

ABERCROMBIE & FITCH CO /DE/

Form 10-Q

December 11, 2014

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

FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended November 1, 2014

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number 1-12107

ABERCROMBIE & FITCH CO.
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 31-1469076
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer
incorporation or organization) Identification No.)

6301 Fitch Path, New Albany, Ohio 43054
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (614) 283-6500

Not Applicable

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§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 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 Accelerated filer
Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

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

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

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Class A Common Stock
\$.01 Par Value

Outstanding at December 8, 2014
69,335,903 Shares

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PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

ABERCROMBIE & FITCH CO.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)
(Thousands, except share and per share amounts)
(Unaudited)

| | Thirteen Weeks Ended | | Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended | |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 |
| NET SALES | \$911,453 | \$1,033,293 | \$2,624,486 | \$2,817,760 |
| Cost of Goods Sold | 344,383 | 382,253 | 992,801 | 1,009,431 |
| GROSS PROFIT | 567,070 | 651,040 | 1,631,685 | 1,808,329 |
| Stores and Distribution Expense | 413,551 | 481,232 | 1,257,422 | 1,402,080 |
| Marketing, General and Administrative Expense | 104,981 | 126,750 | 339,595 | 363,176 |
| Restructuring Charges | — | 44,708 | 6,053 | 44,708 |
| Asset Impairment | 16,706 | 43,571 | 16,706 | 43,571 |
| Other Operating Income, Net | (1,534) | (9,851) | (9,444) | (15,079) |
| OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) | 33,366 | (35,370) | 21,353 | (30,127) |
| Interest Expense, Net | 5,572 | 1,655 | 9,589 | 5,032 |
| INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TAXES | 27,794 | (37,025) | 11,764 | (35,159) |
| Tax Expense (Benefit) | 9,567 | (21,381) | 4,331 | (23,682) |
| NET INCOME (LOSS) | \$18,227 | \$(15,644) | \$7,433 | \$(11,477) |
| NET INCOME (LOSS) PER SHARE: | | | | |
| BASIC | \$0.26 | \$(0.20) | \$0.10 | \$(0.15) |
| DILUTED | \$0.25 | \$(0.20) | \$0.10 | \$(0.15) |
| WEIGHTED-AVERAGE SHARES OUTSTANDING: | | | | |
| BASIC | 70,814 | 76,456 | 72,577 | 77,387 |
| DILUTED | 72,128 | 76,456 | 73,870 | 77,387 |
| DIVIDENDS DECLARED PER SHARE | \$0.20 | \$0.20 | \$0.60 | \$0.60 |
| OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS) | | | | |
| Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments | \$(39,119) | \$10,959 | \$(35,545) | \$(8,530) |
| Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Derivative Financial Instruments, net of taxes | 9,071 | (4,571) | 11,345 | 5,288 |
| Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) | \$(30,048) | \$6,388 | \$(24,200) | \$(3,242) |
| COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS) | \$(11,821) | \$(9,256) | \$(16,767) | \$(14,719) |

The accompanying Notes are an integral part of these Consolidated Financial Statements.

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ABERCROMBIE & FITCH CO.
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Thousands, except par value amounts)

| | (unaudited) | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| | November 1, 2014 | February 1, 2014 |
| ASSETS | | |
| CURRENT ASSETS: | | |
| Cash and Equivalents | \$320,564 | \$600,116 |
| Receivables | 65,083 | 67,965 |
| Inventories | 617,542 | 530,192 |
| Deferred Income Taxes | 17,543 | 21,835 |
| Other Current Assets | 116,160 | 100,458 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | 1,136,892 | 1,320,566 |
| PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET | 1,050,795 | 1,131,341 |
| OTHER ASSETS | 387,882 | 399,090 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$2,575,569 | \$2,850,997 |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES: | | |
| Accounts Payable | \$197,606 | \$130,715 |
| Accrued Expenses | 273,362 | 322,834 |
| Deferred Lease Credits | 28,972 | 36,165 |
| Income Taxes Payable | 9,251 | 63,508 |
| Short-Term Portion of Borrowings, Net | 2,102 | 15,000 |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | 511,293 | 568,222 |
| LONG-TERM LIABILITIES: | | |
| Deferred Lease Credits | 119,229 | 140,799 |
| Long-Term Portion of Borrowings, Net | 291,836 | 120,000 |
| Leasehold Financing Obligations | 55,467 | 60,726 |
| Other Liabilities | 202,285 | 231,757 |
| TOTAL LONG-TERM LIABILITIES | 668,817 | 553,282 |
| STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY: | | |
| Class A Common Stock - \$0.01 par value: 150,000 shares authorized and 103,300 shares issued at each of November 1, 2014 and February 1, 2014 | 1,033 | 1,033 |
| Paid-In Capital | 432,370 | 433,620 |
| Retained Earnings | 2,520,209 | 2,556,270 |
| Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), net of tax | (45,117 |) (20,917 |
| Treasury Stock, at Average Cost: 33,964 and 26,898 shares at November 1, 2014 and February 1, 2014, respectively | (1,513,036 |) (1,240,513 |
| TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | 1,395,459 | 1,729,493 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | \$2,575,569 | \$2,850,997 |

The accompanying Notes are an integral part of these Consolidated Financial Statements.

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ABERCROMBIE & FITCH CO.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(Thousands)
(Unaudited)

| | Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended | |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 |
| OPERATING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Net Income (Loss) | \$7,433 | \$(11,477) |
| Impact of Other Operating Activities on Cash Flows: | | |
| Depreciation and Amortization | 174,966 | 180,609 |
| Non-Cash Charge for Asset Impairment | 16,706 | 81,511 |
| Loss on Disposal / Write-off of Assets | 3,580 | 10,976 |
| Lessor Construction Allowances | 11,669 | 16,693 |
| Amortization of Deferred Lease Credits | (29,525) | (31,326) |
| Deferred Taxes | (1,408) | (60,805) |
| Share-Based Compensation | 17,396 | 40,210 |
| Changes in Assets and Liabilities: | | |
| Inventories | (90,485) | (341,831) |
| Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses | 3,049 | (49,175) |
| Income Taxes | (55,239) | (54,239) |
| Other Assets | (15,739) | (1,053) |
| Other Liabilities | (12,939) | (10,254) |
| NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR) OPERATING ACTIVITIES | 29,464 | (230,161) |
| INVESTING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Capital Expenditures | (132,183) | (124,033) |
| Other Investing | — | (6,316) |
| NET CASH USED FOR INVESTING ACTIVITIES | (132,183) | (130,349) |
| FINANCING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Excess Tax Benefit from Share-Based Compensation | 304 | 2,432 |
| Proceeds from Share-Based Compensation | 254 | 213 |
| Purchase of Treasury Stock | (285,038) | (115,806) |
| Repayments of Borrowings | (195,000) | (11,250) |
| Proceeds from Borrowings | 357,000 | 150,000 |
| Debt Issuance Costs | (861) | — |
| Change in Outstanding Checks and Other | 882 | (1,024) |
| Dividends Paid | (43,494) | (46,643) |
| NET CASH USED FOR FINANCING ACTIVITIES | (165,953) | (22,078) |
| EFFECT OF EXCHANGE RATES ON CASH | (10,880) | (3,392) |
| NET DECREASE IN CASH AND EQUIVALENTS: | (279,552) | (385,980) |
| Cash and Equivalents, Beginning of Period | 600,116 | 643,505 |
| CASH AND EQUIVALENTS, END OF PERIOD | \$320,564 | \$257,525 |
| SIGNIFICANT NON-CASH INVESTING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Change in Accrual for Construction in Progress | \$1,054 | \$(2,191) |

The accompanying Notes are an integral part of these Consolidated Financial Statements.

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ABERCROMBIE & FITCH CO.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Abercrombie & Fitch Co. (“A&F”), through its wholly-owned subsidiaries (collectively, A&F and its wholly-owned subsidiaries are referred to as the “Company”), is a specialty retailer of high-quality, casual apparel for men, women and kids with an active, youthful lifestyle.

The accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements include the historical financial statements of, and transactions applicable to, the Company and reflect its assets, liabilities, results of operations and cash flows.

The Company’s fiscal year ends on the Saturday closest to January 31. Fiscal years are designated in the consolidated financial statements and notes by the calendar year in which the fiscal year commences. All references herein to “Fiscal 2014” represent the 52-week fiscal year that will end on January 31, 2015, and to “Fiscal 2013” represent the 52-week fiscal year that ended February 1, 2014.

The Consolidated Financial Statements as of November 1, 2014 and for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 are unaudited and are presented pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). Accordingly, these Consolidated Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and notes thereto contained in A&F’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for Fiscal 2013 filed with the SEC on March 31, 2014. The February 1, 2014 consolidated balance sheet data were derived from audited consolidated financial statements, but do not include all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“U.S. GAAP”).

In the opinion of management, the accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements reflect all adjustments (which are of a normal recurring nature) necessary to state fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and results of operations and cash flows for the interim periods, but are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations to be anticipated for Fiscal 2014.

The thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 include the correction of certain errors relating to prior years. Amounts recorded out-of-period included a reduction to pre-tax income of \$0.6 million and \$3.3 million for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014, respectively, and an unrelated tax charge of \$0.4 million for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014. The effect of these corrections decreased net income by \$0.8 million and \$2.4 million for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014, respectively. Amounts recorded out-of-period also included a reduction to pre-tax loss of \$2.1 million, and an unrelated tax benefit of \$1.9 million, for the thirteen weeks ended November 3, 2013, and a reduction to pre-tax loss of \$6.3 million, and an unrelated tax benefit of \$0.7 million, for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013. The effect of these corrections reduced net loss by \$3.0 million and \$4.7 million for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013, respectively. The Company does not believe these corrections were material to any current or prior interim or annual periods that were affected.

To conform with current year presentation, charges related to the restructuring of the Gilly Hicks brand of \$40.1 million and asset impairments of \$43.6 million for thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013 have been reclassified from stores and distribution expense to restructuring charges in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss). Additionally, \$4.6 million of charges related to the restructuring of the Gilly Hicks brand for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013 have been reclassified from marketing, general and administrative expenses to restructuring charges in the Company's Consolidated Statements of

Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss).

The Consolidated Financial Statements as of November 1, 2014 and for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 included herein have been reviewed by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, and the report of such firm follows the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP is not subject to the liability provisions of Section 11 of the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Act") for their report on the consolidated financial statements because their report is not a "report" or a "part" of a registration statement prepared or certified by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP within the meaning of Sections 7 and 11 of the Act.

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2. SEGMENT REPORTING

The Company determines its segments on the same basis that it uses to allocate resources and assess performance. All of the Company's segments sell a similar group of products—casual sportswear apparel, personal care products and accessories for men, women and kids and bras, underwear and sleepwear for girls. The Company has three reportable segments: U.S. Stores, International Stores, and Direct-to-Consumer. Corporate functions, interest income and expense, and other income and expense are evaluated on a consolidated basis and are not allocated to the Company's segments, and therefore are included in Other.

The U.S. Stores reportable segment includes the results of store operations in the United States and Puerto Rico. The International Stores reportable segment includes the results of store operations in Canada, Europe, Asia, Australia and the Middle East. The Direct-to-Consumer reportable segment includes the results of operations directly associated with on-line operations, both U.S. and international.

Operating income is the primary measure of profit the Company uses to make decisions regarding the allocation of resources to its segments. For the U.S. Stores and the International Stores reportable segments, operating income is defined as aggregate income directly attributable to individual stores on a four-wall basis plus sell-off of excess merchandise to authorized third-party resellers. Four-wall operating income includes: net sales, cost of merchandise, selling payroll and related costs, rent, utilities, depreciation, repairs and maintenance, supplies and packaging and other store sales-related expenses including credit card and bank fees and indirect taxes. Operating income also reflects pre-opening charges related to stores not yet in operation. For the Direct-to-Consumer reportable segment, operating income is defined as aggregate income attributable to the direct-to-consumer business: net sales, shipping and handling revenue, call center costs, fulfillment and shipping expense, charge card fees and direct-to-consumer operations management and support expenses. The U.S. Stores, the International Stores and the Direct-to-Consumer segments exclude marketing, general and administrative expense; store management and support functions such as regional and district management and other functions not dedicated to an individual store, as well as distribution center costs. All costs excluded from the three reportable segments are included in Other.

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The following table provides the Company's segment information for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013.

| (in thousands) | U.S. Stores | International Stores | Direct-to-Consumer Operations | Segment Total | Other ⁽¹⁾ | Total |
|--|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Thirteen Weeks Ended | | | | | | |
| November 1, 2014 | | | | | | |
| Net Sales | \$475,717 | \$248,221 | \$187,515 | \$911,453 | \$— | \$911,453 |
| Operating Income (Loss) ⁽²⁾ | 71,764 | 44,927 | 59,439 | 176,130 | (142,764) | 33,366 |
| Thirteen Weeks Ended | | | | | | |
| November 2, 2013 | | | | | | |
| Net Sales | \$561,788 | \$296,937 | \$174,568 | \$1,033,293 | \$— | \$1,033,293 |
| Operating Income (Loss) ⁽³⁾ | 29,512 | 40,641 | 65,602 | 135,755 | (171,125) | (35,370) |
| Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended | | | | | | |
| November 1, 2014 | | | | | | |
| Net Sales | \$1,324,066 | \$768,985 | \$531,435 | \$2,624,486 | \$— | \$2,624,486 |
| Operating Income (Loss) ⁽⁴⁾ | 153,745 | 152,043 | 170,533 | 476,321 | (454,968) | 21,353 |
| Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended | | | | | | |
| November 2, 2013 | | | | | | |
| Net Sales | \$1,515,079 | \$841,096 | \$461,585 | \$2,817,760 | \$— | \$2,817,760 |
| Operating Income (Loss) ⁽⁵⁾ | 128,205 | 160,821 | 176,793 | 465,819 | (495,946) | (30,127) |

Includes corporate functions not dedicated to an individual store or direct-to-consumer operations such as Design,
⁽¹⁾ Merchandising, Sourcing, Planning, Allocation, Store Management and Support, Marketing, Distribution Center Operations, Information Technology, Real Estate, Finance, Legal, Human Resources and other corporate overhead.

Includes charges related to store-related asset impairments, store closures, the restructuring of the Gilly Hicks brand, the Company's profit improvement initiative and legal, advisory and other charges related to certain
⁽²⁾ corporate governance matters, of which \$6.0 million is included in U.S. Stores, \$13.0 million is included in International Stores, \$0.1 million is included in Direct-to-Consumer Operations and \$1.2 million is included in Other for the thirteen week period ended November 1, 2014.

Includes charges related to store-related asset impairments, the restructuring of the Gilly Hicks brand and the
⁽³⁾ Company's profit improvement initiative of which \$51.5 million is included in U.S. Stores, \$32.2 million is included in International Stores and \$12.2 million is included in Other for the thirteen week period ended November 2, 2013.

Includes charges related to store-related asset impairments, store closures, the restructuring of the Gilly Hicks brand, the Company's profit improvement initiative and legal, advisory and other charges related to certain
⁽⁴⁾ corporate governance matters of which \$5.5 million is included in U.S. stores, \$20.7 million is included in International Stores, \$0.1 million is included in Direct-to-Consumer Operations and \$11.9 million is included in Other for the thirty-nine week period ended November 1, 2014.

Includes charges related to store-related asset impairments, the restructuring of the Gilly Hicks brand and the Company's profit improvement initiative of which \$51.5 million is included in U.S. stores, \$32.2 million is included in International Stores and \$14.7 million is included in Other for the thirty-nine week period ended November 2, 2013.
⁽⁵⁾

Net Sales:

Net sales includes net merchandise sales through stores and direct-to-consumer operations, including shipping and handling revenue. Direct-to-consumer net sales are reported by geographic area based on the location of the customer.

Brand Information

Net sales by brand were as follows:

| (in thousands) | Thirteen Weeks Ended | | Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended | |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 |
| Abercrombie & Fitch | \$358,421 | \$387,553 | \$1,025,849 | \$1,068,978 |
| abercrombie | 81,281 | 90,080 | 220,637 | 239,258 |
| Hollister | 468,118 | 534,011 | 1,354,330 | 1,443,706 |
| Gilly Hicks | 3,633 | 21,649 | 23,670 | 65,818 |
| Total | \$911,453 | \$1,033,293 | \$2,624,486 | \$2,817,760 |

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Geographic Information

Net sales by geographic area were as follows:

| (in thousands) | Thirteen Weeks Ended | | Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended | |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 |
| United States | \$594,713 | \$674,871 | \$1,645,354 | \$1,807,027 |
| Europe | 222,631 | 272,212 | 706,641 | 776,630 |
| Other | 94,109 | 86,210 | 272,491 | 234,103 |
| Total | \$911,453 | \$1,033,293 | \$2,624,486 | \$2,817,760 |

3. SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION

The Company issues stock appreciation rights and restricted stock units, including those with service, performance and market vesting conditions. The Company recognized share-based compensation expense of \$6.0 million and \$17.4 million for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014, respectively, and \$13.3 million and \$40.2 million for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013, respectively. The Company also recognized tax benefits related to share-based compensation expense of \$2.3 million and \$6.6 million for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014, respectively, and \$5.0 million and \$15.3 million for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013, respectively.

Stock Options

The Company did not grant any stock options during the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 or November 2, 2013. Below is a summary of stock option activity for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014:

| | Number of Underlying Shares | Weighted-Average Exercise Price | Aggregate Intrinsic Value | Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Outstanding at February 1, 2014 | 532,400 | \$ 65.37 | | |
| Granted | — | — | | |
| Exercised | (7,500) |) 33.74 | | |
| Forfeited or expired | (25,175) |) 68.76 | | |
| Outstanding at November 1, 2014 | 499,725 | \$ 65.67 | \$ 803,620 | 2.0 |
| Stock options exercisable at November 1, 2014 | 499,725 | \$ 65.67 | \$ 803,620 | 2.0 |

The total intrinsic value of stock options which were exercised during the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 was insignificant.

No stock options vested during the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 or November 2, 2013.

As of November 1, 2014, all compensation cost related to outstanding stock options had been fully recognized.

Stock Appreciation Rights

The following table summarizes stock appreciation rights activity for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014:

| | Number of | Weighted-Average Aggregate | Weighted-Average |
|--|-----------|----------------------------|------------------|
|--|-----------|----------------------------|------------------|

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| | Underlying Shares | Exercise Price | Intrinsic Value | Remaining Contractual Life |
|---|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Outstanding at February 1, 2014 | 8,982,959 | \$ 40.76 | | |
| Granted | 395,300 | 38.62 | | |
| Exercised | (92,475 |) 26.92 | | |
| Forfeited or expired | (198,275 |) 47.92 | | |
| Outstanding at November 1, 2014 | 9,087,509 | \$ 40.65 | \$21,081,713 | 2.8 |
| Stock appreciation rights exercisable at November 1, 2014 | 8,352,634 | \$ 40.38 | \$21,068,363 | 2.3 |
| Stock appreciation rights expected to become exercisable in the future as of November 1, 2014 | 666,668 | \$ 43.96 | \$10,598 | 8.6 |

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The Company estimates the fair value of stock appreciation rights using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. The weighted-average assumptions used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for stock appreciation rights granted during the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013, were as follows:

| | Executive Officers other than the CEO | | All Other Associates | | |
|-------------------------|--|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---|
| | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 | |
| Grant date market price | \$37.85 | \$46.57 | \$38.58 | \$45.46 | |
| Exercise price | \$38.44 | \$46.57 | \$38.79 | \$45.46 | |
| Fair value | \$14.04 | \$20.34 | \$13.56 | \$16.82 | |
| Assumptions: | | | | | |
| Price volatility | 50 | % 61 | % 50 | % 54 | % |
| Expected term (years) | 4.9 | 4.7 | 4.1 | 4.1 | |
| Risk-free interest rate | 1.6 | % 0.7 | % 1.4 | % 0.6 | % |
| Dividend yield | 2.0 | % 1.8 | % 1.9 | % 1.8 | % |

Compensation expense for stock appreciation rights is recognized on a straight-line basis over the awards' requisite service period, net of forfeitures. As of November 1, 2014, there was \$8.4 million of total unrecognized compensation cost, net of estimated forfeitures, related to stock appreciation rights. The unrecognized compensation cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 16 months.

The total intrinsic value of stock appreciation rights exercised during the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 was \$1.5 million and \$8.5 million, respectively. The grant date fair value of stock appreciation rights that vested during the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 was \$7.3 million and \$25.0 million, respectively.

Restricted Stock Units

The following table summarizes activity for restricted stock units with performance and/or service vesting conditions for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014:

| | Number of Underlying Shares | Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Unvested at February 1, 2014 | 1,426,579 | \$46.00 |
| Granted ⁽¹⁾ | 632,925 | 34.75 |
| Vested | (352,359) |) 48.32 |
| Forfeited | (211,931) |) 44.04 |
| Unvested at November 1, 2014 | 1,495,214 | \$40.35 |

Includes 158,922 shares, which represents "target performance," related to grants of restricted stock units with ⁽¹⁾ performance vesting conditions at their targeted vesting amount. The number of shares that ultimately vest can vary from 0% - 200% of target depending on the level of achievement of performance criteria.

The fair value of restricted stock units with performance and/or service vesting conditions is calculated using the market price of the underlying Common Stock on the date of grant reduced for anticipated dividend payments on unvested shares. In determining the fair value, the Company does not take into account any performance-based vesting requirements. The performance-based vesting requirements are taken into account in determining the number

of awards expected to vest and the related expense.

Restricted stock units with only service vesting conditions and restricted stock units with fixed performance vesting thresholds without graded vesting features are expensed on a straight-line basis over the total requisite service period, net of forfeitures. Restricted stock units with annually determined vesting thresholds are expensed on a graded vesting basis, net of forfeitures. As of November 1, 2014, there was \$30.4 million of total unrecognized compensation cost, net of estimated forfeitures, related to non-vested restricted stock units with performance and/or service conditions. The unrecognized compensation cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 15 months.

The total fair value of restricted stock units with service and/or performance vesting conditions granted during the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 was \$22.0 million and \$33.3 million, respectively. The total grant date fair value of restricted stock units with service and/or performance vesting conditions which vested during the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 was \$17.0 million and \$14.6 million, respectively.

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The following table summarizes activity for restricted stock units with market vesting conditions for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014:

| | Number of Underlying Shares | Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Unvested at February 1, 2014 | — | \$— |
| Granted ⁽¹⁾ | 79,458 | 45.02 |
| Vested | — | — |
| Forfeited | (1,666 |) 46.86 |
| Unvested at November 1, 2014 | 77,792 | \$44.98 |

(1) Reflects the target vesting amount granted. However, the number of shares that ultimately vest can vary from 0% - 200% of target depending on market performance.

The fair value of restricted stock units with market vesting conditions is calculated using a Monte Carlo simulation with the number of shares that ultimately vest dependent on the Company's total stockholder return measured against the total stockholder return of a select group of peer companies over a three-year period. The weighted-average assumptions used in the Monte Carlo simulation during the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014, were as follows:

| | Chief Executive Officer | Other Executive Officers | | |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| Grant date market price | \$38.50 | \$38.50 | | |
| Fair value | \$43.96 | \$46.86 | | |
| Assumptions: | | | | |
| Price volatility | 50 | % 50 | | % |
| Expected term (years) | 2.8 | 2.8 | | |
| Risk-free interest rate | 0.8 | % 0.8 | | % |
| Dividend yield | 2.1 | % 2.1 | | % |
| Average volatility of peer companies | 37.3 | % 37.3 | | % |
| Average correlation coefficient of peer companies | 0.3786 | 0.3786 | | |

Restricted stock units with market vesting conditions without graded vesting features are expensed on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period, net of forfeitures. As of November 1, 2014, there was \$2.6 million of total unrecognized compensation cost, net of estimated forfeitures, related to non-vested restricted stock units with market vesting conditions. The unrecognized compensation cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 11 months.

The total fair value of restricted stock units with market vesting conditions granted during the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 was \$3.6 million.

4. NET INCOME (LOSS) PER SHARE

Net income (loss) per basic and diluted share is computed based on the weighted-average number of outstanding shares of Common Stock.

Weighted-Average Shares Outstanding and Anti-Dilutive Shares (in thousands):

Thirteen Weeks Ended

Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended

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| (in thousands) | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Shares of Common Stock issued | 103,300 | 103,300 | 103,300 | 103,300 |
| Treasury shares | (32,486 |) (26,844 |) (30,723 |) (25,913 |
| Weighted-Average — Basic Shares | 70,814 | 76,456 | 72,577 | 77,387 |
| Dilutive effect of share-based compensation awards | 1,314 | — | 1,293 | — |
| Weighted-Average — Diluted Shares | 72,128 | 76,456 | 73,870 | 77,387 |
| Anti-Dilutive Shares ⁽¹⁾ | 5,566 | 11,023 | 5,621 | 11,127 |

(1) Reflects the number of shares subject to outstanding share-based compensation awards but excluded from the computation of net income (loss) per diluted share because the impact would have been anti-dilutive.

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On February 27, 2014, A&F entered into an Accelerated Share Repurchase Agreement ("ASR Agreement") with a financial institution in order to repurchase shares of A&F's Common Stock during the term of the ASR Agreement which extended through April 2014. Pursuant to the ASR Agreement, A&F paid \$150 million and, in exchange, approximately 3.1 million shares were initially delivered to A&F and accounted for as a reduction to stockholders' equity. The transaction contemplated by the ASR Agreement was completed during the first quarter of Fiscal 2014, at which time A&F received approximately 0.7 million additional shares. The total number of shares delivered upon settlement of the ASR Agreement was based upon the volume weighted average price of the A&F's Common Stock over the term of the ASR Agreement, less an agreed discount.

During the second quarter of Fiscal 2014, A&F repurchased approximately 1.5 million additional shares of A&F's Common Stock in the open market at a market value of approximately \$60 million. During the third quarter of Fiscal 2014, A&F repurchased approximately 2.0 million additional shares of A&F's Common Stock in the open market at a market value of approximately \$75 million.

5. CASH AND EQUIVALENTS

Cash and equivalents consisted of:

| (in thousands) | November 1, 2014 | February 1, 2014 |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Cash and equivalents: | | |
| Cash | \$300,768 | \$452,116 |
| Cash equivalents | 19,796 | 148,000 |
| Total cash and equivalents | \$320,564 | \$600,116 |

Cash and equivalents include amounts on deposit with financial institutions, United States treasury bills, and other investments, primarily held in money market accounts, all of which have original maturities of less than three months. Any cash that is legally restricted from use is recorded in Other Assets on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The restricted cash balance was \$16.1 million on November 1, 2014 and \$26.7 million on February 1, 2014. Restricted cash includes various cash deposits with international banks that are used as collateral for customary non-debt banking commitments and deposits into trust accounts to conform to standard insurance security requirements.

6. RABBI TRUST ASSETS

Investments of Rabbi Trust assets consisted of the following:

| (in thousands) | November 1, 2014 | February 1, 2014 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Rabbi Trust assets: | | |
| Trust-owned life insurance policies (at cash surrender value) | \$92,643 | \$90,198 |
| Money market funds | 24 | 24 |
| Total Rabbi Trust assets | \$92,667 | \$90,222 |

The irrevocable rabbi trust (the "Rabbi Trust") is intended to be used as a source of funds to match respective funding obligations to participants in the Abercrombie & Fitch Co. Nonqualified Savings and Supplemental Retirement Plan I, the Abercrombie & Fitch Co. Nonqualified Savings and Supplemental Retirement Plan II and the Chief Executive Officer Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan. The Rabbi Trust assets primarily consist of trust-owned life insurance policies which are recorded at cash surrender value. The change in cash surrender value of trust-owned life insurance policies held in the Rabbi Trust resulted in realized gains of \$0.8 million for each of the thirteen weeks

ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013, and \$2.4 million and \$2.5 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013, respectively, recorded in Interest Expense, Net on the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss).

The Rabbi Trust assets are included in Other Assets on the Consolidated Balance Sheets and are restricted in their use as noted above.

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7. FAIR VALUE

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The inputs used to measure fair value are prioritized based on a three-level hierarchy. The three levels of inputs to measure fair value are as follows:

- Level 1—inputs are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities that are available in active markets.
- Level 2—inputs are other than quoted market prices included within Level 1 that are observable for assets or liabilities, directly or indirectly.
- Level 3—inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable.

The lowest level of significant input determines the placement of the entire fair value measurement in the hierarchy. The three levels of the hierarchy and the distribution of the Company's assets and liabilities, measured at fair value, within it were as follows:

| (in thousands) | Assets and Liabilities at Fair Value as of November 1, 2014 | | | |
|--|---|---------|---------|----------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Total |
| ASSETS: | | | | |
| Money market funds | \$19,820 | \$— | \$— | \$19,820 |
| Derivative financial instruments | — | 8,095 | — | 8,095 |
| Total assets measured at fair value | \$19,820 | \$8,095 | \$— | \$27,915 |
| LIABILITIES: | | | | |
| Derivative financial instruments | — | 133 | — | 133 |
| Total liabilities measured at fair value | \$— | \$133 | \$— | \$133 |

| (in thousands) | Assets and Liabilities at Fair Value as of February 1, 2014 | | | |
|--|---|---------|---------|-----------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Total |
| ASSETS: | | | | |
| Money market funds | \$148,024 | \$— | \$— | \$148,024 |
| Derivative financial instruments | — | 969 | — | 969 |
| Total assets measured at fair value | \$148,024 | \$969 | \$— | \$148,993 |
| LIABILITIES: | | | | |
| Derivative financial instruments | — | 2,555 | — | 2,555 |
| Total liabilities measured at fair value | \$— | \$2,555 | \$— | \$2,555 |

The level 2 assets and liabilities consist of derivative financial instruments, primarily forward foreign currency exchange contracts. The fair value of forward foreign currency exchange contracts is determined by using quoted market prices of the same or similar instruments, adjusted for counterparty risk.

Disclosures of Fair Value of Other Assets and Liabilities:

The Company's borrowings under the 2014 Credit Facilities and the 2011 and 2012 Credit Agreements are carried at historical cost in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets. For disclosure purposes, the Company estimated the fair value of borrowings outstanding using discounted cash flow analysis based on market rates obtained from independent third parties for similar types of debt. The inputs used to value the borrowings outstanding are considered to be Level 2 instruments.

The carrying amount of gross borrowings outstanding under the Term Loan Facility was \$300.0 million and the fair value of such borrowings was \$296.6 million as of November 1, 2014. The carrying amount of borrowings outstanding under the 2012 Term Loan Agreement approximated fair value and was \$135.0 million as of February 1, 2014. No borrowings were outstanding under the ABL Facility and the 2011 Credit Agreement as of November 1, 2014 and February 1, 2014, respectively. See Note 12, "BORROWINGS," for further discussion of the Credit Facilities.

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8. INVENTORIES

Inventories are principally valued at the lower of cost or market on a weighted-average cost basis. The Company writes down inventory through a lower of cost or market adjustment, the impact of which is reflected in Cost of Goods Sold on the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss). This adjustment is based on management's judgment regarding future demand and market conditions and analysis of historical experience. The lower of cost or market reserve for inventory was \$10.5 million and \$22.1 million at November 1, 2014 and February 1, 2014, respectively.

Additionally, as part of inventory valuation, inventory shrinkage estimates based on historical trends from actual physical inventories are made each period that reduce the inventory value for lost or stolen items. The Company performs physical inventories on a periodic basis and adjusts the shrink reserve accordingly. The shrink reserve was \$5.1 million and \$13.6 million at November 1, 2014 and February 1, 2014, respectively.

The inventory balance, net of reserves, was \$617.5 million and \$530.2 million at November 1, 2014 and February 1, 2014, respectively. These balances included inventory in transit balances of \$68.3 million and \$76.4 million at November 1, 2014 and February 1, 2014, respectively. Inventory in transit is merchandise considered to be owned by the Company that has not yet been received at a Company distribution center.

9. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET

Property and equipment, net consisted of (in thousands):

| | November 1, 2014 | February 1, 2014 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Property and equipment, at cost | \$2,904,092 | \$2,885,712 |
| Accumulated depreciation and amortization | (1,853,297 |) (1,754,371 |
| Property and equipment, net | \$ 1,050,795 | \$ 1,131,341 |

Long-lived assets, primarily comprised of property and equipment, are reviewed periodically for impairment or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the assets may not be recoverable. Factors used in the evaluation include, but are not limited to, management's plans for future operations, recent operating results, and projected cash flows.

Fair value of the Company's store-related assets is determined at the individual store level, primarily using a discounted cash flow model that utilizes level 3 inputs. The estimation of future cash flows from operating activities requires significant estimates of factors that include future sales, gross margin performance, and operating expenses. In instances where the discounted cash flow analysis indicated a negative value at the store level, the market exit price based on historical experience, and other comparable market data where applicable, was used to determine the fair value by asset type.

In the third quarter of Fiscal 2014, the Company incurred non-cash asset impairment charges of \$16.7 million, as it was determined that the carrying value of certain store-related assets would not be recoverable and exceeded fair value. The asset impairment charges primarily related to the Company's Abercrombie & Fitch flagship store location in the Ginza district of Tokyo, Japan, as well as three other Abercrombie & Fitch stores, five Hollister stores and nine abercrombie kids stores.

In certain lease arrangements, the Company is involved in the construction of the building. If it is determined that the Company has substantially all of the risks of ownership during construction of the leased property and therefore is deemed to be the owner of the construction project, the Company records an asset for the amount of the total project costs and an amount related to the value attributed to the pre-existing leased building in Property and Equipment, Net and the related financing obligation in Leasehold Financing Obligations on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Once construction is complete, if it is determined that the asset does not qualify for sale-leaseback accounting treatment, the Company continues to amortize the obligation over the lease term and depreciates the asset over its useful life. The Company had \$44.6 million and \$52.3 million of construction project assets in Property and Equipment, Net at November 1, 2014 and February 1, 2014, respectively.

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10. DEFERRED LEASE CREDITS

Deferred lease credits are derived from payments received from landlords to wholly or partially offset store construction costs and are classified between current and long-term liabilities. The amounts, which are amortized over the respective terms of the related leases, consisted of the following (in thousands):

| | November 1, 2014 | February 1, 2014 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Deferred lease credits | \$522,559 | \$543,040 |
| Amortized deferred lease credits | (374,358 |) (366,076 |
| Total deferred lease credits, net | \$148,201 | \$176,964 |

11. INCOME TAXES

The provision for income taxes is based on the current estimate of the annual effective tax rate adjusted to reflect the impact of discrete items occurring during the quarter. The effective tax rates for the thirteen weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 were 34.4% and 57.7%, respectively. The effective tax rates for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 were 36.8% and 67.4%, respectively. The Fiscal 2013 year-to-date effective tax rate reflects a benefit resulting from the settlement of certain state tax audits and a \$4.9 million benefit related to other discrete tax matters in the third quarter.

Income taxes paid directly to taxing authorities, net of refunds received, for the thirteen weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 were approximately \$7.1 million and \$1.0 million, respectively. Income taxes paid directly to taxing authorities, net of refunds received, for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 were approximately \$68.4 million and \$109.2 million, respectively. These amounts include payments and refunds for income and withholding taxes incurred related to the current year and prior years.

12. BORROWINGS

In 2011, the Company entered into an unsecured credit agreement (the “2011 Credit Agreement”) which, as amended most recently on November 4, 2013, provided for a \$350 million revolving credit facility. In 2012, the Company entered into a term loan agreement (the “2012 Term Loan Agreement” and, together with the 2011 Credit Agreement, the “2011 and 2012 Credit Agreements”) which, as amended most recently on November 4, 2013, provided for a \$150 million term loan facility. No borrowings were outstanding under the 2011 Credit Agreement and \$135.0 million in borrowings were outstanding under the 2012 Term Loan Agreement as of February 1, 2014.

On August 7, 2014, in connection with the Company entering into new credit agreements, all amounts outstanding under the 2011 and 2012 Credit Agreements were repaid in full, and the 2011 and 2012 Credit Agreements were terminated. The new credit agreements are discussed below.

Asset-Based Revolving Credit Facility and Term Loan Facility

On August 7, 2014, A&F, through its subsidiary Abercrombie & Fitch Management Co. (“A&F Management”) as the lead borrower (with A&F and certain other subsidiaries as borrowers or guarantors), entered into an asset-based revolving credit agreement. The agreement provides for a senior secured revolving credit facility of up to \$400 million (the “ABL Facility”), subject to a borrowing base. The ABL Facility is available for working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate purposes.

A&F, through its subsidiary A&F Management as the borrower (with A&F and certain other subsidiaries as guarantors), also entered into a term loan agreement on August 7, 2014, which provides for a term loan facility of \$300 million (the “Term Loan Facility” and, together with the ABL Facility, the “2014 Credit Facilities”). A portion of the proceeds of the Term Loan Facility were used to repay the outstanding balance of approximately \$127.5 million under the Company’s 2012 Term Loan Agreement, to repay outstanding borrowings of approximately \$60 million under the Company’s 2011 Credit Agreement and to pay fees and expenses associated with the transaction.

Debt Discount and Deferred Financing Fees

The Term Loan Facility was issued at a 1.0% discount. In addition, the Company recorded deferred financing fees associated with the issuance of the 2014 Credit Facilities of \$5.8 million in aggregate, of which \$3.2 million was paid to lenders. The Company

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is amortizing the debt discount and deferred financing fees over the respective contractual terms of the 2014 Credit Facilities. The Company's Term Loan debt is presented in the Consolidated Balance Sheets, net of the unamortized discount and fees paid to lenders. Net borrowings as of November 1, 2014 were as follows:

| (in thousands) | November 1, 2014 |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Borrowings, gross at carrying amount | \$300,000 |
| Unamortized discount | (2,893) |
| Unamortized fees paid to lenders | (3,169) |
| Borrowings, net | \$293,938 |

No borrowings were outstanding under the ABL Facility as of November 1, 2014.

Maturity, Amortization and Prepayments

The ABL Facility will mature on August 7, 2019. The Term Loan Facility will mature on August 7, 2021 and will amortize at a rate equal to 0.25% of the original principal amount per quarter, beginning with the fourth quarter of Fiscal 2014. The Term Loan Facility is subject to (a) beginning in 2016, an annual mandatory prepayment in an amount equal to 0% to 50% of the Company's excess cash flows in the preceding fiscal year, depending on the Company's leverage ratio and (b) certain other mandatory prepayments upon receipt by the Company of proceeds of certain debt issuances, asset sales and casualty events, subject to certain exceptions specified therein, including reinvestment rights.

Guarantees and Security

All obligations under the 2014 Credit Facilities are unconditionally guaranteed by A&F and certain of its subsidiaries. The ABL Facility is secured by a first-priority security interest in certain working capital of the borrowers and guarantors consisting of inventory, accounts receivable and certain other assets. The Term Loan Facility is secured by a second-priority security interest in the same collateral, with certain exceptions. The Term Loan Facility is also secured by a first-priority security interest in certain property and assets of the borrowers and guarantors, including certain fixed assets, intellectual property, stock of subsidiaries and certain after-acquired material real property. The ABL Facility is secured by a second-priority security interest in the same collateral.

Interest and Fees

Amounts borrowed under the ABL Facility bear interest, at the Company's option, at either an adjusted LIBOR rate plus a margin of 1.25% to 1.75% per annum, or an alternate base rate plus a margin of 0.25% to 0.75% per annum. The initial applicable margins with respect to LIBOR loans and base rate loans, including swing line loans, under the ABL Facility are 1.50% and 0.50% per annum, respectively, and are subject to adjustment each fiscal quarter beginning January 31, 2015, based on average historical excess availability during the preceding quarter. The Company is also required to pay a fee of 0.25% per annum on undrawn commitments under the ABL Facility. Customary agency fees and letter of credit fees are also payable in respect of the ABL Facility.

At the Company's option, borrowings under the Term Loan Facility will bear interest at either (a) an adjusted LIBOR rate no lower than 1.00% plus a margin of 3.75% per annum or (b) an alternate base rate plus a margin of 2.75% per annum. Customary agency fees are also payable in respect of the Term Loan Facility.

The interest rate on borrowings under the Term Loan Facility was 4.75% as of November 1, 2014.

Representations, Warranties and Covenants

The 2014 Credit Facilities contain various representations, warranties and restrictive covenants that, among other things and subject to specified exceptions, restrict the ability of A&F and its subsidiaries to incur indebtedness (including guarantees), grant liens, make investments, pay dividends or distributions with respect to capital stock, make prepayments on other indebtedness, engage in mergers, dispose of certain assets or change the nature of their business. In addition, excess availability equal to the greater of 10% of the loan cap or \$30 million must be maintained under the ABL Facility. The 2014 Credit Facilities do not otherwise contain financial maintenance covenants.

The Company was in compliance with the covenants under the 2014 Credit Facilities as of November 1, 2014.

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13. LEASEHOLD FINANCING OBLIGATIONS

As of November 1, 2014 and February 1, 2014, the Company had \$55.5 million and \$60.7 million, respectively, of long-term liabilities related to leasehold financing obligations. In certain lease arrangements, the Company is deemed to be involved in the construction of the building. If it is determined that the Company has substantially all of the risks of ownership during construction of the leased property and therefore is deemed to be the owner of the construction project, the Company records an asset for the amount of the total project costs and an amount related to the value attributed to the pre-existing leased building in Property and Equipment, Net and a liability of a corresponding amount related to the financing obligation in Leasehold Financing Obligations on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Once construction is complete, if it is determined that the asset does not qualify for sale-leaseback accounting treatment, the Company continues to amortize the obligation over the lease term and depreciates the asset over its useful life. The Company does not report rent expense for the portion of the rent payment determined to be related to the assets which are determined to be owned for accounting purposes. Rather, that portion of the rental payments under the lease is recognized as a reduction of the financing obligation and interest expense.

Total interest expense related to leasehold financing obligations was \$1.5 million and \$1.7 million for the thirteen weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013, respectively. Total interest expense related to leasehold financing obligations was \$4.8 million and \$5.0 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013, respectively.

14. DERIVATIVES

The Company is exposed to risks associated with changes in foreign currency exchange rates and uses derivatives, primarily forward contracts, to manage the financial impacts of these exposures. The Company does not use forward contracts to engage in currency speculation and does not enter into derivative financial instruments for trading purposes.

In order to qualify for hedge accounting treatment, a derivative must be considered highly effective at offsetting changes in either the hedged item's cash flows or fair value. Additionally, the hedge relationship must be documented to include the risk management objective and strategy, the hedging instrument, the hedged item, the risk exposure, and how hedge effectiveness will be assessed prospectively and retrospectively. The extent to which a hedging instrument has been, and is expected to continue to be, effective at offsetting changes in fair value or cash flows is assessed and documented at least quarterly. Any hedge ineffectiveness is reported in current period earnings and hedge accounting is discontinued if it is determined that the derivative is not highly effective.

For derivatives that either do not qualify for hedge accounting or are not designated as hedges, all changes in the fair value of the derivative are recognized in earnings. For qualifying cash flow hedges, the effective portion of the change in the fair value of the derivative is recorded as a component of Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) ("OCI") and recognized in earnings when the hedged cash flows affect earnings. The ineffective portion of the derivative gain or loss, as well as changes in the fair value of the derivative's time value is recognized in current period earnings. The effectiveness of the hedge is assessed based on changes in the fair value attributable to changes in spot prices. The changes in the fair value of the derivative contract related to the changes in the difference between the spot price and the forward price are excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness and are also recognized in current period earnings. If the cash flow hedge relationship is terminated, the derivative gains or losses that are deferred in OCI will be recognized in earnings when the hedged cash flows occur. However, for cash flow hedges that are terminated

because the forecasted transaction is not expected to occur in the original specified time period, or a two-month period thereafter, the derivative gains or losses are immediately recognized in earnings.

The Company uses derivative instruments, primarily forward contracts designated as cash flow hedges, to hedge the foreign currency exposure associated with forecasted foreign-currency-denominated inter-company inventory sales to foreign subsidiaries and the related settlement of the foreign-currency-denominated inter-company receivables. Fluctuations in exchange rates will either increase or decrease the Company's inter-company equivalent cash flows and affect the Company's U.S. Dollar earnings. Gains or losses on the foreign currency exchange forward contracts that are used to hedge these exposures are expected to partially offset this variability. Foreign currency exchange forward contracts represent agreements to exchange the currency of one country for the currency of another country at an agreed-upon settlement date. These forward contracts typically have a maximum term of 12 months. The sale of the inventory to the Company's customers will result in the reclassification of related derivative gains and losses that are reported in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss). Substantially all of the unrealized gains or losses related to designated cash flow hedges as of November 1, 2014 will be recognized in cost of goods sold over the next twelve months.

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The Company presents its derivative assets and derivative liabilities at their gross fair values on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. However, our master netting and other similar arrangements allow net settlements under certain conditions.

As of November 1, 2014, the Company had outstanding the following foreign currency exchange forward contracts that were entered into to hedge either a portion, or all, of forecasted foreign-currency-denominated inter-company inventory sales, the resulting settlement of the foreign-currency-denominated inter-company accounts receivable, or both:

| | Notional Amount ⁽¹⁾ |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Euro | \$76,926 |
| British Pound | \$34,003 |
| Canadian Dollar | \$14,377 |

⁽¹⁾ Amounts are reported in thousands and in U.S. Dollar equivalent as of November 1, 2014.

The Company also uses foreign currency exchange forward contracts to hedge certain foreign-currency-denominated net monetary assets/liabilities. Examples of monetary assets/liabilities include cash balances, receivables and payables. Fluctuations in exchange rates result in transaction gains/(losses) being recorded in earnings as U.S. GAAP requires that monetary assets/liabilities be remeasured at the spot exchange rate at quarter-end or upon settlement. The Company has chosen not to apply hedge accounting to these instruments because there are no differences in the timing of gain or loss recognition on the hedging instrument and the hedged item.

As of November 1, 2014, the Company had outstanding the following foreign currency forward contracts that were entered into to hedge foreign currency denominated net monetary assets/liabilities:

| | Notional Amount ⁽¹⁾ |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Swiss Franc | \$7,925 |
| British Pound | \$6,400 |

⁽¹⁾ Amounts are reported in thousands and in U.S. Dollar equivalent as of November 1, 2014.

The location and amounts of derivative fair values on the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of November 1, 2014 and February 1, 2014 were as follows:

| (in thousands) | Asset Derivatives | | Liability Derivatives | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Balance Sheet Location | November 1, 2014 | February 1, 2014 | Balance Sheet Location | November 1, 2014 | February 1, 2014 |
| Derivatives Designated as Hedging Instruments: | | | | | | |
| Foreign Currency Exchange Forward Contracts | Other Current Assets | \$ 7,881 | \$ 691 | Other Liabilities | \$ — | \$ 2,503 |
| Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments: | | | | | | |
| Foreign Currency Exchange Forward Contracts | Other Current Assets | \$ 214 | \$ 278 | Other Liabilities | \$ 133 | \$ 52 |
| Total | Other Current Assets | \$ 8,095 | \$ 969 | Other Liabilities | \$ 133 | \$ 2,555 |

Refer to Note 7, "FAIR VALUE," for further discussion of the determination of the fair value of derivatives.

The location and amounts of derivative gains and losses for the thirteen and thirty-nine week periods ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 on the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) were as follows:

| (in thousands) | Location | Thirteen Weeks Ended | | Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended | |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | | November 1, 2014 Gain/(Loss) | November 2, 2013 Gain/(Loss) | November 1, 2014 Gain/(Loss) | November 2, 2013 Gain/(Loss) |
| Derivatives not designated as Hedging Instruments: | | | | | |
| Foreign Exchange Forward Contracts | Other Operating Income, Net | \$793 | \$(805 |) \$564 | \$456 |

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| | | Location of Gain (Loss) Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Earnings (Effective Portion) | | Amount of Gain (Loss) Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Earnings (Effective Portion) (b) | | Location of Gain (Loss) Recognized in Earnings on Derivative Contracts (Ineffective Portion and Amount Excluded from Effectiveness Testing) | Amount of Gain (Loss) Recognized in Earnings on Derivative Contracts (Ineffective Portion and Amount Excluded from Effectiveness Testing) (c) | |
|---|----------------------|---|--------------------|---|------------------|---|---|------------------|
| | Thirteen Weeks Ended | | | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 | | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 |
| (in thousands) | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 | | | | | | |
| Derivatives in Cash Flow Hedging Relationships: | | | | | | | | |
| Foreign Currency Exchange Forward Contracts | | | Cost of Goods Sold | \$ (856) | \$ 1,359 | Other Operating Income, Net | \$ 78 | \$ (9) |
| | \$ 9,265 | \$ (3,748) | | | | | | |
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(a) The amount represents the change in fair value of derivative contracts due to changes in spot rates.

(b) The amount represents the reclassification from OCI into earnings when the hedged item affects earnings, which is when merchandise is sold to the Company's customers.

(c) The amount represents the change in fair value of derivative contracts due to changes in the difference between the spot price and forward price that is excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness and, therefore, recognized in earnings.

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15. ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

The activity in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 was as follows:

| (in thousands) | Thirteen Weeks Ended November 1, 2014 | | |
|--|--|---|-------------|
| | Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Derivative Financial Instruments | Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment | Total |
| Beginning balance at August 2, 2014 | \$ 108 | \$(15,177) | \$(15,069) |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications | 9,265 | (39,119) | (29,854) |
| Reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) ⁽¹⁾ | 856 | — | 856 |
| Tax effect on derivative financial instruments | (1,050) | — | (1,050) |
| Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Derivative Financial Instruments, net of taxes | 9,071 | (39,119) | (30,048) |
| Ending balance at November 1, 2014 | \$9,179 | \$(54,296) | \$(45,117) |

| (in thousands) | Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended November 1, 2014 | | |
|--|--|---|-------------|
| | Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Derivative Financial Instruments | Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment | Total |
| Beginning balance at February 1, 2014 | \$(2,166) | \$(18,751) | \$(20,917) |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications | 8,128 | (35,545) | (27,417) |
| Reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) ⁽¹⁾ | 4,212 | — | 4,212 |
| Tax effect on derivative financial instruments | (995) | — | (995) |
| Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Derivative Financial Instruments, net of taxes | 11,345 | (35,545) | (24,200) |
| Ending balance at November 1, 2014 | \$9,179 | \$(54,296) | \$(45,117) |

⁽¹⁾ For the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014, the gain or loss was reclassified from Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) to the Cost of Goods Sold line item on the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss).

The activity in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013 was as follows:

| (in thousands) | Thirteen Weeks Ended November 2, 2013 | | |
|----------------|---|---|-------|
| | Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Derivative Financial | Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment | Total |

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| | Instruments | | | |
|--|--|---|---|------------|
| Beginning balance at August 3, 2013 | \$2,639 | | \$(25,557) | \$(22,918) |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications | (3,748) |) | 10,959 | 7,211 |
| Reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) ⁽²⁾ | (1,359) |) | — | (1,359) |
| Tax effect on derivative financial instruments | 536 | | — | 536 |
| Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Derivative Financial Instruments, net of taxes | (4,571) |) | 10,959 | 6,388 |
| Ending balance at November 2, 2013 | \$(1,932) |) | \$(14,598) | \$(16,530) |
| | Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended November 2, 2013 | | | |
| | Unrealized Gain | | | |
| (in thousands) | (Loss) on Derivative Financial Instruments | | Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment | Total |
| Beginning balance at February 2, 2013 | \$(7,220) |) | \$(6,068) | \$(13,288) |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications | 7,515 | | (8,530) | (1,015) |
| Reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) ⁽²⁾ | (1,581) |) | — | (1,581) |
| Tax effect on derivative financial instruments | (646) |) | — | (646) |
| Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Derivative Financial Instruments, net of taxes | 5,288 | | (8,530) | (3,242) |
| Ending balance at November 2, 2013 | \$(1,932) |) | \$(14,598) | \$(16,530) |

For the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013, the gain or loss was reclassified from Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) to the Cost of Goods Sold line item on the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss).

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16. GILLY HICKS RESTRUCTURING

As previously announced, on November 1, 2013, A&F's Board of Directors approved the closure of the Company's 24 stand-alone Gilly Hicks stores. The Company substantially completed the store closures as planned by the end of the first quarter of Fiscal 2014. The Company continues to offer Gilly Hicks products through Hollister stores and direct-to-consumer channels.

As a result of exiting the Gilly Hicks branded stores, the Company currently estimates that it will incur aggregate pre-tax charges of approximately \$89 million, of which \$6.1 million of charges, primarily related to lease terminations, was recognized during the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014.

Below is a summary of the aggregate pre-tax charges incurred through November 1, 2014 related to the closure of the Gilly Hicks branded stores (in thousands):

| | |
|--|----------|
| Lease Terminations and Store Closure Costs | \$48,395 |
| Asset Impairment | 37,940 |
| Other | 1,218 |
| Total Charges ⁽¹⁾ | \$87,553 |

⁽¹⁾ As of November 1, 2014, the Company incurred aggregate pre-tax charges related to restructuring plans for the Gilly Hicks brand of \$50.2 million for the U.S. Stores segment and \$37.4 million for the International Stores segment.

The remaining charges, primarily lease-related, including the net present value of payments related to lease terminations, potential sub-lease losses and other lease-related costs of approximately \$1.4 million, are expected to be recognized over the remaining lease terms. These estimates are based on a number of significant assumptions and could change materially.

Costs associated with exit or disposal activities are recorded when the liability is incurred. Below is a roll forward of the liabilities recognized on the Consolidated Balance Sheet as of November 1, 2014, related to the closure of the Gilly Hicks stores (in thousands):

| | | |
|--|----------|---|
| Accrued Liability as of February 1, 2014 | \$42,507 | |
| Costs Incurred | 11,361 | |
| Cash Payments | (47,533) |) |
| Accrued Liability as of November 1, 2014 | \$6,335 | |

17. CONTINGENCIES

The Company is a defendant in lawsuits and other adversary proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. Legal costs incurred in connection with the resolution of claims and lawsuits are generally expensed as incurred, and the Company establishes reserves for the outcome of litigation where it deems appropriate to do so under applicable accounting rules. The Company's assessment of the current exposure could change in the event of the discovery of additional facts with respect to legal matters pending against the Company or determinations by judges, juries, administrative agencies or other finders of fact that are not in accordance with the Company's evaluation of claims. Actual liabilities may exceed the amounts reserved, and there can be no assurance that final resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. The

Company has established accruals for certain matters where losses are deemed probable and reasonably estimable. There are other claims and legal proceedings pending against the Company for which accruals have not been established.

18. RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In July 2013, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued ASU No. 2013-11, "Presentation of an Unrecognized Tax Benefit When a Net Operating Loss Carryforward, a Similar Tax Loss, or a Tax Credit Carryforward Exists," which amends ASC 740, "Income Taxes." The amendments provide guidance on the financial statement presentation of an unrecognized tax benefit as either a reduction of a deferred tax asset or as a liability, when a net operating loss carryforward, similar tax loss or a tax credit carryforward exists. The amendments are effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2013. The adoption of this guidance did not have an impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

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In May 2014, FASB issued ASU No. 2014-09, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers," which supersedes the revenue recognition requirements in "Revenue Recognition (Topic 605)," and requires entities to recognize revenue in a way that depicts the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled to in exchange for those goods or services. ASU No. 2014-09 is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2016, and is to be applied retrospectively, with early application not permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact of this standard.

In June 2014, FASB issued ASU No. 2014-12, "Accounting for Share-Based Payments When the Terms of an Award Provide That a Performance Target Could Be Achieved after the Requisite Service Period," which amends ASC 718, "Compensation—Stock Compensation." The amendment provides guidance on the treatment of share-based payments awards with a specific performance target, requiring that a performance target that affects vesting and that could be achieved after the requisite service period be treated as a performance condition. ASU No. 2014-12 is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2015 with early adoption permitted. The adoption of this standard is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

19. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On December 8, 2014, Michael S. Jeffries retired from his positions as Chief Executive Officer and director of the Company, effective immediately. The Company's Board of Directors appointed Arthur C. Martinez, Chairman of the Board, to serve as Executive Chairman of the Company, and formed an Office of the Chairman, whose members are Arthur C. Martinez, Jonathan Ramsden, Chief Operating Officer, Christos E. Angelides, Brand President of Abercrombie & Fitch, and Fran Horowitz, Brand President of Hollister, until a new Chief Executive Officer is appointed.

Mr. Jeffries' employment with the Company will terminate on December 31, 2014. In connection with his retirement, Mr. Jeffries entered into a Retirement Agreement with the Company, providing him compensation as if his employment had been terminated without cause pursuant to his Employment Agreement dated December 9, 2013. In addition to any benefits Mr. Jeffries is entitled to upon retirement, as set forth in the Company's most recent definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A, filed with the SEC on May 13, 2014, this will result in additional payments of approximately \$5.5 million in cash and benefits continuation, and a pre-tax charge of approximately \$4.6 million in the fourth quarter of Fiscal 2014.

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and
Stockholders of Abercrombie & Fitch Co.:

We have reviewed the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of Abercrombie & Fitch Co. as of November 1, 2014, and the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income (loss) for the thirteen and thirty-nine week periods ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 and the consolidated statements of cash flows for the thirty-nine week periods ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013. These interim financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management.

We conducted our review in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). A review of interim financial information consists principally of applying analytical procedures and making inquiries of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters. It is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying consolidated interim financial statements for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We previously audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheet as of February 1, 2014, and the related consolidated statements of operation and comprehensive income, of stockholders' equity, and of cash flows for the year then ended (not presented herein), and in our report dated March 31, 2014, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements. In our opinion, the information set forth in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet as of February 1, 2014, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the consolidated balance sheet from which it has been derived.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Columbus, Ohio
December 11, 2014

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

OVERVIEW

The Company is a specialty retailer that operates stores in North America, Europe, Asia, Australia and the Middle East and direct-to-consumer operations in North America, Europe and Asia that service its brands throughout the world. The Company sells casual sportswear apparel, including knit tops and woven shirts, graphic t-shirts, fleece, jeans and woven pants, shorts, sweaters, and outerwear; personal care products; and accessories for men, women and kids under the Abercrombie & Fitch, abercrombie kids and Hollister brands. The Company also sells bras, underwear, personal care products, sleepwear and at-home products for girls through direct-to-consumer operations and Hollister stores under the Gilly Hicks brand.

The modern Abercrombie & Fitch is the next generation of effortless All-American style. The essence of laidback sophistication with an element of simplicity, A&F sets the standard for great taste. From classic campus experiences to collecting moments while traveling, A&F brings stories of adventure and discovery to life. Confident and engaging, the Abercrombie & Fitch legacy is rooted in a heritage of quality craftsmanship and focused on a future of creative ambition. abercrombie kids is the next generation of All-American cool. The essence of fun and friendship, a&f kids celebrates each moment by sharing its effortless great taste with the world. From documenting school spirit days and team sports to traveling abroad and experiencing new cultures, a&f kids tells stories filled with youthful excitement and a touch of mischief. Confident and independent, abercrombie kids stands for quality, on-trend style, and creative imagination. Each day brings a new discovery, a chance for adventure, and the opportunity to make history. Hollister is the fantasy of Southern California. Inspired by beautiful beaches, open blue skies, and sunshine, Hollister lives the dream of an endless summer. Spontaneous, with a bit of edge and a sense of humor, it never takes itself too seriously. Hollister's laidback lifestyle is naturally infused with authentic surf and skate culture, making every design effortlessly cool and totally accessible. Hollister brings Southern California to the world.

The Company's fiscal year ends on the Saturday closest to January 31. Fiscal years are designated in the consolidated financial statements and notes by the calendar year in which the fiscal year commences. All references herein to "Fiscal 2014" represent the 52-week fiscal year that will end on January 31, 2015, and to "Fiscal 2013" represent the 52-week fiscal year that ended February 1, 2014.

On December 8, 2014, Michael S. Jeffries retired from his positions as Chief Executive Officer and director of the Company, effective immediately. The Company's Board of Directors appointed Arthur C. Martinez, Chairman of the Board, to serve as Executive Chairman of the Company, and formed an Office of the Chairman, whose members are Arthur C. Martinez, Jonathan Ramsden, Chief Operating Officer, Christos E. Angelides, Brand President of Abercrombie & Fitch, and Fran Horowitz, Brand President of Hollister, until a new Chief Executive Officer is appointed.

Mr. Jeffries' employment with the Company will terminate on December 31, 2014. In connection with his retirement, Mr. Jeffries entered into a Retirement Agreement with the Company, providing him compensation as if his employment had been terminated without cause pursuant to his Employment Agreement dated December 9, 2013. In addition to any benefits Mr. Jeffries is entitled to upon retirement, as set forth in the Company's most recent definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A, filed with the SEC on May 13, 2014, this will result in additional payments of approximately \$5.5 million in cash and benefits continuation, and a pre-tax charge of approximately \$4.6 million in the fourth quarter of Fiscal 2014.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

During the third quarter of Fiscal 2014, net sales decreased 12% to \$911.5 million from \$1.033 billion for the third quarter of Fiscal 2013. The gross profit rate for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 was 62.2% compared to 63.0% for the third quarter of Fiscal 2013. Operating income was \$33.4 million for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 compared to an operating loss of \$35.4 million for the third quarter of Fiscal 2013. The Company had net income of \$18.2 million and net income per diluted share of \$0.25 for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 compared to a net loss of \$15.6 million and net loss per diluted share of \$0.20 for the third quarter of Fiscal 2013.

During the Fiscal 2014 year-to-date period, net sales decreased 7% to \$2.624 billion from \$2.818 billion for the comparable period of Fiscal 2013. The gross profit rate for the Fiscal 2014 year-to-date period was 62.2% compared to 64.2% for the comparable period of Fiscal 2013. The Company reported an operating income of \$21.4 million for the Fiscal 2014 year-to-date period compared to an operating loss of \$30.1 million for the comparable period of Fiscal 2013. The Company had a net income of \$7.4 million

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and net income per diluted share of \$0.10 for the Fiscal 2014 year-to-date period compared to a net loss of \$11.5 million and net loss per diluted share of \$0.15 for the comparable period of Fiscal 2013.

Excluding certain charges detailed in the GAAP to non-GAAP financial measures reconciliation below, the Company reported adjusted non-GAAP net income of \$30.4 million and adjusted non-GAAP net income per diluted share of \$0.42 for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 compared to adjusted non-GAAP net income of \$40.5 million and adjusted non-GAAP net income per diluted share of \$0.52 for the third quarter of Fiscal 2013. For the Fiscal 2014 year-to-date period, the Company reported adjusted non-GAAP net income of \$31.5 million and adjusted non-GAAP net income per diluted share of \$0.43 compared to adjusted non-GAAP net income of \$46.4 million and adjusted non-GAAP net income per diluted share of \$0.59 for the comparable period of Fiscal 2013.

The Company believes that the non-GAAP financial measures discussed above are useful to investors as they provide the ability to measure the Company's operating performance and compare it against that of prior periods without reference to the impact of charges related to store-related asset impairment, store closures, the Gilly Hicks brand restructuring, the Company's profit improvement initiative, and legal, advisory and other charges related to certain corporate governance matters. These non-GAAP financial measures should not be used as alternatives to operating income (loss), net income (loss), or net income (loss) per diluted share and are also not intended to be indicators of the ongoing operating performance of the Company or to supersede or replace the Company's GAAP financial measures. The table below reconciles the GAAP financial measures to the non-GAAP financial measures for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013.

| | November 1, 2014 | | | November 2, 2013 | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------------|--|
| (in thousands, except per share amounts) | Operating Income (Loss) | Net Income (Loss) | Net Income (Loss) per Diluted Share ⁽³⁾ | Operating Income (Loss) | Net Income (Loss) | Net Income (Loss) per Diluted Share ⁽³⁾ |
| Thirteen Weeks Ended | | | | | | |
| GAAP | \$33,366 | \$18,227 | \$0.25 | \$(35,370) | \$(15,644) | \$(0.20) |
| Excluded Charges ⁽¹⁾ | 20,268 | 12,179 | 0.17 | 95,869 | 56,189 | 0.72 |
| Non-GAAP | \$53,634 | \$30,406 | \$0.42 | \$60,499 | \$40,545 | \$0.52 ⁽³⁾ |
| Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended | | | | | | |
| GAAP | \$21,353 | \$7,433 | \$0.10 | \$(30,127) | \$(11,477) | \$(0.15) |
| Excluded Charges ⁽²⁾ | 38,249 | 24,056 | 0.33 | 98,444 | 57,834 | 0.74 |
| Non-GAAP | \$59,602 | \$31,489 | \$0.43 | \$68,317 | \$46,357 | \$0.59 ⁽³⁾ |

Excluded charges for the thirteen weeks ended November 1, 2014 included \$16.7 million in pre-tax charges related to store-related asset impairment, \$2.3 million in pre-tax charges related to lease terminations and store closures, \$0.7 million in pre-tax charges related to the Company's profit improvement initiative and \$0.6 million in pre-tax charges related to legal, advisory and other charges related to certain corporate governance matters. Excluded charges for the thirteen weeks ended November 2, 2013 included \$43.6 million in pre-tax charges related to store-related asset impairment, \$44.7 million in pre-tax charges related to the restructuring of the Gilly Hicks brand and \$7.6 million in pre-tax charges related to the Company's profit improvement initiative.

⁽²⁾Excluded charges for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 include \$16.7 million in pre-tax charges related to store-related asset impairment, \$2.3 million in pre-tax charges related to lease terminations and store closures, \$6.1 million in pre-tax charges related to the restructuring of the Gilly Hicks brand, \$5.7 million in pre-tax charges related to the Company's profit improvement initiative and \$7.5 million in pre-tax charges for legal, advisory and other charges related to certain corporate governance matters. Excluded charges for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013 included \$44.7 million in pre-tax charges related to the restructuring of the Gilly

Hicks brand, \$43.6 million in pre-tax charges related to store asset impairment, and \$10.1 million in pre-tax charges related to the Company's profit improvement initiative.

- (3) Adjusted non-GAAP net income per diluted share is based on diluted weighted-average shares outstanding of 77.7 million and 79.0 million for the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013, respectively.

As of November 1, 2014, the Company had \$320.6 million in cash and equivalents, and \$300.0 million in gross borrowings outstanding under its term loan facility. Net cash provided by operating activities was \$29.5 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014, primarily related to operating income, adjusted for non-cash items, which was partially offset by inventory purchases. The Company used cash of \$132.2 million for capital expenditures, \$285.0 million to repurchase approximately 7.3 million shares of A&F's Common Stock and \$43.5 million for dividends paid during the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014. In addition, the Company had net proceeds of \$162.0 million from borrowings during the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014.

Due to the seasonal nature of the retail apparel industry, the results of operations for any current period are not necessarily indicative of the results expected for the full fiscal year. The seasonality of the Company's operations may also lead to significant fluctuations in certain asset and liability accounts.

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The following table presents the amounts shown in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the thirteen and thirty-nine week periods ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013, expressed as a percentage of net sales:

| | Thirteen Weeks Ended | | Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended | | |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|----|
| | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 | |
| NET SALES | 100.0 | % 100.0 | % 100.0 | % 100.0 | % |
| Cost of Goods Sold | 37.8 | % 37.0 | % 37.8 | % 35.8 | % |
| GROSS PROFIT | 62.2 | % 63.0 | % 62.2 | % 64.2 | % |
| Stores and Distribution Expense | 45.4 | % 46.6 | % 47.9 | % 49.8 | % |
| Marketing, General and Administrative Expense | 11.5 | % 12.3 | % 12.9 | % 12.9 | % |
| Restructuring Charges | — | % 4.3 | % 0.2 | % 1.6 | % |
| Asset Impairment | 1.8 | % 4.2 | % 0.6 | % 1.5 | % |
| Other Operating Income, Net | (0.1) |)% (1.0) |)% (0.4) |)% (0.5) |)% |
| OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) | 3.6 | % (3.4) |)% 0.8 | % (1.1) |)% |
| Interest Expense, Net | 0.6 | % 0.2 | % 0.4 | % 0.2 | % |
| INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TAXES | 3.0 | % (3.6) |)% 0.4 | % (1.2) |)% |
| Tax Expense (Benefit) | 1.0 | % (2.1) |)% 0.2 | % (0.8) |)% |
| NET INCOME (LOSS) | 2.0 | % (1.5) |)% 0.3 | % (0.4) |)% |

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Financial Summary

The following summarized financial and statistical data compare the thirteen and thirty-nine week periods ended November 1, 2014 to the thirteen and thirty-nine week periods ended November 2, 2013:

| | Thirteen Weeks Ended | | Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended | | |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|----|
| | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 | November 1, 2014 | November 2, 2013 | |
| Net sales by segment (millions) | \$911.5 | \$1,033.3 | \$2,624.5 | \$2,817.8 | |
| U.S. Stores | \$475.7 | \$561.8 | \$1,324.1 | \$1,515.1 | |
| International Stores | \$248.2 | \$296.9 | \$769.0 | \$841.1 | |
| Direct-to-Consumer | \$187.5 | \$174.6 | \$531.4 | \$461.6 | |
| Net sales as a % of total sales | | | | | |
| U.S. Stores | 52 | % 54 | % 51 | % 54 | % |
| International Stores | 27 | % 29 | % 29 | % 30 | % |
| Direct-to-Consumer | 21 | % 17 | % 20 | % 16 | % |
| Net sales by brand (millions)* | \$911.5 | \$1,033.3 | \$2,624.5 | \$2,817.8 | |
| Abercrombie & Fitch | \$358.4 | \$387.6 | \$1,025.8 | \$1,069.0 | |
| abercrombie | \$81.3 | \$90.1 | \$220.6 | \$239.3 | |
| Hollister | \$468.1 | \$534.0 | \$1,354.3 | \$1,443.7 | |
| Gilly Hicks** | \$3.6 | \$21.6 | \$23.7 | \$65.8 | |
| Increase (decrease) in comparable sales*** | (10 |)% (14 |)% (7 |)% (13 |)% |
| Abercrombie & Fitch | (6 |)% (13 |)% (3 |)% (11 |)% |
| abercrombie | (10 |)% (4 |)% (8 |)% (4 |)% |
| Hollister | (12 |)% (16 |)% (10 |)% (15 |)% |
| Increase (decrease) in comparable sales by geography*** | | | | | |
| U.S. | (7 |)% (14 |)% (6 |)% (13 |)% |
| International | (15 |)% (15 |)% (10 |)% (13 |)% |
| Increase (decrease) in comparable sales by channel*** | | | | | |
| Total Stores | (14 |)% (18 |)% (12 |)% (16 |)% |
| Direct-to-Consumer | 8 | % 11 | % 15 | % 6 | % |

*Totals may not foot due to rounding.

**Net sales reflects the activity of stores open during the period and direct-to-consumer sales.

A store is included in comparable sales when it has been open as the same brand 12 months or more and its square

***footage has not been expanded or reduced by more than 20% within the past year. Comparable sales include comparable direct-to-consumer sales.

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CURRENT TRENDS AND OUTLOOK

In what continues to be a challenging retail environment, particularly among younger consumers, the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 proved to be more difficult than expected, with a weakening in trends across all brands and channels. Total Company comparable sales for the quarter were down 10%, with U.S. comparable store sales down 10% and international comparable store sales down 22%. Direct-to-consumer comparable sales were up 8% in the third quarter, but positive by a lower percentage than in the first and second quarters. Reduced heavy logo business continued to weigh heavily on our results, contributing approximately 12 percentage points to our down 10% total comparable sales for the third quarter, with non-logo business comping up slightly. On the international front, comparable sales were negative in almost all markets, but we are encouraged by positive comparable sales in China, which improved from the second quarter. The quarter also marked the opening of our first Chinese mall-based A&F store in Chengdu, which is performing strongly, and encourages us to believe in the growth potential of both of our major brands in China.

While we anticipate business conditions will remain difficult, we continue to take strategic steps to position the Company for future top-line growth and operating margin improvement to drive long-term value for stockholders.

We remain focused on improving the productivity and profitability of our U.S. stores, through initiatives around our assortment, marketing and brand engagement, through the opening of high productivity outlet stores and through closures of underperforming stores. We are pleased with results from the Hollister stores we have converted to a redesigned storefront, and we expect to allocate capital to accelerate the roll-out in both the U.S. and Europe in 2015. Regarding store closures, we still expect to close approximately 60 stores during Fiscal 2014 and a similar number in each of the next few years, primarily through natural lease expirations.

We are pleased with key metrics we are seeing from our marketing initiatives. Across both brands, fan growth in platforms such as Instagram, Facebook and Twitter is up by over 25% year-over-year and total social engagement during the quarter was more than four times greater than last year. In addition, according to our social listening tool Crimson Hexagon, net brand sentiment is up close to 30% for A&F and up close to 40% for Hollister since the beginning of the year. Going forward, we believe our greatest opportunity remains in improving top of funnel metrics, specifically brand consideration.

We continued the roll-out of our omnichannel efforts during the third quarter. Ship-from-store is now live in approximately 370 stores and order-in-store is live in approximately 660 stores, all within the U.S. We believe these initiatives will be both sales and margin accretive during the fourth quarter and beyond. In addition, we continue to expect to have reserve-in-store and in-store-pickup activated during 2015, and we are working on a roll-out of omnichannel capabilities in Europe. During the quarter we also launched localized Asia direct-to-consumer capabilities, including local desktop and mobile sites in Japan, China, Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan; regional fulfillment from Hong Kong and local fulfillment within China; and a Hollister storefront on Tmall. We are still in the early stages, but we have seen a clear improvement in both traffic and conversion.

We continue to pursue other initiatives to grow the international penetration of our brands, including our first franchising arrangement in Mexico, which encompasses both the A&F and Hollister brands, where our first store is set to open in late Spring 2015.

We continue to make excellent progress on expense reduction, enabling us to partially mitigate lower than projected sales and gross margin dollars. Our next steps in our profit improvement initiative include institutionalizing the process changes implemented during 2014, and continuing to drive for more efficiencies in our core processes.

Related to our move to a brand-based organizational model, we are very pleased to have welcomed Fran Horowitz and Christos Angelides to the Company during the quarter as our Hollister and A&F/Kids brand presidents, respectively.

Looking forward, we expect Fiscal 2014 full year adjusted non-GAAP diluted earnings per share to be in the range of \$1.50 to \$1.65. This guidance is based on the assumption that fourth quarter total comparable sales will be down by a mid-to-high single-digit percentage. The guidance also assumes a gross margin rate for the fourth quarter higher than last year, but lower than the third quarter year-to-date rate.

The guidance assumes a full year effective tax rate in the upper 30's, which remains sensitive to the mix between international and domestic income. The guidance also assumes a full year weighted average share count of approximately 73.1 million shares.

The guidance does not include charges related to the Gilly Hicks restructuring, the Company's profit improvement initiative, certain corporate governance matters, other potential impairment and store closure charges or any charges related to the Chief Executive Officer's retirement, as discussed in Note 19, "SUBSEQUENT EVENTS" of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

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THIRD QUARTER AND YEAR-TO-DATE RESULTS

Net Sales

Net sales for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 were \$911.5 million, a decrease of 12% from net sales of \$1.033 billion during the third quarter of Fiscal 2013. The net sales decrease was primarily attributable to a 10% decrease in total comparable sales. Including direct-to-consumer sales, U.S. sales decreased 12% to \$594.7 million and international sales decreased 12% to \$316.7 million. The impact of changes in foreign currency adversely affected sales by approximately \$8.8 million for the thirteen weeks ended November 1, 2014 (based on converting prior year sales at current year exchange rates).

Year-to-date net sales in Fiscal 2014 were \$2.624 billion, a decrease of 7% from net sales of \$2.818 billion during the year-to-date period in Fiscal 2013. The net sales decrease was attributable to a 7% decrease in total comparable sales. Including direct-to-consumer sales, U.S. sales decreased 9% to \$1.645 billion and international sales decreased 3% to \$979.1 million. The impact of changes in foreign currency benefited sales by approximately \$16.0 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014.

By brand, comparable sales for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014, including direct-to-consumer, were as follows: Abercrombie & Fitch decreased 6%, abercrombie kids decreased 10% and Hollister decreased 12%. Across the brands, the male and female business performed comparably.

Total comparable sales for the quarter, including direct-to-consumer sales, decreased 10% with comparable U.S. sales decreasing 7% and comparable international sales decreasing 15%. Within the quarter, comparable sales were weakest in September and October.

Direct-to-consumer sales, including shipping and handling revenue, for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 were \$187.5 million, an increase of 7% from Fiscal 2013 third quarter direct-to-consumer sales of \$174.6 million. The direct-to-consumer sales increase was primarily driven by an increase in the international business. The direct-to-consumer business, including shipping and handling revenue, accounted for 20.6% of total net sales in the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 compared to 16.9% in the third quarter of Fiscal 2013.

Direct-to-consumer sales, including shipping and handling revenue, for the Fiscal 2014 year-to-date period were \$531.4 million, an increase of 15% from Fiscal 2013 year-to-date direct-to-consumer sales of \$461.6 million. The direct-to-consumer sales increase was primarily driven by an increase in the international business. The direct-to-consumer business, including shipping and handling revenue, accounted for 20.2% of total net sales for the year-to-date period of Fiscal 2014 compared to 16.4% in the Fiscal 2013 year-to-date period.

Gross Profit

Gross profit for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 was \$567.1 million compared to \$651.0 million for the comparable period in Fiscal 2013. The gross profit rate (gross profit divided by net sales) for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 was 62.2%, a decrease of 80 basis points from the third quarter of Fiscal 2013 rate of 63.0%.

Year-to-date gross profit for Fiscal 2014 was \$1.632 billion compared to \$1.808 billion for the comparable period in Fiscal 2013. The gross profit rate for the year-to-date period of Fiscal 2014 was 62.2%, down 200 basis points from the year-to-date period of Fiscal 2013 rate of 64.2%.

The decrease in the gross profit rate for both the third quarter and year-to-date period was primarily driven by increased promotional activity, including shipping promotions in the direct-to-consumer business, partially offset by lower average unit cost in the third quarter.

Stores and Distribution Expense

Stores and distribution expense for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 was \$413.6 million, down from \$481.2 million for the comparable period in Fiscal 2013. Stores and distribution expense included \$2.3 million of charges in the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 and \$0.6 million of charges in the third quarter of Fiscal 2013 related to lease terminations, store closures and the Company's profit improvement initiative. Excluding these charges, the stores and distribution expense rate for the quarter was 45.1% of net sales, down 140 basis points from 46.5% of net sales in the third quarter of Fiscal 2013.

Stores and distribution expense for the Fiscal 2014 year-to-date period was \$1.257 billion compared to \$1.402 billion for the comparable period in Fiscal 2013. Stores and distribution expense included \$4.4 million of charges for the thirty-nine weeks

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ended November 1, 2014 and \$0.6 million of charges for thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013 related to lease terminations, store closures and the Company's profit improvement initiative. Excluding these charges, the stores and distribution expense rate for the Fiscal 2014 year-to-date period was 47.7% of net sales, down 200 basis points from 49.7% of net sales for the same period of Fiscal 2013.

The decrease in stores and distribution expense as a percent of net sales for both the third quarter and year-to-date period was driven primarily by savings in from the Company's profit improvement initiative, largely in store payroll and other controllable store expense, partially offset by higher direct-to-consumer expense.

Shipping and handling costs, including costs incurred to store, move and prepare the products for shipment and costs incurred to physically move the product to the customer, associated with direct-to-consumer operations were \$24.0 million for the thirteen weeks ended November 1, 2014 compared to \$20.2 million for the thirteen weeks ended November 2, 2013, and \$69.7 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 compared to \$54.5 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013. These amounts are included in Stores and Distribution Expense on the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss).

Handling costs, including costs incurred to store, move and prepare the products for shipment to stores, were \$12.1 million for the thirteen weeks ended November 1, 2014 compared to \$13.6 million for the thirteen weeks ended November 2, 2013, and \$39.7 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 compared to \$39.6 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013. These amounts are included in Stores and Distribution Expense on the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss).

Marketing, General and Administrative Expense

Marketing, general and administrative expense during the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 was \$105.0 million compared to \$126.8 million during the third quarter of Fiscal 2013. Marketing, general and administrative expense included \$1.2 million of charges for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014, and \$7.0 million of charges for the same period in Fiscal 2013 related to the Company's profit improvement initiative and legal, advisory and other charges related to certain corporate governance matters. Excluding these charges, marketing, general and administrative expense for Fiscal 2014 was \$103.8 million compared to \$119.8 million for Fiscal 2013, a decrease of 13%.

Marketing, general and administrative expense during the Fiscal 2014 year-to-date period was \$339.6 million compared to \$363.2 million during the same period in Fiscal 2013. Marketing, general and administrative expense included \$11.2 million of charges for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and \$9.5 million of charges for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013 related to the Company's profit improvement initiative and legal, advisory and other charges related to certain corporate governance matters. Excluding these charges, marketing, general and administrative expense for the Fiscal 2014 year-to-date period was \$328.5 million compared to \$353.7 million for the same period in Fiscal 2013, a decrease of 7%.

The decrease in marketing, general and administrative expense for both the thirteen and thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 was driven primarily by a decrease in compensation expense, including incentive and equity compensation, partially offset by an increase in marketing expense.

Restructuring Charges

Restructuring charges associated with the closure of the Gilly Hicks stand-alone stores for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 were \$6.1 million, of which \$5.7 million related to lease terminations. Restructuring charges associated with the store closures for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013 were \$44.7 million, of which

\$37.9 million related to asset impairment and \$6.8 million related to lease terminations.

Asset Impairment

The Company incurred non-cash asset impairment charges of \$16.7 million related to 39 stores whose asset carrying values were determined to not be recoverable and exceeded fair value for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014. The asset impairment charges for the year-to-date period of Fiscal 2014 primarily related to the Company's Abercrombie & Fitch flagship store location in the Ginza district of Tokyo, Japan, as well as three additional Abercrombie & Fitch stores, five Hollister stores and nine abercrombie kids stores. For the thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013, the Company incurred non-cash asset impairment charges of \$43.6 million related to 93 stores whose asset carrying values were determined to not be recoverable and exceeded fair value.

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Other Operating Income, Net

Third quarter other operating income, net for Fiscal 2014 was \$1.5 million compared to \$9.9 million for the third quarter of Fiscal 2013. Other operating income, net included insurance recoveries of approximately \$1.5 million and \$6.0 million for the thirteen weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013, respectively.

Year-to-date other operating income, net for Fiscal 2014 was \$9.4 million compared to \$15.1 million for the year-to-date period of Fiscal 2013. Other operating income, net included insurance recoveries of approximately \$7.6 million and \$9.0 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013, respectively.

Operating Income (Loss)

Operating income for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 was \$33.4 million, compared to an operating loss of \$35.4 million during the third quarter of Fiscal 2013. Excluding certain charges, detailed in the GAAP to non-GAAP financial measures reconciliation provided under "RESULTS OF OPERATIONS," totaling \$20.3 million and \$95.9 million for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 and Fiscal 2013, respectively, operating income was \$53.6 million and \$60.5 million for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 and Fiscal 2013, respectively.

Year-to-date operating income in Fiscal 2014 was \$21.4 million, compared to an operating loss of \$30.1 million during the corresponding period of Fiscal 2013. Excluding certain charges, detailed in the GAAP to non-GAAP financial measures reconciliation provided under "RESULTS OF OPERATIONS," totaling \$38.3 million and \$98.4 million for the year-to-date periods of Fiscal 2014 and Fiscal 2013, respectively, operating income was \$59.6 million and \$68.3 million for the year-to-date periods of Fiscal 2014 and Fiscal 2013, respectively.

Interest Expense, Net and Tax Expense (Benefit)

Third quarter interest expense was \$6.6 million in Fiscal 2014, partially offset by interest income of \$1.0 million, compared to interest expense of \$2.7 million, partially offset by interest income of \$1.1 million in the third quarter of Fiscal 2013.

Year-to-date interest expense was \$12.5 million in Fiscal 2014, partially offset by interest income of \$2.9 million, compared to interest expense of \$8.2 million in Fiscal 2013, partially offset by interest income of \$3.1 million.

The effective tax rate for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 was 34.4%. Excluding certain charges, detailed in the GAAP to non-GAAP financial measures reconciliation provided under "RESULTS OF OPERATIONS," the Company's effective tax rate was 36.7% for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 compared to 31.1% for the third quarter of Fiscal 2013. The third quarter Fiscal 2013 effective tax rate reflects a \$4.9 million benefit related to other discrete tax matters.

The effective tax rate for the year-to-date period of Fiscal 2014 was 36.8%. Excluding certain charges, detailed in the GAAP to non-GAAP financial measures reconciliation provided under "RESULTS OF OPERATIONS," the Company's effective tax rate was 37.0% for Fiscal 2014 compared to 26.7% for the Fiscal 2013 year-to-date period. The Fiscal 2013 year-to-date effective tax rate reflects a benefit resulting from the settlement of certain state tax audits and a \$4.9 million benefit related to other discrete tax matters in the third quarter.

The Company expects the full year effective tax rate to be approximately 40%. The rate remaining sensitive to the U.S./international profit mix.

As of November 1, 2014, there were approximately \$18.8 million of net deferred tax assets in Japan. The realization of the net deferred tax assets is dependent upon the future generation of sufficient taxable profits in Japan. While the Company believes it is more likely than not that the net deferred tax assets will be realized, it is not certain. Should circumstances change, the net deferred tax assets may become subject to a valuation allowance in the future. Additional valuation allowances would result in additional tax expense.

Net Income (Loss) and Net Income (Loss) per Share

Net income for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 was \$18.2 million compared to a net loss of \$15.6 million for the third quarter of Fiscal 2013. The Company reported net income per diluted share of \$0.25 and a net loss per diluted share of \$0.20 for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 and Fiscal 2013, respectively. Excluding certain charges, detailed in the GAAP to non-GAAP financial measures reconciliation provided under "RESULTS OF OPERATIONS," the Company reported adjusted non-GAAP net income

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of \$30.4 million and \$40.5 million and adjusted non-GAAP net income per diluted share of \$0.42 and \$0.52 for the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 and Fiscal 2013, respectively.

Net income for the year-to-date period of Fiscal 2014 was \$7.4 million compared to a net loss of \$11.5 million for the year-to-date period of Fiscal 2013. The Company reported net income per diluted share of \$0.10 and a net loss per diluted share of \$0.15 for the year-to-date period of Fiscal 2014 and Fiscal 2013, respectively. Excluding certain charges, detailed in the GAAP to non-GAAP financial measures reconciliation provided under "RESULTS OF OPERATIONS," the Company reported adjusted non-GAAP net income of \$31.5 million and \$46.4 million and adjusted non-GAAP net income per diluted share of \$0.43 and \$0.59 for the year-to-date period of Fiscal 2014 and Fiscal 2013, respectively.

FINANCIAL CONDITION

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Historical Sources and Uses of Cash

Seasonality of Cash Flows

The Company's business has two principal selling seasons: the Spring season which includes the first and second fiscal quarters ("Spring") and the Fall season which includes the third and fourth fiscal quarters ("Fall"). As is typical in the apparel industry, the Company experiences its greatest sales activity during the Fall season due to Back-to-School and Holiday sales periods, particularly in the U.S. The Company relies on excess operating cash flows, which are largely generated in the Fall season, to fund operating expenses throughout the year and to reinvest in the business to support future growth. The Company also has the ABL facility available as a source of additional funding.

Credit Agreements

In 2011, the Company entered into an unsecured credit agreement (the "2011 Credit Agreement") which, as amended most recently on November 4, 2013, provided for a \$350 million revolving credit facility. In 2012, the Company entered into a term loan agreement (the "2012 Term Loan Agreement" and, together with the 2011 Credit Agreement, the "2011 and 2012 Credit Agreements") which, as amended most recently on November 4, 2013, provided for a \$150 million term loan facility. No borrowings were outstanding under the 2011 Credit Agreement and \$135.0 million in borrowings were outstanding under the 2012 Term Loan Agreement as of February 1, 2014.

On August 7, 2014, in connection with the Company entering into new credit agreements, all amounts outstanding under the 2011 and 2012 Credit Agreements were repaid in full, and the 2011 and 2012 Credit Agreements were terminated. The new credit agreements are discussed below.

Asset-Based Revolving Credit Facility and Term Loan Facility

On August 7, 2014, A&F, through its subsidiary Abercrombie & Fitch Management Co. ("A&F Management") as the lead borrower (with A&F and certain other subsidiaries as borrowers or guarantors), entered into an asset-based revolving credit agreement. The agreement provides for a senior secured revolving credit facility of up to \$400 million (the "ABL Facility"), subject to a borrowing base. The ABL Facility is available for working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate purposes.

A&F, through its subsidiary A&F Management as the borrower (with A&F and certain other subsidiaries as guarantors), also entered into a term loan agreement on August 7, 2014, which provides for a term loan facility of \$300 million (the “Term Loan Facility” and, together with the ABL Facility, the “2014 Credit Facilities”). A portion of the proceeds of the Term Loan Facility were used to repay the outstanding balance of approximately \$127.5 million under the Company’s 2012 Term Loan Agreement, to repay outstanding borrowings of approximately \$60 million under the Company’s 2011 Credit Agreement and to pay fees and expenses associated with the transaction.

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Debt Discount and Deferred Financing Fees

The Term Loan Facility was issued at a \$3 million or 1.0% discount. In addition, the Company recorded deferred financing fees associated with the issuance of the 2014 Credit Facilities of \$5.8 million in aggregate, of which \$3.2 million was paid to lenders. The Company is amortizing the debt discount and deferred financing fees on a straight-line basis over the respective contractual terms of the 2014 Credit Facilities. The Company's Term Loan debt is presented in the Consolidated Balance Sheets, net of the unamortized discount and fees paid to lenders. Net borrowings as of November 1, 2014 were as follows:

| (in thousands) | November 1, 2014 |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Borrowings, gross at carrying amount | \$300,000 |
| Unamortized discount | (2,893) |
| Unamortized fees paid to lenders | (3,169) |
| Borrowings, net | \$293,938 |

No borrowings were outstanding under the ABL Facility as of November 1, 2014.

Maturity, Amortization and Prepayments

The ABL Facility will mature on August 7, 2019. The Term Loan Facility will mature on August 7, 2021 and will amortize at a rate equal to 0.25% of the original principal amount per quarter, beginning with the fourth quarter of Fiscal 2014. The Term Loan Facility is subject to (a) beginning in 2016, an annual mandatory prepayment in an amount equal to 0% to 50% of the Company's excess cash flows in the preceding fiscal year, depending on the Company's leverage ratio and (b) certain other mandatory prepayments upon receipt by the Company of proceeds of certain debt issuances, asset sales and casualty events, subject to certain exceptions specified therein, including reinvestment rights.

Interest and Fees

Amounts borrowed under the ABL Facility bear interest, at the Company's option, at either an adjusted LIBOR rate plus a margin of 1.25% to 1.75% per annum, or an alternate base rate plus a margin of 0.25% to 0.75% per annum. The initial applicable margins with respect to LIBOR loans and base rate loans, including swing line loans, under the ABL Facility are 1.50% and 0.50% per annum, respectively, and are subject to adjustment each fiscal quarter beginning January 31, 2015, based on average historical excess availability during the preceding quarter. The Company is also required to pay a fee of 0.25% per annum on undrawn commitments under the ABL Facility. Customary agency fees and letter of credit fees are also payable in respect of the ABL Facility.

At the Company's option, borrowings under the Term Loan Facility will bear interest at either (a) an adjusted LIBOR rate no lower than 1.00% plus a margin of 3.75% per annum or (b) an alternate base rate plus a margin of 2.75% per annum. Customary agency fees are also payable in respect of the Term Loan Facility. The interest rate on borrowings under the Term Loan Facility was 4.75% as of November 1, 2014.

As of November 1, 2014, the borrowing base on the ABL Facility was \$400 million. As of December 8, 2014, the Company had not drawn on the ABL Facility, and had approximately \$9.4 million in outstanding letters of credit.

The Company's credit facilities are described in Note 12, "BORROWINGS" of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in "ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS," of this Quarterly report on Form 10-Q.

Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$29.5 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 compared to net cash used for operating activities of \$230.2 million for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013. The change in cash flow associated with operating activities was primarily related to a change in inventory, with inventory balances increasing by a lower amount for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 than for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013.

Investing Activities

Cash outflows for investing activities for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 were used primarily for capital expenditures related to new store construction and information technology, including direct-to-consumer investments.

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Financing Activities

For the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014, cash outflows for financing activities consisted primarily of the repurchase of A&F's Common Stock of \$285.0 million, the repayment of borrowings of \$195.0 million and the payment of dividends of \$43.5 million. For the thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013, cash outflows for financing activities consisted primarily of the repurchase of A&F's Common Stock of \$115.8 million, the payment of dividends of \$46.6 million and the repayment of borrowings of \$11.3 million. For the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013, cash inflows from financing activities consisted primarily of proceeds from borrowings of \$357.0 million and \$150.0 million, respectively.

During the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014, A&F repurchased approximately 7.3 million shares of A&F's Common Stock, of which approximately 3.5 million shares with a market value of approximately \$135.0 million were purchased in the open market and approximately 3.8 million shares with an aggregate cost of \$150.0 million were purchased pursuant to an accelerated share repurchase agreement. During the thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013, A&F repurchased approximately 2.4 million shares of A&F's Common Stock in the open market with a market value of approximately \$115.8 million. Repurchases of A&F's Common Stock were made pursuant to the A&F Board of Directors' authorizations.

As of November 1, 2014, A&F had approximately 9.0 million remaining shares available for repurchase as part of the A&F Board of Directors' previously approved authorizations.

Future Cash Requirements and Sources of Cash

Over the next twelve months, the Company's primary cash requirements will be to fund operating activities, including the acquisition of inventory, and obligations related to compensation, leases, taxes and other operating activities, as well as to fund capital expenditures and quarterly dividends to stockholders subject to approval by the A&F's Board of Directors. The Company has availability under the ABL Facility as a source of additional funding.

Subject to suitable market conditions and available liquidity, A&F expects to continue to repurchase shares of its Common Stock. The Company anticipates funding these cash requirements utilizing free cash flow generated from operations.

The Company is not dependent on dividends from its foreign subsidiaries to fund its U.S. operations or make distributions to A&F's stockholders. Unremitted earnings from foreign subsidiaries, which are considered to be invested indefinitely, would become subject to income tax if they were remitted as dividends or were lent to A&F or a U.S. affiliate. Although the Company has no intent to repatriate cash held in Europe and Asia, the Company has the ability to repatriate current Europe and Asia cash balances without the occurrence of a taxable dividend in the United States.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

The Company uses in the ordinary course of business stand-by letters of credit under the existing ABL Facility. The Company had \$9.4 million in stand-by letters of credit outstanding as of November 1, 2014. The Company has no other off-balance sheet arrangements.

Contractual Obligations

The Company's contractual obligations consist primarily of operating leases, purchase orders for merchandise inventory, unrecognized tax benefits, certain retirement obligations, lease deposits and other agreements to purchase goods and services that are legally binding and that require minimum quantities to be purchased. These contractual obligations impact the Company's short- and long-term liquidity and capital resource needs. During the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014, there were no material changes in the contractual obligations as of February 1, 2014, with the exception of those obligations which occurred in the normal course of business (primarily changes in the Company's merchandise inventory-related purchases and lease obligations, which fluctuate throughout the year as a result of the seasonal nature of the Company's operations), and the repayments under the 2014 Credit Facilities.

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Gilly Hicks Restructuring

As previously announced, on November 1, 2013, A&F's Board of Directors approved the closure of the Company's stand-alone Gilly Hicks stores. The Company substantially completed the store closures as planned by the end of the first quarter of Fiscal 2014. The Company continues to offer Gilly Hicks products through Hollister stores and direct-to-consumer channels.

As a result of exiting the Gilly Hicks branded stores, the Company currently estimates that it will incur aggregate pre-tax charges of approximately \$89 million, of which \$6.1 million of charges, primarily related to lease terminations, was recognized during the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014.

Below is a summary of the aggregate pre-tax charges incurred through November 1, 2014 related to the closure of the Gilly Hicks branded stores (in thousands):

| | |
|--|----------|
| Lease Terminations and Store Closure Costs | \$48,395 |
| Asset Impairment | 37,940 |
| Other | 1,218 |
| Total Charges ⁽¹⁾ | \$87,553 |

As of November 1, 2014, the Company incurred aggregate pre-tax charges related to restructuring plans for the Gilly Hicks brand of \$50.2 million for the U.S. Stores segment and \$37.4 million for the International Stores segment.

The remaining charges, primarily lease-related, including the net present value of payments related to lease terminations, potential sub-lease losses and other lease-related costs of approximately \$1.4 million, are expected to be recognized over the remaining lease terms. These estimates are based on a number of significant assumptions and could change materially.

Costs associated with exit or disposal activities are recorded when the liability is incurred. Below is a roll forward of the liabilities recognized on the Consolidated Balance Sheet as of November 1, 2014, related to the closure of the Gilly Hicks stores (in thousands):

| | |
|--|----------|
| Accrued Liability as of February 1, 2014 | \$42,507 |
| Costs Incurred | 11,361 |
| Cash Payments | (47,533) |
| Accrued Liability as of November 1, 2014 | \$6,335 |

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Store Activity

The Company now anticipates that it will have opened a total of 12 full-price international stores throughout Fiscal 2014, including 7 Hollister stores and 4 Abercrombie & Fitch stores. The Company also expects to have opened 9 international and U.S. outlet stores during Fiscal 2014. In addition, the Company continues to expect to have closed approximately 60 stores in the U.S. during Fiscal 2014 through natural lease expirations.

The Company expects total capital expenditures for Fiscal 2014 to be approximately \$200 million. Capital expenditures totaled \$132.2 million and \$124.0 million for the thirty-nine week periods ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013, respectively.

During the thirty-nine week period ended November 1, 2014, the Company closed the last remaining U.S. Gilly Hicks store.

Third Quarter Store Count and Gross Square Feet

Store count and gross square footage by brand for the thirteen week periods ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013, respectively, were as follows:

| Store Activity | Abercrombie & Fitch | abercrombie | Hollister | Gilly Hicks | Total | |
|---|---------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-------|---|
| U.S. Stores | | | | | | |
| August 2, 2014 | 254 | 128 | 454 | — | 836 | |
| New | 2 | — | — | — | 2 | |
| Closed | (1 |) (1 |) (2 |) — | (4 |) |
| November 1, 2014 | 255 | 127 | 452 | — | 834 | |
| Gross Square Feet at November 1, 2014 | 2,249 | 635 | 3,119 | — | 6,003 | |
| International Stores | | | | | | |
| August 2, 2014 | 25 | 5 | 131 | — | 161 | |
| New | 2 | 1 | 2 | — | 5 | |
| Closed | — | — | — | — | — | |
| November 1, 2014 | 27 | 6 | 133 | — | 166 | |
| Gross Square Feet at November 1, 2014 | 469 | 81 | 1,162 | — | 1,712 | |
| Total Stores | 282 | 133 | 585 | — | 1,000 | |
| Total Gross Square Feet at November 1, 2014 | 2,718 | 716 | 4,281 | — | 7,715 | |
| | | | | | | |
| Store Activity | Abercrombie & Fitch | abercrombie | Hollister | Gilly Hicks | Total | |
| U.S. Stores | | | | | | |
| August 3, 2013 | 265 | 140 | 474 | 17 | 896 | |
| New ⁽¹⁾ | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Closed | — | — | (3 |) — | (3 |) |
| November 2, 2013 | 265 | 140 | 471 | 17 | 893 | |
| Gross Square Feet at November 2, 2013 | 2,367 | 675 | 3,241 | 169 | 6,452 | |
| International Stores | | | | | | |
| August 3, 2013 | 20 | 5 | 116 | 7 | 148 | |

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| | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|
| New ⁽¹⁾ | 2 | — | 6 | — | 8 |
| Closed | — | — | — | — | — |
| November 2, 2013 | 22 | 5 | 122 | 7 | 156 |
| Gross Square Feet at November 2, 2013 | 431 | 66 | 1,071 | 49 | 1,617 |
| Total Stores | 287 | 145 | 593 | 24 | 1,049 |
| Total Gross Square Feet at November 2, 2013 | 2,798 | 741 | 4,312 | 218 | 8,069 |

⁽¹⁾ Prior period store counts have been restated to count multi-brand outlet stores as a single store. The change reduced both Domestic and International store openings for the thirteen weeks ended November 2, 2013 by one store for abercrombie.

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Year-to-Date Store Count and Gross Square Feet

Store count and gross square footage by brand for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013, respectively, were as follows:

| Store Activity | Abercrombie & Fitch | abercrombie | Hollister | Gilly Hicks | Total |
|---|---------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-------|
| U.S. Stores | | | | | |
| February 1, 2014 | 253 | 131 | 458 | 1 | 843 |
| New | 3 | 1 | 1 | — | 5 |
| Closed | (1 |) (5 |) (7 |) (1 |) (14 |
| November 1, 2014 | 255 | 127 | 452 | — | 834 |
| Gross Square Feet at November 1, 2014 | 2,249 | 635 | 3,119 | — | 6,003 |
| International Stores | | | | | |
| February 1, 2014 | 22 | 5 | 129 | 7 | 163 |
| New | 5 | 1 | 4 | — | 10 |
| Closed | — | — | — | (7 |) (7 |
| November 1, 2014 | 27 | 6 | 133 | — | 166 |
| Gross Square Feet at November 1, 2014 | 469 | 81 | 1,162 | — | 1,712 |
| Total Stores | 282 | 133 | 585 | — | 1,000 |
| Total Gross Square Feet at November 1, 2014 | 2,718 | 716 | 4,281 | — | 7,715 |

| Store Activity | Abercrombie & Fitch | abercrombie | Hollister | Gilly Hicks | Total |
|---|---------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-------|
| U.S. Stores | | | | | |
| February 2, 2013 | 266 | 141 | 478 | 17 | 902 |
| New ⁽¹⁾ | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| Closed | (2 |) (1 |) (7 |) — |) (10 |
| November 2, 2013 | 265 | 140 | 471 | 17 | 893 |
| Gross Square Feet at November 2, 2013 | 2,367 | 675 | 3,241 | 169 | 6,452 |
| International Stores | | | | | |
| February 2, 2013 | 19 | 6 | 107 | 7 | 139 |
| New ⁽¹⁾ | 3 | — | 15 | — | 18 |
| Closed | — | (1 |) — | — | (1 |
| November 2, 2013 | 22 | 5 | 122 | 7 | 156 |
| Gross Square Feet at November 2, 2013 | 431 | 66 | 1,071 | 49 | 1,617 |
| Total Stores | 287 | 145 | 593 | 24 | 1,049 |
| Total Gross Square Feet at November 2, 2013 | 2,798 | 741 | 4,312 | 218 | 8,069 |

Prior period store counts have been restated to count multi-brand outlet stores as a single store. The change reduced ⁽¹⁾Domestic and International store openings for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2013 by four stores for abercrombie and Gilly Hicks (one Domestic abercrombie store and two International abercrombie and Gilly Hicks store).

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Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In July 2013, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued ASU No. 2013-11, "Presentation of an Unrecognized Tax Benefit When a Net Operating Loss Carryforward, a Similar Tax Loss, or a Tax Credit Carryforward Exists," which amends ASC 740, "Income Taxes." The amendments provide guidance on the financial statement presentation of an unrecognized tax benefit as either a reduction of a deferred tax asset or as a liability, when a net operating loss carryforward, similar tax loss or a tax credit carryforward exists. The amendments are effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2013. The adoption of this guidance did not have an impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In May 2014, FASB issued ASU No. 2014-09, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers," which supersedes the revenue recognition requirements in "Revenue Recognition (Topic 605)," and requires entities to recognize revenue in a way that depicts the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled to in exchange for those goods or services. ASU No. 2014-09 is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2016, and is to be applied retrospectively, with early application not permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact of this standard.

In June 2014, FASB issued ASU No. 2014-12, "Accounting for Share-Based Payments When the Terms of an Award Provide That a Performance Target Could Be Achieved after the Requisite Service Period," which amends ASC 718, "Compensation—Stock Compensation." The amendment provides guidance on the treatment of share-based payments awards with a specific performance target, requiring that a performance target that affects vesting and that could be achieved after the requisite service period be treated as a performance condition. ASU No. 2014-12 is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2015 with early adoption permitted. The adoption of this standard is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

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Critical Accounting Estimates

We describe our significant accounting policies in Note 3, "SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES," of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements contained in "ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA" of A&F's Annual Report on Form 10-K for Fiscal 2013. We discuss our critical accounting estimates in "ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS", in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for Fiscal 2013. There have been no significant changes in our significant accounting policies or critical accounting estimates since the end of Fiscal 2013 with the exception of the items below.

| Policy | Effect if Actual Results Differ from Assumptions |
|--|---|
| <p>Property and Equipment Long-lived assets, primarily comprised of property and equipment, are reviewed whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that full recoverability of net asset group balances through future cash flows is in question. In addition, the Company conducts an annual impairment analysis in the fourth quarter of each year. For the purposes of the annual review, the Company reviews long-lived assets associated with stores that have an operating loss in the current year and have been open for at least two full years.</p> <p>The Company's impairment calculation requires management to make assumptions and judgments related to factors used in the evaluation for impairment, including, but not limited to, management's expectations for future operations and projected cash flows. The key assumptions used in our undiscounted future cash flow model include sales, gross margin and, to a lesser extent, operating expenses.</p> | <p>The Company has not made any material changes in the accounting methodology used to determine impairment loss over the past three fiscal years.</p> <p>Based on the impact of current sales trends, a number of stores were tested for impairment during the third quarter. The stores that were tested and not impaired had an insignificant aggregate net asset group value. Net asset group value includes the value of construction allowances.</p> <p>A 10% decrease in the sales assumption used to project future cash flows in the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 impairment test would have increased the impairment charge by an insignificant amount.</p> |

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Safe Harbor Statement Under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

The Company cautions that any forward-looking statements (as such term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995) contained in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q or made by the Company, its management or spokespeople involve risks and uncertainties and are subject to change based on various important factors, many of which may be beyond the Company's control. Words such as "estimate," "project," "plan," "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "intend," and similar expressions may identify forward-looking statements.

The following factors, including the disclosures under the heading "FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND RISK FACTORS" in "ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS" of A&F's Annual Report on Form 10-K for Fiscal 2013 filed on March 31, 2014, in some cases have affected and in the future could affect the Company's financial performance and could cause actual results for Fiscal 2014 and beyond to differ materially from those expressed or implied in any of the forward-looking statements included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q or otherwise made by management:

- changes in economic and financial conditions, and the resulting impact on consumer confidence and consumer spending, could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and liquidity;
- changing fashion trends and consumer preferences, and the ability to manage our inventory commensurate with customer demand, could adversely impact our sales levels and profitability;
- fluctuations in the cost, availability and quality of raw materials, labor and transportation, could cause manufacturing delays and increase our costs;
- a significant component of our growth strategy is international expansion, which requires significant capital investment, adds complexity to our operations and may strain our resources and adversely impact current store performance;
- our international expansion plan is dependent on a number of factors, any of which could delay or prevent successful penetration into new markets or could adversely affect the profitability of our international operations;
- we have increased the focus of our growth strategy on direct-to-consumer sales channels and the failure to successfully develop our position in these channels could have an adverse impact on our results of operations;
- our direct-to-consumer operations are subject to numerous risks that could adversely impact sales;
- failure to successfully implement certain growth initiatives may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations;
- fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates could adversely impact our financial condition and results of operations;
- our business could suffer if our information technology systems are disrupted or cease to operate effectively;
- comparable sales, including direct-to-consumer, may continue to fluctuate on a regular basis and impact the volatility of the price of our Common Stock;
- extreme weather conditions may negatively impact our results of operations;
- our market share may be negatively impacted by increasing competition and pricing pressures from companies with brands or merchandise competitive with ours;
- our ability to attract customers to our stores depends, in part, on the success of the shopping malls or area attractions in which most of our stores are located;
- our net sales fluctuate on a seasonal basis, causing our results of operations to be susceptible to changes in Back-to-School and Holiday shopping patterns;
- our failure to protect our reputation could have a material adverse effect on our brands;
 - we rely on the experience and skills of our senior executive officers, the loss of whom could have a material adverse effect on our business;
- interruption in the flow of merchandise from our key vendors and international manufacturers could disrupt our supply chain, which could result in lost sales and increased costs;
-

in a number of our European stores, associates are represented by workers' councils and unions, whose demands could adversely affect our profitability or operating standards for our brands;

• we depend upon independent third parties for the manufacture and delivery of all our merchandise;

• our reliance on two distribution centers domestically and four third-party distribution centers internationally makes us susceptible to disruptions or adverse conditions affecting our distribution centers;

we rely on third-party vendors as well as other third-party arrangements for many aspects of our business and the failure to successfully manage these relationships could negatively impact our results of operations or expose us to liability for the actions of third-party vendors acting on our behalf;

• we may be exposed to risks and costs associated with credit card fraud and identity theft that would cause us to incur unexpected expenses and loss of revenues;

our facilities, systems and stores, as well as the facilities and systems of our vendors and manufacturers, are

• vulnerable to natural disasters, pandemic disease and other unexpected events, any of which could result in an interruption to our business and adversely affect our operating results;

• our litigation exposure could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations;

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- our inability or failure to adequately protect our trademarks could have a negative impact on our brand image and limit our ability to penetrate new markets;
- actions of activist stockholders could have a negative effect on our business;
- fluctuations in our tax obligations and effective tax rate may result in volatility in our operating results;
- the effects of war or acts of terrorism could have a material adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition;
- our inability to obtain commercial insurance at acceptable prices or our failure to adequately reserve for self-insured exposures might increase our expenses and adversely impact our financial results;
- operating results and cash flows at the store level may cause us to incur impairment charges;
- we are subject to customs, advertising, consumer protection, privacy, zoning and occupancy and labor and employment laws that could require us to modify our current business practices, incur increased costs or harm our reputation if we do not comply;
- changes in the regulatory or compliance landscape could adversely affect our business and results of operations;
- our Asset-Based Revolving Credit Facility and our Term Loan Facility include financial and other covenants that impose restrictions on our financial and business operations;
- compliance with changing regulations and standards for accounting, corporate governance and public disclosure could adversely affect our business, results of operations and reported financial results;
- our inability to successfully implement our long-range strategic plan could have a negative impact on our growth and profitability;
- our estimates of the expenses that we may incur in connection with the closures of the Gilly Hicks stores could prove to be inaccurate;
- we are currently involved in a search for a new chief executive officer and if this search is delayed or if we were to lose the services of other key personnel, our business could be negatively impacted; and
- our inability to transition to a brand-based organizational model in a timely fashion could have a negative impact on our business.

Future economic and industry trends that could potentially impact revenue and profitability are difficult to predict. Therefore, there can be no assurance that the forward-looking statements included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q will prove to be accurate. In light of the significant uncertainties in the forward-looking statements included herein, the inclusion of such information should not be regarded as a representation by the Company, or any other person, that the objectives of the Company will be achieved. The forward-looking statements included herein are based on information presently available to the management of the Company. Except as may be required by applicable law, the Company assumes no obligation to publicly update or revise its forward-looking statements even if experience or future changes make it clear that any projected results expressed or implied therein will not be realized.

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ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Investment Securities

The Company maintains its cash equivalents in financial instruments, primarily money market funds and United States treasury bills, with original maturities of three months or less.

The irrevocable rabbi trust (the "Rabbi Trust") is intended to be used as a source of funds to match respective funding obligations to participants in the Abercrombie & Fitch Co. Nonqualified Savings and Supplemental Retirement Plan I, the Abercrombie & Fitch Co. Nonqualified Savings and Supplemental Retirement Plan II and the Chief Executive Officer Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan. The Rabbi Trust assets are consolidated and recorded at fair value, with the exception of the trust-owned life insurance policies which are recorded at cash surrender value. The Rabbi Trust assets are included in Other Assets on the Consolidated Balance Sheets and are restricted as to their use as noted above. The change in cash surrender value of the trust-owned life insurance policies held in the Rabbi Trust resulted in realized gains of \$0.8 million for each of the thirteen week periods ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013 and realized gains of \$2.4 million and \$2.5 million for the thirty-nine week periods ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013, respectively.

Interest Rate Risks

On August 7, 2014, the Company entered into new credit agreements and all amounts outstanding under the Company's previously existing term loan facility and revolving credit facility were repaid in full. The Company has approximately \$300 million in gross borrowings outstanding under its new term loan facility (the "Term Loan Facility") and no borrowings outstanding under its new senior secured revolving credit facility (the "ABL Facility" and, together with the Term Loan Facility, the "2014 Credit Facilities"). The 2014 Credit Facilities carry interest rates that are tied to LIBOR or an alternate base rate plus a margin. The interest rate on the Term Loan Facility has a 100 basis point LIBOR floor, and assuming no changes in the Company's financial structure as it stands, an increase in market interest rates of 100 basis points would not have a material effect on annual interest expense. This hypothetical analysis for the fifty-two week period ending January 31, 2015 may differ from the actual change in interest expense due to various conditions which may result in changes in interest rates under the Company's Credit Facilities.

Foreign Exchange Rate Risk

A&F's international subsidiaries generally operate with functional currencies other than the U.S. Dollar. The Company's Consolidated Financial Statements are presented in U.S. Dollars. Therefore, the Company must translate revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities from functional currencies into U.S. Dollars at exchange rates in effect during or at the end of the reporting period. The fluctuation in the value of the U.S. Dollar against other currencies affects the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities. The potential impact of currency fluctuation increases as international expansion increases.

A&F and its subsidiaries have exposure to changes in currency exchange rates associated with foreign currency transactions and forecasted foreign currency transactions, including the sale of inventory between subsidiaries and foreign denominated assets and liabilities. Such transactions are denominated primarily in U.S. Dollars, Australian Dollars, British Pounds, Canadian Dollars, Chinese Yuan, Danish Kroner, Euros, Hong Kong Dollars, Japanese Yen, Polish Zloty, South Korean Won, Singapore Dollars, Swedish Kroner, Swiss Francs and UAE Dirham. The Company has established a program that primarily utilizes foreign currency forward contracts to partially offset the risks associated with the effects of certain foreign currency transactions and forecasted transactions. Under this program, increases or decreases in foreign currency exposures are partially offset by gains or losses on forward contracts, to

mitigate the impact of foreign currency gains or losses. The Company does not use forward contracts to engage in currency speculation. All outstanding foreign currency forward contracts are recorded at fair value at the end of each fiscal period.

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ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

A&F maintains disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”)) that are designed to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in the reports that A&F files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to A&F’s management, including the Chief Executive Officer of A&F (the principal executive officer) and the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of A&F (the principal financial officer), as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures. Because of inherent limitations, disclosure controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance that the objectives of disclosure controls and procedures are met.

A&F’s management, including the Interim Principal Executive Officer of A&F and the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of A&F, evaluated the effectiveness of A&F’s design and operation of its disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the fiscal quarter ended November 1, 2014. Based upon that evaluation, the Interim Principal Executive Officer of A&F and the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of A&F concluded that A&F’s disclosure controls and procedures were effective at a reasonable level of assurance as of November 1, 2014, the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in A&F’s internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) that occurred during A&F’s fiscal quarter ended November 1, 2014 that materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, A&F’s internal control over financial reporting.

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PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Company is a defendant in lawsuits and other adversary proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. Legal costs incurred in connection with the resolution of claims and lawsuits are generally expensed as incurred, and the Company establishes reserves for the outcome of litigation where it deems appropriate to do so under applicable accounting rules. The Company's assessment of the current exposure could change in the event of the discovery of additional facts with respect to legal matters pending against the Company or determinations by judges, juries, administrative agencies or other finders of fact that are not in accordance with the Company's evaluation of claims. Actual liabilities may exceed the amounts reserved, and there can be no assurance that final resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. The Company has established accruals for certain matters where losses are deemed probable and reasonably estimable. There are other claims and legal proceedings pending against the Company for which accruals have not been established.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

There have been no material changes to the risk factors previously disclosed in Part I, "ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS" of A&F's Annual Report on Form 10-K for Fiscal 2013 filed on March 31, 2014, except for the following:

We rely on the experience and skills of our senior executive officers, the loss of whom could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Our senior executive officers closely supervise all aspects of our business - in particular, the design of our merchandise and the operation of our stores. Our senior executive officers have substantial experience and expertise in the retail business and have made significant contributions to the growth and success of our brands. If we were to lose the benefit of their involvement - in particular the services of any one or more of certain members of the Office of the Chairman, including Jonathan E. Ramsden, Chief Operating Officer and Interim Principal Executive Officer; Christos E. Angelides, Brand President of Abercrombie & Fitch; Fran Horowitz, Brand President of Hollister - without adequate succession plans, our business could be adversely affected. In addition, our new leadership positions for our major brands will play an important role in enhancing brand engagement and profitability. Competition for such senior executive officers is intense, and we cannot be sure we will be able to attract, retain and develop a sufficient number of qualified senior executive officers in future periods.

We are currently involved in a search for a new chief executive officer and if this search is delayed or if we were to lose the services of other key personnel, our business could be negatively impacted.

On December 8, 2014, Michael S. Jeffries resigned from the positions of chief executive officer and director of the Company. Our board of directors appointed Arthur C. Martinez to serve as Executive Chairman of the Company, created an Office of the Chairman, and initiated a search to identify a new chief executive officer. The search for a new chief executive officer may be disruptive to our operations and create uncertainty about our business and future direction. To the extent there is a delay in choosing a new chief executive officer, our business could be negatively impacted. In addition, our future success depends in part upon the continued service of key members of our senior management team.

Our inability to transition to a brand-based organizational model in a timely fashion could have a negative impact on our business.

As part of our transition to a brand-based organizational model, the Company hired Christos E. Angelides as the Brand President of Abercrombie & Fitch and abercrombie kids and Fran Horowitz as the Brand President of Hollister. The successful transition to a brand-based organizational model is dependent on the speed, efficiency and effectiveness of this transition. In addition, it may take some time for our Brand Presidents to become fully integrated into our business. Any delay in a successful transition to a brand-based organizational model and integration of our Brand Presidents may have a negative impact on our business.

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ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

There were no sales of equity securities during the third quarter of Fiscal 2014 that were not registered under the Securities Act of 1933.

The following table provides information regarding the purchase of shares of Common Stock of A&F made by or on behalf of A&F or any "affiliated purchaser" as defined in Rule 10b-18(a)(3) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, during each fiscal month of the thirteen-week period ended November 1, 2014:

| Period (Fiscal Month) | Total Number of Shares Purchased ⁽¹⁾ | Average Price Paid per Share ⁽²⁾ | Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs ⁽³⁾ | Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased under the Plans or Programs ⁽⁴⁾ |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| August 3, 2014 through August 30, 2014 | 3,540 | \$41.44 | — | 11,003,194 |
| August 31, 2014 through October 4, 2014 | 1,157,089 | \$39.13 | 1,155,805 | 9,847,389 |
| October 5, 2014 through November 1, 2014 | 883,288 | \$33.76 | 883,213 | 8,964,176 |
| Total | 2,043,917 | \$36.81 | 2,039,018 | 8,964,176 |

4,889 of the shares of A&F's Common Stock purchased during the thirteen-week period ended November 1,

(1) 2014 represented shares which were withheld for tax payments due upon the vesting of employee restricted stock unit and restricted share awards.

(2) The average price paid per share includes broker commissions, as applicable.

The reported shares were repurchased pursuant to A&F's publicly announced stock repurchase authorizations. On May 15, 2012, A&F's Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of an aggregate of 10.0 million shares of A&F's Common Stock, which authorization was announced on May 16, 2012. On August 14, 2012, A&F's Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of an additional 10.0 million shares of A&F's Common Stock, which was announced on August 15, 2012. As of the end of the first fiscal month of the thirteen week period ended November 1, 2014, A&F had repurchased all of the shares of Common Stock authorized under the May 15, 2012 stock purchase authorization.

(3)

The number shown represents, as of the end of each period, the maximum number of shares of Common Stock that may yet be purchased under A&F's publicly announced stock repurchase authorizations described in footnote 3 above. The shares may be purchased, from time to time, depending on market conditions.

(4)

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

As announced on December 9, 2014, effective December 8, 2014, Michael S. Jeffries retired from his positions as Chief Executive Officer and a director of the Company. The Company does not currently have a Chief Executive Officer. Jonathan E. Ramsden, the Company's Chief Operating Officer and a member of the Office of the Chairman, will sign reports and statements of the Company, including without limitation, the certifications required to be filed/furnished as exhibits to Forms 10-K and 10-Q, under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as the Interim Principal Executive Officer. Biographical and other information concerning Mr. Ramsden is set forth in the

Company's most recent definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A, filed with the SEC on May 13, 2014, and in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 1, 2014, filed with the SEC on March 31, 2014, and such information is incorporated herein by reference. Mr. Ramsden will not receive any additional compensation as a result of this designation.

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ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

Exhibit No. Document

- 10.1 Employment Offer, accepted June 10, 2014, between Christos E. Angelides and Abercrombie & Fitch Co., incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K of Abercrombie & Fitch Co., dated and filed June 10, 2014 (File No. 001-12107).
- 10.2 Credit Agreement, dated as of August 7, 2014 (the “2014 ABL Credit Agreement”), among Abercrombie & Fitch Management Co., as lead borrower for the borrowers and guarantors named therein; Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as administrative agent, collateral agent, a letter of credit issuer and swing line lender; PNC Bank, National Association, as syndication agent and a letter of credit issuer; JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as documentation agent and a letter of credit issuer; Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, PNC Capital Markets LLC and J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, as joint lead arrangers and joint bookrunners; and the other lenders party thereto, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Abercrombie & Fitch Co. for the quarterly period ended August 2, 2014 (File No. 001-12107).†
- 10.3 Term Loan Credit Agreement, dated as of August 7, 2014 (the “2014 Term Loan Credit Agreement”), among Abercrombie & Fitch Management Co., as borrower; Abercrombie & Fitch Co. and certain of its wholly-owned subsidiaries, as guarantors; Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent; PNC Bank, National Association and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as syndication agents; Goldman Sachs Lending Partners, as documentation agent; Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, PNC Capital Markets LLC, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC and Goldman Sachs Lending Partners, as joint lead arrangers and joint book-runners; and the other lenders party thereto, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Abercrombie & Fitch Co. for the quarterly period ended August 2, 2014 (File No. 001-12107).†
- 10.4 Guaranty, dated as of August 7, 2014, made by Abercrombie & Fitch Co., as guarantor, and certain of its wholly-owned subsidiaries, each as a guarantor, in favor of Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent for its own benefit and the benefit of the other Credit Parties (as defined in the 2014 ABL Credit Agreement), and the Credit Parties, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Abercrombie & Fitch Co. for the quarterly period ended August 2, 2014 (File No. 001-12107).
- 10.5 Term Loan Guaranty, dated as of August 7, 2014, made by Abercrombie & Fitch Co., as guarantor, and certain of its wholly-owned subsidiaries, each as a guarantor, in favor of Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent for its own benefit and for the benefit of the other Credit Parties (as defined in the 2014 Term Loan Credit Agreement), and the Credit Parties, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Abercrombie & Fitch Co. for the quarterly period ended August 2, 2014 (File No. 001-12107).
- 10.6 Security Agreement, dated as of August 7, 2014, made by Abercrombie & Fitch Management Co., as lead borrower for itself and the other Borrowers (as defined in the 2014 ABL Credit Agreement), Abercrombie & Fitch Co. and certain of its wholly-owned subsidiaries, in their respective capacities as a guarantor, and the other borrowers and guarantors from time to time party thereto, in favor of Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent for the Credit Parties (as defined in the 2014 ABL Credit Agreement), incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Abercrombie & Fitch Co. for the quarterly period ended August 2, 2014 (File No. 001-12107).†
- 10.7 Term Loan Security Agreement, dated as of August 7, 2014, made by Abercrombie & Fitch Management Co., as borrower, Abercrombie & Fitch Co. and certain of its wholly-owned subsidiaries, in their respective capacities as a guarantor, and the other guarantors from time to time party thereto, in favor of Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent for the Credit Parties (as defined in the 2014 Term Loan Credit Agreement), incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.8 to

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the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Abercrombie & Fitch Co. for the quarterly period ended August 2, 2014 (File No. 001-12107).†

10.8 Intercreditor Agreement, dated as of August 7, 2014, by and between Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, in its capacity as “ABL Agent,” and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, in its capacity as “Term Agent”, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Abercrombie & Fitch Co. for the quarterly period ended August 2, 2014 (File No. 001-12107).

10.9 Employment Offer, accepted October 9, 2014, between Fran Horowitz and Abercrombie & Fitch Co., incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K of Abercrombie & Fitch Co., filed October 15, 2014 (File No. 001-12107).

10.10 Form of Director and Officer Indemnification Agreement, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K of Abercrombie & Fitch Co., filed October 21, 2014 (File No. 001-12107).

10.11 Retirement Agreement, dated December 8, 2014, between Michael S. Jefferies and Abercrombie & Fitch Co., incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K of Abercrombie & Fitch Co., filed December 9, 2014.

† Certain portions of this exhibit have been omitted based upon a request for confidential treatment filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). The non-public information has been separately filed with the SEC in connection with that request.

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Exhibit No. Document

| | |
|------|--|
| 15 | Letter re: Unaudited Interim Financial Information to Securities and Exchange Commission re: Inclusion of Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm – PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.* |
| 31.1 | Certifications by Chief Operating Officer (Interim Principal Executive Officer) pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or 15d-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.* |
| 31.2 | Certifications by Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or 15d-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.* |
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| 101 | The following materials from Abercrombie & Fitch Co.’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended November 1, 2014, formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language): (i) Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the Thirteen and Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013; (ii) Consolidated Balance Sheets at November 1, 2014 and February 1, 2014; (iii) Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended November 1, 2014 and November 2, 2013; and (iv) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements* |

* Filed herewith.

** Furnished herewith.

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SIGNATURES

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

Date: December 11, 2014

ABERCROMBIE & FITCH CO.

By /s/ Joanne C. Crevoiserat

Joanne C. Crevoiserat

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial Officer and Authorized Officer)

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EXHIBIT INDEX

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