluate the performance of our business and, as a result of such evaluations, we have in the past undertaken and may in the future undertake strategic initiatives within our businesses. Strategic initiatives that we may implement now or in the future may not result in improvements in future financial performance and could result in additional unanticipated costs. If we are unable to realize the benefits of our strategic initiatives, our business, financial condition, cash flows, or results of operations could be adversely affected.

Our future operating results may fluctuate significantly, and our current operating results may not be a good indication of our future performance. Fluctuations in our quarterly financial results could affect our stock price in the future.

Our revenues and operating results have historically varied from period-to-period and we expect that they will continue to do so as a result of a number of factors, many of which are outside of our control. If our quarterly financial results or our predictions of future financial results fail to meet the expectations of securities analysts and investors, our stock price could be negatively affected. Any volatility in our quarterly financial results may make it more difficult for us to raise capital in the future or pursue acquisitions that involve issuances of our stock. In addition, because of this variability, our operating results for prior periods may not be effective predictors of future performance.

Factors associated with our industry, the operation of our business, and the markets for our products may cause our quarterly financial results to fluctuate, including:

- the commodity nature of many of our products and their price movements, which are driven largely by capacity utilization rates and industry cycles that affect supply and demand;
- general economic conditions, including but not limited to housing starts, construction labor shortages, repair and remodel activity and commercial construction, foreclosure rates, interest rates, unemployment rates, and mortgage availability and pricing, as well as other consumer financing mechanisms, that ultimately affect demand for our products;
- operational disruption associated with the integration of the Cedar Creek business;
- supply chain disruptions, including those caused by the spread of contagious illness;
- the highly competitive nature of our industry;
- disintermediation;
- the impact of actuarial assumptions and regulatory activity on pension costs and pension funding requirements;
- the financial condition and creditworthiness of our customers;
- our substantial indebtedness, including the possibility that we may not generate sufficient cash flows from operations or that future borrowings may not be available in amounts sufficient to fulfill our debt obligations and fund other liquidity needs;
- cost of compliance with government regulations;
- adverse customs and tariff rulings including those relating to anti-dumping, countervailing duty, or circumvention investigations;
- protectionist trade policies and import tariffs;
- labor disruptions, shortages of skilled and technical labor, or increased labor costs;
- increased healthcare costs;
- the need to successfully implement succession plans for our senior managers and other associates;
- our ability to successfully complete potential acquisitions, achieve expected synergies from acquisitions, or efficiently integrate acquired operations;
- disruption in our information technology systems;
- significant maintenance issues or failures with respect to our tractors, trailers, forklifts, and other major equipment;
- severe weather phenomena such as drought, hurricanes, tornadoes, and fire;
- condemnations of all or part of our real property; and
- fluctuations in the market for our equity.

Any one of the factors above or the cumulative effect of some of the factors referred to above may result in significant fluctuations in our quarterly financial and other operating results, including fluctuations in our key metrics. The variability and unpredictability could result in our failing to meet our internal operating plan or the expectations of securities analysts or

investors for any period. If we fail to meet or exceed such expectations for these or any other reasons, the market price of our shares could fall substantially and we could face costly lawsuits, including securities class action suits.

We have sold and leased back certain of our distribution centers under long-term non-cancelable leases, and may enter into similar transactions in the future. Many of these leases are (or will be) finance leases, and our debt and interest expense may increase as a result.

As a result of real estate financing transactions through sale-leaseback arrangements, certain of our distribution centers are leased under non-cancelable leases. These leases typically have initial terms of approximately fifteen years, and most provide options to renew for specified periods of time. We may enter into additional sale and lease-back transactions in the future. The leases resulting from these transactions are generally recognized and accounted for as finance leases, which may be counted as indebtedness, including for purposes of financial covenants in the agreements governing our debt, and may significantly increase the stated interest expense that is recognized in our income statements.

Many of our distribution centers are leased, and if we close a leased distribution center, we will still be obligated under the applicable lease. In addition, we may be unable to renew the leases at the end of their terms.

If we close a distribution center that is subject to a non-cancelable lease, we would remain committed to perform our obligations under the applicable lease, which would include, among other things, payment of the base rent, insurance, taxes, and other expenses on the leased property for the balance of the lease term. Management may explore offsets to remaining obligations, such as subleasing opportunities or negotiated lease terminations, but there can be no assurance that we can offset remaining obligations on commercially reasonable terms or at all. Our obligation to continue making rental payments with respect to leases for closed distribution centers could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

In addition, at the end of a lease term and any renewal period for a leased distribution center, or for those locations where we have no renewal options remaining, we may be unable to renew the lease without additional cost, if at all. If we are unable to renew our distribution center leases, we may close or, if possible, relocate the distribution center, which could subject us to additional costs and risks which could have a material adverse effect on our business. Additionally, the revenue and profit generated at a relocated distribution center may not equal the revenue and profit generated at the previous location.

We may not be able to monetize remaining real estate assets if we experience adverse market conditions.

We monetized a substantial amount of our real estate assets during fiscal 2019 and the first fiscal quarter of 2020, and we have designated certain non-operating properties as held for sale, which we currently are actively marketing. We believe there will be future opportunities to monetize our remaining real estate portfolio's equity value for debt reduction and investment purposes via sale leaseback and other strategic real estate transactions. However, real estate investments are relatively illiquid. We may not be able to sell the properties we have targeted for disposition or that we may decide to monetize in the future, due to adverse market conditions.

We are exposed to product liability and other claims and legal proceedings related to our business and the products we distribute, which may exceed the coverage of our insurance.

The building products industry has been subject to personal injury and property damage claims arising from alleged exposure to raw materials contained in building products as well as claims for incidents of catastrophic loss, such as building fires. As a distributor of building materials, we face an inherent risk of exposure to product liability claims in the event that the use of the products we have distributed in the past or may in the future distribute is alleged to have resulted in economic loss, personal injury or property damage, or violated environmental, health or safety, or other laws. Such product liability claims may include allegations of defects in manufacturing, defects in design, a failure to warn of dangers inherent in the product, negligence, strict liability, or a breach of warranties. We are also from time to time subject to casualty, contract, tort, and other claims relating to our business, the products we have distributed in the past or may in the future distribute and the services we have provided in the past or may in the future provide, either directly or through third parties. We rely on manufacturers and other suppliers, including manufacturers and suppliers located outside of the United States, to provide us with the products we sell or distribute. Since we do not have direct control over the quality of products that are manufactured or supplied to us by third parties, we are particularly vulnerable to risks relating to the quality of such products. In addition, operating hazards, such as unloading heavy products, operating large machinery and driving hazards, which are inherent in our business and some of which may be outside of our control, can cause personal injury and loss of life, damage to or destruction of property, plant, and equipment and environmental damage.

We cannot predict or, in some cases, control the costs to defend or resolve such claims. We cannot assure you that we will be able to maintain suitable and adequate insurance on acceptable terms or that such insurance will provide adequate protection against potential liabilities, and the cost of any product liability or other proceeding, even if resolved in our favor, could be substantial. Additionally, we do not carry insurance for all categories of risk that our business may encounter. Any significant uninsured liability may require us to pay substantial amounts. There can be no assurance that any current or future claims will not adversely affect our financial position, cash flows, or results of operations.

A change in our product mix could adversely affect our results of operations.

Our results may be affected by a change in our product mix. Our outlook, budgeting, and strategic planning assume a certain mix of product sales. If actual results vary from this projected mix of product sales, our financial results could be negatively impacted. Additionally, gross margins vary across our product lines. If the mix of products shifts from higher margin product categories to lower margin product categories, our overall gross margins and profitability may be adversely affected. Consequently, changes in our product mix could have a material adverse impact on our financial condition and operating results.

Relatedly, our product sales to a customer may be dependent on the supplier and the brands we distribute. If we are unable to supply certain brands to our customers, then our ability to sell to existing customers and acquire new customers will be difficult to accomplish. As a result, our revenue, operating performance, cash flows, and net income may be adversely affected.

If petroleum prices increase, our results of operations could be adversely affected.

Petroleum prices and availability of petroleum products are subject to political, economic, and market factors that are outside our control. Political events in petroleum-producing regions as well as hurricanes and other weather-related events may cause the price of fuel to increase. Within our business units, we deliver products to our customers primarily via our fleet of trucks. Our operating profit may be adversely affected if we are unable to obtain the fuel we require or to fully offset the anticipated impact of higher fuel prices through increased prices or fuel surcharges to our customers. Besides passing fuel costs on to customers, we have at times entered into forward purchase contracts for fuel used at some of our facilities that protect against fuel price increases. If shortages occur in the supply of necessary petroleum products and we are not able to pass along the full impact of increased petroleum prices to our customers or otherwise protect ourselves by entering into forward purchase contracts, then our results of operations would be adversely affected.

We are subject to information technology security risks and business interruption risks, and may incur increasing costs in an effort to minimize those risks.

Our business employs information technology systems to secure confidential information, such as employee data, including social security numbers and personal health data. We may not have the resources or technical sophistication to anticipate or prevent rapidly evolving types of cyber-attacks. Any compromise of our security could result in a loss or misuse of our confidential information, violation of applicable privacy and other laws, significant legal and financial exposure, damage to our reputation, interruption of our business operations, and a loss of confidence in our security measures; any of which could harm our business. We may also be subject to phishing attacks, wherein individuals may fraudulently purport to be an agent of a reputable company in order to induce our employees to reveal information or obtain resources. We are also susceptible to malware, ransomware, denial of service, and other attacks that could adversely affect our information technology systems. Although we utilize various procedures and controls to monitor and mitigate these threats, there can be no assurance that these procedures and controls will be sufficient to prevent security threats from materializing. As cyber-attacks become more sophisticated generally, we may incur significant costs to strengthen our systems from outside intrusions, and/or obtain insurance coverage related to the threat of such attacks.

Additionally, our business is reliant upon information technology systems to, among other things, manage and route our sales calls, manage inventories and accounts receivable, make purchasing decisions, monitor our results of operations, and place orders with our vendors and process orders from our customers. These systems may be vulnerable to natural disasters, telecommunications failures and similar events, employee errors or to intentional acts of misconduct, such as security breaches or attacks. The occurrence of any of these events or acts, or any other unanticipated problems, could result in damage to or the unavailability of these systems. Such damage or unavailability could, despite any existing disaster recovery and business continuity arrangements, interrupt the availability of one or more of our information technology systems. We have from time to time experienced such disruptions and they may occur in the future. Disruptions in these systems could materially impact our ability to buy and sell our products, as well as generally operate our business, which could reduce our revenue.

We establish insurance-related deductible/retention reserves based on historical loss development factors, which could lead to adjustments in the future based on actual development experience.

We retain a significant portion of the accident risk under our vehicle liability and workers' compensation insurance programs; and, beginning in fiscal 2018, we were self-insured for health insurance, which is limited by stop-loss coverage. Our self-insurance accruals are based on actuarially estimated, undiscounted cost of claims, which includes claims incurred but not reported. While we believe our estimation processes are well designed, every estimation process is inherently subject to limitations. Fluctuations in the frequency or amount of claims make it difficult to precisely predict the ultimate cost of claims. The actual cost of claims can be different than the historical selected loss development factors because of safety performance, payment patterns, and settlement patterns.

Our business operations could suffer significant losses from natural disasters, catastrophes, fire, or other unexpected events.

While we maintain insurance covering our facilities, including business interruption insurance, our warehouse facilities could be materially damaged by natural disasters, such as floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, and earthquakes, or by fire, adverse weather conditions, civil unrest, condemnation, or other unexpected events or disruptions to our facilities. We could incur uninsured losses and liabilities arising from such events, including damage to our reputation, and/or suffer material losses in operational capacity, which could have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition, and results of operations. In addition, war, terrorism, geopolitical uncertainties, and public health issues could cause damage or disruption to the global economy, and thus could have a material adverse effect on us, our suppliers and our customers.

We could be the subject of securities class action litigation due to stock price volatility, which could divert management's attention and adversely affect our results of operations.

The stock market in general, and market prices for the securities of companies like ours in particular, have from time to time experienced volatility that often has been unrelated to the operating performance of the underlying companies. These broad market and industry fluctuations may adversely affect the market price of our common stock, regardless of our operating performance. In certain situations in which the market price of a stock has been volatile, holders of that stock have instituted securities class action litigation against the company that issued the stock. If any of our stockholders were to bring a similar lawsuit against us, the defense and disposition of the lawsuit could be costly and divert the time and attention of our management and harm our operating results.

The activities of activist stockholders could have a negative impact on our business and results of operations.

While we seek to actively engage with stockholders and consider their views on business and strategy, we could be subject to actions or proposals from stockholders or others that do not align with our business strategies or the interests of our other stockholders. Responding to these stockholders could be costly and time-consuming, disrupt our business and operations, and divert the attention of our Board of Directors and senior management. Uncertainties associated with such activities could interfere with our ability to effectively execute our strategic plan, impact long-term growth, and limit our ability to hire and retain personnel. In addition, actions of these stockholders may cause periods of fluctuation in our stock price based on temporary or speculative market perceptions or other factors that do not necessarily reflect the underlying fundamentals and prospects of our business.

A significant percentage of our employees are unionized. Wage increases or work stoppages by our unionized employees may reduce our results of operations.

As of December 28, 2019, we employed approximately 2,200 people. Approximately 20% of our employees were covered by collective bargaining agreements ("CBAs") negotiated between the company and various local unions. Three of those CBAs covering approximately 30 employees are up for renewal in fiscal 2020.

Although we have generally had good relations with our unionized employees, and expect to renew collective bargaining agreements as they expire, no assurances can be provided that we will be able to reach a timely agreement as to the renewal of the agreements, and their expiration or continued work under an expired agreement, as applicable, could result in a work stoppage. In addition, we may become subject to material cost increases, or additional work rules imposed by agreements with labor unions. The foregoing could increase our selling, general, and administrative expenses in absolute terms and/or as a percentage of net sales. In addition, work stoppages or other labor disturbances may occur in the future, which could adversely impact our net sales and/or selling, general, and administrative expenses. All of these factors could negatively impact our operating results and cash flows.

Our ability to utilize our net operating loss carryovers may be limited.

At December 28, 2019, we had federal net operating loss (“NOL”) carryforwards of approximately \$61.8 million. Under Sections 382 and 383 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, if a corporation undergoes an “ownership change,” the corporation’s ability to use its pre-change net operating loss carryforwards and other pre-change tax attributes to offset its post-change income may be limited. In general, an “ownership change” will be deemed to have occurred if there is a cumulative change in our ownership by “5-percent stockholders” that exceeds 50 percentage points over a rolling three-year period. Similar rules may apply under state tax laws.

Sales in the underwritten public offering of 4,443,428 shares of our common stock by our former majority shareholder that closed on October 23, 2017 (the “Resale Offering”) caused an ownership change limitation under Section 382 to be triggered. That limitation could restrict our ability to use our NOL carryforwards.

In general, the annual use limitation under Section 382 is determined by multiplying the aggregate value of our stock at the time of the ownership change by a specified tax-exempt interest rate. However, we determined that at the date of the 2017 deemed ownership change, we had a net unrealized built-in gain (“NUBIG”) based primarily on the built-in gains in our owned real estate. The NUBIG was determined based on the difference between the fair market value of our assets and their tax basis as of the ownership change date. Under Section 382(h), the Section 382 limitation will be increased if and to the extent that the NUBIG that existed at the time of the ownership change is recognized for tax purposes after the ownership change during the recognition period ending on October 23, 2022. Limitations on our ability to use NOL carryforwards to offset future taxable income, including gains on sales of real estate, could require us to pay U.S. federal income taxes earlier than would be required if such limitations were not in effect. Similar rules and limitations may apply for state income tax purposes.

Changes in actuarial assumptions for our pension plan could impact our financial results, and funding requirements are mandated by the Federal government.

We sponsor a defined benefit pension plan. Most of the participants in our pension plan are inactive, with all remaining active participants no longer accruing benefits; and the pension plan is closed to new entrants. However, unfavorable changes in various assumptions underlying the pension benefit obligation could adversely impact our financial results. Significant assumptions include, but are not limited to, the discount rate, projected return on plan assets, and mortality rates. In addition, the amount and timing of our pension funding obligations are influenced by funding requirements that are established by the Employee Retirement Income and Security Act of 1974, the Pension Protection Act, Congressional Acts, or other governing bodies.

Costs and liabilities related to our participation in multi-employer pension plans could increase.

We are involved in various multi-employer pension plans in the U.S. based on obligations arising under collective bargaining agreements. Some of these plans are significantly underfunded and may require increased contributions in the future. The amount of any increase or decrease in our required contributions to these multi-employer pension plans will depend upon the outcome of collective bargaining, actions taken by trustees who manage the plan, governmental regulations, the actual return on assets held in the plan, the continued viability and contributions of other employers which contribute to the plan, and the potential payment of a withdrawal liability, among other factors.

Under current law, an employer that withdraws or partially withdraws from a multi-employer pension plan may incur a withdrawal liability to the plan, which represents the portion of the plan’s underfunding that is allocable to the withdrawing employer under very complex actuarial and allocation rules. We have withdrawn, or partially withdrawn, from certain multi-employer plans in the past. We may withdraw or partially withdraw from other multi-employer plans in the future. If, in the future, we do choose to withdraw from any additional multi-employer plans or trigger a partial withdrawal, we likely would need to record a withdrawal liability, which may be material to our financial results. Additionally, a mass withdrawal would require us to record a withdrawal liability, which may be material to our financial results, and would generally obligate us to make payments in perpetuity to the particular plan.

One of the plans to which we are obligated to contribute is the Central States, Southeast and Southwest Areas Pension Fund (the “Central States Plan”). As of January 1, 2017, the plan’s actuary certified that the plan was in critical and declining status, which, among other things, means the funded percentage of the plan was less than 65%. Furthermore, the plan is projected to become insolvent in 2025. It is unclear what will happen to this plan in the future. Our required contributions to the plan may increase, due to potential rehabilitation increases. In addition, if we experience a withdrawal from this plan, we may need to record a significant withdrawal liability. Our estimated withdrawal liability is \$51.1 million if we experience a complete

withdrawal from the plan during fiscal 2020. This number would likely increase if a complete withdrawal occurs in fiscal 2021 or later, and could be significantly higher if a mass withdrawal were to occur in the future.

In the case of a complete withdrawal or a mass withdrawal, our payments to the Central States Plan would include yearly payments of approximately \$1.0 million, which do not include payments for the partial withdrawal liability of approximately \$0.6 million annually. In a complete withdrawal, the payments would not amortize the liability fully; however, payments for a complete withdrawal are limited to a 20-year period. In the case of a mass withdrawal, the liability would never amortize, and payments would continue indefinitely.

Our success depends on our ability to attract, train, and retain highly qualified associates and other key personnel while controlling related labor costs.

To be successful, we must attract, train, and retain a large number of highly qualified associates while controlling related labor costs. Our ability to control labor costs is subject to numerous external factors, including prevailing wage rates and health and other insurance costs.

In many of our markets, highly qualified associates are in high demand and we compete with other businesses for these associates and invest resources in training and incentivizing them. In particular, there is significant competition for qualified drivers in the transportation industry. And interventions and enforcement under the FMCSA Compliance, Safety, and Accountability program may shrink the industry's pool of drivers as those drivers with unfavorable scores may no longer be eligible to drive. There can be no assurance that we will be able to attract or retain highly qualified associates in the future, including those employed by companies we may acquire.

As a result of labor shortages, particularly among our drivers and material handlers, we could be required to utilize temporary or contract labor. Using temporary or contract labor typically requires higher cost, and temporary or contract labor may be less productive than full-time associates. In addition, a shortage of qualified drivers could require us to increase driver compensation, let trucks sit idle, utilize common carriers, utilize less experienced drivers, or face difficulty meeting customer demands, all of which could adversely affect our growth and profitability.

Furthermore, our success is highly dependent on the continued services of our management team. The loss of services of one or more key members of our senior management team could have a material adverse effect on us.

Federal, state, local, and other regulations could impose substantial costs and restrictions on our operations that would reduce our net income.

We are subject to various federal, state, local, and other laws and regulations, including, among other things, transportation regulations promulgated by the U.S. Department of Transportation (the "DOT"), work safety regulations promulgated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, employment regulations promulgated by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, regulations of the U.S. Department of Labor, accounting standards issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the "FASB") or similar entities, and state and local zoning restrictions, building codes and contractors' licensing regulations. More burdensome regulatory requirements in these or other areas may increase our general and administrative costs and adversely affect our financial condition, operating results, and cash flows. Moreover, failure to comply with the regulatory requirements applicable to our business could expose us to litigation and substantial fines and penalties that could adversely affect our financial condition, operating results, and cash flows.

Our transportation operations, upon which we depend to distribute products from our distribution centers, are subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the DOT and the FMCSA, which have broad administrative powers with respect to our transportation operations. Vehicle dimensions and driver hours of service also are subject to both federal and state regulation. More restrictive limitations, including those on vehicle weight and size, trailer length and configuration, or driver hours of service would increase our costs, which, if we are unable to pass these cost increases on to our customers, may increase our selling, general and administrative expenses and adversely affect our financial condition, operating results, and cash flows. If we fail to comply adequately with the DOT and FMCSA regulations or such regulations become more stringent, we could experience increased inspections, regulatory authorities could take remedial action, including imposing fines or shutting down our operations, or we could be subject to increased audit and compliance costs. If any of these events were to occur, our financial condition, operating results, and cash flows could be adversely affected.

In addition, the residential and commercial construction industries are subject to various local, state and federal statutes, ordinances, codes, rules and regulations concerning zoning, building design and safety, construction, contractor licensing, energy conservation, and similar matters, including regulations that impose restrictive zoning and density requirements on the

residential new construction industry or that limit the number of homes or other buildings that can be built within the boundaries of a particular area. Regulatory restrictions may increase our operating expenses and limit the availability of suitable building lots for our customers, any of which could negatively affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We are subject to federal, state, and local environmental protection laws and may have to incur significant costs to comply with these laws and regulations in the future.

Environmental liabilities could arise on the land that we have owned, own or lease, including as a result of the use of underground fuel storage tanks, and these liabilities could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and performance. Federal, state, and local laws and regulations relating to the protection of the environment, including those regulating the use and maintenance of underground storage tanks, may require a current or previous owner or operator of real estate to investigate and remediate hazardous materials, substances and waste releases at or from the property. They may also impose liability for property damage and personal injury stemming from the presence of, or exposure to, hazardous substances. In addition, we could incur costs to comply with such environmental laws and regulations, the violation of which could lead to substantial fines and penalties.

We do not expect to pay dividends on our common stock, and the terms of our loan agreements place restrictions on our ability to pay dividends on our common stock, so any returns to stockholders will be limited to the value of their stock.

We have not declared or paid any cash dividends on our common stock since 2007, and we are restricted from doing so under the terms of our revolving credit facility and term loan facility. In addition, our term loan facility requires us to make certain future loan payments from our available cash flow. Regardless of the restrictions in and requirements under our loan agreements, or the terms of any potential future indebtedness, for the foreseeable future we anticipate that we will retain all available funds and earnings to support our operations and finance the growth and development of our business. Therefore, we do not expect to pay cash dividends in the foreseeable future, so any return to stockholders will be limited to the appreciation in their stock.

Changes in, or interpretation of, accounting principles could result in unfavorable accounting changes.

Our consolidated financial statements are prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and accompanying accounting pronouncements, implementation guidelines, and interpretations. These rules are subject to interpretation by the SEC and various bodies formed to interpret and create appropriate accounting principles. Changes in these rules or their interpretation, such as recent changes regarding lease accounting standards, could significantly change our reported results and may even retroactively affect previously reported transactions. Changes resulting from the adoption of new or revised accounting principles may result in materially different financial results and may require that we make changes to our systems, processes, and controls.

Transfers of our common stock may constitute a change of control under the instruments governing our indebtedness, which may trigger an event of default.

The agreements governing our debt provide that if at any time any person or group of persons acquires 35% or more of our common stock, whether inadvertently or not, then a change of control would be triggered that would result in an event of default under the facilities. In the event of an event of default as a result of such transfers, we may be required to repay any outstanding amounts earlier than anticipated, and the lenders may foreclose on their security interests in our assets or otherwise exercise their remedies with respect to such interests.

Our certificate of incorporation provides that the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware is the exclusive forum for substantially all disputes between us and our stockholders, which could limit our stockholders' ability to obtain a favorable judicial forum for disputes with us.

Our second amended and restated certificate of incorporation, as amended, provides that the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware is the exclusive forum for any derivative action or proceeding brought on our behalf, any action asserting a breach of fiduciary duty, any action asserting a claim against us arising pursuant to the Delaware General Corporation Law, our second amended and restated certificate of incorporation or our amended and restated bylaws, or any action asserting a claim against us that is governed by the internal affairs doctrine. The choice of forum provision may limit a stockholder's ability to bring a claim in a judicial forum that it finds favorable for disputes with us or our directors, officers or other employees, which may discourage such lawsuits against us and our directors, officers, and other employees. If a court were to find the choice of forum provision contained in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation to be inapplicable or unenforceable in an action,

we may incur additional costs associated with resolving such action in other jurisdictions, which could harm our business and financial condition.

Any issuance of preferred stock could make it difficult for another company to acquire us or could otherwise adversely affect holders of our common stock, which could adversely affect the price of our common stock.

Our board of directors has the authority to issue preferred stock and to determine the preferences, limitations, and relative rights of shares of preferred stock and to fix the number of shares constituting any series and the designation of such series, without any further vote or action by our stockholders. Our preferred stock could be issued with voting, liquidation, dividend, and other rights superior to the rights of our common stock. The potential issuance of preferred stock may delay or prevent a change in control of us, discouraging bids for our common stock at a premium over the market price, and adversely affect the market price and the voting and other rights of the holders of our common stock.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

We operate our business out of 64 office and warehouse facilities, 54 of which are leased, and 10 of which are owned. The total square footage of our owned real property is approximately 1.5 million square feet, and the total square footage of our leased real property is approximately 9.7 million square feet. Owned warehouse facilities located in Birmingham, Alabama; Grand Rapids, Michigan; and Tulsa, Oklahoma were identified as held for sale as of the end of fiscal 2019.

Certain of our owned warehouse facilities secured our term loan facility at December 28, 2019. Additionally, we lease two warehouse facilities owned by our pension plan. The following table summarizes our real estate facilities as of March 1, 2020, including their inside square footage, where applicable:

Property Type	Number	Owned Facilities (sq. ft.)	Leased Facilities (sq. ft.)
Office Space ⁽¹⁾	1	—	68,023
Warehouses and other real property ⁽²⁾	67	1,451,861	9,630,915
TOTAL	68	1,451,861	9,698,938

⁽¹⁾ Consists of our corporate headquarters in Marietta, Georgia.

⁽²⁾ Includes properties held for sale.

We also store materials in secured outdoor areas at many of our warehouse locations, which increases warehouse distribution and storage capacity. We believe that the majority of our facilities have sufficient capacity to meet current and projected distribution needs.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We are, and from time to time may be, a party to routine legal proceedings incidental to the operation of our business. The outcome of any pending or threatened proceedings is not expected to have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, operating results, or cash flows, based on our current understanding of the relevant facts. Legal expenses incurred related to these contingencies generally are expensed as incurred. We establish reserves for pending or threatened proceedings when the costs associated with such proceedings become probable and can be reasonably estimated.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

PART II

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS, AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Our equity securities consist of one class of common stock, which is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "BXC".

As of December 28, 2019, there were 9 shareowner accounts of record, and, as of that date, we estimate that there were approximately 2,543 beneficial owners holding our common stock in nominee or "street" name.

We do not pay dividends on our common stock. Any future dividend payments would be subject to the discretion of our Board of Directors and contractual restrictions under our revolving credit facility and our term loan facility.

The following table summarizes the Company's common stock repurchase activity for each month of the quarter ended December 28, 2019:

<u>Period</u>	<u>Total Number Shares Purchased⁽¹⁾</u>	<u>Average Price Paid Per Share</u>
September 29 - November 2, 2019	—	\$ —
November 3 - November 30, 2019	—	\$ —
December 1 - December 28, 2019	373	\$ 10.27
Total	373	

(1) The Company did not repurchase any of its equity securities during the period covered by this report pursuant to any publicly announced plan or program, and no such plan or program is presently in effect. All purchases reflected in the table above pertain to purchases of common stock by the Company in connection with tax withholding obligations of the Company's employees upon the vesting of such employees' restricted stock unit awards.

ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

As a smaller reporting company, we are not required to provide this information.

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

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes and other financial information appearing elsewhere in this Form 10-K. In addition to historical information, the following discussion and other parts of this Form 10-K contain forward-looking information that involves risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated by this forward-looking information due to the factors discussed under "Risk Factors," "Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements," and elsewhere in this Form 10-K.

This section of this Form 10-K does not address certain items regarding the fiscal year ended December 30, 2017 ("fiscal 2017"). Discussion and analysis of fiscal 2017 and year-to-year comparisons between fiscal 2018 and fiscal 2017 not included in this Form 10-K can be found in "Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2018.

Executive Level Overview

Company Background

BlueLinx is a leading distributor of building and industrial products in the U.S. With a combination of market position and geographic coverage, the buying power of centralized procurement, and the strength of a locally-focused sales force and service-driven logistics and operations team, BlueLinx is able to provide a wide range of value-added services and solutions to our customers and suppliers.

We are headquartered in Georgia, with executive offices located at 1950 Spectrum Circle, Suite 300, Marietta, Georgia, and we operate our distribution business through a broad network of distribution centers. We serve many major metropolitan areas in the U.S. and deliver building and industrial products to a variety of wholesale and retail customers.

We distribute products in two principal categories: structural products and specialty products. Structural products include plywood, oriented strand board, rebar and remesh, lumber, spruce, and other wood products primarily used for structural support, and walls in construction projects. Structural products represented approximately 33% of our fiscal 2019 net sales. Specialty products include engineered wood products, moulding, siding (including vinyl products), cedar, metal products (excluding rebar and remesh), and insulation. Specialty products accounted for approximately 67% of our fiscal 2019 net sales.

Recent Developments

Term Loan Facility

In October 2019, we amended our Term Loan Facility to, among other things, permit real estate sale leaseback transactions and modify the "Total Net Leverage Ratio" covenant beginning in the third quarter of 2019. The amendment also established a designated outstanding principal balance level required to maintain the modified "Total Net Leverage Ratio" covenant levels for the 2019 fourth quarter and subsequent quarters. The principal balance level was satisfied on January 31, 2020, through repayments from the real estate financing transactions described below under "Real Estate Transactions" and in Note 16 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

On February 28, 2020, we further amended our Term Loan Facility to provide that we will not be subject to the facility's quarterly "Total Net Leverage Ratio" covenant from and after the time, and then for so long as, the principal balance level under the facility is less than \$45 million.

Revolving Credit Facility

In January 2020, we amended our Revolving Credit Facility to (i) modify the "Seasonal Period" to run from November 15, 2019, through July 15, 2020, for the calendar year 2019, and to run from December 15 of each calendar year through April 15 of each immediately succeeding calendar year for the calendar year 2020 and thereafter, and (ii) extend the measurement period in the definition of "Cash Dominion Event" from three consecutive business days to five consecutive business days. The amendment, which is described further in Note 16 to the Consolidated Financial Statements, better aligns advance rates under the facility with the seasonality associated with our business.

Real Estate Transactions

During the second quarter of 2019, we completed real estate financing transactions on two of our distribution centers. We sold these properties for gross proceeds of \$45.0 million. As a result of these real estate financing transactions, we recognized financing obligations in the amount of the sales price, which will be amortized over the shorter of the lives of the leases or financing obligations. These transactions were completed through sale-leaseback arrangements, and were accounted for as financing transactions, in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Net proceeds were used to reduce our outstanding Term Loan Facility balance.

On December 31, 2019, we completed real estate financing transactions on four distribution centers for gross proceeds of \$33.2 million. On January 31, 2020, we completed additional real estate financing transactions on nine distribution centers for gross proceeds of \$37.0 million. And on February 28, 2020, we completed one additional real estate financing transaction for gross proceeds of \$8.1 million. These transactions, which were completed through sale-leaseback arrangements, were accounted for as financing transactions and we recognized financing obligations in the amount of the sales price, which will be amortized over the shorter of the lives of the leases or financing obligations under U.S. GAAP. Net proceeds from these transactions were used to further reduce our outstanding Term Loan Facility balance.

Industry Conditions

Many of the factors that cause our operations to fluctuate are seasonal or cyclical in nature. Our operating results have historically been correlated with the level of single-family residential housing starts in the U.S. At any time, the demand for new homes is dependent on a variety of factors, including job growth, changes in population and demographics, the availability and cost of mortgage financing, the supply of new and existing homes, and consumer confidence. Since 2011, the U.S. housing market has generally shown improvement. Single-family residential housing starts and permits trended upward at the end of 2019, and we believe the housing market improvement trend will continue in the long term, and that we are well-positioned to support our customers.

Our operating results are also affected by commodity pricing. During 2019, framing lumber commodity prices recovered slightly from their significant 2018 declines, but commodity prices for wood panels continued the decline that began in 2018. These commodity pricing trends negatively impacted our financial results in fiscal 2019. We continue to closely monitor these pricing trends, and work to manage our business, inventory levels, and costs, accordingly.

Factors That Affect Our Operating Results

Our results of operations and financial performance are influenced by a variety of factors, including the following:

- operational disruption associated with the integration of the Cedar Creek business with ours;
- changes in the prices, supply, and/or demand for products that we distribute, including potential changes driven by the spread of contagious illnesses;
- inventory management and commodities pricing;
- new housing starts;
- general economic and business conditions in the U.S.;
- disintermediation by our customers and suppliers;
- acceptance by our customers of our branded and privately branded products;
- new or increased tariffs, duties (including anti-dumping and countervailing duties), and customs restrictions on the products we import;
- financial condition and credit worthiness of our customers;
- supply from key vendors;
- reliability of the technologies we utilize;
- activities of competitors;
- changes in significant operating expenses;
- fuel costs;
- risk of losses associated with accidents;
- exposure to product liability claims and other legal proceedings;
- changes in the availability of capital and interest rates;
- adverse weather patterns or conditions;
- acts of cyber intrusion or other disruptions to our information technology systems;
- variations in the performance of the financial markets, including the credit markets; and
- the risk factors discussed under Item 1A Risk Factors and elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Key Business Metrics

Net Sales

Net sales result primarily from the distribution of products to dealers, industrial manufacturers, manufactured housing producers, and home improvement retailers. All revenues recognized are net of trade allowances, cash discounts, and sales returns. In addition, we provide inventory to certain customers through pre-arranged agreements on a consignment basis. When the consigned inventory is sold by the customer, we also recognize revenue net of trade allowances. Net sales may not be comparable year-over-year due to acquisitions, closed facilities, and market-driven fluctuations in the prices of the inventories we sell.

Gross Profit

Gross profit primarily represents revenues less the product cost from our suppliers (net of earned rebates and discounts), including the cost of inbound freight. The costs of outbound freight, purchasing, receiving, and warehousing are included in selling, general, and administrative expenses within operating expenses. Our gross profit may not be comparable to that of other companies, as other companies may include all or some of the costs related to their distribution network in cost of sales. Market price fluctuations, particularly on structural products vulnerable to commodity price variability, may impact our gross profit.

Results of Operations

Fiscal 2019 Compared to Fiscal 2018

The following table sets forth our results of operations for fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2018, which both comprised 52 weeks.

	Fiscal 2019	% of Net Sales	Fiscal 2018	% of Net Sales
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Net sales	\$ 2,637,268	100.0%	\$ 2,862,850	100.0%
Gross profit	356,915	13.5%	331,854	11.6%
Selling, general, and administrative	304,611	11.6%	319,314	11.2%
Gains from sales of property	(13,082)	(0.5)%	—	—%
Depreciation and amortization	30,232	1.1%	25,826	0.9%
Operating income (loss)	35,154	1.3%	(13,286)	(0.5)%
Interest expense, net	54,218	2.1%	47,301	1.7%
Other expense (income), net	2,544	0.1%	(380)	—%
Loss before benefit from income taxes	(21,608)	(0.8)%	(60,207)	(2.1)%
Benefit from income taxes	(3,952)	(0.1)%	(12,154)	(0.4)%
Net loss	\$ (17,656)	(0.7)%	\$ (48,053)	(1.7)%

The following table sets forth changes in net sales by product category. Prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year product mix of structural and specialty products.

	Fiscal 2019	Fiscal 2018
	(In thousands)	
Sales by category		
Structural products	\$ 862,270	\$ 1,044,348
Specialty products	1,774,998	1,818,502
Total sales	\$ 2,637,268	\$ 2,862,850

The following table sets forth gross margin dollars and percentages by product category versus comparable prior periods. Prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year product mix of structural and specialty products.

	<u>Fiscal 2019</u>	<u>Fiscal 2018</u>
	<u>(Dollars in thousands)</u>	
<i>Gross Profit \$ by category</i>		
Structural products	\$ 75,072	\$ 73,047
Specialty products	281,843	270,846
Inventory adjustments ⁽¹⁾	—	(12,039)
Total gross profit	<u>\$ 356,915</u>	<u>\$ 331,854</u>
<i>Gross margin % by category</i>		
Structural products	8.7%	7.0%
Specialty products	15.9%	14.9%
Total gross margin %	13.5%	11.6%

⁽¹⁾ “Inventory adjustments” includes an adjustment for lower of cost or net realizable value of \$0.3 million for fiscal 2018, and an inventory acquisition step-up charge of \$11.8 million for fiscal 2018.

Discussion of Results of Operations

Net sales. Net sales of \$2.6 billion in fiscal 2019 decreased by 7.9%, or \$0.2 billion, from fiscal 2018. The sales decrease was driven by declines in wood-based commodity prices and supplier and sales disruptions associated with our Cedar Creek integration activities, including the discontinuation of a siding program that impacted sales in 2019. The declines were partially offset by the acquisition of Cedar Creek and the inclusion of Cedar Creek’s sales revenue for all of fiscal year 2019 as opposed to the inclusion of such sales from April 13, 2018, to December 29, 2018, in the prior year.

Gross profit. Total gross profit for fiscal 2019 was \$356.9 million, compared to \$331.9 million in fiscal 2018. Gross margin increased to 13.5% in fiscal 2019, compared to 11.6% in fiscal 2018. Gross margin percentage increased due to greater stability in commodity prices relative to the prior year period. Gross profit increased as a result of commodity price stability, efficiencies, and cost savings gained in connection with the integration of the Cedar Creek business, and the acquisition of Cedar Creek and the inclusion of Cedar Creek’s gross profit for all of fiscal year 2019 as opposed to the inclusion of such gross profit only from April 13, 2018, to December 29, 2018, in the prior year.

Selling, general, and administrative expenses. Selling, general, and administrative (“SG&A”) expenses for fiscal 2019 were \$304.6 million, compared to \$319.3 million, for fiscal 2018. The decrease was primarily due to: (i) approximately \$10.0 million of transaction-related expenses that were incurred in the prior year period in connection with the Cedar Creek acquisition; (ii) the consolidation of overlapping locations after the Cedar Creek acquisition; and (iii) a reduction of operating costs in response to decreases in sales volumes during fiscal 2019. The decrease was partially offset by the inclusion of Cedar Creek expenses for the full year, versus the period from April 13, 2018, to December 29, 2018, in the prior year, and \$9.9 million in additional logistics and third-party freight expenses related to delivery of product to our customers as we took steps to enhance customer service and operational performance.

Gains from sales of property. Total gains from sales of property in fiscal 2019 were \$13.1 million. Gains from the sale and leaseback of properties in fiscal 2018 were deferred, due to the accounting rules for sale and leaseback transactions, and are amortized as a credit to SG&A expenses. The amortization of deferred gain was \$4.0 million and \$5.1 million in fiscal 2019 and 2018, respectively. The accounting treatment of gains from sale and leaseback transactions differs from that of outright sale transactions, as sales of property without leasebacks are allowed immediate and full gain recognition in the period of the sale.

Depreciation and amortization expense. For fiscal 2019, depreciation and amortization expense increased by \$4.4 million to \$30.2 million primarily due to the inclusion of Cedar Creek depreciable assets for the full year, versus the period from April 13, 2018, to December 29, 2018 in the prior year.

Interest expense, net. Interest expense for fiscal 2019 was \$54.2 million, compared to \$47.3 million for fiscal 2018. The increase of \$6.9 million was largely attributable to a higher average debt balance over the period due to the acquisition of Cedar Creek during fiscal 2018.

Benefit from income taxes. Our effective tax rate was 18.3% and 20.2% for fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2018, respectively.

Our effective tax rate for fiscal 2019 was impacted by: (i) the effect of the valuation allowance for disallowed interest expense stemming from federal tax reforms, and separate company state income taxes; (ii) the tax benefit related to the lapse of statutes of limitations from uncertain tax positions; (iii) changes in the state effective tax rate used to value deferred tax assets; and (iv) the permanent addback of certain nondeductible expenses including executive compensation and nondeductible meals and entertainment.

Our effective tax rate for fiscal 2018 was impacted by: (i) the permanent addback of certain nondeductible expenses including transaction costs related to the Cedar Creek acquisition, executive compensation, and excess tax benefits on share-based compensation; (ii) the tax benefit related to the lapse of statutes of limitations for uncertain tax positions; (iii) the effect of the valuation allowance for separate company state income tax losses; and (iv) changes in the state effective tax rate used to value deferred tax assets.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

We expect our primary sources of liquidity to be cash flows from sales in the normal course of our operations and amounts currently available from our Revolving Credit Facility. We expect that these sources will be sufficient to fund our ongoing cash requirements for the foreseeable future, including at least the next 12 months.

Sources and Uses of Cash

Operating Activities

During fiscal 2019, cash flows used in operating activities totaled \$9.6 million. This cash activity was primarily driven by a net loss of \$17.7 million which included a non-cash gain on sale of property of \$13.1 million and changes in working capital components, including an increase in cash used by accounts payable of \$15.5 million, an increase in cash provided by accounts receivable of \$15.6 million, and a decrease in cash used by other assets and liabilities of \$10.9 million.

Fiscal 2018 cash flows provided by operating activities totaled \$41.6 million. This cash activity was primarily driven by changes in working capital components, including an increase in cash provided by accounts payable of \$25.0 million, and an increase in cash provided by accounts receivable of \$60.0 million, partially offset by a net loss of \$48.1 million.

Investing Activities

During fiscal 2019, our net cash provided by investing activities was \$21.1 million, which was substantially driven by cash received from property sales of \$19.9 million, as well as cash received of \$6.0 million that was held by third parties in connection with our 2018 acquisition of Cedar Creek, offset by cash paid for equipment of \$4.8 million.

During fiscal 2018, our net cash used in investing activities was \$242.7 million, which was substantially driven by the cash paid for the acquisition of Cedar Creek, net of cash acquired, of \$348.1 million, offset by cash received from property sales and sale-leaseback transactions of \$108.1 million.

Financing Activities

Net cash used in financing activities was \$8.9 million during fiscal 2019, which primarily reflected repayments on our term loan of \$32.4 million and net repayments on our Revolving Credit Facility of \$6.8 million, offset by proceeds from real estate financing transactions of \$44.9 million, and payments on finance leases of \$9.9 million.

Net cash provided by financing activities was \$205.4 million during fiscal 2018, which primarily reflected the addition of our new Term Loan Facility of \$180.0 million, and net borrowings on our Revolving Credit Facility of \$150.6 million, offset by payments of principal on our 2006 CMBS mortgage loan of \$97.8 million, which were largely derived from sales of property and sale-leaseback transactions. The addition of our Term Loan Facility and increased borrowings on our Revolving Credit Facility was due to our acquisition of Cedar Creek.

Operating Working Capital

Operating working capital is an important measurement we use to determine the efficiencies of our operations and our ability to readily convert assets into cash. Operating working capital is defined as current assets less current liabilities plus the current portion of long-term debt. Management of operating working capital helps us monitor our progress in meeting our goals to enhance our return on working capital assets.

<i>Selected financial information</i>		
	December 28, 2019	December 29, 2018
	(In thousands)	
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 11,643	\$ 8,939
Receivables, less allowance for doubtful accounts	192,872	208,434
Inventories, net	345,806	341,851
Other current assets	27,718	40,629
Total current assets	<u>\$ 578,039</u>	<u>\$ 599,853</u>
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 132,348	\$ 149,188
Accrued compensation	7,639	7,974
Current maturities of long-term debt, net of discount	2,176	1,736
Finance leases - short-term	6,385	7,555
Real estate deferred gains - short-term	3,935	5,330
Operating lease liabilities - short-term	7,317	—
Other current liabilities	11,323	24,985
Total current liabilities	<u>\$ 171,123</u>	<u>\$ 196,768</u>
Operating working capital	<u>\$ 409,092</u>	<u>\$ 404,821</u>

Operating working capital increased to \$409.1 million as of December 28, 2019, from \$404.8 million as of December 29, 2018. The increase in operating working capital is primarily due to a decrease in accounts payable of \$16.8 million and a decrease in other current liabilities of \$13.7 million, offset by a decrease in receivables of \$15.6 million, a decrease in other current assets of \$12.9 million, and the establishment in 2019 under ASC 842 of the operating lease liabilities - short-term category of \$7.3 million.

Debt and Credit Sources

As of December 28, 2019 and December 29, 2018, long-term debt consisted of the following:

Maturity Date	December 28, 2019	December 29, 2018
	(In thousands)	
Revolving Credit Facility (net of discounts and debt issuance costs of \$4.5 million and \$6.0 million at December 28, 2019 and December 29, 2018, respectively)	October 10, 2022 \$ 322,041	\$ 327,319
Term Loan Facility (net of discounts and debt issuance costs of \$8.1 million and \$6.7 million at December 28, 2019 and December 29, 2018, respectively)	October 13, 2023 138,574	172,356
Total debt	460,615	499,675
Less: current portion of long-term debt	(2,176)	(1,736)
Long-term debt, net	<u>\$ 458,439</u>	<u>\$ 497,939</u>

Revolving Credit Facility

In April 2018 we amended and restated our Revolving Credit Facility to provide for a senior secured revolving loan and letter of credit facility of up to \$600 million and an uncommitted accordion feature that permits us to increase the facility by an aggregate additional principal amount of up to \$150 million. If we obtain the full amount of the additional increases in commitments, the Revolving Credit Facility will allow borrowings of up to \$750 million. Borrowings under the Revolving Credit Facility are subject to availability under the “Borrowing Base” (as that term is defined in the Revolving Credit Facility). Letters of credit in an aggregate amount of up to \$30 million are also available under the Revolving Credit Facility, which would reduce the amount of the revolving loans available under the facility. The Revolving Credit Agreement provides for interest at a rate per annum equal to (i) LIBOR plus a margin ranging from 1.75 percent to 2.25 percent, with the margin determined based upon average excess availability for the immediately preceding fiscal quarter for loans based on LIBOR, or (ii) the administrative agent’s base rate plus a margin ranging from 0.75 percent to 1.25 percent, with the margin based upon average excess availability for the immediately preceding fiscal quarter for loans based on the base rate.

If excess availability under the Revolving Credit Facility falls below the greater of (i) \$50 million and (ii) 10 percent of the lesser of (a) the borrowing base and (b) the maximum permitted credit at such time, we will be required to maintain a fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.0 to 1.0 until excess availability has been at least the greater of (i) \$50 million and (ii) 10 percent of the lesser of (a) the borrowing base and (b) the maximum permitted credit at such time for a period of 30 consecutive days.

In January 2020, we amended the Revolving Credit Facility to (i) modify the “Seasonal Period” to run from November 15, 2019, through July 15, 2020, for the calendar year 2019, and to run from December 15 of each calendar year through April 15 of each immediately succeeding calendar year for the calendar year 2020 and thereafter, and (ii) extend the measurement period in the definition of “Cash Dominion Event” from three consecutive business days to five consecutive business days. The amendment, which is described further in Note 16 to the Consolidated Financial Statements, better aligns advance rates under the facility with the seasonality associated with our business.

As of December 28, 2019, we had outstanding borrowings of \$326.5 million, excess availability of \$80.0 million, and a weighted average interest rate of 3.9% under our Revolving Credit Facility. As of December 29, 2018, we had outstanding borrowings of \$333.3 million, excess availability of \$91.7 million and a weighted average interest rate of 4.6% under the facility.

We were in compliance with all covenants under the Revolving Credit Facility as of December 28, 2019.

Term Loan Facility

In April 2018, we entered into a Credit and Guaranty Agreement with HPS Investment Partners, LLC, and other financial institutions as party thereto. The agreement provides for a Term Loan Facility of \$180.0 million secured substantially by all our assets. Borrowings under the Term Loan Facility may be made as Base Rate Loans or Eurodollar Rate Loans. The Base Rate Loans will bear interest at the rate per annum equal to (i) the greatest of the (a) U.S. prime lending rate published in The Wall Street Journal, (b) the Federal Funds Effective Rate plus 0.50 percent, and (c) the sum of the Adjusted Eurodollar Rate of one month plus 1.00 percent, provided that the Base Rate shall at no time be less than 2.00 percent per annum; and (ii) plus the Applicable Margin, as described below. Eurodollar Rate Loans will bear interest at the rate per annum equal to (i) the ICE Benchmark Administration LIBOR Rate, provided that the Adjusted Eurodollar Rate shall at no time be less than 1.00 percent per annum; plus (ii) the Applicable Margin. The Applicable Margin will be 6.00 percent with respect to Base Rate Loans and 7.00 percent with respect to Eurodollar Rate Loans.

In October 2019, we amended the Term Loan Facility to, among other things, permit real estate sale leaseback transactions and modify the “Total Net Leverage Ratio” covenant beginning in the third quarter of 2019. The amendment also established a designated outstanding principal balance level required to maintain the modified “Total Net Leverage Ratio” covenant levels for the 2019 fourth quarter and subsequent quarters. In December 2019, we amended the Term Loan Facility to extend the period for satisfying the designated outstanding principal balance level, and the principal balance level was satisfied on January 31, 2020, through repayments from real estate financing transactions as described in Note 16 to our Consolidated Financial Statements.

On February 28, 2020, we further amended our Term Loan Facility to provide that we will not be subject to the facility’s quarterly “Total Net Leverage Ratio” covenant from and after the time, and then for so long as, the principal balance level under the facility is less than \$45 million.

The Term Loan Facility permits us to enter into real estate sale leaseback transactions with the net proceeds therefrom to be used for repayment of indebtedness under the facility, subject to payment of an applicable prepayment premium. In addition, proceeds from the sale of “Specified Properties” will be used for the repayment of indebtedness under the Term Loan Facility, subject to payment of an applicable prepayment premium, or, under certain circumstances, repayment of indebtedness under our Revolving Credit Facility.

The Term Loan Facility required maintenance of a total net leverage ratio of 6.25 to 1.00 for the fiscal quarter ending December 28, 2019, and such required covenant level generally reduces on a quarterly basis over the term of the Term Loan Facility.

As of December 28, 2019, we had outstanding borrowings of \$146.7 million under our Term Loan Facility and a stated interest rate of 8.7 percent per annum.

We were in compliance with all covenants under the Term Loan Facility as of December 28, 2019.

2006 CMBS Mortgage Loan

Our 2006 CMBS mortgage loan, which was paid in full in the first quarter of 2018, was secured by substantially all of the Company’s owned distribution facilities and a first priority pledge of the equity in the Company’s subsidiaries which held the real property that secured the mortgage loan.

Pension Funding Obligations

We were required to make four quarterly cash contributions during 2019 and 2020 totaling approximately \$1.8 million, relating to our fiscal 2019 funding year pension contributions. In 2012, we obtained a funding waiver for that plan year, which was repaid over the successive five-year period, through the 2017 funding year ending September 15, 2018, with principal and interest payments totaling approximately \$0.7 million each year. In 2013, we contributed real property to the pension plan to satisfy minimum contribution requirements. Although such real property contribution was recognized for funding purposes, it was not recognized under GAAP, as this transaction did not meet the requirements to qualify as a sale under GAAP. We continue to evaluate pension funding obligations and requirements in order to meet our obligations while maintaining flexibility for working capital requirements. See Note 9 to our Consolidated Financial Statements.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

As of December 28, 2019, we did not have any material off-balance sheet arrangements.

Critical Accounting Policies

Our consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S., which require management to make estimates, judgments, and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. We believe that our most critical accounting policies and estimates relate to: (1) revenue recognition; (2) our defined benefit pension plan; and (3) income taxes.

Accounting estimates and assumptions discussed in this section are those that we consider to be the most critical to an understanding of our financial statements because they involve significant judgments and uncertainties. All of these estimates reflect our best judgment about current, and for some estimates future, economic and market conditions and their potential effects based on information available as of the date of these financial statements. If these conditions change from those expected, it is reasonably possible that the judgments and estimates described below could change, which may result in our recording additional pension liabilities, or increased tax liabilities, among other effects.

Management has discussed the development, selection, and disclosure of critical accounting policies and estimates with the Audit Committee of the Company’s Board of Directors. While our estimates and assumptions are based on our knowledge of current events and actions we may undertake in the future, actual results ultimately may differ from these estimates and assumptions. For a discussion of the Company’s significant accounting policies, see Note 1 to our Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Revenue Recognition

We recognize revenue when the following criteria are met: (1) Contract with the customer has been identified; (2) Performance obligations in the contract have been identified; (3) Transaction price has been determined; (4) The transaction price has been allocated to the performance obligations; and (5) When (or as) performance obligations are satisfied. For us, this

generally means that we recognize revenue when title to our products is transferred to our customers. Title usually transfers upon shipment to, or receipt at, our customers' locations, as determined by the specific sales terms of each transaction. Our customers can earn certain incentives including, but not limited to, cash discounts and rebates. These incentives are deducted from revenue recognized. In preparing the financial statements, management must make estimates related to the contractual terms, customer performance, and sales volume to determine the total amounts recorded as deductions from revenue. Management also considers past results in making such estimates. The actual amounts ultimately paid may be different from our estimates, and recorded once they have been determined.

Defined Benefit Pension Plan

We sponsor and contribute to a defined benefit pension plan. Most of the participants in the plan are inactive, with all remaining active participants no longer accruing benefits; and the plan is closed to new entrants. Management is required to make certain critical estimates related to actuarial assumptions used to determine our pension expense and related obligation. We believe the most critical assumptions are related to (1) the discount rate used to determine the present value of the liabilities and (2) the expected long-term rate of return on plan assets. All of our actuarial assumptions are reviewed annually, or upon any mid-year curtailment or settlement, should any such event occur. Changes in these assumptions could have a material impact on the measurement of our pension expense and related obligation. At each measurement date, we determine the discount rate by reference to rates of high-quality, long-term corporate bonds that mature in a pattern similar to the future payments we anticipate making under the plan. As of December 28, 2019, and December 29, 2018, the weighted-average discount rate used to compute our benefit obligation was 3.21% and 4.37%, respectively. The expected long-term rate of return on plan assets is based upon the long-term outlook of our investment strategy as well as our historical returns and volatilities for each asset class. We also review current levels of interest rates and inflation to assess the reasonableness of our long-term rates. Our pension plan investment objective is to ensure our plan has sufficient funds to meet its benefit obligations when they become due. As a result, we periodically revise asset allocations, where appropriate, to improve returns and manage risk. The weighted-average expected long-term rate of return used to calculate our pension expense was 6.00% for both fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2018.

The impact of a 0.25% change in these critical assumptions is as follows:

Change in Assumption	Effect on 2020 Pension Expense	Effect on Accrued Pension Liability at December 28, 2019
	(In thousands)	
0.25% decrease in discount rate	\$ (30)	\$ 3,104
0.25% increase in discount rate	\$ 30	\$ (2,890)
0.25% decrease in expected long-term rate of return on assets	\$ 204	\$ —
0.25% increase in expected long-term rate of return on assets	\$ (204)	\$ —

As almost all of the participants in the pension plan are inactive, we amortize actuarial gains and losses over the estimated average remaining life expectancy of the inactive participants, rather than the estimated average remaining service period of the active participants. The sensitivity analysis presented above reflects these assumptions.

Income Taxes

Our annual tax rate is based on our income, statutory tax rates, and tax planning opportunities available to us in the various jurisdictions in which we operate. Significant judgment is required in determining our annual tax expense and in evaluating our tax positions. We establish reserves to remove some or all of the tax benefit of any of our tax positions at the time we determine that the positions become uncertain based upon one of the following: (1) the tax position is not "more likely than not" to be sustained; (2) the tax position is "more likely than not" to be sustained, but for a lesser amount; or (3) the tax position is "more likely than not" to be sustained, but not in the financial period in which the tax position was originally taken. For purposes of evaluating whether or not a tax position is uncertain, (1) we presume the tax position will be examined by the relevant taxing authority that has full knowledge of all relevant information, (2) the technical merits of a tax position are derived from authorities such as legislation and statutes, legislative intent, regulations, rulings, and case law and their applicability to the facts and circumstances of the tax position, and (3) each tax position is evaluated without considerations of the possibility of offset or aggregation with other tax positions taken. We adjust these reserves, including any impact on the related interest and penalties, in light of changing facts and circumstances, such as the progress of a tax audit. Refer to Note 6 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

A number of years may elapse before a particular matter for which we have established a reserve is audited and finally resolved. The number of years with open tax audits varies depending on the tax jurisdiction. The tax benefit that has been

previously reserved because of a failure to meet the “more likely than not” recognition threshold would be recognized in our income tax expense in the first interim period when the uncertainty disappears under any one of the following conditions: (1) the tax position is “more likely than not” to be sustained; (2) the tax position, amount, and/or timing is ultimately settled through negotiation or litigation; or (3) the statute of limitations for the tax position has expired. Settlement of any particular issue would usually require the use of cash.

On December 22, 2017, the U.S. government enacted tax legislation commonly known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (the “Tax Act”). The Tax Act provides for significant changes to tax law for tax years beginning after December 31, 2017, including, but not limited to, the reduction of the U.S. federal corporate income tax rate from 35% to 21%, repeal of the corporate alternative minimum tax (“AMT”), and additional limitations on the deductibility of interest expense and executive compensation.

Tax law requires items to be included in the tax return at different times than when these items are reflected in the consolidated financial statements. As a result, the annual tax rate reflected in our consolidated financial statements is different from that reported in our tax return (our cash tax rate). Some of these differences are permanent, such as expenses that are not deductible in our tax return, and some differences reverse over time, such as depreciation expense. These timing differences create deferred tax assets and liabilities. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on temporary differences between the financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities. The tax rates used to determine deferred tax assets or liabilities are the enacted tax rates in effect for the year and manner in which the differences are expected to reverse. Based on the evaluation of all available information, we recognize future tax benefits, such as net operating loss carryforwards, to the extent that realizing these benefits is considered more likely than not.

We evaluate our ability to realize the tax benefits associated with deferred tax assets by analyzing our forecasted taxable income using both historical and projected future operating results, the reversal of existing taxable temporary differences, taxable income in prior carryback years (if permitted), and the availability of tax planning strategies. A valuation allowance is required to be established unless management determines that it is more likely than not that we will ultimately realize the tax benefit associated with a deferred tax asset. As of December 28, 2019, positive evidence continues to outweigh negative evidence, so no valuation allowance was deemed necessary except to the extent of our disallowed interest expense and our separate company state NOLs. The valuation allowances related to our disallowed interest expense and separate company state NOLs approximate \$4.8 million and \$11.4 million, respectively, for a total of approximately \$16.2 million of valuation allowance. See Note 6 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

For a summary of recent accounting pronouncements applicable to our consolidated financial statements, see Note 1 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

ITEM 7A. *QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK*

As a smaller reporting company, we are not required to provide this information.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Index to Consolidated Financial Statements

	<u>Page</u>
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	33
Consolidated Balance Sheets	34
Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Loss	35
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows	36
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity (Deficit)	37
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	38

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

**The Board of Directors and Stockholders of
BlueLinx Holdings Inc. and subsidiaries
Marietta, Georgia**

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of BlueLinx Holdings Inc. and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of December 28, 2019 and December 29, 2018, the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive loss, cash flows, and stockholders’ deficit for the years then ended, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the “consolidated financial statements”). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company at December 28, 2019 and December 29, 2018, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”), the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of December 28, 2019, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (“COSO”) and our report dated March 11, 2020 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

Basis for Opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ BDO USA, LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2015.

Atlanta, Georgia
March 11, 2020

**BLUELIX HOLDINGS INC.
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

December 28, 2019 **December 29, 2018**
(In thousands, except share data)

ASSETS

Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 11,643	\$ 8,939
Receivables, less allowances of \$3,236 and \$3,656, respectively	192,872	208,434
Inventories, net	345,806	341,851
Other current assets	27,718	40,629
Total current assets	<u>578,039</u>	<u>599,853</u>
Property and equipment:		
Land and land improvements	21,409	21,454
Buildings	167,249	174,138
Machinery and equipment	117,682	111,680
Construction in progress	1,727	1,126
Property and equipment, at cost	<u>308,067</u>	<u>308,398</u>
Accumulated depreciation	(112,299)	(103,285)
Property and equipment, net	<u>195,768</u>	<u>205,113</u>
Operating lease right-of-use assets	54,408	—
Goodwill	47,772	47,772
Intangible assets, net	26,384	35,222
Deferred tax assets	53,993	52,645
Other non-current assets	15,061	19,284
Total assets	<u>\$ 971,425</u>	<u>\$ 959,889</u>

LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT

Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 132,348	\$ 149,188
Accrued compensation	7,639	7,974
Current maturities of long-term debt, net of discount and debt issuance costs of \$74 and \$64, respectively	2,176	1,736
Finance leases - short-term	6,385	7,555
Real estate deferred gains - short-term	3,935	5,330
Operating lease liabilities - short-term	7,317	—
Other current liabilities	11,323	24,985
Total current liabilities	<u>171,123</u>	<u>196,768</u>
Non-current liabilities:		
Long-term debt, net of discount and debt issuance costs of \$12,481 and \$12,665, respectively	458,439	497,939
Finance leases - long-term	146,611	143,486
Real estate financing obligation	44,914	—
Real estate deferred gains - long-term	81,886	86,011
Operating lease liabilities - long-term	47,091	—
Pension benefit obligation	23,420	26,668
Other non-current liabilities	24,024	23,680
Total liabilities	<u>997,508</u>	<u>974,552</u>
Commitments and contingencies - Note 14		
STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT		
Common Stock, \$0.01 par value, Authorized - 20,000,000 shares, Issued and Outstanding - 9,365,768 and 9,293,794, respectively	94	92
Additional paid-in capital	260,974	258,596
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(34,563)	(37,129)
Accumulated stockholders' deficit	(252,588)	(236,222)
Total stockholders' deficit	<u>(26,083)</u>	<u>(14,663)</u>
Total liabilities and stockholders' deficit	<u>\$ 971,425</u>	<u>\$ 959,889</u>

BLUELINX HOLDINGS INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND
COMPREHENSIVE LOSS

	Fiscal Year Ended December 28, 2019	Fiscal Year Ended December 29, 2018
	(In thousands, except per share data)	
Net sales	\$ 2,637,268	\$ 2,862,850
Cost of sales	2,280,353	2,530,996
Gross profit	<u>356,915</u>	<u>331,854</u>
Operating expenses:		
Selling, general, and administrative	304,611	319,314
Gains from sales of property	(13,082)	—
Depreciation and amortization	<u>30,232</u>	<u>25,826</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>321,761</u>	<u>345,140</u>
Operating income (loss)	35,154	(13,286)
Non-operating expenses (income):		
Interest expense	54,218	47,301
Other expense (income), net	<u>2,544</u>	<u>(380)</u>
Loss before benefit from income taxes	(21,608)	(60,207)
Benefit from income taxes	<u>(3,952)</u>	<u>(12,154)</u>
Net loss	<u>\$ (17,656)</u>	<u>\$ (48,053)</u>
Basic loss per share	\$ (1.89)	\$ (5.21)
Diluted loss per share	\$ (1.89)	\$ (5.21)
Comprehensive loss:		
Net loss	\$ (17,656)	\$ (48,053)
Other comprehensive income (loss):		
Foreign currency translation, net of tax	6	(14)
Amortization of unrecognized pension gain (loss), net of tax	<u>2,560</u>	<u>(608)</u>
Total other comprehensive income (loss)	<u>2,566</u>	<u>(622)</u>
Comprehensive loss	<u>\$ (15,090)</u>	<u>\$ (48,675)</u>

BLUELINX HOLDINGS INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

Fiscal Year Ended December 28, 2019	Fiscal Year Ended December 29, 2018
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(In thousands)

Cash flows from operating activities:

Net loss	\$ (17,656)	\$ (48,053)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to cash (used in) provided by operations:		
Benefit from income taxes	(3,952)	(12,154)
Depreciation and amortization	30,232	25,826
Amortization of debt issuance costs	3,323	2,884
Gains from sales of property	(13,082)	—
Pension expense	3,011	7,660
Share-based compensation	2,592	8,474
Amortization of deferred gain	(3,960)	(5,069)
Other	243	835
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	15,562	60,007
Inventories	(3,955)	4,887
Accounts payable	(15,493)	24,982
Prepaid assets	6,282	3,515
Quarterly pension contributions	(1,791)	(3,986)
Other assets and liabilities	(10,921)	(28,252)
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	(9,565)	41,556

Cash flows from investing activities:

Acquisition of business, net of cash acquired	6,009	(348,060)
Property and equipment investments	(4,791)	(2,724)
Proceeds from disposition of assets	19,931	108,051
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	21,149	(242,733)

Cash flows from financing activities:

Repurchase of shares to satisfy employee tax withholdings	(211)	(3,020)
Repayments on revolving credit facilities	(656,596)	(729,423)
Borrowings from revolving credit facilities	649,788	880,042
Repayments on term loan	(32,426)	(900)
Borrowings on term loan	—	180,000
Principal payments on mortgage	—	(97,847)
Proceeds from real estate financing transactions	44,914	—
Payments on finance lease obligations (principal)	(9,853)	(7,497)
Change in outstanding payments	(1,347)	(4,177)
Debt financing costs	(3,149)	(11,758)
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(8,880)	205,420
Increase in cash	2,704	4,243
Cash, beginning of period	8,939	4,696
Cash, end of period	\$ 11,643	\$ 8,939

Supplemental Cash Flow Information

Net income tax payments during the period	\$ 2,991	\$ 2,643
Interest paid during the period	\$ 47,321	\$ 37,326
Noncash transactions:		
Property and equipment under finance leases	\$ 15,041	\$ 95,820

BLUELINX HOLDINGS INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (DEFICIT)

	Common Stock		Additional Paid-In Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Accumulated Deficit	Stockholders' Equity (Deficit) Total
	Shares	Amount				
	(In thousands)					
Balance, December 30, 2017	9,101	\$ 91	\$ 259,588	\$ (36,507)	\$ (188,170)	\$ 35,002
Net loss	—	—	—	—	(48,053)	(48,053)
Foreign currency translation, net of tax	—	—	—	(14)	—	(14)
Unrealized loss from pension plan, net of tax	—	—	—	(608)	—	(608)
Vesting of restricted stock units	287	1	—	—	—	1
Compensation related to share-based grants	—	—	1,900	—	—	1,900
Repurchase of shares to satisfy employee tax withholdings	(94)	—	(2,879)	—	—	(2,879)
Other	—	—	(13)	—	1	(12)
Balance, December 29, 2018	9,294	92	258,596	(37,129)	(236,222)	(14,663)
Net loss	—	—	—	—	(17,656)	(17,656)
Adoption of ASC 842, net of tax	—	—	—	—	1,291	1,291
Foreign currency translation, net of tax	—	—	—	6	—	6
Unrealized gain from pension plan, net of tax	—	—	—	2,560	—	2,560
Vesting of restricted stock units	82	2	—	—	—	2
Compensation related to share-based grants	—	—	2,592	—	—	2,592
Repurchase of shares to satisfy employee tax withholdings	(10)	—	(211)	—	—	(211)
Other	—	—	(3)	—	(1)	(4)
Balance, December 28, 2019	9,366	\$ 94	\$ 260,974	\$ (34,563)	\$ (252,588)	\$ (26,083)

BLUELIX HOLDINGS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

BlueLinx is a wholesale distributor of building and industrial products in the U.S. Our Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of BlueLinx Holdings Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiaries. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (“U.S. GAAP”). All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

Fiscal years 2019 and 2018 were each comprised of 52 weeks. Our fiscal year ends on the Saturday closest to December 31 of that fiscal year, and may comprise 53 weeks in certain years.

Use of Estimates

We are required to make estimates and assumptions when preparing our Consolidated Financial Statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP. These estimates and assumptions affect the amounts reported in our Consolidated Financial Statements and the accompanying notes. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates.

Subsequent Events

We evaluated subsequent events through the date that our Consolidated Financial Statements were issued. Except as described in Note 16, no matters were identified that required adjustment of the Consolidated Financial Statements or additional disclosure.

Recent Accounting Standards - Recently Issued

Credit Impairment Losses. In June 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) 2016-13, “Financial Instruments - Credit Losses (Topic 326).” This ASU sets forth a current expected credit loss (“CECL”) model which requires the measurement of all expected credit losses for financial instruments or other assets (e.g., trade receivables), held at the reporting date based on historical experience, current conditions, and reasonable supportable forecasts. This replaces the existing incurred loss model, is applicable to the measurement of credit losses on financial assets measured at amortized cost, and applies to some off-balance sheet credit exposures. The standard also requires enhanced disclosures to help financial statement users better understand significant estimates and judgments used in estimating credit losses, as well as the credit quality and underwriting standards of an entity's portfolio. ASU 2019-10 extended the effective date to interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2022, for certain public business entities, including smaller reporting companies. We have not completed our assessment of the standard, but we do not expect adoption of the standard to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

Fair Value Measurement. In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-13, “Fair Value (“FV”) Measurement (Topic 820).” In addition to making certain modifications, the standard removes the requirements to disclose: (i) the amount of and reasons for transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 of the FV hierarchy; (ii) the policy for timing transfers between levels; and (iii) the valuation process for Level 3 FV measurements. The standard will require public entities to disclose: (a) the changes in unrealized gains and losses for the period included in other comprehensive income for recurring Level 3 FV measurements held at the end of the reporting period; and (b) the range and weighted average of significant unobservable inputs used to develop Level 3 fair value measurements. For certain unobservable inputs, an entity may disclose other quantitative information in lieu of the weighted average if the entity determines that other quantitative information would be a more reasonable and rational method to reflect the distribution of unobservable inputs used to develop Level 3 FV measurements. The additional disclosure requirements should be applied prospectively for the most recent interim or annual period presented in the fiscal year of adoption. All other amendments should be applied retrospectively to all periods presented. The amendments in this standard are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019. Early adoption is permitted, and an entity may early adopt the removed or modified disclosures and delay the adoption of new disclosures until the effective date. We have not completed our assessment of the standard, but we do not expect adoption of the standard to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

Defined Benefit Pension Plan. In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-14, “Compensation-Retirement-Benefits-Defined Benefit Plans-General (Subtopic 715-20).” The amendments in this update modify the disclosure requirements for employers that sponsor defined benefit pension or other postretirement plans by removing six previously required disclosures and adding two. The amendments also clarify certain disclosure requirements. The amendments in this standard are effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2020. Early adoption is permitted. We have not completed our assessment of the standard, but we do not expect adoption of the standard to have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

Income Taxes. In December 2019, the FASB issued ASU No.2019-12, “Income taxes (Topic 740): Simplifying the Accounting for Income Taxes.” This ASU simplifies the accounting for income taxes by removing certain exceptions to the general principles in ASC 740 and also clarifies and amends existing guidance to improve consistent application. The amendments in this standard are effective for interim periods and fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2020. Early adoption is permitted. We are currently assessing the impact of the new guidance, but do not expect it to have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

Recent Accounting Standards - Recently Adopted

Leases. In 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-02, “Leases (Topic 842).” Topic 842 establishes a new lease accounting model for leases. The most significant changes include the clarification of the definition of a lease, the requirement for lessees to recognize for all leases a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability in the consolidated balance sheet, and additional quantitative and qualitative disclosures which are designed to give financial statement users information on the amount, timing, and uncertainty of cash flows arising from leases. Expenses are recognized in the consolidated statement of income in a manner similar to current accounting guidance. Lessor accounting under the new standard is substantially unchanged. We adopted this standard, and all related amendments thereto, effective December 30, 2018, the first day of our 2019 fiscal year, using a prospective transition approach, which applies the provisions of the new guidance at the effective date without adjusting the comparative periods presented. We have elected the package of practical expedients permitted under the transition guidance within the new standard, which among other things, allows us to carry forward the historical accounting relating to lease identification and classification for existing leases upon adoption. We have made an accounting policy election to keep leases with an initial term of 12 months or less off of the consolidated balance sheet. The adoption of Topic 842 had a material impact on our consolidated balance sheets, but did not have a material impact on our consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive loss. There also was no impact to our debt covenant calculations. The most significant impact was the recognition of right-of-use assets and corresponding lease liabilities of \$57.5 million on the consolidated balance sheet. Additionally, \$1.7 million of deferred gains associated with sale-leaseback transactions was recorded as a cumulative-effect adjustment to accumulated deficit. See Note 13 “Lease Commitments” for additional disclosures regarding our lease commitments.

Comprehensive Income. In February 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-02, “Income Statement-Reporting Comprehensive Income (Topic 220).” This standard provides an option to reclassify stranded tax effects within accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) (“AOCI”) to retained earnings due to the U.S. federal corporate income tax rate change in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. We adopted this standard effective December 30, 2018, the first day of our 2019 fiscal year. We did not exercise the option to make this reclassification.

Goodwill. In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU No. 2017-04, “Intangibles-Goodwill and Other (Topic 350).” This standard is intended to simplify the test for goodwill impairments by removing Step 2 of the goodwill impairment test, which requires a hypothetical purchase price allocation. Under the new ASU, a goodwill impairment will now be the amount by which a reporting unit’s carrying value exceeds its fair value, not to exceed the carrying amount of goodwill. We elected to early adopt this standard effective the first day of the fourth quarter of 2019, which corresponds with the date of our annual goodwill impairment testing date. The adoption of the standard did not have a material impact on Company’s consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

Cloud Computing Arrangements. In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-15, Intangibles-Goodwill and Other-Internal Use-Software (Subtopic 350-40).” This standard aligns the requirements for capitalizing implementation costs incurred in a hosting arrangement that is a service contract with the requirements for capitalizing implementation costs incurred to develop or obtain internal-use software (and hosting arrangements that include an internal use software license). We early adopted this standard effective December 30, 2018, the first day of our 2019 fiscal year and did so prospectively. Costs that have been recorded have been classified as other current and other non-current assets. The adoption of the standard did not have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

Revenue Recognition

We recognize revenue when control of the promised goods or services is transferred to the Company's customers in an amount that reflects the consideration we expected to be entitled to in exchange for those goods or services. The timing of revenue recognition largely is dependent on shipping terms. Revenue is recorded at the time of shipment for terms designated free on board ("FOB") shipping point. For sales transactions designated FOB destination, revenue is recorded when the product is delivered to the customer's delivery site.

All revenues recognized are net of trade allowances, cash discounts, and sales returns. Cash discounts and sales returns are estimated using historical experience. Trade allowances are based on the estimated obligations and historical experience. Adjustments to earnings resulting from revisions to estimates on discounts and returns have been insignificant for each of the reported periods.

In addition, we provide inventory to certain customers through pre-arranged agreements on a consignment basis. Customer consigned inventory is maintained and stored by certain customers; however, ownership and risk of loss remains with us.

Leases

We are the lessee in a lease contract when we obtain the right to control an asset associated with a particular lease. For operating leases, we record a right-of-use ("ROU") asset that represents our right to use an underlying asset for the lease term, and a corresponding lease liability that represents our obligation to make lease payments arising from the lease, both of which are recognized based on the present value of the future minimum lease payments over the lease term at the commencement date. Financing ROU assets associated with finance leases are included in property and equipment. Leases with a lease term of 12 months or less at inception are not recorded on our consolidated balance sheet and are expensed on a straight-line basis over the lease term in our consolidated statement of income. We determine the lease term by assuming the exercise of renewal options that are reasonably certain. As most of our leases do not provide an implicit interest rate, we use our incremental borrowing rate based on the information available at the commencement date in determining the present value of future payments. When our contracts contain lease and non-lease components, we account for both components as a single lease component. See Note 13 for further discussion.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable are stated at net realizable value, do not bear interest, and consist of amounts owed for orders shipped to customers. Management establishes an overall credit policy for sales to customers. The allowance for doubtful accounts is determined based on a number of factors including specific customer account reviews, historical loss experience, current economic trends, and the creditworthiness of significant customers based on ongoing credit evaluations.

Inventory Valuation

The cost of all inventories is determined by the moving average cost method. We have included all material charges directly or indirectly incurred in bringing inventory to its existing condition and location. We evaluate our inventory value at the end of each quarter to ensure that inventory, when viewed by category, is carried at the lower of cost and net realizable value, which also considers items that may be damaged, excess, and obsolete inventory.

Consideration Received from Vendors and Paid to Customers

Each year, we enter into agreements with many of our vendors providing for inventory purchase rebates, generally based on achievement of specified volume purchasing levels. We also receive rebates related to price protection and various marketing allowances that are common industry practice. We accrue for the receipt of vendor rebates based on purchases, and also reduce inventory to reflect the net acquisition cost (purchase price less expected purchase rebates).

In addition, we enter into agreements with many of our customers to offer customer rebates, generally based on achievement of specified sales levels and various marketing allowances that are common industry practice. We accrue for the payment of customer rebates based on sales to the customer, and also reduce sales to reflect the net sales (sales price less expected customer rebates). Adjustments to earnings resulting from revisions to rebate estimates have been immaterial.

Shipping and Handling

Outbound shipping and handling costs included in “Selling, general, and administrative” expenses were \$133.6 million and \$121.8 million for fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2018, respectively.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are recorded at cost. Lease obligations for which we assume or retain substantially all the property rights and risks of ownership are capitalized. Amortization of assets recorded under capital leases is included in “Depreciation and amortization” expense. Replacements of major units of property are capitalized and the replaced properties are retired. Replacements of minor components of property and repair and maintenance costs are charged to expense as incurred.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the related assets. Estimated useful lives for land improvements, buildings, and machinery and equipment range from 7 to 15 years, 15 to 33 years, and 3 to 7 years, respectively. Upon retirement or disposition of assets, cost and accumulated depreciation are removed from the related accounts and any gain or loss is included in income.

Income Taxes

We account for deferred income taxes using the liability method. Accordingly, we recognize deferred tax assets and liabilities based on the tax effects of temporary differences between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities, as measured by current enacted tax rates. All deferred tax assets and liabilities are classified as noncurrent in our consolidated balance sheet. A valuation allowance is recorded to reduce deferred tax assets when necessary. For additional information about our income taxes, see Note 6, “Income Taxes.”

Insurance and Self-Insurance

For fiscal 2019 and 2018, the Company was insured for its non-union and certain unionized employee health benefits. Health benefits for some unionized employees for fiscal 2019 and 2018 were paid directly to a union trust, depending upon the union-negotiated benefit arrangement.

For fiscal 2019 and 2018, the Company was self-insured, up to certain limits, for workers’ compensation losses, general liability, and automotive liability losses, all subject to varying “per occurrence” retentions or deductible limits. The Company provides for estimated costs to settle both known claims and claims incurred but not yet reported by making periodic prepayments, considering our retention and stop loss limits. Liabilities of the Company associated with these claims are estimated, in part, by considering the frequency and severity of historical claims, both specific to us, as well as industry-wide loss experience and other actuarial assumptions. We determine our insurance obligations with the assistance of actuarial firms. Since there are many estimates and assumptions involved in recording insurance liabilities, and in the case of workers’ compensation, a significant period of time elapses before the ultimate resolution of claims, differences between actual future events, and prior estimates and assumptions could result in adjustments to these liabilities. The Company has deposits on hand with certain third-party insurance administrators and insurance carriers to cover its obligation for future payment of claims. These deposits are recorded in other current and non-current assets in our consolidated balance sheets.

2. Acquisition

On April 13, 2018, we completed the acquisition of Cedar Creek Holdings, Inc. (“Cedar Creek”) for a purchase price of approximately \$361.8 million. The acquisition was completed pursuant to the terms of an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the “Merger Agreement”), dated as of March 9, 2018, by and among BlueLinx Corporation, one of our wholly owned subsidiaries, Panther Merger Sub, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of BlueLinx Corporation (“Merger Sub”), Cedar Creek, and CharlesBank Equity Fund VII, Limited Partnership (“CharlesBank”). Upon closing the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, among other things, Merger Sub was merged with and into Cedar Creek, with Cedar Creek surviving the acquisition as one of our indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries. As a result of the acquisition, we increased the number of our distribution facilities to approximately 70 facilities, and increased the number of our full-time employees to approximately 2,600. The merger allowed us to expand our product offerings while expanding our existing geographical footprint.

Cedar Creek was established in 1977 as a wholesale building materials distribution company that distributes wood products across the United States. Its products include specialty lumber, oriented strand board, siding, cedar, spruce, engineered wood products, and other building products.

The acquisition was accounted for under the acquisition method of accounting. The assets acquired, liabilities assumed and the results of operations of the acquired business are included in our consolidated results since April 13, 2018.

We estimate that the acquired business contributed net sales and a net loss of approximately \$1.0 billion and approximately \$2.5 million, respectively, to the Company for the period from April 13, 2018, to December 29, 2018. The net income for the period from April 13, 2018, to December 29, 2018, included integration-related costs and the negative impact of selling a higher cost Cedar Creek inventory recorded at fair value. The following unaudited consolidated pro forma information presents consolidated information as if the acquisition had occurred on January 1, 2017:

	Pro Forma	
	Fiscal 2018	
	(In thousands, except per share data)	
Net sales	\$	3,262,433
Net loss		(18,129)
Loss per common share:		
Basic	\$	(1.96)
Diluted		(1.96)

The pro forma amounts above have been calculated in accordance with U.S. GAAP after applying the Company's accounting policies, which assigns certain acquisition costs to the reporting period prior to the acquisition. As a result, an inventory step-up adjustment for \$11.8 million and transaction costs for \$44.3 million were attributed to the 2017 pro forma period. Due to the pro forma net loss for fiscal year ended December 29, 2018, incremental shares from share-based compensation arrangements of 38,137 were excluded from the computation of diluted weighted average shares outstanding, because their effect would be anti-dilutive. The pro forma amounts do not include any potential synergies, cost savings, or other expected benefits of the acquisition, are presented for illustrative purposes only, and are not necessarily indicative of results that would have been achieved had the acquisition occurred as of January 1, 2017, or of future operating performance.

As part of the acquisition, a total of \$7.1 million was withheld from the purchase price and placed in escrow with certain third parties to serve as a source of recovery for certain potential indemnification claims under the Merger Agreement. As of the end of 2018, amounts held in escrow were \$6.0 million. The remaining amounts were distributed from escrow in January 2019 to the Company and former stockholders of Cedar Creek.

The purchase price of Cedar Creek consisted of the following items:

	(In thousands)	
Consideration paid to shareholders and amounts paid to creditors:		
Payments to Cedar Creek shareholders ⁽¹⁾	\$	166,447
Subordinated unsecured note (due to shareholder) ⁽²⁾		13,743
Seller's transaction costs paid by Company		7,349
Add: pay off of Cedar Creek debt ⁽³⁾		174,213
Total preliminary cash purchase price	\$	<u>361,752</u>

⁽¹⁾ Payments to Cedar Creek's shareholders include the purchase of common stock and certain escrow adjustments.

⁽²⁾ The Cedar Creek note payable to a shareholder of \$13.7 million was paid in full upon the acquisition of Cedar Creek and included \$10 million in subordinated debt and \$3.7 million in accrued interest.

⁽³⁾ To finance the acquisition of Cedar Creek, the Company amended and restated its Revolving Credit Facility to increase the availability thereunder to \$600.0 million and also entered into a new \$180.0 million senior secured Term Loan Facility (See Note 9).

The excess of total purchase price, which includes the aggregate cash consideration paid in excess of the fair value of the tangible and intangible assets acquired, was recorded as goodwill. The goodwill recognized is attributable to the expected operating synergies and growth potential that the Company expects to realize from the acquisition. None of the goodwill generated from the acquisition is deductible for tax purposes.

When determining the fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed, management made significant estimates, judgments, and assumptions. The following table summarizes the values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed at the date of the acquisition:

	Allocation as of December 29, 2018
	(In thousands)
Cash and net working capital assets (excluding inventory)	\$ 88,318
Inventory	159,227
Property and equipment	71,203
Other, net	(1,395)
Intangible assets and goodwill:	
Customer relationships	25,500
Non-compete agreements	8,254
Trade names	6,826
Favorable leasehold interests	800
Goodwill	47,772
Capital leases and other liabilities	(44,753)
Cash purchase price	<u>\$ 361,752</u>

3. Revenue Recognition

We recognize revenue when the following criteria are met: (1) Contract with the customer has been identified; (2) Performance obligations in the contract have been identified; (3) Transaction price has been determined; (4) The transaction price has been allocated to the performance obligations; and (5) When (or as) performance obligations are satisfied.

Contracts with our customers are generally in the form of standard terms and conditions of sale. From time to time, we may enter into specific contracts with some of our larger customers, which may affect delivery terms. Performance obligations in our contracts generally consist solely of delivery of goods. For all sales channel types, consisting of warehouse, direct, and reload sales, we typically satisfy our performance obligations upon shipment. Our customer payment terms are typical for our industry, and may vary by the type and location of our customer and the products or services offered. The term between invoicing and when payment is due is not deemed to be significant by us. For certain sales channels and/or products, our standard terms of payment may be as early as ten days.

All revenues recognized are net of trade allowances (i.e., rebates), cash discounts and sales returns. Cash discounts and sales returns are estimated using historical experience. Trade allowances are based on the estimated obligations and historical experience. Adjustments to earnings resulting from revisions to estimates on discounts and returns have been insignificant for each of the reported periods. Certain customers may receive cash-based incentives or credits, which are accounted for as variable consideration. We estimate these amounts based on the expected amount to be provided to customers and reduce revenues recognized. We believe that there will not be significant changes to our estimates of variable consideration.

In addition, we provide inventory to certain customers through pre-arranged agreements on a consignment basis. Customer consigned inventory is maintained and stored by certain customers; however, ownership and risk of loss remains with us.

In 2019, we changed our internal product hierarchy. The following table presents our revenues disaggregated by revenue source. Prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year product mix of structural and specialty products. Sales and usage-based taxes are excluded from revenues.

	Fiscal Year Ended	
	December 28, 2019	December 29, 2018
	(In thousands)	
Structural products	\$ 862,270	\$ 1,044,348
Specialty products	1,774,998	1,818,502
Total net sales	<u>\$ 2,637,268</u>	<u>\$ 2,862,850</u>

Also due to the acquisition and integration of Cedar Creek, our reload sales are less distinct from warehouse sales as they have been classified in prior periods. The following table presents our revenues disaggregated by sales channel. Prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year revenues disaggregated by sales channel. Sales and usage-based taxes are excluded from revenues.

	Fiscal Year Ended	
	December 28, 2019	December 29, 2018
	(In thousands)	
Warehouse and reload	\$ 2,206,260	\$ 2,373,928
Direct	470,786	526,900
Cash discounts and rebates	(39,778)	(37,978)
Total net sales	<u>\$ 2,637,268</u>	<u>\$ 2,862,850</u>

Practical Expedients and Exemptions

We generally expense sales commissions when incurred because the amortization period would have been one year or less. These costs are recorded within selling, general, and administrative expense.

We have made an accounting policy election to treat outbound shipping and handling activities as an expense.

4. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

In connection with the acquisition of Cedar Creek, we acquired certain intangible assets. As of December 28, 2019, our intangible assets consist of goodwill and other intangible assets including customer relationships, noncompete agreements, and trade names.

Goodwill

Goodwill is the excess of the cost of an acquired entity over the fair value of tangible and intangible assets (including customer relationships, noncompete agreements, and trade names) acquired and liabilities assumed under acquisition accounting for business combinations.

During the year ended December 29, 2018, we allocated the fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed in the acquisition of Cedar Creek, and recognized \$47.8 million in goodwill.

Goodwill is not subject to amortization, but must be tested for impairment at least annually. As of September 29, 2019, the first day of our fourth quarter and our designated goodwill impairment testing date, we early adopted ASU 2017-04. This standard is intended to simplify the test for goodwill impairments by removing Step 2 of the goodwill impairment test, which requires a hypothetical purchase price allocation. Under the ASU, a goodwill impairment will now be the amount by which a reporting unit's carrying value exceeds its fair value, not to exceed the carrying amount of goodwill. Our one reporting unit has a negative carrying amount of net assets, and based on management's assessment, no impairment was indicated for fiscal 2019.

In addition, we will evaluate the carrying value of goodwill for impairment between annual impairment tests if an event occurs or circumstances change that would indicate the carrying amounts may be impaired. Such events and indicators may

include, without limitation, significant declines in the industries in which our products are used, significant changes in capital market conditions, and significant changes in our market capitalization.

Definite-Lived Intangible Assets

At December 28, 2019, in connection with the acquisition of Cedar Creek, we had definite-lived intangible assets that related to customer relationships, noncompete agreements, and trade names.

At December 28, 2019, the gross carrying amounts, accumulated amortization, and net carrying amounts of our definite-lived intangible assets were as follows:

	<u>Gross Carrying Amounts</u>	<u>Accumulated Amortization</u> ⁽¹⁾	<u>Net Carrying Amounts</u>
		<u>(In thousands)</u>	
Customer relationships	\$ 25,500	\$ (6,770)	\$ 18,730
Noncompete agreements	8,254	(3,532)	4,722
Trade names	6,826	(3,894)	2,932
Total	<u>\$ 40,580</u>	<u>\$ (14,196)</u>	<u>\$ 26,384</u>

⁽¹⁾ Intangible assets except customer relationships are amortized on straight line basis. Customer relationships are amortized on a double declining balance method.

Amortization Expense

The weighted average estimated useful life remaining for customer relationships, noncompete agreements, and trade names is approximately 10 years, 2 years, and 1 year, respectively. Amortization expense for the definite-lived intangible assets was \$8.1 million and \$6.2 million for the years ended December 28, 2019, and December 29, 2018, respectively.

Estimated annual amortization expense for definite-lived intangible assets over the next five fiscal years is as follows:

	<u>Estimated Amortization</u>
	<u>(In thousands)</u>
2020	\$ 7,461
2021	4,973
2022	3,111
2023	1,807
2024	1,505

5. Assets Held for Sale and Net Gain on Disposition

In fiscal 2019, we designated certain non-operating properties as held for sale. At the time of designation, we ceased recognizing depreciation expense on these assets. As of December 28, 2019, three properties were designated as held for sale, and, as of December 29, 2018, seven properties had been designated as held for sale. As of December 28, 2019, and December 29, 2018, the net book value of total assets held for sale was \$1.1 million and \$3.1 million, respectively, and was included in "Other current assets" in our Consolidated Balance Sheets. Properties held for sale as of December 28, 2019, consisted of three former distribution facilities located in the Midwest and Southeast. We plan to sell these properties within the next 12 months. We continue to actively market all properties that are designated as held for sale.

During the year ended December 28, 2019, we sold five non-operating distribution facilities previously designated as "held for sale," as well as certain equipment. We recognized a gain of \$13.1 million in the Consolidated Statements of Operations as a result of these sales.

6. Income Taxes

Our (benefit from) provision for income taxes consisted of the following:

	Fiscal Year Ended December 28, 2019	Fiscal Year Ended December 29, 2018
	(In thousands)	
Federal income taxes:		
Current	\$ 35	\$ (99)
Deferred	(3,202)	(13,092)
State income taxes:		
Current	(403)	3,786
Deferred	(382)	(2,749)
Benefit from income taxes	<u>\$ (3,952)</u>	<u>\$ (12,154)</u>

The federal statutory income tax rate was 21%. Our benefit from income taxes is reconciled to the federal statutory amount as follows:

	Fiscal Year Ended December 28, 2019	Fiscal Year Ended December 29, 2018
	(In thousands)	
Benefit from income taxes computed at the federal statutory tax rate	\$ (4,538)	\$ (12,643)
Benefit from state income taxes, net of federal benefit	(1,752)	(2,498)
Valuation allowance change	4,256	1,974
Transaction costs	—	1,327
Nondeductible executive compensation	67	936
Share-based compensation - excess tax benefit	—	(1,494)
Other nondeductible items	354	344
Prior period true-up	(382)	—
Uncertain tax positions	(1,514)	(951)
Tax rate change used to measure deferred taxes	(433)	681
Other	(10)	170
Benefit from income taxes	<u>\$ (3,952)</u>	<u>\$ (12,154)</u>

The change in valuation allowance noted above is exclusive of items that do not impact income from continuing operations, but are reflected in the change in deferred income tax assets and liabilities in the Consolidated Balance Sheets as disclosed in the components of net deferred income tax assets table below.

In accordance with the intraperiod tax allocation provisions of U.S. GAAP, we are required to consider all items (including items recorded in other comprehensive income) in determining the amount of tax expense or benefit that should be allocated between continuing operations and other comprehensive income. In fiscal year 2019, there is a tax benefit allocated to the loss from continuing operations and tax expense allocated to the income from other comprehensive income. For fiscal 2018, there was no intraperiod tax allocation since there was a loss in continuing operations along with a loss in other comprehensive income. While the income tax provision from continuing operations is reported in our Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Loss, the income tax expense on other comprehensive income is recorded directly to accumulated other comprehensive loss, which is a component of stockholders' deficit.

Our financial statements contain certain deferred tax assets which primarily resulted from tax benefits associated with the loss before income taxes in prior years, as well as net deferred income tax assets resulting from other temporary differences related to certain reserves, pension obligations, and differences between book and tax depreciation and amortization. We record a valuation allowance against our net deferred tax assets when we determine that, based on the weight of available evidence, it is more likely than not that our net deferred tax assets will not be realized. The ultimate realization of deferred tax assets is dependent upon the generation of future taxable income during the periods in which those temporary differences can be carried under tax law.

In our evaluation of the weight of available evidence at the end of fiscal 2019, we considered the recent reported loss generated in the current year and prior year (adjusted for unusual one-time items) and income generated in 2017, including the prior year income from Cedar Creek, which resulted in a three-year cumulative income situation as positive evidence which carried substantial weight. While this was substantial, it was not the only evidence we evaluated. We also considered evidence related to the four sources of taxable income, to determine whether such positive evidence outweighed the negative evidence. The evidence considered included:

- future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences;
- future taxable income exclusive of reversing temporary differences and carryforwards;
- taxable income in prior carryback years, if carryback is permitted under the tax law; and
- tax planning strategies.

At the end of fiscal 2019 and 2018, in our evaluation of the weight of available evidence, we concluded that the weight of the positive evidence outweighed the negative evidence. In addition to the positive evidence discussed above, we considered as positive evidence forecasted future taxable income, the detail scheduling of the timing of the reversal of our deferred tax assets and liabilities, and the evidence from business and tax planning strategies described below. For fiscal 2019, we have, however, recorded valuation allowances for the amount of disallowed interest calculated pursuant to the changes made by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (“The Tax Act”) in the amount of \$4.8 million. The remaining valuation allowance of \$11.4 million was primarily related to separate company state net operating loss carryforwards. For fiscal 2018, the valuation allowance of \$12.3 million was primarily related to separate company state net operating loss carryforwards. Although we believe our estimates are reasonable, the ultimate determination of the appropriate amount of valuation allowance involves significant judgments. We believe that the change in control under Internal Revenue Code Section 382, resulting from the completion of the secondary offering on October 23, 2017, will not cause any of our federal net operating losses to expire unused as management has been effectively implementing a real estate strategy involving the sale and leaseback of real estate that is further supported by the transactions involving four warehouses in January 2018 and two warehouses during 2019. Subsequent to December 28, 2019, the Company executed three more transactions, involving a total of 14 more locations (See Notes 13 and 16 for more detail). Additionally, the acquisition of Cedar Creek did not generate any limitations under Section 382 on Cedar Creek’s tax assets.

The components of our net deferred income tax assets are as follows:

	December 28, 2019	December 29, 2018
	(In thousands)	
Deferred income tax assets:		
Inventory reserves	\$ 2,525	\$ 2,826
Compensation-related accruals	3,523	4,717
Accruals and reserves	149	339
Accounts receivable	628	586
Interest expense limitation	4,767	3,169
Property and equipment	32,080	21,547
Operating lease liability	13,820	—
Pension	7,594	8,031
Benefit from NOL carryovers ⁽¹⁾	25,731	32,325
Other	540	418
Total gross deferred income tax assets	<u>91,357</u>	<u>73,958</u>
Less: valuation allowances	(16,194)	(12,348)
Total net deferred income tax assets	<u>75,163</u>	<u>61,610</u>
Deferred income tax liabilities:		
Intangible assets	(7,107)	(8,665)
Operating lease asset	(13,820)	—
Other	(243)	(300)
Total deferred income tax liabilities	<u>(21,170)</u>	<u>(8,965)</u>
Deferred income tax asset, net	<u>\$ 53,993</u>	<u>\$ 52,645</u>

⁽¹⁾ Our federal NOL carryovers are \$61.8 million, and will expire in 11 to 16 years. Our state NOL carryovers are \$241.3 million, and will expire in 1 to 20 years.

Activity in our deferred tax asset valuation allowance for fiscal 2019 and 2018 was as follows:

	Fiscal Year Ended December 28, 2019	Fiscal Year Ended December 29, 2018
	(In thousands)	
Balance as of beginning of the year	\$ 12,348	\$ 10,415
Valuation allowance provided for taxes related to:		
Loss before income taxes	3,846	1,933
Balance as of end of the year	<u>\$ 16,194</u>	<u>\$ 12,348</u>

We have recorded income tax and related interest liabilities where we believe certain of our tax positions are not more likely than not to be sustained if challenged. These balances are included in other noncurrent liabilities in our Consolidated Balance Sheets. The following table summarizes the activity related to our gross unrecognized tax benefits:

	2019	2018
	(In thousands)	
Balance at beginning of fiscal year	\$ 5,843	\$ 184
Additions for tax positions in prior years	—	6,663
Reductions due to lapse of applicable statute of limitations	(1,598)	(1,004)
Balance at end of fiscal year	<u>\$ 4,245</u>	<u>\$ 5,843</u>

Included in the unrecognized tax benefits as of December 28, 2019, and December 29, 2018, were \$4.0 million and \$5.5 million, respectively, of tax benefits that, if recognized, would reduce our annual effective tax rate for fiscal 2018. For fiscal 2019, we accrued interest related to these unrecognized tax benefits of \$0.2 million, all of which is reported in “Interest expense” in our Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Loss. For fiscal 2018, we also accrued interest related to these unrecognized tax benefits of \$0.9 million, of which \$0.3 million of this amount is reported in “Interest expense” in our Consolidated Statement of Operations and Comprehensive Loss. The remaining \$0.6 million of interest, as well as the gross addition for tax positions in prior years of \$6.7 million disclosed above in the tabular reconciliation, were recorded through goodwill as part of the purchase accounting for the acquisition of Cedar Creek. No penalties were accrued for either fiscal 2019 or 2018. We believe that it is reasonably possible that approximately \$0.9 million of our remaining unrecognized tax benefit may be recognized by the end of fiscal 2020 as a result of a lapse of statute of limitations.

We file U.S., state, and foreign income tax returns in jurisdictions with varying statutes of limitations. The 2016 through 2019 tax years generally remain subject to examination by federal and most state and foreign tax authorities.

7. Long-Term Debt

As of December 28, 2019, and December 29, 2018, long-term debt consisted of the following:

Maturity Date	December 28, 2019	December 29, 2018
	(In thousands)	
Revolving Credit Facility (net of discounts and debt issuance costs of \$4.5 million and \$6.0 million at December 28, 2019 and December 29, 2018, respectively)	October 10, 2022	\$ 322,041
Term Loan Facility (net of discounts and debt issuance costs of \$8.1 million and \$6.7 million at December 28, 2019 and December 29, 2018, respectively)	October 13, 2023	\$ 327,319
Total debt	<u>460,615</u>	<u>499,675</u>
Less: current portion of long-term debt	<u>(2,176)</u>	<u>(1,736)</u>
Long-term debt, net	<u>\$ 458,439</u>	<u>\$ 497,939</u>

Revolving Credit Facility

In April 2018, we entered into an Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, with certain of our subsidiaries as borrowers (together with us, the “Borrowers”) or guarantors thereunder, Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, in its capacity as administrative agent (“Wells Fargo”), and certain other financial institutions party thereto. The Amended and Restated Credit Agreement was further amended in January 2020, as described in Note 16 (as amended, the “Revolving Credit Agreement”). The Revolving Credit Agreement provides for a senior secured asset-based revolving loan and letter of credit facility (the “Revolving Credit Facility”) of up to \$600 million and an uncommitted accordion feature that permits the Borrowers, with consent of the lenders, to increase the facility by an aggregate additional principal amount of up to \$150 million, which will allow borrowings of up to \$750 million under the Revolving Credit Facility. Letters of credit in an aggregate amount of up to \$30 million are also available under the Revolving Credit Agreement, which would reduce the amount of the revolving loans available under the Revolving Credit Facility. The maturity date of the Revolving Credit Agreement is October 10, 2022. The Borrowers’ obligations under the Revolving Credit Agreement are secured by a security interest in substantially all of our and our subsidiaries’ assets (other than real property), including inventories, accounts receivable, and proceeds from those items.

Borrowings under the Revolving Credit Agreement are subject to availability under the Borrowing Base (as that term is defined in the Revolving Credit Agreement). The Borrowers are required to repay revolving loans thereunder to the extent that such revolving loans exceed the Borrowing Base then in effect. The Revolving Credit Facility may be prepaid in whole or in part from time to time without penalty or premium, but including all breakage costs incurred by any lender thereunder.

The Revolving Credit Agreement provides for interest on the loans at a rate per annum equal to (i) LIBOR plus a margin ranging from 1.75 percent to 2.25 percent, with the amount of such margin determined based upon the average of the Borrowers’ excess availability for the immediately preceding fiscal quarter as calculated by the administrative agent, for loans based on LIBOR, or (ii) the administrative agent’s base rate plus a margin ranging from 0.75 percent to 1.25 percent, with the amount of such margin determined based upon the average of the Borrowers’ excess availability for the immediately preceding fiscal quarter as calculated by the administrative agent, for loans based on the base rate.

In the event excess availability falls below the greater of (i) \$50 million and (ii) 10 percent of the lesser of (a) the Borrowing Base and (b) the maximum permitted credit at such time, the Revolving Credit Agreement requires maintenance of a fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.0 to 1.0 until such time as the Borrowers’ excess availability has been at least the greater of (i) \$50 million and (ii) 10 percent of the lesser of (a) the Borrowing Base and (b) the maximum permitted credit at such time for a period of 30 consecutive days.

The Revolving Credit Agreement also contains representations and warranties and affirmative and negative covenants customary for financings of this type as well as customary events of default.

As of December 28, 2019, we had outstanding borrowings of \$326.5 million, excess availability of \$80.0 million, and a weighted average interest rate of 3.9% under our Revolving Credit Facility. As of December 29, 2018, we had outstanding borrowings of \$333.3 million, excess availability of \$91.7 million, and a weighted average interest rate of 4.6%.

We were in compliance with all covenants under the Revolving Credit Agreement as of December 28, 2019.

Term Loan Facility

In April 2018, in connection with the acquisition of Cedar Creek, we entered into a Credit and Guaranty Agreement by and among the Company, as borrower, certain of our subsidiaries, as guarantors, HPS Investment Partners, LLC, as administrative agent and collateral agent (“HPS”) and certain other financial institutions as parties thereto. In October 2019, the Credit and Guaranty Agreement was amended to, among other things, permit real estate sale leaseback transactions and modify the “Total Net Leverage Ratio” beginning in the third quarter of 2019. The Credit and Guaranty Agreement was further amended in January 2020, and February 2020, as described in Note 16 (as amended, the “Term Loan Agreement”). The Term Loan Agreement provides for a senior secured term loan facility in an aggregate principal amount of \$180 million (the “Term Loan Facility”). The maturity date of the Term Loan Agreement is October 13, 2023. The proceeds from the Term Loan Facility were used to fund a portion of the cash consideration payable in connection with the acquisition of Cedar Creek and to fund transaction costs in connection with the acquisition and the Term Loan Facility.

In connection with the Term Loan Agreement, the Company and certain of our subsidiaries also entered into a Pledge and Security Agreement with HPS (the “Term Loan Security Agreement”). Pursuant to the Term Loan Security Agreement and other “Collateral Documents” (as such term is defined in the Term Loan Agreement), the obligations under the Term Loan

Agreement are secured by a security interest in substantially all of our and our subsidiaries' assets, including inventories, accounts receivable, real property, and proceeds from those items.

The Term Loan Agreement requires monthly interest payments, and quarterly principal payments of \$450,000, in arrears. The Term Loan Agreement also requires certain mandatory prepayments of outstanding loans, subject to certain exceptions, including prepayments commencing with the fiscal year ending December 28, 2019, based on a percentage of excess cash flow (as defined in the Term Loan Agreement for such fiscal year). The remaining balance is due on the loan maturity date of October 13, 2023.

The Term Loan Facility may be prepaid in whole or in part from time to time after the first anniversary thereof, subject to payment of the "Prepayment Premium" (as such term is defined in the Term Loan Agreement) if such voluntary prepayment does not otherwise constitute an exception to the Prepayment Premium under the Term Loan Agreement and is made prior to the fourth anniversary of the closing date of the Term Loan Agreement, and all breakage costs incurred by any lender thereunder.

Borrowings under the Term Loan Agreement may be made as Base Rate Loans or Eurodollar Rate Loans. The Base Rate Loans bear interest at the rate per annum equal to: (i) the greatest of the (a) U.S. prime lending rate published in The Wall Street Journal, (b) the Federal Funds Effective Rate plus 0.50 percent, and (c) the sum of the Adjusted Eurodollar Rate of one month plus 1.00 percent, provided that the Base Rate shall at no time be less than 2.00 percent per annum; and (ii) plus the Applicable Margin, as described below. Eurodollar Rate Loans bear interest at the rate per annum equal to: (i) the ICE Benchmark Administration LIBOR Rate, provided that the Adjusted Eurodollar Rate shall at no time be less than 1.00 percent per annum; plus (ii) the Applicable Margin. The Applicable Margin is 6.00 percent with respect to Base Rate Loans and 7.00 percent with respect to Eurodollar Rate Loans.

The Term Loan Agreement also contains representations, warranties, and affirmative and negative covenants customary for financing transactions of this type, and customary events of default.

The Term Loan Facility requires maintenance of a total net leverage ratio of 6.25 to 1.00 for the quarter ending December 28, 2019, and such required covenant level generally reduces over the term of the Term Loan Facility as set forth in the Term Loan Agreement.

As of December 28, 2019, we had outstanding borrowings of \$146.7 million under our Term Loan Facility and a stated interest rate of 8.7 percent per annum.

We were in compliance with all covenants under the Term Loan Facility as of December 28, 2019.

Our remaining scheduled principal payments of the Term Loan through 2023 as of December 28, 2019, is as follows:

	(In thousands)
2020	\$ 2,250
2021	1,800
2022	1,800
Thereafter	140,824

Subsequent to the end of fiscal 2019, we used proceeds from our real estate financing transactions to reduce the remaining scheduled principal payments by \$68.7 million. As a result, required principal payments after 2022 were reduced to approximately \$72.0 million.

2006 Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities ("CMBS") Mortgage Loan

Our 2006 CMBS mortgage loan, which was paid in full in January 2018, was secured by substantially all of the Company's owned distribution facilities and a first priority pledge of the equity in the Company's subsidiaries which held the real property that secured the mortgage loan.

8. Fair Value Measurements

We determine a fair value measurement based on the assumptions a market participant would use in pricing an asset or liability, in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 820 - Fair Value Measurement (“ASC 820”). The fair value measurement guidance established a three level hierarchy making a distinction between market participant assumptions based on (i) unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in an active market (Level 1), (ii) quoted prices in markets that are not active or inputs that are observable either directly or indirectly for substantially the full term of the asset or liability (Level 2), and (iii) prices or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement (Level 3).

Fair value measurements for defined benefit pension plan

The fair value hierarchy discussed above not only is applicable to assets and liabilities that are included in our consolidated balance sheets, but also is applied to certain other assets that indirectly impact our consolidated financial statements. For example, we sponsor and contribute to a single-employer defined benefit pension plan (see Note 9). Assets contributed by us become the property of the pension plan. Even though the Company no longer has control over these assets, we are indirectly impacted by subsequent fair value adjustments to these assets. The actual return on these assets impacts our future net periodic benefit cost, as well as amounts recognized in our consolidated balance sheets. The Company uses the fair value hierarchy to measure the fair value of assets held by our pension plan. We believe the pension plan asset fair value valuation to comprise Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy. Level 2 assets held in the pension plan under GAAP consist of collective investment trust assets.

Fair value measurements for financial instruments

Carrying amounts for our financial instruments are not significantly different from their fair value.

9. Employee Benefits

Single-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plan

We sponsor a noncontributory defined benefit pension plan administered solely by us (the “pension plan”). Most of the participants in the plan are inactive, with all remaining active participants no longer accruing benefits, and the plan is closed to new entrants. Our funding policy for the pension plan is based on actuarial calculations and the applicable requirements of federal law. Benefits under the pension plan primarily are related to years of service.

The following tables set forth the change in projected benefit obligation and the change in plan assets for the pension plan:

	December 28, 2019	December 29, 2018
	(In thousands)	
Change in projected benefit obligation:		
Projected benefit obligation at beginning of period	\$ 107,909	\$ 118,812
Service cost	190	534
Interest cost	3,730	3,853
Actuarial loss (gain)	11,156	(9,732)
Curtailement gain	(349)	—
Benefits paid	(15,610)	(5,558)
Projected benefit obligation at end of period	<u>107,026</u>	<u>107,909</u>
Change in plan assets:		
Fair value of assets at beginning of period	81,241	88,452
Actual return (loss) on plan assets	15,464	(6,321)
Employer contributions	2,511	4,668
Benefits paid	(15,610)	(5,558)
Fair value of assets at end of period	<u>83,606</u>	<u>81,241</u>
Net unfunded status of plan	<u>\$ (23,420)</u>	<u>\$ (26,668)</u>

We recognize the unfunded status (i.e., the difference between the fair value of plan assets and the projected benefit obligations) of our pension plan in our Consolidated Balance Sheets, with a corresponding adjustment to AOCI, net of tax. On

December 28, 2019, we measured the fair value of our plan assets and benefit obligations. As of December 28, 2019, and December 29, 2018, the net unfunded status of our benefit plan was \$23.4 million and \$26.7 million, respectively.

Lump sum payout. During 2019, we amended the BlueLinx Corporation Hourly Retirement Plan in order to offer a lump sum payout option to certain terminated vested participants in the plan whose present value of benefit payments exceeded \$5,000. This option was available to these participants from September 1, 2019, through October 25, 2019, with a payment date of November 1, 2019. Total lump sum payments under this option were \$9.7 million, and were funded with existing plan assets. The lump sum payments decreased our projected benefit obligation by approximately \$12.2 million. Because the amount that was settled was greater than the sum of the service cost and interest cost, we incurred settlement expense of \$2.8 million.

Starting in 2018, we have elected to utilize a full yield curve approach in the estimation service and interest cost components for pension (income)/expense recognized during the fiscal year by applying the specific spot rates along the yield curve used in determination of the benefit obligation to the relevant projected cash flows. We have made this change to provide a more precise measurement of service and interest costs by improving the correlation between projected benefit cash flows to the corresponding spot yield curve rates. This change does not affect the measurement of our total benefit obligations.

Actuarial gains and losses occur when actual experience differs from the estimates used to determine the components of net periodic pension cost, and when certain assumptions used to determine the fair value of the plan assets or projected benefit obligation are updated, including but not limited to, changes in the discount rate, plan amendments, differences between actual and expected returns on plan assets, mortality assumptions, and plan re-measurement.

We amortize a portion of unrecognized actuarial gains and losses for the pension plan into our Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Loss. The amount recognized in the current year's operations is based on amortizing the unrecognized gains or losses for the pension plan that exceed the larger of 10% of the projected benefit obligation or the fair value of plan assets, also known as the corridor. In the current fiscal year, the amount representing the unrecognized gain or loss that exceeds the corridor is amortized over the estimated average remaining life expectancy of participants, as almost all the participants in the plan are inactive.

The net adjustment to other comprehensive income (loss) for fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2018, was a \$2.6 million gain and a \$0.6 million loss, respectively, primarily from the net actuarial gain (loss) for those fiscal periods.

The decrease in the unfunded obligation for the fiscal year was approximately \$3.3 million and was primarily comprised of \$11.2 million of actuarial losses, \$15.5 million of investment gains, \$2.5 million of pension contributions, and a charge of \$3.9 million due to current year service and interest cost. The net periodic pension credit was \$0.1 million in fiscal 2019, from a cost of \$0.2 million in fiscal 2018, driven primarily by a reduction in investment returns associated with the matching duration of return seeking assets.

The unfunded status recorded as Pension Benefit Obligation on our Consolidated Balance Sheets for the pension plan is set forth in the following table, along with the unrecognized actuarial loss, which is presented as part of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss:

	December 28, 2019	December 29, 2018
	(In thousands)	
Unfunded status	\$ (23,420)	\$ (26,668)
Unrecognized actuarial loss	31,221	34,699
Net amount recognized	<u>\$ 7,801</u>	<u>\$ 8,031</u>
Amounts recognized on the balance sheet consist of:		
Accrued pension liability	\$ (23,420)	\$ (26,668)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss (pre-tax)	31,221	34,699
Net amount recognized	<u>\$ 7,801</u>	<u>\$ 8,031</u>

The portion of estimated net loss for the pension plan that is expected to be amortized from accumulated other comprehensive loss into net periodic cost over the next fiscal year is approximately \$1.0 million.

The accumulated benefit obligation for the pension plan was \$107.0 million and \$107.4 million at December 28, 2019, and December 29, 2018, respectively.

Net periodic pension cost (credit) for the pension plan included the following:

	Fiscal Year Ended December 28, 2019	Fiscal Year Ended December 29, 2018
	(In thousands)	
Service cost	\$ 190	\$ 534
Interest cost on projected benefit obligation	3,730	3,853
Expected return on plan assets	(5,162)	(5,309)
Amortization of unrecognized loss	1,158	1,084
Net periodic pension cost (credit)	<u>\$ (84)</u>	<u>\$ 162</u>

The following assumptions were used to determine the projected benefit obligation at the measurement date and the net periodic pension cost:

	December 28, 2019	December 29, 2018
Projected benefit obligation:		
Discount rate	3.21%	4.37%
Average rate of increase in future compensation levels	Graded 5.5-2.5%	Graded 5.5-2.5%
Net periodic pension cost:		
Discount rate	3.20%	3.69%
Average rate of increase in future compensation levels	Graded 5.5-2.5%	Graded 5.5-2.5%
Expected long-term rate of return on plan assets	6.00%	6.00%

Our estimates of the amount and timing of our future funding obligations for our defined benefit pension plan are based upon various assumptions specified above. These assumptions include, but are not limited to, the discount rate, projected return on plan assets, and mortality rates. The rate of increase in future compensation levels has a minimal effect on both the projected benefit obligation and net periodic pension cost, as almost all the participants in the plan are inactive, the majority of the remaining active participants are no longer accruing benefits, and the plan is closed to new entrants.

Projected return on plan assets. Pension plan assets are managed under a balanced portfolio allocation policy comprised of two major components: a return-seeking portion and a liability-matching portion. The expected role of return-seeking investments is to achieve a reasonable long-term growth of pension assets with a prudent level of risk, while the role of liability-matching investments is to provide a partial hedge against liability performance associated with changes in interest rates. The objective within return-seeking investments is to achieve asset diversity in order to balance return and volatility. We employ a designated fiduciary to manage the day to day investment responsibilities for pension plan assets and relationships with certain agents, advisors, and other fiduciaries.

The discount rate. We utilize a full yield curve approach in the estimation of these components by applying the specific spot rates along the yield curve used in determination of the benefit obligation to the relevant projected cash flows. We have made this change to provide a more precise measurement of service and interest costs by improving the correlation between projected benefit cash flows to the corresponding spot yield curve rates.

Mortality rates. The valuations and assumptions reflect adoption of the Society of Actuaries updated RP-2014 mortality tables, with a “blue collar employee” adjustment for non-annuitants and a BlueLinx custom adjustment for annuitants. Additionally, we use the most current generational projection scales, which were MP-2019 as of December 28, 2019, and MP-2018 as of December 29, 2018.

Plan Assets and Long-Term Rate of Return

Fiscal 2019

We base the asset return assumption on current and expected asset allocations, as well as historical and expected returns on the plan asset categories. The allocation of the plan’s assets impacts our expected return on plan assets. The expected return on plan assets is based on a targeted allocation consisting of return-seeking securities (including public equity, real assets, and diversified credit investment strategies), liability-matching securities (fixed income), and cash and cash equivalents. Our net benefit cost increases as the expected return on plan assets decreases. We believe that our actual long-term asset allocations on

average will approximate our targeted allocation. Our targeted allocation is driven by our investment strategy to earn a reasonable rate of return while maintaining risk at acceptable levels through the diversification of investments across and within various asset categories. For fiscal 2019, we used a 6.00% expected rate of return on plan assets.

The investment policy for the pension plan, in general, is to achieve a reasonable long-term rate of return on plan assets with an acceptable level of risk in order to maintain adequate funding levels. The pension plan's Investment Committee establishes risk mitigation policies and regularly monitors investment performance and investment allocation policies, with a third-party investment advisor executing on these strategies. We employ a designated fiduciary to manage the day to day investment responsibilities for pension plan assets and relationships with certain agents, advisors, and other fiduciaries.

The current targets, adjusted to exclude non-GAAP BlueLinx real-estate holdings, and actual investment allocation, by asset category as of December 28, 2019, consisted of the following:

	Current Target Allocation	Actual Allocation, December 29, 2019
Return-seeking securities	70%	69%
Liability-matching securities	28%	30%
Cash and cash equivalents	2%	1%
Total	100%	100%

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy (as defined in Note 8), pension plan assets at their fair values as of December 28, 2019:

	Quoted prices in active markets of identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant other unobservable inputs (Level 3)	Total
	(In thousands)			
Return-seeking securities				
Collective investment trust ⁽¹⁾	\$ —	\$ 57,966	\$ —	\$ 57,966
Liability-matching securities				
Collective investment trusts ⁽²⁾	—	24,801	—	24,801
Cash and cash equivalents	888	—	—	888
Total	\$ 888	\$ 82,767	\$ —	\$ 83,655

⁽¹⁾ This category is comprised of a collective investment trust of equity funds that track the MCSI World Index, and a collective investment trust that holds publicly traded listed infrastructure securities.

⁽²⁾ This category is consists of a collective investment trust investing in Treasury STRIPS.

The fair value of the Level 1 assets was based on quoted prices in active markets for the identical assets. The fair value of the Level 2 assets was determined by management based on an assessment of valuations provided by asset management entities and was calculated by aggregating market prices for all underlying securities.

Investment objectives for our pension plan assets are:

- Matching Plan liability performance
- Diversifying risk
- Achieving a target investment return

We believe that there are no significant concentrations of risk within our plan assets as of December 28, 2019. We comply with the rules and regulations promulgated under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA") and we prohibit investments and investment strategies not allowed by ERISA.

Fiscal 2018

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, pension plan assets at their fair values as of December 29, 2018:

	Quoted prices in active markets of identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant other unobservable inputs (Level 3)	Total
(In thousands)				
Return-seeking securities				
Collective investment trust ⁽¹⁾	\$ —	\$ 55,766	\$ —	\$ 55,766
Liability-matching securities				
Collective investment trusts ⁽²⁾	—	24,649	—	24,649
Cash and cash equivalents	853	—	—	853
Total	\$ 853	\$ 80,415	\$ —	\$ 81,268

⁽¹⁾ This category is comprised of a collective investment trust of equity funds that track the MCSI World Index, and a collective investment trust that holds publicly traded listed infrastructure securities.

⁽²⁾ This category consists of a collective investment trust investing in Treasury STRIPS.

Pension Plan Cash Flows

Our estimated normal future benefit payments to pension plan participants are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending	(In thousands)
2020	\$ 6,352
2021	6,465
2022	6,518
2023	6,557
2024	6,539
Thereafter	32,200

We fund the pension plan liability in accordance with the limits imposed by ERISA, federal income tax laws, and the funding requirements of the Pension Protection Act of 2006. We are required to make four quarterly cash contributions to the pension plan totaling approximately \$2.0 million for fiscal funding year 2020.

Multiemployer Pension Plans

We are involved in various multiemployer pension plans (“MEPPs”) that provide retirement benefits to certain union employees in accordance with certain collective bargaining agreements (“CBAs”). As one of many participating employers in these MEPPs, we are generally responsible with the other participating employers for any plan underfunding. Our contributions to a particular MEPP are established by the applicable CBAs; however, our required contributions may increase based on the funded status of an MEPP and legal requirements such as those of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (“Pension Act”), which requires substantially underfunded MEPPs to implement a funding improvement plan (“FIP”) or a rehabilitation plan (“RP”) to improve their funded status. Factors that could impact funded status of an MEPP include, without limitation, investment performance, changes in the participant demographics, decline in the number of contributing employers, changes in actuarial assumptions, and the utilization of extended amortization provisions. A FIP or RP requires a particular MEPP to adopt measures to correct its underfunded status. These measures may include, but are not limited to: an increase in our contribution rate to the applicable CBA, a reallocation of the contributions already being made by participating employers for various benefits to individuals participating in the MEPP, and/or a reduction in the benefits to be paid to future and/or current retirees.

We could also be obligated to make future payments to MEPPs if we either cease to have an obligation to contribute to the MEPP or significantly reduce our contributions to the MEPP because we reduce our number of employees who are covered by the relevant MEPP for various reasons, including, but not limited to, layoffs or closures, assuming the MEPP has unfunded

vested benefits. The amount of such payments (known as a complete or partial withdrawal liability) generally would equal our proportionate share of the plan's unfunded vested benefits.

The following table lists our participation in our multiemployer plans which we deem significant. "Contributions" represent the amounts contributed to the plan during the fiscal years presented:

Pension Fund:	EIN/ Pension Plan Number	Pension Act Zone Status	FIP/RP Status	Surcharge	Contributions (in millions)	
					2019	2018
Central States, Southeast and Southwest Areas Pension Fund ⁽¹⁾	366044243	Critical and Declining (January 1, 2019)	RP	No	0.3	0.4
Other					0.3	0.1
Total					\$ 0.6	\$ 0.5

⁽¹⁾ Our contributions to this plan are approximately 0.10% of total contributions, which is less than the required disclosure threshold of 5% of total plan contributions. However, this plan is deemed significant for disclosure as it is severely underfunded. Additionally, we increased our estimated partial withdrawal liability related to the closure of certain facilities to \$8.1 million in fiscal 2019, from \$7.1 million in fiscal 2018. We may, in the future, record an additional liability if required by an event of our withdrawal from the plan or a mass withdrawal. Our most recent contingent withdrawal liability was estimated at approximately \$51.1 million, for a complete withdrawal occurring in fiscal 2020. In the case of a complete withdrawal or a mass withdrawal, our payments to the Central States Plan would include yearly payments of approximately \$1.0 million, which do not include payments for the partial withdrawal of approximately \$0.6 million annually. In a complete withdrawal, the current payments would not amortize the liability fully; however, payments for a complete withdrawal are limited to a 20-year period. In the case of a mass withdrawal, the liability would not amortize fully under current government regulations, and payments would continue indefinitely.

Defined Contribution Plans

Our employees also participate in two defined contribution plans: the BlueLinx Corporation Hourly Savings Plan covering hourly employees, and the BlueLinx Corporation Salaried Savings Plan covering salaried employees. Discretionary contributions to the plans are based on employee contributions and compensation, and, in certain cases, participants in the hourly savings plan also receive employer contributions based on union negotiated match amounts. Employer contributions to the hourly savings plan for fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2018 were \$0.7 million and \$0.6 million, respectively.

Employer contributions totaling \$1.7 million for the salaried savings plan for fiscal 2019 have been deferred until the first quarter of 2020. Employer contributions to the salaried savings plan for fiscal 2018 of \$1.8 million were deferred and paid in the first quarter of fiscal 2019.

10. Share-Based Compensation

We have three stock-based compensation plans covering officers, directors, certain employees, and consultants: the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (the "2004 Plan"), the 2006 Long-Term Equity Incentive Plan (the "2006 Plan"), and the 2016 Amended and Restated Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "2016 Plan"). The plans are designed to motivate and retain individuals who are responsible for the attainment of our primary long-term performance goals. The plans provide a means whereby the participants develop a further sense of proprietorship and personal involvement in our development and financial success, thereby advancing the interests of the Company and its stockholders. Although we do not have a formal policy on the matter, we issue new shares of our common stock to participants upon the exercise of options or upon the vesting of restricted stock, restricted stock units, or performance shares, out of the total amount of common shares applicable for issuance or vesting under the aforementioned plans. Shares are available for new issuance only under the 2016 Plan. The 2004 and 2006 Plans have no shares remaining for issuance. Remaining 2004 Plan shares are outstanding only for the exercise of currently outstanding options and 2006 Plan shares are outstanding only for the vesting of outstanding equity awards and the exercise of currently outstanding options.

The 2016 Plan permits the grant of nonqualified stock options, incentive stock options, stock appreciation rights ("SARs"), restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares, performance units, cash-based awards, and other share-based awards to participants of the 2016 Plan selected by our Board of Directors or a committee of the Board that administers the 2016 Plan. We reserved 810,200 shares of our common stock for issuance under the 2016 Plan. The terms and conditions of awards under the 2016 Plan are determined by the Compensation Committee. Some of the awards issued under both the 2006 and 2016 Plans

are subject to accelerated vesting in the event of a change in control as such an event is defined in the respective Plan documents.

For all awards designated as equity awards, we recognize compensation expense equal to the grant-date fair value for all share-based payment awards that are expected to vest, as described further below, in “Compensation Expense.” This expense is recorded on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the entire award, unless the awards are subject to market or performance conditions, in which case we recognize compensation expense over the requisite service period of each separate vesting tranche, to the extent the occurrence of such conditions are probable.

All compensation expense related to our share-based payment awards is recorded in “Selling, general, and administrative” expense in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Loss.

Cash-Settled SARs

During fiscal 2016, we granted certain executives and employees cash-settled SARs. The cash-settled SARs vested on July 16, 2018. On the vesting date, half of the vested value of the cash-settled SARs became payable within thirty days of the vesting date, and the remainder payable no later than August 15, 2019. The exercise price for the cash-settled SARs was amended so that it was based on a 20-day trading average of the Company’s common stock through the vesting date, in excess of the \$7.00 grant date valuation. There was no remaining liability at the end of 2019.

During fiscal 2017, certain individuals were no longer employed with the Company, and their cash-settled SAR agreements allowed for a partial accelerated vesting (of 27,385 cash-settled SARs) and a partial forfeiture (of 20,615 cash-settled SARs), pro-rated based on employment dates. At that time, half of the accelerated vested value of the cash-settled SARs, as valued at the closing stock price on the deemed exercise date, was paid to those participants, with the remaining half payable on July 16, 2019. These payments, and the accrued liability for the remaining half payable in fiscal 2019, were immaterial.

At December 28, 2019, there were no cash-settled SARs issued and outstanding, and we recognized expense of approximately \$0.0 million and \$13.2 million in fiscal 2019 and 2018, respectively, related to these awards.

Restricted Stock Units

During fiscal 2019 and in prior years, the Board of Directors was granted restricted stock units with a one-year vesting period, although a pro-rated portion may vest prior to the one-year period, with the remainder forfeited, if a Director chooses not to stand for re-election before the one-year vesting period has elapsed. All vested director grants settle at the earlier of ten years from the vesting date or retirement from the Board of Directors. These awards are time-based and are not based upon attainment of performance goals.

During fiscal 2018 and 2019, the Board of Directors granted restricted stock units to certain of our employees and executive officers. Certain of the restricted stock units granted in fiscal 2018 and 2019 vest in equal annual increments over the three years after the date of grant. The remaining restricted stock units granted in fiscal 2018 vest on the third anniversary of the date of grant if certain performance conditions are met prior to the vesting date, and the remaining restricted stock units granted in fiscal 2019 vest at the end of the Company’s second fiscal quarter in 2022 if certain performance conditions are met as of the vesting date.

As of December 28, 2019, there was approximately \$7.5 million of total unrecognized compensation expense related to restricted stock units. The unrecognized compensation expense is expected to be recognized over a weighted average term of 2.2 years. As of December 28, 2019, the weighted average remaining contractual term for our restricted stock units was 2.2 years, and the maximum contractual term was 3.0 years.

The following table summarizes activity for our restricted stock units during fiscal 2019:

	Restricted Stock Units	
	Number of Awards	Weighted Average Fair Value
Outstanding as of December 29, 2018	194,222	\$ 33.29
Granted	389,940	19.96
Vested ⁽¹⁾	(82,570)	22.92
Forfeited	(11,443)	32.26
Outstanding as of December 28, 2019	490,149	\$ 24.45

⁽¹⁾ The total fair value of restricted stock units vested in fiscal 2019 and 2018 was \$1.9 million and \$1.7 million, respectively.

Compensation Expense

Total share-based compensation expense from our share-based awards was as follows:

	December 28, 2019	December 29, 2018
	(In thousands)	
Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units	\$ 2,592	\$ 1,350
Performance Shares	—	788
Cash-settled Stock Appreciation Rights	—	13,173
Total	\$ 2,592	\$ 15,311

We do not estimate forfeitures, but adjust for them as they occur.

We recognized related income tax benefits in fiscal years 2019 and 2018 of \$0.7 million and \$3.9 million, respectively, which were fully realized in fiscal 2019 and 2018. We present the benefits of tax deductions in excess of recognized compensation expense as a net operating cash outflow in our Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows when present. There was no excess tax benefit in fiscal 2019, and an excess tax benefit of \$1.5 million in fiscal 2018.

11. Loss per Common Share

We calculate basic earnings per share by dividing net income by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding, excluding unvested restricted shares. We calculate diluted earnings per share using the treasury stock method, by dividing net income by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding plus the dilutive effect of outstanding share-based awards, including restricted stock awards and units, performance shares, and stock options.

The following table shows the computation of basic and diluted loss per share:

	Fiscal Year Ended	
	December 28, 2019⁽¹⁾	December 29, 2018⁽¹⁾
	(In thousands, except per share data)	
Net loss	\$ (17,656)	\$ (48,053)
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	9,355	9,230
Dilutive effect of share-based awards	—	—
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	<u>9,355</u>	<u>9,230</u>
Basic loss per share	\$ (1.89)	\$ (5.21)
Diluted loss per share	\$ (1.89)	\$ (5.21)

⁽¹⁾ Basic and diluted loss per share are equivalent for fiscal 2019 and 2018, due to net losses for the periods, and all outstanding share-based awards would be antidilutive.

For fiscal years 2019 and 2018, we excluded 490,149 and 194,222 unvested (or unexercised, in the case of options) share-based awards, respectively, from the diluted earnings per share calculation because they were either anti-dilutive or “out of the money.” Outstanding share based awards not included in diluted loss per share consisted of the following securities:

	Fiscal Year Ended	
	December 28, 2019	December 29, 2018
Performance shares	—	58,818
Restricted stock units	490,149	135,404
Total excluded from diluted earnings per share	<u>490,149</u>	<u>194,222</u>

12. Related Party Transactions

D. Wayne Trousdale, the Company’s former Vice Chairman, Operating Companies, who served until April 2019, owns approximately 33.33% of a limited liability company that owns and leases six facilities to us. During fiscal 2018 and 2019, approximately \$1.5 million and \$2.1 million, respectively, in aggregate rent and related amounts was paid to the limited liability company for these properties. Mr. Trousdale’s interest in these amounts for fiscal 2018 and 2019 was approximately \$0.5 million and \$0.7 million, respectively.

13. Lease Commitments

Effective December 30, 2018, we adopted ASU No. 2016-02, “Leases (Topic 842)” using the modified retrospective method, which applies the provisions of the new guidance at the effective date without adjusting the comparative periods presented. We have elected the package of practical expedients permitted under the transition guidance within the new standard. This election allowed us to carry forward our historical lease classification. The adoption of this standard resulted in the recording of operating lease right-of-use (“ROU”) assets and corresponding operating lease liabilities of \$57.5 million on the consolidated balance sheet as of December 30, 2018 (adoption date), the first day of fiscal 2019, which amortizes over the lease term.

We determine if an arrangement is a lease at inception and assess lease classification as either operating or finance at lease inception or upon modification. Our operating and finance (formerly capital) lease portfolio includes leases for real estate, certain logistics equipment, and vehicles. The majority of our leases have remaining lease terms of one year to 15 years, some of which include one or more options to extend the leases for five years. Operating lease ROU assets and corresponding liabilities are presented separately on the consolidated balance sheets. Finance lease assets are included in property and equipment, and the finance lease obligations are presented separately in the consolidated balance sheet. We have also made the accounting policy election to not separate lease components from non lease components related to leases of several trucks during the second and third quarters of 2019.

When a lease does not provide an implicit interest rate, we use our incremental borrowing rate based on the information available at the commencement date in determining the present value of future payments.

A portion of our real estate lease cost is generally subject to annual changes in the Consumer Price Index (“CPI”). The known changes to lease payments are included in the lease liability at lease commencement. Unknown changes related to CPI are treated as variable lease payments and recognized in the period in which the obligation for those payments was incurred. In addition, a subset of our vehicle lease cost is considered variable.

The components of lease expense were as follows:

	Fiscal Year Ended December 28, 2019
	(In thousands)
Operating lease cost:	\$ 12,115
Finance lease cost:	
Amortization of right-of-use assets	\$ 9,712
Interest on lease liabilities	15,303
Total finance lease costs	<u>\$ 25,015</u>

Supplemental cash flow information related to leases for fiscal 2019 was as follows:

	Fiscal Year Ended December 28, 2019
	(In thousands)
Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities	
Operating cash flows from operating leases	\$ 11,885
Operating cash flows from finance leases	15,303
Financing cash flows from finance leases	9,853
Right-of-use assets obtained in exchange for lease obligations	
Operating leases	\$ 775
Finance leases	15,041

Supplemental balance sheet information for right-of-use assets related to leases for fiscal 2019 was as follows:

	December 28, 2019
	(In thousands)
Finance leases	
Property and equipment	\$ 156,770
Accumulated depreciation	(23,364)
Property and equipment, net	<u>\$ 133,406</u>
Weighted Average Remaining Lease Term (in years)	
Operating leases	11.71
Finance leases	17.9
Weighted Average Discount Rate	
Operating leases	9.34%
Finance leases	10.33%

The major categories of our finance lease liabilities as of December 28, 2019 are as follows:

	December 28, 2019
	(In thousands)
Equipment and vehicles	\$ 32,471
Real estate	120,525
Total finance leases	<u>\$ 152,996</u>

As of December 28, 2019, maturities of lease liabilities were as follows:

	Operating leases	Finance leases
	(In thousands)	
2020	\$ 11,348	\$ 20,291
2021	10,111	19,258
2022	8,048	18,350
2023	7,330	17,887
2024	6,413	17,324
Thereafter	50,901	284,277
Total lease payments	<u>\$ 94,151</u>	<u>\$ 377,387</u>
Less: imputed interest	(39,743)	(224,391)
Total	<u>\$ 54,408</u>	<u>\$ 152,996</u>

Real Estate Transactions

During fiscal 2018, we completed sale-leaseback transactions on distribution centers located in Bellingham, Massachusetts; Raleigh, North Carolina; Frederick, Maryland; and Lawrenceville, Georgia. As a result of these transactions, we recognized a capital lease asset and obligation totaling \$95.1 million. We recorded deferred gains of \$83.9 million on the sale-leaseback properties in fiscal 2018.

During fiscal 2019, we completed real estate financing transactions on distribution centers located in Yulee, Florida; and University Park, Illinois. The aggregate gross proceeds for these real estate transactions were \$45 million. We determined that the transactions did not qualify as sales in accordance with ASC Topic 842 and, for accounting purposes, the transactions were not accounted for as sale-leaseback transactions. When this occurs, the real estate transaction is accounted for as a financing transaction, whereby the cash received is recorded as a financing obligation in our consolidated balance sheets in other current liabilities and in noncurrent liabilities as real estate financing obligations. The assets related to these transactions remain on our books and we continue to depreciate them.

At December 28, 2019, our future minimum payments related to the financing obligations under these real estate financing transactions were as follows:

	(In thousands)
2020	\$ 3,711
2021	3,794
2022	3,880
2023	3,967
Thereafter	47,218

In the first quarter of 2020, we completed real estate financing transactions on fourteen of our distribution facilities for aggregate gross proceeds of \$78.3 million. The transactions are described in further detail in Note 16.

14. Commitments and Contingencies

Environmental and Legal Matters

From time to time, we are involved in various proceedings incidental to our businesses, and we are subject to a variety of environmental and pollution control laws and regulations in all jurisdictions in which we operate. Although the ultimate outcome of these proceedings cannot be determined with certainty, based on presently available information, management believes that adequate reserves have been established for probable losses with respect thereto. Management further believes that the ultimate outcome of these matters could be material to operating results in any given quarter, but will not have a materially adverse effect on our long-term financial condition, our results of operations, or our cash flows.

Collective Bargaining Agreements (“CBAs”)

As of December 28, 2019, we employed approximately 2,200 persons on a full-time basis. Approximately 20% of our employees were covered by CBAs negotiated between the company and various local unions. Three of those CBAs covering approximately 30 employees are up for renewal in fiscal 2020, or are currently expired and under negotiations.

15. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss

Comprehensive income (loss) is a measure of income which includes both net loss and other comprehensive income (loss). Our other comprehensive income (loss) results from items deferred from recognition into our Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Loss. Accumulated other comprehensive loss is separately presented on our Consolidated Balance Sheets as part of common stockholders’ deficit. Other comprehensive income (loss) was \$2.6 million and \$(0.6) million for fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2018, respectively.

The changes in accumulated balances for each component of other comprehensive loss for fiscal 2018 and 2019 were as follows:

	Foreign currency translation, net of tax	Amortization of unrecognized pension gain (loss), net of tax	Other, net of tax	Total
	(In thousands)			
December 30, 2017, ending balance, net of tax	\$ 674	\$ (37,393)	\$ 212	\$ (36,507)
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax ⁽¹⁾	(14)	(608)	—	(622)
December 29, 2018, ending balance, net of tax	\$ 660	\$ (38,001)	\$ 212	\$ (37,129)
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax ⁽²⁾	6	2,560	—	2,566
December 28, 2019, ending balance, net of tax	\$ 666	\$ (35,441)	\$ 212	\$ (34,563)

⁽¹⁾ For fiscal 2018, there was \$0.8 million of unrecognized actuarial loss based on updated actuarial assumptions, net of taxes of \$0.2 million. There was no intraperiod income tax allocation since there was a loss in continuing operations along with a loss in other comprehensive income.

⁽²⁾ For fiscal 2019, there was \$3.5 million of unrecognized actuarial gain based on updated actuarial assumptions, net of taxes of \$0.9 million. There was a tax benefit of \$0.7 million allocated to the loss from continuing operations and tax expense allocated to the income from other comprehensive income.

16. Subsequent Events

Real Estate Transactions

On December 31, 2019, we completed real estate financing transactions with respect to four warehouse facilities for aggregate net proceeds of approximately \$27.2 million; on January 31, 2020, we completed real estate financing transactions with respect to nine warehouse facilities for aggregate net proceeds of \$34.1 million; and on February 28, 2020, we completed a real estate financing transaction with respect to a warehouse facility for net proceeds of approximately \$7.5 million. The real estate financing transactions were completed through sale-leaseback arrangements. All net proceeds from these transactions were used to repay indebtedness under the Term Loan Facility, and following these repayments, the principal balance of the Term Loan Facility was approximately \$77.4 million. Upon completion of these transactions, we entered into long-term leases on the properties for initial terms from fifteen to eighteen years with multiple five-year renewal options.

Amendments to the Term Loan Facility

On December 31, 2019, we amended our Term Loan Facility to extend the period for satisfying the designated outstanding principal balance level required to maintain the modified “Total Net Leverage Ratio” covenant levels for the 2019 fourth and subsequent quarters under the Term Loan Facility. The principal balance level was satisfied on January 31, 2020, through repayments from the sale-leaseback transactions described in this Note under the heading “Real Estate Transactions” above.

On February 28, 2020, we further amended our Term Loan Facility to provide that we will not be subject to the facility’s quarterly “Total Net Leverage Ratio” covenant from and after the time, and then for so long as, the principal balance level under the facility is less than \$45 million.

Amendment to the Revolving Credit Facility

On January 31, 2020, we amended our Revolving Credit Facility to provide that (i) the “Seasonal Period” run from November 15, 2019, through July 15, 2020, for the calendar year 2019, and from December 15 of each calendar year through April 15 of each immediately succeeding calendar year for the calendar year 2020 and thereafter, and (ii) the measurement period in the definition of “Cash Dominion Event” will be five consecutive business days instead of three consecutive business days.

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

None.

ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, performed an evaluation, as of the end of the period covered by this report, of our disclosure controls and procedures, which have been designed to permit us to record, process, summarize, and report, within time periods specified by the SEC's rules and forms, information required to be disclosed. Our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, concluded that the controls and procedures were effective as of December 28, 2019, to ensure that material information was accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Changes in Internal Control

During the three months ended December 28, 2019, other than as described below, we did not make any changes in our internal control over financial reporting that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Our internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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

On April 13, 2018, we acquired Cedar Creek Holdings, Inc. in a business combination. At the end of fiscal 2019, we completed the process of integrating the policies, processes, information technology systems, and other components of internal control over financial reporting of the combined business. Management's assessment of our internal control over financial reporting for the fiscal year 2019 includes the internal control over financial reporting of Cedar Creek.

Management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 28, 2019, using the criteria issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission ("COSO") in the 2013 Internal Control-Integrated Framework. Based on that evaluation, management believes that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 28, 2019.

The effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 28, 2019, has been audited by BDO USA, LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, which also audited our Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended December 28, 2019. BDO, USA, LLP's report on our internal control over financial reporting is set forth below.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

**The Board of Directors and Stockholders
BlueLinx Holdings Inc. and subsidiaries
Marietta, Georgia**

Opinion on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

We have audited BlueLinx Holdings Inc. and subsidiaries' (the "Company") internal control over financial reporting as of December 28, 2019, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the "COSO criteria"). In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 28, 2019, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB"), the consolidated balance sheets of the Company as of December 28, 2019 and December 29, 2018, the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive loss, cash flows and stockholders' deficit, for the years then ended, and the related notes and our report dated March 11, 2020 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

Basis for Opinion

The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Item 9A, "Management's Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting". Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit of internal control over financial reporting in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Definition and Limitations of Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

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

/s/ BDO USA, LLP

Atlanta, Georgia
March 11, 2020

ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

PART III

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

Certain information required by this Item will be set forth in our definitive proxy statement for the 2020 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of BlueLinx Holdings Inc. (the “Proxy Statement”) to be filed within 120 days after the end of our 2019 fiscal year, and is incorporated herein by reference. Information regarding executive officers of BlueLinx Holdings Inc. is included under Item 1 of this report and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 11. *EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION*

Information regarding compensation of officers and directors of BlueLinx Holdings Inc. will be set forth under the captions entitled “Compensation Discussion and Analysis,” “Compensation Committee Report,” and “Compensation of Executive Officers” in the Proxy Statement, to be filed within 120 days after the end of our 2019 fiscal year, and is incorporated herein by reference.

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

Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners, Management, and Related Stockholders Matters Information regarding ownership of BlueLinx Holdings Inc. common stock will be set forth under the captions entitled “Security Ownership of Management and Certain Beneficial Owners” and “Delinquent Section 16(a) Reports” in the Proxy Statement, to be filed within 120 days after the end of our 2019 fiscal year, and is incorporated herein by reference.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

The following table provides information about the shares of our common stock that may be issued upon the exercise of options and other awards under our existing equity compensation plans as of December 28, 2019. Our stockholder-approved equity compensation plans consist of the 2004 Plan, the 2006 Plan, and the 2016 Plan. Shares are available for issuance under the 2016 Plan. We do not have any non-stockholder approved equity compensation plans.

<i>Plan Category</i>	<i>(a)</i>	<i>(b)</i>	<i>(c)</i>
	<i>Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights</i>	<i>Weighted-Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights</i>	<i>Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (Excluding Securities Reflected in Column (a))</i>
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	—	\$ —	424,380
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	—	n/a	—
Total	—	\$ —	424,380

Other information required by this item is set forth under the heading “Security Ownership of Management and Certain Beneficial Owners” in the Proxy Statement, and is incorporated herein by reference.

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

Certain Relationships, Related Transactions, and Director Independence Information regarding certain relationships, related transactions with BlueLinx Holdings Inc., and director independence will be set forth under the captions entitled “Certain Relationships and Related Transactions,” in the Proxy Statement, to be filed within 120 days after the end of our 2019 fiscal year, and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 14. *PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES*

Information required by this item will be set forth under the heading “Proposal 2 - Ratification of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm” in our Proxy Statement, to be filed within 120 days after the end of our 2019 fiscal year, and is incorporated by reference.

PART IV

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a) Financial Statements, Schedules, and Exhibits

1. *Financial Statements.* The Financial Statements of BlueLinx Holdings Inc. and subsidiaries and the Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm are presented under Item 8 of this Form 10-K.

2. *Financial Statement Schedules.* Not applicable.

3. *Exhibits.*

Exhibit Number	Item
2.1	Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of March 9, 2018, by and among BlueLinx Corporation, Panther Merger Sub, Inc., Cedar Creek Holdings, Inc. and Charlesbank Equity Fund VII, Limited Partnership (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 12, 2018)
3.1	Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of BlueLinx, as amended (incorporated by reference to Appendix A to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement for the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 20, 2015)
3.2	Certificate of Amendment to the Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of BlueLinx Holdings Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 13, 2016)
3.3	Second Amended and Restated ByLaws of BlueLinx (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 4, 2018)
4.1	Description of Registrant's Securities *
10.1	Asset Purchase Agreement, dated as of March 12, 2004, by and among Georgia-Pacific Corporation, Georgia-Pacific Building Materials Sales, Ltd. and BlueLinx Corporation (A)
10.2	First Amendment to Asset Purchase Agreement, dated as of May 6, 2004, by and among Georgia-Pacific Corporation, Georgia-Pacific Building Materials Sales, Ltd. and BlueLinx Corporation (A)
10.3	Form of Director and Officer Indemnification Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 13, 2011) ±
10.4	BlueLinx Holdings Inc. 2004 Long Term Equity Incentive Plan (A) ±
10.5	Amended and Restated BlueLinx Holdings Inc. 2006 Long-Term Equity Incentive Plan (as amended through May 17, 2012 and restated solely for purposes of filing pursuant to Item 601 of Regulation S-K) (incorporated by reference to Appendix A to the Definitive Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 16, 2012) ±
10.6	BlueLinx Holdings Inc. 2006 Long-Term Equity Incentive Plan Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement for Non-Employee Directors (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 17, 2014) ±
10.7	BlueLinx Holdings Inc. 2006 Long-Term Equity Incentive Plan Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement for Executives and Employees (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 27, 2015) ±
10.8	BlueLinx Holdings Inc. 2016 Amended and Restated Long-Term Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form S-8 Registration Statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 3, 2016) ±
10.9	First Amendment to BlueLinx Holdings Inc. 2016 Amended and Restated Long-Term Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 18, 2018) ±
10.10	BlueLinx Holdings Inc. 2016 Amended and Restated Long-Term Incentive Plan Form of Stock Appreciation Rights Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form S-8 Registration Statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 3, 2016) ±
10.11	Form of Amendment to BlueLinx Holdings Inc. 2016 Amended and Restated Long-Term Incentive Plan Form of Stock Appreciation Rights Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 5, 2018) ±

Exhibit Number	Item
10.12	BlueLinx Holdings Inc. 2016 Amended and Restated Long-Term Equity Incentive Plan Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement for Non-Employee Directors (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.19 to the Company's Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 2, 2017) ±
10.13	Form of 2018 Time Based Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement under the BlueLinx Holdings, Inc. 2016 Amended and Restated Long-Term Incentive Plan, as amended (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.13 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 9, 2018) ±
10.14	Form of 2018 Performance Based Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement under the BlueLinx Holdings, Inc. 2016 Amended and Restated Long-Term Incentive Plan, as amended (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.14 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 9, 2018) ±
10.15	Form of 2019 Time Based Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement under the BlueLinx Holdings, Inc. 2016 Amended and Restated Long-Term Incentive Plan, as amended (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 6, 2019) ±
10.16	Form of 2019 Performance Based Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement under the BlueLinx Holdings, Inc. 2016 Amended and Restated Long-Term Incentive Plan, as amended (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 6, 2019) ±
10.17	Environmental Indemnity Agreement, dated as of June 9, 2006, by BlueLinx Holdings Inc. in favor of German American Capital Corporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 15, 2006)
10.18	Employment Agreement between BlueLinx Corporation and Mitchell Lewis, dated January 15, 2014 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 17, 2014) ±
10.19	First Amendment, effective June 8, 2018, to Employment Agreement between BlueLinx Corporation and Mitchell Lewis (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.12 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 9, 2018)
10.20	Employment Agreement between BlueLinx Corporation and Susan C. O'Farrell, dated May 5, 2014 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 8, 2014) ±
10.21	First Amendment, effective June 1, 2018, to Employment Agreement between BlueLinx Corporation and Susan C. O'Farrell (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 9, 2018) ±
10.22	Employment Agreement between BlueLinx Corporation and Shyam K. Reddy, dated May 3, 2017 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 10, 2017) ±
10.23	First Amendment, effective June 8, 2018, to Employment Agreement between BlueLinx Corporation and Shyam K. Reddy (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 9, 2018) ±
10.24	Employment Agreement, dated as of April 13, 2018, between BlueLinx Corporation and Alex Averitt (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 19, 2018) ±
10.25	First Amendment, effective June 1, 2018, to Employment Agreement between BlueLinx Corporation and Alex Averitt (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.11 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 9, 2018) ±
10.26	Employment Agreement, dated as of April 13, 2018, between BlueLinx Corporation and D. Wayne Trousdale ±*
10.27	First Amendment, effective June 1, 2018, to Employment Agreement between BlueLinx Corporation and D. Wayne Trousdale ±*
10.28	Consulting Agreement, dated as of January 29, 2019, between BlueLinx Corporation and D. Wayne Trousdale ±*
10.29	BlueLinx Holdings Inc, Amended and Restated Short-Term Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Appendix A to the Definitive Proxy Statement for the 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 18, 2017)±

Exhibit Number	Item
10.30	BlueLinx Corporation Integration Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 19, 2018) ±
10.31	BlueLinx Corporation Integration Incentive Plan Form of Participation Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 19, 2018) ±
10.32	BlueLinx Holdings Inc. Executive Severance Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 27, 2015) ±
10.33	Form of Executive Restrictive Covenant Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 27, 2015) ±
10.34	Revised Form of Executive Restrictive Covenant Agreement ±*
10.35	Form of Purchase and Sale Agreement with USIPA-Brennan Ventures II, LLC, dated as of November 6, 2017 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 3, 2018)
10.36	Form of Amendment to Purchase and Sale Agreement with USIPA-Brennan Ventures II, LLC, dated as of December 7, 2017 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 3, 2018)
10.37	Form of Purchase and Sale Agreement for Sale-Leaseback Transactions with Big Acquisitions LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 7, 2019)
10.38	Third Amendment to Purchase and Sale Agreement, dated as of May 1, 2019, by and between ABP FL (Yulee) LLC and Big Acquisitions LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 7, 2019)
10.39	Third Amendment to Purchase and Sale Agreement, dated as of May 1, 2019, by and between ABP IL (University Park) and Big Acquisitions LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 7, 2019)
10.40	Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated April 13, 2018, by and among BlueLinx Holdings Inc., certain subsidiaries of BlueLinx Holdings Inc. as borrowers or guarantors thereunder, Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as administrative agent, and certain other financial institutions party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 16, 2018)
10.41	Amended and Restated Guaranty and Security Agreement, dated April 13, 2018, by and among BlueLinx Holdings Inc., certain subsidiaries of BlueLinx Holdings Inc., and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 16, 2018)
10.42	Credit and Guaranty Agreement, dated April 13, 2018, by and among BlueLinx Holdings Inc., certain subsidiaries of BlueLinx Holdings Inc. as guarantors thereunder, HPS Investment Partners, LLC, as administrative agent and collateral agent, and certain other financial institutions party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 16, 2018)
10.43	Pledge and Security Agreement, dated April 13, 2018, by and among BlueLinx Holdings Inc., certain subsidiaries of BlueLinx Holdings Inc., and HPS Investment Partners, LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 16, 2018)
10.44	First Amendment, dated as of June 12, 2018, to that certain Credit and Guaranty Agreement, dated as of April 13, 2018, by and among BlueLinx Holdings Inc., certain subsidiaries of BlueLinx Holdings Inc. as guarantors thereunder, HPS Investment Partners, LLC, as administrative agent and collateral agent, and certain other financial institutions party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.47 to the Company's Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 13, 2019)
10.45	Second Amendment to Credit and Guaranty Agreement, dated February 28, 2019, by and among BlueLinx Holdings Inc., as borrower, certain subsidiaries of BlueLinx Holdings Inc., as guarantors, HPS Investment Partners, LLC, as administrative agent and collateral agent, and the other financial institutions party thereto, as lenders (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 4, 2019)

Exhibit Number	Item
10.46	Third Amendment to Credit and Guaranty Agreement, dated October 24, 2019, by and among BlueLinx Holdings Inc., as borrower, certain subsidiaries of BlueLinx Holdings Inc., as guarantors, the lenders party thereto, and HPS Investment Partners, LLC, in its capacity as administrative agent (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 6, 2019)
21.1	List of subsidiaries of the Company*
23.1	Consent of BDO USA, LLP*
31.1	Certification of Mitchell B. Lewis, Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002*
31.2	Certification of Susan C. O'Farrell, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002*
32.1	Certification of Mitchell B. Lewis, Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**
32.2	Certification of Susan C. O'Farrell, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**
101.Def	Definition Linkbase Document*
101.Pre	Presentation Linkbase Document*
101.Lab	Labels Linkbase Document*
101.Cal	Calculation Linkbase Document*
101.Sch	Schema Document*
101.Ins	Instance Document - the instance document does not appear in the Interactive Data File because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document.

† Portions of this document were omitted and filed separately with the SEC pursuant to a request for confidential treatment in accordance with Rule 24b-2 of the Exchange Act.

* Filed herewith.

** Exhibit is being furnished and shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subjected to liability under that Section. This exhibit shall not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference.

± Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

(A) Previously filed as an exhibit to Amendment No. 1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Reg. No. 333-118750) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 1, 2004.

ITEM 16. FORM 10-K SUMMARY

None.

Signatures

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

BlueLinx Holdings Inc.
(Registrant)

By: /s/ Mitchell B. Lewis
Mitchell B. Lewis
President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: March 11, 2020

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature Name	Capacity	Date
<u>/s/ Mitchell B. Lewis</u> Mitchell B. Lewis	President, Chief Executive Officer, and Director	March 11, 2020
<u>/s/ Susan C. O'Farrell</u> Susan C. O'Farrell	Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer (Principal Accounting Officer)	March 11, 2020
<u>/s/ Kim S. Fennebresque</u> Kim S. Fennebresque	Chairman	March 11, 2020
<u>/s/ Karel K. Czanderna</u> Karel K. Czanderna	Director	March 11, 2020
<u>/s/ Dominic DiNapoli</u> Dominic DiNapoli	Director	March 11, 2020
<u>/s/ Alan H. Schumacher</u> Alan H. Schumacher	Director	March 11, 2020
<u>/s/ J. David Smith</u> J. David Smith	Director	March 11, 2020

LIST OF SUBSIDIARIES

	<u>Name of Subsidiary</u>	<u>Jurisdiction of Organization</u>
1.	BLUELINX CORPORATION	Georgia
2.	BLUELINX FLORIDA LP	Florida
3.	BLUELINX FLORIDA HOLDING NO. 1 INC.	Georgia
4.	BLUELINX FLORIDA HOLDING NO. 2 INC.	Georgia
5.	BLUELINX BUILDING PRODUCTS CANADA LTD.	British Columbia, Canada
6.	BLX REAL ESTATE LLC	Delaware
7.	CEDAR CREEK HOLDINGS, INC.	Delaware
8.	CEDAR CREEK LLC	Delaware
9.	CEDAR CREEK CORP.	Delaware
10.	ASTRO BUILDINGS, INC.	Delaware
11.	LAKE STATES LUMBER, INC.	Minnesota
12.	ABP AL (MIDFIELD) LLC	Delaware
13.	ABP CO II (DENVER) LLC	Delaware
14.	ABP FL (LAKE CITY) LLC	Delaware
15.	ABP FL (MIAMI) LLC	Delaware
16.	ABP FL (PENSACOLA) LLC	Delaware
17.	ABP FL (TAMPA) LLC	Delaware
18.	ABP FL (YULEE) LLC	Delaware
19.	ABP GA (LAWRENCEVILLE) LLC	Delaware
20.	ABP IA (DES MOINES) LLC	Delaware

21.	ABP IL (UNIVERSITY PARK) LLC	Delaware
22.	ABP IN (ELKHART) LLC	Delaware
23.	ABP KY (INDEPENDENCE) LLC	Delaware
24.	ABP LA (NEW ORLEANS) LLC	Delaware
25.	ABP MA (BELLINGHAM) LLC	Delaware
26.	ABP MD (BALTIMORE) LLC	Delaware
27.	ABP ME (PORTLAND) LLC	Delaware
28.	ABP MI (DETROIT) LLC	Delaware
29.	ABP MI (GRAND RAPIDS) LLC	Delaware
30.	ABP MN (MAPLE GROVE) LLC	Delaware
31.	ABP MO (BRIDGETON) LLC	Delaware
32.	ABP MO (KANSAS CITY) LLC	Delaware
33.	ABP MO (SPRINGFIELD) LLC	Delaware
34.	ABP NC (BUTNER) LLC	Delaware
35.	ABP NC (CHARLOTTE) LLC	Delaware
36.	ABP NJ (DENVILLE) LLC	Delaware
37.	ABP NY (YAPHANK) LLC	Delaware
38.	ABP OH (TALMADGE) LLC	Delaware
39.	ABP OK (TULSA) LLC	Delaware
40.	ABP PA (ALLENTOWN) LLC	Delaware
41.	ABP PA (STANTON) LLC	Delaware
42.	ABP SC (CHARLESTON) LLC	Delaware
43.	ABP TN (ERWIN) LLC	Delaware

44.	ABP TN (MEMPHIS) LLC	Delaware
45.	ABP TN (MADISON) LLC	Delaware
46.	ABP TX (SAN ANTONIO) LLC	Delaware
47.	ABP VA (RICHMOND) LLC	Delaware
48.	ABP VA (VIRGINIA BEACH) LLC	Delaware
49.	ABP VT (SHELBURNE) LLC	Delaware
50.	ABP WI (WAUSAU) LLC	Delaware
51.	ELKHART IMH LLC	Georgia
52.	INDUSTRIAL REDEVELOPMENT FUND LLC	Georgia

Stockholder Information

<p>BlueLinx Holdings Inc. Headquarters: 1950 Spectrum Circle, Suite 300 Marietta, Georgia 30067 770-953-7000</p> <p>Annual Meeting: The Company’s 2020 Annual Meeting of Stockholders will be held at 11:00 a.m., EDT, on Thursday, May 21, at the BlueLinx headquarters at 1950 Spectrum Circle, Marietta, GA 30067</p> <p>Common Stock: The common stock of BlueLinx Holdings Inc. is traded on the New York Stock Exchange. The trading symbol is “BXC.”</p> <p>Inquiries: Inquiries from stockholders, securities analysts, interested investors, and the news media regarding Company information should be directed to Investor Relations, BlueLinx Holdings Inc., (866) 671-5138 or email: Investor@BlueLinxCo.com. Additional information can be found on the Company’s website: www.BlueLinxCo.com.</p> <p>Registrar and Transfer Agent: Stockholder inquiries regarding change of address, transfer of stock certificates, and lost certificates should be directed to:</p> <p>Broadridge Corporate Issuer Solutions P.O. Box 1342 Brentwood, NY 11717 Overnight deliveries: ATTN: IWS 1155 Long Island Avenue Edgewood, NY 11717 Call center 1-855-449-0975 Website: https://investor.broadridge.com/</p> <p>Independent Auditors: BDO USA, LLP 1100 Peachtree Street, Suite 700 Atlanta, Georgia 30309</p>	<p>Board of Directors:</p> <p>Kim S. Fennebresque <i>Chairman</i></p> <p>Mitchell B. Lewis <i>President, CEO, and Director</i></p> <p>Karel K. Czanderna <i>Director</i></p> <p>Dominic DiNapoli <i>Director</i></p> <p>Alan H. Schumacher <i>Director</i></p> <p>J. David Smith <i>Director</i></p>	<p>Executive Officers:</p> <p>Mitchell B. Lewis <i>President and CEO</i></p> <p>Kelly C. Janzen <i>Senior Vice President, CFO, and Treasurer</i></p> <p>Alexander S. Averitt <i>Chief Operating Officer</i></p> <p>Shyam K. Reddy <i>Chief Administrative Officer and Senior Vice President, Corporate Development</i></p> <p>Brian J. Sasadu <i>Chief Human Resource Officer</i></p> <p>Justin B. Heineman <i>Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary</i></p>
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