

ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS INC
Form 10-Q
November 01, 2018

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

FORM 10-Q
(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2018

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: 1-4797

ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| | |
|--|---|
| Delaware | 36-1258310 |
| (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) | (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number) |
| 155 Harlem Avenue, Glenview, IL | 60025 |
| (Address of principal executive offices) | (Zip Code) |

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code) 847-724-7500

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company

Emerging growth company

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

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

Yes No

The number of shares of registrant's common stock, \$0.01 par value, outstanding at September 30, 2018: 331,801,491.

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PART I – FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. Financial Statements

Illinois Tool Works Inc. and Subsidiaries
Statement of Income (Unaudited)

| | Three Months | | Nine Months | |
|--|---------------|---------|---------------|----------|
| | Ended | | Ended | |
| | September 30, | | September 30, | |
| In millions except per share amounts | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Operating Revenue | \$3,613 | \$3,615 | \$11,188 | \$10,685 |
| Cost of revenue | 2,096 | 2,092 | 6,508 | 6,182 |
| Selling, administrative, and research and development expenses | 581 | 592 | 1,813 | 1,803 |
| Legal settlement (income) | — | (80) | — | (95) |
| Amortization and impairment of intangible assets | 47 | 51 | 143 | 156 |
| Operating Income | 889 | 960 | 2,724 | 2,639 |
| Interest expense | (64) | (65) | (194) | (194) |
| Other income (expense) | 10 | 11 | 48 | 29 |
| Income Before Taxes | 835 | 906 | 2,578 | 2,474 |
| Income Taxes | 197 | 266 | 622 | 711 |
| Net Income | \$638 | \$640 | \$1,956 | \$1,763 |
| Net Income Per Share: | | | | |
| Basic | \$1.91 | \$1.86 | \$5.81 | \$5.12 |
| Diluted | \$1.90 | \$1.85 | \$5.77 | \$5.07 |
| Cash Dividends Per Share: | | | | |
| Paid | \$0.78 | \$0.65 | \$2.34 | \$1.95 |
| Declared | \$1.00 | \$0.78 | \$2.56 | \$2.08 |
| Shares of Common Stock Outstanding During the Period: | | | | |
| Average | 333.3 | 343.4 | 336.7 | 344.7 |
| Average assuming dilution | 335.3 | 346.0 | 339.0 | 347.5 |

The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

Illinois Tool Works Inc. and Subsidiaries
Statement of Comprehensive Income (Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|--|-------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| In millions | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Net Income | \$638 | \$640 | \$1,956 | \$1,763 |
| Other Comprehensive Income (Loss): | | | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments, net of tax | (67) | 96 | (283) | 367 |
| Pension and other postretirement benefit adjustments, net of tax | 8 | 13 | 26 | 33 |
| Comprehensive Income | \$579 | \$749 | \$1,699 | \$2,163 |

The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

Illinois Tool Works Inc. and Subsidiaries
Statement of Financial Position (Unaudited)

| In millions except per share amounts | September 30, 2018 | December 31, 2017 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current Assets: | | |
| Cash and equivalents | \$ 1,589 | \$ 3,094 |
| Trade receivables | 2,777 | 2,628 |
| Inventories | 1,338 | 1,220 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 236 | 336 |
| Total current assets | 5,940 | 7,278 |
| Net plant and equipment | 1,799 | 1,778 |
| Goodwill | 4,655 | 4,752 |
| Intangible assets | 1,130 | 1,272 |
| Deferred income taxes | 614 | 505 |
| Other assets | 1,181 | 1,195 |
| | \$ 15,319 | \$ 16,780 |
| Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity | | |
| Current Liabilities: | | |
| Short-term debt | \$ 1,350 | \$ 850 |
| Accounts payable | 576 | 590 |
| Accrued expenses | 1,268 | 1,258 |
| Cash dividends payable | 332 | 266 |
| Income taxes payable | 137 | 89 |
| Total current liabilities | 3,663 | 3,053 |
| Noncurrent Liabilities: | | |
| Long-term debt | 6,054 | 7,478 |
| Deferred income taxes | 707 | 164 |
| Noncurrent income taxes payable | 496 | 614 |
| Other liabilities | 853 | 882 |
| Total noncurrent liabilities | 8,110 | 9,138 |
| Stockholders' Equity: | | |
| Common stock (par value of \$0.01 per share): | | |
| Issued- 550.0 shares in 2018 and 2017 | 6 | 6 |
| Outstanding- 331.8 shares in 2018 and 341.5 shares in 2017 | 6 | 6 |
| Additional paid-in-capital | 1,241 | 1,218 |
| Retained earnings | 20,938 | 20,210 |
| Common stock held in treasury | (17,054) | (15,562) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) | (1,589) | (1,287) |
| Noncontrolling interest | 4 | 4 |
| Total stockholders' equity | 3,546 | 4,589 |
| | \$ 15,319 | \$ 16,780 |

The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

Illinois Tool Works Inc. and Subsidiaries
Statement of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

| In millions | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 2017 | |
|--|---|----------|
| Cash Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities: | | |
| Net income | \$1,956 | \$1,763 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation | 203 | 188 |
| Amortization and impairment of intangible assets | 143 | 156 |
| Change in deferred income taxes | (20) | 55 |
| Provision for uncollectible accounts | 4 | 3 |
| (Income) loss from investments | (8) | (13) |
| (Gain) loss on sale of plant and equipment | (2) | — |
| (Gain) loss on sale of operations and affiliates | 1 | — |
| Stock-based compensation expense | 31 | 27 |
| Other non-cash items, net | 6 | 6 |
| Change in assets and liabilities, net of acquisitions and divestitures: | | |
| (Increase) decrease in- | | |
| Trade receivables | (202) | (197) |
| Inventories | (122) | (93) |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | 8 | (97) |
| Increase (decrease) in- | | |
| Accounts payable | 3 | 41 |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities | (25) | (56) |
| Income taxes | 24 | (76) |
| Other, net | 2 | — |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 2,002 | 1,707 |
| Cash Provided by (Used for) Investing Activities: | | |
| Acquisition of businesses (excluding cash and equivalents) and additional interest in affiliates | — | (3) |
| Additions to plant and equipment | (282) | (219) |
| Proceeds from investments | 13 | 25 |
| Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment | 14 | 8 |
| Proceeds from sales of operations and affiliates | 1 | 2 |
| Other, net | (4) | (7) |
| Net cash provided by (used for) investing activities | (258) | (194) |
| Cash Provided by (Used for) Financing Activities: | | |
| Cash dividends paid | (792) | (674) |
| Issuance of common stock | 11 | 58 |
| Repurchases of common stock | (1,500) | (750) |
| Net proceeds from (repayments of) debt with original maturities of three months or less | (850) | 697 |
| Repayments of debt with original maturities of more than three months | (1) | (652) |
| Other, net | (11) | (13) |
| Net cash provided by (used for) financing activities | (3,143) | (1,334) |
| Effect of Exchange Rate Changes on Cash and Equivalents | (106) | 134 |
| Cash and Equivalents: | | |
| Increase (decrease) during the period | (1,505) | 313 |
| Beginning of period | 3,094 | 2,472 |

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| End of period | \$1,589 | \$2,785 |
| Supplementary Cash and Non-Cash Information: | | |
| Cash Paid During the Period for Interest | \$211 | \$208 |
| Cash Paid During the Period for Income Taxes, Net of Refunds | \$618 | \$732 |

The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

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Illinois Tool Works Inc. and Subsidiaries
Notes to Financial Statements (Unaudited)

(1) Significant Accounting Policies

Financial Statements— The unaudited financial statements included herein have been prepared by Illinois Tool Works Inc. and Subsidiaries (the “Company”). In the opinion of management, the interim financial statements reflect all adjustments of a normal recurring nature necessary for a fair statement of the results for interim periods. It is suggested that these financial statements be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes to financial statements included in the Company’s 2017 Annual Report on Form 10-K. Certain reclassifications of prior year data have been made to conform with current year reporting.

Operating Revenue— Prior to 2018, the Company recognized revenue when persuasive evidence of an arrangement existed, product had shipped and the risks and rewards of ownership had transferred or services had been rendered, the price to the customer was fixed or determinable, and collectibility was reasonably assured, which generally occurred at the time of product shipment. Effective January 1, 2018, the Company adopted new revenue recognition guidance. Under this new guidance, operating revenue is recognized at the time a good or service is transferred to a customer and the customer obtains control of that good or receives the service performed. The Company's sales arrangements with customers are predominantly short-term in nature involving a single performance obligation related to the delivery of products and generally provide for transfer of control at the time of shipment. In limited circumstances, arrangements may include service performed over time, or there may be significant obligations to the customer that are unfulfilled at the time of shipment, typically involving installation of equipment and customer acceptance. In these circumstances, operating revenue may be recognized over time as the service is provided to the customer or deferred until all significant obligations have been completed. The amount of operating revenue recorded reflects the consideration to which the Company expects to be entitled in exchange for goods or services and may include adjustments for customer allowances and rebates. Customer allowances and rebates consist primarily of volume discounts and other short-term incentive programs, which are estimated at the time of sale based on historical experience and anticipated trends. Shipping and handling charges billed to customers are included in revenue and are recognized along with the related product revenue as they are considered a fulfillment cost. Sales commissions are expensed when incurred, which is generally at the time of revenue recognition. Contract liabilities associated with sales arrangements primarily relate to deferred revenue on equipment sales and prepaid service contracts. Total deferred revenue and customer deposits were \$229 million and \$205 million as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively, and is short-term in nature. For additional information regarding the Company's operating revenue, see New Accounting Pronouncements below and Note 2. Operating Revenue.

New Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the “FASB”) issued authoritative guidance to change the criteria for revenue recognition. The core principle of the new guidance is that revenue should be recognized to depict the transfer of control of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. In addition, expanded revenue disclosures are required. The Company's sales arrangements with customers are predominantly short-term in nature and generally provide for transfer of control and risks and rewards of ownership at the time of product shipment or delivery of service. As such, the timing of revenue recognition under both the prior and new guidance is the same for the majority of the Company’s transactions. Effective January 1, 2018, the Company adopted the new revenue recognition guidance under the modified retrospective method and recorded a cumulative-effect adjustment reducing retained earnings by \$9 million as of January 1, 2018. Under the modified retrospective method of adoption, prior periods are not restated and the new guidance is applied prospectively to revenue transactions completed on or after January 1, 2018. Given the nature of the Company’s revenue transactions, the new guidance had an immaterial impact on the Company's

operating revenue, results of operations, and financial position for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018. The Company updated its revenue recognition accounting policy to reflect the requirements of the new guidance and included additional disclosures regarding the Company's revenue transactions. Refer to the Company's operating revenue accounting policy above and Note 2. Operating Revenue for additional information.

In October 2016, the FASB issued authoritative guidance requiring the recognition of the income tax consequences of an intra-entity transfer of an asset, other than inventory, when the transfer occurs rather than when transferred to a third party as required under the prior guidance. The provisions of the new guidance are being applied prospectively to intra-entity asset transfers on or after January 1, 2018 and may result in future tax rate volatility. Upon adoption of the new guidance on January 1, 2018, the Company recorded a cumulative-effect adjustment reducing deferred tax assets and retained earnings by \$406 million. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, the impact of the new guidance on the Company's effective income tax rate was not material.

In March 2017, the FASB issued authoritative guidance which changes the income statement presentation of net periodic benefit cost related to defined benefit pension and other postretirement plans. The primary change under the new guidance is that only the service cost component of net periodic benefit cost should be included in operating income and is eligible for capitalization as an asset. The other components of net periodic benefit cost ("other net periodic benefit cost"), including interest cost, expected return on assets, settlements, curtailments, and amortization of actuarial gains and losses and prior service cost, should be presented below operating income. Effective January 1, 2018, the Company adopted the new presentation of other net periodic benefit cost and restated the prior year statement of income and related disclosures for comparability, as required under the new guidance. For the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, other net periodic benefit cost included in Other income (expense) was income of \$5 million and \$1 million, respectively. For the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, other net periodic benefit cost included in Other income (expense) was income of \$15 million and \$5 million, respectively. Refer to Note 6. Pension and Other Postretirement Benefits for additional information.

In February 2018, the FASB issued authoritative guidance which allows for an optional one-time reclassification of the stranded tax effects resulting from the change in the U.S. federal corporate income tax rate under the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act" (the "Act") from accumulated other comprehensive income ("AOCI") to retained earnings. The guidance is effective January 1, 2019, with early adoption permitted. The Company elected to early adopt this guidance as of January 1, 2018 and to reclassify the stranded tax effects related to the Act, which resulted in an increase of \$45 million to both retained earnings and accumulated other comprehensive loss. Refer to Note 9. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) for additional information.

In February 2016, the FASB issued authoritative guidance to change the criteria for recognizing leasing transactions. Under the new guidance, a lessee will be required to recognize a lease liability and right-of-use lease asset for all leases with a lease term greater than twelve months, including operating leases, in the statement of financial position. Subsequent measurement, including presentation of expenses and cash flows, will depend on the classification of the lease as either a financing or operating lease. In addition, expanded disclosures will be required. This guidance is effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2019, and can be applied either retrospectively to all periods presented or prospectively. The Company is currently reviewing its existing lease portfolio to assess the impact that the new lease accounting guidance will have on the consolidated financial statements and related disclosures. While the Company has not yet completed this review, the Company expects to adopt the new guidance on a prospective basis and recognize right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for its operating leases in the statement of financial position upon adoption.

(2) Operating Revenue

The Company's 85 diversified operating divisions are organized and managed based on similar product offerings and end markets, and are reported to senior management as the following seven segments: Automotive OEM; Food Equipment; Test & Measurement and Electronics; Welding; Polymers & Fluids; Construction Products; and Specialty Products. Operating revenue by product category, which is consistent with the Company's segment presentation, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 was as follows:

| In millions | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|------------------------------------|--|-------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Automotive OEM | \$781 | \$795 | \$2,561 | \$2,443 |
| Food Equipment | 567 | 549 | 1,647 | 1,575 |
| Test & Measurement and Electronics | 536 | 525 | 1,633 | 1,524 |
| Welding | 414 | 378 | 1,277 | 1,150 |

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| | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|----------|----------|
| Polymers & Fluids | 415 | 434 | 1,302 | 1,297 |
| Construction Products | 431 | 440 | 1,303 | 1,260 |
| Specialty Products | 475 | 498 | 1,482 | 1,451 |
| Intersegment revenue | (6) | (4) | (17) | (15) |
| Total | \$3,613 | \$3,615 | \$11,188 | \$10,685 |

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Prior to 2018, the Company recognized revenue when persuasive evidence of an arrangement existed, product had shipped and the risks and rewards of ownership had transferred or services had been rendered, the price to the customer was fixed or determinable, and collectibility was reasonably assured, which generally occurred at the time of product shipment. Effective January 1, 2018, the Company adopted new revenue recognition guidance. Under this new guidance, operating revenue is recognized at the time a good or service is transferred to a customer and the customer obtains control of that good or receives the service performed. Given the nature of the Company's revenue transactions, the new guidance had an immaterial impact on the Company's operating revenue, results of operations, and financial position for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018. See Note 1. Significant Accounting Policies for additional information. The following is a description of the product offerings, end markets and typical revenue transactions for each of the Company's seven segments:

Automotive OEM— This segment is a global, niche supplier to top tier OEMs, providing unique innovation to address pain points for sophisticated customers with complex problems. Businesses in this segment produce components and fasteners for automotive-related applications. This segment primarily serves the automotive original equipment manufacturers and tiers market. Products in this segment include:

plastic and metal components, fasteners and assemblies for automobiles, light trucks and other industrial uses.

Products sold in this segment are primarily manufactured to the customer's specifications and are sold under long-term supply agreements with OEM auto manufacturers and other top tier auto parts suppliers. The Company typically recognizes revenue for products in this segment at the time of shipment. Certain products may be produced utilizing tooling that is owned by the customer that the Company developed and is reimbursed by the customer for the associated cost. In these arrangements, the Company typically retains a contractual right to use the customer-owned tooling for the purpose of fulfilling its obligations under the supply agreement. The Company records reimbursements for the cost of customer-owned tooling as a cost offset rather than operating revenue as tooling is not considered a product offering central to the Company's operations.

Food Equipment— This segment is a highly focused and branded industry-leader in commercial food equipment differentiated by innovation and integrated service offerings. This segment primarily serves the food service, food institutional/restaurant and food retail markets. Products in this segment include:

- warewashing equipment;
- cooking equipment, including ovens, ranges and broilers;
- refrigeration equipment, including refrigerators, freezers and prep tables;
- food processing equipment, including slicers, mixers and scales;
- kitchen exhaust, ventilation and pollution control systems; and
- food equipment service, maintenance and repair.

Revenue for equipment sold in this segment is typically recognized at the time of product shipment. In limited circumstances involving installation of equipment and customer acceptance, the Company may recognize revenue upon completion of installation and acceptance by the customer. Annual service contracts are typically sold separate from equipment and the related revenue is recognized on a straight-line basis over the annual service period. Operating revenue for on-demand service repairs and parts is recorded upon completion and customer acceptance of the work performed.

Test & Measurement and Electronics— This segment is a branded and innovative producer of test and measurement and electronic manufacturing and maintenance, repair, and operations, or "MRO" solutions that improve efficiency and quality for customers in diverse end markets. Businesses in this segment produce equipment, consumables, and related software for testing and measuring of materials and structures, as well as equipment and consumables used in the

production of electronic subassemblies and microelectronics. This segment primarily serves the electronics, general industrial, industrial capital goods, automotive original equipment manufacturers and tiers, and consumer durables markets. Products in this segment include:

- equipment, consumables, and related software for testing and measuring of materials, structures, gases and fluids;
- electronic assembly equipment and related consumable solder materials;
- electronic components and component packaging;
 - static control equipment and consumables used for contamination control in clean room environments; and
- pressure sensitive adhesives and components for telecommunications, electronics, medical and transportation applications.

Revenue for products sold in this segment is typically recognized at the time of shipment. In limited circumstances where significant obligations to the customer are unfulfilled at the time of shipment, typically involving installation of equipment and customer acceptance, revenue recognition is deferred until such obligations have been completed.

Welding— This segment is a branded value-added equipment and specialty consumable manufacturer with innovative and leading technology. Businesses in this segment produce arc welding equipment, consumables and accessories for a wide array of industrial and commercial applications. This segment primarily serves the general industrial market, which includes fabrication, shipbuilding and other general industrial markets, and energy, construction, MRO, automotive original equipment manufacturers and tiers, and industrial capital goods markets. Products in this segment include:

- arc welding equipment;
- metal arc welding consumables and related accessories; and
- metal jacketing and other insulation products.

Products in this segment are primarily manufactured to meet anticipated customer demand. The Company typically recognizes revenue for these products at the time of product shipment.

Polymers & Fluids— This segment is a highly branded supplier to niche markets that require value-added, differentiated products. Businesses in this segment produce engineered adhesives, sealants, lubrication and cutting fluids, and fluids and polymers for auto aftermarket maintenance and appearance. This segment primarily serves the automotive aftermarket, general industrial, MRO and construction markets. Products in this segment include:

- adhesives for industrial, construction and consumer purposes;
- chemical fluids which clean or add lubrication to machines;
- epoxy and resin-based coating products for industrial applications;
- hand wipes and cleaners for industrial applications;
- fluids, polymers and other supplies for auto aftermarket maintenance and appearance;
- fillers and putties for auto body repair; and
- polyester coatings and patch and repair products for the marine industry.

Products in this segment are primarily manufactured to meet anticipated customer demand. The Company typically recognizes revenue for these products at the time of product shipment.

Construction Products— This segment is a branded supplier of innovative engineered fastening systems and solutions. This segment primarily serves the residential construction, renovation/remodel and commercial construction markets. Products in this segment include:

- fasteners and related fastening tools for wood and metal applications;
- anchors, fasteners and related tools for concrete applications;
- metal plate truss components and related equipment and software; and
- packaged hardware, fasteners, anchors and other products for retail.

Products in this segment are primarily manufactured to meet anticipated customer demand. The Company typically recognizes revenue for these products at the time of product shipment.

Specialty Products— This segment is focused on diversified niche market opportunities with substantial patent protection producing beverage packaging equipment and consumables, product coding and marking equipment and consumables, and appliance components and fasteners. This segment primarily serves the food and beverage, consumer durables, general industrial, printing and publishing and industrial capital goods markets. Products in this segment include:

- line integration, conveyor systems and line automation for the food and beverage industries;

- plastic consumables that multi-pack cans and bottles and related equipment;
- foil, film and related equipment used to decorate consumer products;
- product coding and marking equipment and related consumables;
- plastic and metal fasteners and components for appliances;
- airport ground support equipment; and
- components for medical devices.

Products in this segment are primarily manufactured to meet anticipated customer demand. The Company typically recognizes revenue for these products at the time of product shipment. In limited circumstances where significant obligations to the customer are unfulfilled at the time of shipment, typically involving installation of equipment and customer acceptance, revenue is recognized when such obligations have been completed.

(3) Income Taxes

The Company's effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 was 23.7% and 29.3%, respectively. The third quarter 2018 effective tax rate was lower primarily as a result of the lower U.S. corporate federal tax rate and a discrete tax benefit of \$37 million related to the release of a valuation allowance against the deferred tax assets of a non-U.S. subsidiary, partially offset by a discrete tax charge of \$22 million related to foreign tax credits. The Company's effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 was 24.1% and 28.7%, respectively. The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 also included discrete tax benefits of \$6 million and \$32 million, respectively, related to excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation.

On December 22, 2017, the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act" (the "Act") was enacted in the United States. The provisions of the Act significantly revised the U.S. corporate income tax rules. At December 31, 2017, the Company had not completed the accounting for the tax effects of enactment of the Act; however, the Company made a reasonable estimate of the effects on the existing deferred tax balances and one-time transition tax. The Company continues to analyze certain aspects of the Act and may refine its calculations, which could potentially affect the measurement of the amounts recorded at December 31, 2017. The provisional amounts recorded for the year ended December 31, 2017, and unchanged at September 30, 2018, reflect the Company's best estimate based on information currently available and are subject to future changes due to subsequent clarification of the tax law and refinement of estimated amounts. On August 1, 2018, the U.S. Department of Treasury released proposed rules related to the one-time transition tax. The Company's assessment of these proposed rules did not result in a change to the 2017 provisional amounts.

The Company and its subsidiaries file tax returns in the U.S. and various state, local and foreign jurisdictions. These tax returns are routinely audited by the tax authorities in these jurisdictions, including the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"), Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, German Fiscal Authority, French Fiscal Authority, and Australian Tax Office, and a number of these audits are currently ongoing, which may increase the amount of the unrecognized tax benefits in future periods. Due to the ongoing audits, the Company believes it is reasonably possible that within the next twelve months the amount of the Company's unrecognized tax benefits may be decreased by approximately \$30 million related predominantly to various intercompany transactions. The Company has recorded its best estimate of the potential exposure for these issues.

On February 18, 2014, the Company received a Notice of Deficiency ("NOD") from the IRS asserting that a non-taxable return of capital received from a subsidiary was a taxable dividend distribution. The NOD assesses additional taxes of \$70 million for the 2006 tax year, plus interest and penalties. In May 2014, the Company petitioned the United States Tax Court to challenge the NOD. The Company's petition was subsequently denied and the case proceeded to court with the trial taking place in the third quarter of 2016. In August 2018, the tax court decided in favor of the Company. The IRS has 90 days to appeal this decision. No reserve has been recorded related to this matter.

(4) Inventories

Inventories as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017 were as follows:

| In millions | September 30, 2018 | December 31, 2017 |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Raw material | \$ 527 | \$ 465 |
| Work-in-process | 177 | 141 |
| Finished goods | 733 | 703 |
| LIFO reserve | (99) | (89) |
| Total inventories | \$ 1,338 | \$ 1,220 |

(5) Goodwill and Intangible Assets

The Company performed its annual impairment assessment of goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets in the third quarters of 2018 and 2017. The assessments resulted in no impairment charges in either 2018 or 2017.

(6) Pension and Other Postretirement Benefits

Pension and other postretirement benefit costs for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 were as follows:

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|------|------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| | Pension | | Other Postretirement Benefits | | Pension | | Other Postretirement Benefits | |
| In millions | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Components of net periodic benefit cost: | | | | | | | | |
| Service cost | \$15 | \$15 | \$ 2 | \$ 2 | \$45 | \$47 | \$ 6 | \$ 6 |
| Interest cost | 18 | 18 | 4 | 5 | 54 | 54 | 13 | 15 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (31) | (33) | (6) | (6) | (95) | (99) | (18) | (17) |
| Amortization of actuarial loss (gain) | 11 | 15 | (1) | — | 33 | 43 | (2) | (1) |
| Total net periodic benefit cost | \$13 | \$15 | \$ (1) | \$ 1 | \$37 | \$45 | \$ (1) | \$ 3 |

The service cost component of net periodic benefit cost is presented within Cost of revenue and Selling, administrative, and research and development expenses in the statement of income while the other components of net periodic benefit cost are presented within Other income (expense).

The Company expects to contribute approximately \$26 million to its pension plans and \$5 million to its other postretirement benefit plans in 2018. As of September 30, 2018, contributions of \$19 million to pension plans and \$4 million to other postretirement benefit plans have been made.

(7) Debt

Short-term debt as of September 30, 2018 included \$650 million related to the 1.95% notes due March 1, 2019 and \$700 million related to the 6.25% notes due April 1, 2019, which were reclassified from Long-term debt to Short-term debt in the first and second quarters of 2018, respectively. There was no commercial paper outstanding as of September 30, 2018. Short-term debt as of December 31, 2017 included commercial paper of \$849 million.

The approximate fair value and related carrying value of the Company's total long-term debt, including current maturities of long-term debt presented as short-term debt, as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017 were as follows:

| In millions | September 30, 2018 | December 31, 2017 |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Fair value | \$ 7,659 | \$ 8,052 |
| Carrying value | 7,404 | 7,479 |

The approximate fair values of the Company's long-term debt, including current maturities, were based on a valuation model using Level 2 observable inputs which included market rates for comparable instruments for the respective periods.

(8) Legal Settlement

In the second quarter of 2017, the Company entered into a \$95 million confidential settlement agreement to resolve a litigation matter. Based on the terms of the agreement, the Company received the settlement within 120 days of the execution of the agreement. The receipt of the settlement resulted in a favorable pre-tax impact of \$15 million in the second quarter of 2017 and \$80 million in the third quarter of 2017, which was included in operating income.

(9) Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)

The following table summarizes changes in Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017:

| In millions | Three Months | | Nine Months | |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| | Ended September 30, 2018 | 2017 | Ended September 30, 2018 | 2017 |
| Beginning balance | \$(1,530) | \$(1,516) | \$(1,287) | \$(1,807) |
| Adoption of new accounting guidance related to reclassification of certain tax effects | — | — | (45) | — |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments during the period | (69) | 67 | (270) | 271 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments reclassified to income | 5 | — | 5 | — |
| Income taxes | (3) | 29 | (18) | 96 |
| Total foreign currency translation adjustments, net of tax | (67) | 96 | (283) | 367 |
| Pension and other postretirement benefit adjustments during the period | — | — | 1 | — |
| Pension and other postretirement benefit adjustments reclassified to income | 10 | 15 | 31 | 42 |
| Income taxes | (2) | (2) | (6) | (9) |
| Total pension and other postretirement benefit adjustments, net of tax | 8 | 13 | 26 | 33 |
| Ending balance | \$(1,589) | \$(1,407) | \$(1,589) | \$(1,407) |

Effective January 1, 2018, the Company elected to early adopt new accounting guidance related to the stranded tax effects resulting from the change in the U.S. federal corporate income tax rate under the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act" (the "Act") and reclassified \$45 million of stranded income tax effects from Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) to Retained earnings. Refer to Note 1. Significant Accounting Policies for additional information.

Pension and other postretirement benefit adjustments reclassified to income relate primarily to the amortization of actuarial losses. Refer to Note 6. Pension and Other Postretirement Benefits for additional information.

The Company designated the €1.0 billion of Euro notes issued in May 2015 and the €1.0 billion of Euro notes issued in May 2014 as hedges of a portion of its net investment in Euro-denominated foreign operations to reduce foreign currency risk associated with the investment in these operations. The carrying values of the 2015 and 2014 Euro notes were \$1.1 billion and \$1.1 billion, respectively, as of September 30, 2018. Changes in the value of this debt resulting from fluctuations in the Euro to U.S. dollar exchange rate have been recorded as foreign currency translation adjustments within Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss). The unrealized pre-tax gain recorded in Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) related to the net investment hedge was \$161 million and \$81 million as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively.

The ending balance of Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) as of September 30, 2018 and 2017 consisted of cumulative translation adjustment losses, net of tax, of \$1.3 billion and \$1.0 billion, respectively, and unrecognized pension and other postretirement benefits costs, net of tax, of \$321 million and \$372 million, respectively.

(10) Segment Information

The Company's operations are organized and managed based on similar product offerings and end markets, and are reported to senior management as the following seven segments: Automotive OEM; Food Equipment; Test & Measurement and Electronics; Welding; Polymers & Fluids; Construction Products; and Specialty Products. Refer to Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations for information regarding operating revenue and operating income for the Company's segments.

ITEM 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

INTRODUCTION

Illinois Tool Works Inc. (the "Company" or "ITW") is a global manufacturer of a diversified range of industrial products and equipment with 85 divisions in 55 countries. As of December 31, 2017, the Company employed approximately 50,000 people.

The Company's operations are organized and managed based on similar product offerings and end markets, and are reported to senior management as the following seven segments: Automotive OEM; Food Equipment; Test & Measurement and Electronics; Welding; Polymers & Fluids; Construction Products; and Specialty Products.

Due to the large number of diverse businesses and the Company's decentralized operating structure, the Company does not require its businesses to provide detailed information on operating results. Instead, the Company's corporate management collects data on several key measurements: operating revenue, operating income, operating margin, overhead costs, number of months on hand in inventory, days sales outstanding in accounts receivable, past due receivables and return on invested capital. These key measures are monitored by management and significant changes in operating results versus current trends in end markets and variances from forecasts are discussed with operating unit management.

THE ITW BUSINESS MODEL

The powerful and highly differentiated ITW Business Model is the Company's core source of value creation. This business model is the Company's competitive advantage and defines how ITW creates value for its shareholders and comprises three unique elements:

ITW's 80/20 front to back process is the operating system that is applied in every ITW business. Initially introduced as a manufacturing efficiency tool in the 1980s, ITW has continually refined, improved and expanded 80/20 into a proprietary, holistic business management process that generates significant value for the Company and its customers. Through the application of data-driven insights generated by 80/20 practice, ITW focuses on its largest and best opportunities (the "80") and eliminates cost, complexity and distractions associated with the less profitable opportunities (the "20"). 80/20 enables ITW businesses to consistently achieve world-class operational excellence in product availability, quality, and innovation, while generating superior financial performance;

Customer-back innovation has fueled decades of profitable growth at ITW. The Company's unique innovation approach is built on insight gathered from the 80/20 front to back process. Working from the customer back, ITW businesses position themselves as the go-to problem solver for their "80" customers. ITW's innovation efforts are focused on understanding customer needs, particularly those in "80" markets with solid long-term growth fundamentals, and subsequently creating unique solutions to address those needs. These customer insights and learnings drive innovation at ITW and have contributed to a portfolio of more than 17,000 granted and pending patents;

ITW's decentralized, entrepreneurial culture enables ITW businesses to be fast, focused, and responsive. ITW businesses have significant flexibility within the framework of the ITW Business Model to customize their approach in order to best serve their specific customers' needs. ITW colleagues recognize their unique responsibilities to execute the Company's strategy and values. As a result, the Company maintains a focused and simple organizational structure that, combined with outstanding execution, delivers best-in-class services adapted to each business' customers and end markets.

ENTERPRISE STRATEGY

In late 2012, ITW began the first phase of its strategic framework, transitioning the Company on its current strategic path to fully leverage the compelling performance potential of the ITW Business Model. Since then, ITW has made considerable progress, as evidenced by the Company's strong financial performance over the past five years.

The roots of ITW's Enterprise Strategy began in late 2011 / early 2012, when the Company undertook a complete review of its performance. Focusing on its businesses delivering consistent above-market growth with best-in-class margins and returns, ITW developed a strategy to replicate that performance across its operations.

Based on this rigorous evaluation, ITW determined that solid and consistent above-market organic growth must be the core growth engine to deliver world-class financial performance and compelling long-term returns for its shareholders. To shift its primary growth engine to organic, the Company began executing a multi-step approach.

The first step was to narrow the focus and improve the quality of ITW's business portfolio. As part of the Portfolio Management initiative, ITW exited businesses that were operating in commoditized market spaces and prioritized sustainable differentiation as a must-have requirement for all ITW businesses. This process included both divesting entire businesses and exiting commoditized product lines and customers inside otherwise highly differentiated ITW divisions.

As a result of this work, ITW's business portfolio now has significantly higher organic growth potential. ITW segments and divisions now possess attractive and differentiated product lines and end markets as they continue to improve operating margins and generate price/cost increases. The Company achieved this through product line simplification, or eliminating the complexity and overhead costs associated with smaller product lines and customers, while supporting and growing the businesses' largest / most profitable customers and product lines. With the initiative nearly complete and ITW businesses demonstrating notably improved financial performance, the Company believes that the product line simplification work is returning to more normalized levels.

Step two, Business Structure Simplification, was implemented to simplify and scale-up ITW's operating structure to support increased engineering, marketing, and sales resources, and, at the same time, improve global reach and competitiveness, all of which were critical to driving accelerated organic growth. ITW now has 85 scaled-up divisions with significantly enhanced focus on growth investments, core customers and products, and customer-back innovation.

The Strategic Sourcing initiative established sourcing as a core strategic and operational capability at ITW. The Company's 80/20-enabled sourcing organization has delivered an average of one percent reduction in spend each year from 2013 through 2017 and is on track to do the same in 2018.

With the portfolio realignment and scale-up work largely complete, the Company shifted its focus to preparing for and accelerating organic growth, reapplying 80/20 to optimize its newly scaled-up divisions for growth, first, to build a foundation of operational excellence, and second, to identify the best opportunities to drive organic growth.

ITW has clearly demonstrated superior 80/20 management, resulting in meaningful incremental improvement in margins and returns as evidenced by the Company's operating margin and after-tax return on invested capital. At the same time, these 80/20 initiatives can also result in restructuring initiatives that reduce costs and improve profitability and returns. With this first phase of the strategy nearing completion, the Company will look ahead to the next five years and delivering differentiated performance on a sustained basis.

SUSTAINED DIFFERENTIATED PERFORMANCE

While the Company has made considerable progress and ITW's performance is nearing best-in-class levels, the Company has significant opportunity for further improvement. The second phase of the strategic framework is focused on delivering differentiated performance on a sustained basis, with consistent above market organic growth. Moving forward, the Company remains committed to the four strategic principles that have served as the foundation of its progress over the past five years and that the Company believes best positions ITW to deliver continued differentiated performance over the next five years:

- The ITW Business Model is the Company's competitive advantage
- Focus on quality growth

- "Do what we say" execution is a critical differentiator
- Invest only where ITW has a competitive advantage

The ITW Business Model is the Company's Competitive Advantage

The ITW Business Model is the combination of a set of strategic, operational, and cultural approaches and practices that is applied to every ITW business. The Business Model has existed inside the Company for over 30 years and is truly ITW's differentiating competitive advantage. The ITW Business Model is comprised of three elements:

- 80/20 Front to Back Process = How the Company Operates
- Customer-Back Innovation Approach = How the Company Innovates
- Decentralized Entrepreneurial Culture = How the Company Executes

Focus on Quality Growth

ITW prioritizes high-quality revenue growth and, as such, the Company's primary growth focus is organic.

Leveraging the Business Model and the 80/20 front to back process provides a clear view of where to focus for high-quality growth. The Company targets differentiated end-markets and customers with critical needs and challenging pain points. ITW generates high-quality growth through consistent customer-back innovation and customer service excellence.

The Company only invests and operates in industries and businesses that have the right "raw material" to generate high quality organic growth through the application of the ITW Business Model. ITW's current portfolio of seven segments offers solid growth potential and a high degree of diversification in terms of geographic and end market exposures, enabling the Company to deliver consistent high-quality growth in an increasingly volatile and competitive global market environment.

"Do What We Say" Execution is a Critical Differentiator

ITW's commitment to execution is a key differentiator for ITW. Living up to the Company's commitments - "do what we say" execution - is a deeply embedded core element of the culture. The culture is the engine that translates ITW's strategy into action, and action into results.

All divisions function within a "framework" that defines how the culture operates and defines the Company's values, business model and strategy to ensure all divisions are working toward our common set of goals. Business leaders have the flexibility to define the actions and customize their approach to meet those goals. This "flexibility within the framework" establishes an entrepreneurial environment where decisions are made "bottom up" by those with the greatest knowledge, capability and proximity to the customer, which enables our businesses to be nimble and react quickly to market conditions and customer requirements.

ITW is simple, straightforward and transparent in everything it does. The Company sets clear performance expectations and financial targets, executes against these at the appropriate pace, and establishes the freedom to define how to achieve results within the construct of the Business Model.

Invest Only Where ITW Has a Competitive Advantage

The Company is highly focused and disciplined in its approach to invest only where it can leverage the ITW Business Model into compelling and sustainable competitive advantage.

Investments to support organic growth and sustain its highly differentiated core businesses, such as new product innovation, marketing programs, simplification projects, and capital investments, are ITW's number one investment priority.

TERMS USED BY ITW

Management uses the following terms to describe the financial results of operations of the Company:

- Organic business - acquired businesses that have been included in the Company's results of operations for more than 12 months on a constant currency basis.
- Operating leverage - the estimated effect of the organic revenue volume changes on organic operating income, assuming variable margins remain the same as the prior period.

Price/cost - represents the estimated net impact of increases or decreases in the cost of materials used in the Company's products versus changes in the selling price to the Company's customers.

Product line simplification (PLS) - focuses businesses on eliminating the complexity and overhead costs associated with smaller product lines and customers, and focuses businesses on supporting and growing their largest customers and product lines; in the short-term, PLS may result in a decrease in revenue and overhead costs while improving operating margin. In the long-term, PLS is expected to result in growth in revenue, profitability, and returns.

Unless otherwise stated, the changes in financial results in the consolidated results of operations and the results of operations by segment represent the current year period versus the comparable period in the prior year. The following discussion of operating results should be read in conjunction with Item 7 - Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in the Company's 2017 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

CONSOLIDATED RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

In the third quarter and year-to-date periods of 2018, the Company delivered solid financial results despite some near-term market challenges. While overall market conditions in North America remained solid in the third quarter, auto production in Europe and China and demand levels in various international end markets served by the Specialty Products and Polymers & Fluids segments softened during the quarter. The primary driver of the Company's financial performance is the continued successful execution of enterprise initiatives and continued focus on the highly differentiated Business Model. In the third quarter, four of seven segments achieved worldwide organic revenue growth and all segments achieved organic revenue growth in the year-to-date period. All segments had operating margin above 21% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods of 2018.

The Company does not believe that recently imposed tariffs have had a material impact on its operating results. The Company expects, however, that the impact of tariffs and global trade policies will increase in the future. The Company will continue to evaluate the impact of enacted and proposed tariffs on its businesses, as well as pricing actions to mitigate the impact of raw material cost increases resulting from these tariffs.

The Company's consolidated results of operations for the third quarter and year-to-date periods were as follows:

| Dollars in millions | Three Months Ended | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------|--|
| | September 30, | | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | Total | |
| | 2018 | 2017 | | | | | | | |
| Operating revenue | \$3,613 | \$3,615 | (0.1)% | 1.5% | (0.1)% | — | (1.5)% | (0.1)% | |
| Operating income | \$889 | \$960 | (7.4)% | (6.2)% | — | 0.2% | (1.4)% | (7.4)% | |
| Operating margin % | 24.6% | 26.6% | (200) bps | (210) bps | — | 10 bps | — | (200) bps | |

| Dollars in millions | Nine Months Ended | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------|--|
| | September 30, | | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | Total | |
| | 2018 | 2017 | | | | | | | |
| Operating revenue | \$11,188 | \$10,685 | 4.7% | 2.6% | —% | — | 2.1% | 4.7% | |
| Operating income | \$2,724 | \$2,639 | 3.2% | 0.7% | —% | 0.3% | 2.2% | 3.2% | |
| Operating margin % | 24.3% | 24.7% | (40) bps | (50) bps | — | 10 bps | — | (40) bps | |

Operating revenue was essentially flat in the third quarter as the increase in organic revenue was offset by the unfavorable effect of foreign currency translation. In the year-to-date period, operating revenue increased due to an increase in organic revenue and the favorable effect of foreign currency translation.

Organic revenue grew 1.5% and 2.6% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, primarily due to penetration gains, higher end market demand and product innovation. Product line simplification activities reduced organic revenue growth by 70 basis points in both the third quarter and year-to-date periods.

North American organic revenue increased 3.7% in the third quarter as growth in six segments was partially offset by a decline in the Specialty Products segment. In the year-to-date period, organic revenue grew 4.1% as all segments had organic revenue growth.

Europe, Middle East and Africa organic revenue decreased 0.7% in the third quarter primarily driven by the Automotive OEM, Specialty Products and Polymers & Fluids segments. In the year-to-date period, organic revenue grew 0.6% primarily driven by growth in the Food Equipment and Test & Measurement and Electronics segments.

Asia Pacific organic revenue decreased 1.8% in the third quarter primarily driven by a decline in the Automotive OEM, Polymers & Fluids and Specialty Products segments. In the year-to-date period, organic revenue grew 1.4% primarily due to growth in the Welding and Test & Measurement and Electronics segments.

In the second quarter of 2017, the Company entered into a \$95 million confidential settlement agreement to resolve a litigation matter. Based on the terms of the agreement, the Company received the settlement within 120 days of the execution of the agreement. The receipt of the settlement resulted in a favorable pre-tax impact of \$15 million in the second quarter of 2017 and \$80 million in the third quarter of 2017, which was included in operating income.

Operating income of \$889 million and \$2.7 billion in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, decreased 7.4% and increased 3.2% in the respective periods. Excluding the favorable impact of the 2017 confidential legal settlement, operating income would have increased 1.0% and 7.0% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively.

Operating margin of 24.6% in the third quarter decreased 200 basis points. Excluding the 230 basis points of favorability from the 2017 confidential legal settlement, operating margin increased 30 basis points primarily due to the benefits of the Company's enterprise initiatives that contributed 100 basis points and positive operating leverage of 20 basis points, partially offset by unfavorable price/cost of 60 basis points and higher freight and employee-related expenses.

In the year-to-date period, operating margin of 24.3% decreased 40 basis points. Excluding the 90 basis points of favorability from the 2017 confidential legal settlement, operating margin increased 50 basis points primarily driven by the benefits of the Company's enterprise initiatives of 100 basis points and positive operating leverage of 50 basis points, partially offset by unfavorable price/cost of 60 basis points and higher freight and employee-related expenses. The effective tax rate for the third quarter of 2018 was 23.7% compared to 29.3% in 2017. The third quarter 2018 effective tax rate was lower primarily as a result of the lower U.S. corporate federal tax rate and a discrete tax benefit of \$37 million related to the release of a valuation allowance against the deferred tax assets of a non-U.S. subsidiary, partially offset by a discrete tax charge of \$22 million related to foreign tax credits. In the year-to-date period, the effective tax rate was 24.1% and 28.7% for 2018 and 2017, respectively. The effective tax rate for both respective year-to-date periods included discrete tax benefits of \$6 million and \$32 million, respectively, related to excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation.

Diluted earnings per share (EPS) of \$1.90 for the third quarter and \$5.77 for the year-to-date period increased 2.7% and 13.8%, respectively. Excluding the favorable effect of the 2017 confidential legal settlement of \$0.14 in the third quarter and \$0.17 in the year-to-date period, EPS increased 11.4% and 17.7% in the respective periods.

Free cash flow was \$743 million and \$1.7 billion for the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively. Refer to the Cash Flow section of Liquidity and Capital Resources for a reconciliation of this non-GAAP measure.

The Company repurchased approximately 3.6 million and 10.0 million shares of its common stock in the third quarter and year-to-date periods of 2018, respectively, for approximately \$500 million and \$1.5 billion, respectively.

The Company increased the quarterly dividend by 28.2% in the third quarter of 2018. Total cash dividends of \$262 million and \$792 million were paid in the third quarter and year-to-date periods of 2018, respectively.

Adjusted after-tax return on average invested capital was 28.0% for the third quarter and 28.3% for the year-to-date period, an increase of 400 basis points and 420 basis points in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, primarily due to the new U.S. tax rules and regulations. Refer to the Adjusted After-Tax Return on Average Invested Capital section of Liquidity and Capital Resources for a reconciliation of this non-GAAP measure.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS BY SEGMENT

Total operating revenue and operating income for the third quarter and year-to-date periods were as follows:

| Dollars in millions | Three Months Ended September 30, | | | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|---------------------------------|---------|---------------------|-------|
| | Operating Revenue | | Operating Income | | Operating Revenue | | Operating Income | |
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Automotive OEM | \$781 | \$795 | \$168 | \$172 | \$2,561 | \$2,443 | \$583 | \$556 |
| Food Equipment | 567 | 549 | 151 | 150 | 1,647 | 1,575 | 421 | 414 |
| Test & Measurement and Electronics | 536 | 525 | 132 | 127 | 1,633 | 1,524 | 390 | 337 |
| Welding | 414 | 378 | 117 | 100 | 1,277 | 1,150 | 363 | 312 |
| Polymers & Fluids | 415 | 434 | 91 | 90 | 1,302 | 1,297 | 278 | 272 |
| Construction Products | 431 | 440 | 111 | 112 | 1,303 | 1,260 | 315 | 303 |

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| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------|---------|-------|-------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| Specialty Products | 475 | 498 | 128 | 138 | 1,482 | 1,451 | 404 | 401 |
| Intersegment revenue | (6) | (4) | — | — | (17) | (15) | — | — |
| Unallocated | — | — | (9) | 71 | — | — | (30) | 44 |
| Total | \$3,613 | \$3,615 | \$889 | \$960 | \$11,188 | \$10,685 | \$2,724 | \$2,639 |

Segments are allocated a fixed overhead charge based on the segment's revenue. Expenses not charged to the segments are reported separately as Unallocated. Because the Unallocated category includes a variety of items, it is subject to fluctuations on

a quarterly and annual basis. Unallocated in 2017 includes the favorable impact from the previously disclosed confidential legal settlement.

AUTOMOTIVE OEM

This segment is a global, niche supplier to top tier OEMs, providing unique innovation to address pain points for sophisticated customers with complex problems. Businesses in this segment produce components and fasteners for automotive-related applications. This segment primarily serves the automotive original equipment manufacturers and tiers market. Products in this segment include:

plastic and metal components, fasteners and assemblies for automobiles, light trucks and other industrial uses.

The results of operations for the Automotive OEM segment for the third quarter and year-to-date periods were as follows:

| Dollars in millions | Three Months Ended | | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | Total |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------|-------|
| | September 30, 2018 | September 30, 2017 | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | | |
| Operating revenue | \$781 | \$795 | (1.9)% | (0.2)% | —% | — | %(1.7) | %(1.9) | |
| Operating income | \$168 | \$172 | (2.0)% | 1.2% | —% | (0.9) | %(2.3) | %(2.0) | |
| Operating margin % | 21.5% | 21.6% | (10) bps | 30 bps | — | (20) bps | (20) bps | (10) bps | |

| Dollars in millions | Nine Months Ended | | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | Total |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------|-------|
| | September 30, 2018 | September 30, 2017 | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | | |
| Operating revenue | \$2,561 | \$2,443 | 4.8% | 1.2% | —% | — | %(3.6) | %(4.8) | |
| Operating income | \$583 | \$556 | 4.9% | 0.9% | —% | 0.5 | %(3.5) | %(4.9) | |
| Operating margin % | 22.8% | 22.7% | 10 bps | — | — | 10 bps | — | 10 bps | |

Operating revenue decreased in the third quarter primarily due to the unfavorable effect of foreign currency translation. Operating revenue increased in the year-to-date period due to the favorable effect of foreign currency translation and higher organic revenue.

Organic revenue declined 0.2% in the third quarter versus worldwide auto builds which declined 2%. In the year-to-date period, organic revenue grew 1.2% versus worldwide auto builds which grew 1%.

North American organic revenue increased 7.1% and 3.2% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, compared to North American auto builds which increased 2% in the third quarter and declined 1% in the year-to-date period. Auto builds for the Detroit 3, where the Company has higher content, increased 4% and 1% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively.

European organic revenue declined 5.7% and 0.5% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, compared to European auto builds which declined 5% in the third quarter and were flat in the year-to-date period.

Asia Pacific organic revenue decreased 4.2% in the third quarter and increased 0.7% in the year-to-date period. China organic revenue declined 0.2% and grew 7.9% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, versus Chinese auto builds which declined 4% in the third quarter and increased 1% in the year-to-date period.

Operating margin was 21.5% in the third quarter. The decrease of 10 basis points was primarily driven by unfavorable price/cost of 150 basis points and higher restructuring expenses, partially offset by the net benefits of the Company's enterprise initiatives and cost management.

In the year-to-date period, operating margin of 22.8% increased 10 basis points primarily due to the net benefits of the Company's enterprise initiatives and cost management and positive operating leverage of 30 basis points, partially offset by unfavorable price/cost of 130 basis points.

FOOD EQUIPMENT

This segment is a highly focused and branded industry-leader in commercial food equipment differentiated by innovation and integrated service offerings. This segment primarily serves the food service, food institutional/restaurant and food retail markets. Products in this segment include:

- warewashing equipment;
- cooking equipment, including ovens, ranges and broilers;
- refrigeration equipment, including refrigerators, freezers and prep tables;
- food processing equipment, including slicers, mixers and scales;
- kitchen exhaust, ventilation and pollution control systems; and
- food equipment service, maintenance and repair.

The results of operations for the Food Equipment segment for the third quarter and year-to-date periods were as follows:

| Dollars in millions | Three Months Ended | | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------|---|
| | September 30, | | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | Total | |
| | 2018 | 2017 | | | | | | | |
| Operating revenue | \$567 | \$549 | 3.1 | % 3.8 | % —% | — | % (0.7) | % 3.1 | % |
| Operating income | \$151 | \$150 | 0.5 | % (0.3) | % —% | 1.1 | % (0.3) | % 0.5 | % |
| Operating margin | %26.6 | % 27.3 | % (70) bps | (110) bps | — | 30 bps | 10 bps | (70) bps | |

| Dollars in millions | Nine Months Ended | | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------|---|
| | September 30, | | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | Total | |
| | 2018 | 2017 | | | | | | | |
| Operating revenue | \$1,647 | \$1,575 | 4.6 | % 2.0 | % —% | — | % 2.6 | % 4.6 | % |
| Operating income | \$421 | \$414 | 1.6 | % (1.1) | % —% | 0.2 | % 2.5 | % 1.6 | % |
| Operating margin | % 25.6 | % 26.3 | % (70) bps | (80) bps | — | 10 bps | — | (70) bps | |

Operating revenue increased in the third quarter due to higher organic revenue, partially offset by the unfavorable effect of foreign currency translation. In the year-to-date period, operating revenue grew due to the favorable effect of foreign currency translation and higher organic revenue.

Organic revenue increased 3.8% in the third quarter as equipment and service organic revenue increased 4.3% and 2.8%, respectively. In the year-to-date period, organic revenue increased 2.0% as equipment and service organic revenue grew 2.2% and 1.7%, respectively.

North American organic revenue increased 4.4% and 2.3% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively. Equipment organic revenue grew 5.8% and 3.0% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, as higher end market demand in food service, refrigeration and cooking was offset by lower end market demand in food retail. Service organic revenue grew 2.3% and 1.2% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively.

International organic revenue increased 3.0% and 1.6% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively. Equipment organic revenue grew 2.8% and 1.4% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, primarily due to higher demand in the European warewash and cooking end markets, partially offset by lower end market demand in refrigeration. Service organic revenue increased 3.6% and 2.3% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively.

Operating margin of 26.6% in the third quarter declined 70 basis points primarily due to the unfavorable impact of product mix and higher employee-related expenses, partially offset by benefits from the Company's enterprise initiatives and lower restructuring expenses.

In the year-to-date period, operating margin of 25.6% decreased 70 basis points primarily due to the unfavorable impact of product mix and higher employee-related expenses, partially offset by benefits from the Company's enterprise initiatives.

TEST & MEASUREMENT AND ELECTRONICS

This segment is a branded and innovative producer of test and measurement and electronic manufacturing and maintenance, repair, and operations, or "MRO" solutions that improve efficiency and quality for customers in diverse end markets. Businesses in this segment produce equipment, consumables, and related software for testing and measuring of materials and structures, as well as equipment and consumables used in the production of electronic subassemblies and microelectronics. This segment primarily serves the electronics, general industrial, industrial capital goods, automotive original equipment manufacturers and tiers, and consumer durables markets. Products in this segment include:

- equipment, consumables, and related software for testing and measuring of materials, structures, gases and fluids;
- electronic assembly equipment and related consumable solder materials;
- electronic components and component packaging;
 - static control equipment and consumables used for contamination control in clean room environments; and
- pressure sensitive adhesives and components for telecommunications, electronics, medical and transportation applications.

The results of operations for the Test & Measurement and Electronics segment for the third quarter and year-to-date periods were as follows:

| Dollars in millions | Three Months Ended | | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------|---|
| | September 30, 2018 | September 30, 2017 | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | Total | |
| Operating revenue | \$536 | \$525 | 2.2 | % 2.9 | %—% | — | % (0.7)% | 2.2 | % |
| Operating income | \$132 | \$127 | 4.7 | % 5.5 | %—% | (0.2)% | (0.6)% | 4.7 | % |
| Operating margin % | 24.7 % | 24.1 % | 60 bps | 60 bps | — | — | — | 60 bps | |

| Dollars in millions | Nine Months Ended | | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------|---|
| | September 30, 2018 | September 30, 2017 | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | Total | |
| Operating revenue | \$1,633 | \$1,524 | 7.2 | % 4.7 | %—% | — | % 2.5 | % 7.2 | % |
| Operating income | \$390 | \$337 | 15.9 | % 13.7 | %—% | (0.5)% | % 2.7 | % 15.9 | % |
| Operating margin % | 23.9 % | 22.1 % | 180 bps | 190 bps | — | (10) bps | — | 180 bps | |

Operating revenue increased in the third quarter due to higher organic revenue partially offset by the unfavorable effect of foreign currency translation. In the year-to-date period, operating revenue increased due to higher organic revenue and the favorable effect of foreign currency translation.

Organic revenue increased 2.9% and 4.7% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively.

Organic revenue for the test and measurement businesses increased 7.2% and 8.0% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, primarily due to higher semi-conductor end market demand in North America. Intron, where demand is more closely tied to the capital spending environment, had organic revenue growth of 11.8% and 10.4% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively.

Electronics organic revenue declined 1.6% in the third quarter and increased 1.1% in the year-to-date period. The electronics assembly businesses declined 7.4% and 5.0% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, primarily due to lower demand in North American end markets. The other electronics businesses grew 2.7% and 5.4%

in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, primarily due to higher semi-conductor end market demand. Operating margin was 24.7% in the third quarter. The increase of 60 basis points was primarily due to positive operating leverage of 70 basis points and benefits from the Company's enterprise initiatives, partially offset by unfavorable price/cost of 20 basis points.

In the year-to-date period, operating margin of 23.9% increased 180 basis points primarily driven by positive operating leverage of 120 basis points and benefits from the Company's enterprise initiatives.

WELDING

This segment is a branded value-added equipment and specialty consumable manufacturer with innovative and leading technology. Businesses in this segment produce arc welding equipment, consumables and accessories for a wide array of industrial and commercial applications. This segment primarily serves the general industrial market, which includes fabrication, shipbuilding and other general industrial markets, and energy, construction, MRO, automotive original equipment manufacturers and tiers, and industrial capital goods markets. Products in this segment include:

- arc welding equipment;
- metal arc welding consumables and related accessories; and
- metal jacketing and other insulation products.

The results of operations for the Welding segment for the third quarter and year-to-date periods were as follows:

| Dollars in millions | Three Months Ended | | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------|---|
| | September 30, | | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | Total | |
| 2018 | 2017 | | | | | | | | % |
| Operating revenue | \$414 | \$378 | 9.4 | % 10.3 | % — | — | % (0.9) | % 9.4 | % |
| Operating income | \$117 | \$100 | 15.7 | % 15.2 | % — | 1.0 | % (0.5) | % 15.7 | % |
| Operating margin % | 28.2 | % 26.6 | % 160 bps | 120 bps | — | 30 bps | 10 bps | 160 bps | |

| Dollars in millions | Nine Months Ended | | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------|---|
| | September 30, | | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | Total | |
| 2018 | 2017 | | | | | | | | % |
| Operating revenue | \$1,277 | \$1,150 | 11.0 | % 10.4 | % — | — | % 0.6 | % 11.0 | % |
| Operating income | \$363 | \$312 | 16.1 | % 15.0 | % — | 0.8 | % 0.3 | % 16.1 | % |
| Operating margin % | 28.4 | % 27.2 | % 120 bps | 110 bps | — | 20 bps | (10) bps | 120 bps | |

Operating revenue increased in the third quarter and year-to-date periods primarily due to higher organic revenue. Organic revenue grew 10.3% in the third quarter driven by growth in equipment of 11.5% and consumables of 8.6%. In the year-to-date period, organic revenue increased 10.4% as equipment grew 12.3% and consumables increased 7.8%. In both periods, organic revenue grew primarily due to increased demand in the industrial end markets related to heavy equipment for agriculture, infrastructure and mining and in the commercial end markets related to construction, light fabrication and farm and ranch customers.

North American organic revenue increased 9.9% in the third quarter primarily due to 13.2% and 6.7% growth in the industrial and commercial end markets, respectively. In the year-to-date period, organic revenue grew 11.9% primarily driven by 17.3% and 5.2% growth in the industrial and commercial end markets, respectively.

International organic revenue increased 11.7% and 3.9% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, primarily due to higher demand in the oil and gas and Asian commercial end markets.

Operating margin was 28.2% in the third quarter. The increase of 160 basis points was primarily due to positive operating leverage of 160 basis points, benefits from the Company's enterprise initiatives and lower restructuring expenses, partially offset by higher freight and employee-related expenses.

In the year-to-date period, operating margin of 28.4% increased 120 basis points primarily due to positive operating leverage of 150 basis points and benefits from the Company's enterprise initiatives, partially offset by higher freight and employee-related expenses and unfavorable price/cost of 20 basis points.

POLYMERS & FLUIDS

This segment is a highly branded supplier to niche markets that require value-added, differentiated products. Businesses in this segment produce engineered adhesives, sealants, lubrication and cutting fluids, and fluids and polymers for auto aftermarket maintenance and appearance. This segment primarily serves the automotive aftermarket, general industrial, MRO and construction markets. Products in this segment include:

- adhesives for industrial, construction and consumer purposes;
- chemical fluids which clean or add lubrication to machines;
- epoxy and resin-based coating products for industrial applications;
- hand wipes and cleaners for industrial applications;
- fluids, polymers and other supplies for auto aftermarket maintenance and appearance;
- fillers and putties for auto body repair; and
- polyester coatings and patch and repair products for the marine industry.

The results of operations for the Polymers & Fluids segment for the third quarter and year-to-date periods were as follows:

| Dollars in millions | Three Months Ended | | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------|--|
| | September 30, 2018 | September 30, 2017 | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | Total | |
| Operating revenue | \$415 | \$434 | (4.4)% | (0.7)% | (0.6)% | — | (3.1)% | (4.4)% | |
| Operating income | \$91 | \$90 | 0.6% | 2.3% | (0.3)% | 1.5 | (2.9)% | 0.6% | |
| Operating margin | % 22.1 | % 21.0 | % 110 bps | 60 bps | 10 bps | 30 bps | 10 bps | 110 bps | |

| Dollars in millions | Nine Months Ended | | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------|--|
| | September 30, 2018 | September 30, 2017 | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | Total | |
| Operating revenue | \$1,302 | \$1,297 | 0.4% | 0.2% | (0.2)% | — | 0.4% | 0.4% | |
| Operating income | \$278 | \$272 | 2.2% | — | (0.1)% | 1.5 | 0.8% | 2.2% | |
| Operating margin | % 21.4 | % 21.0 | % 40 bps | — | — | 30 bps | 10 bps | 40 bps | |

- Operating revenue decreased in the third quarter due to the unfavorable effect of foreign currency translation, lower organic revenue and a divestiture. Operating revenue increased in the year-to-date period due to the favorable effect of foreign currency translation and higher organic revenue, partially offset by a divestiture. Organic revenue declined 0.7% in the third quarter as lower demand in Asia Pacific and Europe was partially offset by higher demand in North America. In the year-to-date period, organic revenue increased 0.2% as higher demand in North America was partially offset by lower demand in Asia Pacific and Europe. Organic revenue for the automotive aftermarket businesses increased 1.3% in the third quarter primarily driven by growth in the car care businesses in North America, partially offset by a decline in the additives businesses in Europe. In the year-to-date period, organic revenue grew 0.6% as stronger demand in the car care and tire repair businesses in North America were partially offset by a decline in the body and engine repair businesses in North America. Organic revenue for the fluids businesses declined 2.4% and 0.3% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, primarily due to decreased demand in Europe and South America, partially offset by growth in the industrial maintenance, repair, and operations end markets in North America.

Organic revenue for the polymers businesses decreased 2.2% and 0.1% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, primarily driven by a decline in Europe and Asia Pacific, partially offset by an increase in North America and South America.

Operating margin of 22.1% in the third quarter increased 110 basis points primarily driven by the net benefits of the Company's enterprise initiatives and cost management and lower restructuring expenses, partially offset by unfavorable price/cost of 130 basis points.

- In the year-to-date period, operating margin of 21.4% increased 40 basis points primarily driven by benefits from the Company's enterprise initiatives and lower restructuring expenses, partially offset by unfavorable price/cost of 120 basis points and higher freight and employee-related expenses.

CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS

This segment is a branded supplier of innovative engineered fastening systems and solutions. This segment primarily serves the residential construction, renovation/remodel and commercial construction markets. Products in this segment include:

- fasteners and related fastening tools for wood and metal applications;
- anchors, fasteners and related tools for concrete applications;
- metal plate truss components and related equipment and software; and
- packaged hardware, fasteners, anchors and other products for retail.

The results of operations for the Construction Products segment for the third quarter and year-to-date periods were as follows:

| Dollars in millions | Three Months Ended | | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------|---|
| | September 30, | | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | Total | |
| 2018 | 2017 | | | | | | | | % |
| Operating revenue | \$431 | \$440 | (2.0)% | 0.9 % | —% | — | (2.9)% | (2.0)% | |
| Operating income | \$111 | \$112 | (0.4)% | 3.4 % | —% | (1.0)% | (2.8)% | (0.4)% | |
| Operating margin % | 25.8 % | 25.4 % | 40 bps | 60 bps | — | (20) bps | — | 40 bps | |

| Dollars in millions | Nine Months Ended | | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------|---|
| | September 30, | | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | Total | |
| 2018 | 2017 | | | | | | | | % |
| Operating revenue | \$1,303 | \$1,260 | 3.4 % | 1.8 % | —% | — | 1.6 % | 3.4 % | |
| Operating income | \$315 | \$303 | 4.0 % | 3.2 % | —% | (0.6)% | 1.4 % | 4.0 % | |
| Operating margin % | 24.2 % | 24.0 % | 20 bps | 40 bps | — | (20) bps | — | 20 bps | |

Operating revenue decreased in the third quarter due to the unfavorable effect of foreign currency translation, partially offset by higher organic revenue. Operating revenue increased in the year-to-date period due to higher organic revenue and the favorable effect of foreign currency translation.

Organic revenue increased 0.9% and 1.8% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively.

North American organic revenue grew 0.2% in the third quarter as growth in the commercial end markets of 4.6% was partially offset by a decline in the residential end markets of 1.2%. In the year-to-date period, organic revenue grew 2.7% as growth in the residential end markets of 4.1% was partially offset by a decline in the commercial end markets of 4.5%.

International organic revenue increased 1.3% and 1.1% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively.

European organic revenue increased 3.8% and 1.7% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, primarily due to growth in continental Europe and the Nordic countries. Asia Pacific organic revenue decreased 0.9% in the third quarter primarily due to a decline in the Australia and New Zealand retail end markets. Asia Pacific organic revenue increased 0.5% in the year-to-date period primarily due to growth in the Australia and New Zealand retail end markets during the first half of the year.

Operating margin was 25.8% in the third quarter. The increase of 40 basis points was primarily driven by the net benefits of the Company's enterprise initiatives and cost management and positive operating leverage of 20 basis points, partially offset by unfavorable price/cost of 80 basis points and higher restructuring expenses. In the year-to-date period, operating margin of 24.2% increased 20 basis points primarily due to positive operating leverage of 50 basis points and benefits from the Company's enterprise initiatives, partially offset by unfavorable price/cost of 70 basis points and higher restructuring, freight and employee-related expenses.

SPECIALTY PRODUCTS

This segment is focused on diversified niche market opportunities with substantial patent protection producing beverage packaging equipment and consumables, product coding and marking equipment and consumables, and appliance components and fasteners. This segment primarily serves the food and beverage, consumer durables, general industrial, printing and publishing and industrial capital goods markets. Products in this segment include:

- line integration, conveyor systems and line automation for the food and beverage industries;
- plastic consumables that multi-pack cans and bottles and related equipment;
- foil, film and related equipment used to decorate consumer products;
- product coding and marking equipment and related consumables;
- plastic and metal fasteners and components for appliances;
- airport ground support equipment; and
- components for medical devices.

The results of operations for the Specialty Products segment for the third quarter and year-to-date periods were as follows:

| Dollars in millions | Three Months Ended | | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | Total |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------|-------|
| | September 30, 2018 | September 30, 2017 | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | | |
| Operating revenue | \$475 | \$498 | (4.7)% | (3.8)% | —% | — | % (0.9)% | (4.7)% | |
| Operating income | \$128 | \$138 | (7.7)% | (7.4)% | —% | 0.6 | % (0.9)% | (7.7)% | |
| Operating margin % | 26.8% | 27.7% | (90) bps | (110) bps | — | 20 bps | — | (90) bps | |

| Dollars in millions | Nine Months Ended | | | Components of Increase (Decrease) | | | | | Total |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------|-------|
| | September 30, 2018 | September 30, 2017 | Inc (Dec) | Organic | Acquisition/Divestiture | Restructuring | Foreign Currency | | |
| Operating revenue | \$1,482 | \$1,451 | 2.1% | 0.2% | (0.1)% | — | % 2.0% | 2.1% | |
| Operating income | \$404 | \$401 | 0.7% | (2.0)% | (0.1)% | 0.7 | % 2.1% | 0.7% | |
| Operating margin % | 27.2% | 27.6% | (40) bps | (60) bps | — | 20 bps | — | (40) bps | |

Operating revenue declined in the third quarter due to lower organic revenue and the unfavorable effect of foreign currency translation. Operating revenue increased in the year-to-date period primarily due to the favorable effect of foreign currency translation and higher organic revenue.

Organic revenue decreased 3.8% in the third quarter as consumables declined 6.4%, partially offset by growth in equipment sales of 6.9%. In the year-to-date period, organic revenue increased 0.2% as equipment sales increased 12.4%, partially offset by a decline in consumable sales of 2.7%.

North American organic revenue decreased 1.8% in the third quarter primarily due to a decline in the brand identification, label and appliance businesses, partially offset by an increase in equipment sales. In the year-to-date period, organic revenue increased 1.8% primarily driven by higher equipment sales, partially offset by a decline in the labels, appliance and plastic films businesses.

International organic revenue decreased 6.9% and 2.4% in the third quarter and year-to-date periods, respectively, primarily due to a decline in the graphics and appliance businesses in Europe and Asia Pacific.

Operating margin of 26.8% in the third quarter decreased 90 basis points primarily driven by unfavorable operating leverage of 70 basis points, product mix, unfavorable price/cost of 30 basis points and higher freight and employee-related expenses, partially offset by benefits from the Company's enterprise initiatives and lower restructuring expenses.

In the year-to-date period, operating margin was 27.2%. The decrease of 40 basis points was primarily driven by unfavorable price/cost of 30 basis points and higher freight and employee-related expenses, partially offset by benefits from the Company's enterprise initiatives and lower restructuring expenses.

OTHER FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Interest expense was \$64 million in the third quarter of 2018 versus \$65 million in the third quarter of 2017. Interest expense was \$194 million in the year-to-date periods of 2018 and 2017.

Other income (expense) was income of \$10 million in the third quarter of 2018 versus \$11 million in the prior year period and \$48 million in the year-to-date period of 2018 versus \$29 million in the prior year period. The increase in the year-to-date period was primarily driven by other net periodic benefit income related to defined benefit pension and other postretirement plans and lower translation losses.

NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the "FASB") issued authoritative guidance to change the criteria for revenue recognition. The core principle of the new guidance is that revenue should be recognized to depict the transfer of control of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. In addition, expanded revenue disclosures are required. The Company's sales arrangements with customers are predominantly short-term in nature and generally provide for transfer of control and risks and rewards of ownership at the time of product shipment or delivery of service. As such, the timing of revenue recognition under both the prior and new guidance is the same for the majority of the Company's transactions. Effective January 1, 2018, the Company adopted the new revenue recognition guidance under the modified retrospective method and recorded a cumulative-effect adjustment reducing retained earnings by \$9 million as of January 1, 2018. Under the modified retrospective method of adoption, prior periods are not restated and the new guidance is applied prospectively to revenue transactions completed on or after January 1, 2018. Given the nature of the Company's revenue transactions, the new guidance had an immaterial impact on the Company's operating revenue, results of operations, and financial position for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018. The Company updated its revenue recognition accounting policy to reflect the requirements of the new guidance and included additional disclosures regarding the Company's revenue transactions. Refer to Note 1. Significant Accounting Policies and Note 2. Operating Revenue in Item 1. Financial Statements for additional information.

In October 2016, the FASB issued authoritative guidance requiring the recognition of the income tax consequences of an intra-entity transfer of an asset, other than inventory, when the transfer occurs rather than when transferred to a third party as required under the prior guidance. The provisions of the new guidance are being applied prospectively to intra-entity asset transfers on or after January 1, 2018 and may result in future tax rate volatility. Upon adoption of the new guidance on January 1, 2018, the Company recorded a cumulative-effect adjustment reducing deferred tax assets and retained earnings by \$406 million. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, the impact of the new guidance on the Company's effective income tax rate was not material.

In March 2017, the FASB issued authoritative guidance which changes the income statement presentation of net periodic benefit cost related to defined benefit pension and other postretirement plans. The primary change under the new guidance is that only the service cost component of net periodic benefit cost should be included in operating income and is eligible for capitalization as an asset. The other components of net periodic benefit cost ("other net periodic benefit cost"), including interest cost, expected return on assets, settlements, curtailments, and amortization of actuarial gains and losses and prior service cost, should be presented below operating income. Effective January 1, 2018, the Company adopted the new presentation of other net periodic benefit cost and restated the prior year statement of income and related disclosures for comparability, as required under the new guidance. For the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, other net periodic benefit cost included in Other income (expense) was income of \$5 million and \$1 million, respectively. For the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, other net periodic benefit cost included in Other income (expense) was income of \$15 million and \$5 million, respectively. Refer to Note 6. Pension and Other Postretirement Benefits in Item 1. Financial Statements for additional information.

In February 2018, the FASB issued authoritative guidance which allows for an optional one-time reclassification of the stranded tax effects resulting from the change in the U.S. federal corporate income tax rate under the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act" (the "Act") from accumulated other comprehensive income ("AOCI") to retained earnings. The guidance is effective January 1, 2019, with early adoption permitted. The Company elected to early adopt this guidance as of January 1, 2018 and to reclassify the stranded tax effects related to the Act, which resulted in an increase of \$45 million to both retained earnings and accumulated other comprehensive loss. Refer to Note 9. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) in Item 1. Financial Statements for additional information.

In February 2016, the FASB issued authoritative guidance to change the criteria for recognizing leasing transactions. Under the new guidance, a lessee will be required to recognize a lease liability and right-of-use lease asset for all leases with a lease term greater than twelve months, including operating leases, in the statement of financial position. Subsequent measurement,

including presentation of expenses and cash flows, will depend on the classification of the lease as either a financing or operating lease. In addition, expanded disclosures will be required. This guidance is effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2019, and can be applied either retrospectively to all periods presented or prospectively. The Company is currently reviewing its existing lease portfolio to assess the impact that the new lease accounting guidance will have on the consolidated financial statements and related disclosures. While the Company has not yet completed this review, the Company expects to adopt the new guidance on a prospective basis and recognize right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for its operating leases in the statement of financial position upon adoption.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The Company's primary sources of liquidity are free cash flow and short-term credit facilities. In addition, the Company had \$1.6 billion of cash and equivalents on hand at September 30, 2018 and also maintains strong access to public debt markets. Management believes that these sources are sufficient to service debt and to finance the Company's capital allocation priorities, which include:

- internal investments to support organic growth and sustain core businesses;
- payment of an attractive dividend to shareholders; and
- external investments in selective strategic acquisitions that support the Company's organic growth focus, and an active share repurchase program.

The Company believes that, based on its revenue, operating margin, current free cash flow, and credit ratings, it could readily obtain additional financing if necessary.

Cash Flow

The Company uses free cash flow to measure cash flow generated by operations that is available for dividends, share repurchases, acquisitions and debt repayment. The Company believes this non-GAAP financial measure is useful to investors in evaluating the Company's financial performance and measures the Company's ability to generate cash internally to fund Company initiatives. Free cash flow represents net cash provided by operating activities less additions to plant and equipment. Free cash flow is a measurement that is not the same as net cash flow from operating activities per the statement of cash flows and may not be consistent with similarly titled measures used by other companies. Summarized cash flow information for the third quarter and year-to-date periods of 2018 and 2017 was as follows:

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|--|---------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| In millions | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | \$844 | \$780 | \$2,002 | \$1,707 |
| Additions to plant and equipment | (101) | (78) | (282) | (219) |
| Free cash flow | \$743 | \$702 | \$1,720 | \$1,488 |
| Cash dividends paid | \$(262) | \$(224) | \$(792) | \$(674) |
| Repurchases of common stock | (500) | (250) | (1,500) | (750) |
| Acquisition of businesses (excluding cash and equivalents) and additional interest in affiliates | — | — | — | (3) |
| Net proceeds from (repayments of) debt with original maturities of three months or less | — | 6 | (850) | 697 |
| Repayments of debt with original maturities of more than three months | (1) | — | (1) | (652) |

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|---|---------|-------|-----------|-------|
| Other | 10 | 19 | 24 | 73 |
| Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and equivalents | (29) | 36 | (106) | 134 |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and equivalents | \$(39) | \$289 | \$(1,505) | \$313 |

Free cash flow for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 included an additional \$115 million discretionary pension contribution made in the second quarter of 2017.

Stock Repurchase Program

On February 13, 2015, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a stock repurchase program which provides for the buyback of up to \$6.0 billion of the Company's common stock over an open-ended period of time (the "2015 Program"). Under the 2015 Program, the Company repurchased approximately 1.9 million shares of its common stock at an average price of \$128.47 in the first quarter of 2017, approximately 1.8 million shares of its common stock at an average price of \$136.81 in the second quarter of 2017, approximately 1.8 million shares of its common stock at an average price of \$142.54 in the third quarter of 2017, approximately 1.6 million shares of its common stock at an average price of \$157.51 in the fourth quarter of 2017, approximately 3.0 million shares of its common stock at an average price of \$164.04 in the first quarter of 2018, approximately 3.4 million shares of its common stock at an average price of \$146.24 in the second quarter of 2018, and approximately 3.6 million shares of its common stock at an average price of \$139.73 in the third quarter of 2018. As of September 30, 2018, there were approximately \$945 million of authorized repurchases remaining under the 2015 Program.

On August 3, 2018, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a new stock repurchase program which provides for the buyback of up to an additional \$3.0 billion of the Company's common stock over an open-ended period of time (the "2018 Program"). As of September 30, 2018, there were \$3.0 billion of authorized repurchases remaining under the 2018 program.

Adjusted After-Tax Return on Average Invested Capital

The Company uses adjusted after-tax return on average invested capital ("ROIC") to measure the effectiveness of its operations' use of invested capital to generate profits. ROIC is a non-GAAP financial measure that the Company believes is a meaningful metric to investors in evaluating the Company's financial performance and may be different than the method used by other companies to calculate ROIC. For comparability, the Company excluded the 2017 confidential legal settlement from the calculation of ROIC for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017. Average invested capital represents the net assets of the Company, excluding cash and equivalents and outstanding debt, which are excluded as they do not represent capital investment in the Company's operations. Average invested capital is calculated using balances at the start of the period and at the end of each quarter. ROIC for the third quarter and year-to-date periods of 2018 and 2017 was as follows:

| Dollars in millions | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | September 30, 2018 | September 30, 2017 | September 30, 2018 | September 30, 2017 |
| Operating income | \$889 | \$960 | \$2,724 | \$2,639 |
| Less: Legal settlement income | — | (80) | — | (95) |
| Adjusted operating income | 889 | 880 | 2,724 | 2,544 |
| Tax rate ⁽¹⁾ | 25.5 % | 29.3 % | 25.0 % | 28.7 % |
| Income taxes | (227) | (259) | (681) | (731) |
| Operating income after taxes | \$662 | \$621 | \$2,043 | \$1,813 |
| Invested capital: | | | | |
| Trade receivables | \$2,777 | \$2,672 | \$2,777 | \$2,672 |
| Inventories | 1,338 | 1,225 | 1,338 | 1,225 |
| Net plant and equipment | 1,799 | 1,759 | 1,799 | 1,759 |
| Goodwill and intangible assets | 5,785 | 6,051 | 5,785 | 6,051 |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | (1,844) | (1,816) | (1,844) | (1,816) |
| Other, net | (494) | 487 | (494) | 487 |
| Total invested capital | \$9,361 | \$10,378 | \$9,361 | \$10,378 |

| | | | | |
|---|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| Average invested capital | \$9,470 | \$10,354 | \$9,634 | \$10,051 |
| Annualized return on average invested capital | 28.0 % | 24.0 % | 28.3 % | 24.1 % |

⁽¹⁾ The tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2018 excludes a net discrete tax benefit of \$15 million. The tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 represents the estimated effective tax rate for the full year of 2018, excluding the third quarter net discrete tax benefit.

ROIC for the three months ended September 30, 2018 was 28.0%, an improvement of 400 basis points primarily related to the new U.S. tax rules and regulations. ROIC for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 was 28.3%, an improvement of 420 basis points primarily related to the new U.S. tax rules and regulations.

Working Capital

Management uses working capital as a measurement of the short-term liquidity of the Company. Net working capital as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017 is summarized as follows:

| In millions | September 30, 2018 | December 31, 2017 | Increase/ (Decrease) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Current assets: | | | |
| Cash and equivalents | \$ 1,589 | \$ 3,094 | \$ (1,505) |
| Trade receivables | 2,777 | 2,628 | 149 |
| Inventories | 1,338 | 1,220 | 118 |
| Other | 236 | 336 | (100) |
| Total current assets | 5,940 | 7,278 | (1,338) |
| Current liabilities: | | | |
| Short-term debt | 1,350 | 850 | 500 |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | 1,844 | 1,848 | (4) |
| Other | 469 | 355 | 114 |
| Total current liabilities | 3,663 | 3,053 | 610 |
| Net working capital | \$ 2,277 | \$ 4,225 | \$ (1,948) |

As of September 30, 2018, a majority of the Company's cash and equivalents was held by international subsidiaries. Cash and equivalents held internationally may be subject to foreign withholding taxes if repatriated to the U.S. A portion of the cash and equivalents balances held internationally is typically used for international operating needs, reinvested to fund expansion of existing international businesses, used to fund new international acquisitions, or used to repay debt held internationally. In the U.S., the Company utilizes cash flows from domestic operations to fund domestic cash needs, which primarily consist of dividend payments, share repurchases, acquisitions, servicing of domestic debt obligations and general corporate needs. The Company also uses its commercial paper program, which is backed by long-term credit facilities, for short-term liquidity needs. The Company believes cash generated domestically and liquidity provided by the Company's commercial paper program will continue to be sufficient to fund cash requirements in the U.S.

On December 22, 2017, the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act" (the "Act") was enacted in the United States. The provisions of the Act significantly revised the U.S. corporate income tax rules, including a one-time repatriation tax on the deemed repatriation of post-1986 undistributed earnings of foreign subsidiaries. As a result of the one-time repatriation provisions of the Act, the Company provided for substantially all U.S. taxes on the undistributed earnings of its foreign subsidiaries as of December 31, 2017. During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Company repatriated approximately \$2.8 billion of cash and equivalents held by its international subsidiaries, a portion of which was used to repay outstanding commercial paper and to fund additional share repurchases.

Debt

Total debt as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017 was as follows:

| In millions | September 30, 2018 | December 31, 2017 |
|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Short-term debt | \$ 1,350 | \$ 850 |

| | | |
|----------------|----------|----------|
| Long-term debt | 6,054 | 7,478 |
| Total debt | \$ 7,404 | \$ 8,328 |

Short-term debt as of September 30, 2018 included \$650 million related to the 1.95% notes due March 1, 2019 and \$700 million related to the 6.25% notes due April 1, 2019, which were reclassified from Long-term debt to Short-term debt in the first and second quarters of 2018, respectively. There was no commercial paper outstanding as of September 30, 2018. Short-term debt as of December 31, 2017 included commercial paper of \$849 million.

Total Debt to EBITDA

The Company uses the ratio of total debt to EBITDA as a measure of its ability to repay its outstanding debt obligations. The Company believes that total debt to EBITDA is a meaningful metric to investors in evaluating the Company's long term financial liquidity and may be different than the method used by other companies to calculate total debt to EBITDA. EBITDA and the ratio of total debt to EBITDA are non-GAAP financial measures. The ratio of total debt to EBITDA represents total debt divided by net income before interest expense, other income (expense), income taxes, depreciation and amortization and impairment of intangible assets on a trailing twelve month basis. Total debt to EBITDA for the trailing twelve month periods ended September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017 was as follows:

| Dollars in millions | September 30, 2018 | December 31, 2017 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Total debt | \$ 7,404 | \$ 8,328 |
| Net income | \$ 1,880 | \$ 1,687 |
| Add: | | |
| Interest expense | 260 | 260 |
| Other income | (64) | (45) |
| Income taxes | 1,494 | 1,583 |
| Depreciation | 271 | 256 |
| Amortization and impairment of intangible assets | 193 | 206 |
| EBITDA | \$ 4,034 | \$ 3,947 |
| Total debt to EBITDA ratio | 1.8 | 2.1 |

Stockholders' Equity

The changes to stockholders' equity during 2018 were as follows:

| In millions | |
|--|----------|
| Total stockholders' equity, December 31, 2017 | \$4,589 |
| Net income | 1,956 |
| Adoption of new accounting guidance | (415) |
| Repurchases of common stock | (1,500) |
| Cash dividends declared | (858) |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments, net of tax | (283) |
| Other | 57 |
| Total stockholders' equity, September 30, 2018 | \$3,546 |

The adoption of new accounting guidance included cumulative-effect adjustments of \$406 million related to the tax consequences of intra-entity asset transfers and \$9 million related to revenue recognition. Refer to Note 1. Significant Accounting Policies in Item 1. Financial Statements for additional information.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This document contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements may be identified by the use of words such as "believe," "expect," "plans," "intends," "may," "strategy," "prospects," "estimate," "project," "target," "anticipate," "guidance," "forecast," and other similar words, including, without limitation, statements regarding the expected performance of acquired businesses

and impact of divested businesses, the impact of tariffs and raw material cost inflation, economic conditions in various geographic regions, the timing and amount of share repurchases, the timing and amount of benefits from the Company's enterprise initiatives, the adequacy of internally generated funds and credit facilities to service debt and finance the Company's capital allocation priorities, the sufficiency of U.S. generated cash to fund cash requirements in the U.S., the impact of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the cost and availability of additional financing, the Company's portion of future benefit payments related to pension and postretirement benefits, the availability of raw materials and energy, the expiration of any one of the Company's patents, the cost of

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compliance with environmental regulations, the likelihood of future goodwill or intangible asset impairment charges, the impact of failure of the Company's employees to comply with applicable laws and regulations, the impact of foreign currency fluctuations, the outcome of outstanding legal proceedings, the impact of adopting new accounting pronouncements, and the estimated timing and amount related to the resolution of tax matters. These statements are subject to certain risks, uncertainties, and other factors, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated. Important risks that may influence future results include (1) weaknesses or downturns in the markets served by the Company, (2) changes or deterioration in international and domestic political and economic conditions, (3) the timing and amount of benefits from the Company's enterprise initiatives and their impact on organic revenue growth, (4) market conditions and availability of financing to fund the Company's share repurchases, (5) the risk of intentional acts of the Company's employees, agents or business partners that violate anti-corruption and other laws, (6) the unfavorable impact of foreign currency fluctuations, (7) a delay or decrease in the introduction of new products into the Company's product lines or failure to protect the Company's intellectual property, (8) the potential negative impact of acquisitions on the Company's profitability and returns, (9) negative effects of divestitures, including retained liabilities and unknown contingent liabilities, (10) potential negative impact of impairments to goodwill and other intangible assets on the Company's profitability and return on invested capital, (11) increases in funding costs or decreases in credit availability due to market conditions or changes to the Company's credit ratings, (12) raw material price increases and supply shortages, (13) unfavorable tax law changes and tax authority rulings, (14) financial market risks to the Company's obligations under its defined benefit pension plans, (15) potential adverse outcomes in legal proceedings, (16) uncertainties related to climate change regulation, and (17) negative effects of service interruptions, data corruption, cyber-based attacks, network security breaches, or violations of data privacy laws. A more detailed description of these risks is contained in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. These risks are not all inclusive and given these and other possible risks and uncertainties, investors should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements as a prediction of actual results.

Any forward-looking statements made by ITW speak only as of the date on which they are made. ITW is under no obligation to, and expressly disclaims any obligation to, update or alter its forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, subsequent events or otherwise.

ITW practices fair disclosure for all interested parties. Investors should be aware that while ITW regularly communicates with securities analysts and other investment professionals, it is against ITW's policy to disclose to them any material non-public information or other confidential commercial information. Shareholders should not assume that ITW agrees with any statement or report issued by any analyst irrespective of the content of the statement or report.

ITEM 4. Controls and Procedures

The Company carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's Chairman & Chief Executive Officer and Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer of the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e)) as of September 30, 2018. Based on such evaluation, the Company's Chairman & Chief Executive Officer and Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer have concluded that, as of September 30, 2018, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

In connection with the evaluation by management, including the Company's Chairman & Chief Executive Officer and Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer, no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f)) during the quarter ended September 30, 2018 were identified that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

PART II – OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1A. Risk Factors

The Company's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows are subject to various risks which could cause actual results to vary materially from recent results or from anticipated future results. The following is an update to the Company's risk factors and should be read in conjunction with the risk factors previously disclosed in Part I - Item 1A - Risk Factors in the Company's 2017 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

If the Company is unable to protect its information technology infrastructure against service interruptions, data corruption, cyber-based attacks or network security breaches, or if there is a violation of data privacy laws, there could be a negative impact on operating results or the Company may suffer financial or reputational damage.

The Company relies on information technology networks and systems, including the Internet, to process, transmit and store electronic information, and to manage or support a variety of business processes and activities, including procurement, manufacturing, distribution, invoicing and collection. These technology networks and systems may be susceptible to damage, disruptions or shutdowns due to failures during the process of upgrading or replacing software, databases or components; power outages; hardware failures; attacks by computer hackers; computer viruses; employee error or malfeasance. In addition, security breaches could result in unauthorized disclosure of confidential information or personal data belonging to our employees, partners, customers or suppliers. We are also subject to data privacy laws in the various countries in which we operate. If our information technology systems suffer severe damage, disruption, or shutdown, and business continuity plans do not effectively resolve the issues in a timely manner, or if we violate data privacy laws, there could be a negative impact on operating results or the Company may suffer financial or reputational damage.

The global nature of the Company's operations subjects it to political and economic risks that could adversely affect its business, results of operations or financial condition.

The Company currently operates in 55 countries. The risks inherent in the Company's global operations include:

- fluctuation in currency exchange rates;
- limitations on ownership or participation in local enterprises;
- price controls, exchange controls and limitations on repatriation of earnings;
- transportation delays and interruptions;
- political, social and economic instability and disruptions;
- acts of terrorism;
- government embargoes or foreign trade restrictions;
- the imposition of duties and tariffs and other trade barriers and retaliatory countermeasures;
- government actions impacting international trade agreements;
- import and export controls;
- labor unrest and current and changing regulatory environments;
- the potential for expropriation or nationalization of enterprises;
- difficulties in staffing and managing multi-national operations;
- limitations on its ability to enforce legal rights and remedies; and
- potentially adverse tax consequences.

If the Company is unable to successfully manage these and other risks associated with managing and expanding its international businesses, the risks could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, results of operations or financial condition. In addition, the current global geopolitical and trade environment has resulted in raw material inflation and potential for increased escalation of domestic and international tariffs and retaliatory trade policies. Further changes in U.S. trade policy (including new or additional increases in duties or tariffs), additional retaliatory actions by U.S. trade partners, or worsening of economic conditions could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

Raw material price increases and supply shortages could adversely affect results.

The supply of raw materials to the Company and to its component parts suppliers could be interrupted for a variety of reasons, including availability and pricing. Prices for raw materials necessary for production have fluctuated significantly in the past and significant increases could adversely affect the Company's results of operations and profit margins. In particular, changes in trade policies, the imposition of duties and tariffs and potential retaliatory countermeasures could adversely impact the price or availability of raw materials. Due to pricing pressure or other factors, the Company may not be able to pass along increased raw material and components parts prices to its

customers in the form of price increases or its ability to do so could be delayed. Consequently, its results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected.

ITEM 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

On February 13, 2015, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a stock repurchase program which provides for the repurchase of up to \$6.0 billion of the Company's common stock over an open-ended period of time (the "2015 Program"). As of September 30, 2018, there were approximately \$945 million of authorized repurchases remaining under the 2015 Program.

On August 3, 2018, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a new stock repurchase program which provides for the buyback of up to an additional \$3.0 billion of the Company's common stock over an open-ended period of time (the "2018 Program"). As of September 30, 2018, there were \$3.0 billion of authorized repurchases remaining under the 2018 program.

Share repurchase activity for the third quarter of 2018 was as follows:

In millions except per share amounts

| Period | Total Number of Shares Purchased | Average Price Paid Per Share | Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Program | Maximum Value of Shares That May Yet Be Purchased Under Program |
|----------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| July 2018 | 1.5 | \$139.15 | 1.5 | \$ 1,232 |
| August 2018 | 1.5 | \$138.21 | 1.5 | \$ 1,030 |
| September 2018 | 0.6 | \$145.06 | 0.6 | \$ 945 |
| Total | 3.6 | | 3.6 | |

ITEM 6.

Exhibits

Exhibit

Index

Exhibit

Number

Exhibit Description

31 Rule 13a-14(a) Certification.

32 Section 1350 Certification.

101 The following financial and related information from the Illinois Tool Works Inc. Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2018 is formatted in Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) and submitted electronically herewith: (i) Statement of Income, (ii) Statement of Comprehensive Income, (iii) Statement of Financial Position, (iv) Statement of Cash Flows and (v) related Notes to Financial Statements.

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SIGNATURES

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

ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS INC.

Dated: November 1, 2018 By: /s/ Randall J. Scheuneman
Randall J. Scheuneman
Vice President & Chief Accounting Officer
(Principal Accounting Officer and Duly Authorized Officer)