PIONEER POWER SOLUTIONS, INC. Form 10-K April 02, 2018

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

**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: December 31, 2017

or

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

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

Commission file number: 333 – 155375

### PIONEER POWER SOLUTIONS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware** (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) **400 Kelby Street, 12th Floor Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024** (Address of principal executive offices, including zip code) **27 - 1347616** (*I.R.S. Employer Identification No.*)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (212) 867 - 0700

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

Title of each className of each exchange on which registeredCommon Stock, par value \$.001 per shareNasdaq Stock Market LLC (Nasdaq Capital Market)Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

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

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

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

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company Emerging growth Company

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

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

As of June 30, 2017, the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, the aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates of the registrant based on the price at which the common equity was last sold on the Nasdaq Capital Market on such date, was approximately \$26.4 million. For purposes of this computation only, all officers, directors and 10% or greater stockholders of the registrant are deemed to be affiliates.

As of April 2, 2018, 8,726,045 shares of the registrant's common stock were outstanding.

### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the registrant's definitive proxy statement for the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated herein by reference in Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K to the extent stated herein. Such proxy statement will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission within 120 days of the registrant's fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

### PIONEER POWER SOLUTIONS, INC.

Form 10-K

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2017

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### SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains "forward-looking statements," which include information relating to future events, future financial performance, financial projections, strategies, expectations, competitive environment and regulation. Words such as "may," "should," "could," "would," "predicts," "potential," "continue," "expects," "anticipates," "fu "intends," "plans," "believes," "estimates," and similar expressions, as well as statements in future tense, identify forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements should not be read as a guarantee of future performance or results and may not be accurate indications of when such performance or results will be achieved. Forward-looking statements are based on information we have when those statements are made or management's good faith belief as of that time with respect to future events, and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual performance or results to differ materially from those expressed in or suggested by the forward-looking statements. Important factors that could cause such differences include, but are not limited to:

General economic conditions and their effect on demand for electrical equipment, particularly in the commercial •construction market, but also in the power generation, industrial production, data center, oil and gas, marine and infrastructure industries.

The effects of fluctuations in sales on our business, revenues, expenses, net income, income (loss) per share, margins and profitability.

Many of our competitors are better established and have significantly greater resources, and may subsidize their •competitive offerings with other products and services, which may make it difficult for us to attract and retain customers.

We depend on Siemens Industry, Inc. ("Siemens") and Hydro Quebec for a large portion of our business, and any •change in the level of orders from Siemens or Hydro Quebec could have a significant impact on our results of operations.

The potential loss or departure of key personnel, including Nathan J. Mazurek, our chairman, president and chief executive officer.

• Our ability to expand our business through strategic acquisitions.

• Our ability to integrate acquisitions and related businesses.

•

Our ability to generate internal growth, maintain market acceptance of our existing products and gain acceptance for our new products.

Unanticipated increases in raw material prices or disruptions in supply could increase production costs and adversely affect our profitability.

Restrictive loan covenants and/or our ability to repay or refinance debt under our credit facilities could limit our future financing options and liquidity position and may limit our ability to grow our business.

• Our ability to realize revenue reported in our backlog.

Operating margin risk due to competitive pricing and operating efficiencies, supply chain risk, material, labor or overhead cost increases, interest rate risk and commodity risk.

•Strikes or labor disputes with our employees may adversely affect our ability to conduct our business.

A significant portion of our revenue and expenditures are derived or spent in Canadian dollars. However, we report •our financial condition and results of operations in U.S. dollars. As a result, fluctuations between the U.S. dollar and the Canadian dollar will impact the amount of our revenues and net loss.

The impact of geopolitical activity on the economy, changes in government regulations such as income taxes, •duties and tariffs on the importation of products we sell into the United States, climate control initiatives, the timing or strength of an economic recovery in our markets and our ability to access capital markets.

- Our chairman controls a majority of our voting power, and may have, or may develop in the future, interests that may diverge from yours.
- •Material weaknesses in internal controls.

•Future sales of large blocks of our common stock may adversely impact our stock price.

•The liquidity and trading volume of our common stock.

The foregoing does not represent an exhaustive list of matters that may be covered by the forward-looking statements contained herein or risk factors that we are faced with that may cause our actual results to differ from those anticipated in our forward-looking statements. Moreover, new risks regularly emerge and it is not possible for us to predict or articulate all risks we face, nor can we assess the impact of all risks on our business or the extent to which any risk, or combination of risks, may cause actual results to differ from those contained in any forward-looking statements. Except to the extent required by applicable laws or rules, we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. You should review carefully the risks and uncertainties described under the heading "Item 1A. Risk Factors" in this Annual Report on Form 10-K for a discussion of the foregoing and other risks that relate to our business and investing in shares of our common stock.

### PART I

### **ITEM 1. BUSINESS**

### Overview

Pioneer Power Solutions, Inc. and its subsidiaries ("Pioneer," "we," "us," "our," or "the Company") manufactures, sells and services a broad range of specialty electrical transmission, distribution and on-site power generation equipment for applications in the utility, industrial, commercial and backup power markets. Our principal products and services include custom-engineered electrical transformers and engine-generator sets and controls, complemented by a national field-service network to maintain and repair power generation assets. We are headquartered in Fort Lee, New Jersey and operate from thirteen (13) additional locations in the U.S., Canada and Mexico for manufacturing, service, centralized distribution, engineering, sales and administration.

Our largest customers include a number of recognized national and regional utilities, industrial companies and engineering, procurement and construction firms located in North America. In addition, we sell our products through hundreds of electrical distributors served by our network of stocking locations throughout the U.S. and Canada. We intend to grow our business through internal product development, expansion of our sales force coverage and through acquisitions to increase the scope and relevance of highly-engineered solutions and technical service we offer our customers for their specific electrical applications.

### **Description of Business Segments**

In 2017, we had two reportable segments: Transmission & Distribution Solutions ("T&D Solutions") and Critical Power Solutions ("Critical Power").

Our T&D Solutions business provides equipment solutions that help customers effectively and efficiently manage their electrical power distribution systems to desired specifications. Electrical transformers are the primary product of this reporting segment. These solutions are marketed principally through our Pioneer Transformers Ltd. ("PTL"), Jefferson Electric, Inc. ("Jefferson"), and Bemag Transformers, Inc. ("Bemag").

Our Critical Power business provides customers with sophisticated power generation equipment and an advanced data collection and monitoring platform, the combination of which is used to ensure smooth, uninterrupted power to operations during times of emergency. These solutions are marketed by our operations headquartered in Minnesota, currently doing business under the Titan Energy Systems Inc. ("Titan") brand name.

### **T&D** Solutions Segment

We design, develop, manufacture and sell a wide range of electrical transmission and distribution equipment and our emphasis is to provide custom engineered, manufactured-to-order solutions, which we estimate currently represents over two-thirds of our T&D revenue. We believe that demand for our custom solutions is driven primarily by end user maintenance programs to repair, replace or retrofit aging equipment, as well as to upgrade or expand their electrical distribution systems to accommodate growth and other changes in their operations. In addition, a significant portion of our custom solutions revenue is derived from the production of magnetic subassemblies incorporated by original equipment manufacturers ("OEMs") into the systems they sell, systems which in the case of our customers are principally being used for data center, elevator control and electric drive applications. The remainder of our T&D Solutions revenue is derived from our catalogue of standard transformer designs, models which are sold primarily

through electrical distributors and to brand label customers. These products are manufactured to stock and are used in general purpose electrical applications, with demand being driven by the overall pace of new commercial construction.

We distinguish ourselves by producing a wide range of engineered-to-order and standard equipment, sold either directly to end users, through manufacturers' representatives and engineering and construction firms or through electrical distributors. We serve customers in a variety of industries including electric utilities, industrial customers, OEMs, commercial firms, contractors and renewable energy producers.

### Summary of T&D Segment Offerings

Product Category	Solutions
	Small & medium power: substation class units for utilities and large industrial applications
	Padmount: used in utility distribution networks, underground and in renewable projects
Liquid-filled Transformers	Network: Subway/vault-type units used to ensure reliability of utility service
	Unitized Padmount: an equipment combination used in place of a conventional substation
	Others: mini-pad, platform-mount and other specialty low voltage designs
	Medium voltage & power-dry: custom-designed for applications where a liquid-filled transformer is not suitable for safety concerns and/or other constraints
	OEM: custom designed and manufactured magnetic components and subassemblies incorporated by customers into their product offering
Dry-Type Transformers	Power quality: harmonic-eliminating and mitigating transformers, passive filters, K-factor, control, drive isolation and other magnetically-driven power quality solutions
	Low voltage standard: catalogue of ventilated, encapsulated and other designs sold to electrical distributors and brand label customers for general purpose electrical loads
	Low voltage custom: quick-turn, low voltage distribution transformers manufactured to customer electro-mechanical specifications

### **Overview of Electrical Transformers**

Our liquid-filled and dry-type power, distribution and specialty electrical transformers are magnetic products used in the control and conditioning of electrical current for critical processes. An electric transformer is used to increase or decrease the voltage of electricity traveling through a power line. This change in voltage is accomplished by transferring electric energy from one internal coil or winding to another coil or winding through electromagnetic induction. Electric power generating plants use transformers to "step-up," or increase, voltage that is transferred through power lines in order to transmit the electricity more efficiently over long distances. When high voltage electricity nears its final destination, a "step-down" transformer reduces its voltage. A distribution transformer makes a final step-down in voltage to a level usable in businesses and homes.

Transformers are integral to every electrical transmission and distribution system. Electric utilities use transformers for the construction and maintenance of their power networks. Industrial firms use transformers to supply factories with electricity and to distribute power to production machinery. The renewable energy industry uses transformers to connect new sources of electricity generation to the power grid. The construction industry uses transformers for the supply of electricity to new homes and buildings and original equipment manufacturers use custom transformers as a component part of their systems.

We manufacture liquid-filled transformers at our facility in Granby, Quebec. Liquid-filled transformers are typically used for applications handling utility or industrial-level electrical loads, such as in a substation, and are most commonly found in outdoor settings given the risk of leakage and the flammable properties of the liquid coolant, typically mineral oil. We manufacture these products in electrical power ranges from 25 kVA (kilovolt amperes) to 30 MVA (megavolt amperes) and at up to 69 kV (kilovolts) in voltage. In recent years, we have focused primarily on the small power market, generally considered to include transformers between 1 MVA and 10 MVA, as well as on specialty transformers such as network and submersible designs used by utilities to withstand harsh environments and ensure reliability of service. We sell these products to electrical utilities, independent power providers, electrical co-ops, industrial companies, commercial users and electric equipment wholesalers. Our liquid-filled transformers are designed and manufactured specifically to a customer order.

We manufacture dry-type transformers and custom magnetics at our facility in Reynosa, Mexico. The largest and longest-standing component of our dry-type transformer revenue consists of low voltage, standard distribution units sold from our catalogue of over 1,000 designs. These units are typically used indoors to handle general loads for powering commercial and industrial machinery and equipment requiring 50 VA (volt amperes) through 1 MVA of power transformation capacity in voltages at or below 600 V (volts). In recent years, we have focused primarily on custom-engineered solutions – including equipment for OEM applications, and transformers in the medium voltage and power-dry product classes where our range extends to 10 MVA and to 35 kV in voltage. Medium voltage and power-dry transformers are conventionally used for indoor applications and in metropolitan areas, and are increasingly being used outdoors and indoors for commercial, industrial, manufacturing and production process applications. They are engineered to meet the most onerous duty requirements and are well-suited to operate in harsh environmental conditions, a situation which occurs frequently when the transformer needs to be installed close to the area where the power will ultimately be used, such as in down-hole mining or on drilling rigs.

We also offer a broad array of magnetically-driven solutions to ensure clean power and eliminate potential issues caused by harmonics and transients, including proprietary solutions that incorporate our patented technology through the use of power electronics. Our power quality solutions are for use in industrial, commercial and institutional settings where sensitive automation equipment is being used and clean, efficient power is required.

### **Critical Power Segment**

Our Critical Power segment is engaged in designing, manufacturing, selling, commissioning and aftermarket service of onsite power generation and control equipment. Our systems are used to maintain reliable emergency standby power at facilities where it is either required or where the potential consequences of a power outage make it necessary – such as at data centers, hospitals, communications facilities, factories, national retailers, military sites, office complexes and other critical operations.

Depending on the needs of our customers, we offer our solutions on a complete equipment package basis, or as a standalone equipment or service solution that addresses one or more requirements of an overall power project. We believe that our value proposition to customers is differentiated by our use of advanced communications and automated data collection technologies to provide a highly-sophisticated remote monitoring, automated control and reporting platform to our customers.

During the fourth quarter of 2017, as part of our review of strategic alternatives, we made the decision to sell our switchgear business operated by Pioneer Custom Electric Products, Inc. ("PCEP"), which was part of T&D Solutions segment, and have entered into a non-binding letter of intent for the sale.

Product Category Power Generation	Solutions Engine-generator sets: power generation equipment with up to 2 MW of power output per genset, sourced from several manufacturers. Available individually or in multi-unit paralleled configurations. Fuel options include natural gas, diesel and bi-fuel.
Equipment	Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) systems
	Proprietary technology solutions: GenMax®
	Scheduled preventative maintenance, and 24/7 repair and support services provided for all makes and models of equipment under one to five year contracts
Service	Regional service: provided by our technicians in the Midwest and Florida
Service	National service: provided by our technicians and network of field service providers throughout the United States for multi-site, multi-state power generation equipment owners
	UPS systems from major manufacturers
	Proprietary real-time remote monitoring, metering and control system for onsite power sources and associated equipment
Remote Monitoring	Comprehensive asset management solution, including automated audit and inventory tracking and reporting services
	Scalable solution, ideally-suited to large customers owning critical power systems across multiple locations

### Power Generation Equipment

We provide our industrial and commercial customers with a variety of power generation equipment and fuel options which, depending on their needs and applications, can range from several kilowatts to 2 MW of output per genset. We excel in projects requiring multiple gensets in side-by-side arrangements that are paralleled for synchronous operation.

We sell power generation equipment made by several manufacturers. In order to more competitively serve our customers, we regularly provide Pioneer-manufactured power distribution equipment to each project, including transformers. We also offer niche solutions such as GenMax® – our proprietary harmonic suppression technology that resolves power reliability and genset capacity issues frequently encountered when new gensets are introduced to a system of existing gensets, where the make, model, pitch and power output of the gensets within the system are different.

To fully meet the onsite power reliability needs of our customers, we realize a small portion of our revenue from the sale of uninterruptible power supply (UPS) systems. UPS systems are used by data-intensive businesses to provide battery backup power to servers until the emergency backup genset(s) come online. Once the gensets are producing proper voltage and frequency, the UPS switches the load onto the gensets. For UPS system sales, we are an authorized service provider for GE and also an authorized dealer for Toshiba.

### Service

Power generation systems represent considerable investments that require proper maintenance and service in order to operate reliably during a time of emergency. Our power maintenance programs provide preventative maintenance, repair and support service for our customers' power generation systems. To support our customers in managing their critical infrastructure, we maintain inventories of repair parts, a fleet of service vehicles and a staff of certified field service technicians in the Midwest and Florida. To complete our geographic coverage, we maintain a network of field service partners located in other regions, enabling us to provide quick-response, 24/7 service capability that can effectively service any make and model of back-up power equipment in any city of the United States. Our field service organization services more than 7,500 generators owned by more than 1,200 customers located throughout the United States, including for multi-site, multi-state customers.

We recognize discrete revenue streams from service contracts, installation and maintenance services, and we offer service contracts to all owners of power generation and related equipment, whether or not the equipment was originally sold by us. Our service agreements have terms ranging from one to five years in duration, providing us with a recurring revenue stream, and generally yield higher margins as compared to genset equipment sales. These service contracts may also include remote monitoring services that allow owners to be informed of the condition and operations of their equipment at any time and from any place.

### Remote Monitoring and Automated Control

We have dedicated considerable resources to developing and engineering our proprietary remote monitoring and automated control system for onsite power generation. We believe this system enables us to provide a technologically superior service program that benefits our customer from a cost and quality standpoint. In addition, we have developed specialized asset management and auditing tools to more efficiently and cost effectively provide our customers with detailed information about their onsite power systems. We believe these tools provide us with an advantage over service companies that do not have these technologies, allowing us to compete for work more efficiently, maintain higher service levels and realize higher margins by using these tools.

Our monitoring and control system performs 24/7, capturing and monitoring data from up to 100 critical points and functions on the genset, PSG, ATS and UPS, from metering electrical output to emissions. This data is displayed in continuously updated, fully customizable, easy-to-read web-based reporting that provide a complete picture of our customers' power generation system condition. By tracking and trending real-time performance indicators in combination with the ability to remotely test, start and stop onsite power systems, our network operations center is able to avert potential failures before they occur and immediately respond to emergency situations before a customer calls. Our monitoring and control system is instrumental to ensure that our servicing programs are being administered appropriately in order to optimize system reliability on behalf of our customers. In addition, because our system is ideally-suited to service our multi-location national account customers.

Our customers use our monitoring and control system for access to our monitoring dashboard, to view generator performance in real-time, to receive alerts and notifications, track work orders and submit support requests. These capabilities have been combined with automated electronic audit and inventory reporting to form a comprehensive asset management program for our customers, enabling them to quickly and efficiently record, categorize and retrieve vital information about their power generation assets across their facilities. We believe the advantage of these reporting systems is that they help us and our customers to better protect their equipment, while increasing system reliability in times of need and reducing ongoing operating costs for service and repairs through preventative maintenance.

### **Business Strategy**

We believe we have established a stable platform from which to develop and grow our business lines, revenues, net income and shareholder value. We intend to expand rapidly over the next several years through a two-pronged strategy. First, we are focused on internal growth through operating efficiencies, new product development, customer focus and our continued migration towards more highly-engineered products and specialized services. We intend to significantly increase the percentage of our sales derived from engineered-to-order products and differentiated services and believe this can be accomplished by targeting market segments, such as data centers and independent power producers, which have growth characteristics exceeding the norm in our industry. The second element of our growth strategy is to pursue strategic acquisitions that provide us with complementary product and service offerings, new sales channels, end-markets and scalable operations.

Over the last five years, through internal development and acquisitions, we believe we have broadened the array and sophistication of our product and service offerings. Our strategy is to continue to expand the portfolio of solutions we offer in order to address more elements of every electrical infrastructure project. We believe this approach makes us more relevant to our customers, allows us to compete more effectively and increases the number of sales opportunities for our products and solutions.

We intend to build our revenue and net income at rates exceeding industry norms through internal growth initiatives and complementary acquisitions. Accomplishing these financial goals will be dependent on a number of factors including our ability to execute the following strategies and actions:

- •Evolving from a product-oriented to a customer and market-centric, solutions-oriented organization;
- •Establishing a scalable organizational infrastructure to support our expected growth;
- •Driving incremental sales in new channels and markets through our corporate selling group;

• Investing in our capabilities to provide progressively more advanced equipment and service solutions;

- •Continuously applying our manufacturing and service resources to their highest and best uses;
- •Capitalizing on inter-segment manufacturing efficiencies and shared utilization of our facilities;
- •Expanding our margins through outsourcing production for our products;
- •Combining and streamlining our business unit supply chains and administrative functions;

•Improving business processes to deliver consistency, quality and value to our customers. *T&D Solutions Segment* 

We intend to accomplish our growth objectives within our T&D Solutions business by emphasizing our capabilities in the following areas:

OEM Equipment Solutions – Continue to invest in engineering resources and product development to increase our pipeline of recurring order customers that integrate our magnetic subassemblies and/or components into the • products they sell. Our key focus areas for this solution category include providers of motor control/drive systems, factory automation equipment, power distribution units and UPS systems for data centers, HVAC systems, and power quality and conditioning equipment.

Medium Voltage Dry-type Transformers – We acquired this competence in 2011. Growth in this product class will •be predicated on expanding our market penetration, particularly in the U.S. where in 2013 we began adding dedicated medium voltage and liquid-filled transformer sales personnel and new independent sales representatives.

Liquid-filled Transformers – Sales of more network, subsurface, small and medium power transformers to new and •existing utility and industrial customers, particularly in the U.S. In 2012 we completed a facility expansion in order to increase our production capacity for these higher voltage and more complex solutions.

### Critical Power Segment

Within our Critical Power business, we intend to accomplish our growth objectives by implementing the following business initiatives:

National Service Accounts – We intend to increase the number of national account customers we have by leveraging our scalable, nationwide network of partners which allows us to service standby power systems anywhere in the •United States. We are actively marketing our preventive maintenance and technology-enabled monitoring and

control services to new national accounts including: major national retailers, telecommunications companies, data centers, banks, hospitals and health care facilities, educational institutions and property management companies.

Power generation equipment – Increase our sales of power generation and associated equipment in our existing and new market territories by recruiting qualified, professional sales people, and by broadening the range of ancillary • equipment options they have available for sale. We believe that these sales will also create opportunities for us to secure long-term service contracts and deploy our monitoring technologies, programs that generate recurring

revenue at attractive profit margins.

### Acquisitions

We believe a disciplined acquisition program is a key component to accelerating our growth and we intend to acquire businesses that broaden the range of customer solutions we provide, increase our market share or expand our geographic reach. In addition to transformer manufacturers, we also intend to acquire manufacturing and service businesses focused on other technically-advanced, customized, ancillary or complementary products that address market segments where we seek further penetration, such as in data centers, backup power equipment and service, traction power, renewable energy and natural resources. We operate in a highly fragmented industry that is served by a few global diversified electrical equipment manufacturers and numerous small manufacturing companies that provide niche products and services to various sub-segments of the power transmission and distribution market. We favor candidates that have competencies and business characteristics similar to our own, and those that we expect will benefit from some of the major trends affecting our industry. Our acquisitions since 2010 are examples of the implementation of our acquisition strategy.

### **Our Industry**

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The market for our largest business segment, electrical T&D equipment, is substantial and has grown over the last several decades. According to a February 2015 study by The Freedonia Group, a market research firm, total U.S. demand for electric T&D equipment was \$25.5 billion in 2014 and was distributed by product category as follows: switchgear (54%), transformers (33%), meters (7%) and pole/transmission line hardware (6%). The Freedonia Group forecasts demand for switchgear and for transformers to climb 6.1% and 4.5% annually to \$28.9 billion collectively in 2019, as compared to 5.5% and 2.0% annual growth for these categories between 2009 and 2014, driven by rising utilization of renewable energy sources and increasing demand from the industrial and non-utility generator markets.

Most of our business today consists of manufacturing power, distribution and non-utility transformers. Utilities, industrial and commercial firms purchase transformers to replace old equipment, maintain system reliability, achieve efficiency improvements and for substation or grid expansion. Demand is also sensitive to overall economic conditions, particularly with respect to the level of industrial production and investment in commercial and residential construction. Other market demand factors include voltage conversion, voltage unit upgrades, electrical equipment failures, higher energy costs, stricter environmental regulations and investment in sources of renewable and distributed energy generation.

The market for T&D equipment and Critical Power solutions is very fragmented due to the range of equipment types, electrical and mechanical properties, technological standards and service parameters required by different categories of end users for their specific applications. Many orders are custom-engineered and tend to be time-sensitive since other critical work is frequently being coordinated around the customer's electrical equipment installation. The vast majority of North American demand for the types of solutions we provide is satisfied by thousands of producers and service companies in the U.S. and Canada.

We believe several of the key industry trends supporting future growth in our industry are as follows:

Aging and Overburdened North American Power Grid — The aging and overburdened North American power grid is expected to require significant capital expenditures to upgrade the existing infrastructure over the next several • years to maintain adequate levels of reliability and efficiency. Significant capital investment will be required to relieve congestion, meet growing demand, achieve targets for efficiency, emissions and use of renewable sources, and to replace components of the U.S. power grid operating at, near or past their planned service lives.

**Increasing Long-Term Demand for Electricity and Reliable Power** — The Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration, or EIA, forecasts that total electricity use in the U.S. will increase by approximately 28% from 2011 to 2040. This increase is driven by anticipated population growth, economic expansion, increasing dependence on computing power throughout the economy and the increased use of electrical devices in the home. In order to meet growing demand for electricity in North America, substantial investment in increased electrical grid capacity and efficiency will be required, as well as the addition of specialized equipment to help ensure the reliability and quality of electricity for critical applications. In response to these challenges, there is an increasing trend among commercial and industrial companies to invest in on-site power sources, both for standby purposes in the event of a catastrophic power outage, or to reduce the amount of electricity they draw from the utility grid during peak periods.

*Growth in Critical Power Applications and the Data Center Market* — The number of mission-critical facilities, sites where a power disturbance or outage could cause failure of business operations, safety concerns or regulatory non-compliance, continues to grow exponentially worldwide. In the U.S., the single largest driver for demand in critical power applications is the data center market, followed by the health care industry. The amount of information managed by data centers is expected to grow, fueled by increasing needs for data storage (for corporate data, content delivery, social networking, handheld devices, online retail and gaming) and the information technology evolution (cloud computing and outsourced hosting). Coinciding with demand for mission-critical facilities is the need for efficient, reliable primary power to support their essential applications, and for backup generator plants in case the utility feed becomes unavailable. Electricity is the highest operating cost of a data center, a factor supporting investment in on-site alternative energy systems to reduce peak-demand expenses. **Customers** 

For the year ended December 31, 2017 approximately 31% of our sales were to Canadian customers, including many of Canada's electrical utilities, municipal power systems, large industrial companies, engineering and construction firms and a number of electrical distributors. Another 68% of our sales in 2017 were to U.S. customers, represented in large part by companies involved in commercial construction. Less than 1% of our sales were to export customers primarily serving the Central and Latin American markets. During the year ended December 31, 2017, we sold our electrical equipment and services to over 2,200 individual customers and our twenty largest customers represented approximately 60% of our consolidated revenue.

For the year ended December 31, 2016 approximately 27% of our sales were to Canadian customers, including many of Canada's electrical utilities, municipal power systems, large industrial companies, engineering and construction firms and a number of electrical distributors. Another 72% of our sales in 2016 were to U.S. customers, represented in large part by companies involved in commercial construction. Less than 1% of our sales were to export customers primarily serving the Central and Latin American markets. During the year ended December 31, 2016, we sold our electrical equipment and services to over 2,200 individual customers and our twenty largest customers represented approximately 51% of our consolidated revenue.

Approximately 18% and 15% of our sales in the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively, were made to Siemens and its affiliated companies. Our pricing agreement with Siemens does not obligate Siemens to purchase transformers from us in quantities consistent with the past or at all.

Approximately 11% and 9% of our sales in the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively, were made to Hydro-Quebec, a provincial government-owned utility in the Province of Quebec, Canada. The majority of our sales to Hydro-Quebec are made pursuant to a long-term contract for the supply of pad-mount and submersible transformers that was renewed in February 2015. The contract has two-year initial term and a one-year renewal option at Hydro-Quebec's election that provide for a maximum term of three years. A modification to the agreement extended the term until January 31, 2019. The contracts set forth the terms, conditions and rights of the parties with respect to the supply of the subject products including ordering and delivery procedures, required technical specifications, minimum performance standards, product pricing and price adjustment mechanisms, terms of payment and rights of termination. The contracts do not require Hydro-Quebec to order any minimum quantity of products from us and do not grant us any form of supply exclusivity. Hydro-Quebec has been a customer of ours and our predecessors in excess of 50 years, over which time we have been party to consecutive long-term contracts. We believe the status of our business relationship with Hydro-Quebec to be good.

While the loss of a significant number of customers would have a material adverse effect on our business, we do not believe that the loss of any specific customer, aside from Siemens and Hydro-Quebec, would have a material adverse effect on our business.

### Marketing, Sales and Distribution

A substantial portion of the products we offer are sold directly to customers by our 20 full-time marketing and sales personnel and 4 members of our executive management team operating from our office locations in the U.S. and Canada. Our products are also sold through our network of more than 43 independent sales agencies throughout North America that sell primarily to full-line electrical distributors and to maintenance, repair and overhaul organizations. Our direct sales force markets to end users and to third parties, such as original equipment manufacturers and engineering firms that prescribe the specifications and parameters that control the applications of our products.

### **Sales Backlog**

Backlog reflects the amount of revenue we expect to realize upon the shipment of customer orders for our products that are not yet complete or for which work has not yet begun. Our sales backlog as of December 31, 2017 was approximately \$35.2 million, as compared to \$38.6 million as of December 31, 2016. We anticipate that most of our current backlog will be delivered during 2018. Orders included in our sales backlog are represented by customer purchase orders and contracts that we believe to be firm.

### Competition

We experience intense competition from a large number of electrical equipment manufacturers and from distributors and servicers of such equipment. The number and size of our competitors varies considerably by product line and service category, with many of our competitors tending to be small, highly specialized or focused on a certain geographic market area or customer. However, several of our competitors have substantially greater financial and technical resources than us, including some of the world's largest electrical products and industrial equipment manufacturing companies. A representative list of our competitors in our T&D Solutions segment includes ABB Ltd., Carte International, Inc., Eaton Corporation plc, General Electric Company, Schneider Electric SA, Hammond Power

Solutions Inc., Howard Industries, Inc. and Partner Technologies, Inc. In the sale of onsite power systems and service, our Critical Power segment competes with larger, more established regional companies that represent Caterpillar, Cummins, Kohler and other generator manufacturers.

We believe that we compete primarily on the basis of technical support and application expertise, engineering, manufacturing and service capabilities, equipment rating, quality, scheduling and price. In all our businesses, our objective is to focus our efforts on more specialized, challenging and complex applications. Accordingly, a critical element to the success of our business is responsiveness and flexibility in providing custom-engineered solutions to satisfy customer needs. We believe that our strongest product niches are in the manufacture and design of small power and distribution electrical transformers for on-site power applications serving data centers, hospitals and other businesses with critical power needs. As a result of our long-time presence in the industry, we possess a number of special designs and libraries of programming code for our equipment that were engineered and developed specifically for our customers. We believe these factors give us a competitive advantage and that they are a major contributor to our frequency of repeat customer orders and the longevity of our customer relationships.

### **Raw Materials and Suppliers**

The principal raw materials purchased by us are core steel, copper wire, aluminum strip, insulating materials including transformer oil and sheet metal. We also purchase certain electrical components from a variety of suppliers including bushings, switches, fuses, protectors and circuit breakers. These raw materials and components are available from and supplied by numerous sources at competitive prices, although there are more limited sources of supply for electrical core steel and transformer oil. Unanticipated increases in raw material prices or disruptions in supply could increase production costs and adversely affect our profitability. We attempt to minimize the effect on our profit margins of unanticipated changes in the prices of raw materials unexpectedly rise or decrease. Approximately 37% of our annual sales are made pursuant to contracts that contain such index clauses, which, subject to various formulae and limitations, permit us to adjust the final prices we charge. We do not anticipate any significant difficulty in satisfying our raw material requirements on reasonable terms and have not experienced any such difficulty in the past several years. Our largest suppliers during the year ended December 31, 2017 included, JFE Shofi Steel America, Inc., Essex Group, Metelec Ltée, Rea Magnet Wire Co. Inc., Sumitomo Corporation and our distribution transformer supplier from a low cost production location in Asia.

### Employees

As of December 31, 2017, we had 404 employees consisting of 120 salaried staff and 284 hourly workers. Our hourly employees located at our plant in Granby, Quebec, Canada are covered by a collective bargaining agreement with the United Steel Workers of America Local 9414 that expires in May 2020. The hourly employees located at our manufacturing facility in Reynosa, Mexico are also covered by a collective bargaining agreement with a local labor union that has an indefinite term, subject to annual review and negotiation of key provisions.

### Environmental

We are subject to numerous environmental laws and regulations concerning, among other areas, air emissions, discharges into waterways and the generation, handling, storing, transportation, treatment and disposal of waste materials. These laws and regulations are constantly changing and it is impossible to predict with accuracy the effect they may have on us in the future. Like many other industrial enterprises, our manufacturing operations entail the risk of noncompliance, which may result in fines, penalties and remediation costs, and there can be no assurance that such costs will be insignificant. To our knowledge, we are in substantial compliance with all federal, state, provincial and local environmental protection provisions, and believe that the future compliance cost should not have a material adverse effect on our capital expenditures, net income or competitive position. However, legal and regulatory requirements in these areas have been increasing and there can be no assurance that significant costs and liabilities will not be incurred in the future due to regulatory noncompliance.

### **Corporate History**

We were originally formed in the State of Nevada in 2008. On November 30, 2009, we merged with and into Pioneer Power Solutions, Inc., a Delaware corporation, for the sole purpose of changing our state of incorporation from Nevada to Delaware and changing our name to "Pioneer Power Solutions, Inc." On September 24, 2013, we completed an underwritten public offering and our common stock began trading on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol PPSI.

### **Available Information**

Our corporate website is located at www.pioneerpowersolutions.com. On the investor relations section of our website, we make available, free of charge, our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file them with or furnish them to the SEC. You may read and copy any materials we file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the SEC's Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1–800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding issuers, such as us, that file electronically with the SEC at www.sec.gov.

We webcast our earnings calls and certain events we participate in with members of the investment community on our investor relations website. Additionally, we provide notifications of news or announcements regarding our financial performance, including SEC filings, investor events and press and earnings releases as part of the investor relations section of our website. Further corporate governance materials, including our Corporate Governance Guidelines, charters of our Board Committees and our Code of Business Ethics and Conduct, are also available under the heading "Corporate Governance" on the investor relations portion of our website. The contents of and the information on or accessible through our corporate website, including the investor relations portion of our website, is not a part of, and is

not intended to be incorporated into, this report or any other report or document we file with or furnish to the SEC, and any references to our website are intended to be an inactive textual references only.

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

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. Before investing in our common stock you should carefully consider the following risks, together with the financial and other information contained in this Annual Report on Form 10–K for the year ended December 31, 2017 and our other periodic filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Additional risks and uncertainties that we are unaware of may become important factors that affect us. If any of the following events occur, our business, financial conditions and operating results may be materially and adversely affected. In that event, the trading price of our common stock may decline, and you could lose all or part of your investment.

### **Risks Relating to Our Business and Industry**

## We are vulnerable to economic downturns in the commercial construction market, which may reduce the demand for some of our products and adversely affect our sales, net income, cash flow or financial condition.

A large portion of our business involves sales of our products in connection with commercial and industrial construction. Our sales to this sector are affected by the level of discretionary business spending. During economic downturns in this sector, the level of business discretionary spending may decrease. This decrease in spending will likely reduce the demand for some of our products and may adversely affect our sales, net income, cash flow or financial condition.

## Our operating results may vary significantly from quarter to quarter, which makes our operating results difficult to predict and can cause our operating results in any particular period to be less than comparable quarters and expectations from time to time.

Our quarterly results may fluctuate significantly from quarter to quarter due to a variety of factors, many of which are outside our control and have the potential to materially and adversely affect our results. Factors that affect our operating results include the following:

•the size, timing and terms of sales and orders, especially large customer orders;

variations caused by customers delaying, deferring or canceling purchase orders or making smaller purchases than expected;

•the timing and volume of work under new agreements;

• the spending patterns of customers;

• customer orders received;

•a change in the mix of our products having different margins;

•a change in the mix of our customers, contracts and business;

increases in design and manufacturing costs;

• the length of our sales cycles;

•the rates at which customers renew their contracts with us;

•changes in pricing by us or our competitors, or the need to provide discounts to win business;

• a change in the demand or production of our products caused by severe weather conditions;

• our ability to control costs, including operating expenses;

•losses experienced in our operations not otherwise covered by insurance;

•the ability and willingness of customers to pay amounts owed to us;

the timing of significant investments in the growth of our business, as the revenue and profit we hope to generate from those expenses may lag behind the timing of expenditures;

• costs related to the acquisition and integration of companies or assets;

• general economic trends, including changes in equipment spending or national or geopolitical events such as economic crises, wars or incidents of terrorism; and

•future accounting pronouncements and changes in accounting policies. Accordingly, our operating results in any particular quarter may not be indicative of the results that you can expect for any other quarter or for an entire year.

### Our industry is highly competitive.

The electrical equipment manufacturing industry is highly competitive. Principal competitors in our markets include ABB Ltd., Carte International, Inc., Eaton Corporation plc, Emerson Electric Company, General Electric Company, Hammond Power Solutions Inc., Howard Industries, Inc., Partner Technologies, Inc., and Schneider Electric SA. Many of these competitors, as well as other companies in the broader electrical equipment manufacturing and service industry where we expect to compete, are significantly larger and have substantially greater resources than we do and are able to achieve greater economies of scale and lower cost structures than us and may, therefore, be able to provide their products and services to customers at lower prices that we are able to. Moreover, our competitors could develop the expertise, experience and resources to offer products that are superior in both price and quality to our products. While we seek to compete by providing more customized, highly-engineered products, there are few technical or other barriers to prevent much larger companies in our industry from putting more emphasis on this same strategy. Similarly, we cannot be certain that we will be able to market our business effectively in the face of competition or to maintain or enhance our competitive position within our industry, maintain our customer base at current levels or increase our customer base. Our inability to manage our business in light of the competitive forces we face could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

## Because we currently derive a significant portion of our revenues from two customers, any decrease in orders from these customers could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and operating results.

We depend on Siemens and Hydro-Quebec for a large portion of our business, and any change in the level of orders from Siemens or Hydro-Quebec, has, in the past, had a significant impact on our results of operations. In particular, Siemens accounted for 18% and 15% of our net sales in the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Hydro-Quebec accounted for 11% and 9% of our net sales in the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. In addition, our pricing agreement with Siemens does not obligate Siemens to purchase transformers from us in quantities consistent with the past or at all. Our long term supply agreement with Hydro-Quebec expires on January 31, 2019 and has a one year extension option at Hydro-Quebec's election. We, therefore, cannot assure you that Hydro-Quebec will continue to purchase transformers from us in quantities consistent with the past or at all. If either of these customers were to significantly cancel, delay or reduce the amount of business it does with us for any reason, there would be a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and operating results.

### The departure or loss of key personnel could disrupt our business.

We depend heavily on the continued efforts of Nathan J. Mazurek, our principal executive officer, and on other senior officers who are responsible for the day-to-day management of our three operating subsidiaries. In addition, we rely on our current electrical and mechanical design engineers, along with trained coil winders, many of whom are important to our operations and would be difficult to replace. We cannot be certain that any of these individuals will continue in their respective capacities for any particular period of time. The departure or loss of key personnel, or the inability to hire and retain qualified employees, could negatively impact our ability to manage our business.

### Any acquisitions that we have completed, or may complete in the future, may not perform as planned and could disrupt our business and harm our financial condition and operations.

In an effort to effectively compete in the specialty electrical equipment manufacturing and service businesses, where increasing competition and industry consolidation prevail, we have sought to acquire complementary businesses in the past and will continue to do so in the future. In the event of any future acquisitions, we could:

issue additional securities that would dilute our current stockholders' percentage ownership or provide the

- purchasers of the additional securities with certain preferences over those of common stockholders, such as dividend or liquidation preferences;
- •incur debt and assume liabilities; and
- •incur large and immediate write-offs of intangible assets, accounts receivable or other assets.

These events could result in significant expenses and decreased revenue, which could adversely affect the market price of our common stock. In addition, integrating acquired businesses and completing any future acquisitions involve numerous operational and financial risks. These risks include difficulty in assimilating acquired operations, diversion of management's attention, and the potential loss of key employees or customers of acquired operations. Furthermore, companies acquired by us may not generate financial results consistent with our management's plans at the time of acquisition.

### We may not be able to expand our business through strategic acquisitions, and internal growth initiatives facilitated by acquisitions, which could decrease our profitability.

A key element of our strategy is to pursue strategic acquisitions that either expand or complement our business in order to increase revenue and net income. We may not be able to identify additional attractive acquisition candidates on terms favorable to us or in a timely manner. We may require additional debt or equity financing for future acquisitions, which may not be available on terms favorable to us, if at all. Moreover, we may not be able to integrate

any acquired businesses into our business or to operate any acquired businesses profitably. Recently acquired businesses may operate at lower profit margins, which could negatively impact our results of operations. Each of these factors may contribute to our inability to grow our business through strategic acquisitions, which could ultimately result in increased costs without a corresponding increase in revenues, which would result in decreased profitability.

### The success of our business depends on achieving our strategic objectives, including dispositions.

We continue to evaluate the potential disposition of assets and businesses that may no longer help us meet our objectives. When we decide to sell assets or a business, we may encounter difficulty in finding buyers or executing alternative exit strategies on acceptable terms in a timely manner, which could delay the accomplishment of our strategic objectives. Alternatively, we may dispose of a business at a price or on terms that are less than we had anticipated, or with the exclusion of assets that must be divested separately. After reaching an agreement with a buyer for the disposition of a business, the transaction remains subject to the satisfaction of pre-closing conditions, which may prevent us from completing the transaction. Dispositions may also involve continued financial involvement in the divested business, such as through continuing equity ownership, transition service agreements, guarantees, indemnities or other current or contingent financial obligations. Under these arrangements, performance by the divested businesses or other conditions outside our control could affect our future financial results.

# If we do not conduct an adequate due diligence investigation of a target business that we acquire, we may be required subsequently to take write downs or write-offs, restructuring, and impairment or other charges that could have a significant negative effect on our financial condition, results of operations and our stock price, which could cause you to lose some or all of your investment.

As part of our acquisition strategy, we will need to conduct a due diligence investigation of one or more target businesses. Intensive due diligence is time consuming and expensive due to the operations, accounting, finance and legal professionals who must be involved in the due diligence process. We may have limited time to conduct such due diligence. Even if we conduct extensive due diligence on a target business that we acquire, we cannot assure you that this diligence will uncover all material issues relating to a particular target business, or that factors outside of the target business and outside of our control will not later arise. If our diligence fails to identify issues specific to a target business or the environment in which the target business operates, we may be forced to write-down or write-off assets, restructure our operations, or incur impairment or other charges that could result in us reporting losses. Even though these charges may be non-cash items and not have an immediate impact on our liquidity, the fact that we report charges of this nature could contribute to negative market perceptions about us or our common stock. In addition, charges of this nature may cause us to violate net worth or other covenants that we may be subject to as a result of assuming pre-existing debt held by a target business or by virtue of our obtaining post-combination debt financing.

### Our revenue may be adversely affected by fluctuations in currency exchange rates.

Approximately one-third of our 2018 revenue and a significant portion of our expenditures are expected to be derived or spent in Canadian dollars. However, we report our financial condition and results of operations in U.S. dollars. As a result, fluctuations between the U.S. dollar and the Canadian dollar will impact the amount of our revenues and net income. For example, if the Canadian dollar appreciates relative to the U.S. dollar, the fluctuation will result in a positive impact on the revenues that we report. However, if the Canadian dollar depreciates relative to the U.S. dollar, there will be a negative impact on the revenues we report due to such fluctuation. It is possible that the impact of currency fluctuations will result in a decrease in reported consolidated sales even though we may have experienced an increase in sales transacted in the Canadian dollar. Conversely, the impact of currency fluctuations may result in an increase in reported consolidated sales despite declining sales transacted in the Canadian dollar. The exchange rate from the U.S. dollar to the Canadian dollar has fluctuated substantially in the past and may continue to do so in the future. Though we may choose to hedge our exposure to foreign currency exchange rate changes in the future, there is no guarantee such hedging, if undertaken, will be successful.

### We may be unable to generate internal growth.

Our ability to generate internal growth will be affected by, among other factors, our ability to attract new customers, increases or decreases in the number or size of orders received from existing customers, hiring and retaining skilled employees and increasing volume utilizing our existing facilities. Many of the factors affecting our ability to generate internal growth may be beyond our control, and we cannot be certain that our strategies will be implemented with positive results or that we will be able to generate cash flow sufficient to fund our operations and to support internal growth. If we do not achieve internal growth, our results of operations will suffer and we will likely not be able to expand our operations or grow our business.

### Fluctuations in the price and supply of raw materials used to manufacture our products may reduce our profits.

Our raw material costs represented approximately 67% and 60% of our revenues for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The principal raw materials purchased by us are electrical core steel, copper wire, aluminum strip and insulating materials including transformer oil. We also purchase certain electrical components from a variety of suppliers including bushings, switches, fuses and protectors. These raw materials and

components are available from, and supplied by, numerous sources at competitive prices, although there are more limited sources of supply for electrical core steel and transformer oil. Unanticipated increases in raw material prices or disruptions in supply could increase production costs and adversely affect our profitability. We cannot provide any assurances that we will not experience difficulties sourcing our raw materials in the future.

## We have, and expect to continue to have, credit facilities with restrictive loan covenants that may impact our ability to operate our business and to pursue our business strategies, and our failure to comply with these covenants could result in an acceleration of our indebtedness.

We will continue to rely on our credit facilities with Bank of Montreal ("BMO") for a significant portion of the working capital to operate our business and execute our strategy. These credit facilities contain certain covenants that restrict our ability to, among other things:

- •undergo a change in control;
- •incur new indebtedness or other obligations, subject to certain exceptions;
- pay cash dividends;
- create or incur new liens, subject to certain exceptions;
- •make new acquisitions or investments in other entities, subject to certain exceptions;
- wind up, liquidate or dissolve our affairs;
- •change the nature of our core business;
- •alter our capital structure in a manner that would be materially adverse to our lenders; and
- •make investments or advancements to affiliated or related companies.

The majority of the liquidity derived from our credit facilities is based on availability determined by a borrowing base. Specifically, the availability of credit is dependent upon eligible receivables and inventory. We may not be able to maintain adequate levels of eligible assets to support our required liquidity.

In addition, our credit facilities require us to meet certain financial ratios, including working capital ratios, EBITDA levels and effective tangible net worth levels. Our ability to meet these financial provisions may be affected by events beyond our control. If, as or when required, we are unable to repay, refinance or restructure our indebtedness under, or amend the covenants contained in, our credit facilities, our lenders could institute foreclosure proceedings against the assets securing borrowings under those facilities, which would harm our business, financial condition and results of operations.

### The indebtedness under our credit facilities with BMO is secured by substantially all of our consolidated assets. As a result of these security interests, such assets would only be available to satisfy claims of our general creditors or to holders of our equity securities if we were to become insolvent to the extent the value of such assets exceeded the amount of our indebtedness and other obligations. In addition, the existence of these security interests may adversely affect our financial flexibility.

Indebtedness under our credit facilities with BMO is secured by a lien on substantially all of our assets. Accordingly, if an event of default were to occur under our credit facilities, BMO would have a prior right to our assets, to the exclusion of our general creditors in the event of our bankruptcy, insolvency, liquidation, or reorganization. In that event, our assets would first be used to repay in full all indebtedness and other obligations secured by them (including all amounts outstanding under our senior secured credit agreement), resulting in all or a portion of our assets being unavailable to satisfy the claims of our unsecured indebtedness. Only after satisfying the claims of our unsecured creditors is any amount available for our equity holders. The pledge of these assets and other restrictions may limit our flexibility in raising capital for other purposes. Because substantially all of our assets or to sell or dispose of assets to raise capital may be impaired, which could have an adverse effect on our financial flexibility.

## We depend upon the availability of capital under our revolving credit facilities and term loans with BMO to finance our operations. Any additional financing that we have requested from BMO may not be available on favorable terms or at all.

In addition to cash flow provided by operations, we finance our working capital and general corporate needs through our Canadian Facilities and U.S. Facilities with BMO. On April 29, 2016 we and BMO restated and amended these credit agreements to revise covenants and funding amounts to finance our cash requirements for anticipated operating activities, restructuring and integration plans, capital improvements and scheduled principal repayments of long-term debt. On March 15, 2017, the expiration date of this credit facility was extended until July 31, 2018. On March 28, 2018 we executed amendments to the credit agreements which provided for an extension of our Canadian and United States credit facilities from the Bank of Montreal to April 1, 2020. With the execution of the amendments to the credit agreements, portions of the credit facilities have been classified as long term indebtedness. These extensions contain revised covenants and funding amounts that finance our cash requirements for anticipated operating activities, capital improvements and scheduled principal repayments of long-term debt.

### We may not be able to fully realize the revenue value reported in our backlog.

We routinely have a backlog of work to be completed on contracts representing a significant portion of our annual sales. As of December 31, 2017, our order backlog was \$35.2 million. Orders included in our backlog are represented by customer purchase orders and service contracts that we believe to be firm. Backlog consists of customer orders that either (1) have not yet been started or (2) are in progress and are not yet completed. In the latter case, the revenue value reported in backlog is the remaining value associated with work that has not yet been billed. From time to time, customer orders are canceled that appeared to have a high certainty of going forward at the time they were recorded as new business taken. In the event of a customer order cancellation, we may be reimbursed for certain costs but typically have no contractual right to the total revenue reflected in our backlog. In addition to us being unable to recover certain direct costs, canceled customer orders may also result in additional unrecoverable costs due to the resulting underutilization of our assets.

### We are subject to pricing pressure from our larger customers.

We face significant pricing pressures in all of our business segments from our larger customers, including Siemens and Hydro-Quebec. Because of their purchasing size, our larger customers can influence market participants to compete on price terms. Such customers also use their buying power to negotiate lower prices. If we are not able to offset pricing reductions resulting from these pressures by improved operating efficiencies and reduced expenditures, those price reductions may have an adverse impact on our financial results.

### Deterioration in the credit quality of several major customers could have a material adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition.

A significant asset included in our working capital is accounts receivable from customers. If customers responsible for a significant amount of accounts receivable become insolvent or are otherwise unable to pay for products and services, or become unwilling or unable to make payments in a timely manner, our operating results and financial condition could be adversely affected. A significant deterioration in the economy could have an adverse effect on these accounts receivable, which could result in longer payment cycles, increased collection costs and defaults in excess of management's expectations. Deterioration in the credit quality of Siemens, Hydro Quebec or of any other major customers could have a material adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition.

### We rely on third parties for key elements of our business whose operations are outside our control.

We rely on arrangements with third party shippers and carriers such as independent shipping companies for timely delivery of our products to our customers. As a result, we may be subject to carrier disruptions and increased costs due to factors that are beyond our control, including labor strikes, inclement weather, natural disasters and rapidly increasing fuel costs. If the services of any of these third parties become unsatisfactory, we may experience delays in meeting our customers' product demands and we may not be able to find a suitable replacement on a timely basis or on commercially reasonable terms. Any failure to deliver products to our customers in a timely and accurate manner may damage our reputation and could cause us to lose customers.

We also utilize third party distributors and manufacturer's representatives to sell, install and service certain of our products. While we are selective in whom we choose to represent us, it is difficult for us to ensure that our distributors and manufacturer's representatives consistently act in accordance with the standards we set for them. To the extent any of our end-customers have negative experiences with any of our distributors or manufacturer's representatives, it could reflect poorly on us and damage our reputation, thereby negatively impacting our financial results.

Our business may face cybersecurity risk generally associated with our information technology systems which could materially affect our business, and our results of operations could be materially affected if our information technology systems (or third-party systems we rely on) are interrupted, damaged by unforeseen events, or fail for any extended period of time.

We rely on information systems (IS) in our business to obtain, rapidly process, analyze, manage and store data to among other things:

maintain and manage our systems to facilitate the purchase and distribution of inventory items from various distribution centers;

- provide remote monitoring and automated control to our customers;
- •receive, process and ship orders on a timely basis;
- •manage the accurate billing and collections from our customers.

IS risks have generally increased in recent years, and a cyberattack that bypasses our IS security systems causing an IS security breach may lead to a material disruption of our business operations and/or the loss of business information resulting in a material effect on our business.

In addition, we develop products and provide services to our customers that are technology-based, and a cyberattack that bypasses the IS security systems of our products or services causing a security breach and/or perceived security vulnerabilities in our products or services could also cause significant reputational harm, and actual or perceived vulnerabilities may lead to claims against us by our customers. Perceived or actual security vulnerabilities in our products or services, or the perceived or actual failure by us or our customers who use our products to comply with applicable legal requirements, may not only cause us significant reputational harm, but may also lead to claims against us by our customers for remediation, and settlement expenses.

Our IS utilize certain third party service organizations that manage a portion of our information systems, and our business may be materially affected if these third party service organizations are subject to an IS security breach. Risks associated with these and other IS security breaches may include, among other things:

- future results could be materially affected due to theft, destruction, loss, misappropriation or release of confidential data or intellectual property;
- operational or business delays resulting from the disruption of information systems and subsequent clean-up and mitigation activities;
- we may incur claims, fines and penalties, and costs for remediation, or substantial defense and settlement expenses; and
- •negative publicity resulting in reputation or brand damage with our customers, partners or industry peers.

We have various insurance policies, covering risks in amounts that we consider adequate. There can be no assurance that the insurance coverage we maintain is sufficient or will be available in adequate amounts or at a reasonable cost. Successful claims for misappropriation or release of confidential or personal data brought against us in excess of available insurance or fines or other penalties assessed or any claim that results in significant adverse publicity against us could have a material adverse effect on our business and our reputation.

## We may face impairment charges if economic environments in which our business operates and key economic and business assumptions substantially change.

Assessment of the potential impairment of property, plant and equipment, goodwill and other identifiable intangible assets is an integral part of our normal ongoing review of operations. Testing for potential impairment of long-lived assets is dependent on numerous assumptions and reflects our best estimates at a particular point in time, which may vary from testing date to testing date. The economic environments in which our businesses operate and key economic and business assumptions with respect to projected product selling prices and materials costs, market growth and inflation rates, can significantly affect the outcome of impairment tests. Estimates based on these assumptions may differ significantly from actual results. Changes in factors and assumptions used in assessing potential impairments can have a significant impact on the existence and magnitude of impairments, as well as the time at which such impairments are recognized. Future changes in the economic environment and the economic outlook for the assets being evaluated could also result in additional impairment charges. Any significant asset impairments would adversely impact our financial results.

### Our business requires skilled labor, and we may be unable to attract and retain qualified employees.

Our ability to maintain our productivity and profitability will be limited by our ability to employ, train and retain skilled personnel necessary to meet our requirements. We may experience shortages of qualified personnel. We cannot be certain that we will be able to maintain an adequate skilled labor force necessary to operate efficiently and to support our growth strategy or that our labor expenses will not increase as a result of a shortage in the supply of skilled personnel. Labor shortages, increased labor costs or loss of our most skilled workers could impair our ability to deliver on time to our customers (thereby creating a risk that we lose our customers to competition) and would inhibit our ability to maintain our business or grow our revenues, and may adversely impact our profitability.

## Our business operations are dependent upon our ability to engage in successful collective bargaining with our unionized workforce.

If we are unable to renew our collective bargaining agreements, or if additional segments of our workforce become unionized, we may be subject to work interruptions or stoppages. Strikes or labor disputes with our employees may adversely affect our ability to conduct our business.

### We are subject to the risks of owning real property.

We own real property, including the land and buildings at two of our facilities. The ownership of real property subjects us to risks, including: the possibility of environmental contamination and the costs associated with fixing any environmental problems and the risk of damages resulting from such contamination; adverse changes in the value of the property due to interest rate changes, changes in the neighborhood in which the property is located or other factors; ongoing maintenance expenses and costs of improvements; the possible need for structural improvements in order to comply with zoning, seismic, disability act or other requirements; and possible disputes with neighboring owners or others.

### Our risk management activities may leave us exposed to unidentified or unanticipated risks.

Although we maintain insurance policies for our business, these policies contain deductibles and limits of coverage. We estimate our liabilities for known claims and unpaid claims and expenses based on information available as well as projections for claims incurred but not reported. However, insurance liabilities are difficult to estimate due to various factors and we may be unable to effectively anticipate or measure potential risks to our company. If we suffer unexpected or uncovered losses, any of our insurance policies or programs are terminated for any reason or are not effective in mitigating our risks, we may incur losses that are not covered by our insurance policies or that exceed our accruals or that exceed our coverage limits and could adversely impact our consolidated results of operations, cash flows and financial position.

## Regulatory, environmental, monetary and other governmental policies could have a material adverse effect on our profitability.

We are subject to international, federal, provincial, state and local laws and regulations governing environmental matters, including emissions to air, discharge to waters and the generation and handling of waste. We are also subject to laws relating to occupational health and safety. The operation of manufacturing plants involves a high level of susceptibility in these areas, and there is no assurance that we will not incur material environmental or occupational health and safety liabilities in the future. Moreover, expectations of remediation expenses could be affected by, and potentially significant expenditures could be required to comply with, environmental regulations and health and safety laws that may be adopted or imposed in the future. Future remediation technology advances could adversely impact expectations of remediation expenses. We can give no assurance that any lawsuits or claims brought in the future will not have an adverse effect on our financial condition, liquidity or operating results. Types of potential litigation cases include product liability, contract, employment-related, labor relations, personal injury or property damage, intellectual property, stockholder claims and claims arising from any injury or damage to persons, property or the environment from hazardous substances used, generated or disposed of in the conduct of our business. Adverse outcomes in some or all of these claims may result in significant monetary damages that could adversely affect our ability to conduct our business.

### We face risks associated with ligation and claims, which could impact our financial results and condition.

Our business, results of operations and financial condition could be affected by significant litigation or claims adverse to us. Types of potential litigation cases include product liability, contract, employment-related, labor relations, personal injury or property damage, intellectual property, stockholder claims and claims arising from any injury or damage to persons, property or the environment from hazardous substances used, generated or disposed of in the conduct of our business.

## Our international operations subject us to additional risks, which risks and costs may differ in each country in which we do business and may cause our profitability to decline.

Most of our products are manufactured at our facilities in Canada and Mexico, and we depend on a number of suppliers for raw materials and component parts that are located outside of the U.S., including Asia and Western Europe. We generate a significant portion of our revenue from our operations in Canada and currently derive most of our revenue in the U.S. from products we manufacture in Mexico and source internationally. Our international operations are subject to a variety of risks that we do not face in the U.S., and that we may face only to a limited degree in Canada, including:

- building and managing highly experienced foreign workforces and overseeing and ensuring the performance of foreign subcontractors;
- •increased travel, infrastructure and legal and compliance costs associated with multiple international locations; additional withholding taxes or other taxes on our foreign income, and tariffs or other restrictions on foreign trade
- or investment;
- imposition of, or unexpected adverse changes in, foreign laws or regulatory requirements, many of which differ from those in the U.S.;
- •changes in foreign currency exchange rates, principally fluctuations in the Canadian dollar and Mexican peso; longer payment cycles for sales in some foreign countries and potential difficulties in enforcing contracts and
- collecting accounts receivable;
- •general economic conditions in the countries in which we operate; and
- •political unrest, civil disturbances, corruption, crime, war, incidents of terrorism, or responses to such events.

We may be unable to maintain policies and strategies that will be effective in managing these risks in each country where we do business. Our failure to manage these risks could cause us to fail to reap our investments in these markets and could harm our international operations, reduce our international sales and increase our costs, thus adversely affecting our international and overall business, financial condition and operating results.

## Market disruptions caused by domestic or international financial crises could affect our ability to meet our liquidity needs at a reasonable cost and our ability to meet long-term commitments, which could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

We rely on credit facilities with our lenders, amongst other avenues, to satisfy our liquidity needs. Disruptions in the domestic or international credit markets or deterioration of the banking industry's financial condition may discourage or prevent our lenders and other lenders from meeting their existing lending commitments, extending the terms of such commitments or agreeing to new commitments, such as for acquisitions or to refinance existing credit facilities. Market disruptions may also limit our ability to issue debt securities in the capital markets. We can provide no assurances that our lenders or any other lenders we may have will meet their existing commitments or that we will be able to access the credit markets in the future on terms acceptable to us or at all.

Longer term disruptions in the domestic or international capital and credit markets as a result of uncertainty, reduced financing alternatives or failures of significant financial institutions could adversely affect our access to the liquidity needed for our business. Any disruption could require us to take measures to conserve cash until the market stabilizes or until alternative financing can be arranged. Such measures could include deferring capital expenditures and reducing other discretionary expenditures. Market disruptions could cause a broad economic downturn that may lead to increased incidence of customers' failure to pay for services delivered, which could adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations and cash flow.

Capital market disruptions could result in increased costs related to variable rate debt. As a result, continuation of market disruptions could increase our interest expense and adversely impact our results of operations. Disruption in the capital markets and its actual or perceived effects on particular businesses and the greater economy also adversely affects the value of the investments held within our pension plan. Significant declines in the value of the investments held within our pension plan. Significant declines in the value of the investments held within our pension plan may require us to increase contributions to this plan in order to meet future funding requirements if the actual asset returns do not recover these declines in value in the foreseeable future. These trends may also adversely impact our results of operations, net cash flows and financial positions, including our stockholders' equity.

### **Risks Relating to Our Organization**

## Our common stock is listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market, and we take advantage of the "controlled company" exemption to the corporate governance rules for NASDAQ-listed companies. As a controlled Company, our common stock may be less attractive to some investors or otherwise harm our stock price.

Because we qualify as a "controlled company" under the corporate governance rules for NASDAQ-listed companies, we are not required to have a majority of our board of directors be independent, nor are we required to have a compensation committee or an independent nominating function. In light of our status as a controlled company, our board of directors has determined not to have a majority of independent directors or an independent nominating or compensation committee and to have the full board of directors be directly responsible for compensation matters and for nominating members of our board. Accordingly, should the interests of our controlling stockholder differ from those of other stockholders, the other stockholders may not have the same protections afforded to stockholders of companies that are subject to all the corporate governance rules for NASDAQ-listed companies. Our status as a controlled company could make our common stock less attractive to some investors or otherwise harm our stock price.

## Delaware law and our corporate charter and bylaws contain anti-takeover provisions that could delay or discourage takeover attempts that stockholders may consider favorable.

Our board of directors is authorized to issue shares of preferred stock in one or more series and to fix the voting powers, preferences and other rights and limitations of the preferred stock. Accordingly, we may issue shares of preferred stock with a preference over our common stock with respect to dividends or distributions on liquidation or dissolution, or that may otherwise adversely affect the voting or other rights of the holders of common stock. Issuances of preferred stock, depending upon the rights, preferences and designations of the preferred stock, may have the effect of delaying, deterring or preventing a change of control, even if that change of control might benefit our stockholders. In addition, we are subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law. Section 203 generally prohibits a public Delaware corporation from engaging in a "business combination" with an "interested stockholder" for a period of three years after the date of the transaction in which the person became an interested stockholder, unless (i) prior to the date of the transaction, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction which resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder; (ii) the

interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding for purposes of determining the number of shares outstanding (a) shares owned by persons who are directors and also officers and (b) shares owned by employee stock plans in which employee participants do not have the right to determine confidentially whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or exchange offer; or (iii) on or subsequent to the date of the transaction, the business combination is approved by the board and authorized at an annual or special meeting of stockholders, and not by written consent, by the affirmative vote of at least 66 2/3% of the outstanding voting stock which is not owned by the interested stockholder.

Section 203 could delay or prohibit mergers or other takeover or change in control attempts with respect to us and, accordingly, may discourage attempts to acquire us even though such a transaction may offer our stockholders the opportunity to sell their stock at a price above the prevailing market price.

### Your ability to influence corporate decisions may be limited because Provident Pioneer Partners, L.P. owns a controlling percentage of our common stock.

Provident Pioneer Partners, L.P., which is controlled by Nathan J. Mazurek, our chief executive officer, president and chairman of the board of directors, beneficially owns approximately 52.4% of our outstanding common stock as of April 2, 2018. As a result of this stock ownership, Provident Pioneer Partners, L.P. and Mr. Mazurek can control all matters submitted to our stockholders for approval, including the election of directors and approval of any merger, consolidation or sale of all or substantially all of our assets. This concentration of voting power could delay or prevent an acquisition of our company on terms that other stockholders may desire. In addition, as the interests of Provident Pioneer Partners, L.P. and our minority stockholders may not always be the same, this large concentration of voting power may lead to stockholder votes that are inconsistent with the best interests of our minority stockholders.

Furthermore, pursuant to the terms of our credit agreement with BMO, we are restricted from, among other things, entering into merger agreements or agreements for the sale of any or all of our assets outside the course of ordinary business. As such, even if certain corporate transactions may be approved by our stockholders, BMO, as the lender under our credit agreement, has final authority to approve or reject certain of our transactions. This could lead to us not being able to effect certain transactions that may be in the best interests of our stockholders or our business.

### We are subject to financial reporting and other requirements for which our accounting, internal audit and other management systems and resources may not be adequately prepared.

We are subject to reporting and other obligations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), including the requirements of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. Section 404 requires us to conduct an annual management assessment of the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting. These reporting and other obligations place significant demands on our management, administrative, operational, internal audit and accounting resources. Any failure to maintain effective internal controls could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results and stock price.

In addition, our internal controls will also include those of any company or business that we may acquire in the future. Acquired companies or businesses are likely to have different standards, controls, contracts, procedures and policies, making it more difficult to implement and harmonize company-wide financial, accounting, information and other systems. As a result, our internal controls may become more complex and we may require significantly more resources to ensure they remain effective. Failure to implement required new or improved controls, or difficulties encountered in their implementation, either in our existing business or in businesses that we may acquire, could harm our operating results or cause us to fail to meet our reporting obligations.

# We have identified material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting, and if we are unable to achieve and maintain effective internal control over financial reporting or effective disclosure controls, this could have a material adverse effect on our business.

As discussed in Item 9A "Controls and Procedures", we concluded there are material weaknesses in the design and operating effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting. A material weakness is defined as a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of a company's annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis by the company's internal controls.

We cannot assure you that we will be able to remediate our existing material weaknesses in a timely manner, if at all, or that in the future additional material weaknesses will not exist, reoccur or otherwise be discovered, a risk that is significantly increased in light of the complexity of our business. If our efforts to remediate these material weaknesses, as described in Item 9A "Controls and Procedures", are not successful or if other deficiencies occur, our ability to accurately and timely report our financial position, results of operations, cash flows or key operating metrics could be impaired, which could result in late filings of our annual and quarterly reports under the Exchange Act, restatements of our consolidated financial statements or other corrective disclosures. Additional impacts could include a decline in our stock price, suspension of trading or delisting of our common stock by the Nasdaq Capital Market, or other material adverse effects on our business, reputation, results of operations, financial condition or liquidity. Furthermore, if we continue to have these existing material weaknesses, other material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in the future, it could create a perception that our financial results do not fairly state our financial condition or results of operations. Any of the foregoing could have an adverse effect on the value of our stock.

#### **Risks Relating to our Common Stock**

### There has been a limited market for our common stock and we cannot ensure investors that an active market for our common stock will be sustained.

There has been limited trading in our common stock and there can be no assurance that an active trading market in our common stock will be maintained. Due to the illiquidity of our common stock, the market price may not accurately reflect our relative value. There can be no assurance that an active market for our shares of common stock will develop in the future. Because our common stock is so thinly traded, even limited trading in our shares has in the past, and might in the future, lead to dramatic fluctuations in share price and investors may not be able to liquidate their investment in us at all or at a price that reflects the value of the business.

While our common stock became listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market as of September 2013, we cannot assure you that we will maintain compliance with all of the requirements for our common stock to remain listed. Additionally, there can be no assurance that trading of our common stock on such market will be sustained or desirable.

#### Our stock price may be volatile, which could result in substantial losses for investors.

The market price of our common stock is highly volatile and could fluctuate widely in response to various factors, many of which are beyond our control, including the following:

•technological innovations or new products and services by us or our competitors;

- additions or departures of key personnel, including Nathan J. Mazurek, our chairman, president and chief executive officer;
- •sales of our common stock, including management shares;
- limited availability of freely-tradable "unrestricted" shares of our common stock to satisfy purchase orders and demand;
- •our ability to execute our business plan;
- operating results that fall below expectations;
- loss of any strategic relationship;
- •industry developments;
- •economic and other external factors;
  - our ability to manage the costs of maintaining adequate internal financial controls and procedures in connection with the acquisition of additional businesses;
- •period-to-period fluctuations in our financial results; and
- •announcements of acquisitions.

In addition, the securities markets have from time to time experienced significant price and volume fluctuations that are unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies. These market fluctuations may also significantly affect the market price of our common stock.

### Offers or availability for sale of a substantial number of shares of our common stock may cause the price of our common stock to decline.

Sales of a significant number of shares of our common stock in the public market could harm the market price of our common stock and make it more difficult for us to raise funds through future offerings of common stock. Our stockholders and the holders of our options and warrants may sell substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market. The availability of these shares of our common stock for resale in the public market has the potential to cause the supply of our common stock to exceed investor demand, thereby decreasing the price of our common stock.

In addition, the fact that our stockholders, option holders and warrant holders can sell substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market, whether or not sales have occurred or are occurring, could make it more difficult for us to raise additional financing through the sale of equity or equity-related securities in the future at a time and price that we deem reasonable or appropriate.

### We do not expect to pay cash dividends in the future. As a result, any return on investment may be limited to the value of our common stock.

We do not anticipate paying cash dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future. The payment of dividends on our common stock will depend on our net income, financial condition and other business and economic factors as our board of directors may consider relevant. In addition, our credit agreement with BMO restricts our ability to pay cash dividends. If we do not pay dividends, our common stock may be less valuable because a return on your investment will only occur if our stock price appreciates.

# If securities and/or industry analysts fail to continue publishing research about our business, if they change their recommendations adversely or if our results of operations do not meet their expectations, our stock price and trading volume could decline.

The trading market for our common stock will be influenced by the research and reports that industry or securities analysts publish about us or our business. If one or more of these analysts cease coverage of our company or fail to

publish reports on us regularly, we could lose visibility in the financial markets, which in turn could cause our stock price or trading volume to decline. In addition, it is likely that in some future period our operating results will be below the expectations of securities analysts or investors. If one or more of the analysts who cover us downgrade our stock, or if our results of operations do not meet their expectations, our stock price could decline.

#### The recently passed comprehensive tax reform bill could adversely affect our business and financial condition.

On December 22, 2017, President Trump signed into law the final version of the tax reform bill commonly known as the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act," or the TCJA, that significantly reforms the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, with many of its provisions effective for tax years beginning on January 1, 2018. The TCJA, among other things, contains significant changes to corporate taxation, including a permanent reduction of the corporate income tax rate, a partial limitation on the deductibility of business interest expense, a limitation of the deduction for net operating loss carryforwards to 80% of current year taxable income, an indefinite net operating loss carryforward, immediate deductions for certain new investments instead of deductions for depreciation expense over time, and the modification or repeal of many business. Notwithstanding the reduction in the corporate income tax rate, the overall impact of the TCJA is uncertain and our business and financial condition could be adversely affected. The impact of this tax reform on holders of our stock is also uncertain and could be adverse.

#### The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act could negatively affect us or holders of our stock.

The TCJA makes significant changes to the U.S. federal income tax rules applicable to both individuals and entities, including corporations. There remains uncertainty as to the impact of the TCJA on us or on an investment in our stock. You should consult with your tax advisor regarding the effect of the TCJA and other potential changes to the U.S. federal tax laws prior to purchasing our stock.

#### ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

Not applicable.

#### **ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**

Location	Description	Approximate Square Footage	Owned or Lease Expiration Date
Granby, Quebec	Manufacturing and administration	50,000	Owned
Farnham, Quebec <sup>(a)</sup>	Distribution warehouse	69,000	Owned
Reynosa, Mexico	Manufacturing	52,000	December 2026
Reynosa, Mexico	Manufacturing	35,000	December 2026
Santa Fe Springs, California (b)	Manufacturing, sales, engineering and administration	40,000	September 2021
Brooklyn Park, Minnesota	Manufacturing, sales, engineering and administration	16,000	December 2020
Pharr, Texas	Distribution warehouse	24,000	August 2020
Omaha, Nebraska	Sales and service	6,800	December 2020
Duluth, Minnesota	Sale, service and warehouse	4,600	July 2020
Miami, Florida	Sales and service	3,600	December 2021
Franklin, Wisconsin	Sales, marketing, engineering and adminstration	5,000	December 2018
Mississauga, Ontario	Sales and engineering	1,400	July 2021
Pierre, South Dakota	Sales and service	1,600	March 2018
Fort Lee, New Jersey	Corporate management and sales office	2,700	November 2022

(a) Property currently marketed for sale

(b) Facility for our switchgear business that is currently being discontinued

We believe our manufacturing and distribution facilities are well maintained, in proper condition to operate at higher than current levels and are adequately insured. We do not anticipate significant difficulty in renewing or extending existing leases as they expire, or in replacing them with equivalent facilities or office locations. Of the owned properties, both are subject to encumbrances with a bank, in amounts that we do not believe are material to our operations.

#### ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

From time to time, we may become involved in lawsuits, investigations and claims that arise in the ordinary course of business.

On January 11, 2016, Myers Power Products, Inc., a specialty electrical products manufacturer, filed suit with the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles, against us, PCEP and two PCEP's employees who are former employees of Myers Power Products, Inc., Geo Murickan, the president of PCEP ("Murickan"), and Brett DeChellis ("DeChellis"), alleging, among other things, that Murickan wrongly used and retained confidential business information of Myers Power Products, Inc. for the benefit of us and PCEP, in breach of their confidentiality agreement and/or employment agreement entered into with Myers Power Products, Inc., and that we and PCEP knowingly received and used such confidential business information. Myers Power Products, Inc. is seeking injunctive relief enjoining us, PCEP and our employees from using its confidential business information and compensatory damages of an unspecified unlimited (exceeding \$25,000) amount. On March 18, 2016, we filed an answer to the complaint, denying generally each and every allegation and relief sought by Myers Power Products, Inc. and seeking dismissal based on, among other things, failure to state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action. We intend to contest the matter vigorously. Due to the uncertainties of litigation, however, we can give no assurance that we, PCEP and our employees will prevail on any claims made against us, PCEP and our employees in any such lawsuit. Also, we can give no assurance that any other lawsuits or claims brought in the future will not have an adverse effect on our financial condition, liquidity or operating results.

As of the date hereof, we are not aware of or a party to any legal proceedings to which we or any of our subsidiaries is a party or to which any of our property is subject, nor are we aware of any such threatened or pending litigation or any such proceedings known to be contemplated by governmental authorities other than the forgoing suit filed by Myers Power Products, Inc. that we believe could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or operating results. See Note 11 – Commitments and Contingencies included in the notes to our consolidated financial statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

We are not aware of any material proceedings in which any of our directors, officers or affiliates or any registered or beneficial shareholder of more than 5% of our common stock is an adverse party or has a material interest adverse to our interest.

#### 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 has been listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol "PPSI" since September 19, 2013. Prior to that time, it was quoted on the OTCQB. The following table sets forth the high and low sales prices for our common stock as reported on the Nasdaq Capital Market for the periods indicated.

Fiscal Year	Period	High	Low
2017	First Quarter Ended March 31	\$ 9.40	\$ 5.60
	Second Quarter Ended June 30	7.40	6.15
	Third Quarter Ended September 30	7.81	5.75
	Fourth Quarter Ended December 31	7.95	7.00
2016	First Quarter Ended March 31	5.73	2.78
	Second Quarter Ended June 30	6.38	4.40
	Third Quarter Ended September 30	6.00	4.85
	Fourth Quarter Ended December 31	5.99	4.85

The last reported sales price of our common stock on the Nasdaq Capital Market on March 29, 2018, was \$6.60 per share. As of March 29, 2018, there were 23 holders of record of our common stock.

We have not declared or paid cash dividends on our common stock during the two most recent fiscal years, and we do not intend to pay any cash dividends on our common stock during the foreseeable future. Rather, we intend to retain future net income (if any) to fund the operation and expansion of our business and for general corporate purposes. Subject to legal and contractual limits, our board of directors will make any decision as to whether to pay dividends in the future. In addition, our credit agreement with BMO, dated April 29, 2016, restricts our ability to pay cash dividends.

We did not repurchase any of our equity securities during the fourth quarter of the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

#### ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA.

Not applicable.

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

You should read the following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations together with our financial statements and related notes appearing elsewhere in this prospectus. In addition to historical financial information, the following discussion contains forward-looking statements that reflect our plans, estimates and beliefs. Our actual results could differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to these differences include those discussed below and elsewhere in this prospectus, particularly in the sections entitled "Risk Factors" and "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

#### Overview

We manufacture, sell and service a broad range of specialty electrical transmission, distribution and on-site power generation equipment for applications in the utility, industrial, commercial and backup power markets. Our principal products and services include custom-engineered electrical transformers and engine-generator sets and controls, complemented by a national field-service network to maintain and repair power generation assets. We are headquartered in Fort Lee, New Jersey and operate from 13 additional locations in the U.S., Canada and Mexico for manufacturing, service, centralized distribution, engineering, sales and administration.

Our operations are divided into two reportable segments: Transmission & Distribution Solutions and Critical Power. Our T&D Solutions business provides equipment solutions that help customers effectively and efficiently manage their electrical power distribution systems to desired specifications. These solutions are marketed principally through our PTL, Jefferson and Bemag brand names. Our Critical Power business provides customers with sophisticated power generation equipment, related electrical distribution infrastructure, preventative maintenance services and an advanced data collection and monitoring platform, the combination of which is used to ensure smooth, uninterrupted power to operations during times of emergency. These solutions are marketed by our operations headquartered in Minnesota, currently doing business under the Titan brand name.

#### **Discontinued Operations**

During the fourth quarter of 2017, as part of our review of strategic alternatives, we made the decision to sell our switchgear business. Operating results for PCEP, through which we did our switchgear business and have been previously included in the T&D Solutions Segment, have now been reclassified as discontinued operations for all periods presented. We have not entered into a definitive agreement for the sale of the switchgear business, and cannot determine whether we will have any contingent obligations, financial commitments or continuing relationships with the discontinued operations other than provision of indemnification customary in such a sale. Our switchgear business has incurred losses in the year ended 2016 and 2017, and we believe that disposition of our switchgear business will improve our liquidity and will not significantly affect our capital resources. See Note 5 – Discontinued Operations in Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II of this Form 10-K.

#### **Foreign Currency Exchange Rates**

Although we report our results in accordance with U.S. GAAP and in U.S. dollars, two of our business subsidiaries are Canadian operations whose functional currency is the Canadian dollar. As such, the financial position, results of operations, cash flows and equity of these operations are initially consolidated in Canadian dollars. Their assets and liabilities are then translated from Canadian dollars to U.S. dollars by applying the foreign currency exchange rate in effect at the balance sheet date, while the results of their operations and cash flows are translated to U.S. dollars by applying weighted average foreign currency exchanges rates in effect during the reporting period. The resulting translation adjustments are included in other comprehensive income or loss.

The following table provides actual end of period exchange rates used to translate the financial position of our Canadian operations at the end of each period reported. The average exchange rates presented below, as provided by the Bank of Canada, are indicative of the weighted average rates we used to translate the revenues and expenses of our Canadian operations into U.S. dollars (rates expressed as the number of U.S. dollars to one Canadian dollar for each period reported):

	2017			2016		
		Statements	s of		Statements	s of
	Balance	Operations	5,	Balance	Operation	s,
	Sheet	Comprehe		Sheet	Comprehe	
		and Cash I	Flow		and Cash l	Flow
<b>Quarter Ended</b>	End of	Period	Cumulative	End of	Period	Cumulative
Qualter Endeu	Period	Average	Average	Period	Average	Average
March 31	\$ 0.7519	\$ 0.7559	\$ 0.7559	\$ 0.7700	\$ 0.7274	\$ 0.7274
June 30	\$ 0.7706	\$ 0.7436	\$ 0.7497	\$ 0.7742	\$ 0.7760	\$ 0.7509
September 30	\$ 0.8013	\$ 0.7983	\$ 0.7652	\$ 0.7624	\$ 0.7662	\$ 0.7560
December 31	\$ 0.7971	\$ 0.7865	\$ 0.7704	\$ 0.7448	\$ 0.7497	\$ 0.7544
<b>Critical Account</b>	ing Policies					

*Use of Estimates.* The preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the U.S. requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The financial statements include estimates based on currently available information and our judgment as to the outcome of future conditions and circumstances. Significant estimates in these financial statements include pension expense, inventory provisions, useful lives and impairment of long-lived assets, warranty accruals, income tax provision, goodwill impairment analysis, stock-based compensation, allowance for doubtful accounts and estimates related to purchase price allocation. Changes in the status of certain facts or circumstances could result in material changes to the estimates used in the preparation of the financial statements and actual results could differ from the estimates and assumptions.

*Revenue Recognition*. Revenue is recognized when (1) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, (2) delivery occurs, (3) the sales price is fixed or determinable, (4) collectability is reasonably assured and (5) customer acceptance criteria, if any, has been successfully demonstrated. Revenue is recognized on the sale of goods, when the significant risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred to the buyer upon delivery, provided that the Company maintains neither managerial involvement to the degree usually associated with ownership, nor effective control over the goods sold. There are no further obligations on the part of the Company subsequent to revenue recognition, except when customers have the right of return or when the Company warrants the product. The Company records a provision for future returns, based on historical experience at the time of shipment of products to customers. The Company warrants some of its products against defects in design, materials and workmanship for periods ranging from one to three years depending on the model. The Company records a provision for estimated future warranty costs based on the historical relationship of warranty claims to sales at the time of shipment of products to customers. The Company periodically reviews the adequacy of its product warranties and adjusts, if necessary, the warranty percentage and accrued warranty reserve for actual experience.

Service revenue primarily consists of preventative maintenance and monitoring services, as well as the provision of after-market support related to equipment sales and project commissioning service revenue. Revenues from these services are recognized when the service is performed and the customer has accepted the work.

*Inventories*. We value inventories at the lower of cost or market. If a write down to the current market value is necessary, the market value cannot be greater than the net realizable value, which is defined as selling price less costs to complete and dispose, and cannot be lower than the net realizable value less a normal profit margin. We also continually evaluate the composition of our inventory and identify obsolete, slow-moving and excess inventories. Inventory items identified as obsolete, slow-moving or excess are evaluated to determine if reserves are required. If we were not able to achieve our expectations of the net realizable value of the inventory at current market value, we would have to adjust our reserves accordingly. We attempt to accurately estimate future product demand to properly adjust inventory levels for our standard products. However, significant unanticipated changes in demand could have a significant impact on the value of inventory and of operating results.

*Impairment of Long-Lived Assets*. We review long-lived assets for impairment including intangible assets with determinable useful lives whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of the corresponding asset group may not be realizable. If an evaluation is required, the estimated future undiscounted cash flows associated with the asset group are compared to the asset group's carrying amount to determine if an impairment of such asset is necessary. This requires us to make long-term forecasts of the future revenues and costs related to the assets groups subject to review. Forecasts require assumptions about demand for our products and future market conditions. Estimating future cash flows requires significant judgment, and our projections may vary from cash flows eventually realized. Future events and unanticipated changes to assumptions could require a provision for impairment in a future period. The effect of any impairment would be reflected in operating income in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. In addition, we estimate the useful lives of our long-lived assets and other intangibles and periodically review these estimates to determine whether these lives are appropriate.

*Goodwill and Indefinite lived intangible Assets* . Goodwill and other intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are not amortized, but are evaluated for impairment annually, or immediately if conditions indicate that impairment could exist. The evaluation requires an impairment test to identify potential goodwill impairment and measure the amount of a goodwill impairment loss. The test compares the fair value of a reporting unit with its carrying amount, including goodwill. If the carrying amount of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value, the Company measures the amount of the impairment loss. The goodwill impairment testing involves significant estimates.

*Income Taxes.* We account for income taxes under the asset and liability method, based on the income tax laws and rates in the countries in which operations are conducted and income is earned. This approach requires the recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of temporary differences between the carrying amounts and the tax basis of assets and liabilities using expected rates in effect for the tax year in which the differences are expected to reverse. Developing the provision for income taxes requires significant judgment and expertise in federal, international and state income tax laws, regulations and strategies, including the determination of deferred tax assets and liabilities and, if necessary, any valuation allowances that may be required for deferred tax assets. A valuation allowance is recorded to reduce our deferred tax assets to the amount that is more likely than not to be realized. We believe that the deferred tax asset recorded as of December 31, 2017, is realizable through future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences and future taxable income. If we were to subsequently determine that we would be able to realize deferred tax assets in the future in excess of its net recorded amount, an adjustment to deferred tax assets would increase net income for the period in which such determination was made. We will continue to assess the adequacy of the valuation allowance on a quarterly basis. Our judgments and tax strategies are subject to audit by various taxing authorities.

As of December 31, 2017, we have recorded \$219 for uncertain tax positions. We do not believe the total of unrecognized tax positions will significantly increase or decrease during the next 12 months.

#### **Changes in Accounting Principles**

No significant changes in accounting principles were adopted during 2017 and 2016.

#### Rounding

All dollar amounts (except share and per share data) presented are stated in thousands of dollars, unless otherwise noted. Amounts may not foot due to rounding.

#### **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

#### **Overview of 2017 Operating Results**

Selected financial and operating data for our reportable business segments for the most recent two years is summarized below. This information, as well as the selected financial data provided in Note 16 and our Consolidated Financial Statements and related notes included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, should be referred to when reading our discussion and analysis of results of operations below. Our summary of operating results during the years ended 2017 and 2016 are as follows:

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2017	2	2016
Revenues			
T&D Solutions	\$ 86,325		\$ 81,100
Critical Power Solutions	15,065		18,532
Consolidated	101,390		99,632
Cost of goods sold			
Cost of goods sold			
T&D Solutions	68,344		61,992
Critical Power Solutions	12,183		15,494
Restructuring and integration			
T&D Solutions	873		—
Consolidated	81,400		77,486
Gross profit	19,990		22,146
Selling, general and administrative expenses	14,766		14,829
Depreciation and amortization expense	1,946		1,913
Restructuring and integration	215		2,204
Foreign exchange gain	(324	)	(364)
Total operating expenses	16,603		18,582
Operating income from continuing operations	3,387		3,564
Interest expense	2,301		1,739
Other expense (income)	229		(554)
Income before taxes	857		2,379
Income tax expense	3,554		925
Net (loss) income from continuing operations	(2,697	)	1,454
Loss from discontinued operations, net of income taxes	(6,647	)	(2,517)
Net loss			\$ (1,063 )

During the fourth quarter of 2017, as part of the Company's review of strategic alternatives, the Company made the decision to sell its switchgear business by PCEP. Operating results for PCEP, which have been previously included in the T&D Solutions Segment, have now been reclassified as discontinued operations for all periods presented. See Note 5 – Discontinued Operations in Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II of this Form 10-K. The excluded revenue for the switchgear business previously reported in T&D Solutions was \$13.0 million for 2017 and \$14.8 million for 2016. The excluded loss from the switchgear business was \$6.6 million for 2017 and \$2.5 million for

2016.

*Backlog*. Our order backlog at December 31, 2017 was \$35.2 million, as compared to \$38.6 million at December 31, 2016. Our backlog is based on orders expected to be delivered in the future, most of which is expected to occur during 2018. The following table represents the progression of our backlog, by reporting segment, for the periods ended as indicated:

	December 31,		
	2017 2016		
T&D Solutions	\$ 20,170	\$ 23,886	
Critical Power Solutions	8,710	3,970	
Order backlog	28,880	27,856	
Discontinued Operation	6,316	10,702	
Total order backlog	\$ 35,196	\$ 38,558	

#### Revenue

The following table represents our revenues, excluding discontinued operations, by reporting segment and major product category for the periods indicated (in thousands, except percentages):

	For the Years Ended December 31,			
	2017	2016	Variance	%
T&D Solutions				
Transformers	\$ 86,325	\$ 81,100	\$ 5,225	6.4
	86,325	81,100	5,225	6.4
<b>Critical Power Solutions</b>				
Equipment	5,898	10,166	(4,268)	(42.0)
Service	9,167	8,366	801	9.6
	15,065	18,532	(3,467)	(18.7)
Total revenue	\$ 101,390	\$ 99,632	\$ 1,758	1.8

For the year ended December 31, 2017, our consolidated revenue increased by \$1.8 million, or 1.8%, to \$101.4 million, up from \$99.6 million during the year ended December 31, 2016.

T&D Solutions. Revenue from our transformer product lines increased by \$5.2 million, or 6.4%, driven by an 8.8% increase in sales from our U.S. operations led by significant growth in our low voltage, general purpose products, partially offset by a 2.8% decrease in sales from our Canadian operations.

*Critical Power*. Revenue for our equipment sales decreased by \$4.3 million, or 42.0%, driven by our decision to concentrate our efforts on service revenue, which provides higher profit margins. The increase in service revenue of \$0.8 million, or 9.6% is further confirmation of this strategy.

#### Gross Profit and Gross Margin

The following table represents our gross profit, excluding discontinued operations, by reporting segment for the periods indicated (in thousands, except percentages):

	For the Ye			
	2017	2016	Variance	%
T&D Solutions				
Gross profit	\$ 17,108	\$ 19,108	\$ (2,000 )	(10.5)

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Gross margin %	19.8	23.6	(3.8)		
Critical Power Solutions Gross profit Gross margin %	2,882 19.1	3,038 16.4	(156 ) 2.7	(5.1)	
Consolidated gross profit Consolidated gross margin %	\$ 19,990 19.7	\$ 22,146 22.2	\$ (2,156 ) (2.5 )	(9.7)	

For the year ended December 31, 2017, our gross margin percentage was 19.7% of revenues, compared to 22.2% during the year ended December 31, 2016. The 2.5% decrease in our consolidated gross margin percentage is explained predominantly by the results of our T&D Solutions segment.

*T&D Solutions*. The 3.8% decrease in our T&D Solutions gross margin resulted primarily from lower margins in our dry-type transformers due to the write-off of raw material inventory of \$873 not relocated from Canada when we relocated our production in Farmham, Quebec, Canada, to Reynosa, Mexico. The raw material inventory was not relocated due to the review of allowable sourcing and suppliers of components for finished goods pursuant to our safety files for products produced.

*Critical Power*. The 2.7% increase in our Critical Power segment gross margin was driven primarily by the strategic shift to concentrate on higher margin service revenue while decreasing the focus on sales of equipment.

#### **Operating Expenses**

The following table represents our operating expenses, excluding discontinued operations, by reportable segment for the periods indicated (in thousands, except percentages):

	For the Yea 2017	ars Ended Dec 2016	cember 31, Variance	%
T&D Calutions	2017	2010	variance	%
T&D Solutions	¢ 0.222	¢ 10 170	¢ (047 )	(0,2)
Selling, general and administrative expense	\$ 9,232	\$ 10,179	\$ (947 )	(9.3)
Depreciation and amortization expense	346	440	(94)	(21.4)
Restructuring and integration	215	2,145	(1,930)	(90.0)
Foreign exchange gain	(324)	(364)	40	(11.0)
Segment operating expense	\$ 9,469	\$ 12,400	\$ (2,931 )	(23.6)
Critical Power Solutions	¢ 2.0(2	¢ 1.520	¢ 500	24.0
Selling, general and administrative expense	\$ 2,062	\$ 1,539	\$ 523	34.0
Depreciation and amortization expense	1,533	1,405	128	9.1
Restructuring and integration		32	(32)	(100.0)
Segment operating expense	\$ 3,595	\$ 2,976	\$ 619	20.8
Unallocated Corporate Overhead Expanses				
Unallocated Corporate Overhead Expenses	¢ 2 471	¢ 2 1 1 1	¢ 260	116
Selling, general and administrative expense	\$ 3,471	\$ 3,111	\$ 360	11.6
Depreciation expense	68	68 27		(100.0.)
Restructuring and integration		27	(27)	(100.0)
Segment operating expense	\$ 3,539	\$ 3,206	\$ 333	10.4
Consolidated				
Selling, general and administrative expense	\$ 14,765	\$ 14,829	\$ (64 )	(0.4)
Depreciation and amortization expense	1,947	1,913	34	1.8
Restructuring and integration	215	2,204	(1,989)	(90.2)
Foreign exchange gain	(324)	(364)	40	(11.0)
Consolidated operating expense	\$ 16,603	\$ 18,582	\$ (1,979)	(11.0) (10.7)
	φ 10,005	ψ 10,502	$\psi(1, j)$	(10.7)

*Selling, General and Administrative Expense*. There was no material change in our consolidated selling, general and administrative expense before depreciation and amortization between the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016.

The selling, general and administrative expense in our T&D Solutions segment decreased by \$0.9 million, or 9.3%, during the year ended December 31, 2017, as compared to 2016 primarily due to completion of relocation of the medium voltage transformer production facility from Canada to a lower cost facility.

The selling, general and administrative expense in our Critical Power segment increased by \$0.5 million, or 34.0% as compared to 2016 primarily due to increased payroll related costs.

*Depreciation and Amortization Expenses*. Depreciation and amortization expense consists primarily of depreciation of fixed assets and amortization of definite-lived intangible assets and excludes amounts included in cost of revenue. There was no material change in depreciation and amortization expense between the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016.

*Restructuring and Integration.* In 2017 the Company completed the relocation of the medium voltage transformer production facility from Canada to a lower cost facility and incurred \$0.2 million of expense. In 2016, the related relocation expenses were \$2.2 million and consisted primarily from business integration costs of \$2.1 million and cost over runs of \$0.3 million on the 2015 restructuring accruals.

*Foreign Exchange Gain.* For the year ended December 31, 2017, approximately 37% of our consolidated operating revenues were denominated in Canadian dollars, and the majority of our expenses were denominated and disbursed in U.S. dollars. We have not historically engaged in currency hedging activities. Fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates between the time we initiate and then settle transactions with our customers and suppliers can have an impact on our operating results. For the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, we recorded a gain of \$0.3 and \$0.4 million, respectively, due to currency fluctuations.

#### **Operating Income**

The following table represents our operating income, excluding discontinued operations, by reportable segment for the periods indicated:

	For the Yea			
	2017	2016	Variance	%
T&D Solutions	\$ 6,824	\$ 6,708	\$ 116	1.7
Critical Power Solutions	(713)	62	(775)	(1,250.0)
Unallocated Corporate Overhead Expenses	(2,724)	(3,206)	482	15.0
Total operating income	\$ 3,387	\$ 3,564	\$ (177 )	5.0

T&D Solutions. Operating income from this segment increased by \$0.1 million, resulting from lower restructuring costs, lower operating expenses and increased sales volumes in the year ended December 31, 2017 compared to the year ended December 31, 2016.

*Critical Power*. The Critical Power segment operating income decreased by \$0.8 million during 2017 from 2016. This decrease resulted from lower sales and higher selling, general and administrative costs.

*General Corporate Expense*. Our general corporate expenses consist primarily of executive management, corporate accounting and human resources personnel, office expenses, financing and corporate development activities, payroll and benefits administration, treasury, tax compliance, legal, stock-based compensation and public reporting costs, and costs not specifically allocated to reportable business segments. During the year ended December 31, 2017, our unallocated corporate overhead expense decreased by \$0.5 million.

#### Non-Operating Expense

*Interest Expense*. For the year ended December 31, 2017, our interest expense was \$2.3 million, as compared to \$1.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2016. The net increase in our interest expense was due to higher borrowings under a product financing arrangement and our credit facilities during 2017, as compared to 2016. The aggregate outstanding balance of our total debt increased by approximately \$1.1 million during the year ended December 31, 2017.

*Other Expense (Income)*. For the year ended December 31, 2017, our non-operating expense of \$0.2 million as compared to non-operating income of \$0.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2016. For the year ended December 31, 2016, our non-operating income of \$0.6 million consists primarily of abatement of penalties as they related to non-payment of payroll taxes of \$1.1 million, offset by intangible impairment of \$0.1 million.

*Provision for Income Taxes*. Our provision reflects an effective tax rate on income from continuing operations before income taxes of 415% in 2017, as compared to 39% in 2016, as set forth below (dollars in thousands):

	For the Years Ended			
	December 31,			
	2017	2016	Variance	
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	\$ 857	\$ 2,379	\$ (1,522)	
Income tax expense	3,554	925	2,629	
Effective income tax rate %	415	39	376	

On December 22, 2017, the U.S. enacted the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("U.S. tax reform") that lowers the statutory tax rate on U.S. earnings, taxes historic foreign earnings at a reduced rate of tax, establishes a territorial tax system and enacts new taxes associated with global operations.

The impact of U.S. tax reform has been recorded on a provisional basis as the legislation provides for additional guidance to be issued by the U.S. Department of the Treasury on several provisions, including the computation of the transition tax. Guidance during 2018 could impact the information required for, and the calculation of, the transition tax charge and could affect decisions that affect the tax on various U.S. and foreign items which would further impact the final amounts included in the transition charge and impact the revaluation of deferred taxes. In addition, analysis performed and conclusions reached as part of the tax return filing process and additional guidance on accounting for U.S. tax reform could affect the provisional amount.

As part of tax reform, the U.S. has enacted a minimum tax on foreign earnings ("global intangible low-taxed income"). Because aspects of the new law and effect on our operations is uncertain and aspects of the accounting rules associated with this provision have not been resolved, we have not made a provisional accrual for the deferred tax aspects of this provision and consequently have not made an accounting policy election with respect to tax treatment of this tax provision.

As a result of enactment of U.S. tax reform, we have recorded tax expense of \$653 in 2017 to reflect our provisional estimate of both the transition tax on historic foreign earnings of \$59 and the revaluation of deferred taxes of \$712.

The increase in our effective tax rate during 2017 primarily reflects the impact of \$2.3 million of recognition of a valuation allowance on foreign tax credits, the impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Enactment of \$0.5 million and the impact of \$0.3 million of anticipated partial repatriation of foreign subsidiary income in the first quarter of 2018.

#### Net Loss Per Share

We generated a net loss of \$9.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2017, as compared to net loss of \$1.1 million during the year ended December 31, 2016. In 2017, our net loss per basic and diluted share was \$1.07, as compared to a net loss of \$0.12 during the year ended December 31, 2016.

Our loss per share from continuing operations basic and diluted for the year ended December 31, 2017 was \$0.31 and our earnings per share from continuing operations basic and diluted for the year ended December 31, 2016 was \$0.17.

Our loss per share from discontinued operations basic and diluted for the year ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 were \$0.76 and \$0.29, respectively.

#### LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

*General*. At December 31, 2017, we had cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$0.2 million and total debt outstanding of \$29.4 million, when including bank overdrafts and liabilities of discontinued operations. We have historically met our cash needs through a combination of cash flows from operating activities, bank borrowings under our revolving credit facilities and distributions between our U.S. and foreign subsidiaries. Our cash requirements are generally for operating activities, debt repayment, capital improvements and acquisitions. We believe that working capital, borrowing capacity available under our credit facilities, funds generated from operations and cash available on hand should be sufficient to finance our cash requirements for anticipated operating activities, capital improvements and principal repayments of debt through at least the next twelve months.

*Cash Provided/Used by Operating Activities*. Cash provided by our operating activities was approximately \$1.4 million during the year ended December 31, 2017, compared to cash used by our operating activities of \$9.5 million during the year ended December 31, 2016, primarily due to deferred taxes and working capital changes.

*Cash Used in Investing Activities.* Cash used in investing activities during the year ended December 31, 2017 was approximately \$1.4 million, as compared to \$0.6 million during the year ended December 31, 2016. Additions to our property, plant and equipment in the ordinary course of business were approximately \$1.5 million and \$0.7 million during the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

*Cash Provided by Financing Activities.* Cash provided by our financing activities was \$0.9 million during the year ended December 31, 2017, as compared to \$10.0 million during the year ended December 31, 2016. During 2017, borrowings under our revolving credit facilities increased by \$4.1 million.

*Working Capital* . As of December 31, 2017, we had working capital of \$1.6 million, including \$0.2 million of cash and cash equivalents, compared to working capital of \$2.4 million, including \$0.2 million of cash and cash equivalents at December 31, 2016. Our current assets were approximately 1.0 times our current liabilities at December 31, 2017, as compared to 1.1 times at December 31, 2016. At December 31, 2017 and 2016, we had \$3.3 and \$1.5 million, respectively, of available and unused borrowing capacity from our revolving credit facilities, without taking into account cash and equivalents on hand. However, the availability of this capacity under our revolving credit facilities is subject to restrictions on the use of proceeds and is dependent upon our ability to satisfy certain financial and operating covenants, including financial ratios.

*Assessment of Liquidity*. At December 31, 2017, we had total debt of \$29.4 million and \$0.2 million of cash and cash equivalents on hand. We have historically met our cash needs through a combination of cash flows from operating activities and bank borrowings under our revolving credit facilities. Our cash requirements are generally for operating activities, debt repayment, capital improvements and acquisitions. In addition, as further discussed below, our credit facilities maturity dates have been extended until April 1, 2020.

The financial statements included in this annual report have been prepared assuming that we will continue as a going concern, which contemplates the recoverability of assets and the satisfaction of liabilities in the normal course of business. Significant assumptions underlie this belief, including, among other things, that there will be no material adverse developments in our business, liquidity, capital requirements and that our credit facilities with our lender will remain available to us and will not need to be replaced.

#### **Credit Facilities and Long-Term Debt**

#### **Canadian Credit Facilities**

Our Canadian subsidiaries have maintained credit facilities with BMO since October 2009. In June 2011, our wholly owned subsidiary Pioneer Electrogroup Canada Inc. entered into a letter loan agreement with BMO (the "Initial Canadian Facilities") that replaced and superseded all of our businesses' prior financing arrangements with the bank.

Our Initial Canadian Facilities originally provided for up to \$22.0 million Canadian dollars ("CAD") (approximately \$15.9 million expressed in U.S. dollars) consisting of a \$10.0 million CAD demand revolving credit facility ("Facility A") to finance ongoing operations, a \$2.0 million CAD term credit facility ("Facility B") that financed a plant expansion, and a \$10.0 million CAD term credit facility ("Facility C") that financed a business acquisition and the purchase and expansion of its manufacturing facilities.

In the third quarter of 2015, in connection with an amendment to our United States credit facilities, we elected to prepay \$5.0 million Canadian dollars (approximately \$4.0 million expressed in U.S. dollars) of Facility C with cash available on hand.

In April 2016, our wholly owned subsidiary, Pioneer Electrogroup Canada Inc. ("PECI"), entered into an Amended and Restated Credit Agreement ("CAD ARCA") with BMO with respect to our existing Canadian credit facilities (as amended and restated, the "Canadian Facilities") that replaced and superseded all of our businesses' prior financing arrangements with the bank. This CAD ARCA extended the maturity date of our Canadian Facilities to July 31, 2017. Additionally, defaults relating to the breach of certain financial covenants under the prior financing arrangements with BMO existing as of December 31, 2015 were waived by BMO. The CAD ARCA was further amended (the "2017

CAD ARCA Amendment") on March 15, 2017, and again on March 28, 2018 (the "2018 CAD ARCA Amendment"). The 2018 CAD ARCA Amendment extended the term of our Canadian Facilities to April 1, 2020.

Our Canadian Facilities provided for up to \$8.2 million CAD (approximately \$6.3 million expressed in U.S. dollars) consisting of a revolving \$7.0 million CAD Facility A to finance ongoing operations, a \$0.5 million CAD Facility B that financed a plant expansion, and a \$0.7 million USD Facility that financed a business acquisition and the purchase and expansion of its manufacturing facilities. The 2017 CAD ARCA Amendment increased the Facility A to \$8.0 million CAD, increasing the total amount of loans available under the Canadian Facilities to \$9.2 million CAD.

Facility A, as amended by the 2017 CAD ARCA Amendment and the 2018 CAD ARCA Amendment, is subject to margin criteria. Facility A, as amended by the 2017 CAD ARCA Amendment, bore interest at BMO's prime rate plus 0.75% per annum on amounts borrowed in Canadian dollars, or BMO's U.S. base rate plus 0.75% per annum or LIBOR plus 2.25% per annum on amounts borrowed in U.S. dollars. The 2018 CAD ARCA Amendment modified the interest rate on Facility A borrowings to BMO's prime rate plus 0.50% per annum on amounts borrowed in Canadian dollars, or BMO's U.S. base rate plus 0.50% per annum on amounts borrowed in Canadian dollars, or BMO's U.S. base rate plus 0.50% per annum on amounts borrowed in Canadian dollars, or BMO's U.S. base rate plus 0.50% per annum or LIBOR plus 2.0% per annum on amounts borrowed in U.S. dollars. Pursuant to the 2017 CAD ARCA Amendment, Facility A was to mature on July 31, 2018. The 2018 CAD ARCA Amendment extended the maturity of borrowings under Facility A to April 1, 2020. Consistent with the terms of the historical Facility A Revolver, both a subjective acceleration clause and lockbox arrangement exist, as such the Facility A Revolver will continue to be presented as a current liability. The Company believes, based upon historical experience, that it is probable that the Facility A Revolver will remain in place to fund operations through the maturity of the borrowings in April 2020.

Borrowings under Facility B, as amended by the 2017 CAD ARCA Amendment, bears interest at BMO's prime rate plus 1.25% per annum with principal repayments becoming due on a five year amortization schedule. Pursuant to the CAD ARCA, quarterly principal repayments were reduced to \$47 CAD, with a balloon payment of \$141 CAD due on July 31, 2017. The 2017 CAD ARCA Amendment amended the payment schedules so that the quarterly principal payments of \$47 CAD was to continue after July 31, 2017 until our borrowings under the facility is fully paid on April 30, 2018. Pursuant to the 2018 CAD ARCA Amendment, the final principal payment of \$47 under Facility B remains to be due on April 30, 2018. The 2018 CAD ARCA Amendment did not modify the interest rate on Facility B borrowings, which remains at BMO's prime rate plus 1.25% per annum.

Borrowings under Facility C, as amended by the 2017 CAD ARCA, bore interest at BMO's prime rate plus 1.50% per annum on amounts borrowed in Canadian dollars, or BMO's U.S. base rate plus 1.50% per annum or LIBOR plus 2.75% per annum on amounts borrowed in U.S. dollars. Pursuant to the CAD ARCA, a principal repayment of \$72 USD was due on June 30, 2016, and the reduced quarterly principal repayments of \$36 USD were to be made beginning on October 31, 2016, with a balloon payment of \$496 USD due on July 31, 2017. The 2017 CAD ARCA Amendment amended the payment schedules so that the quarterly payments of \$36 USD were to continue until July 31, 2018, with a balloon payment of \$352 due on July 31, 2018. Pursuant to the 2018 CAD ARCA Amendment, quarterly principal repayments of \$36 will continue until January 31, 2020, with a balloon payment of \$136 due on April 1, 2020. The 2018 CAD ARCA Amendment modified the interest rate on Facility C borrowings to BMO's prime rate plus 1.25% per annum on amounts borrowed in Canadian dollars, or BMO's U.S. base rate plus 1.25% per annum on amounts borrowed in U.S. dollars.

Pursuant to the CAD ARCA, as amended by the 2017 CAD ARCA Amendment and the 2018 CAD ARCA Amendment, financial covenant testing is performed on our consolidated financial statements. We are required to meet certain minimum working capital ratios, minimum EBITDA levels and effective tangible net worth levels for each fiscal quarter, as set forth in the 2017 CAD ARCA Amendment and the 2018 CAD ARCA Amendment. Pursuant to the 2018 CAD ARCA Amendment, BMO waived defaults on all financial covenants existing as of December 31, 2017, for which we were not in compliance.

As of December 31, 2017, we had approximately \$3.5 million in U.S. dollar equivalents outstanding under our Canadian Credit Facilities. Our borrowings consisted of approximately \$2.9 million outstanding under Facility A, \$0.1 million outstanding under Facility B and \$0.5 million outstanding under Facility C.

As of December 31, 2016, we had approximately \$5.2 million in U.S. dollar equivalents outstanding under our Canadian Credit Facilities. Our borrowings consisted of approximately \$4.4 million outstanding under Facility A, \$0.2 million outstanding under Facility B and \$0.6 million outstanding under Facility C.

#### United States Credit Facilities

On December 2, 2014, our existing U.S. credit facilities (the "U.S. Facilities") were amended in order to provide a \$5.0 million term loan facility that was used for the acquisition of Titan.

In April 2016, we entered into an Amended and Restated Credit Agreement ("US ARCA") with BMO with respect to our U.S. Facilities that replaced and superseded all of our businesses' prior financing arrangements with the bank. Additionally, defaults relating to the breach of certain financial covenants under the prior financing arrangements with BMO existing as of December 31, 2015 were waived by BMO. The US ARCA was further amended (the "2017 US ARCA Amendment") on March 15, 2017, and again on March 28, 2018 (the "2018 US ARCA Amendment"). The 2018 US ARCA Amendment extended the term of our US Facilities to April 1, 2020.

Our U.S. Facilities, as amended and restated, provided for up to \$19.1 million USD consisting of a \$14.0 million USD Facility A to finance ongoing operations, a \$5.0 million USD Facility B that financed the acquisition of Titan, and a new \$0.1 million revolving credit facility provided pursuant to a MasterCard is to be used to pay for and temporarily finance our day-to-day business expenses and for no other purpose. The 2017 US ARCA Amendment increased the USD Facility A to \$15.0 million, increasing the total amount of loans available under the U.S. Facilities to \$20.1 million USD.

USD Facility A, as amended and restated per 2017 US ARCA, bore interest, at our option, at BMO's prime rate plus 1.00% per annum on U.S. prime rate loans, or an adjusted LIBOR rate plus 2.25% per annum on Eurodollar loans. Pursuant to the 2018 US ARCA Amendment, borrowings under Facility A bears interest, at our option, at the BMO's prime rate plus 0.75% per annum on U.S. prime rate loans, or an adjusted LIBOR rate plus 2.00% per annum on Eurodollar loans. USD Facility A had a maturity date of July 31, 2017, which was extended to July 31, 2018 pursuant to the 2017 US ARCA Amendment. The 2018 US ARCA Amendment extended the maturity of borrowings under Facility A to April 1, 2020. Consistent with the terms of the historical USD Facility A Revolver, both a subjective acceleration clause and lockbox arrangement exist, as such the USD Facility A Revolver will continue to be presented as a current liability. The Company believes, based upon historical experience, that it is probable that the USD Facility A Revolver will remain in place to fund operations through the maturity of the borrowings in April 2020.

Borrowings under USD Facility B bear interest, at our option, at U.S. base rate plus 1.25% per annum on U.S. prime loans, or an adjusted LIBOR rate plus 2.50% per annum on Eurodollar loans. Pursuant to the US ARCA, our quarterly principal payments were reduced to \$31 USD for calendar year 2016, with the original amortization schedule continuing to apply to all quarterly principal payments made after December 31, 2016, and the final maturity date of December 2, 2019. The 2017 US ARCA Amendment reduced the scheduled quarterly principal payments to \$31 USD, commencing March 31, 2017, to continue until July 31, 2018, with a balloon payment of \$4,438 on July 31, 2018. Pursuant to the 2018 US ARCA Amendment, quarterly principal repayments beginning on July 31, 2018 are increased to \$100 and will continue until March 31, 2020 with a balloon payment of \$2,338 due on April 1, 2020. The 2018 US ARCA Amendment did not change the Facility B interest rate.

Pursuant to the US ARCA, as amended by the 2017 US ARCA Amendment and the 2018 US ARCA Amendment, financial covenant testing is performed on our consolidated financial statements. We are required to meet certain minimum working capital ratios, minimum EBITDA levels and effective tangible net worth levels for each fiscal quarter, as set forth in the 2017 US ARCA Amendment and the 2018 US ARCA Amendment. On March 6, 2017, we received a waiver from BMO on certain financial covenants existing as of December 31, 2016. On March 28, 2018, pursuant to the 2018 US ARCA Amendment, BMO waived defaults on all financial covenants existing as of December 31, 2017 for which we were not in compliance.

Our obligations under the U.S. Facilities are guaranteed by all our wholly-owned U.S. subsidiaries. In addition, we and our wholly-owned U.S. subsidiaries granted a security interest in substantially all of our assets, including 65% of the shares of Pioneer Electrogroup Canada Inc. held by us, to secure our obligations for borrowed money under the U.S. Facilities. The U.S. Facilities also restrict our ability to incur indebtedness, create or incur liens, make investments, make distributions or dividends and enter into merger agreements or agreements for the sale of any or all our assets.

As of December 31, 2017, we had approximately \$19.4 million outstanding under our U.S. Credit Facilities. Our borrowings consisted of approximately \$14.9 million outstanding under USD Facility A, and \$4.5 million outstanding under USD Facility B.

As of December 31, 2016, we had approximately \$17.9 million outstanding under our U.S. Credit Facilities. Our borrowings consisted of approximately \$13.3 million outstanding under USD Facility A, and \$4.6 million outstanding under USD Facility B.

#### Nexus Promissory Note

On July 25, 2012, Nexus Magneticos de Mexico, S. de R.L. de C.V., a subsidiary of Jefferson Electric, Inc., entered into a \$1.7 million term loan agreement with GE CF Mexico, S.A. de C.V. The term loan from GE CF Mexico, S.A. de C.V. is payable in 60 consecutive monthly installments and bears interest, payable monthly, at a rate of 6.93% per annum. In December 2013, we elected to make a \$250 advance payment against the Nexus Promissory Note. We provided a guaranty to GE CF Mexico, S.A. de C.V. of all of Nexus Magneticos de Mexico, S. de R.L. de C.V.'s obligations under the term loan agreement. As of December 31, 2017, the balance of the note has been fully repaid. At December 31, 2016, there was approximately \$0.2 million outstanding under the Nexus Promissory Note.

#### Short Term Borrowings

We maintain a short term borrowing arrangement to fund the purchase of raw materials utilized in certain manufacturing processes. The aggregate borrowings under this arrangement amounted to \$5.4 million and \$4.0 million as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

#### Capital Lease Obligations

As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, we had an immaterial amount of capital lease obligations outstanding that were assumed in connection with the acquisition of Titan.

#### **Capital Expenditures**

Our additions to property, plant and equipment were \$1.5 million during the year ended December 31, 2017, as compared to \$0.7 million during the year ended December 31, 2016. We have no major future capital projects planned, or significant replacement spending anticipated during 2018.

#### **Factors That May Affect Future Operations**

We believe that our future operating results will continue to be subject to quarterly variations based upon a wide variety of factors, including the cyclical nature of the electrical equipment industry and the markets for our products and services. Our operating results could also be impacted by a weakening of the Canadian dollar, changing customer requirements and exposure to fluctuations in prices of important raw supplies, such as copper, steel and aluminum. We attempt to minimize increases resulting from fluctuations in supply costs through the inclusion of escalation clauses with respect to commodities in our customer contracts. We have various insurance policies, including cybersecurity, covering risks in amounts that we consider adequate. In addition to these measures, we attempt to recover other cost increases through improvements to our manufacturing efficiency and through increases in prices where competitively feasible. Lastly, other economic conditions we cannot foresee may affect customer demand. We predominately sell to customers in the utility, industrial production and commercial construction markets. Accordingly, changes in the condition of any of our customers may have a greater impact than if our sales were more evenly distributed between different end markets. For a further discussion of factors that may affect future operating results see the sections entitled "Risk Factors" and "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

#### **Off Balance Sheet Transactions and Related Matters**

Other than operating leases, we have no off-balance sheet transactions, arrangements, obligations (including contingent obligations), or other relationships with unconsolidated entities or other persons that have, or may have, a material effect on our financial condition, changes in financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources.

#### **New Accounting Pronouncements**

The information required by this Item is provided in "Note 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies" to our audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2017 included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606), or ASU 2014-09, which supersedes nearly all existing revenue recognition guidance under U.S. GAAP. Since then, the FASB has also issued ASU 2016-08, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606), Principals versus Agent Considerations, ASU 2016-04, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606), Identifying Performance Obligations and Licensing, and ASU 2017-13 Revenue Recognition (Topic 605), Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606), Leases (Topic 840), and Leases (Topic 842), Amendments to SEC Paragraphs Pursuant to the Staff Announcement at the July 20, 2017 EITF Meeting and Recession of Prior SEC Staff Announcements and Observer Comments, which further elaborate on the original ASU No. 2014-09. The core principle of these updates is to recognize revenues when promised goods or services are transferred to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled for those goods or services. ASU 2014-09 defines a five step process to achieve this core principle and, in doing so, more judgments and estimates may be required within the revenue recognition process than are required under existing U.S. GAAP. In July 2015, the FASB approved a one-year deferral of the effective date to January 1, 2018, with early adoption to be permitted as of the original effective date of January 1, 2017. Once this standard becomes effective, companies may use either of the following transition methods: (i) a full retrospective approach reflecting the application of the standard in each prior reporting period with the option to elect certain practical expedients; or (ii) a retrospective approach with the cumulative effect of initially adopting ASU 2014-09 recognized at the date of adoption (which includes additional footnote disclosures) (the "modified retrospective approach"). We completed a review of our various revenue streams within our two reportable segments, T&D Solutions and Critical Power. We have gathered data to quantify the amount of sales by type of revenue stream and categorized the types of sales for our business units for the purpose of comparing how we currently recognize revenue to the new standard in order to quantify the impact of this ASU. We generally anticipate having substantially similar performance obligations under the new guidance as compared with deliverables and units of account currently being recognized. We have made policy elections within the amended standard that are consistent with our current accounting. We adopted ASU 2014-09 in our first quarter of 2018 using the modified retrospective approach. We have performed a quantitative assessment of adopting ASU 2014-09 and concluded that there will be no material impact to our financial statements other than enhanced disclosures and no changes to the opening retained earnings.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-02, *Leases (Topic 842)*, which requires, among other things, a lessee to recognize a liability representing future lease payments and a right-of-use asset representing its right to use the underlying asset for the lease term. For operating leases, a lessee will be required to recognize at inception a right-of-use asset and a lease liability equal to the net present value of the lease payments, with lease expense recognized over the lease term on a straight-line basis. For leases with a term of twelve months or less, ASU 2016-02 allows a reporting entity to make an accounting policy election to not recognize a right-of-use asset and a lease liability, and to recognize lease expense on a straight-line basis. ASU No. 2016-02 is effective for fiscal years

beginning after December 15, 2018, including interim periods within those fiscal years, with early adoption permitted. Upon adoption, a reporting entity should apply the provisions of ASU 2016-02 at the beginning of the earliest period presented using a modified retrospective approach, which includes certain optional practical expedients that an entity may elect to apply. We adopted this standard in our first quarter of 2018 using the modified retrospective approach. As a result, the opening retained earnings for January 1, 2017, will be reduced by approximately \$0.2 million. There will also be an increase in assets and corresponding liabilities of approximately \$4.4 and \$4.6 million, respectively at January 1, 2017. We are in the process of evaluating the deferred tax impact of these changes and expect to complete this evaluation for the first quarter of fiscal year 2018. The deferred tax impact may further impact the adjustment to retained earnings.

In April 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-09, "Compensation-Stock Compensation (Topic 718), Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting". Under ASU No. 2016-09, companies will no longer record excess tax benefits and certain tax deficiencies in additional paid-in capital ("APIC"). Instead, they will record all excess tax benefits and tax deficiencies as income tax expense or benefit in the income statement and the APIC pools will be eliminated. In addition, ASU No. 2016-09 eliminates the requirement that excess tax benefits be realized before companies can recognize them. ASU No. 2016-09 also requires companies to present excess tax benefits as an operating activity on the statement of cash flows rather than as a financing activity. Furthermore, ASU No. 2016-09 will increase the amount an employer can withhold to cover income taxes on awards and still qualify for the exception to liability classification for shares used to satisfy the employer's statutory income tax withholding obligation. An employer with a statutory income tax withholding obligation will now be allowed to withhold shares with a fair value up to the amount of taxes owed using the maximum statutory tax rate in the employee's applicable jurisdiction(s). ASU No. 2016-09 requires a company to classify the cash paid to a tax authority when shares are withheld to satisfy its statutory income tax withholding obligation as a financing activity on the statement of cash flows. Under current GAAP, it was not specified how these cash flows should be classified. In addition, companies will now have to elect whether to account for forfeitures on share-based payments by (1) recognizing forfeitures of awards as they occur or (2) estimating the number of awards expected to be forfeited and adjusting the estimate when it is likely to change, as is currently required. The amendments of this ASU are effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016, with early adoption permitted but all of the guidance must be adopted in the same period. We adopted ASU No. 2016-09 in 2017. The adoption of the new guidance did not materially affect our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In August 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-15, *Statement of Cash Flows* (Topic 230) : *Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments*. The purpose of Update No. 2016-15 is to reduce the diversity in practice in presentation and classification of the following items within the statement of cash flows: debt prepayments or debt extinguishment costs, settlement of zero coupon debt instruments or other debt instruments with coupon interest rates that are insignificant in relation to the effective interest rate of the borrowing, contingent consideration payments made after a business combination, proceeds from the settlement of insurance claims, proceeds from the settlement of corporate-owned life insurance policies, distributions received from equity method investments and beneficial interests in securitization transactions. It also addresses classification of transactions that have characteristics of more than one class of cash flows. Update No. 2016-15 is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2017, and a retrospective transition method is required. We do not expect the adoption to have a material impact on our consolidated statements of cash flows.

In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU No. 2017-04, "Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment." This standard was established to simplify how an entity is required to test goodwill for impairment by eliminating Step 2 from the goodwill impairment test. Step 2 measures a goodwill impairment loss by comparing the implied fair value of a reporting unit's goodwill with the carrying amount of that goodwill. Under the amendments in this Update, an entity should perform its annual, or interim, goodwill impairment test by comparing the fair value of a reporting unit with its carrying amount. An entity should recognize an impairment charge for the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the reporting unit's fair value; however, the loss recognized should not exceed the total amount of goodwill allocated to that reporting unit. Additionally, an entity should consider income tax effects from any tax deductible goodwill on the carrying amount of the reporting unit when measuring the goodwill impairment loss, if applicable. The FASB also eliminated the requirements for any reporting unit with a zero or negative carrying amount to perform a qualitative assessment and, if it fails that qualitative test, to perform Step 2 of the goodwill impairment test. Therefore, the same impairment assessment applies to all reporting units. An entity is required to disclose the amount of goodwill allocated to each reporting unit with a zero or negative carrying amount of net assets. An entity still has the option to perform the qualitative assessment for a reporting unit to determine if the quantitative impairment test is necessary. We adopted this standard during the fourth quarter of 2017 in conjunction with our goodwill impairment assessment.

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

Not Applicable.

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

#### INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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#### **Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

Board of Directors and Stockholders Pioneer Power Solutions, Inc. Fort Lee, New Jersey

#### **Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Pioneer Power Solutions, Inc. (the "Company") and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive loss, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the two years in the period ended December 31, 2017, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the "consolidated financial statements"). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company and subsidiaries at December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the two years in the period ended December 31, 2017, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

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

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

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

#### /s/ BDO USA, LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2014.

New York, New York April 2, 2018

#### **PIONEER POWER SOLUTIONS, INC.** Consolidated Statements of Operations (In thousands, except per share data)

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2017	2016	
Revenues	\$ 101,390	\$ 99,632	
Cost of goods sold			
Cost of goods sold	80,527	77,486	
Restructuring and integration	873		
Total cost of goods sold	81,400	77,486	
Gross profit	19,990	22,146	
Operating expenses			
Selling, general and administrative	16,712	16,742	
Restructuring and integration	215	2,204	
Foreign exchange gain	(324)	(364)	
Total operating expenses	16,603	18,582	
Income from continuing operations	3,387	3,564	
Interest expense	2,301	1,739	
Other expense (income)	229	(554)	
Income before taxes	857	2,379	
Income tax expense	3,554	925	
Net (loss) income from continuing operations	(2,697)	1,454	
Loss from discontinued operations, net of income taxes	(6,647)	(2,517)	
Net loss	\$ (9,344 )	\$ (1,063 )	
(Loss) earnings per share:			
Basic and diluted			
(Loss) income from continuing operations	\$ (0.31 )	\$ 0.17	
Loss from discontinued operations	(0.76)	(0.29)	
Net loss	\$ (1.07 )	\$ (0.12 )	
Weighted average common shares outstanding:			
Basic	8,717	8,700	
Diluted	8,717	8,700	
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements			

### **PIONEER POWER SOLUTIONS, INC.** Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Loss (In thousands)

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2017	2016	
Net loss	\$ (9,344)	\$ (1,063)	
Other comprehensive income (loss)			
Foreign currency translation adjustments	169	(37)	
Amortization of net prior service costs and net actuarial losses, net of tax	(108)	(157)	
Other comprehensive income (loss)	61	(194)	
Comprehensive loss	\$ (9,283)	\$ (1,257)	
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements			

### **PIONEER POWER SOLUTIONS, INC.** Consolidated Balance Sheets (In thousands)

	Decen 2017	nber 31,	2016	)16		
ASSETS						
Current assets Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable, net	\$	218 13,432	\$	246 14,266		
Inventories, net Income taxes receivable		23,192 743		22,279 72		
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		2,803		2,079		
Current assets of discontinued operations		6,944		7,246		
Total current assets Property, plant and		47,332		46,188		
equipment, net		6,335		5,925		
Deferred income taxes Other assets		2,729 45		5,659 655		
Intangible assets, net Goodwill		4,922 8,527		6,564 8,527		
Noncurrent assets of discontinued operations		_		3,890		
Total assets	\$	69,890	\$	77,408		
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY Current liabilities						
Bank overdrafts	\$	833	\$	1,086		
Revolving credit facilities Short term borrowings		17,814 5,430		17,689 3,973		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Current maturities of		15,942		14,123		
long-term debt and capital lease obligations		782		1,379		
Income taxes payable		1,164		1,360		
Current liabilities of discontinued operations		3,719		4,130		
Total current liabilities		45,684		43,740		
Long-term debt, net of current maturities		4,153		4,005		
Pension deficit		283		172		

Other long-term liabilities Noncurrent deferred income taxes Total liabilities Stockholders' equity	603 1,665 52,388			892 2,400 51,209	
Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value, 5,000,000 shares authorized; none issued	_			—	
Common stock, \$0.001 par value, 30,000,000 shares authorized; 8,726,045 shares issued and outstanding on December 31, 2017 and 8,699,712 shares issued and outstanding on December 31, 2016	9			9	
Additional paid-in capital	23,801			23,215	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(5,802	)		(5,863	)
Accumulated deficit/ Retained earnings	(506	)		8,838	
Total stockholders' equity	17,502			26,199	
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 69,890		\$	77,408	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements

### **PIONEER POWER SOLUTIONS, INC.** Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (In thousands)

	Year Ende December 2017	, 2016		
Operating activities				
Net loss	\$ (9,344	)	\$ (1,063	)
Depreciation	1,285		1,341	
Amortization of intangible assets	1,774		1,746	
Amortization of debt issuance cost	205		235	
Deferred income tax expense	2,201		(405	)
Inventory write off	2,642			
Change in receivable reserves	239		352	
Change in inventory reserves	(102	)	(86	)
Accrued pension	(8	)	(53	)
Stock-based compensation	466		62	
Loss on disposition of fixed assets	40		74	
Intangible asset impairment			110	
Goodwil impairment of discontinued operations	1,445			
Foreign currency remeasurement loss	(27	)	(7	)
Changes in current operating assets and liabilities:				
Accounts receivable	2,594		(3,560	)
Inventories	(1,975	)	(8,244	)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(256	)	(153	)
Income taxes	(923	)	1,660	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1,143		(1,467	)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	1,399		(9,458	)
Investing activities				
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(1,450	)	(668	)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	22		50	
Net cash used in investing activities	(1,428	)	(618	)
Financing activities				
Bank overdrafts	(61	)	(716	)
Short term borrowings	1,457		3,973	
Borrowing under debt agreement	40,481		36,394	
Repayment of debt	(40,993	)	(29,441	)
Payment of debt issuance costs	(61	)	(251	)
Net proceeds from the exercise of options for common stock	120			
Net cash provided by financing activities	943		9,959	
Increase / (Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	914		(117	)
Effect of foreign exchange on cash and cash equivalents	(942	)	(285	)
	<u></u>	/	(	/

Cash and cash equivalents			
Beginning of year	246	648	
End of period	\$ 218	\$ 246	
Supplemental cash flow information:			
Interest paid	\$ 1,928	\$ 1,258	
Income taxes paid, net of refunds	1,725	(322	)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements

### **PIONEER POWER SOLUTIONS, INC.** Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity (Dollars in thousands)

	Common Stock		Additional	Accumulated other	Accumula deficit/	Accumulated		Total	
	Shares	Amoun	t paid-in capital	comprehensive income (loss)		Retained		stockholders' equity	
Balance - January 1, 2016 Net Loss Stock-based	8,699,712 	\$9 	\$ 23,153  62	\$ (5,669 	) \$ 9,901 (1,063	)	\$	27,394 (1,063 62	)
compensation Foreign currency translation adjustment Pension adjustment, net	_	_	_	(37	) —			(37 (157	)
of taxes Balance - December 31, 2016 Net Loss	8,699,712	\$ 9	\$ 23,215 		) \$ 8,838 (9,344	)	\$	(157 26,199 (9,344	)
Stock-based compensation	_	_	466	—		,		466	,
Foreign currency translation adjustment Pension adjustment, net		—	—	169	—			169	
of taxes Issuance of common stock	 26,333	_	 120	(108	) —			(108 120	)
Balance - December 31, 2017	8,726,045	\$9	\$ 23,801	\$ (5,802	) \$ (506	)	\$	17,502	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements

# **1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

Pioneer Power Solutions, Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiaries (referred to herein as the "Company," "Pioneer," "we," "our" and "us") manufacture, sell and service a broad range of specialty electrical transmission, distribution and on-site power generation equipment for applications in the utility, industrial, commercial and backup power markets. The Company is headquartered in Fort Lee, New Jersey and operates from thirteen (13) additional locations in the U.S., Canada and Mexico for manufacturing, centralized distribution, engineering, sales and administration.

# NASDAQ Listing

On September 24, 2013, the Company completed an underwritten public offering of 1,265,000 shares of its common stock at a gross sales price of \$7.00 per share, resulting in net proceeds to the Company of approximately \$7.9 million, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and other offering expenses. In connection with the public offering, the Company's common stock began trading on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol PPSI.

### Segments

In determining operating and reportable segments in accordance with ASC 280, Segment Reporting ("ASC 280"), the Company concluded that it has two reportable segments, which are also our operating segments: Transmission & Distribution Solutions ("T&D Solutions") and Critical Power Solutions. Financial information about the Company's segments is presented in Note 16 – Business Segment, Geographic and Customer Information.

### **Discontinued Operations**

During the fourth quarter of 2017, as part of the Company's review of strategic alternatives, the Company made the decision to sell its switchgear business operated by Pioneer Custom Electric Products, Inc. ("PCEP"). Operating results for PCEP, which have been previously included in the T&D Solutions Segment, have now been reclassified as discontinued operations for all periods presented. See Note 5 – Discontinued Operations in Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II of this Form 10-K. Unless noted otherwise, discussions in these notes pertain to our continuous operations.

### Rounding

All dollar amounts (except share and per share data) presented are stated in thousands of dollars, unless otherwise noted. Amounts may not foot due to rounding.

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### General

The preparation of consolidated financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

On March 28, 2018 Bank of Montreal executed amendments to our agreements for Canadian and US Credit Facilities (the "2018 CAD ARCA amendment" and "2018 US ARCA amendment") which extended our Canadian and US Credit Facilities until April 1, 2020. These amendments modified our credit facilities as follows:

## Canadian Credit Facilities

Revolving Facility A shall not exceed \$8.0 million CAD and with maturity date extended to April 1, 2020. The interest rate on Facility A is modified to the Bank of Montreal's prime rate plus 0.50% per annum on amounts borrowed in Canadian dollars, or the Bank of Montreal's U.S. base rate plus 0.50% per annum or LIBOR plus 2.0% per annum on amounts borrowed in U.S. dollars.

• Facility B – Final principal payment of \$47 remains to be due on April 30, 2018. The interest rate on Facility B remains unchanged to BMO's prime rate plus 1.25% per annum.

Facility C – Quarterly principal repayments of \$36 will continue until January 31, 2020, with a balloon payment of \$136 due on April 1, 2020. The interest rate on Facility C was modified to the Bank of Montreal's prime rate plus 1.25% per annum on amounts borrowed in Canadian dollars, or the Bank of Montreal's U.S. base rate plus 1.25% per annum or LIBOR plus 2.50% per annum on amounts borrowed in U.S. dollars. *United States Credit Facilities* 

Revolving Demand Facility A shall not exceed \$15.0 million with maturity date extended to April 1, 2020. Facility •A will bear interest, at our option, at the Bank of Montreal's prime rate plus 0.75% per annum on U.S. prime rate

loans, or an adjusted LIBOR rate plus 2.00% per annum on Eurodollar loans. Facility B – quarterly principal repayments beginning on July 31, 2018 are increased to \$100 and will continue until March 31, 2020 with a balloon payment of \$2,338 due on April 1, 2020. Facility B will continue to bear interest, at

March 31, 2020 with a balloon payment of \$2,338 due on April 1, 2020. Facility B will continue to bear interest, at our option, at the Bank of Montreal's prime rate plus 1.25% per annum on U.S. prime rate loans, or an adjusted LIBOR rate plus 2.50% per annum on Eurodollar loans.

### **Principles of Consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

### Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications have been made in prior years' financial statements to conform to the presentation used in the current year. These reclassifications have not resulted in any changes to the previously reported net income for any year.

### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The financial statements include estimates based on currently available information and management's judgment as to the outcome of future conditions and circumstances. Significant estimates in these financial statements include allowance for doubtful accounts receivable, inventory provision, useful lives and impairment of long-lived assets, income tax provision, goodwill impairment, cost of pension benefits and estimates related to purchase price allocation.

Changes in the status of certain facts or circumstances could result in material changes to the estimates used in the preparation of the financial statements and actual results could differ from the estimates and assumptions.

# **Discontinued Operations**

The Company accounts for businesses held for sale in accordance with ASC 205–20, Discontinued Operations. ASC 205–20 requires the results of operations of business disposition to be segregated from continuing operations and reflected as discontinued operations in current and prior periods. Please see Note 5 – Discontinued Operations to the consolidated financial statements.

# **Revenue Recognition**

Revenue is recognized when (1) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, (2) delivery occurs, (3) the sales price is fixed or determinable, (4) collectability is reasonably assured and (5) customer acceptance criteria, if any, has been successfully demonstrated. Revenue is recognized on the sale of goods, when the significant risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred to the buyer upon delivery, provided that the Company maintains neither managerial involvement to the degree usually associated with ownership, nor effective control over the goods sold. There are no further obligations on the part of the Company subsequent to revenue recognition, except when customers have the right of return or when the Company warrants the product. The Company records a provision for future returns, based on historical experience at the time of shipment of products to customers. The Company warrants some of its products a provision for estimated future warranty costs based on the historical relationship of warranty claims to sales at the time of shipment of products to customers. The Adequacy of its product warranty reserves and adjusts, if necessary, the warranty percentage and accrued warranty reserve for actual experience.

Service revenue primarily consists of preventative maintenance and monitoring services, as well as the provision of after-market support related to equipment sales and project commissioning service revenue. Revenues from these services are recognized when the service is performed and the customer has accepted the work.

### **Cost of Goods Sold**

Cost of goods sold for the T&D Solutions and Critical Power segments primarily includes charges for materials, direct labor and related benefits, freight (inbound and outbound), direct supplies and tools, purchasing and receiving costs, inspection costs, internal transfer costs, warehousing costs and utilities related to production facilities and, where appropriate, an allocation of overhead. Cost of goods sold for Critical Power Solutions also includes indirect labor and infrastructure cost related to the provision of field services.

### **Financial Instruments**

The Company's financial instruments consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents, receivables, payables and debt instruments. The carrying values of these financial instruments approximate their respective fair values as they are either short–term in nature or carry interest rates which are periodically adjusted to market rates. Unless otherwise indicated, the carrying value of these financial instruments approximates their fair market value.

### **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, demand deposits and investments with an original maturity at the date of purchase of three months or less.

### **Accounts Receivable**

The Company accounts for trade receivables at original invoice amount less an estimate made for doubtful receivables based on a review of all outstanding amounts on a monthly basis. Management determines the allowance for doubtful accounts by regularly evaluating individual customer receivables and considering a customer's financial condition, credit history and current economic conditions. The Company writes off trade receivables when they are deemed uncollectible. The Company records recoveries of trade receivables previously written off when it receives them. Management considers the Company's allowance for doubtful accounts, which was \$0.5 and \$0.6 million as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively, sufficient to cover any exposure to loss in its accounts receivable.

### Long-Lived Assets

Depreciation and amortization for property, plant and equipment, and finite life intangible assets, is computed and included in cost of goods sold and in selling and administrative expense, as appropriate. Long-lived assets, consisting primarily of property, plant and equipment, are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Property, plant and equipment are depreciated using the straight line method, based on the estimated useful lives of the assets (buildings – 25 years, machinery and equipment - 5 to 15 years, computer hardware and software - 3 to 5 years, furniture & fixtures 5 to 7 years, leasehold improvements – term of lease). Depreciation commences in the year the assets are ready for their intended use. As a convention, in the initial year an asset is placed in service, the Company takes one half year of depreciation.

Finite life intangible assets consist primarily of customer relationships in multiple categories that are specific to the businesses acquired and for which estimated useful lives were determined based on actual historical customer attrition rates. The Company's other finite life intangible assets consist of non-compete agreements, which have defined terms, certain trademarks which the Company has elected to gradually discontinue, and internally-developed software. These finite life intangible assets are amortized by the Company over periods ranging from four to ten years. The Company accelerated and fully amortized the distributor territory license intangible asset upon the termination of its distribution agreement with a supplier during the year ended December 31, 2017.

Long-lived assets and finite life intangible assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or circumstances have occurred that indicate the remaining useful life of the asset may warrant revision or that the remaining balance of the asset may not be recoverable. Upon indications of impairment, or in the normal course of annual testing, assets and liabilities are grouped at the lowest level for which identifiable cash flows are largely independent of the cash flows of other assets and liabilities. The measurement of possible impairment is generally estimated by the ability to recover the balance of an asset group from its expected future operating cash flows on an undiscounted basis. If such assets are considered to be impaired, the impairment to be recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the fair value thereof. Determining asset groups and underlying cash flows requires the use of significant judgment.

### **Goodwill and Indefinite Life Intangible Assets**

Goodwill was generated through the acquisitions made by the Company between 2010 and 2015. As the total consideration paid exceeded the value of the net assets acquired, the Company recorded goodwill for each of the completed acquisitions. At the date of acquisition, the Company performed a valuation to determine the value of the intangible assets, and the allocation of the purchase price to the assets and liabilities acquired. The goodwill is attributable to synergies and economies of scale provided to us by the acquired entity.

The Company tests its goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible asset for impairment at least annually (as of October 1) and whenever events or circumstances change that indicate impairment may have occurred. A significant amount of judgment is involved in determining if an indicator of impairment has occurred. Such indicators may include, among others: a significant decline in the Company's expected future cash flows; a sustained, significant decline in the Company's stock price and market capitalization; a significant adverse change in legal factors or in the business climate of its segments; unanticipated competition; and slower growth rates. Any adverse change in these factors could have a significant impact on the recoverability of goodwill, the indefinite-lived intangible assets and the Company's consolidated financial results. As described in Note 9, the company recorded an impairment charge of \$1,445 against goodwill in 2017 and \$110 against technology related industry accreditations in 2016. Reportable segments are defined in Note 1 Basis of Presentation.

The Company tests its goodwill for impairment at the reporting unit level, which is an operating segment or a segment that is one level below its operating segments. An operating segment is defined by ASC 280–10–50 as a component of an enterprise that earns revenue and incurs expenses, of which discrete financial information is available. The goodwill has been assigned to the reporting unit to which the value relates. Two of the Company's four reporting units have goodwill. The Company tests goodwill by estimating the fair value of the reporting unit using a discounted cash flow model and other valuation techniques, but may elect to perform a qualitative analysis. A quantitative analysis is used to determine an estimated fair value representing the amount at which a reporting unit could be bought or sold in a current transaction between willing parties on an arms-length basis. The estimated fair value of each reporting unit is derived using a discounted cash flow method based on market and reporting unit-specific assumptions, including estimated future revenues and expenses, weighted average cost of capital, capital expenditures, the useful life over which cash flows will occur and other assumptions which are considered reasonable and inherent in discounted cash flow analysis. A qualitative analysis is performed by assessing certain trends and factors, including projected market outlook and growth rates, forecasted and actual sales and operating profit margins, discount rates, industry data and other relevant qualitative factors. These trends and factors are compared to, and based on, the assumptions used in the most recent quantitative assessment.

Indefinite life intangible assets consist primarily of trademarks. The fair value of these assets are determined using a royalty relief methodology of the income approach similar to that employed when the associated assets were acquired, but using updated estimates of future sales, cash flows and profitability. The royalty relief methodology isolates the revenues derived from the use of the intangible asset, applies an appropriate pretax royalty rate to the revenues, deducts income taxes, discounts the cash flow over the projection period to present value using an appropriate discount rate and adds the present value of the tax shield.

The Company's 2017 quantitative impairment test identified impairment of goodwill of \$1,445 in our switchgear business currently reported in discontinued operations and no impairment of indefinite life intangibles. During the Company's 2016 annual impairment tests of goodwill and indefinite life intangible assets, management identified an impairment of an indefinite-lived intangible asset in its T&D segment and recognized an impairment charge of \$110 since the asset was no longer actively used by the Company.

### **Foreign Currency Translation**

The functional currency for the Companies foreign subsidiaries is the local currency in which the entity is located. The financial statements of all subsidiaries with a functional currency other than the U.S. dollar have been translated into U.S. dollars. All assets and liabilities of foreign operations are translated into U.S. dollars using year-end exchange rates, and all revenues and expenses are translated at weighted average rates during the respective period. The U.S. dollar results that arise from such translation, as well as exchange gains and losses on intercompany balances of a

long-term investment nature, are included in the cumulative currency translation adjustments in accumulated other comprehensive income in stockholders' equity. Gains and losses resulting from foreign currency transactions are included in earnings.

### **Income Taxes**

The Company accounts for income taxes under the asset and liability method, based on the income tax laws and rates in the countries in which operations are conducted and income is earned. This approach requires the recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of temporary differences between the carrying amounts and the tax basis of assets and liabilities. Developing the provision for income taxes requires significant judgment and expertise in federal, international and state income tax laws, regulations and strategies, including the determination of deferred tax assets and liabilities and, if necessary, any valuation allowances that may be required for deferred tax assets. The Company records a valuation allowance to reduce its deferred tax assets to the amount that is more likely than not to be realized. The Company believes that the deferred tax asset recorded as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, is realizable through future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences and future taxable income. If the Company was to subsequently determine that it would be able to realize deferred tax assets in the future in excess of its net recorded amount, an adjustment to deferred tax assets would increase net income for the period in which such determination was made. The Company will continue to assess the adequacy of the valuation allowance on a quarterly basis. The Company's judgments and tax filings are subject to audit by various taxing authorities.

The objective of accounting for income taxes is to recognize the amount of taxes payable or refundable for the current year and deferred tax liabilities and assets for the future tax consequences or events that have been recognized in the Company's financial statements or tax returns. The Company recognizes the tax benefit from an uncertain tax position only if it is more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained on examination by the taxing authorities, based on the technical merits of the position (see "Unrecognized Tax Benefits" below).

Income tax related interest and penalties are grouped with interest expense on the consolidated statement of operations.

## **Unrecognized Tax Benefits**

The Company accounts for unrecognized tax benefits in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") "Income Taxes" ("ASC 740"). ASC 740 prescribes a recognition threshold that a tax position is required to meet before being recognized in the financial statements and provides guidance on de-recognition, measurement, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition issues. ASC 740 contains a two-step approach to recognizing and measuring uncertain tax positions. The first step is to evaluate the tax position for recognition by determining if the weight of available evidence indicates that it is more likely than not that the position will be sustained upon ultimate settlement with a taxing authority, including resolution of related appeals or litigation processes, if any. The second step is to measure the tax benefit as the largest amount that is more than 50% likely of being realized upon ultimate settlement.

Additionally, ASC 740 requires the Company to accrue interest and related penalties, if applicable, on all tax positions for which reserves have been established consistent with jurisdictional tax laws. See Note 14 – Income Taxes.

### **Share-Based Payments**

The Company accounts for share based payments in accordance with the provisions of FASB ASC 718 "Compensation – Stock Compensation" and accordingly recognizes in its financial statements share based payments at their fair value. In addition, it recognizes in the financial statements an expense based on the grant date fair value of stock options granted to employees and directors. The expense is recognized on a straight line basis over the expected option life while taking into account the vesting period and the offsetting credit is recorded in additional paid-in capital. Upon exercise of options, the consideration paid together with the amount previously recorded as additional paid-in capital is recognized as capital stock. The Company estimates its forfeiture rate in order to determine its compensation expense arising from stock based awards. The Company uses the Black-Scholes Merton option pricing model to determine the fair value of the options. Non-employee members of the Board of Directors are deemed to be employees for the purposes of recognizing share-based compensation expense.

### **Employee Benefit Plan**

The Company sponsors a defined benefit plan as described in Note 15 – Pension Plan. The cost of pension benefits earned by employees is actuarially determined using the accumulated benefit method and a discount rate, used to measure interest cost on the accrued employee future benefit obligation, based on m