

TrueBlue, Inc.  
Form 10-Q  
October 24, 2016

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549  
FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended: September 23, 2016

or

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

Commission File Number: 001-14543

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TrueBlue, Inc.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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Washington 91-1287341  
(State of incorporation) (IRS Employer Identification No.)

1015 A Street, Tacoma, Washington 98402  
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)  
Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (253) 383-9101

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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 ý No ¨

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

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

Large accelerated filer      x Accelerated filer ¨ Non-accelerated filer ¨ (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)  
Smaller reporting company ¨

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes ¨ No ý  
As of October 10, 2016, there were 42,478,596 shares of the registrant's common stock outstanding.

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## PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Item 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## TRUEBLUE, INC.

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in thousands, except par value data)

(unaudited)

	September 23, 2016	December 25, 2015
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 24,781	\$ 29,781
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$5,210 and \$5,902	364,618	461,476
Prepaid expenses, deposits and other current assets	22,280	23,553
Income tax receivable	24,157	28,155
Total current assets	435,836	542,965
Property and equipment, net	59,898	57,530
Restricted cash and investments	212,968	188,412
Deferred income taxes, net	4,374	—
Goodwill	225,905	268,495
Intangible assets, net	131,828	153,859
Other assets, net	53,299	48,181
Total assets	\$ 1,124,108	\$ 1,259,442
<b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and other accrued expenses	\$ 67,868	\$ 69,727
Accrued wages and benefits	83,841	86,070
Current portion of workers' compensation claims reserve	68,131	69,308
Contingent consideration	19,800	—
Other current liabilities	3,787	2,871
Total current liabilities	243,427	227,976
Workers' compensation claims reserve, less current portion	210,087	196,972
Long-term debt, less current portion	137,111	243,397
Deferred income taxes, net	—	19,499
Other long-term liabilities	21,008	36,025
Total liabilities	611,633	723,869
Commitments and contingencies (Note 9)		
Shareholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.131 par value, 20,000 shares authorized; No shares issued and outstanding	—	—
Common stock, no par value, 100,000 shares authorized; 42,481 and 42,024 shares issued and outstanding	1	1
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(9,726	) (14,013
Retained earnings	522,200	549,585
Total shareholders' equity	512,475	535,573
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 1,124,108	\$ 1,259,442
See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements		



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## TRUEBLUE, INC.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

(in thousands, except per share data)

(unaudited)

	Thirteen weeks ended		Thirty-nine weeks ended	
	September 28, 2016	September 25, 2015	September 23, 2016	September 25, 2015
Revenue from services	\$697,097	\$ 683,918	\$2,015,689	\$ 1,884,947
Cost of services	518,702	515,051	1,516,858	1,434,278
Gross profit	178,395	168,867	498,831	450,669
Selling, general and administrative expenses	134,679	125,117	401,090	354,569
Depreciation and amortization	11,690	10,498	34,673	31,415
Goodwill and intangible asset impairment charge	4,275	—	103,544	—
Income (loss) from operations	27,751	33,252	(40,476	) 64,685
Interest expense	(1,721	) (933	) (5,430	) (2,980
Interest and other income	854	567	2,657	1,878
Interest and other expense, net	(867	) (366	) (2,773	) (1,102
Income (loss) before tax expense	26,884	32,886	(43,249	) 63,583
Income tax expense (benefit)	3,455	12,796	(9,911	) 20,504
Net income (loss)	\$23,429	\$ 20,090	\$(33,338	) \$ 43,079
Net income (loss) per common share:				
Basic	\$0.56	\$ 0.49	\$(0.80	) \$ 1.05
Diluted	\$0.56	\$ 0.48	\$(0.80	) \$ 1.04
Weighted average shares outstanding:				
Basic	41,762	41,296	41,651	41,189
Diluted	42,056	41,620	41,651	41,546
Other comprehensive income (loss):				
Foreign currency translation adjustment, net of tax	\$ 1,247	\$ (881	) \$3,341	\$ (1,706
Unrealized gain on investments, net of tax	784	(835	) 946	(281
Total other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	2,031	(1,716	) 4,287	(1,987
Comprehensive income (loss)	\$25,460	\$ 18,374	\$(29,051	) \$ 41,092

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements

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## TRUEBLUE, INC.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(in thousands)

(unaudited)

	Thirty-nine weeks ended	
	September 25,	September 25,
	2016	2015
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income (loss)	\$(33,338)	\$ 43,079
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash from operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	34,673	31,415
Goodwill and intangible asset impairment charge	103,544	—
Provision for doubtful accounts	6,361	4,483
Stock-based compensation	7,443	8,283
Deferred income taxes	(23,874)	(6,029)
Other operating activities	5,603	20
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	102,722	(6,597)
Income tax receivable	4,018	9,673
Other assets	(3,563)	(3,685)
Accounts payable and other accrued expenses	(3,764)	17,453
Accrued wages and benefits	(3,254)	10,315
Workers' compensation claims reserve	11,938	10,024
Other liabilities	4,740	1,883
Net cash provided by operating activities	213,249	120,317
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Capital expenditures	(17,766)	(12,590)
Acquisition of business	(71,863)	—
Sales and maturities of marketable securities	—	1,500
Change in restricted cash and cash equivalents	732	13,070
Purchases of restricted investments	(35,940)	(38,818)
Maturities of restricted investments	12,273	11,047
Net cash used in investing activities	(112,564)	(25,791)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Net proceeds from stock option exercises and employee stock purchase plans	1,183	1,164
Common stock repurchases for taxes upon vesting of restricted stock	(2,692)	(3,725)
Net change in revolving credit facility	(104,586)	(85,994)
Payments on debt	(1,700)	(1,700)
Other	20	1,134
Net cash used in financing activities	(107,775)	(89,121)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	2,090	(1,839)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(5,000)	3,566
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, beginning of period	29,781	19,666
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, end of period	\$24,781	\$ 23,232
See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements		



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TRUEBLUE, INC.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Financial statement preparation

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements (“financial statements”) of TrueBlue, Inc. (the “Company,” “TrueBlue,” “we,” “us,” and “our”) are prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) for interim financial information and rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Accordingly, certain information and footnote disclosures usually found in financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP have been condensed or omitted. The financial statements reflect all adjustments which, in the opinion of management, are necessary to fairly state the financial statements for the interim periods presented. We follow the same accounting policies for preparing both quarterly and annual financial statements.

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and related notes included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 25, 2015. The results of operations for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016, are not necessarily indicative of the results expected for the full fiscal year or for any other fiscal period.

Recently adopted accounting standards

Effective December 26, 2015, we early adopted the accounting standard that simplified the balance sheet disclosure of deferred income taxes retrospectively to all periods presented. This guidance requires deferred tax liabilities and assets to be classified as non-current in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The guidance is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016, and may be applied either prospectively to all deferred tax liabilities and assets or retrospectively to all periods presented. The adoption of this standard did not have a material impact to our financial statements.

Recently issued accounting pronouncements not yet adopted

In August 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued an accounting standards update relating to how certain cash receipts and cash payments should be presented and classified in the statement of cash flows. The update is intended to reduce the existing diversity in practice. The amended guidance is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2017 (Q1 2018 for TrueBlue), with early adoption permitted, including adoption in an interim period. The adoption of the amendment should be applied using the retrospective transition method, if practicable. We intend to early adopt this amendment in Q1 2017 and do not expect the adoption of this guidance to have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In June 2016, the FASB issued guidance on accounting for credit losses on financial instruments. This guidance sets forth a current expected credit loss model which requires measurement of all expected credit losses for financial instruments held at the reporting date based on historical experience, current conditions, and reasonable supportable forecasts. This replaces the existing incurred loss model and is applicable to the measurement of credit losses on financial assets measured at amortized cost and some off-balance sheet exposures, as well as trade account receivables. This guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019 (Q1 2020 for TrueBlue) with early adoption permitted no sooner than Q1 2019. A modified retrospective approach is required for all investments, except debt securities for which an other-than-temporary impairment had been recognized prior to the effective date, which will require a prospective transition approach. We plan to adopt this guidance on the effective date and are currently assessing the impact of the adoption of this guidance on our consolidated financial statements.



In March 2016, the FASB issued guidance to improve employee share-based payment accounting. The simplifications include income tax consequences, classification of awards as equity or liabilities, and classification within the statement of cash flows. This guidance is effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2016 (Q1 2017 for TrueBlue), and early adoption is permitted. We plan to adopt the guidance on the effective date. We do not expect the adoption of this guidance to have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In February 2016, the FASB issued guidance on lease accounting. The new guidance will continue to classify leases as either finance or operating and will result in the lessee recognizing a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability on its balance sheet, with classification affecting the pattern of expense recognition in the statement of income. This guidance is effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2018 (Q1 2019 for TrueBlue), and early adoption is permitted. A modified

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

retrospective approach is required for all leases existing or entered into after the beginning of the earliest comparative period in the consolidated financial statements. We plan to adopt the guidance on the effective date. We are currently evaluating the impact of this guidance on our consolidated financial statements and expect that a majority of our operating lease commitments will be recognized on our consolidated balance sheets as operating lease liabilities and right-of-use assets upon adoption. We do not expect the adoption of this guidance to have a material impact on the pattern of expense recognition in our consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income (loss).

In January 2016, the FASB issued guidance on the accounting for equity investments, financial liabilities under the fair value option, and the presentation and disclosure requirements for financial instruments. The guidance is effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2017 (Q1 2018 for TrueBlue). Early adoption of the amendments in the guidance is not permitted, with limited exceptions, and should be applied by means of a cumulative-effect adjustment to the balance sheet as of the beginning of the fiscal year of adoption. We plan to adopt the guidance on the effective date. We do not expect the adoption of this guidance to have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In May 2014, the FASB issued guidance outlining a single comprehensive model for entities to use in accounting for revenue arising from contracts with customers that supersedes the current revenue recognition guidance. This guidance requires an entity to recognize revenue when it transfers 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. The guidance requires enhanced disclosures, including revenue recognition policies to identify performance obligations to customers and significant judgments in measurement and recognition. The guidance also requires additional disclosure about the nature, amount, timing, and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from customer contracts, including significant judgments and changes in judgments as well as assets recognized from costs incurred to obtain or fulfill a contract. The guidance provides two methods of initial adoption: retrospective for all periods presented, or through a cumulative adjustment in the year of adoption. In March 2016, the FASB issued additional guidance providing clarification on principal versus agent considerations included within the new revenue recognition guidance. The effective date is for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2017 (Q1 2018 for TrueBlue). We have not determined the impact this guidance will have on our consolidated financial statements or the transition method we will use to adopt the guidance. However, the implementation team has begun the assessment of our customer contracts. Other than expanded disclosures, the impacts of the revised accounting guidance to the results of operations of the Company cannot be determined until our assessment is complete.

NOTE 2: ACQUISITIONS

2016 Acquisition

We account for our business acquisitions using the purchase method of accounting in accordance with ASC 805, Business Combinations. The fair value of the net assets acquired and the results of the acquired business are included in the financial statements from the acquisition date forward. We are required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and results of operations during the reporting period. Estimates are used in accounting for, among other things, the fair value of acquired net operating assets, property and equipment, intangible assets, useful lives of property and equipment, and amortizable lives for acquired intangible assets. Any excess of the purchase consideration over the identified fair value of the assets and liabilities acquired is recognized as goodwill. All acquisition-related costs are expensed as incurred and recorded in Selling, general and administrative expenses on the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss). We estimate the preliminary fair value of acquired assets and liabilities as of the date of acquisition based on information available at

that time. The valuation of these tangible and identifiable intangible assets and liabilities is subject to further management review and may change between the preliminary allocation and the final allocation. Any changes to these estimates may have a material impact on our operating results or financial condition.

Effective January 4, 2016, we acquired certain assets and assumed certain liabilities of the recruitment process outsourcing ("RPO") business of Aon Hewitt for a cash purchase price of \$71.9 million, net of the preliminary working capital adjustment. We amended our existing credit facility to temporarily increase the borrowing capacity by \$30.0 million, which was used to fund the acquisition. The RPO business of Aon Hewitt broadens our PeopleScout RPO services and has been substantially integrated into our PeopleScout service line, which is part of our Managed Services reportable segment.

We incurred acquisition and integration-related costs of \$4.7 million in connection with the acquisition of the RPO business of Aon Hewitt, which are included in Selling, general and administrative expenses on the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) and Cash flows from operating activities on the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the thirty-nine weeks ended weeks ended September 23, 2016.

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

The purchase price allocation for this acquisition is preliminary. We will finalize our working capital adjustment with the sellers and our purchase accounting during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2016.

The following table reflects our preliminary allocation of the purchase price (in thousands):

	Purchase Price Allocation
Cash purchase price, net of working capital adjustment	\$ 71,863
Purchase price allocated as follows:	
Accounts receivable	\$ 12,272
Prepaid expenses, deposits and other current assets	281
Customer relationships (1)	34,900
Technologies	400
Total assets acquired	47,853
Accrued wages and benefits (1)	1,025
Other long-term liabilities (1)	456
Total liabilities assumed	1,481
Net identifiable assets acquired	46,372
Goodwill (2)	25,491
Total consideration allocated	\$ 71,863

(1) The preliminary purchase price allocation was adjusted for changes resulting in a net reduction in goodwill of \$0.5 million.

Goodwill represents the expected synergies with our existing business, the acquired assembled workforce, potential (2) new customers, and future cash flows after the acquisition of the RPO business of Aon Hewitt. Goodwill is deductible for income tax purposes over 15 years as of January 4, 2016.

Intangible assets include identifiable intangible assets for customer relationships and developed technologies. We estimated the fair value of the acquired identifiable intangible assets, which are subject to amortization, using the income approach for customer relationships and the cost approach for developed technologies. No residual value is estimated for any of the intangible assets.

The following table sets forth the components of identifiable intangible assets and their estimated useful lives as of January 4, 2016 (in thousands, except for estimated useful lives, in years):

	Estimated Fair Value	Estimated Useful Lives in Years
Customer relationships	\$ 34,900	9.0
Technologies	400	3.0
Total acquired identifiable intangible assets	\$ 35,300	

The acquired assets and assumed liabilities of the RPO business of Aon Hewitt are included on our Consolidated Balance Sheets as of September 23, 2016, and the results of its operations and cash flows are reported on our

Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) and Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the period from January 4, 2016 to September 23, 2016.

The amount of revenue from the RPO business of Aon Hewitt included in our Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) was \$49.4 million for the period from the acquisition date to September 23, 2016. The acquired operations have been substantially integrated with our existing PeopleScout operations. The nature of the customers and the services provided by PeopleScout and the former RPO business of Aon Hewitt are now the same. Accordingly, subsequent to merging our operations, it is not possible to segregate and to reasonably estimate the operating expenses related exclusively to the former RPO business of Aon Hewitt.

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

The acquisition of the RPO business of Aon Hewitt was not material to our consolidated results of operations and as such, pro forma financial information was not required.

## 2015 Acquisition

Effective December 1, 2015, we acquired SIMOS Insourcing Solutions Corporation ("SIMOS"), an Atlanta-based provider of on-premise workforce management solutions for a cash purchase price of \$66.6 million, net of the final working capital adjustment, which was funded by our existing credit facility. An additional cash payment between zero and \$22.5 million of contingent consideration is payable in mid-2017, depending on SIMOS achieving a fiscal 2016 earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization target ("EBITDA target"). Actual results must be in excess of 87.5% of the EBITDA target before any amount is earned. The final undiscounted fair value of the contingent consideration as of the acquisition date was determined to be \$21.1 million. Using a risk adjusted weighted average cost of capital of 10.0%, the present value of the contingent consideration was estimated to be \$18.3 million, as of the acquisition date. The contingent consideration liability was based on a probability weighted fair value measurement using unobservable inputs (Level 3) which rely on management's estimates of assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the liability. The valuation is judgmental in nature and involves the use of significant estimates and assumptions in forecasting fiscal 2016 results. SIMOS broadens our Staff Management on-premise contingent staffing solution, which is part of our Staffing Services reportable segment. As of September 23, 2016, the present value of the contingent consideration was estimated to be \$19.8 million. Refer to Note 3: Fair Value Measurement for further details regarding the contingent consideration estimate.

The following table reflects our final allocation of the purchase price (in thousands):

	Purchase Price Allocation
Purchase price:	
Cash purchase price, net of working capital adjustment	\$ 66,603
Contingent consideration	18,300
Total consideration	\$ 84,903
Purchase price allocated as follows:	
Accounts receivable (1)	\$ 19,207
Prepaid expenses, deposits and other current assets	461
Property and equipment	464
Customer relationships	39,000
Trade name/trademarks	800
Technologies	100
Restricted cash	4,277
Other non-current assets	2,439
Total assets acquired	66,748
Accounts payable and other accrued expenses	3,741
Accrued wages and benefits	4,075
Workers' compensation liability	8,520
Total liabilities assumed	16,336

Net identifiable assets acquired	50,412
Goodwill (2)	34,491
Total consideration allocated	\$ 84,903

(1) The gross contractual amount of accounts receivable was \$19.3 million of which \$0.1 million was estimated to be uncollectible.

Goodwill represents the expected synergies with our existing business, the acquired assembled workforce, potential (2) new customers, and future cash flows after the acquisition of SIMOS. Goodwill is deductible for income tax purposes over 15 years as of December 1, 2015.

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

Intangible assets include identifiable intangible assets for customer relationships, trade name/trademarks, and developed technologies. We estimated the fair value of the acquired identifiable intangible assets, which are subject to amortization, using the income approach for customer relationships and trade name/trademarks, and the cost approach for developed technologies. The following table sets forth the components of identifiable intangible assets and their estimated useful lives as of December 1, 2015 (in thousands, except for estimated useful lives, in years):

	Estimated Fair Value	Estimated Useful Lives in Years
Customer relationships	\$ 39,000	9.0
Trade name/trademarks	800	3.0
Technologies	100	2.0
Total acquired identifiable intangible assets	\$ 39,900	

## NOTE 3: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis

Our assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis consisted of the following (in thousands):

	September 23, 2016			
	Total Fair Value	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Financial assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents (1)	\$24,781	\$24,781	\$	—\$
Restricted cash and cash equivalents (1)	48,273	48,273	—	—
Other restricted assets (2)	15,884	15,884	—	—
Restricted investments classified as held-to-maturity	152,563	—	152,563	—
Financial liabilities:				
Contingent consideration (3)	19,800	—	—	19,800
	December 25, 2015			
	Total Fair Value	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Financial assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents (1)	\$29,781	\$29,781	\$	—\$
Restricted cash and cash equivalents (1)	49,680	49,680	—	—



Other restricted assets (2)	11,944	11,944	—	—
Restricted investments classified as held to maturity	128,245	—	128,245	—
Financial liabilities:				
Contingent consideration (3)	19,300	—	—	19,300

(1) Cash equivalents and restricted cash equivalents consist of money market funds, deposits, and investments with original maturities of three months or less.

(2) Other restricted assets primarily consist of deferred compensation plan accounts, which are comprised of mutual funds classified as available-for-sale securities.

(3) The estimated fair value of the contingent consideration associated with the acquisition of SIMOS, which was estimated using a probability-adjusted discounted cash flow model. Refer to Note 2: Acquisitions for further details regarding the SIMOS acquisition.

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

The following table presents the change in the estimated fair value of our liability for contingent consideration measured using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016, as follows (in thousands):

Fair value measurement at beginning of period	\$19,300
Contingent consideration liability adjustment recorded for final purchase price valuation	(1,000 )
Final purchase price valuation	18,300
Accretion on contingent consideration	1,500
Fair value measurement at end of period	\$19,800

Our estimated liability for contingent consideration represents potential payments of additional consideration for the acquisition of SIMOS, which is payable in June 2017 if certain defined performance goals are achieved by the end of December 2016. Changes in the fair value of the contingent consideration are recorded in Selling, general and administrative expenses on the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss). Amortization of the present value discount is recorded in Interest expense on the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss). As of September 23, 2016, the contingent consideration liability was payable within one year and therefore classified as current on the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets. As of December 25, 2015, the contingent consideration liability was included in Other long-term liabilities.

There were no material transfers between Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy during the thirty-nine weeks ended weeks ended September 23, 2016 or September 25, 2015.

Assets measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis

We measure certain non-financial assets on a non-recurring basis, including goodwill and certain intangible assets. As a result of those measurements, we recognized impairment charges of \$103.5 million during the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016, as follows (in thousands):

	September 23, 2016				
Total Fair Value	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Impairment Loss	
Goodwill	\$42,629	\$ —	—\$ 42,629	\$(65,869 )	
Customer relationships	11,100	—	11,100	(28,900 )	
Trade names/trademarks	3,600	—	3,600	(8,775 )	
Total	\$57,329			\$(103,544 )	

Goodwill, finite-lived customer relationships and trade names/trademarks intangible assets, and indefinite-lived intangible trade names/trademarks intangible assets with a total carrying value of \$160.8 million were written down to their fair value of \$57.3 million, resulting in an impairment charge of \$103.5 million, which was recorded in earnings for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016. Refer to Note 6: Goodwill and Intangible Assets for additional details on the impairment charges and valuation methodologies.

NOTE 4: RESTRICTED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Restricted cash and investments consist principally of collateral that has been provided or pledged to insurance carriers for workers' compensation and state workers' compensation programs. Our insurance carriers and certain state workers' compensation programs require us to collateralize a portion of our workers' compensation obligation. The collateral typically takes the form of cash and cash equivalents and highly rated investment grade securities, primarily in municipal debt securities, corporate debt securities, and asset-backed securities. The majority of our collateral obligations are held in a trust at the Bank of New York Mellon ("Trust"). Our investments have not resulted in any other-than-temporary impairments.

The following is a summary of our restricted cash and investments (in thousands):

	September 23, 2016	December 25, 2015
Cash collateral held by insurance carriers	\$ 27,172	\$ 23,634
Cash and cash equivalents held in Trust	21,101	26,046
Investments held in Trust	148,811	126,788
Other (1)	15,884	11,944
Total restricted cash and investments	\$ 212,968	\$ 188,412

(1) Primarily consists of deferred compensation plan accounts, which are comprised of mutual funds classified as available-for-sale securities.

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

The following tables present fair value disclosures for our held-to-maturity investments, which are carried at amortized cost (in thousands):

	September 23, 2016			
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gain	Gross Unrealized Loss	Fair Value
Municipal debt securities	\$72,776	\$ 2,186	\$ (37 )	\$74,925
Corporate debt securities	69,552	1,510	(13 )	71,049
Agency mortgage-backed securities	6,483	107	(1 )	6,589
	\$148,811	\$ 3,803	\$ (51 )	\$152,563
	December 25, 2015			
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gain	Gross Unrealized Loss	Fair Value
Municipal debt securities	\$67,948	\$ 1,345	\$ (4 )	\$69,289
Corporate debt securities	50,462	226	(152 )	50,536
Agency mortgage-backed securities	8,378	73	(31 )	8,420
	\$126,788	\$ 1,644	\$ (187 )	\$128,245

The amortized cost and fair value by contractual maturity of our held-to-maturity investments are as follows (in thousands):

	September 23, 2016	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
Due in one year or less	\$14,051	\$14,092
Due after one year through five years	76,590	77,854
Due after five years through ten years	58,170	60,617
	\$148,811	\$152,563

Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities because the issuers of certain debt securities have the right to call or prepay their obligations without penalty. We have no significant concentrations of counterparties in our held-to-maturity investment portfolio.

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

## NOTE 5: PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET

Property and equipment are stated at cost and consist of the following (in thousands):

	September 23, December 25,	
	2016	2015
Buildings and land	\$ 32,810	\$ 32,258
Computers and software	132,505	126,003
Furniture and equipment	10,019	12,362
Construction in progress	14,291	4,757
Gross property and equipment	189,625	175,380
Less accumulated depreciation	(129,727 )	(117,850 )
Property and equipment, net	\$ 59,898	\$ 57,530

Capitalized software costs, net of accumulated depreciation, were \$16.9 million and \$24.6 million as of September 23, 2016 and December 25, 2015, respectively, excluding amounts in Construction in progress. Construction in progress consists primarily of purchased and internally-developed software.

Depreciation expense of property and equipment totaled \$5.4 million and \$5.9 million for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016 and September 25, 2015, respectively. Depreciation expense of property and equipment totaled \$15.5 million and \$17.1 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016 and September 25, 2015, respectively.

## NOTE 6: GOODWILL AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS

## Goodwill

The following table reflects goodwill at September 23, 2016 and December 25, 2015 (in thousands):

	Staffing Services	Managed Services	Total Company
Balance at December 25, 2015			
Goodwill before impairment	\$210,281	\$104,424	\$314,705
Accumulated impairment loss	(46,210 )	—	(46,210 )
Goodwill, net	164,071	104,424	268,495
Acquired goodwill and other (1)	(3,831 )	25,491	21,660
Impairment loss	(50,700 )	(15,169 )	(65,869 )
Foreign currency translation	—	1,619	1,619
Balance at September 23, 2016			
Goodwill before impairment	206,450	131,534	337,984
Accumulated impairment loss	(96,910 )	(15,169 )	(112,079 )
Goodwill, net	\$109,540	\$116,365	\$225,905

(1) Effective January 4, 2016, we acquired the RPO business of Aon Hewitt, which has been substantially integrated into our PeopleScout service line, and is part of our Managed Services reportable segment. Accordingly, the goodwill associated with the acquisition has been assigned to our Managed Services reportable segment based on our preliminary purchase price allocation. For additional information see Note 2: Acquisitions. Effective December 1, 2015, we acquired SIMOS, which is part of our Staffing Services reportable segment. The amount presented includes

year-to-date adjustments to the preliminary SIMOS purchase accounting for goodwill.

#### Intangible assets

The following table presents our purchased finite-lived intangible assets (in thousands):

	September 23, 2016			December 25, 2015		
	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount
Finite-lived intangible assets (1):						
Customer relationships (2)	\$ 167,090	\$ (51,210 )	\$ 115,880	\$ 161,376	\$ (36,846 )	\$ 124,530
Trade names/trademarks (3)	5,191	(4,046 )	1,145	5,179	(3,447 )	1,732
Non-compete agreements	1,800	(1,427 )	373	1,800	(1,177 )	623
Technologies	17,343	(8,913 )	8,430	17,310	(6,536 )	10,774
Total finite-lived intangible assets	\$ 191,424	\$ (65,596 )	\$ 125,828	\$ 185,665	\$ (48,006 )	\$ 137,659

(1) Excludes assets that are fully amortized.

(2) Balance at September 23, 2016, is net of impairment loss of \$28.9 million.

(3) Balance at September 23, 2016, is net of impairment loss of \$4.3 million.

Finite-lived intangible assets include customer relationships and technologies of \$34.9 million and \$0.4 million, respectively, based on our preliminary purchase price allocation relating to our acquisition of the RPO business of Aon Hewitt. Refer to Note 2: Acquisitions, for additional information regarding this acquisition.

Amortization expense of our finite-lived intangible assets was \$6.3 million and \$19.2 million for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016, respectively, and \$4.6 million and \$14.3 million for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended September 25, 2015, respectively.

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

The following table provides the estimated future amortization of finite-lived intangible assets as of September 23, 2016 (in thousands):

Remainder of 2016	\$5,719
2017	21,217
2018	19,919
2019	17,409
2020	15,691
Thereafter	45,873
Total future amortization	\$125,828

We also held indefinite-lived trade names/trademarks of \$6.0 million and \$16.2 million as of September 23, 2016 and December 25, 2015, respectively. We began amortizing \$5.7 million of previously indefinite-lived trade names over their remaining estimated useful lives of three years, which commenced as of December 26, 2015, leaving a balance of \$10.5 million. The balance at September 23, 2016 is net of an impairment charge of \$4.5 million.

## Impairments

We evaluate goodwill annually for impairment at the reporting unit level and whenever circumstances occur indicating that goodwill might be impaired. These events or circumstances could include a significant change in the business climate, operating performance indicators, competition, loss of customers, or sale or disposition of a significant portion of a reporting unit. We monitor the existence of potential impairment indicators throughout the fiscal year.

## Annual impairment test

The impairment test involves comparing the fair value of each reporting unit to its carrying value, including goodwill. We consider our service lines to be our reporting units for goodwill impairment testing. Our service lines are Labor Ready, Spartan Staffing, CLP Resources, PlaneTechs, Centerline, Staff Management | SMX, SIMOS, PeopleScout, hrX, and Staff Management | SMX (MSP). Fair value reflects the price that a market participant would be willing to pay in a potential sale of the reporting unit. If the fair value exceeds carrying value, we conclude that no goodwill impairment has occurred. If the carrying value of the reporting unit exceeds its fair value, a second step is required to measure the possible goodwill impairment loss. The second step includes hypothetically valuing the tangible and intangible assets and liabilities of the reporting unit as if the reporting unit had been acquired in a business combination. The implied fair value of the reporting unit's goodwill is compared to the carrying value of that goodwill. If the carrying value of the reporting unit's goodwill exceeds the implied fair value of the goodwill, we recognize an impairment loss in an amount equal to the excess, not to exceed the carrying value.

Determining the fair value of a reporting unit is judgmental in nature and involves the use of significant estimates and assumptions to evaluate the impact of operating and macroeconomic changes on each reporting unit. The fair value of each reporting unit is estimated using a combination of a discounted cash flow methodology and the market valuation approach using publicly traded company multiples in similar businesses. This analysis required significant judgments, including estimation of future cash flows, which is dependent on internal forecasts, estimation of the long-term rate of growth for our business, estimation of the useful life over which cash flows will occur, and determination of our weighted average cost of capital, which is risk-adjusted to reflect the specific risk profile of the reporting unit being tested. The weighted average cost of capital used in our most recent annual impairment test was risk-adjusted to reflect the specific risk profile of the reporting units and ranged from 12% to 17%. The combined fair values for all reporting units were then reconciled to our aggregate market value of our shares of common stock on the date of valuation, while considering a reasonable control premium.

We performed our annual goodwill impairment analysis as of the first day of our fiscal second quarter of 2016 and recorded a goodwill impairment charge of \$65.9 million for the thirteen weeks ended June 24, 2016 with respect to the Staff Management | SMX, PlaneTechs, and hrX reporting units as follows:

Staff Management | SMX (Exclusive recruitment and on-premise management of a facility's contingent industrial workforce) In April 2016, we were notified by our largest customer, Amazon, and reported in our first quarter Form 10-Q of fiscal year 2016 its plans to reduce the use of contingent labor and realign its contingent labor vendors for warehousing. Amazon announced it would be reducing the use of our services for its warehouse fulfillment centers in the United States and focusing our services on its planned expansion of distribution service sites to a national network for delivery direct to the customer. Amazon represented approximately \$354 million, or 13.1%, of total company revenues for the fiscal year ended December 25, 2015,



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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

and \$106 million, or 8.0%, of total company revenues for the twenty-six weeks ended June 24, 2016, and \$125 million, or 10.4%, for the comparable period in the prior year. We estimated that the change in scope of our services would decrease revenues for the second half of 2016 by approximately \$125 million, compared to the prior year. As a result, we lowered our future expectations, which triggered a goodwill impairment of \$33.7 million.

PlaneTechs (Skilled mechanics and technicians to the aviation and transportation industries) - Year-to-date revenues have declined in excess of 30% compared to the prior year as significant projects have been completed for a major aviation customer and its supply chain. There currently are no significant projects in the pipeline. PlaneTechs has been diversifying from providing services to one primary customer without offsetting growth in the broader aviation and transportation marketplace. As a result of significantly underperforming against current year expectations and increased future uncertainty, we lowered our future expectations, which triggered a goodwill impairment of \$17.0 million.

hrX - (Outsourced recruitment of permanent employees on behalf of clients) - Sales of this service line include our internally developed applicant tracking software (“ATS”). Actual stand-alone ATS sales and service were \$3.4 million for fiscal 2015 and have recently declined. ATS sales and prospects have underperformed against our expectations. As a result of underperforming against our current year expectations and increased future uncertainty in customer demand, we lowered our future expectations, which triggered a goodwill impairment of \$15.2 million.

We generally record acquired intangible assets that have finite useful lives, such as customer relationships, in connection with business combinations. We review intangible assets that have finite useful lives and other long-lived assets whenever an event or change in circumstances indicates that the carrying value of the asset may not be recoverable. Factors considered important that could result in an impairment review include, but are not limited to, significant underperformance relative to historical or planned operating results, or significant changes in business strategies. We estimate the recoverability of these assets by comparing the carrying amount of the asset to the future undiscounted cash flows that we expect the asset to generate. An impairment loss is recognized when the estimated undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the use of the asset plus net proceeds expected from disposition of the asset (if any) are less than the carrying value of the asset. When an impairment loss is recognized, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its estimated fair value based on discounted cash flow analysis or other valuation techniques. With the change in scope of services by Staff Management | SMX to our largest customer, we lowered our future expectations, which was the primary trigger of an impairment to our acquired customer relationships intangible asset of \$28.9 million. Considerable management judgment was necessary to determine key assumptions, including projected revenue and an appropriate discount rate of 13%. Actual future results could vary from our estimates.

We have indefinite-lived intangible assets related to our Staff Management | SMX and PeopleScout trade names. We test our trade names/trademarks annually for impairment and when indications of potential impairment exist. We utilize the relief from royalty method to determine the fair value of our trade names. If the carrying value exceeds the fair value, we recognize an impairment loss in an amount equal to the excess. We used a royalty rate of 10% and a discount rate of 17% in our valuation. Considerable management judgment is necessary to determine key assumptions, including projected revenue, royalty rates, and appropriate discount rates. With the change in scope of services to our largest customer, we have lowered our future expectations, which was the primary trigger of an impairment to the acquired trade name of Staff Management | SMX of \$4.5 million.

## Interim impairment test

In August 2016, we were notified by Amazon that it will no longer be using our contingent labor services to help expand its delivery stations to distribute and deliver its products directly to its customers. As a result, we expect minimal, if any, revenue activity in Q4 2016 and beyond for Amazon's delivery stations business. We plan to continue to service Amazon's Canadian fulfillment centers. The loss of providing contingent labor services to expand Amazon's delivery stations was deemed to be a triggering event for purposes of assessing goodwill and the customer relationship definite-lived intangible asset for impairment during the third quarter of 2016. Accordingly, we performed a goodwill impairment test for our Staff Management | SMX reporting unit using a blended income and market approach. Considerable management judgment was necessary to determine key assumptions, including estimated future revenues and discount rate. We estimated future Amazon revenues of approximately \$30 million for 2017 and modest growth rates thereafter. We used a higher discount rate of 25% for Amazon due to the uncertainties associated with this customer, which resulted in a blended discount rate of 15% for Staff Management | SMX.

Determining the fair value of our Staff Management | SMX reporting unit is judgmental in nature and involves the use of significant estimates and assumptions to evaluate the impact of recent changes. The fair value of this reporting unit is estimated using a combination of a discounted cash flow methodology and the market valuation approach using publicly traded company multiples in similar businesses. This analysis required significant judgments, including estimation of future cash flows, which is dependent on internal forecasts, estimation of the long-term rate of growth for our business, estimation of the useful life over which cash

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

flows will occur, and determination of our weighted average cost of capital, which is risk-adjusted to reflect the specific risk profile of this reporting unit.

The estimated fair value of our Staff Management | SMX reporting unit was in excess of its carrying value by 20%. This reporting unit also continues to include limited services to Amazon. As such, we believe this reporting unit carries more risk of future impairment when compared to our other reporting units. Should Amazon discontinue the use of our services entirely and the rest of Staff Management | SMX continues to perform in line with management's current expectations and valuation assumptions, this would not result in a goodwill impairment, however it would reduce the excess estimated fair value of this reporting unit over its carrying value to less than 20%. The Staff Management | SMX reporting unit has goodwill of \$10.6 million as of September 23, 2016. We will continue to closely monitor the operational performance of the Staff Management | SMX reporting unit as it relates to goodwill impairment.

Spartan and CLP Resources: In the third quarter of fiscal 2016, we finalized the changes to the organizational and reporting structure of our Labor Ready, Spartan Staffing, and CLP Resources service lines. The combined service lines were re-branded as PeopleReady. As a result, we have combined these service lines into one and have recognized an impairment charge of \$4.3 million for the remaining net book value of the Spartan and CLP Resources trade name/trademarks intangible assets as of September 23, 2016.

**NOTE 7:WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE AND RESERVES**

We provide workers' compensation insurance for our temporary and permanent employees. The majority of our current workers' compensation insurance policies cover claims for a particular event above a \$2.0 million deductible limit, on a "per occurrence" basis. This results in our being substantially self-insured.

For workers' compensation claims originating in Washington, North Dakota, Ohio, Wyoming, Canada, and Puerto Rico (our "monopolistic jurisdictions"), we pay workers' compensation insurance premiums and obtain full coverage under government-administered programs (with the exception of our Labor Ready service line in the state of Ohio where we have a self-insured policy). Accordingly, because we are not the primary obligor, our financial statements do not reflect the liability for workers' compensation claims in these monopolistic jurisdictions. Our workers' compensation reserve is established using estimates of the future cost of claims and related expenses that have been reported but not settled, as well as those that have been incurred but not reported.

Our workers' compensation reserve for claims below the deductible limit is discounted to its estimated net present value using discount rates based on average returns of "risk-free" U.S. Treasury instruments available during the year in which the liability was incurred. The weighted average discount rate was 1.7% and 1.8% at September 23, 2016 and December 25, 2015, respectively. Payments made against self-insured claims are made over a weighted average period of approximately 5 years at September 23, 2016.

The table below presents a reconciliation of the undiscounted workers' compensation reserve to the discounted workers' compensation reserve for the periods presented as follows (in thousands):

	September 23, 2016	December 25, 2015
Undiscounted workers' compensation reserve	\$ 296,599	\$ 284,306
Less discount on workers' compensation reserve	18,381	18,026
Workers' compensation reserve, net of discount	278,218	266,280
Less current portion	68,131	69,308
Long-term portion	\$ 210,087	\$ 196,972

Payments made against self-insured claims were \$55.6 million and \$51.8 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016 and September 25, 2015, respectively.



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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

Our workers' compensation reserve includes estimated expenses related to claims above our self-insured limits ("excess claims"), and we record a corresponding receivable for the insurance coverage on excess claims based on the contractual policy agreements we have with insurance carriers. We discount this reserve and corresponding receivable to its estimated net present value using the discount rates based on average returns of "risk-free" U.S. Treasury instruments available during the year in which the liability was incurred. The claim payments are made and the corresponding reimbursements from our insurance carriers are received over an estimated weighted average period of approximately 16 years. The discounted workers' compensation reserve for excess claims was \$55.6 million and \$49.0 million as of September 23, 2016 and December 25, 2015, respectively. The discounted receivables from insurance companies, net of valuation allowance, were \$51.6 million and \$45.2 million as of September 23, 2016 and December 25, 2015, respectively, and are included in Other assets, net on the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Management evaluates the adequacy of the workers' compensation reserves in conjunction with an independent quarterly actuarial assessment. Factors considered in establishing and adjusting these reserves include, among other things:

- changes in medical and time loss ("indemnity") costs;
- changes in mix between medical only and indemnity claims;
- regulatory and legislative developments impacting benefits and settlement requirements;
- type and location of work performed;
- impact of safety initiatives; and
- positive or adverse development of claims.

Workers' compensation expense consists primarily of changes in self-insurance reserves net of changes in discount, monopolistic jurisdictions' premiums, insurance premiums, and other miscellaneous expenses. Workers' compensation expense of \$23.4 million and \$24.7 million was recorded in Cost of services for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016 and September 25, 2015, respectively. Workers' compensation expense of \$72.1 million and \$69.1 million was recorded in Cost of services for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016 and September 25, 2015, respectively.

**NOTE 8: LONG-TERM DEBT**

The components of our borrowings were as follows (in thousands):

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

	September 23, 2016	December 25, 2015
Revolving Credit Facility	\$ 113,500	\$ 218,086
Term Loan	25,878	27,578
Total debt	139,378	245,664
Less current portion	2,267	2,267
Long-term debt, less current portion	\$ 137,111	\$ 243,397

## Revolving credit facility

Effective June 30, 2014, we entered into a Second Amended and Restated Revolving Credit Agreement for a secured revolving credit facility of \$300.0 million with Bank of America, N.A., Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, HSBC and PNC Capital Markets LLC ("Revolving Credit Facility") in connection with our acquisition of Seaton. The Revolving Credit Facility, which matures June 30, 2019, amended and restated our previous credit facility.

The maximum amount we can borrow under the Revolving Credit Facility is subject to certain borrowing limits. Specifically, we are limited to the sum of 90% of our eligible billed accounts receivable, plus 85% of our eligible unbilled accounts receivable limited to 15% of all our eligible receivables, plus the value of our Tacoma headquarters office building. The real estate lending limit is \$17.4 million, and is reduced quarterly by \$0.4 million. As of September 23, 2016, the Tacoma headquarters office building liquidation value totaled \$14.0 million. The borrowing limit is further reduced by the sum of a reserve in an amount equal to the payroll and payroll taxes for our temporary employees for one payroll cycle and certain other reserves, if deemed applicable. Each borrowing has a stated maturity of 90 days or less. At September 23, 2016, \$272.9 million was available under the Revolving Credit Facility, \$113.5 million was utilized as a draw on the facility, and \$4.8 million was utilized by outstanding standby letters of credit, leaving \$154.6 million available for additional borrowings. The letters of credit are primarily used to collateralize a portion of our workers' compensation obligation.

On January 4, 2016, in connection with the acquisition of the RPO business of Aon Hewitt, we entered into a Third Amendment ("Amendment") to our Second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated June 30, 2014. The Amendment provided for a temporary \$30.0 million increase to our existing \$300.0 million revolving line of credit, for a total of \$330.0 million. The temporary increase expired in \$10.0 million increments on April 1, May 1, and June 1 of 2016.

The Amendment also reduced the minimum excess liquidity requirement from \$37.5 million to \$10.0 million, which increased to \$19.3 million, \$28.6 million, and \$37.5 million on April 1, May 1, and June 1 of 2016, respectively. Excess liquidity is an amount equal to the unused borrowing capacity under the Revolving Credit Facility plus certain unrestricted cash, cash equivalents, and marketable securities. We are required to satisfy a fixed charge coverage ratio in the event we do not meet the excess liquidity requirement. The additional amount available to borrow at September 23, 2016 was \$154.6 million and the amount of cash and cash equivalents under control agreements was \$19.7 million, for a total of \$174.3 million, which was well in excess of the \$37.5 million liquidity requirement in effect on September 23, 2016. We are currently in compliance with all covenants related to the Revolving Credit Facility.

Under the terms of the Revolving Credit Facility, we pay a variable rate of interest on funds borrowed that is based on London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) plus an applicable spread between 1.25% and 2.00%. Alternatively, at our option, we may pay interest based upon a base rate plus an applicable spread between 0.25% and 1.00%. The

applicable spread is determined by certain liquidity to debt ratios. The base rate is the greater of the prime rate (as announced by Bank of America), the federal funds rate plus 0.50%, or the one-month LIBOR rate plus 1.00%. At September 23, 2016, the applicable spread on LIBOR was 1.75% and the applicable spread on the base rate was 0.625%. As of September 23, 2016, the weighted average interest rate on outstanding borrowings was 2.38%.

A fee of 0.375% is applied against the Revolving Credit Facility's unused borrowing capacity when utilization is less than 25%, or 0.25% when utilization is greater than or equal to 25%. Letters of credit are priced at the margin in effect for LIBOR loans, plus a fronting fee of 0.125%.

Obligations under the Revolving Credit Facility are guaranteed by TrueBlue and material U.S. domestic subsidiaries, and are secured by a pledge of substantially all of the assets of TrueBlue and material U.S. domestic subsidiaries. The Revolving Credit Facility has variable rate interest and approximates fair value as of September 23, 2016 and December 25, 2015.

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

## Term loan agreement

On February 4, 2013, we entered into an unsecured Term Loan Agreement (“Term Loan”) with Synovus Bank in the principal amount of \$34.0 million. The Term Loan has a five-year maturity with fixed monthly principal payments, which total \$2.3 million annually based on a loan amortization term of 15 years. Interest accrues at the one-month LIBOR index rate plus an applicable spread of 1.50%, which is paid in addition to the principal payments. At our discretion, we may elect to extend the term of the Term Loan by five consecutive one-year extensions. At September 23, 2016, the interest rate for the Term Loan was 2.02%.

At September 23, 2016 and December 25, 2015, the remaining balance of the Term Loan was \$25.9 million and \$27.6 million, respectively, of which \$2.3 million is current and is included in Other current liabilities on our Consolidated Balance Sheets. The Term Loan has variable rate interest and approximates fair value as of September 23, 2016 and December 25, 2015.

Our obligations under the Term Loan may be accelerated upon the occurrence of an event of default under the Term Loan, which includes customary events of default, as well as cross-defaults related to indebtedness under our Revolving Credit Facility and other Term Loan specific defaults. The Term Loan contains customary negative covenants applicable to the Company and our subsidiaries such as indebtedness, certain dispositions of property, the imposition of restrictions on payments under the Term Loan, and other Term Loan specific covenants. We are currently in compliance with all covenants related to the Term Loan.

NOTE 9:                   COMMITMENTS AND  
CONTINGENCIES

## Workers’ compensation commitments

Our insurance carriers and certain state workers’ compensation programs require us to collateralize a portion of our workers’ compensation obligation, for which they become responsible should we become insolvent. The collateral typically takes the form of cash and cash equivalents, highly rated investment grade debt securities, letters of credit, and/or surety bonds. On a regular basis these entities assess the amount of collateral they will require from us relative to our workers’ compensation obligation. The majority of our collateral obligations are held in the Trust.

We have provided our insurance carriers and certain states with commitments in the form and amounts listed below (in thousands):

	September 23, 2016	December 25, 2015
Cash collateral held by workers' compensation insurance carriers	\$ 26,532	\$ 23,133
Cash and cash equivalents held in Trust	21,101	26,046
Investments held in Trust	148,811	126,788
Letters of credit (1)	4,520	4,520
Surety bonds (2)	19,327	17,946
Total collateral commitments	\$ 220,291	\$ 198,433

(1) We have agreements with certain financial institutions to issue letters of credit as collateral.

Our surety bonds are issued by independent insurance companies on our behalf and bear annual fees based on a percentage of the bond, which are determined by each independent surety carrier. These fees do not exceed 2.0% of the bond amount, subject to a minimum charge. The terms of these bonds are subject to review and renewal every one to four years and most bonds can be canceled by the sureties with as little as 60 days' notice.

## Legal contingencies and developments

We are involved in various proceedings arising in the normal course of conducting business. We believe the liabilities included in our financial statements reflect the probable loss that can be reasonably estimated. The resolution of those proceedings is not expected to have a material effect on our results of operations or financial condition.



NOTE 10: STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

We record stock-based compensation expense for restricted and unrestricted stock awards, performance share units, and shares purchased under an employee stock purchase plan.

Our 2016 Omnibus Incentive Plan, effective May 11, 2016 ("Incentive Plan"), provides for the issuance or delivery of up to 1.54 million shares of our common stock over the full term of the Incentive Plan.

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

## Restricted and unrestricted stock awards and performance share units

Under the Incentive Plan, restricted stock awards are granted to executive officers and key employees and vest annually over three or four years. Unrestricted stock awards granted to our Board of Directors vest immediately. Restricted and unrestricted stock-based compensation expense is calculated based on the grant-date market value. We recognize compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the vesting period, net of estimated forfeitures. Performance share units have been granted to executive officers and certain key employees. Vesting of the performance share units is contingent upon the achievement of revenue and profitability growth goals at the end of each three-year performance period. Each performance share unit is equivalent to one share of common stock. Compensation expense is calculated based on the grant-date market value of our stock and is recognized ratably over the performance period for the performance share units which are expected to vest. Our estimate of the performance units expected to vest is reviewed and adjusted as appropriate each quarter.

Restricted and unrestricted stock awards and performance share units activity for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016, was as follows (shares in thousands):

	Shares	Weighted- average grant-date price
Non-vested at beginning of period	1,218	\$ 22.63
Granted	577	\$ 21.58
Vested	(473 )	\$ 20.75
Forfeited	(87 )	\$ 21.42
Non-vested at the end of the period	1,235	\$ 22.84

As of September 23, 2016, total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to non-vested restricted stock was approximately \$11.4 million, which is estimated to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.6 years. As of September 23, 2016, total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to performance share units was approximately \$3.4 million, which is estimated to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.8 years.

## Employee Stock Purchase Plan

Our Employee Stock Purchase Plan (“ESPP”) reserves for purchase 1.0 million shares of common stock. The plan allows eligible employees to contribute up to 10% of their earnings toward the monthly purchase of the Company's common stock. The employee's purchase price is 85% of the lesser of the fair market value of shares on either the first day or the last day of each month. We consider our ESPP to be a component of our stock-based compensation and accordingly we recognize compensation expense over the requisite service period for stock purchases made under the plan. The requisite service period begins on the enrollment date and ends on the purchase date, the duration of which is one month.

During the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016 and September 25, 2015, participants purchased approximately 65,000 and 49,000 shares from the plan, for cash proceeds of \$1.2 million and \$1.0 million, respectively.

## Stock-based compensation expense

Total stock-based compensation expense, which is included in Selling, general and administrative expenses on our Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss), was \$1.4 million and \$2.5 million for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016 and September 25, 2015, respectively, and \$7.4 million and \$8.3 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016 and September 25, 2015, respectively.

NOTE 11: DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLANS

We offer both qualified and non-qualified defined contribution plans to eligible employees. Participating employees may elect to defer and contribute a portion of their eligible compensation. The plans offer discretionary matching contributions. The liability for the non-qualified plans was \$17.2 million and \$12.9 million as of September 23, 2016 and December 25, 2015, respectively. The current and non-current portion of the deferred compensation liability is included in Other current liabilities and Other long-term liabilities, respectively, on our Consolidated Balance Sheets, and is largely offset by restricted investments recorded in Restricted cash and investments on our Consolidated Balance Sheets.

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

## NOTE 12: INCOME TAXES

Our tax provision or benefit from income taxes for interim periods is determined using an estimate of our annual effective tax rate, adjusted for discrete items, if any, that are taken into account in the relevant period. Each quarter we update our estimate of the annual effective tax rate, and if our estimated tax rate changes, we make a cumulative adjustment. Our quarterly tax provision and our quarterly estimate of our annual effective tax rate are subject to variation due to several factors, including variability in accurately predicting our pre-tax and taxable income and loss and the mix of jurisdictions to which they relate, tax credits, audit developments, changes in law, regulations and administrative practices, and relative changes of expenses or losses for which tax benefits are not recognized. Additionally, our effective tax rate can be more or less volatile based on the amount of pre-tax income. For example, the impact of discrete items, tax credits, and non-deductible expenses on our effective tax rate is greater when our pre-tax income is lower. Except as required under U.S. tax law, we do not provide for U.S. taxes on undistributed earnings of our foreign subsidiaries since we consider those earnings to be permanently invested outside of the U.S.

Our effective tax rate for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016 was 22.9%. The principal difference between the statutory federal income tax rate of 35.0% and our effective income tax rate of 22.9% results from non-deductible goodwill impairment and the estimated 2016 federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit ("WOTC"). In December of 2015, WOTC was restored through 2019 as a result of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015. We recognized \$5.6 million of discrete tax benefits from prior year WOTC. We also recognized \$17.7 million of discrete tax detriment from non-deductible goodwill impairment. Other differences between the statutory federal income tax rate of 35.0% and our effective tax rate of 22.9% result from state and foreign income taxes and certain non-deductible expenses.

Our effective tax rate on earnings for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 25, 2015, was 32.2%. The principal difference between the statutory federal income tax rate of 35.0% and our effective income tax rate of 32.2% results from estimated WOTC earned in 2015 from 2014 hires. WOTC had expired for 2015 hires. We also recognized \$3.7 million of discrete tax benefits from prior year WOTC and California Enterprise Zone tax credits. Other differences between the statutory federal income tax rate of 35.0% result from state and foreign income taxes and certain non-deductible expenses.

As of September 23, 2016 and December 25, 2015, we had gross unrecognized tax benefits of \$2.2 million recorded in accordance with current accounting guidance on uncertain tax positions.

## NOTE 13: NET INCOME (LOSS) PER SHARE

Diluted common shares were calculated as follows (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	Thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016		Thirty-nine weeks ended September 25, 2015	
Net income (loss)	\$23,429	\$ 20,090	\$(33,338)	\$ 43,079
Weighted average number of common shares used in basic net income (loss) per common share	41,762	41,296	41,651	41,189
Dilutive effect of non-vested restricted stock	294	324	—	357
Weighted average number of common shares used in diluted net income (loss) per common share	42,056	41,620	41,651	41,546
Net income (loss) per common share:				
Basic	\$0.56	\$ 0.49	\$(0.80)	\$ 1.05

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Diluted	\$0.56	\$ 0.48	\$(0.80 )	\$ 1.04
Anti-dilutive shares	302	91	521	227

Basic net income (loss) per share is calculated by dividing net income (loss) by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted net income (loss) per share is calculated by dividing net income (loss) by the weighted average number of common shares and potential common shares outstanding during the period. Potential common shares include the dilutive effects of vested and non-vested restricted stock, performance share units, and shares issued under the employee stock purchase plan, except where their inclusion would be anti-dilutive.

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

Anti-dilutive shares primarily include non-vested restricted stock, and performance share units for which the sum of the assumed proceeds, including unrecognized compensation expense, exceeds the average stock price during the periods presented.

**NOTE 14: ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS**

Accumulated other comprehensive loss is reflected as a net decrease to shareholders' equity. Changes in the balance of each component of accumulated other comprehensive loss during the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016 were as follows (in thousands):

	Foreign currency translation adjustment	Unrealized gain (loss) on investments (1)	Total other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax
Balance at beginning of period	\$ (13,514 )	\$ (499 )	\$ (14,013 )
Current-period other comprehensive income	3,341	946	4,287
Balance at end of period	\$ (10,173 )	\$ 447	\$ (9,726 )

Consists of deferred compensation plan accounts, which are comprised of mutual funds classified as (1) available-for-sale securities. The tax impact on unrealized gain on available-for-sale securities was de minimis for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016.

There were no material reclassifications out of accumulated other comprehensive loss during the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016.

**NOTE 15: SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOW INFORMATION**

Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information (in thousands):

	Thirty-nine weeks ended	
	September 23, 2016	September 25, 2015

Cash paid during the period for:

Interest	\$3,071	\$ 2,651
Income taxes	\$8,801	\$ 16,401

As of September 23, 2016 and September 25, 2015, we had acquired \$2.2 million and \$0.2 million, respectively, of property and equipment on account that was not yet paid. We finalized our fair value assessment of our acquisition of SIMOS and have recorded net year-to-date non-cash adjustments to the preliminary SIMOS purchase accounting of \$3.8 million, with corresponding adjustments to goodwill. These are considered non-cash investing items.

**NOTE 16: SEGMENT INFORMATION**

Our operating segments are based on the organizational structure for which financial results are regularly evaluated by the chief operating decision maker, our Chief Executive Officer, to determine resource allocation and assess performance. Our service lines are our operating segments. Effective January 4, 2016, our PeopleScout service line acquired certain assets and assumed certain liabilities of the RPO business of Aon Hewitt, which expands our RPO service offering. The RPO business of Aon Hewitt has been substantially integrated into our PeopleScout service line, which is part of our Managed Services reportable segment. Effective December 1, 2015, we acquired SIMOS, which broadens our Staff Management On-premise contingent staffing solution and is part of our Staffing Services

reportable segment.

Our reportable segments are described below:

Our Staffing Services segment provides temporary staffing through the following service lines:

• Labor Ready: On-demand general labor;

• Spartan Staffing: Skilled manufacturing and logistics labor;

• CLP Resources: Skilled trades for commercial, industrial, and energy construction as well as building and plant maintenance;

• PlaneTechs: Skilled mechanics and technicians to the aviation and transportation industries;

• Centerline Drivers: Temporary and dedicated drivers to the transportation and distribution industries;

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—(Continued)

• **Staff Management | SMX:** Exclusive recruitment and on-premise management of a facility's contingent industrial workforce; and,

• **SIMOS:** On-premise management and recruitment of a facility's contingent industrial workforce.

Our Managed Services segment provides high-volume permanent employee recruitment process outsourcing and management of outsourced labor service providers through the following service lines:

• **PeopleScout:** Outsourced recruitment of permanent employees on behalf of clients; and

• **Staff Management | SMX (MSP):** Management of multiple third party staffing vendors on behalf of clients.

We have two measures of segment performance: revenue from services and income from operations. Income from operations for each segment includes net sales to third parties, related cost of sales, and operating expenses directly attributable to the segment. Costs excluded from segment income from operations include various corporate general and administrative expenses, depreciation and amortization expense, and interest and other expense, net. Asset information by reportable segment is not presented since we do not manage our segments on a balance sheet basis. There are no material internal revenue transactions between our reporting segments.

Revenue from services and income from operations associated with our segments were as follows (in thousands):

	Thirteen weeks ended		Thirty-nine weeks ended	
	September 23, 2016	September 25, 2015	September 23, 2016	September 25, 2015
Revenue from services				
Staffing Services	\$652,617	\$ 656,619	\$1,880,730	\$ 1,807,434
Managed Services	44,480	27,299	134,959	77,513
Total Company	\$697,097	\$ 683,918	\$2,015,689	\$ 1,884,947
Income (loss) from operations				
Staffing Services	\$38,720	\$ 50,290	\$8,472	\$ 113,353
Managed Services	9,260	3,175	15,155	10,979
Depreciation and amortization	(11,690 )	(10,498 )	(34,673 )	(31,415 )
Corporate unallocated	(8,539 )	(9,715 )	(29,430 )	(28,232 )
Total Company	27,751	33,252	(40,476 )	64,685
Interest and other expense, net	(867 )	(366 )	(2,773 )	(1,102 )
Income (loss) before tax expense	\$26,884	\$ 32,886	\$(43,249 )	\$ 63,583

In the second quarter of fiscal 2016, we finalized the changes to the organizational and reporting structure of our PeopleScout and hrX service lines. As a result, we have combined these service lines and they no longer represent separate operating units. At the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2016, we finalized the changes to the organizational and reporting structure of our Labor Ready, Spartan Staffing, and CLP Resources service lines. The combined service lines were re-branded as PeopleReady. As a result, we have combined these service lines and they no longer represent separate operating units.

**NOTE 17: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

We evaluated events and transactions occurring after the balance sheet date through the date the financial statements were issued, and identified no other events that were subject to recognition or disclosure.





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

## COMMENT ON FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements in this report, other than purely historical information, including estimates, projections, statements relating to our business plans, objectives and expected operating results, and the assumptions upon which those statements are based, are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking statements may appear throughout this report, including the following sections: "Management's Discussion and Analysis," and "Risk Factors." Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and future events and circumstances could differ significantly from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements. Actual events or results may differ materially. These forward-looking statements generally are identified by the words "believe," "project," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate," "intend," "strategy," "future," "opportunity," "plan," "may," "should," "be," "will continue," "will likely result," and similar expressions. Forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and assumptions that are subject to risks and uncertainties which may cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements. We describe risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results and events to differ materially from such forward-looking statements in "Risk Factors" (Part II, Item 1A of this Form 10-Q), "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk" (Part I, Item 3), and "Management's Discussion and Analysis" (Part I, Item 2). We undertake no obligation to update or revise publicly any forward-looking statements, whether because of new information, future events, or otherwise.

The following Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") is intended to help the reader understand the results of operations and financial condition of TrueBlue. Our MD&A is provided as a supplement to, and should be read in conjunction with, our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 25, 2015, and our subsequently filed Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q. The MD&A is designed to provide the reader of our financial statements with a narrative from the perspective of management on our financial condition, results of operations, liquidity, and certain other factors that may affect future results.

## OVERVIEW

TrueBlue, Inc. (the "Company," "TrueBlue," "we," "us," and "our") is a leading provider of specialized workforce solutions helping clients improve growth and performance by providing staffing, recruitment process outsourcing, and managed service provider solutions. Our workforce solutions meet clients' needs for a reliable, efficient workforce in a wide variety of industries. Through our workforce solutions, we help approximately 130,000 businesses be more productive and we connect approximately 840,000 people to work each year. We are headquartered in Tacoma, Washington. Revenue grew to \$697.1 million for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016, a 1.9% increase compared to the same period in the prior year, primarily due to the following:

Effective December 1, 2015, we acquired SIMOS Insourcing Solutions ("SIMOS"), a leading provider of on-premise workforce management solutions. SIMOS specializes in helping clients streamline warehouse/distribution operations to meet the growing demand for online commerce and supply chain solutions. SIMOS expands our existing services for on-premise staffing and management of a facility's contingent workforce. SIMOS contributed \$39.6 million in revenue, or 5.8% of our revenue growth for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016.

Effective January 4, 2016, we acquired the recruitment process outsourcing ("RPO") business of Aon Hewitt, a leading provider of RPO services. The acquired operations expand and complement our PeopleScout services and will be fully integrated with this service line in 2016. The RPO business of Aon Hewitt contributed \$15.9 million in revenue, or 2.3% of our revenue growth for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016.

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Excluding revenue from acquisitions, organic revenue declined by approximately 6.2% for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016, as compared to the prior year. The decline in organic revenue was primarily due to Amazon, our largest customer, substantially in-sourcing the recruitment and management of contingent labor for its warehouse fulfillment centers and distribution sites in the United States. Excluding this customer, organic revenue declined by 3.0%.

Revenue trends further softened throughout the current quarter and continue to be mixed across geographies and industries. Modest revenue growth for our small to medium-sized customers was offset by declining revenue trends for our larger national customers. Growth in residential construction and hospitality industries was more than offset by declines in retail, transportation, manufacturing, and service-based industries.

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Gross profit as a percentage of revenue for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016, was 25.6% compared to 24.7% for the same period in the prior year. The increase of 0.9% was due to the impact of the acquired SIMOS and Aon Hewitt RPO businesses of 0.4%, which carried higher gross margins in comparison to our blended company average, and the positive impact of a revenue mix change of 0.5%. We continue to experience resistance from our customers to accept price increases caused by increasing minimum wages and benefits in a sluggish economy and higher contingent worker wages in a tightening labor market. However, these costs have largely been passed through in higher bill rates.

Selling, general and administrative ("SG&A") expenses increased by \$9.6 million to \$134.7 million for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016, compared to the same period in 2015. The increase includes expenses related to the acquired operations of SIMOS and the RPO business of Aon Hewitt of approximately \$10.4 million, as well as incremental integration costs of \$1.4 million to fully integrate the RPO business of Aon Hewitt into the PeopleScout service line in the current year. SIMOS was acquired effective December 1, 2015 and the RPO business of Aon Hewitt was acquired effective January 4, 2016. Excluding the impact of these acquisitions, SG&A expenses decreased by \$2.2 million. The decrease included approximately \$3.4 million in costs incurred to exit the delivery business of Amazon and certain other realignment costs.

SG&A expenses as a percentage of revenue increased to 19.3% for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016, from 18.3% for the same period in 2015. Excluding the 0.2% of cost related to the integration of the RPO business of Aon Hewitt and 0.5% of cost incurred to exit the delivery business of Amazon and certain other realignment costs, SG&A expenses as a percentage of revenue increased to 18.6%. The organic revenue decline slightly outpaced the decline in operating expenses. With the current year slowdown in growth, we put in place cost control programs in the first quarter of 2016 and expanded those programs in subsequent quarters. We have reduced costs in line with our plans. We will continue to closely monitor and manage our SG&A costs in the current environment.

Income from operations was \$27.8 million for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016, compared to income from operations of \$33.3 million for the same period in 2015. Included in the operating results for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016 is a non-cash intangible trade name impairment charge to operating expense of \$4.3 million. The impairment was driven by a change to our branding in connection with the consolidation of our retail branch network under a common brand name. Excluding the impairment charge, net income from operations was \$32.1 million, or 4.6% as a percent of revenue for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016, compared to 4.9% for the same period in 2015. Income from operations included incremental integration costs of \$1.4 million to fully integrate the RPO business of Aon Hewitt into the PeopleScout service line in the current year, as well as approximately \$3.4 million in costs incurred to exit the delivery business of Amazon and certain other realignment costs. Excluding these costs, income from operations was \$36.9 million, or 5.3% as a percent of revenue for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016.

Our effective tax rate on earnings for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016 was 12.9% as compared to 38.9% for the same period in 2015. A significant driver of fluctuations in our effective income tax rate is the Work Opportunity Tax Credit ("WOTC") program. WOTC is designed to encourage employers to hire workers from certain disadvantaged targeted categories with higher unemployment rates and reduce our income taxes. WOTC had not been renewed for 2015 hires as of the third quarter of the prior year. WOTC was restored retroactively to January 1, 2015 and through December 31, 2019, as a result of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015 signed into law on December 18, 2015.

Net income was \$23.4 million, or \$0.56 per diluted share for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016, compared to \$20.1 million, or \$0.48 per diluted share for the same period in 2015.

We believe we are taking the right steps to preserve our operating margin and produce long-term growth for shareholders. We also believe we are in a strong position financially to fund working capital needs for growth opportunities. As of September 23, 2016, we had cash and cash equivalents of \$24.8 million and \$154.6 million available under the Revolving Credit Facility.

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## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

## Total company results

The following table presents selected financial data (in thousands, except percentages and per share amounts):

	Thirteen weeks ended				Thirty-nine weeks ended			
	September 23, 2016	% of revenue	September 25, 2015	% of revenue	September 23, 2016	% of revenue	September 25, 2015	% of revenue
Revenue from services	\$697,097		\$683,918		\$2,015,689		\$1,884,947	
Total revenue growth %	1.9	%	8.0	%	6.9	%	27.1	%
Gross profit	\$178,395	25.6 %	\$168,867	24.7 %	\$498,831	24.7 %	\$450,669	23.9 %
Selling, general and administrative expenses	134,679	19.3 %	125,117	18.3 %	401,090	19.9 %	354,569	18.8 %
Depreciation and amortization	11,690	1.7 %	10,498	1.5 %	34,673	1.7 %	31,415	1.7 %
Goodwill and intangible asset impairment charge	4,275	0.6 %	—		103,544	5.1 %	—	
Income (loss) from operations	27,751	4.0 %	33,252	4.9 %	(40,476 )	(2.0 )%	64,685	3.4 %
Interest and other expense, net	(867 )		(366 )		(2,773 )		(1,102 )	
Income (loss) before tax expense	26,884		32,886		(43,249 )		63,583	
Income tax expense (benefit)	3,455		12,796		(9,911 )		20,504	
Net income (loss)	\$23,429	3.4 %	\$20,090	2.9 %	\$(33,338 )	(1.7 )%	\$43,079	2.3 %
Net income (loss) per diluted share	\$0.56		\$0.48		\$(0.80 )		\$1.04	

Effective December 1, 2015, we acquired SIMOS, a leading provider of on-premise workforce management solutions. SIMOS specializes in helping clients streamline warehouse/distribution operations to meet the growing demand for online commerce and supply chain solutions. SIMOS will expand our existing services for on-premise staffing and management of a facility's contingent workforce. Effective January 4, 2016, we acquired the RPO business of Aon Hewitt, a leading provider of RPO services. The acquired operations expand and complement our PeopleScout services and will be fully integrated with this service line in 2016. Our year-over-year trends for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016, compared to the same periods in the prior year, are significantly impacted by the acquisitions of SIMOS and the RPO business of Aon Hewitt.

## Revenue from services

Revenue from services was as follows (in thousands, except percentages):

	Thirteen weeks ended		Thirty-nine weeks ended	
	September 23, 2016	September 25, 2015	September 23, 2016	September 25, 2015
Revenue from services	\$697,097	\$683,918	\$2,015,689	\$1,884,947
Total revenue growth %	1.9	% 8.0	% 6.9	% 27.1

## Thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016

Revenue grew to \$697.1 million for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016, a 1.9% increase compared to the same period in the prior year, primarily due to the following:

• The acquisitions of SIMOS contributed \$39.6 million in revenue, or 5.8% of revenue growth and the acquisition of the RPO business of Aon Hewitt contributed \$15.9 million in revenue, or 2.3% of our revenue growth for the thirteen

weeks ended September 23, 2016.

Excluding revenue from acquisitions, organic revenue declined by approximately 6.2% for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016, as compared to the prior year. The decline in organic revenue was primarily due to Amazon, our largest customer, substantially in-sourcing its recruitment and management of contingent labor for its warehouse fulfillment centers and distribution sites in the United States. Excluding this customer, organic revenue declined by 3.0%.

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Revenue trends further softened throughout the current quarter and continue to be mixed across geographies and industries. Modest revenue growth for our small to medium-sized customers was offset by declining revenue trends for our larger national customers. Growth in residential construction and hospitality industries was more than offset by declines in retail, transportation, manufacturing, and service-based industries.

Thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016

Revenue grew to \$2,015.7 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016, a 6.9% increase compared to the same period in the prior year primarily due to the acquisitions of SIMOS and the RPO business of Aon Hewitt. SIMOS contributed \$112.5 million in revenue, or 6.0% of our revenue growth and the RPO business of Aon Hewitt contributed \$49.4 million in revenue, or 2.6% of our revenue growth for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016.

Excluding revenue from acquisitions, organic revenue declined by approximately 1.7% for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016, as compared to the prior year. This was especially pronounced for our large national customers. Our largest customer, Amazon is reducing its use of contingent labor for its warehouse fulfillment centers and distribution sites throughout the United States and is substantially in-sourcing its recruitment and management of contingent labor for its warehousing and distribution. Organic revenue growth excluding Amazon increased by approximately 0.7%.

Revenue trends were mixed across geographies and industries. The decline in organic revenue growth from our national customers was partially offset by stronger growth for our small to medium sized customers. Growth in residential construction and hospitality industries was more than offset by declines in retail, transportation, manufacturing, and service-based industries. Caution over the sluggish economy persists across many of the industries we serve.

Gross profit

Gross profit was as follows (in thousands, except percentages):

	Thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016		Thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
Gross profit	\$ 178,395	\$ 168,867	\$ 498,831	\$ 450,669
Percentage of revenue	25.6	% 24.7	% 24.7	% 23.9

Gross profit represents revenue from services less direct costs of services, which consist of payroll, payroll taxes, workers' compensation costs, and reimbursable costs.

Thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016

Gross profit as a percentage of revenue for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016, was 25.6% compared to 24.7% for the same period in the prior year. The increase of 0.9% was due to the impact of the acquired SIMOS and Aon Hewitt RPO businesses of 0.4%, which carried higher gross margins in comparison to our blended company average, and the positive impact of a revenue mix change of 0.5%. We continue to experience resistance from our customers to accept price increases caused by increasing minimum wages and benefits in a sluggish economy and higher contingent worker wages in a tightening labor market. However, these costs have largely been passed through in higher bill rates.

Thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016

Gross profit as a percentage of revenue for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016, was 24.7% compared to 23.9% for the same period in the prior year. The increase of 0.8% was primarily due to the impact of the acquired SIMOS and Aon Hewitt RPO businesses of 0.7%, which carried higher gross margins than our blended company average, as well as the positive impact of a revenue mix change, offset by gross margin compression due to resistance from our customers to accept price increases for increasing minimum wages and benefits in a sluggish economy and higher contingent worker wages in a tightening labor market. Through disciplined pricing we have made continuous



progress throughout the current year in reducing gross margin compression and passing these costs through in higher bill rates.

Workers' compensation expense as a percentage of revenue was 3.6% for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016 compared to 3.7% for the same period in the prior year. Our efforts to actively manage the safety of our temporary workers with our safety programs and control increasing costs with our network of workers' compensation service providers have had a positive impact and have created favorable adjustments to our workers' compensation liabilities recorded in prior periods. Continued favorable adjustments to our workers' compensation liabilities are dependent on our ability to continue to lower accident rates and claim costs.

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However, in line with our expectations, we are experiencing diminishing favorable adjustments to our workers' compensation liabilities as the opportunity for significant reduction to frequency and severity of accident rates diminishes.

Selling, general and administrative expenses

Selling, general and administrative ("SG&A") expenses were as follows (in thousands, except percentages):

	Thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016		Thirty-nine weeks ended September 25, 2016	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
Selling, general and administrative expenses	\$ 134,679	\$ 125,117	\$ 401,090	\$ 354,569
Percentage of revenue	19.3	% 18.3	% 19.9	% 18.8

Thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016

SG&A expenses increased by \$9.6 million to \$134.7 million for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016, compared to the same period in 2015. The increase includes expenses related to the acquired operations of SIMOS and the RPO business of Aon Hewitt of approximately \$10.4 million as well as incremental integration costs of \$1.4 million to fully integrate the RPO business of Aon Hewitt into the PeopleScout service line in the current year. Excluding the impact of these acquisitions, SG&A expenses decreased by \$2.2 million. The decrease includes \$3.4 million in costs incurred to exit the delivery business of Amazon and certain other realignment costs.

SG&A expenses as a percentage of revenue increased to 19.3% for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016, from 18.3% for the same period in 2015. Excluding the 0.2% of cost related to the integration of the RPO business of Aon Hewitt and 0.5% of cost incurred to exit the delivery business of Amazon and certain other realignment costs, SG&A expenses as a percentage of revenue increased to 18.6%. The organic revenue decline slightly outpaced the decline in operating expenses. With the current year slowdown in growth, we put in place cost control programs in prior quarters. We have reduced costs in line with our plans. We will continue to closely monitor and manage our SG&A costs in the current environment.

Thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016

SG&A expenses increased by \$46.5 million to \$401.1 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016, compared to the same period in 2015. The increase includes expenses related to the acquired operations of SIMOS and the RPO business of Aon Hewitt of approximately \$29.7 million, as well as an increase in acquisition and integration costs of approximately \$1.0 million. Excluding the impact of these acquisitions, SG&A expenses increased by \$15.8 million. The increase includes \$3.4 million in costs incurred to exit the delivery business of Amazon and certain other realignment costs. The remaining increase of approximately \$12.4 million was due primarily to investments made in selling and recruiting resources for our blue-collar staffing services in the prior year to fuel continued growth. With the current year slowdown in growth, these investments were curtailed and cost control programs commenced in the first quarter of 2016 and expanded in subsequent quarters to reduce costs. We have reduced SG&A costs in line with our plans. We will continue to closely monitor and manage our SG&A costs in the current environment of sluggish revenue growth.

SG&A expenses as a percentage of revenue increased to 19.9% for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016 from 18.8% for the same period in 2015. The cost control programs which commenced in the first quarter and expanded in subsequent quarters have progressively reduced SG&A expenses as a percent of sales throughout the period. However, continued organic revenue declines outpaced the decline in operating expenses.

Depreciation and amortization

Depreciation and amortization were as follows (in thousands, except percentages):

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	Thirteen weeks ended		Thirty-nine weeks ended	
	September 28,	September 25,	September 28,	September 25,
	2016	2015	2016	2015
Depreciation and amortization	\$ 11,690	\$ 10,498	\$ 34,673	\$ 31,415
Percentage of revenue	1.7	% 1.5	% 1.7	% 1.7

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Depreciation and amortization increased \$1.2 million to \$11.7 million for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016, and \$3.3 million to \$34.7 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016, primarily due to the amortization of acquired finite-lived intangible assets in connection with the acquisition of SIMOS, which was acquired effective December 1, 2015, and the RPO business of Aon Hewitt, which was acquired effective January 4, 2016. We continue to make investments in common systems for our retail branch network service lines which are being consolidated as well as other projects that are primarily designed to further digitize our business and improve our efficiency and effectiveness in recruiting, retaining our temporary workers, and attracting and retaining our customers.

Goodwill and intangible asset impairment charge

Goodwill and intangible asset impairment charge were as follows (in thousands, except percentages):

	Thirteen weeks ended		Thirty-nine weeks ended	
	September 23, 2016	September 25, 2015	September 23, 2016	September 25, 2015
Goodwill and intangible asset impairment charge	\$ 4,275	\$ —	\$ 103,544	\$ —
Percentage of revenue	0.6	%	5.1	%

Goodwill and intangible asset impairment charge of \$4.3 million for the thirteen weeks ended September 23, 2016 is a non-cash intangible trade name impairment charge driven by a change to our branding in connection with the consolidation of our retail branch network service lines of Labor Ready, Spartan Staffing and CLP Resources under the PeopleReady brand name. Goodwill and intangible asset impairment charge for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016, further includes a non-cash goodwill and intangible asset impairment charge of \$99.3 million recognized in the second quarter of 2016. See Summary of Critical Accounting Estimates for further discussion.

A summary of the goodwill and intangible asset impairment charges by service line are as follows (in thousands):

	Customer relationships	Trade name/trademarks	Goodwill	Total
Staff Management   SMX	\$ 28,900	\$ 4,500	\$ 33,700	\$ 67,100
PlaneTechs	—	—	17,000	17,000
hrX	—	—	15,169	15,169
Spartan Staffing and CLP Resources	—	4,275	—	4,275
Total non-cash impairment charges	\$ 28,900	\$ 8,775	\$ 65,869	\$ 103,544

Income taxes

The income tax expense (benefit) and the effective income tax rate were as follows (in thousands, except percentages):

	Thirteen weeks ended		Thirty-nine weeks ended	
	September 23, 2016	September 25, 2015	September 23, 2016	September 25, 2015
Income tax expense (benefit)	\$ 3,455	\$ 12,796	\$ (9,911)	\$ 20,504
Effective income tax rate	12.9	% 38.9	% 22.9	% 32.2

Our tax provision or benefit from income taxes for interim periods is determined using an estimate of our annual effective tax rate, adjusted for discrete items, if any, that are taken into account in the relevant period. Each quarter we update our estimate of the annual effective tax rate, and if our estimated tax rate changes, we make a cumulative adjustment. Our quarterly tax provision and our quarterly estimate of our annual effective tax rate are subject to variation due to several factors, including variability in accurately predicting our pre-tax and taxable income and loss and the mix of jurisdictions to which they relate, tax credits, audit developments, changes in law, regulations and administrative practices, and relative changes of expenses or losses for which tax benefits are not recognized. Additionally, our effective tax rate can be more or less volatile based on the amount of pre-tax income. For example, the impact of discrete items, tax credits and non-deductible expenses on our effective tax rate is greater when our

pre-tax income is lower. Except as required under U.S. tax law, we do not provide for U.S. taxes on undistributed earnings of our foreign subsidiaries since we consider those earnings to be permanently invested outside of the U.S.

A significant driver of fluctuations in our effective income tax rate is the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (“WOTC”). WOTC is designed to encourage hiring of workers from certain disadvantaged targeted categories, and is generally calculated as a percentage of wages

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over a twelve month period up to worker maximum by targeted category. Based on historical results and business trends we estimate the amount of WOTC we expect to earn related to wages of the current year. However, the estimate is subject to variation because 1) a small percentage of our workers qualify for one or more of the many targeted categories; 2) the targeted categories are subject to different incentive credit rates and limitations; 3) credits fluctuate depending on economic conditions and qualified worker retention periods; and 4) state and federal offices often delay their credit certification processing from a few months to several years and have inconsistent certification rates. We recognize additional prior year hiring credits if credits in excess of original estimates have been certified by government offices. WOTC was restored through December 31, 2019, as a result of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015, signed into law on December 18, 2015.

Our effective tax rate for the thirty-nine weeks ended September 23, 2016 was 22.9%, which includes a goodwill and intangible asset impairment charge. Excluding this impairment charge, our effective tax rate would have been 17.4%, as compared to 32.2% for the same period in 2015, primarily because WOTC was restored. WOTC was retroactively restored from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2019 as a result of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015, signed into law on December 18, 2015. We recognized discrete tax benefits from prior year hiring credits of \$5.6 million, compared to \$3.7 million for the same period in the prior year.

Changes to our effective tax rate as a result of hiring credits were as follows:

	Thirteen weeks ended		Thirty-nine weeks ended	
	September 23, 2016	September 25, 2015	September 23, 2016	September 25, 2015
Effective income tax rate without hiring credits or goodwill impairment	39.0 %	40.9 %	41.3 %	40.1 %
Hiring credits estimate from current year wages	(14.0)	(2.0)	(14.0)	(2.0)
Effective income tax rate before prior year adjustments	25.0	38.9	27.3	38.1