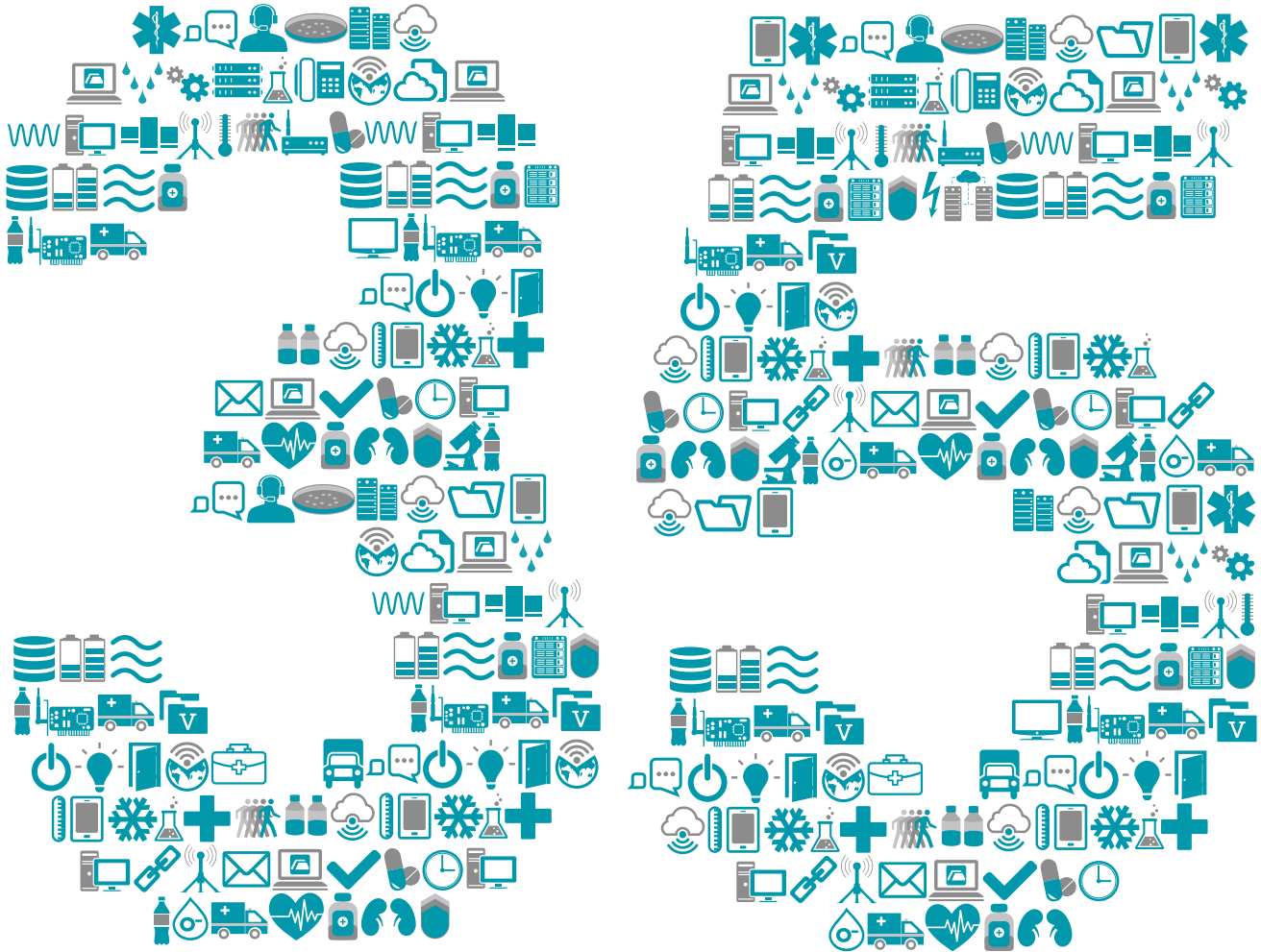


# Mesa Labs

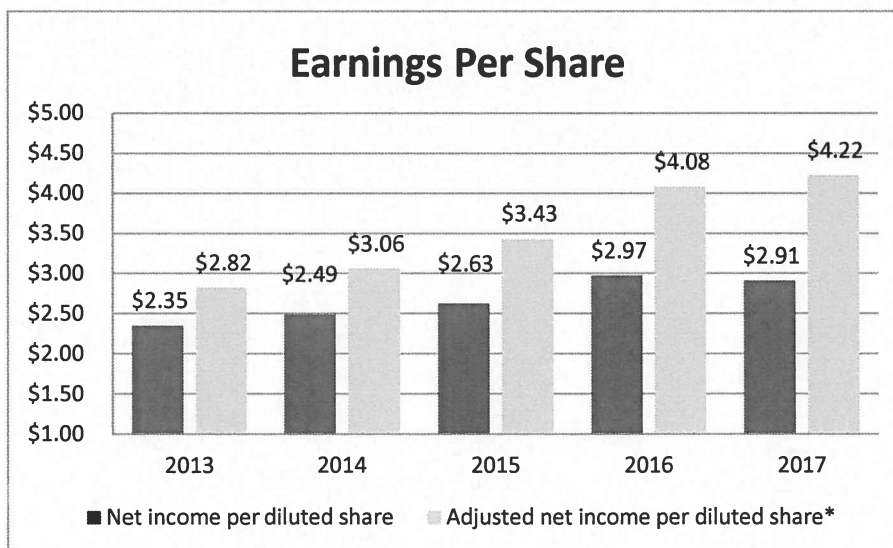
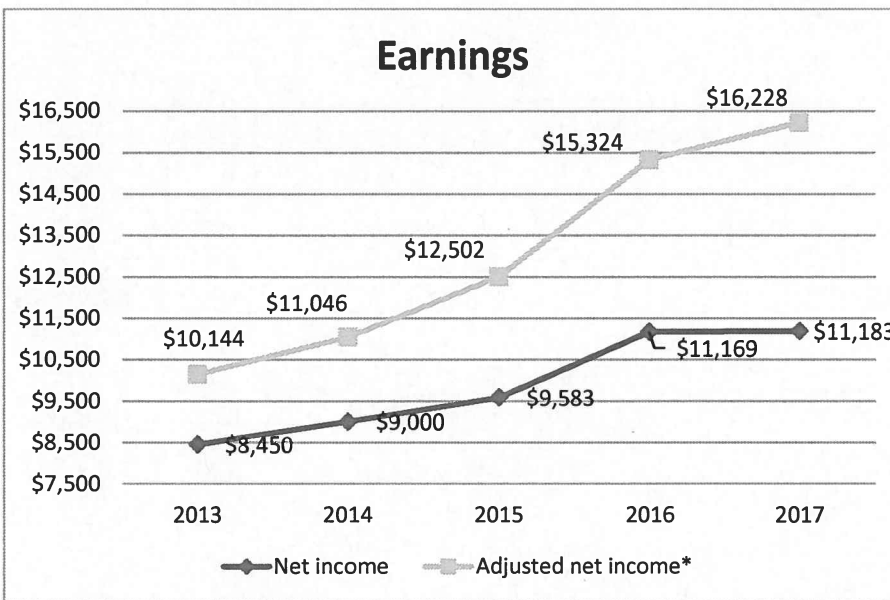
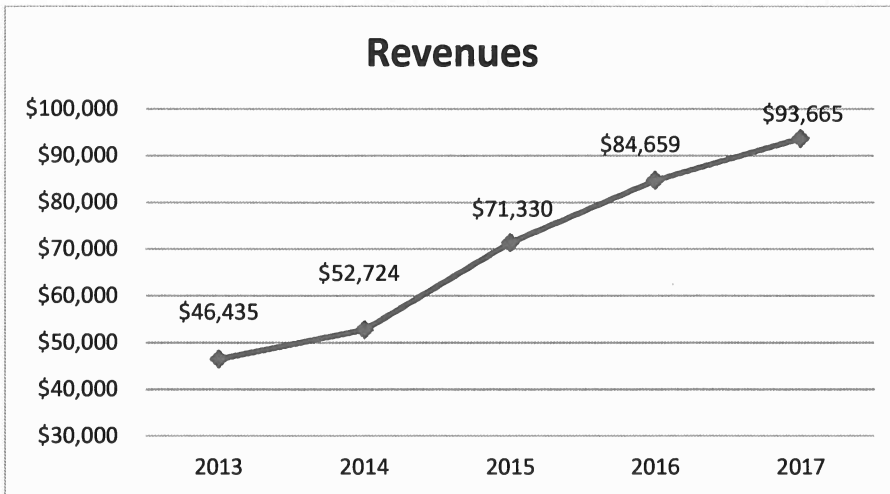
## 2017 Annual Report



Celebrating Thirty-Five Years

# A Proven Past and a Bright Future

Year Ended March 31st



In thousands, except per share data

\* The non-GAAP measure of adjusted net income is defined to exclude the non-cash impact of amortization of intangible assets, net of tax.

Dear Shareholders,

September 20, 2017

Fiscal 2017 was another growth year for Mesa Laboratories, Inc. (“Mesa,” “we,” “our,” or the “Company”), in which we achieved higher revenues and profits, continued our acquisitions program, introduced significant new products, and invested internally to position the Company for future expansion. In some ways, the year was also the beginning of the next phase for Mesa, with revenues approaching one-hundred million dollars and a new CEO poised to take the Company to the next level in its development.

### **Operating Highlights**

Overall revenues growth for fiscal 2017 was 11 percent, driven primarily by 15 percent growth of the Biological Indicators (BI) Division and 114 percent growth of the Cold Chain Packaging (CCP) Division (albeit off a small base in the previous year). Organic revenues growth was five percent overall, again, driven by seven percent organic growth for BI and 85 percent organic growth for CCP. The Cold Chain Monitoring (CCM) Division was up nine percent, which was due to the acquisition of FreshLoc in November, as organically, CCM was down two percent. The Instruments Division had a tough year, down four percent organically, primarily due to large one-time orders from Asia in the prior fiscal year, making for a tough annual comparison. Profit growth was somewhat disappointing, as Adjusted Net Income (“ANI”) grew by only six percent, since much of the revenues growth was related to lower gross margin products.

We made excellent progress on the new BI facility in Bozeman, MT. The site was substantially completed at the end of fiscal 2017 and we will be relocating the operations in Omaha, NE, Traverse City, MI, and our current Bozeman facility into the new building throughout fiscal 2018. The building was purposely built with our growth plans in mind and there is significant available space that will be used for future business expansion.

We achieved several important new product introductions in fiscal 2017, and the most significant were the pHoenix XL meter for the Diallyguard product line and completion of the ViewPoint monitoring system in CCM. The pHoenix XL replaces a design that dates back to the 1990’s and is a significant upgrade to the “industry standard” quality control meter used daily in nearly every dialysis clinic in the U.S. Introduction of the VPx sensors and a major software release completed our ViewPoint Monitoring system, which is the most advanced and user-friendly system for monitoring of temperature and other parameters in critical healthcare and pharmaceutical manufacturing applications.

Our acquisitions during fiscal 2017 were primarily focused on expanding our market share within existing product offerings. We completed four acquisitions in our BI Division, and one each in the CCP and CCM Divisions. The largest, and arguably most important, was the acquisition of FreshLoc in November 2016. FreshLoc sells primarily into the less-demanding and lower priced hospital market, and was the first company in the monitoring market to offer all cloud-based data storage, allowing for ease of installation and increased data security. Until now, Mesa had focused most of its CCM offerings for the more demanding pharmaceutical applications. With FreshLoc, Mesa now offers monitoring systems across the entire range of price and capability, improving our competitive position. This year’s BI acquisitions continued our theme of expanding our market share by purchasing BI distributors and dental testing competitors. This strategy has worked very well and is the most important factor in driving our gross margin percentage of our BI Division from 57 percent in fiscal 2014 to 66 percent in fiscal 2017.

### **A New Metric**

Starting for fiscal 2018, we are changing our non-GAAP profitability metric. For many years we have been using Adjusted Net Income (“ANI”), which is comprised of GAAP net income with the addition of tax-effected intangible asset amortization. Upon our adoption of ASU 2016-09 at the beginning of fiscal 2016, the cumulative gains from stock option exercises by our employees and directors have resulted in a highly variable corporate tax rate, which has caused wide fluctuations in this after-tax metric. We have replaced ANI with Adjusted Operating Income (“AOI”), which is calculated by adding back two of our larger non-cash expenses, intangible asset amortization and stock based compensation expense, to GAAP operating income. We believe AOI is a better reflection of the underlying strength of the core business, and we have adopted it as our profitability metric for all of our incentive compensation plans. As has been our practice, we will not be adjusting AOI for any one-time or unusual expenses.

### **Management Transition**

It is with mixed emotions that I write this, my final letter to Mesa’s shareholders. I came to Mesa 13 years ago with a singular goal, to put the Company’s stellar cash flow to work in growing the Company, both organically and through strategic acquisitions. We have accomplished a lot in those 13 years. Revenues have expanded ten-fold, as we brought in many new product lines through acquisitions, entered multiple new markets, and expanded our international reach. Profits, as measured by AOI, have increased seven-fold from \$3,338,000 in fiscal 2004 to \$24,174,000 in fiscal 2017, as we executed our strategy of “profitable growth”. As you might imagine, Mesa is a completely different company today than it was in 2004, with vast improvements in our infrastructure, processes, commercial reach, product portfolio, and the entire “Mesa team”. I feel confident that the Company is positioned for its next growth phase and I am looking forward to what can be accomplished in the next 13 years. While I stepped down as Mesa’s CEO on September 1, 2017 and handed the reins over to Gary M. Owens, I remain available to the management team in a consulting role and I have been appointed to the position of Chairman of the Board of Directors. I expect to be an active participant in Mesa’s next phase of growth!

I leave Mesa’s management team with full confidence in Gary’s ability to drive the Company to its full potential. Gary has deep experience in exactly what Mesa needs today, having spent 10 years at Danaher Corporation in business development, business management, and championing continuous improvement and lean initiatives. There will certainly be changes at Mesa in the years ahead as Gary puts his stamp on the Company, but having worked with Gary since March 2017, I am confident that the changes will all be for the better. Gary has the experience to not only drive improvements in Mesa’s existing businesses, but to also take our business development program to another level.

Lastly, I would like to thank our shareholders for their support during the last 13 years. Rest assured that ever increasing shareholder value is the primary focus of the Board of Directors and everyone on Mesa’s management team. As always, you can track our progress by visiting our web site at [www.mesalabs.com](http://www.mesalabs.com).

Sincerely,



John J. Sullivan, Ph.D.  
Chairman

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

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**FORM 10-K**

(Mark one)



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

For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2017



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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_

Commission File No: 0-11740

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**MESA LABORATORIES, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Colorado**

(State or other jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or organization)

**84-0872291**

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification number)

**12100 West Sixth Avenue**

**Lakewood, Colorado**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**80228**

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(303) 987-8000**

Securities registered under Section 12(b) of the Act:

**Title of each class**

**Name of each exchange on which registered**

---

Common Stock, no par value

---

NASDAQ

Securities registered under 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 to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

YES  NO

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Smaller reporting company <input type="checkbox"/>	Emerging growth company <input type="checkbox"/>
		(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)		

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

YES  NO

The aggregate market value as of September 30, 2016 (the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter), of the voting and non-voting common equity of Mesa Laboratories Inc. held by non-affiliates (assuming, for this purpose, that all directors, officers and owners of 5% or more of the registrant's common stock are deemed affiliates) computed by reference to the price at which the common equity was last sold (\$114.36 per share) was \$248,044,000.

The number of outstanding shares of the Issuer's common stock as of May 31, 2017 was 3,737,380.

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## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

*This report contains information that may constitute "forward-looking statements." Generally, the words "believe," "estimate," "expect," "project," "anticipate," "intend," "will" and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements, which generally are not historical in nature. However, the absence of these words or similar expressions does not mean that a statement is not forward-looking. All statements that address operating performance, events or developments that we expect or anticipate will occur in the future — including statements relating to revenues growth and statements expressing general views about future operating results — are forward-looking statements. Management believes that these forward-looking statements are reasonable as and when made. However, caution should be taken not to place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements because such statements speak only as of the date when made. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law. In addition, forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from our historical experience and our present expectations or projections. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, those described in Part I, "Item 1A. Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this report and those described from time to time in our future reports to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.*

## PART I

### ITEM 1. BUSINESS

#### Introduction

Mesa Laboratories, Inc. was incorporated under the laws of the State of Colorado on March 26, 1982. The terms “we,” “us,” “our,” the “Company” or “Mesa” are used in this report to refer collectively to the parent company and the subsidiaries through which our various businesses are actually conducted. We pursue a strategy of focusing primarily on quality control products and services, which are sold into niche markets that are driven by regulatory requirements. We prefer markets that have limited competition where we can establish a strong presence and achieve high gross margins. We are organized into four divisions across nine physical locations. Our Instruments Division designs, manufactures and markets quality control instruments and disposable products utilized in connection with the healthcare, pharmaceutical, food and beverage, medical device, industrial hygiene, environmental air sampling and semiconductor industries. Our Biological Indicators Division provides testing services, along with the manufacturing and marketing of biological indicators and distribution of chemical indicators used to assess the effectiveness of sterilization processes, including steam, hydrogen peroxide, ethylene oxide and radiation, in the hospital, dental, medical device and pharmaceutical industries. Our Cold Chain Monitoring Division designs, develops and markets systems which are used to monitor various environmental parameters such as temperature, humidity and differential pressure to ensure that critical storage and processing conditions are maintained in hospitals, pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers, blood banks, pharmacies and a number of other laboratory and industrial environments. Our Cold Chain Monitoring Division also provides parameter (primarily temperature) monitoring of products during transport in a cold chain and consulting services such as compliance monitoring and validation or mapping of transport and storage containers. Our Cold Chain Packaging Division provides packaging development consulting services and thermal packaging products such as coolers, boxes, insulation materials and phase-change products to control temperature during transport.

Our Lakewood, Colorado, and Butler, New Jersey, facilities manufacture our Instruments Division products which include the DataTrace®, DiallyGuard®, DryCal®, Torqo®, SureTorque® and BGI brands. Our Omaha, Nebraska, and Bozeman, Montana locations manufacture our Biological Indicators Division products which include the Mesa, PCD® and Apex® brands, while our Lakewood, Colorado, facility also manufactures our Cold Chain Monitoring Division products which include CheckPoint®, AmegaView, ViewPoint® and FreshLoc brands. Our Traverse City, Michigan facility provides sterility assurance testing services to dental offices in the United States and Canada. Our Markham, Ontario facility manufactures our Mesa brand real time monitoring solutions and outsources the manufacture of our TempTrust® brand of packaging materials.

Our philosophy is to manufacture exceptional quality products and provide a high level of on-going service for those products. Our revenues come from two main sources – product sales and services. Our strategic goals involve continuing to grow revenues and profits through three key strategies – a) improving our commercial (vs distribution) channels, b) introducing new products to the market, and c) seeking out companies or product lines to acquire.



## **Acquisitions**

### Year Ended March 31, 2017 Acquisitions

During the year ended March 31, 2017, we completed the following six acquisitions:

In November 2016, we completed a business combination (the “Mydent Acquisition”) whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of Mydent International Corp’s business segment associated with biological indicator mail-in testing services to the dental market in the United States;

In November 2016, we completed a business combination (the “FreshLoc Acquisition”) whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of the cold chain monitoring business of FreshLoc Technologies, Inc.;

In August 2016, we completed a business combination (the “Rapid Aid Acquisition”) whereby we acquired certain assets (consisting primarily of fixed assets) and certain liabilities of Rapid Aid Corp’s (“Rapid Aid”) business segment associated with the manufacture and sale of cold chain packaging gel products;

In July 2016, we completed a business combination (the “HANSAméd Acquisition”) whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of HANSAméd Limited’s (“HANSAméd”) business segment associated with the distribution of our biological indicator products and mail-in testing services to the dental market in Canada;

In April 2016, we completed a business combination (the “ATS Acquisition”) whereby we acquired substantially all the assets (other than cash and certain inventories and fixed assets) and certain liabilities of Autoclave Testing Services, Inc. and Autoclave Testing Supplies, Inc., (collectively, “ATS”). ATS was in the business of supplying products and services for dental sterilizer testing in both the U.S. and Canada; and

In April 2016, we completed a business combination (the “Pulse Acquisition”) whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of Pulse Scientific, Inc.’s (“Pulse”) business segment associated with the distribution of our biological indicator products.

### Year Ended March 31, 2016 Acquisitions

During the year ended March 31, 2016, we completed the following ten acquisitions:

In January 2016, we completed two business combinations (the “January 2016 European BI Distributor Acquisitions”) whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of the business segment associated with the distribution of our biological indicator products from CoaChrom Diagnostica GmbH of Austria and bioTRADING Benelux B.V of the Netherlands;

In October 2015, we completed six business combinations (the “October 2015 European BI Distributor Acquisitions”) whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of the business segment associated with the distribution of our biological indicator products from BIOLOGIK S.R.L.(Italy), VWR International PBI S.R.L.(Italy), Cruinn Diagnostics Ltd.(Ireland), Mecolab AG (Switzerland), Miclev Medical Products AB (Sweden) and Tiselab S.L.(Spain);

In August 2015, we completed a business combination (the “North Bay Acquisition”) whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than certain fixed assets) and certain liabilities of the dental sterilizer testing business of North Bay Bioscience, LLC (“North Bay”); and

In July 2015, we completed a business combination (the “Infitrak Acquisition”) whereby we acquired all of the common stock of 2396081 Ontario Inc. and its wholly owned operating subsidiary, Infitrak Inc. (collectively, “Infitrak”), a company whose business provides consulting, packaging and measuring solutions for cold chain applications.

### Year Ended March 31, 2015 Acquisitions

During the year ended March 31, 2015, we completed the following six acquisitions:

In March 2015, we completed a business combination (the “Früh Acquisition”) whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of Dr. Früh Control GmbH’s (“Fruh”) business segment associated with the distribution of our biological indicator products;

In February 2015, we completed a business combination (the “Cherwell Acquisition”) whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of Cherwell Laboratories Limited’s (“Cherwell”) business segment associated with the distribution of our biological indicator products;

In October 2014, we completed a business combination (the “ATI Acquisition”) whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of ATI Atlas Limited (“ATI”), a distributor of our biological indicator products;

In October 2014, we completed a business combination (the “PCD Acquisition”) with PCD-Process Challenge Devices, LLC (“PCD”) whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of PCD’s business segment associated with the sale of process challenge devices, which are used for quality control purposes in the field of ethylene oxide sterilization of medical devices;

In April 2014, we completed a business combination (the “BGI Acquisition”) whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of BGI, Incorporated and BGI Instruments, Inc., (collectively, “BGI”), businesses focused on the sale of equipment used primarily for particulate air sampling; and

In April 2014, we completed a business combination (the “Amilabo Acquisition”) whereby we acquired all of the common stock of Amilabo SAS (“Amilabo”), a distributor of our biological indicator products.

Our principal executive offices and corporate headquarters are located at 12100 West Sixth Ave., Lakewood, Colorado 80228, and our telephone number is 303-987-8000. Our website is [www.mesalabs.com](http://www.mesalabs.com). The information contained or connected to our website is not incorporated by reference into this Annual Report on Form 10-K and should not be considered part of this report.

### **Instruments Division**

Our Instruments Division designs, manufactures and markets quality control instruments and disposable products utilized in the healthcare, pharmaceutical, food and beverage, medical device, industrial hygiene, environmental air sampling and semiconductor industries. Generally, our instrument products are used for testing, quality control, safety, validation and regulatory compliance. Our Instruments Division products include: 1) Data loggers, which are used in critical manufacturing and quality control processes in the food, pharmaceutical and medical device industries; 2) Medical meters and calibration solutions, which are used for quality control in dialysis clinics and dialysis machine manufacturing operations; 3) Gas flow calibration and air sampling equipment, which are used for industrial hygiene assessments, calibration of gas metering equipment and environmental air monitoring by a variety of organizations, including metrology labs, manufacturing companies and government agencies; and 4) Torque testing systems, which are used to measure bottle cap tightness in the beverage and pharmaceutical industries.

### ***Data Loggers***

Our data logger products are self-contained, wireless, high precision instruments that are used in critical manufacturing, quality control and validation applications. They are used to measure temperature, humidity and pressure inside a process or a product during manufacturing. In addition, data loggers can be used to validate the proper operation of laboratory or manufacturing equipment, either during its installation or for annual re-certifications. The products consist of individual data loggers, a personal computer (“PC”) interface, software and various accessories. A customer typically purchases a large number of data loggers along with a single PC interface and the software package. In practice, using the PC interface, the user programs the loggers to collect environmental data at a pre-determined interval, places the data loggers in the product or process, and then collects stored process data from the data logger either through the PC interface or wirelessly via a radio link. The user can then prepare tabular and graphical reports using the software. Unique aspects of

our data loggers are their ability to operate at elevated temperatures and in explosive environments – important differentiating factors in the marketplace and, consequently, they are used by companies to control their most critical processes, such as sterilization. Industries utilizing the data loggers include food processors, pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers, and contract sterilization providers.

### ***Medical Meters and Calibration Solutions***

Our medical meters are used to test various parameters of the dialysis fluid (dialysate), and the proper calibration and operation of the dialysis machine. Each measures some combination of temperature, pressure, pH and conductivity to ensure that the dialysate has the proper composition to promote the transfer of waste products from the blood to the dialysate. The meters provide a digital readout that the patient, physician or technician uses to verify that the dialysis machine is working within prescribed limits and delivering properly prepared dialysate. We manufacture two styles of medical meters; those designed for use by dialysis machine manufacturers and biomedical technicians, and those used primarily by dialysis nurses. The meters for technicians are characterized by exceptional accuracy, stability and flexibility, and are used by the industry as the primary standard for the calibration of dialysis machines. The meters designed for use by dialysis nurses are known primarily for their ease of use and incorporate a previously patented, built-in syringe sampling system. These meters are used as the final quality control check on the dialysate just prior to starting a treatment. In addition to the dialysate meters, we market a line of standard solutions for use in dialysis clinics for calibration of our meters. These standard solutions are regularly consumed by the dialysis clinics; thus, along with calibration services, are less impacted by general economic conditions than instrument sales. Customers that utilize these products include dialysis facilities, medical device manufacturers and biomedical service companies.

### ***Gas Flow Calibration and Air Sampling Equipment***

We manufacture a variety of instruments and equipment for gas flow calibration and environmental air sampling. In the air sampling area, our technology is used primarily for the determination of particulate concentrations in air as a measure of urban or industrial air pollution, and for industrial hygiene assessments. The primary products include air samplers, particle separators and pumps. In the environmental area, our particle samplers were some of the first on the market and they were recognized early-on as “reference samplers” by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

We also manufacture gas flow calibration instruments to support the use of our air sampling equipment, and for broader industrial applications. Our gas flow calibration instruments provide the precise standards required by laboratories and industry in the design, development, manufacture, installation and calibration of various gas flow meters and air sampling devices. Our flow calibrators are used in many industries where professionals require the superior accuracy, reliability and ease of operation that they provide, including 1) industrial hygienists, 2) calibration and research laboratories, 3) manufacturers who design, develop and manufacture gas flow metering devices, and 4) industrial engineering and manufacturing companies that utilize gas flow metering devices.

### ***Torque Testing Systems***

Our automated torque testing systems are durable and reliable motorized cap torque analyzers used throughout the packaging industry. The primary advantages of our torque instruments are their high accuracy and long term consistency of measurement. Unlike manual torque testing instruments, our motorized torque systems eliminate the effects on the measurement results of different operators and different cap removal speeds. With a motorized torque testing system, the force applied to a cap is precisely the same in each testing cycle, regardless of who may be operating the machine, or how strong they may be. Our torque systems provide the information that helps the packaging operation track events, and potential problems during the manufacturing process so that corrections can be performed in a timely fashion. Industries utilizing these instruments include food processors, beverage companies, pharmaceutical, and consumer product manufacturers.

### **Biological Indicators Division**

Our Biological Indicators Division provides testing services, along with the manufacture and marketing of biological indicators and distribution of chemical indicators used to assess the effectiveness of sterilization processes, including steam, hydrogen peroxide, ethylene oxide and radiation, in the hospital, dental, medical device and pharmaceutical industries. Our biological indicators are registered medical devices manufactured under International Standards Organization (“ISO”) 13485

controlled processes. They are developed and used according to the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (“AAMI”) guidelines, which are often adopted as the worldwide standard under ISO.

Biological indicators consist of resistant spores of certain microorganisms that are applied on a convenient substrate, such as a small piece of filter paper. The spores are well characterized in terms of numbers and resistance to sterilization. In use, the biological indicator is exposed to a sterilization process and then tested to determine the presence of surviving organisms. Our biological indicators include a) spore strips, which require post-processing transfer to a growth media, b) self-contained products, which have the growth media already pre-packaged in crushable ampoules, c) culture media, and d) process challenge devices (“PCD’s”) which increase the resistance of biological indicators, mimicking the packaging or other unique characteristics of a product being sterilized. Chemical indicators are similar to biological indicators, except that a chemical change (generally determined by color) is used to assess the exposure to sterilization conditions. Biological indicators and chemical indicators are often used together to monitor processes. Biological indicators are used to validate equipment and monitor the effectiveness of a process in any industrial or healthcare setting which uses sterilization. Key markets include healthcare, such as dental offices and hospitals, and industrial, such as medical device and pharmaceutical manufacturers.

Our biological indicators are distinguished in the marketplace by their high level of quality, consistency and flexibility. A variety of different formats allows our biological indicators to be used in many different types of processes and products. For example, the simple spore strips are used most often in the small table-top steam sterilizers in dental offices, while a more complex self-contained biological indicator, either with or without a PCD, may be used by a medical device manufacturer to assure the sterility in a complex ethylene oxide sterilization process. In either case, the number of spores contained on the carrier and the resistance of the spores to the sterilization process must be well characterized in order to accurately assess the effectiveness of sterilization. During manufacturing, extensive quality control steps are used to ensure that the microorganism spores are well characterized and their resistance is known following placement on the target carrier.

### **Cold Chain Monitoring Division**

Our Cold Chain Monitoring Division designs, develops and markets systems which are used to monitor various environmental parameters such as temperature, humidity and differential pressure to ensure that critical storage and processing conditions are maintained. Cold chain monitoring systems are used in controlled environments such as refrigerators, freezers, warehouses, laboratory incubators, clean rooms and a number of other settings. The cold chain monitoring systems consist of wireless sensors that are placed in controlled environments, hardware modules to receive the wireless data, and various software programs to collect, store and process the data. Our systems are designed to operate continuously, providing data around the clock, 365 days per year. A critical function of our systems is the ability to provide local alarms and notifications via e-mail, text or telephone, in the case where established environmental conditions are exceeded. Key markets for our cold chain monitoring systems are hospitals, pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers, blood banks, pharmacies and a number of other laboratory and industrial environments.

Among the important competitive differentiators for our cold chain monitoring systems are 1) their high degree of reliability and up-time; 2) a large variety of sensor types to meet the needs of most applications; 3) a large, distributed installation and service team; and 4) a full-featured and validated software program, providing extensive reporting and alarm capability. An important aspect of our cold chain monitoring business is the ability to provide post-installation service and support. For most systems, annual re-calibration of each sensor is required, and we provide this service through our large, dedicated service organization.

Our Cold Chain Monitoring Division also provides parameter (primarily temperature) monitoring of products during transport in a cold chain and consulting services such as compliance monitoring and validation or mapping of transport and storage containers. Our compliance services help customers validate the effectiveness of their cold chain and our monitoring systems record temperature during shipment and provide alarms in case of temperature excursions throughout a cold chain, from point of manufacture or collection, all the way to point of use.

### **Cold Chain Packaging Division**

Our Cold Chain Packaging Division provides packaging development consulting services and thermal packaging products such as coolers, boxes, insulation materials and phase-change products to control temperature during transport. We provide a full suite of products and services to help our customers meet the requirements of their Good Distribution Practices (“GDP”) regulations.

The competitive advantages of our Cold Chain Packaging Division include 1) our in-depth knowledge of cold chain characteristics and requirements, 2) packaging materials that are very durable and can control temperatures for up to 168 hours during transport, and 3) extensive package development and testing capability to help in the design and validation of custom packaging solutions.

### **Market Factors**

Product sales are dependent on several factors, including general economic conditions, both domestic and international, customer capital spending trends, competition, introduction of new products and acquisitions. Biological indicators and many of the packaging products of our Cold Chain Packaging Division are disposable and are used on a routine basis, thus product sales are less sensitive to general economic conditions. Instrument products and cold chain monitoring products and systems have a longer life, and their purchase by our customers is somewhat discretionary, so sales are more sensitive to general economic conditions. Service demand is driven by our customers' quality control and regulatory environments, which require periodic repair and recalibration or certification of our instrument products and cold chain monitoring systems. We typically evaluate costs and pricing annually. Our policy is to price our products competitively and, where possible, we pass along cost increases in order to maintain our margins.

### **Manufacturing**

We conduct research, manufacturing and support of our Instruments Division products from our facilities in Lakewood, Colorado and Butler, New Jersey. Our instrument products are manufactured primarily by assembling the products from purchased components and calibrating the final products prior to release. The manufacture and support of our Cold Chain Monitoring Division systems are conducted from our facility in Lakewood, Colorado. Our cold chain monitoring systems are manufactured primarily by assembling the systems from purchased components and calibrating the sensors, either at the factory or at the point of installation at the customer's facility. Facilities in Bozeman, Montana, Omaha, Nebraska and Traverse City, Michigan are used for the Biological Indicators Division. Our biological indicator products are manufactured by growing microbiological spores from raw materials, forming the finished products and testing the finished biological indicators using established quality control tests. Our dental sterilizer testing products are assembled into kits containing BI spore strips and our microbiological laboratory tests these kits when they are returned to us to determine the effectiveness of our customer's sterilization process. Our Cold chain monitoring products are manufactured in our Lakewood, Colorado and Markham, Canada facilities primarily by assembling the systems from purchased components and calibrating the sensors, while our packaging products are manufactured by third party suppliers.

Most of the materials and components used in our product lines are available from a number of different suppliers. We generally maintain multiple sources of supply, but are dependent on a single source for certain items. We believe that alternative sources could be developed, if required, for present single supply sources. Although our dependence on these single supply sources may involve a degree of risk, to date we have been able to acquire sufficient stock to meet our production requirements.

### **Marketing and Distribution**

Domestically, we generate sales to end users through our sales and marketing staff and distributors. We use approximately 260 distributors throughout Europe, Africa, Asia, South America, Australia, Canada and Central America for international sales and distribution. Sales promotions include trade shows, direct mail campaigns, internet and other digital forms of advertising.

Our Instruments Division marketing effort is focused on offering quality products to our customers that will aid them in containing cost, improving the quality of their products and services, and helping them meet their regulatory requirements. Customers primarily include manufacturers of foods, beverages, pharmaceutical products, medical devices, contract sterilizing services, governmental agencies, environmental testing labs and dialysis clinics.

Our Biological Indicators Division marketing focuses on providing quality test products in a variety of different formats, which minimize incubation and test result time. Customers include companies providing sterility assurance testing to dental offices, hospitals, contract sterilization services and various industrial users involved in pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturing.

Our Cold Chain Monitoring Division marketing focuses on providing quality systems to our customers that monitor various environmental parameters such as temperature, humidity and differential pressure to ensure that critical storage and processing conditions are maintained. Customers include hospitals, pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers, blood banks, pharmacies and a number of other laboratory and industrial environments.

Our Cold Chain Packaging Division marketing effort is focused on providing packaging development consulting services and thermal packaging products such as coolers, boxes, insulation materials and phase-change products to control temperature during transport. Customers primarily include pharmaceutical manufacturers and distribution companies.

Our Cold Chain Divisions marketing focuses on being the “one stop shop” for all of our customers’ cold chain requirements. While competitors can provide one or two products or services, our cold chain offering provides all of our customers’ needs, including package design, validation, packaging materials, and complete monitoring solutions.

As of and for the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, no individual customer represented more than 10% of our accounts receivable or revenues.

### **Competition**

Our products compete across several industries with a variety of companies, many of which are well established, with substantially greater capital resources and larger research and development capabilities. Furthermore, many of these companies have established product lines and a significant operating history. Accordingly, we may be at a competitive disadvantage with some competitors due to their respective size and market presence.

Companies with which our Instruments Division products compete include the Myron L Company, IBP Medical GmbH, Amphenol Corporation, Ellab, TMI Orion, Fortive Corporation, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc., Mecmesin, Steinfurth, Met One Instruments, Inc. and Tisch Environmental. Our Biological Indicators Division products compete with 3M, Terragene, Crosstex and Steris, among others. Our Cold Chain Monitoring Division systems compete with Rees Scientific Corporation, Amphenol Corporation and Cooper-Atkins, among others. Our Cold Chain Packaging Division products compete with Sonoco Thermosafe, Cold Chain Technologies, Inc., Pelican Biothermal LLC and Cryopak.

### **Research and Development**

We are committed to an active research and development program dedicated to innovating new products and improving the quality and performance of our existing products. We spent \$4,157,000, \$4,976,000 and \$3,800,000 for the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively, on research and development activities, including amounts capitalized as intangible assets and construction-in-progress. Amounts capitalized, which relate primarily to the development of Cold Chain Monitoring products, were \$0, \$1,004,000 and \$506,000 for the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

### **Government Regulation**

While our quality system and manufacturing processes are generally the same throughout the Instruments Division, specific products are compliant under ISO 13485, ISO 17025, ISO 9001 and certain U.S. Federal regulations. Compliance requires us to obtain third party certification for certain products.

Several products in both the Instruments and Biological Indicators Divisions are medical devices subject to the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, as amended by the Medical Device Amendments of 1976 (hereinafter referred to as the "Act"). The Act requires any company proposing to market a medical device to notify the Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) of its intention at least ninety days before doing so and in such notification must advise the FDA as to whether the device is substantially equivalent to a device marketed prior to May 28, 1976. We have received permission from the FDA to market all of our products requiring such permission.

Some of our facilities are subject to FDA regulations and inspections, which may be time-consuming and costly. This includes on-going compliance with the FDA's current Good Manufacturing Practices regulations that require, among other things, the systematic control of manufacture, packaging and storage of products intended for human use. Failure to comply with these practices renders the product adulterated and could subject us to an interruption of manufacturing and selling these products, and possible regulatory action by the FDA.

The manufacture and sale of medical devices is also regulated by some states. Although there is substantial overlap between state regulations and the regulations of the FDA, some state laws may apply. We do not anticipate that complying with state regulations, however, will create any significant problems. Foreign countries also have laws regulating medical devices sold in those countries, which may cause us to expend additional resources on compliance.

## **Employees**

On March 31, 2017, we had 381 employees, of which 186 are employed for manufacturing and quality assurance, 29 for research and development and engineering, 121 for sales and marketing, and 45 for administration.

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

*In addition to the other information set forth in this Annual Report on Form 10-K and other documents we filed with the SEC, you should carefully consider the following factors, which could materially affect our business, financial condition or results of operations in future periods. The risks and uncertainties described below are those that we have identified as material, but are not the only risks and uncertainties facing us. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently believe are immaterial also may impair our business, including our results of operations, liquidity and financial condition.*

***Conditions in the global economy, the markets we serve and the financial markets may adversely affect our business and results of operations.***

Our business is sensitive to general economic conditions. Slower global economic growth, actual or anticipated default on sovereign debt, volatility in the currency and credit markets, high levels of unemployment or underemployment, reduced levels of capital expenditures, changes or anticipation of potential changes in government fiscal, tax, trade and monetary policies, changes in capital requirements for financial institutions, government deficit reduction and budget negotiation dynamics, sequestration, austerity measures and other challenges that affect the global economy adversely could affect us and our distributors, customers and suppliers, including having the effect of:

- reducing demand for our products and services, limiting the financing available to our customers and suppliers, increasing order cancellations and resulting in longer sales cycles;
- increasing the difficulty in collecting accounts receivable and the risk of excess and obsolete inventories;
- increasing price competition in our served markets;
- supply interruptions, which could disrupt our ability to produce our products; and
- increasing the risk that counterparties to our contractual arrangements will become insolvent or otherwise unable to fulfill their contractual obligations, which could increase the risks identified above.

If growth in the global economy or in any of the markets we serve slows for a significant period, if there is significant deterioration in the global economy or such markets or if improvements in the global economy do not benefit the markets we serve, our business and results of operations could be adversely affected.

***Our growth could suffer if the markets into which we sell our products and services decline, do not grow as anticipated or experience cyclical.***

Our growth depends in part on the growth of the markets which we serve, and visibility into our markets is limited (particularly for markets into which we sell through distributors). Our quarterly results of operations depend substantially on the volume and timing of orders received during the quarter, which are difficult to forecast. Any decline or lower than expected growth in our served markets could diminish demand for our products and services, which could adversely affect our results of operations and consolidated financial statements. Certain of our businesses operate in industries that may experience periodic, cyclical downturns. In addition, in certain of our businesses, demand depends on customers' capital spending budgets as well as government funding policies, and matters of public policy and government budget dynamics, as well as product and economic cycles which can affect the spending decisions of these entities. Demand for our products and services is also sensitive to changes in customer order patterns, which may be affected by announced price changes, new

product introductions, competition and customer inventory. Any of these factors could adversely affect our growth and results of operations in any given period.

***We face competition and if we are unable to compete effectively, we may experience decreased demand and decreased market share. Even if we compete effectively, we may be required to reduce prices for our products and services.***

The markets for some of our current and potential products are competitive. Because of the range of products and services we sell and the variety of markets we serve, we encounter a wide variety of competitors, including several that possess both larger sales forces and greater capital resources. In order to compete effectively, we must maintain longstanding relationships with major customers, continue to grow our business by establishing relationships with new customers, continually develop new products and services to maintain and expand our brand recognition and leadership position in various product and service categories, and penetrate new markets, including in developing countries and high growth markets. In addition, significant shifts in industry market share can occur in connection with product problems, safety alerts and publications about products, reflecting the competitive significance of product quality, product efficacy and quality systems in our industries. Our failure to compete effectively and/or pricing pressures resulting from competition may adversely impact our results of operations, and our expansion into new markets may result in greater-than-expected risks, liabilities and expenses.

***Changing industry trends may affect our results of operations.***

Various changes within the industries we serve may limit future demand for our products and may include the following:

- changes in dialysis reimbursements;
- mergers within the dialysis provider industry, concentrating our medical meter and solutions sales with a few, large customers;
- mergers within other industries we serve, making us more dependent upon fewer, larger customers for our sales;
- decreased product demand, driven by changes in our customers' regulatory environments or standard industry practices; and
- price competition for key products.

***Our growth depends in part on the timely development and commercialization, and customer acceptance, of new and enhanced products and services and the efforts of third party distributors.***

Our growth depends on the acceptance of our products and services in the marketplace, the penetration achieved by the companies which we sell to, and rely on, to distribute and represent our products, and our ability to introduce new and innovative products that meet the needs of the various markets we serve. We can offer no assurance that we will be able to continue to introduce new and enhanced products, that the products we introduce, or have introduced, will be widely accepted by the marketplace, or that the companies that we contract with to distribute and represent our products will continue to successfully penetrate our various markets. Our failure to continue to introduce new and enhanced products or gain widespread acceptance of our products and services could adversely affect our results of operations. In order to successfully commercialize our products and services in new markets, we will need to enter into distribution arrangements with companies that can successfully distribute and represent our products and services into various markets.

***Our reputation, ability to do business and consolidated financial statements may be impaired by improper conduct by any of our employees, agents or business partners.***

We cannot provide assurance that our internal controls and compliance systems will always protect us from acts committed by employees, agents or business partners of ours (or of businesses we acquire or partner with) that would violate U.S. and/or non-U.S. laws, including the laws governing payments to government officials, bribery, fraud, kickbacks and false claims, pricing, sales and marketing practices, conflicts of interest, competition, export and import compliance, money laundering and data privacy. In particular, the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and similar anti-bribery laws in other jurisdictions generally prohibit companies and their intermediaries from making improper payments to government officials for the purpose of obtaining or retaining business. Any such improper actions or allegations of such acts could damage our reputation and subject us to civil or criminal investigations in the United States and in other jurisdictions and related shareholder



lawsuits, could lead to substantial civil and criminal, monetary and non-monetary penalties and could cause us to incur significant legal and investigatory fees.

***Certain of our businesses are subject to extensive regulation by the U.S. FDA and by comparable agencies of other countries. Failure to comply with those regulations would likely adversely affect our reputation and consolidated financial statements***

Certain of our products are medical devices and other products that are subject to regulation by the U.S. FDA, by other federal and state governmental agencies, by comparable agencies of other countries and regions and by regulations governing radioactive or other hazardous materials. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to obtain regulatory clearance (such as 510(k) clearance) or approvals for our new products or modifications to (or additional indications or uses of) existing products within our anticipated timeframe or at all, and if we do obtain such clearance or approval it may be time-consuming, costly and subject to restrictions. Our ability to obtain such regulatory clearances or approvals will depend on many factors and the process for obtaining such clearances or approvals could change over time and may require the withdrawal of products from the market until such clearances are obtained. Failure to comply with applicable regulations would likely adversely impact our results of operations.

***Any inability to consummate acquisitions at our historical rate and at appropriate prices could negatively impact our growth rate and stock price.***

Our ability to grow revenues, earnings and cash flows at or above our historic rates depends in part upon our ability to identify and successfully acquire and integrate businesses at appropriate prices and realize anticipated synergies. We may not be able to consummate acquisitions at rates similar to the past, which could adversely impact our growth rate and our stock price. Promising acquisitions are difficult to identify and complete for a number of reasons, including high valuations, competition among prospective buyers, the availability of affordable funding in the capital markets and the need to satisfy applicable closing conditions. In addition, competition for acquisitions may result in higher purchase prices. Changes in accounting or regulatory requirements, or instability in the credit markets, could also adversely impact our ability to consummate acquisitions.

***Our acquisition of businesses could negatively impact our results of operations.***

As an important part of our business strategy, we acquire businesses, some of which may be material. Please see “Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” for additional details. These acquisitions involve a number of financial, accounting, managerial, operational, legal, compliance and other risks and challenges, including the following, any of which could adversely affect our results of operations:

- any acquired business, technology, service or product could under-perform relative to our expectations and the price that we paid for it, or not perform in accordance with our anticipated timetable, or we could fail to make such business profitable;
- we may incur or assume significant debt in connection with our acquisitions;
- acquisitions could cause our results of operations to differ from our own or the investment community’s expectations in any given period, or over the long-term;
- pre-closing and post-closing acquisition-related earnings charges could adversely impact our results of operations in any given period, and the impact may be substantially different from period to period;
- acquisitions could create demands on our management, operational resources and financial and internal control systems that we are unable to effectively address, or for which we may incur additional costs;
- we could experience difficulty in integrating personnel, operations, financial and other systems, and in retaining key employees and customers;
- we may be unable to achieve cost savings or other synergies anticipated in connection with an acquisition;

- we may assume by acquisition unknown liabilities, known contingent liabilities that become realized, known liabilities that prove greater than anticipated, internal control deficiencies or exposure to regulatory sanctions resulting from the acquired company's activities. The realization of any of these liabilities or deficiencies may increase our expenses, adversely affect our financial position or cause us to fail to meet our public financial reporting obligations;
- in connection with acquisitions, we often enter into post-closing financial arrangements such as purchase price adjustments, earn-out obligations and indemnification obligations, which may have unpredictable financial results; and
- as a result of our acquisitions, we have recorded significant goodwill and other intangible assets on our consolidated balance sheet. If we are not able to realize the value of these assets, we may be required to incur charges relating to the impairment of these assets, which could materially impact our results of operations.

***The indemnification provisions of acquisition agreements by which we have acquired companies may not fully protect us and as a result we may face unexpected liabilities.***

Certain of the acquisition agreements by which we have acquired companies require the former owners to indemnify us against certain liabilities related to the operation of the company before we acquired it. In most of these agreements, however, the liability of the former owners is limited and certain former owners may be unable to meet their indemnification responsibilities. We cannot assure you that these indemnification provisions will protect us fully or at all, and as a result we may face unexpected liabilities that could adversely impact our results of operations.

***The contingent consideration associated with certain of our acquisitions may negatively impact our available cash and results from operations.***

As part of certain of our acquisitions, we are required to make contingent consideration payments based on defined growth metrics over a specified earn-out period. The ultimate amount we pay may differ significantly from the liability we recorded at the time of the acquisition. If we are required to pay more than the amount initially recorded, the difference is recorded as expense in our consolidated statements of income, which could materially impact our results of operations.

***If we do not or cannot adequately protect our intellectual property, or if third parties infringe our intellectual property rights, we may suffer competitive injury or expend significant resources enforcing our rights.***

We own numerous patents, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets and other intellectual property and licenses to intellectual property owned by others, which in the aggregate are important to our business. The intellectual property rights that we obtain, however, may not be sufficiently broad or otherwise may not provide us a significant competitive advantage, and patents may not be issued for pending or future patent applications owned by or licensed to us. In addition, the steps that we and our licensors have taken to maintain and protect our intellectual property may not prevent it from being challenged, invalidated, circumvented or designed-around, particularly in countries where intellectual property rights are not highly developed or protected. In some circumstances, enforcement may not be available to us because an infringer has a dominant intellectual property position or for other business reasons, or countries may require compulsory licensing of our intellectual property. We also rely on nondisclosure and noncompetition agreements with employees, consultants and other parties to protect, in part, trade secrets and other proprietary rights. There can be no assurance that these agreements will adequately protect our trade secrets and other proprietary rights and will not be breached, that we will have adequate remedies for any breach, that others will not independently develop substantially equivalent proprietary information or that third parties will not otherwise gain access to our trade secrets or other proprietary rights. Our failure to obtain or maintain intellectual property rights that convey competitive advantage, adequately protect our intellectual property, detect or prevent circumvention or unauthorized use of such property, and the cost of enforcing our intellectual property rights, could adversely impact our competitive position and results of operations.

***Several of our products are extensively regulated, which could delay product introduction or halt sales.***

The process of obtaining and maintaining required regulatory approvals is lengthy, expensive and uncertain. Although we have not experienced any substantial regulatory delays to date, we can offer no assurance that delays will not occur in the future, which could have a significant adverse effect on our ability to introduce new products on a timely basis. Regulatory agencies periodically inspect our manufacturing facilities to ascertain compliance with "good manufacturing practices" and

can subject approved products to additional testing and surveillance programs. Failure to comply with applicable regulatory requirements can, among other things, result in fines, suspension of regulatory approvals, product recalls, operating restrictions and criminal penalties. While we believe that we are currently in compliance, if we fail to comply with regulatory requirements it could have an adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

***Product defects and unanticipated use or inadequate disclosure with respect to our products or services could adversely affect our business, reputation and our results of operations.***

Manufacturing or design defects in, unanticipated use of, safety or quality issues (or the perception of such issues) with respect to, or inadequate disclosure of risks relating to the use of products and services that we make or sell (including items that we source from third parties) can lead to personal injury, property damage or other liability. These events could lead to recalls or safety alerts, result in the removal of a product or service from the market and result in product liability or similar claims being brought against us. Recalls, removals and product liability and similar claims (regardless of their validity or ultimate outcome) can result in significant costs, as well as negative publicity and damage to our reputation that could reduce demand for our products and services.

***Catastrophic events or environmental conditions may disrupt our business.***

A disruption or failure of our systems or operations because of a major weather event, cyber-attack, terrorist attack, or other catastrophic event could cause delays in completing sales, providing services or performing other mission-critical functions. A catastrophic event that results in the destruction or disruption of any of our critical business or IT systems could harm our ability to conduct normal business operations. Abrupt political change, terrorist activity, and armed conflict pose a risk of general economic disruption in affected countries, which may increase our operating costs or adversely affect our revenues. These conditions also may add uncertainty to the timing and budget for purchase/investment decisions by our customers, and may result in supply chain disruptions for hardware manufacturers, either of which may adversely affect our revenues. The long-term effects of climate change on the global economy in general or the Industrial Instruments industry in particular are unclear. Environmental regulations or changes in the supply, demand or available sources of energy may affect the availability or cost of goods and services, including natural resources, necessary to run our business. Changes in weather where we operate may increase the costs of powering and maintaining the equipment we need to produce our product lines.

***We may be required to recognize impairment charges that could materially affect our results of operations.***

We assess our goodwill and other intangible assets, and our other long-lived assets as and when required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (“GAAP”) to determine whether they are impaired. If they are impaired, we would record appropriate impairment charges. It is possible that we may be required to record significant impairment charges in the future and, if we do so, our results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

***Changes in accounting standards could affect our reported financial results.***

New accounting standards or pronouncements that may become applicable to our Company from time to time, or changes in the interpretation of existing standards and pronouncements, could have a significant effect on our reported results of operations for the affected periods.

***Foreign currency exchange rates may adversely affect our consolidated financial statements.***

Sales and purchases in currencies other than the U.S. dollar expose us to fluctuations in the exchange rates of foreign currencies relative to the U.S. dollar and may adversely affect our consolidated financial statements. Increased strength of the U.S. dollar increases the effective price of our products sold in U.S. dollars into other countries, which may require us to lower our prices or adversely affect sales to the extent we do not increase local currency prices. Decreased strength of the U.S. dollar could adversely affect the cost of materials, products and services we purchase overseas. Revenues and expenses of our non-U.S. businesses are also translated into U.S. dollars for reporting purposes and the strengthening or weakening of the U.S. dollar could result in unfavorable translation effects. In addition, we face exchange rate risk from our investment in subsidiaries owned and operated in foreign countries.

***Changes in our tax rates or exposure to additional income tax liabilities or assessments could affect our profitability. In addition, audits by tax authorities could result in additional tax payments for prior periods.***

We are subject to income taxes in the U.S. and in various non-U.S. jurisdictions. The impact of these factors may be substantially different from period to period. In addition, the amount of income taxes we pay is subject to ongoing audits by the U.S. federal, state and local tax authorities and by non-U.S. tax authorities, such as the audits described in our consolidated financial statements. Due to the potential for changes to tax laws (or changes to the interpretation thereof) and the ambiguity of tax laws, the subjectivity of factual interpretations, the complexity of our intercompany arrangements and other factors, our estimates of income tax assets or liabilities may differ from actual payments, assessments or receipts. If an audit results in payments or assessments different than our reserves, our future results may include unfavorable adjustments to our tax liabilities and our consolidated financial statements could be adversely affected. If we determine to repatriate earnings from foreign jurisdictions that have been considered permanently re-invested under existing accounting standards, it could also increase our effective tax rate. In addition, any significant change to the tax system in the United States or in other jurisdictions (including changes in the taxation of international income as further described below) could adversely affect our consolidated financial statements.

***Changes in tax law relating to multinational corporations could adversely affect our tax position.***

Recent legislative proposals seek to limit the ability of foreign-owned corporation to deduct interest expense, tax the accumulated unrepatriated earnings of foreign subsidiaries of U.S. corporation, impose a minimum tax on the future offshore earning of U.S. multinational groups and make other changes in the taxation of multinational corporations. Additionally, the U.S. Congress, government agencies in non-U.S. jurisdictions where we and our affiliates do business, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (“OECD”) have recently focused on issues related to the taxation of multinational corporations. One example is in the area of “base erosion and profit shifting,” where profits are claimed to be earned for tax purposes in low-tax jurisdictions, or payments are made between affiliates from a jurisdiction with high tax rates to a jurisdiction with lower tax rates. The OECD has released several components of its comprehensive plan to create an agreed set of international rules for addressing base erosion and profit shifting. As a result, the tax laws in the United States and other countries in which we do business could change on a prospective or retroactive basis, and any such changes could adversely affect our business and consolidated financial statements.

***Our business is subject to sales tax in numerous states.***

The application of indirect taxes, such as sales tax, is a complex and evolving issue. A company is required to collect and remit state sales tax from certain of its customers if that company is determined to have “nexus” in a particular state. The determination of nexus varies by state and often requires knowledge of each jurisdiction’s tax case law. The application and implementation of existing, new or future laws could change the states in which we are required to collect and remit sales taxes. If any jurisdiction determines that we have “nexus” in additional locations that we have not contemplated, it could have an adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

***We are subject to the possibility of a variety of litigation and other legal and regulatory proceedings in the course of our business that could adversely affect our consolidated financial statements.***

We are subject to the possibility of a variety of litigation and other legal and regulatory proceedings incidental to our business, including claims for damages arising out of the use of products or services and claims relating to intellectual property matters, employment matters, tax matters, commercial disputes, competition and sales and trading practices, environmental matters, personal injury, insurance coverage and acquisition or divestiture-related matters, as well as regulatory investigations or enforcement. We may also become subject to lawsuits as a result of past or future acquisitions or as a result of liabilities retained from, or representations, warranties or indemnities provided in connection with, divested businesses. Any of these lawsuits may include claims for compensatory damages, punitive and consequential damages and/or injunctive relief. The defense of these lawsuits may divert our management’s attention, we may incur significant expenses in defending these lawsuits, and we may be required to pay damage awards or settlements or become subject to equitable remedies that could adversely affect our operations and consolidated financial statements. Moreover, any insurance or indemnification rights that we may have may be insufficient or unavailable to protect us against such losses. In addition, developments in proceedings in any given period may require us to adjust the loss contingency estimates that we have recorded in our consolidated financial statements, record estimates for liabilities or assets previously not susceptible of reasonable estimates or pay cash settlements or judgments. Any of these developments could adversely affect our consolidated financial statements in any given period. We cannot make assurances that our liabilities in connection with litigation and other legal regulatory proceedings will not

exceed our estimates or adversely affect our consolidated financial statements and/or reputation. However, based on our experience, current information and applicable law, we do not believe that it is reasonably possible that any amounts we may be required to pay in connection with litigation and other legal and regulatory proceedings in excess of our reserves as of March 31, 2017 will have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

***We are utilizing variable rate financing.***

As of June 5, 2017, we had \$52,250,000 in outstanding indebtedness which bears interest at either: (1) LIBOR, as defined, plus an applicable margin ranging from 1.5% to 2.50%; or (2) the alternate base rate (“ABR”), which is the greater of JPMorgan’s prime rate or the federal funds effective rate or the overnight bank funding rate plus 0.5%. A change in interest rate market conditions could increase our interest costs in the future and may have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

***Our indebtedness may limit our operations and our use of our cash flow, and any failure to comply with the covenants that apply to our indebtedness could adversely affect our liquidity and consolidated financial statements.***

As of June 5, 2017, we had \$52,250,000 in outstanding indebtedness and, based on the remaining availability under our Credit Facility, we have the ability to incur an additional \$47,500,000 of indebtedness. Our debt level and related debt service obligations can have negative consequences, including (1) requiring us to dedicate significant cash flow from operations to the payment of principal and interest on our debt, which would reduce the funds we would have available for other purposes such as acquisitions and capital investment; (2) reducing our flexibility in planning for or reacting to changes in our business and market conditions; and (3) exposing us to interest rate risk since our debt obligations are at variable rates. We may incur significantly more debt in the future, particularly to finance acquisitions.

***If global credit market conditions deteriorate, our financial performance could be adversely affected.***

The cost and availability of credit are subject to changes in the global economic environment. If conditions in major credit markets deteriorate, our ability to obtain debt financing or the terms associated with that debt financing may be negatively affected, which could affect our results of operations.

***If we suffer loss to our facilities, supply chains, distribution systems or information technology systems due to catastrophe or other events, our operations could be seriously harmed.***

Our facilities, supply chains, distribution systems and information technology systems are subject to catastrophic loss due to fire, flood, earthquake, hurricane, public health crisis, war, terrorism or other natural or man-made disasters. If any of these facilities, supply chains or systems were to experience catastrophic loss, it could disrupt our operations, delay production and shipments, result in defective products or services, damage customer relationships and our reputation and result in legal exposure and large repair or replacement expenses. The third-party insurance coverage that we maintain will vary from time to time in both type and amount depending on cost, availability and our decisions regarding risk retention, and may be unavailable or insufficient to protect us fully against losses.

***Adverse changes in our relationships with, or the financial condition, performance, purchasing patterns or inventory levels of, key distributors and other channel partners could adversely affect our consolidated financial statements.***

Certain of our businesses sell a significant amount of their products to key distributors and other channel partners that have valuable relationships with customers and end-users. Some of these distributors and other partners also sell our competitors’ products or compete with us directly, and if they favor competing products for any reason they may fail to market our products effectively. Adverse changes in our relationships with these distributors and other partners, or adverse developments in their financial condition, performance or purchasing patterns, could adversely affect our business and consolidated financial statements. The levels of inventory maintained by our distributors and other channel partners, and changes in those levels, can also negatively impact our results of operations in any given period.

***A significant disruption in, or breach in security of, our information technology systems or violation of data privacy laws could adversely affect our business, reputation and consolidated financial statements.***

We rely on information technology systems, some of which are managed by third parties, to process, transmit and store electronic information (including sensitive data such as confidential business information and personally identifiable data relating to employees, customers and other business partners), and to manage or support a variety of critical business processes and activities. These systems may be damaged, disrupted or shut down due to attacks by computer hackers, computer viruses, employee error or malfeasance, power outages, hardware failures, telecommunication or utility failures, catastrophes or other unforeseen events, and in any such circumstances our system redundancy and other disaster recovery planning may be ineffective or inadequate. In addition, security breaches of our systems (or the systems of our customers, suppliers or other business partners) could result in the misappropriation, destruction or unauthorized disclosure of confidential information or personal data belonging to us or to our employees, partners, customers or suppliers. Like most multinational corporations, our information technology systems have been subject to computer viruses, malicious codes, unauthorized access and other cyber-attacks and we expect the sophistication and frequency of such attacks to continue to increase. Any of the attacks, breaches or other disruptions or damage described above could interrupt our operations, delay production and shipments, result in theft of our and our customers' intellectual property and trade secrets, damage customer and business partner relationships and our reputation or result in defective products or services, legal claims and proceedings, liability and penalties under privacy laws and increased costs for security and remediation, each of which could adversely affect our business and consolidated financial statements.

***We may face continuing challenges in complying with certain sections of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.***

Like many public companies, we face challenges in complying with the internal control requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (Section 404). Under current frameworks, compliance in areas such as separation of duties, information system controls, etc. may prove problematic for a smaller company with limited human resources. We may also be forced to incur on-going expense in order to comply with the law under current control frameworks or if the framework changes. These expenses may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

**ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS**

None

**ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**

Set forth below is a listing of our facilities. The Lakewood, Butler, Bozeman, Traverse City, Markham and Omaha facilities all have manufacturing, research and development, marketing and administrative functions. The Berlin and Chassieu facilities have marketing and administrative functions.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Operations</b>	<b>Square Feet</b>	
Lakewood, Colorado	Instruments, Cold Chain Monitoring and Corporate Headquarters	44,000	Owned
Lakewood, Colorado	Corporate administration	9,000	Leased
Butler, New Jersey	Instruments	20,000	Leased
Bozeman, Montana	Biological Indicators	129,000	Owned
Omaha, Nebraska	Biological Indicators	23,000	Owned
Berlin, New Jersey	Cold Chain Monitoring	2,000	Leased
Traverse City, Michigan	Biological Indicators	13,000	Leased
Addison, Texas	Cold Chain Monitoring	2,000	Leased
Chassieu, France	Biological Indicators	3,000	Leased
Markham, Canada	Cold Chain Packaging and Biological Indicators	8,000	Leased

**ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

None

**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 common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Global Market (“NASDAQ”) under the symbol “MLAB.”

The following table sets forth the high and low market prices per share for our common stock, as reported by NASDAQ, and dividend per share information:

Quarter Ended	High	Low	Dividends Per Share
June 30, 2016	\$ 130.03	\$ 92.83	\$ 0.16
September 30, 2016	126.48	102.54	0.16
December 31, 2016	135.24	115.02	0.16
March 31, 2017	126.99	116.41	0.16

Quarter Ended	High	Low	Dividends Per Share
June 30, 2015	\$ 92.80	\$ 67.70	\$ 0.16
September 30, 2015	126.05	86.55	0.16
December 31, 2015	119.54	89.71	0.16
March 31, 2016	106.00	77.00	0.16

While we have paid dividends to holders of our common stock on a quarterly basis since 2003, the declaration and payment of future dividends will depend on many factors, including, but not limited to, our earnings, financial condition, business development needs and regulatory considerations, and is at the sole discretion of our Board of Directors.

The NASDAQ Global Market quotations set forth herein reflect inter-dealer prices, without retail mark-up, mark-down or commission and may not represent actual transactions.

As of March 31, 2017, there were 122 record holders of our common stock. This amount does not include “street name” holders or beneficial holders of our common stock, whose holders of record are banks, brokers and other financial institutions.

During the year ended March 31, 2017, we did not sell any equity securities that were not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

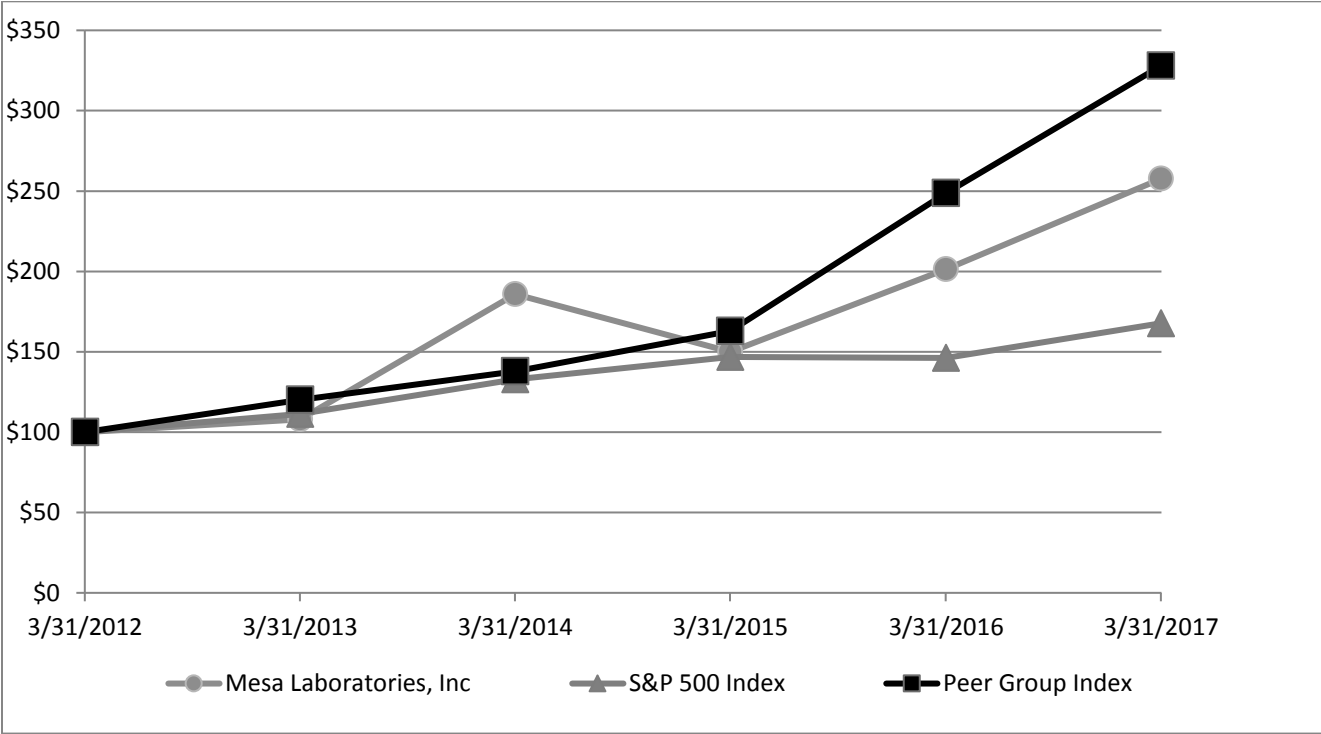
We made the following repurchases of our common stock, by month, within the fourth quarter of the year covered by this report:

	Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid	Total Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plan	Remaining Shares Able to Purchase Under Plan
January 1 – 31, 2017	--	--	162,486	137,514
February 1 – 28, 2017	--	--	162,486	137,514
March 1 – 31, 2017	--	--	162,486	137,514
Total	--	--		

On November 7, 2005, our Board of Directors adopted a share repurchase plan which allows for the repurchase of up to 300,000 of our common shares. This plan will continue until the maximum is reached or the plan is terminated by further action of the Board of Directors.

We have certain equity compensation plans, all of which were approved by our shareholders. As of March 31, 2017, 510,361 shares of common stock may be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, with a weighted-average exercise price of \$75.78 and 822,781 shares are available for future issuance under the plans. Please see notes contained in “Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data” of this report for additional details.

Set forth below is a line graph comparing, for the period March 31, 2012 through March 31, 2017, the cumulative total shareholder return on our common stock against the cumulative total return of (a) the S&P Composite Stock Index and (b) a self-selected peer group, comprised of the following companies: Danaher Corp., ARCA Biopharma, Inc., Steris Corp., MOCON Inc., Utah Medical Products, Inc., Cantel Medical Corp., Merit Medical Systems, Inc., Transcat Inc., Electro-Sensors Inc., Rudolph Technologies Inc., and Measurement Specialties Inc. The graph shows the value at March 31 of each year, assuming an original investment of \$100 in each and reinvestment of cash dividends.





## ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following selected financial data should be read in conjunction with “Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and financial statements and notes thereto contained in “Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data” of this report.

(In thousands, except per share data)	As of and for The Year Ended March 31,				
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,820	\$ 5,695	\$ 2,034	\$ 5,575	\$ 4,006
Working capital	\$ 19,218	\$ 13,215	\$ 14,965	\$ 16,351	\$ 14,793
Average return on:					
Stockholder investment (1)	12%	14%	14%	15%	17%
Assets	7%	8%	9%	11%	14%
Invested capital (2)	8%	10%	11%	13%	18%
Revenues	\$ 93,665	\$ 84,659	\$ 71,330	\$ 52,724	\$ 46,435
Gross profit	\$ 53,239	\$ 51,413	\$ 43,392	\$ 31,688	\$ 28,862
Gross profit margin	57%	61%	61%	60%	62%
Operating income	\$ 16,313	\$ 16,323	\$ 15,864	\$ 11,785	\$ 13,104
Operating income margin	17%	19%	22%	22%	28%
Net income	\$ 11,183	\$ 11,169	\$ 9,583	\$ 9,000	\$ 8,450
Net income margin	12%	13%	13%	17%	18%
Net income per diluted share	\$ 2.91	\$ 2.97	\$ 2.63	\$ 2.49	\$ 2.35
Adjusted net income (3)	\$ 16,228	\$ 15,324	\$ 12,502	\$ 11,046	\$ 10,144
Adjusted net income per diluted share	\$ 4.22	\$ 4.08	\$ 3.43	\$ 3.06	\$ 2.82
Average return on:					
Adjusted invested capital (4)	12%	13%	14%	16%	21%

- (1) Average return on stockholder investment is calculated by dividing total net income by the average of end and beginning of year total stockholders’ equity.
- (2) Average return on invested capital (invested capital = total assets – current liabilities – cash and cash equivalents) is calculated by dividing total net income by the average of end and beginning of year invested capital.
- (3) Adjusted net income is defined to exclude the non-cash impact of amortization of intangible assets, net of tax. The tax effect is calculated using the average corporate rate for that year multiplied by the amortization.
- (4) Adjusted invested capital is a non-GAAP measure which substitutes adjusted net income for net income in the average return on invested capital calculation (2).

### Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Measure

Adjusted net income (which excludes the non-cash impact of amortization of intangible assets, net of tax) is used by management as a supplemental performance and liquidity measure, primarily to exclude the impact of acquisition-related intangible assets in order to compare current financial performance to historical performance, assess the ability of our assets to generate cash and the evaluation of potential acquisitions.

Adjusted net income should not be considered an alternative to, or more meaningful than, net income, operating income, cash flow from operating activities or any other measure of financial performance presented in accordance with GAAP as measures of operating performance or liquidity.

The following table sets forth our reconciliation of adjusted net income, a non-GAAP measure:

(In thousands)

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>				
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Net income	\$ 11,183	\$ 11,169	\$ 9,583	\$ 9,000	\$ 8,450
Amortization of intangible assets, net of tax	5,045	4,155	2,919	2,046	1,694
Adjusted net income	\$ 16,228	\$ 15,324	\$ 12,502	\$ 11,046	\$ 10,144

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

### Overview

We pursue a strategy of focusing primarily on quality control products and services, which are sold into niche markets that are driven by regulatory requirements. We prefer markets that have limited competition where we can establish a strong presence and achieve high gross margins. We are organized into four divisions across nine physical locations. Our Instruments Division designs, manufactures and markets quality control instruments and disposable products utilized in connection with the healthcare, pharmaceutical, food and beverage, medical device, industrial hygiene, environmental air sampling and semiconductor industries. Our Biological Indicators Division provides testing services, along with the manufacturing and marketing of biological indicators and distribution of chemical indicators used to assess the effectiveness of sterilization processes, including steam, hydrogen peroxide, ethylene oxide and radiation, in the hospital, dental, medical device and pharmaceutical industries. Our Cold Chain Monitoring Division designs, develops and markets systems which are used to monitor various environmental parameters such as temperature, humidity and differential pressure to ensure that critical storage and processing conditions are maintained in hospitals, pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers, blood banks, pharmacies and a number of other laboratory and industrial environments. Our Cold Chain Monitoring Division also provides parameter (primarily temperature) monitoring of products during transport in a cold chain and consulting services such as compliance monitoring and validation or mapping of transport and storage containers. Our Cold Chain Packaging Division provides packaging development consulting services and thermal packaging products such as coolers, boxes, insulation materials and phase-change products to control temperature during transport.

Our revenues come from two main sources – product sales and services. Product sales are dependent on several factors, including general economic conditions, both domestic and international, customer capital spending trends, competition, introduction of new products and acquisitions. Biological indicators and many of the packaging products of our Cold Chain Packaging Division are disposable and are used on a routine basis, thus product sales are less sensitive to general economic conditions. Instrument products and cold chain monitoring systems and products have a longer life, and their purchase by our customers is somewhat discretionary, so sales are more sensitive to general economic conditions. Service demand is driven by our customers' quality control and regulatory environments, which require periodic repair and recalibration or certification of our instrument products and cold chain monitoring systems. We typically evaluate costs and pricing annually. Our policy is to price our products competitively and, where possible, we pass along cost increases in order to maintain our margins.

Gross profit is affected by our product mix, manufacturing efficiencies and price competition. Historically, as we have integrated our acquisitions and taken advantage of manufacturing efficiencies, our gross margins for some of the products have improved. There are, however, differences in gross margins between different product lines, and ultimately the mix of sales will continue to impact our overall gross margin.

Selling expense is driven primarily by labor costs, including salaries and commissions. Accordingly, it may vary with sales levels. Labor costs and amortization of intangible assets drive the substantial majority of general and administrative expense. Research and development expense is predominantly comprised of labor costs and third party consultants.

### Year Ended March 31, 2017 Acquisitions

During the year ended March 31, 2017, we completed the following six acquisitions (the "2017 Acquisitions"):

In November 2016, we completed the Mydent Acquisition whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of Mydent International Corp's business segment associated with biological indicator mail-in testing services to the dental market in the United States;

In November 2016, we completed the FreshLoc Acquisition whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of the cold chain monitoring business of FreshLoc Technologies, Inc.;

In August 2016, we completed the Rapid Aid Acquisition whereby we acquired certain assets (consisting primarily of fixed assets) and certain liabilities of Rapid Aid's" business segment associated with the manufacture and sale of cold chain packaging gel products;

In July 2016, we completed the HANSAmEd Acquisition whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of HANSAmEd's business segment associated with the distribution of our biological indicator products and mail-in testing services to the dental market in Canada;

In April 2016, we completed the ATS Acquisition whereby we acquired substantially all the assets (other than cash and certain inventories and fixed assets) and certain liabilities of ATS. ATS was in the business of supplying products and services for dental sterilizer testing in both the U.S. and Canada; and

In April 2016, we completed the Pulse Acquisition whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of Pulse's business segment associated with the distribution of our biological indicator products.

#### Year Ended March 31, 2016 Acquisitions

During the year ended March 31, 2016, we completed the following ten acquisitions (the "2016 Acquisitions"):

In January 2016, we completed the January 2016 European BI Distributor Acquisitions whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of the business segment associated with the distribution of our biological indicator products from CoaChrom Diagnostica GmbH of Austria and bioTRADING Benelux B.V of the Netherlands;

In October 2015, we completed the October 2015 European BI Distributor Acquisitions whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of the business segment associated with the distribution of our biological indicator products from BIOLOGIK S.R.L.(Italy), VWR International PBI S.R.L.(Italy), Cruinn Diagnostics Ltd.(Ireland), Mecolab AG (Switzerland), Miclev Medical Products AB (Sweden) and Tiselab S.L.(Spain);

In August 2015, we completed the North Bay Acquisition whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than certain fixed assets) and certain liabilities of the dental sterilizer testing business of North Bay; and

In July 2015, we completed the Infitrak Acquisition whereby we acquired all of the common stock of Infitrak, a company whose business provides consulting, packaging and measuring solutions for cold chain applications.

#### Year Ended March 31, 2015 Acquisitions

During the year ended March 31, 2015, we completed the following six acquisitions (the "2015 Acquisitions"):

In March 2015, we completed the Früh Acquisition whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of Früh's business segment associated with the distribution of our biological indicator products;

In February 2015, we completed the Cherwell Acquisition whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of Cherwell's business segment associated with the distribution of our biological indicator products;

In October 2014, we completed the ATI Acquisition whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of ATI, a distributor of our biological indicator products;

In October 2014, we completed the PCD Acquisition whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of PCD's business segment associated with the sale of PCD's which are used for quality control purposes in the field of ethylene oxide sterilization of medical devices;

In April 2014, we completed the BGI Acquisition whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of BGI's business which is focused on the sale of equipment used primarily for particulate air sampling; and

In April 2014, we completed the Amilabo Acquisition whereby we acquired all of the common stock of Amilabo, a distributor of our biological indicator products.

### **General Trends and Outlook**

Our strategic objectives include growth both organically and through further acquisitions. During the year ended March 31, 2017, we continued to build our infrastructure to prepare for future growth, including the addition of key personnel to our operations, sales and marketing, research and development, and finance teams and the successful rollout of phase two of our ERP implementation project.

The markets for our biological indicators and cold chain packaging products remain strong, as the disposable nature of these products makes them less sensitive to general economic conditions. The worldwide market for biological indicators is growing as more countries focus on verifying the effectiveness of sterilization processes.

In general, our instruments products and cold chain services and monitoring systems are impacted more by general economic conditions than our biological indicator and cold chain packaging products. As a result, uncertainty about global economic conditions may cause businesses to postpone spending in response to tighter credit, unemployment, negative financial news and/or declines in income or asset values. Worldwide and regional economic conditions could also reduce the demand for our products and services, as our customers reduce or delay capital equipment and other types of purchases. However, demand for our instruments products and cold chain services and monitoring systems remains strong and we strive to continue to grow revenues going forward.

We are working on several research and development projects that, if completed, may result in new products for both existing customers and new markets. We are hopeful that all of our divisions will have new products available for sale in the coming year.

Overall organic revenues growth for the year ended March 31, 2017 was five percent resulting from organic increases of seven and 85 percent from Biological Indicators and Cold Chain Packaging, respectively, partially offset by decreases of four and two percent for Instruments and Cold Chain Monitoring, respectively.

### **Results of Operations**

As of March 31, 2016, our four operating segments were Biological Indicators, Instruments, Continuous Monitoring and Cold Chain. Effective April 1, 2016 we renamed our Continuous Monitoring and Cold Chain operating segments to Cold Chain Monitoring and Cold Chain Packaging, respectively. In addition, we transferred certain of the Cold Chain monitoring and other services to our Cold Chain Monitoring operating segment (historically included in our Cold Chain operating segment) to align with the information being used by the chief decision maker of the Company. Accordingly, all prior year segment information presented herein has been adjusted to reflect this change in our organizational structure.

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, condensed consolidated statements of income data. The table and the discussion below should be read in conjunction with the accompanying consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto appearing elsewhere in “Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data” (in thousands, except percent data):

	<u>Year Ended March 31,</u>			<u>2017 vs 2016</u>		<u>2016 vs 2015</u>	
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Revenues	\$ 93,665	\$ 84,659	\$ 71,330	\$ 9,006	11%	\$ 13,329	19%
Cost of revenues	40,426	33,246	27,938	7,180	22%	5,308	19%
Gross profit	<u>\$ 53,239</u>	<u>\$ 51,413</u>	<u>\$ 43,392</u>	<u>\$ 1,826</u>	4%	<u>\$ 8,021</u>	18%
Gross profit margin	57%	61%	61%	(4)%		--%	
Operating Expenses:							
Selling	\$ 9,955	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,176	\$ 2,455	33%	\$ 324	5%
General and administrative	22,814	23,618	17,058	(804)	(3)%	6,560	38%
Research and development	4,157	3,972	3,294	185	5%	678	21%
	<u>\$ 36,926</u>	<u>\$ 35,090</u>	<u>\$ 27,528</u>	<u>\$ 1,836</u>	5%	<u>\$ 7,562</u>	27%
Operating income	\$ 16,313	\$ 16,323	\$ 15,864	\$ (10)	--%	\$ 459	3%
Net income	\$ 11,183	\$ 11,169	\$ 9,583	\$ 14	--%	\$ 1,586	17%
Net income margin	12%	13%	13%	(1)%		--%	

### **Revenues**

The following table summarizes our revenues by source (in thousands, except percent data):

	<u>Year Ended March 31,</u>			<u>2017 vs 2016</u>		<u>2016 vs 2015</u>	
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Biological Indicators							
Product	\$ 32,195	\$ 30,348	\$ 26,330	\$ 1,847	6%	\$ 4,018	15%
Service	6,440	3,301	1,060	3,139	95%	2,241	211%
	38,635	33,649	27,390	4,986	15%	6,529	23%
Instruments							
Product	25,152	25,957	26,789	(805)	(3)%	(832)	(3)%
Service	9,253	9,735	6,265	(482)	(5)%	3,470	55%
	34,405	35,692	33,054	(1,287)	(4)%	2,638	8%
Cold Chain Monitoring							
Product	6,916	6,508	5,791	408	6%	717	12%
Service	5,668	5,058	5,095	610	12%	(37)	(1)%
	12,584	11,566	10,886	1,018	9%	680	6%
Cold Chain Packaging							
Product	6,792	3,461	--	3,331	96%	3,461	100%
Service	1,249	291	--	958	329%	291	100%
	8,041	3,752	--	4,289	114%	3,752	100%
Total	<u>\$ 93,665</u>	<u>\$ 84,659</u>	<u>\$ 71,330</u>	<u>\$ 9,006</u>	11%	<u>\$ 13,329</u>	19%

*Year ended March 31, 2017 versus March 31, 2016*

Biological Indicators revenues increased as a result of the North Bay, October 2015 European BI Distributor, January 2016 European BI Distributor, Pulse, ATS, HANSAmid and Mydent Acquisitions, and organic growth of seven percent which was achieved through existing customers, expansion into new markets and price increases.

Instruments revenues decreased by four percent. The decrease was due primarily to the impact of a large one-time order during the year ended March 31, 2016 that was not replicated during the year ended March 31, 2017 and the timing of other orders related to the same product being accelerated into the fourth quarter of the year ended March 31, 2016 which resulted in lower orders for this same product during the first quarter of the year ended March 31, 2017. We believe that the revenues recorded for the Instruments segment for the year ended March 31, 2017 to be closer to a normal run rate than those recorded for the year ended March 31, 2016.

Cold Chain Monitoring revenues increased as a result of the FreshLoc Acquisition, partially offset by an organic decrease of two percent.

Cold Chain packaging revenues increased primarily due to organic growth of 85 percent which was achieved through existing and new customers. While we anticipate this segment to continue to grow organically, it is unlikely that it will grow at the same rate during the year ending March 31, 2018.

*Year ended March 31, 2016 versus March 31, 2015*

Biological Indicators revenues increased as a result of the ATI, PCD, Früh, Cherwell, North Bay, October 2015 European BI Distributor and the January 2016 European BI Distributor Acquisitions and organic growth of two percent which was achieved through existing customers, expansion into new markets and price increases. This growth was partially offset by the impact to revenues generated from our wholly owned subsidiary in France due to the decrease in the value of the Euro as compared to the U.S. dollar during our year ended March 31, 2016.

Instruments revenues increased as a result of the timing of the BGI Acquisition and organic growth of eight percent in our existing product lines which was achieved primarily through existing and new customers.

Cold Chain Monitoring revenues were essentially flat while Cold Chain Packaging revenues were \$3,752,000 for the year ended March 31, 2016.

## Gross Profit

The following table summarizes our gross profit by operating segment (in thousands, except percent data):

	Year Ended March 31,			2017 vs 2016		2016 vs 2015	
	2017	2016	2015	Change	Percent Change	Change	Percent Change
Biological Indicators	\$ 25,674	\$ 22,205	\$ 17,142	\$ 3,469	16%	\$ 5,063	30%
Gross profit margin	66%	66%	63%	--%		3%	
Instruments	\$ 21,037	\$ 23,223	\$ 20,763	\$ (2,186)	(9)%	\$ 2,460	12%
Gross profit margin	61%	65%	63%	(4)%		2%	
Cold Chain Monitoring	\$ 4,557	\$ 4,201	\$ 5,487	\$ 356	8%	\$ (1,286)	(23)%
Gross profit margin	36%	36%	50%	--%		(14)%	
Cold Chain Packaging	\$ 1,971	\$ 1,784	\$ --	\$ 187	10%	\$ 1,784	100%
Gross profit margin	25%	48%	--%	(23)%		--%	
Total gross profit	\$ 53,239	\$ 51,413	\$ 43,392	\$ 1,826	4%	\$ 8,021	18%
Gross profit margin	57%	61%	61%	(4)%		--%	

### Year ended March 31, 2017 versus March 31, 2016

Biological Indicators gross profit margin percentage was flat as compared to the year ended March 31, 2016. Included in the gross profit margin are \$725,000 of relocation costs (see Liquidity and Capital Resources for additional discussion) that decreased the gross margin percentage for biological indicators by two percentage points. In addition, after the completion of the North Bay Acquisition, we were contractually committed to purchase from a third party a significant portion of the BI's that were used in the acquired North Bay dental sterilizer testing business which negatively impacted our gross margin percentage. The contractual commitment gradually decreased each quarter after the acquisition and was completed during the three months ended December 31, 2016. Each quarterly decrease in these purchases allowed for the additional use of internally produced BI's which resulted in greater gross margin percentages. We expect that this dynamic will positively impact the Biological Indicators gross margin percentage for the year ending March 31, 2018 but it will most likely be offset by additional relocation costs and incremental depreciation expense associated with the new Bozeman facility.

Instruments gross margin percentage decreased as a result of product and services mix and the loss of certain volume based efficiencies associated with the decrease in revenues in one product line (see Revenues for additional discussion).

Cold Chain Monitoring gross profit margin percentage was flat as compared to the year ended March 31, 2016. Gross profit margin percentage increased as a result of the product and service revenues mix along with the impact of the FreshLoc Acquisition but was offset by a \$580,000 expense related to a reserve for slow moving inventory associated with a specific model of our cold chain monitoring sensors.

Cold Chain Packaging gross profit margin decreased primarily as a result of increased revenues from a large customer contract with higher than normal discount rates. We expect that our Cold Chain Packaging gross profit margin percentage will continue to be lower than the historical results of our other segments due to the nature of these products.

### Year ended March 31, 2016 versus March 31, 2015

Biological Indicators gross profit margin percentage increased as a result of the ATI, PCD, Früh, Cherwell, North Bay, October 2015 European BI Distributor and the January 2016 European BI Distributor Acquisitions, price increases and volume-based efficiencies associated with revenues growth.



Instruments gross profit margin percentage increased primarily as a result of changes in product and service mix and volume-based efficiencies associated with revenues growth.

Cold Chain Monitoring gross profit margin percentage decreased primarily as a result of changes in product and service mix. In addition, the prior year gross margin percentage was positively impacted by the timing of revenue recognition on several larger installations that were one-time in nature. We have made substantial progress on our integration activities associated with this segment and we are now focused on cost reduction initiatives to streamline the operations and increase profitability. One of the critical components of our integration activities was to introduce a new system (consisting of both new software and hardware) which we believe will give us a competitive advantage in the marketplace. In addition to significant new features and functionality, we believe that the new system will reduce our costs (both from an installation and on-going maintenance perspective) which will lead to higher gross and operating margins. This system was originally planned to be rolled out during our year ended March 31, 2015. The software component of the system was completed in February 2016 but the remaining hardware component was not ready until the end of our third quarter ending December 31, 2016. We are hopeful that this new system will improve both our gross and operating income margins, however it is unclear as to how significant those improvements will be.

We expect that our Cold Chain Packaging gross profit margin percentage will continue to be lower than the historical results of our other segments due to the nature of our cold chain products.

### **Operating Expenses**

The following table summarizes the change in our operating expenses (in thousands):

	Increase (Decrease) Year Ended March 31,	
	2017 vs 2016	2016 vs 2015
<b>Selling</b>	\$ 2,455	\$ 324
<b>General and administrative</b>		
ERP system implementation	(515)	748
Legal costs and litigation settlement	(1,718)	1,709
Amortization	667	1,121
Personnel	724	1,594
Professional services	10	230
Banking fees	129	120
Depreciation	279	245
Medical device excise tax	(245)	53
Acquisition costs	--	40
Administrative costs related to acquired entities	--	815
Sales tax accrual	--	(549)
Other, net	(135)	434
	(804)	6,560
<b>Research and development</b>	185	678
<b>Operating expenses</b>	\$ 1,836	\$ 7,562

### **Selling**

*Year ended March 31, 2017 versus March 31, 2016*

Selling expense increased primarily due to additional personnel related to the 2017 and 2016 Acquisitions. As a percentage of revenues, selling expense was 11 percent as compared to nine percent in the prior year.

Included in the increase of selling expenses is \$900,000 of U.S. Cold Chain Packaging sales personnel hired during the year ended March 31, 2017. We are continuing to make an investment to grow this division and are hopeful that increases in related revenues will continue to be realized during the year ending March 31, 2018.

*Year ended March 31, 2016 versus March 31, 2015*

Selling expense increased primarily due to additional personnel related to the 2016 and 2015 Acquisitions. As a percentage of revenues, selling expense decreased to nine percent as compared to 10 percent in the prior year.

### **General and Administrative**

*Year ended March 31, 2017 versus March 31, 2016*

General and administrative expenses decreased primarily due to the prior year \$1,709,000 charge related to the Amato Settlement and a decrease in ERP system implementation charges for the year ended March 31, 2017, partially offset by increases in amortization, personnel and depreciation costs for the year ended March 31, 2017.

*Year ended March 31, 2016 versus March 31, 2015*

General and administrative expenses increased primarily due to increased amortization, personnel and other administrative costs resulting from the 2016 and 2015 Acquisitions, increased spending on our ERP system implementation and a litigation settlement, partially offset by a decrease in sales tax accruals.

### **Research and Development**

*Year ended March 31, 2017 versus March 31, 2016*

Research and development expenses were essentially flat.

*Year ended March 31, 2016 versus March 31, 2015*

Research and development expenses increased as a result of the addition of several new engineers to support existing and acquired businesses.

### **Other Expense, net**

Other expense, net for the year ended March 31, 2017 is comprised primarily of interest expense associated with our Credit Facility and \$450,000 related to an additional accrual for the PCD earn-out (see Liquidity and Capital Resources for additional discussion). Other expense, net for the year ended March 31, 2016 is comprised primarily of interest expense associated with our Credit Facility. Other expense, net for the year ended March 31, 2015 is comprised primarily of interest expense associated with our Credit Facility, partially offset by a \$125,000 gain associated with the termination of a joint development project.

### **Net Income**

Our income tax rate varies based upon many factors but in general, we anticipate that on a go forward basis, our effective tax rate will approximate 33 to 35 percent, plus or minus the impact of excess tax benefits and deficiencies associated with share-based payment awards to employees. The excess tax benefits and deficiencies associated with share-based payment awards to our employees have and, in the future, may cause large fluctuations in our realized effective tax rate based on the timing, volume, and nature of stock options exercised under our share-based incentive program. Net income for the year ended March 31, 2017 was significantly impacted by \$725,000 of relocation costs (see liquidity and capital resources), \$450,000 in PCD earn-out accruals and a \$580,000 expense related to a reserve for slow moving inventory in our Cold Chain Monitoring Division. Net income for the year ended March 31, 2016 was significantly impacted by the \$1,709,000 Amato Settlement. Otherwise, net income for the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015 varied with the changes in revenues, gross profit and operating expenses (which includes \$6,450,000, \$5,787,000 and \$4,675,000 of non-cash amortization of intangible assets, respectively).

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our sources of liquidity include cash generated from operations, working capital, capacity under our Credit Facility and potential equity and debt offerings. We believe that cash generated from these sources will be sufficient to meet our short-term and long-term needs. Our more significant uses of resources include quarterly dividends to shareholders, payment of debt obligations, long-term capital equipment expenditures and potential acquisitions.

Due to continued organic and acquisition related growth, we have outgrown the capacity of our current building in Bozeman, Montana and as a result, we built a new facility in the same general area. Construction began in July 2015 and we began to move employees into the facility beginning April 2017. We spent \$6,711,000 on the development of the building and the related land prior to this year and spent \$9,632,000 during the year ended March 31, 2017, which is included in property, plant and equipment, net on the accompanying consolidated balance sheets. While the building is now functional and in use, there are several items that still need to be completed. We estimate that this work (estimated to cost \$1,000,000) will be completed during the first two quarters of our year ending March 31, 2018.

In August 2016, we announced that we plan to shut down both our Omaha and Traverse City Biological Indicator manufacturing facilities and relocate those operations to the new Bozeman building. The move of these two facilities, along with the current Bozeman operations, began in March 2017 and is estimated to be completed by the end of our year ending March 31, 2018. We estimate that the total costs of the relocation will be \$2,100,000 (which is comprised primarily of facility moving expenses, retention bonuses for existing personnel and payroll costs for duplicative personnel during the transition period) of which \$725,000 was incurred during the year ended March 31, 2017 and is reflected in cost of revenues in the accompanying consolidated statements of income (other than \$45,000 which is included in general and administrative). After the completion of the relocation of all three facilities, we estimate that the annual savings will be approximately \$600,000. In addition, after completing the move of the old Bozeman and the Omaha facilities, we expect to be able to sell those buildings for approximately \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000 to partially offset the cost of the new Bozeman building.

During the year ended March 31, 2016, we completed the implementation of a new ERP system which required a significant amount of cash. We incurred approximately \$2,100,000 of expense associated with this project of which approximately \$1,400,000 was incurred during the year ended March 31, 2016. On a go forward basis, we expect our annual operating costs for our ERP system to be approximately \$450,000 plus any costs necessary for additional projects and enhancements.

Working capital is the amount by which current assets exceed current liabilities. We had working capital of \$19,218,000 and \$13,215,000, respectively, at March 31, 2017 and 2016.

On March 1, 2017, we entered into a five-year agreement (the "Credit Facility") for a \$80,000,000 revolving line of credit ("Line of Credit"), a \$20,000,000 term loan ("Term Loan") and up to \$2,500,000 of letters of credit with a banking syndicate comprised of four banks. In addition, the Credit Facility provides a post-closing accordion feature which allows the Company to request to increase the Line of Credit or Term Loan up to an additional \$100,000,000.

Line of Credit and Term Loan indebtedness bears interest at either: (1) LIBOR, as defined, plus an applicable margin ranging from 1.5% to 2.50%; or (2) the alternate base rate ("ABR"), which is the greater of JPMorgan's prime rate or the federal funds effective rate or the overnight bank funding rate plus 0.5%. We elect the interest rate with each borrowing under the line of credit. In addition, there is an unused line fee of 0.15% to 0.35%. Letter of credit fees are based on the applicable LIBOR rate.

The Term Loan requires 20 quarterly principal payments (the first due date was March 31, 2017) in the amount of \$250,000 (increasing by \$125,000 each year up to \$750,000 in the fifth year). The remaining balance of principal and accrued interest are due on March 1, 2022.

The Credit Facility is secured by all of our assets and requires us to maintain a ratio of funded debt to our trailing four quarters of EBIDTA (the "Leverage Ratio"), as defined, of less than 3.0 to 1.0, provided that, we may once during the term of the Credit Facility, in connection with a Permitted Acquisition for which the aggregate consideration paid or to be paid in respect thereof equals or exceeds \$20,000,000, elect to increase the maximum Leverage Ratio permitted hereunder to (i) 3.50 to 1.00 for a period of four consecutive fiscal quarters commencing with the fiscal quarter in which such Permitted Acquisition occurs (the "Initial Holiday Period") and (ii) 3.25 to 1.00 for the period of four consecutive fiscal quarters immediately following the Initial Holiday Period. The Credit Facility also requires us to maintain a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of less than 1.25 to 1.0.

As of June 5, 2017, we had \$52,250,000 in outstanding indebtedness and unused capacity under our Credit Facility of \$47,500,000.

In April 2015, the SEC declared effective our Universal Shelf Registration Statement which allows us to sell, in one or more public offerings, common stock or warrants, or any combination of such securities for proceeds in an aggregate amount of up to \$130,000,000. The terms of any offering, including the type of securities involved, would be established at the time of sale.

We routinely evaluate opportunities for strategic acquisitions. Future material acquisitions may require that we obtain additional capital, assume third party debt or incur other long-term obligations. We believe that we have the option to utilize both equity and debt instruments as vehicles for the long-term financing of our investment activities and acquisitions.

On November 7, 2005, our Board of Directors authorized a program to repurchase up to 300,000 shares of our outstanding common stock. Under the program, the shares may be purchased from time to time in the open market at prevailing prices or in negotiated transactions off the market. Shares purchased are canceled and repurchases are made with existing cash reserves. We do not maintain a set policy or schedule for our buyback program. We have purchased 162,486 shares of common stock under this program from inception through March 31, 2017.

We have paid regular quarterly dividends since 2003. Dividends per share paid by quarter were as follows:

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>		
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
First quarter	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.15
Second quarter	0.16	0.16	0.15
Third quarter	0.16	0.16	0.16
Fourth quarter	0.16	0.16	0.16

In April 2017, our Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.16 per share of common stock, payable on June 15, 2017, to shareholders of record at the close of business on May 31, 2017.

Cash Flow – Operating, investing and financing activities were as follows (in thousands):

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>		
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 7,750	\$ 16,903	\$ 10,816
Net cash used in investing activities	(18,405)	(31,840)	(23,371)
Net cash provided by financing activities	10,708	18,620	9,072

Net cash provided by operating activities for the year ended March 31, 2017 decreased primarily due to the payment of \$9,554,000 in contingent consideration and \$3,066,000 in accrued salaries, taxes and various other accrued expenses, partially offset by increases in collections of accounts receivable of \$994,000. Net cash provided by operating activities for the year ended March 31, 2016 increased primarily due to the efficient management of working capital. Net cash provided by operating activities for the year ended March 31, 2015 decreased primarily due to increases in accounts receivable and inventories resulting from the 2014 and 2015 Acquisitions, decreases in unearned revenues and the payment of accrued liabilities and taxes payable, partially offset by decreases in payments of accounts payable and increases in net income and depreciation and amortization.

Net cash used in investing activities for the year ended March 31, 2017 resulted from \$6,800,000 associated with the 2017 Acquisitions and the purchase of \$11,605,000 of property, plant and equipment. Net cash used in investing activities for the year ended March 31, 2016 resulted from \$24,111,000 associated with the 2016 Acquisitions and the purchase of \$7,729,000 of property, plant and equipment. Net cash used in investing activities for the year ended March 31, 2015 resulted from \$20,543,000 associated with the 2015 Acquisitions and the purchase of \$2,828,000 of property, plant and equipment.

Net cash provided by financing activities for the year ended March 31, 2017 resulted from borrowings under our Credit Facility of \$66,550,000 and proceeds from the exercise of stock options of \$3,513,000, partially offset by the repayment of debt of \$57,000,000 and the payment of dividends of \$2,355,000. Net cash provided by financing activities for the year ended March 31, 2016 resulted from borrowings under our Credit Facility of \$25,000,000 and proceeds from the exercise of stock

options of \$1,923,000, partially offset by the repayment of debt of \$6,000,000 and the payment of dividends of \$2,303,000. Net cash provided by financing activities for the year ended March 31, 2015 resulted from borrowings under our Credit Facility of \$23,000,000 and proceeds from the exercise of stock options of \$1,504,000, partially offset by the repayment of debt of \$13,250,000 and the payment of dividends of \$2,182,000.

At March 31, 2017, we had contractual obligations for open purchase orders of \$4,480,000 for routine purchases of supplies and inventory, which are payable in less than one year.

Under the terms of the Infitrak Agreement, we were required to pay contingent consideration if the gross profit (as defined in the Infitrak Earn-Out Agreement) for our cold chain packaging business for the two years subsequent to the acquisition met certain levels. The potential undiscounted consideration payable ranged from \$0 to \$15,000,000 CDN and was based upon a sliding scale of growth in gross profit (as defined in the Infitrak Earn-Out Agreement) for year one and year two of 30 to 70 percent and 15 to 75 percent, respectively. Based upon both historical and projected growth rates, we recorded \$9,271,000 of contingent consideration payable which represented our best estimate of the then current fair value of the amount that would ultimately be paid. Any changes to the contingent consideration ultimately paid would have resulted in additional income or expense in our consolidated statements of income.

In July 2016, we made the first Earn-Out payment in the amount of \$6,000,000 CDN (\$4,594,000). In March 2017, we agreed to settle the remaining earn-out obligation (which was originally due in the second quarter of our year ending March 31, 2018) early by making a payment of \$6,000,000 CDN (\$4,558,000).

Under the terms of the PCD Agreement, we are required to pay contingent consideration if the cumulative revenues for our process challenge device business for the three years subsequent to the acquisition meet certain levels. The potential consideration payable ranges from \$0 to \$1,500,000 and is based upon a sliding scale of three-year cumulative revenues between \$9,900,000 and \$12,600,000. Based upon both historical and projected growth rates, we initially recorded \$300,000 of contingent consideration payable which represented our best estimate of the amount that would ultimately be paid. We paid \$150,000 of the contingent consideration during the year ended March 31, 2016 (based upon the then current run rate projected over the entire three-year contingent consideration period). Since the initial payment, the revenues have significantly increased and as a result, during the year ended March 31, 2017 we recorded an additional \$450,000 accrual (which is included in other expense, net in our consolidated statements of income for the year ended March 31, 2017). We paid an additional \$450,000 of the contingent consideration in our third quarter ended December 31, 2016. The remaining contingent consideration amount is also subject to modification at the end of the third year of the earn-out period based upon the actual revenues earned over the contingent consideration period. Any changes to the contingent consideration ultimately paid will result in additional income or expense in our consolidated statements of income. We will continue to monitor the results of our process challenge device business and we will adjust the contingent liability on a go forward basis, based on then current information.

In October 2015, we entered into the Amato Settlement (for additional discussion, please see Note 13 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements contained in "Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data") whereby we paid Amato \$3,165,000. In exchange, Amato agreed to dismiss the complaint, release Mesa of any and all claims by Amega and Amato, and relieve us of any future payment obligation under the Amega Earn-Out. Insurance covered \$415,000 of the settlement payment and we had \$1,041,000 accrued on our consolidated balance sheet remaining from the original hold back and contingent consideration payable. The remaining \$1,709,000 was recorded as general and administrative expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of income for the year ended March 31, 2016.

### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

Our consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, which require management to make estimates, judgments, and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in our consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. We believe that the following are the more critical judgment areas in the application of our accounting policies that currently affect our financial condition and results of operations. Management has discussed the development, selection, and disclosure of critical accounting policies and estimates with the Audit Committee of our 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 may ultimately differ from these estimates and assumptions. For a discussion of our significant accounting policies, please see Note 1 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements contained in "Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data."

### ***Accounts Receivable***

We estimate an allowance for doubtful accounts based on overall historic write-offs, the age of our receivable balances, and the payment history and creditworthiness of the customer. If actual results are not consistent with our assumptions and judgments or our assumptions and estimates change due to new information, we may experience material changes in our allowance for doubtful accounts and bad debt expense.

### ***Inventories***

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market, using the weighted average method to determine cost. We evaluate labor and overhead costs annually, unless specific circumstances necessitate a mid-year evaluation for specific items. Our work in process and finished goods inventory includes raw materials, labor and overhead, which are estimated based on trailing twelve months of expense and standard labor hours for each product. Our biological indicator inventory is tracked by lot number thus labor is generally based on actual hours.

We monitor inventory cost compared to selling price in order to determine if a lower of cost or market reserve is necessary. Throughout the year, we perform various physical cycle count procedures on our inventories and we estimate and maintain an inventory reserve, as needed, for such matters as obsolete inventory, shrink and scrap. This reserve may fluctuate as our assumptions change due to new information, discrete events, or changes in our business, such as entering new markets or discontinuing a specific product.

### ***Recoverability of Long-lived Assets***

For property, plant and equipment, and intangible assets subject to amortization, recoverability and/or impairment tests are required only when conditions exist that indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable. We monitor the same conditions for our goodwill, but an annual evaluation is required.

Monitoring these conditions requires significant management judgment, including evaluating general economic conditions, industry and market considerations, changes in production costs, cash flow trends, and other relevant entity-specific events such as changes in management, key personnel, strategy or customers.

If conditions exist that indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable, we would be required to estimate the fair value of the asset, asset group, or reporting unit. We determine fair value using widely accepted valuation techniques, primarily discounted cash flow and market multiple analyses. These techniques are also used when initially allocating the purchase price to acquired assets and liabilities. These types of analyses require us to make assumptions and estimates regarding industry and economic factors, the profitability of future business strategies, and cash flow.

We did not record any impairment charges for the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 or 2015. If actual results are not consistent with our assumptions and estimates, or our assumptions and estimates change due to new information, we may be exposed to an impairment charge in the future.

### ***Purchase Accounting for Acquisitions***

We apply the acquisition method of accounting for a business combination. In general, this methodology requires companies to record assets acquired and liabilities assumed at their respective fair values at the date of acquisition. Any amount of the purchase price paid that is in excess of the estimated fair value of the net assets acquired is recorded as goodwill. For certain acquisitions, we also record a liability for contingent consideration based on estimated future business performance. We monitor our assumptions surrounding these estimated future cash flows and, if there is a significant change, would record an adjustment to the contingent consideration liability and a corresponding adjustment to either income or expense.

We determine fair value using widely accepted valuation techniques, primarily discounted cash flow and market multiple analyses. These types of analyses require us to make assumptions and estimates regarding industry and economic factors, the profitability of future business strategies, discount rates and cash flow.

If actual results are not consistent with our assumptions and estimates, or our assumptions and estimates change due to new information, we may be exposed to an impairment charge in the future. If the contingent consideration paid for any of our acquisitions differs from the amount initially recorded, we would record either income or expense.

### ***Stock-based Compensation***

We estimate the fair value of option grants using the Black-Scholes model, which requires us to estimate the volatility and forfeiture rate. Under our current stock-based compensation plan, we recognize the expense on a straight-line basis over the service period.

### ***Contingent Liabilities***

We accrue a loss for contingencies if it is probable that an asset has been impaired or a liability has been incurred, and when the amount of loss can be reasonably estimable. When no accrual is made because one or both of these conditions does not exist, we disclose the contingency if there is at least a reasonable possibility that a loss may be incurred. We estimate contingent liabilities based on the best information available at the time. If there is a range of possible outcomes, we accrue the low end of the range.

### **Recent Accounting Standards and Pronouncements**

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)*, which will replace most existing revenue recognition guidance in U.S. GAAP and is intended to improve and converge with international standards the financial reporting requirements for revenue from contracts with customers. The core principle of ASU 2014-09 is that an entity should recognize revenue for the transfer of goods or services equal to the amount that it expects to be entitled to receive for those goods or services. ASU 2014-09 also requires additional disclosures about the nature, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from customer contracts, including significant judgments and changes in judgments. ASU 2014-09 allows for adoption either on a full retrospective basis to each prior reporting period presented or on a modified retrospective basis with the cumulative effect of initially applying the new guidance recognized at the date of initial application, which will be effective for the Company beginning April 1, 2018.

We plan to adopt ASU 2014-09 and its amendments on a modified retrospective basis and are continuing to assess all future impacts of the guidance by reviewing our current contracts with customers to identify potential differences that could result from applying the new guidance. Based on our preliminary review, we expect that the adoption of ASU 2014-09 will not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements. As we complete our overall assessment, we are evaluating our accounting policies and practices, business processes, systems and controls to determine if changes are necessary to support the new revenue recognition and disclosure requirements. Our assessment will be completed during the year ending March 31, 2018.

In September 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-16, *Simplifying the Accounting for Measurement-Period Adjustments (Topic 805)*, which eliminates the requirement for an acquirer in a business combination to account for measurement-period adjustments retrospectively. The new guidance requires that the cumulative impact of a measurement-period adjustment (including the impact on prior periods) be recognized in the reporting period in which the adjustment is identified which eliminates the requirement to restate prior period financial statements. The ASU requires disclosure of the nature and amount of measurement-period adjustments as well as information with respect to the portion of the adjustments recorded in current-period earnings that would have been recorded in previous reporting periods if the adjustments to provisional amounts had been recognized as of the acquisition date. Due to the historical nature and volume of our acquisitions, we elected to early adopt this ASU during the year ended March 31, 2016 and there was no impact to our consolidated financial statements.

In December 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-17, *Income Taxes (Topic 740): Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes* (“ASU 2015-17”). ASU 2015-17 simplifies the presentation of deferred income taxes by requiring that deferred tax liabilities and assets be classified as noncurrent in a classified statement of financial position. The standard was effective for our fiscal year (and interim periods within that year) ending March 31, 2018. As permitted within the amendment, we elected to early adopt and prospectively apply the provisions of this amendment as of April 1, 2016.

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-09, *Compensation—Stock Compensation (Topic 718)*, as part of its simplification initiative, which affects all entities that issue share-based payment awards to their employees. The amendments in this update cover such areas as the recognition of excess tax benefits and deficiencies, the classification of those excess tax benefits on the statement of cash flows, an accounting policy election for forfeitures, the amount an employer can withhold to cover income taxes and still qualify for equity classification and the classification of those taxes paid on the statement of cash flows. The ASU was effective for our fiscal year ending March 31, 2018 using either the prospective, retrospective or modified retrospective transition method, depending on the area covered in this update. As permitted within the amendment, we elected to early adopt and prospectively apply the provisions of this amendment as of April 1, 2015.

In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-04, *Intangibles – Goodwill and Other*, which eliminates the requirement to calculate the implied fair value of goodwill to measure a goodwill impairment charge. ASU 2017-04 is required to be applied prospectively and we have elected to early adopt ASU 2017-04 effective April 1, 2017. We do not anticipate that the adoption will have a significant impact on our consolidated financial statements.

### **Contractual Obligations, Commitments and Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

#### ***Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements***

In accordance with the definition under SEC rules, the following qualify as off-balance sheet arrangements:

- any obligation under certain guarantee contracts;
- a retained or contingent interest in assets transferred to an unconsolidated entity or similar arrangement that serves as credit, liquidity or market risk support to that entity for such assets;
- any obligation under certain derivative instruments; and
- any obligation arising out of a material variable interest held by the registrant in an unconsolidated entity that provides financing, liquidity, market risk or credit risk support to the registrant, or engages in leasing, hedging or research and development services with the registrant.

As of March 31, 2017, we have no obligations or interests which qualify as off-balance sheet arrangements.

#### ***Contractual Obligations***

As of March 31, 2017, our contractual obligations, including payments due by period, are as follows (in thousands):

	<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b>Payments Due For Years Ending March 31,</b>			
	<b><u>2018</u></b>	<b><u>2019-2020</u></b>	<b><u>2021-2022</u></b>	<b><u>Thereafter</u></b>	
Purchase Commitments	\$ 4,978	\$ 4,480	\$ 498	\$ --	\$ --
Line of Credit	35,500	--	--	35,500	--
Term loan	19,750	1,125	3,750	14,875	--
Other	708	406	287	14	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 60,936</b>	<b>\$ 6,011</b>	<b>\$ 4,535</b>	<b>\$ 50,389</b>	<b>\$ --</b>

Our purchase commitments consist primarily of open purchase orders, which we have established to take advantage of volume discounts for materials and to ensure a reliable supply of critical parts.



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

We have no derivative instruments and minimal exposure to foreign currency and commodity market risks.

We are subject to interest rate volatility with regard to existing and future issuances of debt, as our current credit facility is variable-rate. Based on annualized variable-rate debt for the year ended March 31, 2017, a one percentage point increase in interest rates would have increased interest expense by \$500,000.

**ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA**

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## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Board of Directors and Stockholders  
Mesa Laboratories, Inc.  
Lakewood, Colorado

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Mesa Laboratories, Inc. and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of March 31, 2017 and 2016, and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended March 31, 2017. We have also audited the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of March 31, 2017, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company’s management is responsible for these consolidated financial statements, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management’s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements and an opinion on the Company’s internal control over financial reporting based on our audits.

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

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

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

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Mesa Laboratories, Inc. and subsidiaries as of March 31, 2017 and 2016, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended March 31, 2017 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also, in our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of March 31, 2017, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

/s/ EKS&H LLLP

June 7, 2017  
Denver, Colorado

**Mesa Laboratories, Inc.**  
**Consolidated Balance Sheets**  
(In thousands, except share amounts)

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>March 31,</b>	
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,820	\$ 5,695
Accounts receivable, less allowances of \$252 and \$375, respectively	14,319	15,313
Inventories, net	13,873	14,017
Prepaid expenses and other	1,773	943
Deferred income taxes	--	1,218
Total current assets	35,785	37,186
Property, plant and equipment, net	26,002	16,628
Intangibles, net	37,790	40,797
Goodwill	72,156	66,137
Total assets	\$ 171,733	\$ 160,748
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,168	\$ 2,823
Accrued salaries and payroll taxes	4,350	5,040
Unearned revenues	4,117	3,026
Current portion of contingent consideration	1,294	4,757
Other accrued expenses	2,999	3,085
Income taxes payable	514	2,240
Current portion of long-term debt	1,125	3,000
Total current liabilities	16,567	23,971
Deferred income taxes	3,554	5,419
Long-term debt, net of debt issuance costs and current portion	53,675	42,250
Contingent consideration	116	4,430
Total liabilities	73,912	76,070
Commitments and Contingencies (Note 13)	--	--
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, no par value; authorized 25,000,000 shares; issued and outstanding, 3,727,704 shares (March 31, 2017) and 3,637,273 shares (March 31, 2016)	25,925	21,001
Retained earnings	73,656	64,828
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(1,760)	(1,151)
Total stockholders' equity	97,821	84,678
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 171,733	\$ 160,748

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Mesa Laboratories, Inc.**  
**Consolidated Statements of Income**  
(In thousands, except per share data)

	Year Ended March 31,		
	2017	2016	2015
Revenues			
Product	\$ 71,055	\$ 66,274	\$ 58,910
Service	22,610	18,385	12,420
Total revenues	93,665	84,659	71,330
Cost of revenues			
Cost of products	26,548	26,957	23,128
Cost of services	13,878	6,289	4,810
Total cost of revenues	40,426	33,246	27,938
Gross profit	53,239	51,413	43,392
Operating expenses			
Selling	9,955	7,500	7,176
General and administrative	22,814	23,618	17,058
Research and development	4,157	3,972	3,294
Total operating expenses	36,926	35,090	27,528
Operating income	16,313	16,323	15,864
Other expense, net	2,017	768	517
Earnings before income taxes	14,296	15,555	15,347
Income taxes	3,113	4,386	5,764
Net income	\$ 11,183	\$ 11,169	\$ 9,583
Net income per share:			
Basic	\$ 3.04	\$ 3.10	\$ 2.72
Diluted	2.91	2.97	2.63
Weighted average common shares outstanding:			
Basic	3,679	3,605	3,521
Diluted	3,844	3,757	3,650

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Mesa Laboratories, Inc.**  
**Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income**  
(In thousands except per share data)

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>		
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Net Income	\$ 11,183	\$ 11,169	\$ 9,583
Other comprehensive loss, net of tax:			
Foreign currency translation	(609)	(917)	(234)
Total comprehensive income	<u>\$ 10,574</u>	<u>\$ 10,252</u>	<u>\$ 9,349</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Mesa Laboratories, Inc.**  
**Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity**  
(In thousands, except share amounts)

	<u>Common Stock</u>			Employee Loans	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total
	Number of Shares	Amount					
<b>March 31, 2014</b>	3,490,628	\$ 15,796		\$ (24)	\$ 48,561	\$ --	\$ 64,333
Common stock issued for conversion of stock options net of 11,266 shares returned as payment	70,912	1,504		--	--	--	1,504
Purchase and retirement of common stock	--	(28)		24	--	--	(4)
Dividends paid	--	--		--	(2,182)	--	(2,182)
Stock-based compensation	--	993		--	--	--	993
Tax impact on exercise of stock options	--	(514)		--	--	--	(514)
Foreign currency translation	--	--		--	--	(234)	(234)
Net income	--	--		--	9,583	--	9,583
<b>March 31, 2015</b>	3,561,540	17,751		--	55,962	(234)	73,479
Common stock issued for conversion of stock options net of 13,491 shares returned as payment	75,733	1,923		--	--	--	1,923
Dividends paid	--	--		--	(2,303)	--	(2,303)
Stock-based compensation	--	1,327		--	--	--	1,327
Foreign currency translation	--	--		--	--	(917)	(917)
Net income	--	--		--	11,169	--	11,169
<b>March 31, 2016</b>	3,637,273	21,001		--	64,828	(1,151)	84,678
Common stock issued for conversion of stock options net of 13,964 shares returned as payment	90,431	3,513		--	--	--	3,513
Dividends paid	--	--		--	(2,355)	--	(2,355)
Stock-based compensation	--	1,411		--	--	--	1,411
Foreign currency translation	--	--		--	--	(609)	(609)
Net income	--	--		--	11,183	--	11,183
<b>March 31, 2017</b>	3,727,704	\$ 25,925		\$ --	\$ 73,656	\$ (1,760)	\$ 97,821

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Mesa Laboratories, Inc.**  
**Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**  
(In thousands)

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>		
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income	\$ 11,183	\$ 11,169	\$ 9,583
Depreciation and amortization	8,737	7,174	5,656
Gain on dispositions, net	--	--	16
Deferred income taxes	(630)	(807)	450
Stock-based compensation	1,411	1,327	993
Foreign currency adjustments	93	53	(176)
Change in assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions and dispositions			
Accounts receivable, net	994	(1,958)	(2,291)
Inventories, net	295	(1,202)	(3,164)
Prepaid expenses and other	(830)	391	772
Accounts payable	(655)	(150)	410
Accrued liabilities and taxes payable	(3,066)	2,865	(861)
Unearned revenues	(228)	99	(572)
Contingent consideration	(9,554)	(2,058)	--
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>7,750</u>	<u>16,903</u>	<u>10,816</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Acquisitions	(6,800)	(24,111)	(20,543)
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(11,605)	(7,729)	(2,828)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(18,405)</u>	<u>(31,840)</u>	<u>(23,371)</u>
Cash flow from financing activities:			
Proceeds from the issuance of debt	66,550	25,000	23,000
Payments on debt	(57,000)	(6,000)	(13,250)
Dividends	(2,355)	(2,303)	(2,182)
Proceeds from the exercise of stock options	3,513	1,923	1,504
Net cash provided by financing activities	<u>10,708</u>	<u>18,620</u>	<u>9,072</u>
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	<u>72</u>	<u>(22)</u>	<u>(58)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	<u>125</u>	<u>3,661</u>	<u>(3,541)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>5,695</u>	<u>2,034</u>	<u>5,575</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 5,820</u>	<u>\$ 5,695</u>	<u>\$ 2,034</u>
Cash paid during the year for:			
Income taxes	\$ 5,605	\$ 3,951	\$ 3,345
Interest	1,384	848	499
Supplemental non-cash activity:			
Repayment of employee loans for stock options	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 24
Contingent consideration as part of an acquisition	1,822	9,271	412

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



**Mesa Laboratories, Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

**Note 1. Description of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**Description of Business**

Mesa Laboratories, Inc. was incorporated under the laws of the State of Colorado on March 26, 1982. The terms “we,” “us,” “our,” the “Company” or “Mesa” are used in this report to refer collectively to the parent company and the subsidiaries through which our various businesses are actually conducted. We pursue a strategy of focusing primarily on quality control products and services, which are sold into niche markets that are driven by regulatory requirements. We prefer markets that have limited competition where we can establish a strong presence and achieve high gross margins. We are organized into four divisions across nine physical locations. Our Instruments Division designs, manufactures and markets quality control instruments and disposable products utilized in connection with the healthcare, pharmaceutical, food and beverage, medical device, industrial hygiene, environmental air sampling and semiconductor industries. Our Biological Indicators Division provides testing services, along with the manufacturing and marketing of biological indicators and distribution of chemical indicators used to assess the effectiveness of sterilization processes, including steam, hydrogen peroxide, ethylene oxide and radiation, in the hospital, dental, medical device and pharmaceutical industries. Our Cold Chain Monitoring Division designs, develops and markets systems which are used to monitor various environmental parameters such as temperature, humidity and differential pressure to ensure that critical storage and processing conditions are maintained in hospitals, pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers, blood banks, pharmacies and a number of other laboratory and industrial environments. Our Cold Chain Monitoring Division also provides parameter (primarily temperature) monitoring of products during transport in a cold chain and consulting services such as compliance monitoring and validation or mapping of transport and storage containers. Our Cold Chain Packaging Division provides packaging development consulting services and thermal packaging products such as coolers, boxes, insulation materials and phase-change products to control temperature during transport.

**Basis of Presentation**

Our consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (“GAAP”). The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Mesa Laboratories, Inc. and its subsidiaries. Intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated. The preparation of our consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities in our consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Although these estimates are based on our knowledge of current events and actions we may undertake in the future, actual results may ultimately differ from these estimates and assumptions. Furthermore, when testing assets for impairment in future periods, if management uses different assumptions or if different conditions occur, impairment charges may result.

**Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

***Revenue Recognition***

We recognize revenue when the four revenue recognition criteria are met, as follows:

*Product sales:* Revenue is recognized upon shipment of the product. Evidence of an arrangement is typically in the form of a customer purchase order. Custody is transferred upon shipment (FOB Shipping Point). Prices are fixed at the time of order and no price protections or variables are offered. Collectability is reasonably assured via our customer credit and review processes.

*Services:* Revenue is recognized upon completion of the work/services to be performed. Evidence of an arrangement is typically in the form of a contract and/or a customer purchase order. Custody is transferred upon completion and acceptance of the service or installation process. Prices are fixed at the time of order and no price protections or variables are offered. Collectability is reasonably assured via our customer credit and review processes.

### ***Shipping and handling***

Payments by customers to us for shipping and handling costs are included in revenues on the consolidated statements of income, while our expense is included in cost of revenues. Shipping and handling for inventory and materials purchased by us is included as a component of inventory on the consolidated balance sheets, and in cost of revenues when the product is sold.

### ***Unearned Revenues***

Certain of our products have associated annual service contracts whereby we provide repair, technical support and various other analytical or maintenance services. In the event that these contracts are paid up front by the customer, the associated amounts are deferred and recognized ratably over the term of the service period, generally one year.

### ***Accrued Warranty Expense***

We provide limited product warranty on our products and, accordingly, accrue an estimate of the related warranty expense at the time of sale.

### ***Cash Equivalents***

We classify time deposits and other investments that are highly liquid and have maturities of three months or less at the date of purchase as cash equivalents.

### ***Accounts Receivable***

We record trade accounts receivable at net realizable value. This value includes an appropriate allowance for estimated uncollectible accounts to reflect any loss anticipated on the trade accounts receivable balances and is charged to the provision for doubtful accounts. We calculate this allowance based on our history of write-offs, the level of past-due accounts based on the contractual terms of the receivables, and our relationships with, and the economic status of, our customers.

### ***Concentration of Credit Risk***

Financial instruments that potentially subject us to concentrations of credit risk consist of accounts receivable. For the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, no individual customer represented more than 10 percent of our revenues or more than 10 percent of our accounts receivable balance. Approximately 57 percent and 43 percent of our sales for the year ended March 31, 2017 were to customers located in the United States and foreign countries, respectively.

### ***Inventories***

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market, using the weighted average method to determine cost. We evaluate labor and overhead costs annually, unless specific circumstances necessitate a mid-year evaluation. Our work in process and finished goods inventory includes raw materials, labor and overhead, which are estimated based on trailing twelve months of expense and standard labor hours for each product. Our biological indicator inventory is tracked by lot number, thus it is generally based on actual hours.

We monitor inventory cost compared to selling price in order to determine if a lower of cost or market reserve is necessary. Throughout the year, we perform various physical cycle count procedures on our inventories and we estimate and maintain an inventory reserve, as needed, for such matters as obsolete inventory, shrink and scrap.

### ***Property, Plant and Equipment***

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost. Repair and maintenance costs that do not improve service potential or extend the economic life are expensed as incurred. Depreciation is recorded using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of our assets, which are reviewed periodically and generally have the following ranges: buildings: 40 years or less; manufacturing equipment: seven years or less; and computer equipment: three years or less. Land is not depreciated and construction in progress is not depreciated until placed in service.

## ***Goodwill and Intangible Assets***

We classify intangible assets into three categories: (1) intangible assets with definite lives subject to amortization, (2) intangible assets with indefinite lives not subject to amortization and (3) goodwill. We determine the useful lives of our identifiable intangible assets after considering the specific facts and circumstances related to each intangible asset. Factors we consider when determining useful lives include the contractual term of any agreement related to the asset, the historical performance of the asset, our long-term strategy for using the asset, any laws or other local regulations which could impact the useful life of the asset and other economic factors, including competition and specific market conditions. Intangible assets that are deemed to have definite lives are amortized, primarily on a straight-line basis, over their useful lives, generally ranging from three to sixteen years (See Note 5).

When facts and circumstances indicate that the carrying value of definite-lived intangible assets may not be recoverable, management assesses the recoverability of the carrying value by preparing estimates of revenues and the resulting gross profit and cash flows. These estimated future cash flows are consistent with those we use in our internal planning. If the sum of the expected future cash flows (undiscounted and without interest charges) is less than the carrying amount, we recognize an impairment loss. The impairment loss recognized is the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset (or asset group) exceeds the fair value. We use a variety of methodologies to determine the fair value of these assets, including discounted cash flow models, which are consistent with the assumptions we believe hypothetical marketplace participants would use.

We test intangible assets determined to have indefinite useful lives, including trademarks and goodwill, for impairment annually, or more frequently if events or circumstances indicate that assets might be impaired. We perform these annual impairment reviews as of the first day of our fourth fiscal quarter. We use a variety of methodologies in conducting impairment assessments of indefinite-lived intangible assets, including, but not limited to, discounted cash flow models, which are based on the assumptions we believe hypothetical marketplace participants would use. For indefinite-lived intangible assets, other than goodwill, if the carrying amount exceeds the fair value, an impairment charge is recognized in an amount equal to that excess.

We have the option to perform a qualitative assessment of indefinite-lived intangible assets, other than goodwill, prior to completing the impairment test described above. We must assess whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of the intangible asset is less than its carrying amount. If we conclude that this is the case, we must perform the testing described above. Otherwise, there is no requirement to perform any further assessment.

We perform impairment tests of goodwill at our reporting unit level, which is one level below our operating segments. Our operating segments consist of our Instruments, Biological Indicators, Cold Chain Monitoring and Cold Chain Packaging. These operating segments are consistent with the way management runs our business. Our Instruments operating segment is subdivided into smaller business units. These business units are also our reporting units. Goodwill is assigned to the reporting unit or units that benefit from the synergies arising from each business combination.

The goodwill impairment test consists of a two-step process, if necessary. The first step is to compare the fair value of a reporting unit to its carrying value, including goodwill. We typically use discounted cash flow models to determine the fair value of a reporting unit. The assumptions used in these models are consistent with those we believe hypothetical marketplace participants would use. If the fair value of the reporting unit is less than its carrying value, the second step of the impairment test must be performed in order to determine the amount of impairment loss, if any. The second step compares the implied fair value of the reporting unit's goodwill with the carrying amount of that goodwill. If the carrying amount of the reporting unit's goodwill exceeds its implied fair value, an impairment charge is recognized in an amount equal to that excess. The loss recognized cannot exceed the carrying amount of goodwill.

We have the option to perform a qualitative assessment of goodwill prior to completing the two-step process described above to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, including goodwill and other intangible assets. If we conclude that this is the case, we must perform the two-step process. Otherwise, there is no requirement to perform any further assessment.

## ***Research & Development Costs***

Internal costs related to research and development efforts on existing or potential products are expensed as incurred. The costs of intangible assets that are purchased from others for use in research and development activities, and also have alternative future benefit, are capitalized and amortized over their expected useful life.

Although rare, under certain agreements, we may receive advance payments from customers to perform research and development on their behalf. These payments are recovered by the customer through lower product prices and as such, are initially recorded as unearned revenues in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets. As product is sold, this liability is reduced through revenues on the consolidated statements of income.

### ***Stock-based Compensation***

Equity classified stock-based compensation is measured at fair value, based on the closing stock price at grant date, using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. We recognize expense on a straight-line basis over the service period, net of an estimated forfeiture rate, resulting in a compensation cost for only those shares expected to vest. We do not have any liability classified stock-based compensation. We allocate stock-based compensation expense to cost of revenues and general and administrative expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of income.

### ***Income Taxes***

We recognize deferred income tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of temporary differences between the income tax and financial reporting carrying amount of our assets and liabilities. We monitor our deferred tax assets and evaluate the need for a valuation allowance based on the estimate of the amount of such deferred tax assets that we believe do not meet the more-likely-than-not recognition criteria. We also evaluate whether we have any uncertain tax positions and record a reserve if we believe it is more-likely-than-not our position would not prevail with the applicable tax authorities. Any penalties and interest are included in other expense, net on the consolidated statements of income.

### ***Acquisition Related Contingent Consideration Liability***

The acquisition related contingent consideration liability consists of estimated amounts due under various acquisition agreements and is typically based upon either revenues growth or specified profitability growth metrics. At each reporting period, we evaluate the expected future payments and the associated discount rate to determine the fair value of the contingent consideration. These amounts represent our best estimate of the amounts which will ultimately be paid. The discount rate is based upon our estimated credit adjusted risk free rate or current market conditions which includes an estimate for risk premiums. Changes in the fair value of the acquisition related contingent consideration is included in other expense, net on the accompanying consolidated statements of net income.

### ***Fair Value of Measurements***

Our financial instruments include cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable, accrued liabilities and long-term debt. The carrying value of these financial instruments (other than acquisition related contingent consideration liabilities, see above) is considered to be representative of their fair value due to the short maturity of these instruments. Our debt has a variable interest rate, so the carrying amount approximates fair value because interest rates on these instruments approximate the interest rate on debt with similar terms available to us.

### ***Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements***

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)*, which will replace most existing revenue recognition guidance in U.S. GAAP and is intended to improve and converge with international standards the financial reporting requirements for revenue from contracts with customers. The core principle of ASU 2014-09 is that an entity should recognize revenue for the transfer of goods or services equal to the amount that it expects to be entitled to receive for those goods or services. ASU 2014-09 also requires additional disclosures about the nature, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from customer contracts, including significant judgments and changes in judgments. ASU 2014-09 allows for adoption either on a full retrospective basis to each prior reporting period presented or on a modified retrospective basis with the cumulative effect of initially applying the new guidance recognized at the date of initial application, which will be effective for the Company beginning April 1, 2018.

We plan to adopt ASU 2014-09 and its amendments on a modified retrospective basis and are continuing to assess all future impacts of the guidance by reviewing our current contracts with customers to identify potential differences that could result from applying the new guidance. Based on our preliminary review, we expect that the adoption of ASU 2014-09 will not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements. As we complete our overall assessment, we are evaluating our accounting policies and practices, business processes, systems and controls to determine if changes are necessary to support the new revenue recognition and disclosure requirements. Our assessment will be completed during the year ending March 31, 2018.

In September 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-16, *Simplifying the Accounting for Measurement-Period Adjustments (Topic 805)*, which eliminates the requirement for an acquirer in a business combination to account for measurement-period adjustments retrospectively. The new guidance requires that the cumulative impact of a measurement-period adjustment (including the impact on prior periods) be recognized in the reporting period in which the adjustment is identified which eliminates the requirement to restate prior period financial statements. The ASU requires disclosure of the nature and amount of measurement-period adjustments as well as information with respect to the portion of the adjustments recorded in current-period earnings that would have been recorded in previous reporting periods if the adjustments to provisional amounts had been recognized as of the acquisition date. Due to the historical nature and volume of our acquisitions, we elected to early adopt this ASU during the year ended March 31, 2016 and there was no impact to our consolidated financial statements.

In December 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-17, *Income Taxes (Topic 740): Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes* (“ASU 2015-17”). ASU 2015-17 simplifies the presentation of deferred income taxes by requiring that deferred tax liabilities and assets be classified as noncurrent in a classified statement of financial position. The standard was effective for our fiscal year (and interim periods within that year) ending March 31, 2018. As permitted within the amendment, we elected to early adopt and prospectively apply the provisions of this amendment as of April 1, 2016.

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-09, *Compensation—Stock Compensation (Topic 718)*, as part of its simplification initiative, which affects all entities that issue share-based payment awards to their employees. The amendments in this update cover such areas as the recognition of excess tax benefits and deficiencies, the classification of those excess tax benefits on the statement of cash flows, an accounting policy election for forfeitures, the amount an employer can withhold to cover income taxes and still qualify for equity classification and the classification of those taxes paid on the statement of cash flows. The ASU was effective for our fiscal year ending March 31, 2018 using either the prospective, retrospective or modified retrospective transition method, depending on the area covered in this update. As permitted within the amendment, we elected to early adopt and prospectively apply the provisions of this amendment as of April 1, 2015.

In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-04, *Intangibles – Goodwill and Other*, which eliminates the requirement to calculate the implied fair value of goodwill to measure a goodwill impairment charge. ASU 2017-04 is required to be applied prospectively and we have elected to early adopt ASU 2017-04 effective April 1, 2017. We do not anticipate that the adoption will have a significant impact on our consolidated financial statements.

## **Note 2. Acquisitions and Dispositions**

### **Acquisitions**

For the year ended March 31, 2017, our acquisitions of businesses (net of cash acquired) totaled \$8,622,000, of which none were individually material in nature (see Item 7. *Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations*).

For the year ended March 31, 2016, our acquisitions of businesses (net of cash acquired) totaled \$33,382,000, which consisted primarily of the following material acquisitions:

## Infitrak

On July 6, 2015, we completed a business combination (the “Infitrak Acquisition”) whereby we acquired all of the common stock of 2396081 Ontario Inc. and its wholly owned operating subsidiary, Infitrak Inc. (collectively “Infitrak”), a company whose business provides consulting, packaging and measuring solutions for cold chain applications. The stock purchase agreement (the “Infitrak Agreement”) includes provisions for both contingent consideration based upon the two-year growth in gross profit (as defined in the Earn-Out Agreement) of the packaging component of our cold chain business subsequent to the acquisition and for a holdback payment (subject to a post-closing adjustment), payable at the one year anniversary of the closing date.

Under the terms of the Infitrak Agreement, we were required to pay contingent consideration if the gross profit (as defined in the Infitrak Earn-Out Agreement) for our cold chain packaging business for the two years subsequent to the acquisition met certain levels. The potential undiscounted consideration payable ranged from \$0 to \$15,000,000 CDN and was based upon a sliding scale of growth in gross profit (as defined in the Infitrak Earn-Out Agreement) for year one and year two of 30 to 70 percent and 15 to 75 percent, respectively. Based upon both historical and projected growth rates, we recorded \$9,271,000 of contingent consideration payable which represented our best estimate of the then current fair value of the amount that would ultimately be paid. Any changes to the contingent consideration ultimately paid would have resulted in additional income or expense in our consolidated statements of income.

In July 2016, we made the first Earn-Out payment in the amount of \$6,000,000 CDN (\$4,594,000). In March 2017, we agreed to settle the remaining earn-out obligation (which was originally due in the second quarter of our year ending March 31, 2018) early by making a payment of \$6,000,000 CDN (\$4,558,000).

We expected to achieve savings and generate growth as we integrated the Infitrak operations and sales and marketing functions. These factors, among others, contributed to a purchase price in excess of the estimated fair value of the net identifiable assets acquired and, as a result, we recorded goodwill in connection with this transaction. The goodwill is not deductible for tax purposes and it was assigned to our Cold Chain Packaging segment.

The Infitrak Acquisition constituted the acquisition of a business and was recognized at fair value. We determined the estimated fair values using discounted cash flow analyses and estimates made by management. The following reflected our allocation of the consideration, subject to customary purchase price adjustments in accordance with the Infitrak Agreement (in thousands):

Cash consideration	\$ 8,747
Holdback payment liability	637
Contingent consideration liability	9,271
Aggregate consideration	<u>\$ 18,655</u>
Accounts receivable	\$ 925
Inventories	310
Property, plant and equipment	530
Intangibles	5,869
Goodwill	13,833
Accounts payable	(470)
Accrued liabilities	(767)
Deferred income taxes	(1,575)
Total purchase price allocation	<u>\$ 18,655</u>

The accompanying consolidated statements of income include the results of the Infitrak Acquisition from the acquisition date of July 6, 2015. The pro forma effects of the acquisition on the results of operations as if the acquisition had been completed on April 1, 2015 and 2014, are as follows (in thousands, except per share data):

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Revenues	\$ 86,499	\$ 74,379
Net income	11,471	9,944
Net Income per common share:		
Basic	\$ 3.18	\$ 2.82
Diluted	3.05	2.72

### North Bay

On August 6, 2015, we completed a business combination (the “North Bay Acquisition”) whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than certain fixed assets) and certain liabilities of the dental sterilizer testing business of North Bay Bioscience, LLC (“North Bay”). The asset purchase agreement (the “North Bay Agreement”) included a provision for a holdback payment (subject to a post-closing adjustment), payable at the one year anniversary of the closing date.

We expected to achieve savings and generate growth as we integrated the North Bay operations and sales and marketing functions. These factors, among others, contributed to a purchase price in excess of the estimated fair value of the net identifiable assets acquired and, as a result, we recorded goodwill in connection with this transaction. The goodwill is deductible for tax purposes and it was assigned to our Biological Indicators segment.

The North Bay Acquisition constituted the acquisition of a business and was recognized at fair value. We determined the estimated fair values using discounted cash flow analyses and estimates made by management. The following reflected our allocation of the consideration, subject to customary purchase price adjustments in accordance with the North Bay Agreement (in thousands):

Cash consideration	\$ 10,322
Holdback payment liability	1,000
Aggregate consideration	<u>\$ 11,322</u>
Cash	\$ 20
Accounts receivable	285
Inventories	85
Property, plant and equipment	229
Intangibles	4,454
Goodwill	7,962
Accrued liabilities	(100)
Unearned revenues	(1,613)
Total purchase price allocation	<u>\$ 11,322</u>

The accompanying consolidated statements of income include the results of the North Bay Acquisition from the acquisition date of August 6, 2015. The pro forma effects of the acquisition on the results of operations as if the acquisition had been completed on April 1, 2015 and 2014, are as follows (in thousands, except per share data):

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Revenues	\$ 86,053	\$ 75,649
Net income	11,463	10,182
Net Income per common share:		
Basic	\$ 3.18	\$ 2.89
Diluted	3.05	2.79

For the year ended March 31, 2015, our acquisitions of businesses (net of cash acquired) totaled \$20,955,000, which consisted primarily of the following material acquisitions:

**PCD**

On October 15, 2014, we completed a business combination (the “PCD Acquisition”) with PCD-Process Challenge Devices, LLC (“PCD”) whereby we acquired substantially all the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of PCD’s process challenge device business segment. The asset acquisition agreement (the “PCD Agreement”) includes provisions for both contingent consideration based upon the cumulative three year revenues of our process challenge device business subsequent to the acquisition and for a holdback payment (subject to a post-closing adjustment), payable at the one year anniversary of the closing date.

Under the terms of the PCD Agreement, we are required to pay contingent consideration if the cumulative revenues for our process challenge device business for the three years subsequent to the acquisition meet certain levels. The potential consideration payable ranges from \$0 to \$1,500,000 and is based upon a sliding scale of three-year cumulative revenues between \$9,900,000 and \$12,600,000. Based upon both historical and projected growth rates, we initially recorded \$300,000 of contingent consideration payable which represented our best estimate of the amount that would ultimately be paid. We paid \$150,000 of the contingent consideration during the year ended March 31, 2016 (based upon the then current run rate projected over the entire three-year contingent consideration period). Since the initial payment, the revenues have significantly increased and as a result, during the year ended March 31, 2017 we recorded an additional \$450,000 accrual (which is included in other expense, net in our consolidated statements of income for the year ended March 31, 2017). We paid an additional \$450,000 of the contingent consideration in our third quarter ended December 31, 2016. The remaining contingent consideration amount is also subject to modification at the end of the third year of the earn-out period based upon the actual revenues earned over the contingent consideration period. Any changes to the contingent consideration ultimately paid will result in additional income or expense in our consolidated statements of income. We will continue to monitor the results of our process challenge device business and we will adjust the contingent liability on a go forward basis, based on then current information.

We expected to achieve savings and generate growth as we integrated the PCD operations and sales and marketing functions. These factors, among others, contributed to a purchase price in excess of the estimated fair value of the net identifiable assets acquired and, as a result, we recorded goodwill in connection with this transaction. The goodwill is deductible for tax purposes and it was assigned to our Biological Indicators segment.

The PCD Acquisition constituted the acquisition of a business and was recognized at fair value. We determined the estimated fair values using discounted cash flow analyses and estimates made by management. The following reflected our allocation of the consideration, subject to customary purchase price adjustments in accordance with the PCD Agreement (in thousands):

Cash consideration	\$ 5,000
Holdback payment liability	250
Contingent consideration liability	300
Aggregate consideration	<u>\$ 5,550</u>
Inventories	\$ 137
Property, plant and equipment	7
Intangibles	3,678
Goodwill	1,743
Accrued expenses	(15)
Total purchase price allocation	<u><u>\$ 5,550</u></u>



The accompanying consolidated statements of income include the results of the PCD Acquisition from the acquisition date of October 15, 2014. The pro forma effects of the acquisition on the results of operations as if the acquisition had been completed on April 1, 2014 and 2013, are as follows (in thousands, except per share data):

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Revenues	\$ 73,068	\$ 56,541
Net income	9,673	9,512
Net income per common share:		
Basic	\$ 2.75	\$ 2.76
Diluted	2.65	2.63

### ***BGI***

On April 15, 2014, we completed a business combination (the “BGI Acquisition”) whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets (other than cash and accounts receivable) and certain liabilities of BGI, Incorporated and BGI Instruments, Inc. (collectively “BGI”), a business focused on the sale of equipment primarily used for particulate air sampling. The purchase price for the acquired assets was \$10,268,000.

We expected to achieve savings and generate growth as we integrated the BGI operations and sales and marketing functions. These factors, among others, contributed to a purchase price in excess of the estimated fair value of the net identifiable assets acquired and, as a result, we recorded goodwill in connection with this transaction. The goodwill is deductible for tax purposes and it was assigned to our Instruments segment.

The BGI Acquisition constituted the acquisition of a business and was recognized at fair value. We determined the estimated fair values using discounted cash flow analyses and estimates made by management. The following reflected our allocation of the consideration, subject to customary purchase price adjustments in accordance with the BGI Agreement (in thousands):

Inventories	\$ 1,268
Property, plant and equipment	47
Intangibles	5,711
Goodwill	3,295
Accrued expenses	(53)
Total purchase price allocation	<u>\$ 10,268</u>

The accompanying consolidated statements of income include the results of the BGI Acquisition from the acquisition date of April 15, 2014. The pro forma effects of the acquisition on the results of operations as if the acquisition had been completed on April 1, 2014 and 2013, are as follows (in thousands, except per share data):

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Revenues	\$ 71,648	\$ 60,388
Net income	9,661	11,141
Net income per common share:		
Basic	\$ 2.74	\$ 3.23
Diluted	2.65	3.09

### Note 3. Inventories

Inventories consist of the following (in thousands):

	March 31,	
	2017	2016
Raw materials	\$ 10,815	\$ 9,433
Work-in-process	342	337
Finished goods	3,604	4,941
Less reserve	(888)	(694)
	<u>\$ 13,873</u>	<u>\$ 14,017</u>

### Note 4. Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment consist of the following (in thousands):

	March 31,	
	2017	2016
Land	\$ 1,614	\$ 1,614
Buildings	4,726	4,723
Manufacturing equipment	8,861	7,802
Computer equipment	4,143	2,649
Construction in progress	15,882	7,333
Other	1,220	685
	<u>36,446</u>	<u>24,806</u>
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(10,444)</u>	<u>(8,178)</u>
	<u>\$ 26,002</u>	<u>\$ 16,628</u>

Depreciation expense for the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015 was \$2,287,000, \$1,387,000 and \$981,000, respectively.

### Note 5. Goodwill and Intangible Assets

The change in the carrying amount of goodwill was as follows (in thousands):

	Biological Indicators	Instruments	Cold Chain Monitoring	Cold Chain Packaging	Total
March 31, 2015	\$ 12,987	\$ 18,235	\$ 13,647	\$ --	\$ 44,869
Effect of foreign currency translation	(624)	--	--	(476)	(1,100)
Acquisitions	8,535	--	--	13,833	22,368
March 31, 2016	20,898	18,235	13,647	13,357	66,137
Effect of foreign currency translation	(97)	--	--	(374)	(471)
Acquisitions	3,218	--	1,757	1,515	6,490
March 31, 2017	<u>\$ 24,019</u>	<u>\$ 18,235</u>	<u>\$ 15,404</u>	<u>\$ 14,498</u>	<u>\$ 72,156</u>

Other intangible assets are as follows:

	March 31, 2017			
	Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net	Useful Life (Years)
Intellectual property	\$ 7,210	\$ (3,824)	\$ 3,386	10-16
Trade names	3,663	(1,727)	1,936	3-10
Customer relationships	52,134	(20,260)	31,874	7-10
Non-compete agreements	1,845	(1,251)	594	3-10
	<u>\$ 64,852</u>	<u>\$ (27,062)</u>	<u>\$ 37,790</u>	

	<b>March 31, 2016</b>			
	<b>Carrying Amount</b>	<b>Accumulated Amortization</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Useful Life (Years)</b>
Intellectual property	\$ 7,364	\$ (3,093)	\$ 4,271	10-16
Trade names	3,474	(1,271)	2,203	3-10
Customer relationships	48,782	(15,228)	33,554	7-10
Non-compete agreements	1,846	(1,077)	769	3-10
	<u>\$ 61,466</u>	<u>\$ (20,669)</u>	<u>\$ 40,797</u>	

The following is estimated amortization expense for the years ending March 31:

(In thousands)	
2018	\$ 6,349
2019	6,021
2020	5,689
2021	4,644
2022	4,278

Amortization expense for the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015 was \$6,450,000, \$5,787,000 and \$4,675,000, respectively.

#### **Note 6. Facility Relocation**

In August 2016, we announced that we plan to shut down both our Omaha and Traverse City Biological Indicator manufacturing facilities and relocate those operations to the new Bozeman building. The move of these two facilities, along with the current Bozeman operations, began in March 2017 and is estimated to be completed by the end of our year ending March 31, 2018. We estimate that the total costs of the relocation will be \$2,100,000 (which is comprised primarily of facility moving expenses, retention bonuses for existing personnel and payroll costs for duplicative personnel during the transition period) of which \$725,000 was incurred during the year ended March 31, 2017 and is reflected in cost of revenues in the accompanying consolidated statements of income (other than \$45,000 which is included in general and administrative). Facility relocation costs, which are associated with our Biological Indicators segment, are as follows for the year ended March 31, 2017:

- Retention bonuses for existing personnel of \$673,000
- Duplicative employment costs of \$49,000
- Other of \$3,000

Facility relocation amounts accrued and paid for the year ended March 31, 2017 are as follows (in thousands):

	<b>March 31, 2017</b>
Beginning balance	\$ --
Facility relocation expense	725
Cash payments	(52)
Ending balance	<u>\$ 673</u>

## Note 7. Long-term Debt

Long-term debt consists of the following (in thousands):

	<u>March 31, 2017</u>	<u>March 31, 2016</u>
Line of credit (2.81% at March 31, 2017)	\$ 35,500	\$ 27,500
Term loan (2.81% at March 31, 2017)	19,750	17,750
Less: discount	(450)	--
Less: current portion	<u>(1,125)</u>	<u>(3,000)</u>
Long-term portion	<u>\$ 53,675</u>	<u>\$ 42,250</u>

On July 1, 2015, we entered into a five-year credit agreement for a \$50,000,000 revolving line of credit, a \$20,000,000 term loan and up to \$1,000,000 of letters of credit.

On March 1, 2017, we entered into a new five-year agreement (the "Credit Facility") for an \$80,000,000 revolving line of credit ("Line of Credit"), a \$20,000,000 term loan ("Term Loan") and up to \$2,500,000 of letters of credit with a banking syndicate of four banks. In addition, the Credit Facility provides a post-closing accordion feature which allows for the Company to request to increase the Line of Credit or Term Loan up to an additional \$100,000,000. Funds from the Credit Facility may be used to pay down its previous credit facility, finance working capital needs and for general corporate purposes in the ordinary course of business (including, without limitation, permitted acquisitions).

Line of Credit and Term Loan indebtedness bears interest at either: (1) LIBOR, as defined, plus an applicable margin ranging from 1.5% to 2.50%; or (2) the alternate base rate ("ABR"), which is the greater of JPMorgan's prime rate or the federal funds effective rate or the overnight bank funding rate plus 0.5%. We elect the interest rate with each borrowing under the line of credit. In addition, there is an unused line fee of 0.15% to 0.35%. Letter of credit fees are based on the applicable LIBOR rate.

The Term Loan requires 20 quarterly principal payments (the first due date was March 31, 2017) in the amount of \$250,000 (increasing by \$125,000 each year up to \$750,000 in the fifth year). The remaining balance of principal and accrued interest are due on March 1, 2022.

The Credit Facility is secured by all of our assets and requires us to maintain a ratio of funded debt to our trailing four quarters of EBIDTA (the "Leverage Ratio"), as defined, of less than 3.0 to 1.0, provided that, we may once during the term of the Credit Facility, in connection with a Permitted Acquisition for which the aggregate consideration paid or to be paid in respect thereof equals or exceeds \$20,000,000, elect to increase the maximum Leverage Ratio permitted hereunder to (i) 3.50 to 1.00 for a period of four consecutive fiscal quarters commencing with the fiscal quarter in which such Permitted Acquisition occurs (the "Initial Holiday Period") and (ii) 3.25 to 1.00 for the period of four consecutive fiscal quarters immediately following the Initial Holiday Period. The Credit Facility also requires us to maintain a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of less than 1.25 to 1.0. We were in compliance with the required covenants at March 31, 2017.

We incurred origination and debt issuance costs of \$460,000 which are treated as a debt discount and are netted against amounts outstanding on the consolidated balance sheets.

Future contractual maturities of debt as of March 31, 2017 are as follows (in thousands):

Year ending March 31,	
2018	\$ 1,125
2019	1,625
2020	2,125
2021	2,625
2022	<u>47,750</u>
	<u>\$ 55,250</u>

Subsequent to March 31, 2017, we made \$3,000,000 in payments under the Line of Credit.

## Note 8. Stockholders' Equity

Under applicable law, Colorado corporations are not permitted to retain treasury stock. The price paid for repurchased shares is allocated between common stock and retained earnings, based on management's estimate of the original sales price of the underlying shares.

In November 2005, our Board of Directors approved a program to repurchase up to 300,000 shares of our outstanding common stock. Under the program, shares of common stock may be purchased from time to time in the open market at prevailing prices or in negotiated transactions off the market. Shares of common stock purchased will be cancelled and repurchases of shares of common stock will be funded through existing cash reserves. There were no repurchases of our shares of common stock under this plan during the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015. As of March 31, 2017, we have purchased 162,486 shares under this plan.

Dividends per share paid by quarter were as follows:

	Year Ended March 31,		
	2017	2016	2015
First quarter	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.15
Second quarter	0.16	0.16	0.15
Third quarter	0.16	0.16	0.16
Fourth quarter	0.16	0.16	0.16

## Note 9. Employee Benefit Plans

We adopted our 401(k) plan effective January 1, 2000. Participation is voluntary and employees are eligible the first day of the following month that an employee attains an age of 21 and one hour of service time. We match 100 percent of the employee's contributions up to four percent of the employee's salary and those contributions are vested immediately. Prior to January 1, 2017, we matched 50 percent of the employee's contribution up to six percent of the employee's salary and those contributions were vested immediately. We contributed \$501,000, \$387,000 and \$330,000, respectively, to the plan for the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015.

## Note 10. Stock-Based Compensation

We adopted stock option plans for the benefit of our employees and outside directors. Under terms of the plans, stock options are granted at an amount not less than 100% of the quoted market price of the underlying shares at the date of grant. Stock options are exercisable for terms of five to ten years and vest ratably over terms of four to seven years. All of our stock option plans have been approved by our shareholders.

On August 8, 2014, we adopted The Mesa Laboratories, Inc. 2014 Equity Plan (the "2014 Plan"), which was subsequently approved by our shareholders on October 2, 2014 at our 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The purpose of the 2014 Plan is to promote the success and enhance the value of the Company by linking the personal interests of our employees, officers and directors to those of our shareholders by providing such persons with an incentive for outstanding performance. A total of 1,100,000 shares of common stock were reserved for issuance under the 2014 Plan and are subject to terms as set by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors at the time of grant. As of March 31, 2017, we have 270,219 stock options outstanding and have issued 7,000 shares of restricted stock under the 2014 Plan.

Under the December 8, 2006 plan (the "2006 Plan"), a total of 400,000 shares of common stock were reserved for issuance and were subject to terms as set by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors at the time of grant. On September 23, 2010, our shareholders approved an amendment to the 2006 Plan whereby the number of shares authorized for issuance was increased to 800,000. As a result of the approval of the 2014 Plan by our shareholders, no further awards will be made under the 2006 Plan and it will remain in effect only as long as awards previously made thereunder remain outstanding. As of March 31, 2017, we have 240,142 stock options outstanding under the 2006 Plan. On February 27, 2013, we filed a Registration Statement on Form S-8 whereby we registered the additional 400,000 shares of common stock underlying stock options issuable under the 2006 Plan.

Amounts recognized in the consolidated financial statements related to stock-based compensation are as follows (in thousands, except per share data):

	Year Ended March 31,		
	2017	2016	2015
Total cost of stock based compensation			
charged against income before income tax	\$ 1,411	\$ 1,327	\$ 993
Amount of income tax benefit recognized in earnings	307	374	373
Amount charged against net income	<u>\$ 1,104</u>	<u>\$ 953</u>	<u>\$ 620</u>
Impact on net income per common share:			
Basic	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.18
Diluted	0.29	0.25	0.17

The fair value of each option award is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option valuation model that uses assumptions noted in the following table. We use historical data to estimate volatility, expected option life and forfeiture rate. The risk-free rate is based on the United States Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant. The dividend yield is calculated based upon the dividend payments made during the prior four quarters as a percent of the average stock price for that period.

	Year Ended March 31,		
	2017	2016	2015
Volatility	32.05%-33.76%	27.1%-30.2%	24.4%-27.1%
Risk-free interest rate	1.22%	1.09%	1.9%-2.3%
Expected option life (years)	5	8	6-8
Dividend yield	.55%	.7%	.9%

A summary of the option activity as of and for the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015 is as follows:

	Number of Shares	Weighted- Average Exercise Price	Weighted- Average Remaining Contractual Term	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (000s)
Outstanding at March 31, 2014	398,172	38.75	4.4	20,505
Granted	147,720	88.62	7.0	--
Forfeited	(26,466)	64.62	--	--
Expired	--	--	--	--
Exercised	<u>(82,178)</u>	28.87	--	--
Outstanding at March 31, 2015	437,248	55.81	4.9	9,445
Granted	184,030	72.89	6.7	--
Forfeited	(16,334)	75.16	6.5	--
Expired	--	--	--	--
Exercised	<u>(89,224)</u>	38.28	--	--
Outstanding at March 31, 2016	515,720	64.32	5.2	16,561
Granted	134,955	102.52	5.5	--
Forfeited	(35,015)	87.5	4.5	--
Expired	(904)	41.51	--	--
Exercised	<u>(104,395)</u>	50.12	--	--
Outstanding at March 31, 2017	<u>510,361</u>	75.78	5.0	23,956
Exercisable at March 31,				
2017	136,595	50.61	3.9	9,847
2016	157,457	42.49	3.6	8,481
2015	163,210	33.35	3.6	6,341

A summary of the status of our unvested option shares as of and for the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015 is as follows:

	<u>Unvested Shares</u>	<u>Weighted-average Grant-Date Fair Value</u>
Unvested at March 31, 2014	257,347	11.86
Options granted	147,720	24.49
Options forfeited	(26,466)	17.29
Options vested	<u>(104,563)</u>	10.36
Unvested at March 31, 2015	274,038	18.42
Options granted	184,030	18.78
Options forfeited	(16,334)	19.07
Options vested	<u>(83,471)</u>	14.65
Unvested at March 31, 2016	358,263	19.46
Options granted	134,955	31.27
Options forfeited	(35,015)	22.64
Options vested	<u>(84,437)</u>	16.96
Unvested at March 31, 2017	<u><u>373,766</u></u>	22.49

The total intrinsic value of options exercised was \$7,574,945, \$5,260,000 and \$3,546,000 for the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively. As of March 31, 2017, there was \$5,906,075 of total unrecognized compensation expense related to unvested options. As of March 31, 2017, we have 822,781 shares available for future option grants.

#### Note 11. Income Taxes

Earnings before income taxes are as follows (in thousands):

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>		
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Domestic	\$ 12,913	\$ 14,427	\$ 14,896
Foreign	1,383	1,128	451
	<u>\$ 14,296</u>	<u>\$ 15,555</u>	<u>\$ 15,347</u>

The components of our provision for income taxes are as follows (in thousands):

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>		
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Current tax provision			
Federal	\$ 2,282	\$ 3,666	\$ 4,186
State	510	627	1,135
Foreign	849	658	212
	<u>3,641</u>	<u>4,951</u>	<u>5,533</u>
Deferred tax provision:			
Federal	(126)	(189)	252
State	(32)	(138)	51
Foreign	(370)	(238)	(72)
	<u>(528)</u>	<u>(565)</u>	<u>231</u>
	<u>\$ 3,113</u>	<u>\$ 4,386</u>	<u>\$ 5,764</u>

The components of net deferred tax assets and liabilities are as follows (in thousands):

	<b>March 31,</b>	
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Current deferred tax assets:		
Accrued employee-related expenses	\$ 242	\$ 257
Allowances and reserves	132	217
Stock option deductible differences	898	606
Inventory	691	533
Currency translation adjustment	--	12
Net operating loss	--	110
Other	9	3
	<u>1,972</u>	<u>1,738</u>
Long-term deferred tax liability:		
Property, plant and equipment	(1,635)	(1,599)
Goodwill and intangible assets	(3,807)	(4,335)
Currency translation adjustment	(3)	--
Other	(81)	(5)
	<u>(5,526)</u>	<u>(5,939)</u>
Net deferred tax liability	<u>\$ (3,554)</u>	<u>\$ (4,201)</u>

A reconciliation of our income tax provision and the amounts computed by applying statutory rates to income before income taxes is as follows (in thousands):

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>		
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Federal income taxes at statutory rates	\$ 4,861	\$ 5,445	\$ 5,374
State income taxes, net of federal benefit	302	293	860
Tax benefit of stock option exercises	(1,576)	(751)	209
Section 199 manufacturing deduction	(304)	(440)	(317)
Research and development credit	(385)	(345)	(248)
Other	215	184	(114)
	<u>\$ 3,113</u>	<u>\$ 4,386</u>	<u>\$ 5,764</u>

We or one of our subsidiaries files income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and various state and foreign jurisdictions. Our federal tax returns for all years after 2013, state tax returns after 2012, and foreign tax returns after 2013 are subject to future examination by tax authorities for all our tax jurisdictions. Although the outcome of tax audits, if any, is always uncertain, we believe that we have adequately accrued for all amounts of tax, including interest and penalties and any adjustments that may result.

During the year ended March 31, 2017, the IRS examination of our tax year ended March 31, 2015 was completed with no change to the reported tax liability.

As of March 31, 2017, the gross amount of unrecognized tax benefits was \$331,000. There would have been no impact on our effective tax rate for the year ended March 31, 2017 had these benefits been recognized. We recognize interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in other expense and general and administrative expense, respectively. Accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits were \$17,000, \$3,000 and \$0 as of March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively. A reconciliation of the changes in the gross balance of unrecognized tax benefit amounts is as follows (in thousands):

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>		
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Beginning balance	\$ 221	\$ --	\$ --
Increases related to current period tax positions	110	221	--
Ending balance	<u>\$ 331</u>	<u>\$ 221</u>	<u>\$ --</u>



We expect that the amount of unrecognized tax benefits will change in the next 12 months; however, we do not expect the change to have a significant impact on our consolidated statements of income or consolidated balance sheets. At this time, we expect resolution of the uncertain tax position within 12 months.

As of March 31, 2017, undistributed earnings of our Canadian subsidiary amounted to \$3,164,234. Those earnings are considered to be indefinitely reinvested and, accordingly, no U.S. federal and state income taxes have been provided thereon. Upon distribution of those earnings in the form of dividends or otherwise, we would be subject to both U.S. income taxes (subject to an adjustment for foreign tax credits) and withholding taxes payable to the various foreign countries. Determination of the amount of unrecognized deferred U.S. income tax liability is not practicable because of the complexities associated with its hypothetical calculation; however, unrecognized foreign tax credits would be available to reduce a portion of the U.S. tax liability.

## Note 12. Net Income Per Share

Basic net income per share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the reporting period. Diluted net income per share is computed similarly to basic net income per share, except that it includes the potential dilution that could occur if dilutive securities were exercised.

The following table presents a reconciliation of the denominators used in the computation of net income per share - basic and diluted (in thousands, except share data):

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>		
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Net income available for shareholders	\$ 11,183	\$ 11,169	\$ 9,583
Weighted average outstanding shares of common stock	3,679	3,605	3,521
Dilutive effect of stock options	165	152	129
Common stock and equivalents	3,844	3,757	3,650
Net Income per share:			
Basic	\$ 3.04	\$ 3.10	\$ 2.72
Diluted	2.91	2.97	2.63

For the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, 110,000, 137,000 and 152,000 outstanding stock options, respectively, were excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per share because the exercise prices of the stock options were greater than or equal to the average price of the common shares and, therefore, their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive.

## Note 13. Commitments and Contingencies

Under the terms of the PCD Agreement, we are required to pay contingent consideration if the cumulative revenues for our process challenge device business for the three years subsequent to the acquisition meet certain levels. The potential consideration payable ranges from \$0 to \$1,500,000 and is based upon a sliding scale of three-year cumulative revenues between \$9,900,000 and \$12,600,000. Based upon both historical and projected growth rates, we initially recorded \$300,000 of contingent consideration payable which represented our best estimate of the amount that would ultimately be paid. We paid \$150,000 of the contingent consideration during the year ended March 31, 2016 (based upon the then current run rate projected over the entire three-year contingent consideration period). Since the initial payment, the revenues have significantly increased and as a result, during the year ended March 31, 2017 we recorded an additional \$450,000 accrual (which is included in other expense, net in our consolidated statements of income for the year ended March 31, 2017). We paid an additional \$450,000 of the contingent consideration in our third quarter ending December 31, 2016. The remaining contingent consideration amount is also subject to modification at the end of the third year of the earn-out period based upon the actual revenues earned over the contingent consideration period. Any changes to the contingent consideration ultimately paid will result in additional income or expense in our consolidated statements of income. We will continue to monitor the results of our process challenge device business and we will adjust the contingent liability on a go forward basis, based on then current information.

On November 6, 2013, we completed a business combination (the "Amega Acquisition") whereby we acquired substantially all of the assets and certain liabilities of Amega Scientific Corporation's ("Amega") business which provides continuous monitoring systems to regulated industries. Under the terms of the Acquisition Agreement (the "Amega

Agreement”), we were required to pay contingent consideration (the “Amega Earn-Out”) if the cumulative revenues for our Continuous Monitoring Division for the three years subsequent to the acquisition met certain levels. The potential consideration payable ranged from \$0 to \$10,000,000 and was based upon a sliding scale of three-year cumulative revenues between \$31,625,000 and \$43,500,000. Based upon both historical and projected growth rates, we recorded \$500,000 of contingent consideration payable which represented our best estimate of the amount that would ultimately be paid. Any changes to the contingent consideration ultimately paid would have resulted in additional income or expense in our consolidated statements of income. The contingent consideration would have been payable in the third quarter of our year ending March 31, 2017.

In November 2014, Amega and its owner Anthony Amato (“Amato”) filed a complaint (*Anthony Amato and Amega Scientific Corporation v. Mesa Laboratories, Inc., Civil Action No. 1:14-cv-03228*) in the United States District Court for the District of Colorado asserting, among other items, that our termination of Amato as an employee impacted his ability to maximize the potential consideration payable under the Amega Earn-Out and to exercise stock options that failed to vest. The plaintiff was seeking an immediate maximum payout of \$10,000,000 under the Amega Earn-Out, the immediate acceleration of the 10,000 stock options granted Amato upon his initial employment along with other consequential damages in excess of \$500,000, lost future earnings and punitive damages. In addition, Amato alleged that we improperly withheld \$704,065.86 from the holdback consideration under the Amega Agreement. In January 2015, we filed a motion to dismiss the complaint with prejudice.

In October 2015, we entered into a settlement agreement (the “Amato Settlement”) whereby we paid Amato \$3,165,000. In exchange, Amato agreed to dismiss the complaint, release Mesa of any and all claims by Amega and Amato, and relieve us of any future payment obligation under the Amega Earn-Out. Insurance covered \$415,000 of the settlement payment and we had \$1,041,000 accrued on our consolidated balance sheet remaining from the original hold back and contingent consideration payable. The remaining \$1,709,000 was recorded as general and administrative expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of income for the year ended March 31, 2016.

A company is required to collect and remit state sales tax from certain of its customers if that company is determined to have “nexus” in a particular state. The determination of nexus varies state by state and often requires knowledge of each jurisdiction’s tax case law. During the year ended March 31, 2013, we determined that there are states in which we likely had established nexus during prior periods without properly collecting and remitting sales tax. We recorded an estimate of \$100,000 associated with one specific state but we were unable to estimate our remaining exposure at that time. During the year ended March 31, 2014, we completed our analysis associated with the remaining states and we recorded an estimate of \$1,408,000, which was included in other accrued expenses on the consolidated balance sheets and in general and administrative expense on the consolidated statements of income for the year ended March 31, 2014. That estimate was based upon facts and circumstances known at such time and our ultimate liability was subject to change as further analysis was completed and state sales tax returns were filed.

During the year ended March 31, 2015 we successfully completed and filed several state sales tax returns which concluded our obligation for historical sales taxes in those states. In addition, we continued to work through the process in the remaining states. As a result of this work, we determined that our exposure had increased above and beyond our original accrual and as a result, we recorded an additional accrual of \$460,000 during the year ended March 31, 2015. During the year ended March 31, 2016, we successfully completed and filed additional state sales tax returns which concluded our obligation for historical sales taxes in those remaining states.

#### Note 14. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss

The following table summarizes the changes in each component of accumulated other comprehensive loss (“AOCL”), net of tax (in thousands):

	<b>Foreign Currency Translation</b>	<b>AOCL</b>
Balance at March 31, 2014	\$ --	\$ --
Unrealized losses arising during the year	(234)	(234)
Balance at March 31, 2015	(234)	(234)
Unrealized losses arising during the year	(917)	(917)
Balance at March 31, 2016	(1,151)	(1,151)
Unrealized losses arising during the year	(609)	(609)
Balance at March 31, 2017	<u>\$ (1,760)</u>	<u>\$ (1,760)</u>

#### Note 15. Segment Data

As of March 31, 2016, our four operating segments were Biological Indicators, Instruments, Continuous Monitoring and Cold Chain. Effective April 1, 2016 we renamed our Continuous Monitoring and Cold Chain operating segments to Cold Chain Monitoring and Cold Chain Packaging, respectively. In addition, we transferred certain of the Cold Chain monitoring and other services to our Cold Chain Monitoring operating segment (historically included in our Cold Chain operating segment) to align with the information being used by the chief decision maker of the Company. Accordingly, all prior year segment information presented herein has been adjusted to reflect this change in our organizational structure. The following tables set forth our segment information (in thousands):

	<b>Year Ended March 31, 2017</b>				
	<b>Biological Indicators</b>	<b>Instruments</b>	<b>Cold Chain Monitoring</b>	<b>Cold Chain Packaging</b>	<b>Total</b>
Revenues	<u>\$ 38,635</u>	<u>\$ 34,405</u>	<u>\$ 12,584</u>	<u>\$ 8,041</u>	<u>\$ 93,665</u>
Gross profit	<u>\$ 25,566</u>	<u>\$ 21,172</u>	<u>\$ 4,533</u>	<u>\$ 1,968</u>	<u>53,239</u>
Reconciling items <sup>(1)</sup>					<u>(38,943)</u>
Earnings before income taxes					<u>\$ 14,296</u>

	<b>Year Ended March 31, 2016</b>				
	<b>Biological Indicators</b>	<b>Instruments</b>	<b>Cold Chain Monitoring</b>	<b>Cold Chain Packaging</b>	<b>Total</b>
Revenues	<u>\$ 33,649</u>	<u>\$ 35,692</u>	<u>\$ 11,566</u>	<u>\$ 3,752</u>	<u>\$ 84,659</u>
Gross profit	<u>\$ 22,205</u>	<u>\$ 23,223</u>	<u>\$ 4,201</u>	<u>\$ 1,784</u>	<u>51,413</u>
Reconciling items <sup>(1)</sup>					<u>(35,858)</u>
Earnings before income taxes					<u>\$ 15,555</u>

	<b>Year Ended March 31, 2015</b>				
	<b>Biological Indicators</b>	<b>Instruments</b>	<b>Cold Chain Monitoring</b>	<b>Cold Chain Packaging</b>	<b>Total</b>
Revenues	<u>\$ 27,390</u>	<u>\$ 33,054</u>	<u>\$ 10,886</u>	<u>\$ --</u>	<u>\$ 71,330</u>
Gross profit	<u>\$ 17,142</u>	<u>\$ 20,763</u>	<u>\$ 5,487</u>	<u>\$ --</u>	<u>\$ 43,392</u>
Reconciling items <sup>(1)</sup>					<u>(28,045)</u>
Earnings before income taxes					<u>\$ 15,347</u>

<sup>(1)</sup> Reconciling items include general and administrative, research and development, and other expenses.

Revenues from external customers are attributed to individual countries based upon locations to which the product is shipped or exported, as follows (in thousands):

	<b>Year Ended March 31,</b>		
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Revenues from unaffiliated customers			
United States	\$ 52,989	\$ 53,094	\$ 45,798
Foreign	40,676	31,565	25,532
	<u>\$ 93,665</u>	<u>\$ 84,659</u>	<u>\$ 71,330</u>

No foreign country exceeds ten percent of total revenues.

	<b>March 31,</b>	
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Total assets		
Biological Indicators	\$ 67,233	\$ 56,724
Instruments	40,805	49,077
Cold Chain Monitoring	35,789	27,613
Cold Chain Packaging	20,313	19,478
Corporate and administrative	7,593	7,856
	<u>\$ 171,733</u>	<u>\$ 160,748</u>

All long-lived assets are located in the United States except for \$6,382,000 and \$20,655,000 which are associated with our French and Canadian subsidiaries, respectively.

#### **Note 16. Fair Value Measurements**

We follow authoritative guidance (GAAP) which requires that assets and liabilities carried at fair value be classified and disclosed in one of the established categories. A financial instrument's categorization within the valuation hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The three categories are defined as follows:

- Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets.
- Level 2: Observable market-based inputs or unobservable inputs that are corroborated by market data.
- Level 3: Significant inputs to the valuation model are unobservable inputs.

#### ***Assets and liabilities measured on a recurring basis:***

The following table presents items required to be measured at fair value on a recurring basis by the level in which they are classified within the valuation hierarchy as follows:

	<b>Year Ended March 31, 2017</b>			
	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Assets:</b>				
	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
Contingent Consideration	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --

**Year Ended March 31, 2016**

	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Assets:</b>				
	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
Contingent Consideration	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 9,037	\$ 9,037

Under the Infitrak Agreement (See Note 2), we were required to make two annual payments to the former owners based on future growth in gross profit (as defined in the Infitrak Earn-Out Agreement). During the year ended March 31, 2017 we made both payments which totaled \$12,000,000 CDN (\$9,152,000). The contingent consideration payable was a standalone liability that was measured at fair value on a recurring basis for which there is no available quoted market price, principal market or market participants. As such, the inputs for this instrument were unobservable and therefore classified as Level 3 inputs. This contingent consideration liability was valued using a discounted cash flow model based on internal forecasts and our current cost of borrowing. There were no changes to the valuation methodology during the period.

The contingent consideration arising from this agreement was our only Level 3 asset or liability. The following table presents a roll forward of the contingent consideration payable for the years ended March 31, 2017 and 2016 (in thousands):

	<b>March 31,</b>	
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Opening balance	\$ 9,037	\$ --
Amount related to Infitrak Acquisition	--	9,271
Measurement period adjustment(s)	--	--
Payments/accruals	(9,152)	--
Transfers in/out of Level 3	--	--
Fair value adjustment – expense	158	85
Foreign exchange rate impact – included in other comprehensive loss	(43)	(319)
Ending Balance	\$ --	\$ 9,037

**Note 17. Quarterly Results (unaudited)**

Quarterly financial information for the years ended March 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015 is summarized as follows (net income per share per quarter will not add up to reported annual earnings per share due to differences in average outstanding shares as reported on a quarterly basis) (in thousands, except per share data):

	<b>First Quarter</b>	<b>Second Quarter</b>	<b>Third Quarter</b>	<b>Fourth Quarter</b>
<b>2017</b>				
Revenues	\$ 21,114	\$ 24,409	\$ 23,843	\$ 24,299
Gross profit	12,014	13,724	13,537	13,964
Net income	1,930	2,358	3,252	3,643
Net Income per share – basic	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.88	\$ 0.98
Net Income per share – diluted	0.51	0.62	0.84	0.94
<b>2016</b>				
Revenues	\$ 18,158	\$ 21,776	\$ 19,913	\$ 24,812
Gross profit	11,141	13,067	12,209	14,996
Net income	2,755	1,826	2,597	3,991
Net Income per share – basic	\$ 0.77	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.72	\$ 1.10
Net Income per share – diluted	0.74	0.48	0.69	1.06

<b>2015</b>	<b>First Quarter</b>	<b>Second Quarter</b>	<b>Third Quarter</b>	<b>Fourth Quarter</b>
Revenues	\$ 16,400	\$ 18,540	\$ 17,830	\$ 18,560
Gross profit	9,705	11,123	11,052	11,512
Net income	1,881	3,060	2,403	2,239
Net Income per share – basic	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.87	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.63
Net Income per share – diluted	0.51	0.84	0.66	0.61

#### **Note 18. Subsequent Events**

In April 2017, our Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.16 per share of common stock, payable on June 15, 2017, to shareholders of record at the close of business on May 31, 2017.

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

None.

#### **ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

##### ***Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures***

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) that are designed to reasonably ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission’s rules and forms and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Our management evaluated, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of March 31, 2017. Based on that evaluation, our management concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at March 31, 2017.

Our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Our 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 in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Therefore, even those systems determined to be effective can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving their control objectives. Management evaluated the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting based on the framework in “Internal Control – Integrated Framework” issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in 2013.

Our management evaluated, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of March 31, 2017. Based on that evaluation, our management concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective at March 31, 2017.

Our independent auditors, EKS&H LLLP, a registered public accounting firm, are appointed by the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors, subject to ratification by our shareholders. EKS&H LLLP has audited and reported on the financial statements of Mesa Laboratories, Inc. and our internal control over financial reporting as of March 31, 2017. The attestation report of our registered public accounting firm is contained in this annual report.

##### ***Changes in internal control over financial reporting***

There were no significant changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended March 31, 2017, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

**ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION**

None.









## Operational Data

Year ended March 31,	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Revenues	\$ 93,665	\$ 84,659	\$ 71,330	\$ 52,724	\$ 46,435
Gross profit	\$ 53,239	\$ 51,413	\$ 43,392	\$ 31,688	\$ 28,862
Gross profit margin	57%	61%	61%	60%	62%
Net income	\$ 11,183	\$ 11,169	\$ 9,583	\$ 9,000	\$ 8,450
Net income per diluted share	\$ 2.91	\$ 2.97	\$ 2.63	\$ 2.49	\$ 2.35
Adjusted net income*	\$ 16,228	\$ 15,324	\$ 12,502	\$ 11,046	\$ 10,144
Adjusted net income per diluted share*	\$ 4.22	\$ 4.08	\$ 3.43	\$ 3.06	\$ 2.82
Average shares outstanding	3,844	3,757	3,650	3,611	3,593

## Financial Position

As of March 31,	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Working capital	\$ 19,218	\$ 13,215	\$ 14,965	\$ 16,351	\$ 14,793
Total assets	\$ 171,733	\$ 160,748	\$ 117,320	\$ 97,529	\$ 65,919
Long-term debt	\$ 53,675	\$ 42,250	\$ 23,250	\$ 16,500	\$ 4,000
Stockholders' equity	\$ 97,821	\$ 84,678	\$ 73,479	\$ 64,333	\$ 52,753

## Average Return

Year ended March 31,	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Average return on:					
Stockholders' investment	12%	14%	14%	15%	17%
Assets	7%	8%	9%	11%	14%
Invested capital	8%	10%	11%	13%	18%
Adjusted invested capital <sup>^</sup>	12%	13%	14%	16%	21%
Dividends paid per share	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.54

In thousands, except per share data

\* The non-GAAP measure of adjusted net income is defined to exclude the non-cash impact of amortization of intangible assets, net of tax.

<sup>^</sup>Adjusted invested capital is a non-GAAP measure which substitutes adjusted net income for net income in the average return on invested capital calculation

# Mesa Laboratories, Inc.



**Gary M. Owens**  
Chief Executive Officer,  
President and Director



**Glenn E. Adriance**  
Chief Sales and Marketing Officer



**John V. Sakys**  
Chief Financial Officer

## Corporate Offices

12100 West Sixth Avenue  
Lakewood, CO 80228  
(303) 987-8000

## Butler Operations

10 Park Place  
Butler, NJ 07405  
(973) 492-8400

## Bozeman Operations

625 Zoot Way  
Bozeman, MT 59718

10 Evergreen Drive  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
(303) 987-8000

## Traverse City Operations

13606 S. West Bay Shore Dr.  
Traverse City, MI 49684  
1-800-289-7786

## Mesa France

2 rue Augustin Fresnel  
69684 CHASSIEU Cedex  
France  
+33 (0) 4 78 90 56 88

## Mesa Canada

3075 14th Ave. Suite #1  
Markham, Ontario  
L3R 0G9 Canada  
1-866-421-8367

## Directors

John J. Sullivan, Ph.D.  
Chairman of the Board

H. Stuart Campbell  
Chairman, Nominating and  
Governance Committee and  
Lead Independent Director

Gary M. Owens  
Director

Michael T. Brooks  
Director

Robert V. Dwyer  
Director

Evan C. Guillemin  
Chairman, Audit Committee

David M. Kelly  
Chairman, Compensation  
Committee

John B. Schmieder  
Director

## Transfer Agent

Computershare Investor  
Services  
Denver, Colorado

## Independent Auditors

EKS&H LLLP  
Denver, Colorado

## SEC Counsel

Andrew N. Bernstein, PC  
Denver, Colorado



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shares traded on the NASDAQ under the symbol MLAB