Court File No.: CV-17-11758-00CL

## ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (COMMERCIAL LIST)

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA INC., PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA GP INC. AND THOSE OTHER ENTITIES LISTED ON SCHEDULE "A" HERETO

APPLICATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

#### MOTION RECORD OF THE APPLICANT

Returnable July 28, 2017

July 24, 2017

#### OSLER, HOSKIN & HARCOURT LLP

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#### TO: SERVICE LIST

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# TAB 1

Court File No.: CV-17-011758-00CL

## ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (COMMERCIAL LIST)

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA INC., PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA GP INC. AND THOSE OTHER ENTITIES LISTED ON SCHEDULE "A" HERETO

APPLICATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

#### NOTICE OF MOTION (Motion for Recognition of U.S. Plan) (Returnable July 28, 2017)

Payless Holdings LLC ("Payless"), in its capacity as the foreign representative (the "Foreign Representative") of Payless along with those entities listed in Schedule "A" that filed voluntary petitions for relief pursuant to Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code (collectively, the "Chapter 11 Debtors"), will make a motion to the Ontario Superior Court of Justice (Commercial List) on July 28, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the motion can be heard at Toronto, Ontario. The motion will be heard via CourtCall.

**PROPOSED METHOD OF HEARING:** The motion is to be heard orally via CourtCall.

#### THE MOTION IS FOR:

- 1. An Order substantially in the form attached hereto:
  - (a) Recognizing and enforcing, pursuant to section 49 of the *Companies' Creditors*Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985 c. C. 36, as amended (the "CCAA"), the terms of the Order (the "Confirmation Order") to be entered by the United States

Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri (the "U.S. Court") in the proceedings commenced in the U.S. Court by the Chapter 11 Debtors which, *inter alia*, is to give final confirmation to the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of the Chapter 11 Debtors and its Debtor Affiliates dated July 21, 2017 and the Plan Supplement dated July 10, 2017 (as amended, supplemented and otherwise modified, the "Plan Supplement", and together with the Plan, the "Confirmed Plan") under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code;

- (b) Authorizing and directing the Chapter 11 Debtors to take all steps and actions, and to do all things, necessary or appropriate to enter into or implement the Confirmed Plan in accordance with its terms;
- (c) Ordering that as of the Effective Date, the Confirmed Plan, including (i) the treatment of the Canadian General Unsecured Claims against Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc., Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP (collectively, the "Payless Canada Group") as Reinstated (unless otherwise agreed in accordance with the terms of the Confirmed Plan), which, for greater certainty, includes the reinstatement of any Claims related to the assumption or rejection of an Executory Contract including but not limited to the Cure amount specified in the Plan Supplement and the proviso that all rights and defenses, whether legal, equitable, or otherwise, in respect of any Canadian General Unsecured Claims (including any right of counterclaim or set off) are expressly preserved and (ii) all compromises, arrangements, transfers, transactions, releases, discharges and injunctions provided for in the Confirmed Plan, as applicable, shall inure to the benefit of and be binding and effective upon

the Chapter 11 Debtors, the Canadian creditors of the Chapter 11 Debtors, the creditors of the Payless Canada Group, and all other persons affected thereby, and on their respective heirs, administrators, executors, legal personal representatives, successors and assigns

- (d) Declaring that certain Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases shall remain in full force and effect, and prohibiting any person from accelerating, terminating, rescinding, refusing to perform or otherwise repudiating their obligations under such contracts and leases due, *inter alia*, to any events that occurred on or prior to the Effective Date, the fact that the Chapter 11 Debtors sought or obtained relief under the CCAA or the Chapter 11 Cases, or the implementation of the Confirmed Plan, or the completion of any of the steps, transactions or things contemplated by the Confirmed Plan, including any releases or other matters contained therein;
- (e) Terminating the Stay Period (as defined in the Supplemental Order dated April 12, 2017) and stay of proceedings contained in the Initial Recognition Order dated April 7, 2017 in respect of the Chapter 11 Debtors (collectively with the Stay Period, the "Stay") upon the filing of a certificate of Alvarez & Marsal Canada Inc., in its capacity as court-appointed information officer of the Chapter 11 Debtors (the "Information Officer");
- (f) Authorizing Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc., Payless ShoeSource Canada GP

  Inc. and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP to enter into the New ABL Facility and
  the New First Lien Term Loan Facility and recognizing the provisions of the

- Confirmation Order relating to the New ABL Facility and the New First Lien Term Loan Facility;
- (g) Approving the releases, exculpations and injunctions set forth in the Confirmation

  Order and the Confirmed Plan and giving full force and effect to such releases,
  exculpations and injunctions as provided for in the Confirmed Plan and the
  Confirmation Order;
- (h) Approving the Third Report of the Information Officer (the "**Third Report**") and the activities of the Information Officer described therein; and
- (i) Providing for such further and other relief as counsel may advise and this Honourable Court may permit.

#### THE GROUNDS FOR THE MOTION ARE:

#### The Chapter 11 Proceedings and the Canadian Proceedings

- 1. Capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined have the meaning given to them in the Affidavit of Michael Schwindle, to be sworn;
- 2. On April 4, 2017, each of the Chapter 11 Debtors filed petitions pursuant to chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code (the "Chapter 11 Cases") with the U.S. Court;
- 3. On April 7, 2017, this Court granted an initial order (the "**Initial Recognition Order**") which, among other things, recognized the Chapter 11 Cases as "foreign main proceedings" pursuant to Part IV of the CCAA;
- 4. On April 12, 2017, this Court granted a supplemental order (the "**Supplemental Order**") which, among other things, recognized certain First Day Orders made by the U.S. Court;

- 5. On May 16, 2017, the U.S. Court granted the Claims Bar Date Order, which, among other things, set bar dates for filing proofs of claim and approved the form and manner of notice with respect to the bar dates (the "Claims Bar Date Order");
- 6. On June 21, 2017, this Court granted a recognition order (the "**Recognition Order**") order which, among other things, recognized certain of the Final Orders (as defined in the Recognition Order) made by the U.S. Court in the Foreign Main Proceedings;
- 7. On June 23, 2017, the Chapter 11 Debtors filed with the U.S. Court (i) the Fourth Amended Joint Plan Of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor affiliates pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (together with all exhibits and any other modifications, amendments, or supplements thereto, the "Plan") and (ii) the Disclosure Statement for the Fourth Amended Joint Plan Of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor affiliates pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Disclosure Statement");
- 8. On June 23, 2017, the U.S. Court issued an order which, among other things, approved the adequacy of the Disclosure Statement and fixed dates and deadlines related to confirmation of the Plan [Docket No. 1261] (the "**Disclosure Statement Order**");
- 9. The Plan Confirmation Hearing before the U.S. Court is scheduled for July 24, 2017;
- 10. Provided that the Plan Confirmation Order is granted and the U.S. Court finds as a fact that the Chapter 11 Debtors have been acting in good faith and that the Plan is fair, equitable and reasonable, the Foreign Representative requests that this Honourable Court recognize the Confirmation Order and give it full effect in Canada;

- 11. Recognition of the Confirmation Order is appropriate because:
  - (a) This Court recognized the Chapter 11 Cases as "foreign main proceedings" and Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc., Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP are Chapter 11 Debtors that are subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Court;
  - (b) the Confirmed Plan is in the best interests of Payless Canada Group and preserves unaffected and reinstates the Canadian General Unsecured Claims and all the Chapter 11 Debtors' defences in respect of such Canadian General Unsecured Claims;
  - (c) The recognition by this Court of the Confirmation Order is a condition precedent to the New ABL Facility and the New First Lien Term Loan Facility and the advances to be made in respect thereof;
  - (d) The funding provided by the New ABL Facility and the New First Lien Term Loan Facility is critical to the implementation of the Confirmed Plan, including the payments to be made thereunder, and to a going concern outcome for the Chapter 11 Debtors;
  - (e) The Confirmed Plan has been extensively negotiated, is fair, equitable and reasonable, and in the best interests of the Chapter 11 Debtors (including the Payless Canada Group) and the holders of claims and interests in respect of the Chapter 11 Debtors; and

- (f) The Plan Recognition Order is necessary for the protection of the Chapter 11

  Debtors' property and interests, including the property and interests of Payless

  Canada Group, and the interests of creditors of the Chapter 11 Debtors, including the creditors of the Payless Canada Group;
- 12. Following the Effective Date, the stay of proceedings in effect in the U.S. shall be terminated, so it is appropriate that the Stay be terminated as well;
- 13. The Foreign Representative intends to bring a motion following the Effective Date to seek to have these CCAA Recognition Proceedings terminated and to address any remaining matters, including the funds held in escrow by the Information Officer.

#### Other Grounds

- 14. The CCAA, including Part IV and section 49 and 50 thereof; and
- 15. Such further and other grounds as counsel may advise and this Honourable Court may permit.

### **THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE** will be used at the hearing of the motion:

- (a) the Affidavit of Michael Shakra sworn July 21, 2017 and the exhibits referred to therein;
- (b) the Affidavit of Michael Schwindle, to be sworn, and the exhibits referred to therein;
- (c) the Third Report, to be filed;

- (d) the CourtCall Appearance Service Copy; and
- (e) such further and other materials as counsel may advise and this Honourable Court may permit.

July 24, 2017

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#### TO: THE ATTACHED SERVICE LIST

Court File No.: CV-17-11758-00CL

## ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (COMMERCIAL LIST)

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA INC., PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA GP INC. AND THOSE OTHER ENTITIES LISTED ON SCHEDULE "A" HERETO

APPLICATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

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#### **SCHEDULE "A"**

#### **ADDITIONAL CHAPTER 11 DEBTORS**

Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC

WBG PSS Holdings LLC

Payless Inc.

Payless Finance, Inc.

Collective Brands Services, Inc.

PSS Delaware Company 4, Inc.

Shoe Sourcing, Inc

Payless ShoeSource, Inc

Eastborough, Inc.

Payless Purchasing Services, Inc.

Payless ShoeSource Merchandising, Inc.

Payless Gold Value CO, Inc.

Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc.

Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc.

Payless NYC, Inc.

Payless ShoeSource of Puerto Rico, Inc.

Payless Collective GP, LLC

Collective Licensing, LP

Collective Licensing International LLC

Clinch, LLC

Collective Brands Franchising Services, LLC

Payless International Franchising, LLC

Collective Brands Logistics, Limited

Dynamic Assets Limited

PSS Canada, Inc.

Court File No: CV-17-11758-00CL

IN THE MATTER OF the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, as amended

AND IN THE MATTER OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA INC., PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA GP INC. AND THOSE OTHER ENTITIES LISTED ON SCHEDULE "A" HERETO

Applicant APPLICATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 AS **AMENDED** 

# Ontario SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE COMMERCIAL LIST

Proceeding commenced at Toronto

# NOTICE OF MOTION

(Motion for Recognition of U.S. Plan

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Lawyers for the Applicant

# TAB 2

Court File No.: CV-17-011758-00CL

## ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (COMMERCIAL LIST)

THE HONOURABLE	1	FRIDAY, THE 28TH
	,	DAY OF JULY, 2017
R.S.J. MORAWETZ	)	,
	)	
	)	

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, PAYLESS SHOESHOURCE CANADA INC, PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA GP INC AND THE OTHER ENTITIES LISTED ON SCHEDULE "A" HERETO

APPLICATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

#### PLAN RECOGNITION ORDER

THIS MOTION, made by Payless Holdings LLC in its capacity as the foreign representative (the "Foreign Representative") of Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc., Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP (collectively, the "Payless Canada Group") together with the other entities listed in Schedule "A" hereto (collectively. the "Chapter 11 Debtor" and each, a "Chapter 11 Debtor"), pursuant to the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, as amended (the "CCAA") for an Order recognizing and approving an order entered by the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri (the "U.S. Bankruptcy Court"), which, among other things, confirms the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code dated July 21, 2017 (the "Plan") was heard this day at Toronto, Ontario.

Draft

ON READING the Notice of Motion dated July 24, 2017, the Affidavit of Michael Schwindle sworn •, 2017, the Affidavit of Michael Shakra sworn July 24, 2017 and the Third Report of the Alvarez & Marsal Canada Inc. in its capacity as Information Officer (the "Information Officer") dated •, 2017 (the "Third Report").

AND UPON HEARING the submissions of counsel for the Foreign Representative, counsel for the Information Officer and those other parties present, no one else appearing although duly served as appears from the affidavit of service of • dated •, 2017:

#### **SERVICE**

1. THIS COURT ORDERS that the time for service of the Notice of Motion and the Motion Record is hereby abridged and validated so that this Motion is properly returnable today and hereby dispenses with further service thereof.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

2. THIS COURT ORDERS that any capitalized terms not otherwise defined in this Order shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Confirmed Plan or Confirmation Order (each as defined below)

#### RECOGNITION OF CONFIRMATION ORDER

3. THIS COURT ORDERS AND DECLARES that the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order Confirming the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code dated • (the "Confirmation Order") of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court confirming the Plan and the Plan Supplement dated July 10, 2017 (as amended, supplemented and otherwise modified, the "Plan Supplement", and together with the Plan, the "Confirmed Plan") and as attached as Schedule "B" hereto, is hereby recognized and given full force and effect in all provinces and territories of Canada pursuant to section 49(1) of the CCAA, and shall be implemented and become effective in all provinces and territories of Canada upon the issuance of this Order in accordance with and subject to the terms of the Confirmed Plan, the Confirmation Order and this Order.

#### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONFIRMED PLAN

4. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Foreign Representative and the Chapter 11 Debtors, including Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc., Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP, are authorized and directed to take all steps and actions, and to do all things, necessary or appropriate to enter into or implement the Confirmed Plan in accordance with its terms, and enter into, implement and consummate all of the steps, transfers, transactions and agreements contemplated pursuant to the Confirmed Plan.

- 3 -

- 5. THIS COURT ORDERS that as of the Effective Date, the Confirmed Plan, including (i) the treatment of the Canadian General Unsecured Claims against Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc., Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP as Reinstated (unless otherwise agreed in accordance with the terms of the Confirmed Plan), which, for greater certainty, includes the reinstatement of any Claims related to the assumption or rejection of an Executory Contract including but not limited to the Cure amount specified in the Plan Supplement and the proviso that all rights and defenses, whether legal, equitable, or otherwise, in respect of any Canadian General Unsecured Claims (including any right of counterclaim or set off) are expressly preserved and (ii) all compromises, arrangements, transfers, transactions, releases, discharges and injunctions provided for in the Confirmed Plan, as applicable, shall inure to the benefit of and be binding and effective upon the Chapter 11 Debtors, the Canadian creditors of the Chapter 11 Debtors, the creditors of the Payless Canada Group, and all other persons affected thereby, and on their respective heirs, administrators, executors, legal personal representatives, successors and assigns.
- 6. THIS COURT ORDERS that, subject to the terms of the Confirmed Plan, and effective on the Effective Date, all Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases where any member of the Payless Canada Group is a counterparty that is not expressly listed on Exhibit E, Rejected Executory Contract and Unexpired Leases, to the Plan Supplement shall be and remain in full force and effect, unamended, as at the Effective Date, and be enforceable by the Payless Canada Group, as applicable, in accordance with their terms notwithstanding any provision in such Executory Contract that purports to prohibit, restrict, or condition such assumption and no person shall, following the Effective Date, accelerate, terminate, rescind,

refuse to perform or otherwise repudiate their obligations under, or enforce or exercise any right (including any right of set-off, dilution or other remedy) or make any demand under or in respect of any such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, by reason of:

- (a) any event that occurred on or prior to the Effective Date that would have entitled any person thereto to enforce those rights or remedies (including defaults or events of default arising as a result of the insolvency of the Chapter 11 Debtors);
- (b) the fact that the Chapter 11 Debtors have: (i) sought or obtained relief under the CCAA or the Chapter 11 Cases, or (ii) commenced or completed this proceeding or the Chapter 11 Cases;
- (c) the implementation of the Confirmed Plan, or the completion of any of the steps, transactions or things contemplated by the Confirmed Plan; or
- (d) any compromises, arrangements, transactions, releases or discharges effected pursuant to the Confirmed Plan.

#### STAY OF PROCEEDINGS

- 7. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Stay Period (as defined in the Supplemental Order dated April 12, 2017) and stay of proceedings contained in the Initial Recognition Order dated April 7, 2017 in respect of the Chapter 11 Debtors shall terminate immediately upon filing by the Information Officer of a certificate (the "Information Officer's Certificate") substantially in the form attached hereto as Schedule "C".
- 8. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Information Officer may rely on written notice from the Foreign Representative or its counsel that the Effective Date has occurred in accordance with the terms of the Confirmed Plan, and shall incur no liability with respect to the delivery of the Information Officer's Certificate.

#### **EXIT FINANCING**

9. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc., Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP are authorized to enter into

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the New ABL Facility and the New First Lien Term Loan Facility and the provisions of the Confirmation Order relating to the New ABL Facility and the New First Lien Term Loan Facility are hereby recognized and given full force and effect.

#### **RELEASES AND INJUNCTIONS**

10. THIS COURT ORDERS AND DECLARES that the compromises, arrangements, releases, discharges and injunctions contained and referenced in the Confirmation Order and the Confirmed Plan, are valid and that, effective on the Effective Date, all such releases, discharges and injunctions are hereby sanctioned, approved, recognized and given full force and effect in all provinces and territories of Canada in accordance with and subject to the terms of the Confirmation Order and the Confirmed Plan.

#### INFORMATION OFFICER

11. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Third Report and the activities of the Information Officer described therein, be and are hereby approved.

#### AID AND ASSISTANCE

- 12. THIS COURT HEREBY REQUESTS the aid and recognition of any court, tribunal, regulatory or administrative body having jurisdiction in Canada or in the United States, to give effect to this Order and to assist the Chapter 11 Debtors, the Foreign Representative, the Information Officer, and their respective agents in carrying out the terms of this Order. All courts, tribunals, regulatory and administrative bodies are hereby respectfully requested to make such orders and to provide such assistance to the Chapter 11 Debtors, the Foreign Representative and the Information Officer, the latter as an officer of this Court, as may be necessary or desirable to give effect to this Order, or to assist the Chapter 11 Debtors, the Foreign Representative, the Information Officer, and their respective agents in carrying out the terms of this Order.
- 13. THIS COURT ORDERS that each of the Chapter 11 Debtors, the Foreign Representative and the Information Officer be at liberty and is hereby authorized and empowered to apply to any court, tribunal, regulatory or administrative body, wherever

located, for the recognition of this Order and for assistance in carrying out the terms of this Order.

#### **SCHEDULE A**

#### **ADDITIONAL CHAPTER 11 DEBTORS**

Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC

WBG PSS Holdings LLC

Payless Inc.

Payless Finance, Inc.

Collective Brands Services, Inc.

PSS Delaware Company 4, Inc.

Shoe Sourcing, Inc

Payless ShoeSource, Inc

Eastborough, Inc.

Payless Purchasing Services, Inc.

Payless ShoeSource Merchandising, Inc.

Payless Gold Value CO, Inc.

Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc.

Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc.

Payless NYC, Inc.

Payless ShoeSource of Puerto Rico, Inc.

Payless Collective GP, LLC

Collective Licensing, LP

Collective Licensing International LLC

Clinch, LLC

Collective Brands Franchising Services, LLC

Payless International Franchising, LLC

Collective Brands Logistics, Limited

**Dynamic Assets Limited** 

PSS Canada, Inc.

#### **SCHEDULE B**

#### PLAN CONFIRMATION ORDER

#### **SCHEDULE C**

#### INFORMATION OFFICER'S CERTIFICATE

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, PAYLESS SHOESHOURCE CANADA INC, PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA GP INC AND THE OTHER ENTITIES LISTED ON SCHEDULE "A" HERETO

APPLICATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

#### INFORMATION OFFICER'S CERTIFICATE

Pursuant to an Order of the Court dated ●, 2017 (the "Plan Recognition Order"), the Court recognized and gave full force and effect to the Plan Confirmation Order and the Confirmed Plan and ordered that upon the filing by the Information Officer of a certificate stating that the Effective Date has occurred, the Stay Period (as defined in the Supplemental Order dated April 12, 2017) and stay of proceedings contained in the Initial Recognition Order dated April 7, 2017 in respect of the Chapter 11 Debtors (collectively with the Stay Period, the "Stay") shall terminate immediately.

Pursuant to the Plan Recognition Order, the Information Order may rely on written notice from the Foreign Representative or its counsel that the Effective Date has occurred in accordance with the terms of the Confirmed Plan, and shall incur no liability with respect to the delivery of this Information Officer's Certificate.

Unless otherwise defined herein, capitalized terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Confirmed Plan.

#### THE INFORMATION OFFICER HEREBY CERTIFIES as follows:

- (a) The Information Officer has been provided with written notice from the Foreign Representative or its counsel that the Effective Date has occurred in accordance with the terms of the Confirmed Plan;
- (b) The Effective Date has occurred; and
- (c) Upon filing of this Information Officer's certificate, the Stay shall be terminated.

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	7	_
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DATED at the City of Toronto, in the P [2017.]	rovince of Ontario, this day of,
	Alvarez & Marsal Canada Inc. in its capacity as Information Officer of Payless Holdings LLC, <i>et al.</i> and not in its personal or corporate capacity
	Ву:
	Name:
	Title:

# Draft

Court File No: CV-17-011758-00CL AND IN THE MATTER OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA INC., PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA GP INC. AND THOSE OTHER ENTITIES LISTED ON SCHEDULE "A" HERETO IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, C. C-36, AS AMENDED

APPLICATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 AS AMENDED

**Applicant** 

# SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE COMMERCIAL LIST Ontario

Proceeding commenced at Toronto

# RECOGNITION ORDER

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Lawyers for the Applicant

# **TAB 3**

Court File No.: CV-17-11758-00CL

### ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (COMMERCIAL LIST)

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA INC., PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA GP INC. AND THOSE OTHER ENTITIES LISTED ON SCHEDULE "A" HERETO

APPLICATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

#### AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL SHAKRA

(Sworn July 24, 2017)

I, Michael Shakra, of the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, MAKE OATH AND SAY:

- 1. I am an associate with Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP ("Osler"). Osler is Canadian counsel to Payless Holdings LLC ("Payless Holdings" or the "Foreign Representative"), which is the ultimate parent company of 28 affiliated debtors and debtors in possession, including Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc., Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc., and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP (the "Payless Canada Group"), that have filed voluntary petitions for relief pursuant to Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code (collectively with Payless Holdings, the "Chapter 11 Debtors"). As such, I have personal knowledge of the matters to which I hereinafter depose in this Affidavit. Where I do not possess personal knowledge, I have stated the source of my information and, in all such cases, believe it to be true.
- 2. I swear this Affidavit in support of a motion by Payless Holdings in its capacity as foreign representative of itself as well as the other Chapter 11 Debtors for an Order (i) recognizing and

enforcing the terms of the Order Confirming the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Confirmation Order") that the Chapter 11 Debtors are seeking from the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri (the "U.S. Court") in the proceedings commenced in the U.S. Court by the Chapter 11 Debtors. The Confirmation Order provides for final confirmation of the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Fifth Amended Plan") and related relief.

- 3. In support of the motion and Order sought by Payless Holdings, the following materials filed in the U.S. Court are appended to my affidavit:
  - (a) the Fifth Amended Plan (appended hereto as Exhibit "A");
  - (b) the Disclosure Statement for the Fourth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Disclosure Statement") (appended hereto as Exhibit "B");
  - (c) the Debtors' Brief in Support of Confirmation of the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "**Debtors' Brief**") (appended hereto as Exhibit "**C**"); and
  - (d) Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order Confirming the Fifth Amended

    Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates

Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "U.S. Confirmation Order") (appended hereto as Exhibit "D").

- 4. I understand that the Disclosure Statement for the Fourth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates is the disclosure statement that was used to solicit votes on the Fourth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Fourth Amended Plan"). The Fourth Amended Plan is substantially similar to the Fifth Amended Plan other than a small number of technical amendments and no further voting is required to approved the Fifth Amended Plan. A disclosure statement in respect of the Fifth Amended Plan was not prepared.
- 5. Assuming the Confirmation Order is granted, the Foreign Representative will be seeking recognition of the Confirmation Order by the Canadian court.

**SWORN BEFORE ME** at the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, on July 24, 2017.

Commissioner for taking affidavits, etc.

Pahrok Rrester

Michael S. Shakra

# TAB A

#### Fifth Amended Plan

THIS IS EXHIBIT "A" REFERRED TO IN THE AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL SHAKRA, SWORN BEFORE ME THIS 24th DAY OF JULY, 2017.

A Commissioner for taking Affidavits, etc.

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

	)
In re:	) Case No. 17-42267-659
	) CHAPTER 11
PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, et al.,1	)
	) Jointly Administered
	)
Debtors.	)
	)
Debtors.	) ) )

#### FIFTH AMENDED JOINT PLAN OF REORGANIZATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC AND ITS DEBTOR AFFILIATES PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 11 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

Nicole L. Greenblatt, P.C. (admitted pro hac vice)

Cristine F. Pirro (admitted pro hac vice)

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-and-

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Co-Counsel to the Debtors and Debtors in Possession

The Debtors (as defined herein) in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Payless Holdings LLC [5704]; Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC [5190]; WBG-PSS Holdings LLC [0673]; Payless Inc. [3160]; Payless Finance, Inc. [2101]; Collective Brands Services, Inc. [7266]; PSS Delaware Company 4, Inc. [1466]; Shoe Sourcing, Inc. [4075]; Payless ShoeSource, Inc. [4097]; Eastborough, Inc. [2803]; Payless Purchasing Services, Inc. [3043]; Payless ShoeSource Merchandising, Inc. [0946]; Payless Gold Value CO, Inc. [3581]; Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc. [0944]; Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. [6884]; Payless NYC, Inc. [4126]; Payless ShoeSource of Puerto Rico, Inc. [9017]; Payless Collective GP, LLC [2940]; Collective Licensing, LP [1256]; Collective Licensing International LLC [5451]; Clinch, LLC [9836]; Collective Brands Franchising Services, LLC [3636]; Payless International Franchising, LLC [6448]; Collective Brands Logistics, Limited [6466]; Dynamic Assets Limited [1978]; PSS Canada, Inc. [4969]; Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc. [4180]; Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. [4182]; and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP [4179]. The location of Debtor Payless Holdings LLC's corporate headquarters and the Debtors' service address is: c/o Payless ShoeSource Inc. 3231 SE 6th Avenue Topeka, KS 66607 United States.

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### PROPOSED JOINT CHAPTER 11 PLAN OF REORGANIZATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC AND ITS DEBTOR AFFILIATES

Payless Holdings LLC and 28 of its debtor affiliates as debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>")<sup>2</sup> propose the following joint plan of reorganization for the resolution of the outstanding claims against, and equity interests in, the Debtors. These Chapter 11 Cases have been consolidated for procedural purposes only and are being jointly administered pursuant to an order of the Bankruptcy Court.

Reference is made to the Disclosure Statement, filed contemporaneously with the Plan, for a discussion of the Debtors' history, businesses, results of operations, historical financial information, projections, and contemplated future operations, as well as a summary and analysis of the Plan and certain related matters, including distributions to be made under the Plan. Each of the Debtors is a proponent of the Plan contained herein within the meaning of section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### ARTICLE I.

## RULES OF INTERPRETATION, COMPUTATION OF TIME, GOVERNING LAW, AND DEFINED TERMS

#### A. Rules of Interpretation, Computation of Time, and Governing Law

For purposes herein: (a) in the appropriate context, each term, whether stated in the singular or the plural, shall include both the singular and the plural, and pronouns stated in the masculine, feminine, or neuter gender shall include the masculine, feminine and the neuter gender; (b) any reference herein to a contract, lease, instrument, release, indenture, or other agreement or document being in a particular form or on particular terms and conditions means that the referenced document shall be substantially in that form or substantially on those terms and conditions; (c) any reference herein to an existing document or exhibit having been filed or to be filed shall mean that document or exhibit, as it may thereafter be amended, modified, or supplemented in accordance with the terms of such document or exhibit and subject to the Restructuring Support Agreement; (d) unless otherwise specified, all references herein to "Articles" are references to Articles hereof or hereto; (e) unless otherwise stated, the words "herein," "hereof," and "hereto" refer to the Plan in its entirety rather than to a particular

The Debtors (as defined herein) in these Chapter 11 Cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Payless Holdings LLC [5704]; Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC [N/A]; WBG-PSS Holdings LLC [N/A]; Payless Inc. [3160]; Payless Finance, Inc. [2101]; Collective Brands Services, Inc. [7266]; PSS Delaware Company 4, Inc. [1466]; Shoe Sourcing, Inc. [4075]; Payless ShoeSource, Inc. [4097]; Eastborough, Inc. [2803]; Payless Purchasing Services, Inc. [3043]; Payless ShoeSource Merchandising, Inc. [0946]; Payless Gold Value CO, Inc. [3581]; Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc. [0944]; Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. [6884]; Payless NYC, Inc. [4126]; Payless ShoeSource of Puerto Rico, Inc. [9017]; Payless Collective GP, LLC [N/A]; Collective Licensing, LP [1256]; Collective Licensing International LLC [5451]; Clinch, LLC [9836]; Collective Brands Franchising Services, LLC [3636]; Payless International Franchising, LLC [6448]; Collective Brands Logistics, Limited [6466]; Dynamic Assets Limited [1978]; PSS Canada, Inc. [4969]; Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc. [4180]; Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. [4182]; and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP [4179]. The location of Debtor Payless Holdings LLC's corporate headquarters and the Debtors' service address is: c/o Payless ShoeSource Inc., 3231 SE 6th Avenue, Topeka, KS 66607, United States.

portion of the Plan; (f) captions and headings to Articles are inserted for convenience of reference only and are not intended to be a part of or to affect the interpretation hereof; (g) the rules of construction set forth in section 102 of the Bankruptcy Code shall apply; and (h) any term used in capitalized form herein that is not otherwise defined herein but that is used in the Bankruptcy Code or the Bankruptcy Rules shall have the meaning assigned to that term in the Bankruptcy Code or the Bankruptcy Rules, as the case may be.

The provisions of Bankruptcy Rule 9006(a) shall apply in computing any period of time prescribed or allowed herein.

#### B. Defined Terms

The following terms shall have the following meanings when used in capitalized form herein:

- 1. "<u>ABL DIP Agents</u>" means Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Administrative Agent, and TPG Specialty Lending, Inc. as Tranche A-1 Agent under the ABL DIP Facility.
- 2. "<u>ABL DIP Claims</u>" means any claims arising from the Debtors' ABL DIP Facility, including all Obligations (as defined therein), interest due and owing as of the Effective Date, and, to the extent not otherwise paid in full, all fees, expenses, and other costs.
- 3. "ABL DIP Credit Agreement" means that certain debtor-in-possession credit agreement, dated as of April 5, 2017 (as may be amended, restated, supplemented, or otherwise modified from time to time), by and among (a) certain of the Debtors, (b) Wells Fargo Bank, National Association as Collateral Agent, Administrative Agent, and Swing Line Lender (c) TPG Specialty Lending, Inc. as Tranche A-1 Agent, (d) Bank of America N.A. as Syndication Agent, (e) Wells Fargo Bank, National Association and Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated as Joint Lead Arrangers and Joint Bookrunners, and (f) the other ABL DIP Lenders.
- 4. "<u>ABL DIP Facility</u>" means that certain \$305 million postpetition debtor-inpossession financing facility, comprised of a senior secured superpriority revolving credit facility pursuant to the terms and conditions of the ABL DIP Credit Agreement.
  - 5. "ABL DIP Lenders" means those lenders party to the ABL DIP Credit Agreement.
- 6. "Accrued Professional Compensation" means, at any given time, all accrued, contingent, and/or unpaid fees and expenses (including success fees) for legal, financial advisory, accounting, and other services and reimbursement of expenses that are awardable and allowable under sections 328, 330, 331, or 363 of the Bankruptcy Code or otherwise rendered allowable before the Effective Date by any Retained Professional in the Chapter 11 Cases, (a) all to the extent that any such fees and expenses have not been previously paid (regardless of whether a fee application has been filed for any such amount) and (b) after applying any retainer that has been provided to such Retained Professional. To the extent that the Bankruptcy Court or any higher court of competent jurisdiction denies or reduces by a Final Order any amount of a Retained Professional's fees or expenses, then those reduced or denied amounts shall no longer

constitute Accrued Professional Compensation. For the avoidance of doubt, Accrued Professional Compensation includes unbilled fees and expenses incurred on account of services provided by Retained Professionals that have not yet been submitted for payment, except to the extent that such fees and expenses are either denied or reduced by a Final Order by the Bankruptcy Court or any higher court of competent jurisdiction.

- 7. "Administrative Claim" means a Claim for costs and expenses of administration of the Debtors' Estates pursuant to sections 503(b), 507(a)(2), 507(b), or 1114(e)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code other than a Professional Fee Claim, including: (a) the actual and necessary costs and expenses incurred after the Petition Date and through the Effective Date of preserving the Estates and operating the businesses of the Debtors; and (b) all Allowed requests for compensation or expense reimbursement for making a substantial contribution in the Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to sections 503(b)(3), (4), and (5) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 8. "<u>Administrative Claims Bar Date</u>" means the first Business Day that is 30 days following the Effective Date, except as specifically set forth in the Plan or a Final Order.
  - 9. "Affiliate" has the meaning set forth at section 101(2) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 10. "Allowed" means, with respect to Claims: (a) any Claim, proof of which is timely filed by the applicable Claims Bar Date or which, pursuant to the Bankruptcy Code or a Final Order is not required to be filed; (b) any Claim that is listed in the Schedules as of the Effective Date as neither contingent, unliquidated, nor disputed, and for which no Proof of Claim has been timely filed; or (c) any Claim Allowed pursuant to the Plan; provided, however, that with respect to any Claim described in clause (a) above, such Claim shall be considered Allowed only if and to the extent that with respect to any Claim no objection to the allowance thereof has been interposed within the applicable period of time fixed by the Plan, the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, or the Bankruptcy Court or such an objection is so interposed and the Claim shall have been Allowed for distribution purposes only by a Final Order. Any Claim that has been or is hereafter listed in the Schedules as contingent, unliquidated, or disputed, and for which no Proof of Claim has been timely filed, is not considered Allowed and shall be expunged without further action by the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors and without any further notice to or action, order or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.
- 11. "Avoidance Actions" means any and all claims and causes of action which any of the Debtors, the debtors in possession, the Estates, or other appropriate party in interest has asserted or may assert under sections 502, 510, 542, 544, 545, or 547 through 553 of the Bankruptcy Code or under similar or related state or federal statutes and common law, including fraudulent transfer laws.
- 12. "<u>Backstop Lenders</u>" means those certain Prepetition First Lien Lenders who executed the Restructuring Support Agreement and, pursuant to the terms thereof, shall backstop the Term DIP Commitments, as defined therein.
- 13. "Ballots" means the ballots accompanying the Disclosure Statement upon which certain Holders of Impaired Claims entitled to vote shall, among other things, indicate their

acceptance or rejection of the Plan in accordance with the Plan and the procedures governing the solicitation process, and which must be actually received on or before the Voting Deadline.

- 14. "<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>" means title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101–1532, as now in effect or hereafter amended.
- 15. "<u>Bankruptcy Court</u>" means the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri.
- 16. "<u>Bankruptcy Rules</u>" means the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure as promulgated by the United States Supreme Court under section 2075 of title 28 of the United States Code, 28 U.S.C. § 2075, as applicable to the Chapter 11 Cases, and the general, local and chambers rules of the Bankruptcy Court.
- 17. "Business Day" means any day, other than a Saturday, Sunday or "legal holiday" (as defined in Bankruptcy Rule 9006(a)).
- 18. "<u>Canadian Debtors</u>" means, collectively, Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc., Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc., and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP.
- 19. "<u>Canadian General Unsecured Claim</u>" means an unsecured, non-priority claim at any of the Canadian Debtors.
- 20. "Cash" means the legal tender of the United States of America or the equivalent thereof.
- 21. "<u>Cash Incentive Program</u>" means that certain cash incentive program for employees, the terms of which are set forth in the term sheet attached as Exhibit H to the Disclosure Statement and the form agreement of which will be set forth in the Plan Supplement.
- 22. "Causes of Action" means any action, claim, cause of action, controversy, demand, right, action, lien, indemnity, guaranty, suit, obligation, liability, damage, judgment, account, defense, offset, power, privilege, license, and franchise of any kind or character whatsoever, whether known, unknown, contingent or non-contingent, matured or unmatured, suspected or unsuspected, liquidated or unliquidated, disputed or undisputed, secured or unsecured, assertable directly or derivatively, whether arising before, on, or after the Petition Date, in contract or in tort, in law or in equity, or pursuant to any other theory of law. For the avoidance of doubt, "Causes of Action" includes: (a) any right of setoff, counterclaim, or recoupment and any claim for breach of contract or for breach of duties imposed by law or in equity; (b) the right to object to Claims or Interests; (c) any Claim pursuant to section 362 or chapter 5 of the Bankruptcy Code; (d) any claim or defense including fraud, mistake, duress, and usury, and any other defenses set forth in section 558 of the Bankruptcy Code; and (e) any state or foreign law fraudulent transfer or similar claim.
- 23. "Chapter 11 Cases" means (a) when used with reference to a particular Debtor, the chapter 11 case pending for that Debtor under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the

Bankruptcy Court and (b) when used with reference to all Debtors, the procedurally consolidated chapter 11 cases pending for the Debtors in the Bankruptcy Court.

- 24. "<u>Claim</u>" means any claim against a Debtor as defined in section 101(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 25. "Claims Bar Date" means, as applicable, (a) 11:59 p.m. prevailing Central Time on June 19, 2017, (b) the Governmental Bar Date, or (c) such other period of limitation as may be specifically fixed by an order of the Bankruptcy Court for filing such Claims, pursuant to the Claims Bar Date Order or such other order entered by the Bankruptcy Court.
- 26. "Claims Bar Date Order" means that certain *Order Establishing Bar Dates for Filing Proofs of Claim and Approving Form and Manner of Notice Thereof* entered by the Bankruptcy Court on May 16, 2017 [Docket No. 767], as may be amended from time to time.
- 27. "Claims Objection Bar Date" means, for each Claim, the later of (a) 180 days after the Effective Date and (b) such other period of limitation as may be specifically fixed by an order of the Bankruptcy Court for objecting to such Claims, as the same may be modified or extended from time to time by the Bankruptcy Court or on motion of a party in interest approved by the Bankruptcy Court.
- 28. "<u>Claims Register</u>" means the official register of Claims maintained by the Clerk of the Court for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri.
- 29. "<u>Class</u>" means a category of Holders of Claims or Interests as set forth in Article III of the Plan pursuant to section 1122(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 30. "Commission" or "SEC" means the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.
- 31. "Compensation and Benefits Programs" means all employment and severance policies, and all compensation and benefit plans, policies, and programs and other arrangements (and all amendments and modifications thereto), in each case in place as of the Effective Date, applicable to the Debtors' employees, former employees, retirees, and non-employee directors and employees, former employees, and retirees of their subsidiaries, including, without limitation, all savings plans, retirement plans, health care plans, disability plans, severance benefit plans, incentive plans, and life, accidental death, and dismemberment insurance plans.
- 32. "<u>Confirmation</u>" means the entry of the Confirmation Order on the docket of the Chapter 11 Cases, subject to all conditions specified in Article VIII.A of the Plan having been: (a) satisfied; or (b) waived pursuant to Article VIII.C of the Plan.
- 33. "<u>Confirmation Date</u>" means the date upon which the Bankruptcy Court enters the Confirmation Order on the docket of the Chapter 11 Cases, within the meaning of Bankruptcy Rules 5003 and 9021.

- 34. "<u>Confirmation Hearing</u>" means the hearing held by the Bankruptcy Court on Confirmation of the Plan pursuant to section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code, as such hearing may be continued from time to time.
- 35. "<u>Confirmation Order</u>" means the order confirming the Plan pursuant to section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 36. "<u>Consenting Lenders</u>" has the meaning ascribed to such term in the Restructuring Support Agreement.
  - 37. "Consummation" means the occurrence of the Effective Date.
- 38. "<u>Creditors' Committee</u>" means the official committee of unsecured creditors of the Debtors appointed by the Office of the United States Trustee for the Eastern District of Missouri in the Chapter 11 Cases on April 14, 2017, pursuant to section 1102 of the Bankruptcy Code, comprising the Creditors' Committee Members, as may be reconstituted from time to time.
- 39. "<u>Creditors' Committee Members</u>" means the members of the Creditors' Committee, as may be reconstituted from time to time, in each case, solely in their respective capacities as such, namely: (a) Moda Shoe, Ltd.; (b) GGP Limited Partnership; (c) Qingdao Doublestar Mingren Imp. And Exp. Co.; (d) C and C Accord, LTD.; (e) Simon Property Group, Inc.; (f) The Asean Corporation, Ltd.; and (g) Brixmor Property Group, Inc.
- 40. "<u>Cure</u>" means the payment of Cash by the applicable Debtors, or the distribution of other property (as the applicable Debtors and the counterparty to the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease may agree or the Bankruptcy Court may order), as necessary to (a) cure a monetary default by the Debtors in accordance with the terms of an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease of the Debtors and (b) permit the Debtors to assume such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease under sections 365 and 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 41. "<u>Cure Claim</u>" means a monetary Claim based upon the Debtors' defaults under any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease at the time such contract or lease is assumed by the Debtors pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 42. "<u>Cure Notice</u>" means a notice of a proposed amount of a Cure Claim in connection with an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease to be assumed under the Plan pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code, which notice shall include (a) procedures for objecting to proposed assumptions of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases, (b) Cure Claims to be paid in connection therewith, and (c) procedures for resolution by the Bankruptcy Court of any related disputes.
- 43. "<u>Debtor</u>" means one of the Debtors, in its individual capacity as a debtor in these Chapter 11 Cases.
- 44. "<u>Debtors in Possession</u>" means, collectively, the Debtors, as debtors in possession in these Chapter 11 Cases.

- 45. "Definitive Documents" means all documents (including any related orders, agreements, instruments, schedules, or exhibits) that are contemplated by the Plan and that are otherwise necessary or desirable to implement, effectuate, or otherwise relate to the restructuring contemplated by the Plan, and which shall be in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, including, without limitation: (a) the Plan, (b) the Plan Supplement, (c) the Disclosure Statement, (d) the motion seeking approval of the Disclosure Statement and the Disclosure Statement Order, (e) the Confirmation Order, (f) any documentation relating to the use of cash collateral and the DIP Facilities, including orders of the Bankruptcy Court related thereto, (g) the New Credit Facilities Documents, (h) the New Organizational Documents, and (i) the Shareholders Agreement.
- 46. "<u>Definitive Document Restructuring Support Agreement Requirements</u>" means that the Definitive Documents shall (a) contain terms and conditions consistent in all material respects with the Restructuring Support Agreement, the Restructuring Term Sheet, and the DIP Documents and (b) shall otherwise be reasonably satisfactory in all respects to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, including with respect to any modifications, amendments, deletions, or supplements to such Definitive Documents.
  - 47. "DIP Agents" means the ABL DIP Agents and the Term DIP Agent, collectively.
- 48. "<u>DIP Documents</u>" means, collectively, the ABL DIP Credit Agreement, the Term DIP Credit Agreement, and any documents related thereto.
- 49. "<u>DIP Facilities</u>" means, collectively, the ABL DIP Facility and the Term DIP Facility.
- 50. "<u>DIP Facility Claims</u>" means, collectively, any ABL DIP Claims or Term DIP Facility Claims.
- 51. "<u>DIP Lenders</u>" means the banks, financial institutions, and other lenders under the DIP Facilities.
- 52. "Disclosure Statement" means the Disclosure Statement for the Fourth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, as amended, supplemented, or modified from time to time, including all exhibits and schedules thereto and references therein that relate to the Plan, that is prepared and distributed in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules, and any other applicable law.
- 53. "<u>Disclosure Statement Order</u>" means the order of the Bankruptcy Court approving the Disclosure Statement.
  - 54. "<u>Disputed</u>" means, with respect to any Claim, any Claim that is not yet Allowed.
- 55. "<u>Distribution Agent</u>" means any Entity or Entities chosen by the Debtors, which Entities may include, without limitation, the Noticing and Claims Agent, to make or to facilitate distributions required by the Plan.

- 56. "<u>Distribution Record Date</u>" means the date for determining which Holders of Claims are eligible to receive distributions hereunder and shall be the Voting Deadline or such other date as designated in an order of the Bankruptcy Court.
- 57. "<u>D&O Liability Insurance Policies</u>" means all insurance policies for current and former director and officer liability maintained by the Debtors as of the date of the Restructuring Support Agreement.
- 58. "<u>Effective Date</u>" means the day that is the first Business Day after the Confirmation Date on which: (a) no stay of the Confirmation Order is in effect; and (b) all conditions specified in Article VIII.B of the Plan have been: (i) satisfied; or (ii) waived pursuant to Article VIII.C of the Plan.
  - 59. "Entity" has the meaning set forth in section 101(15) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 60. "Equity Interest" means the common stock, preferred stock, limited liability company interests, and any other equity, ownership, or profits interest of any Debtor and options, warrants, rights, or other securities or agreements to acquire the common stock, preferred stock, limited liability company interests, or other equity, ownership, or profits interests of any Debtor (whether or not arising under or in connection with any employment agreement), including any claim against the Debtors subject to subordination pursuant to section 510(b) of the Bankruptcy Code arising from or related to any of the foregoing; *provided*, *however*, that Equity Interest does not include any Intercompany Interest.
- 61. "<u>Estate</u>" means, as to each Debtor, the estate created for the Debtor in its Chapter 11 Case pursuant to section 541 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 62. "<u>Exculpated Parties</u>" means, collectively, the Reorganized Debtors and the Released Parties.
- 63. "Exculpation" means the exculpation provision set forth in Article IX.G of the Plan.
- 64. "Executory Contract" means a contract to which one or more of the Debtors is a party that is subject to assumption or rejection under sections 365 or 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code.
  - 65. "Existing Equity Interests" means the Equity Interests in Payless Holdings LLC.
- 66. "<u>Exit Commitment Fee</u>" means New Equity of a value equal to 2.5% of the amount of the Allowed Term DIP Facility Claims as of the Effective Date.
- 67. "Federal Judgment Rate" means the federal judgment rate in effect as of the Petition Date, compounded annually.
- 68. "Final DIP Order" means that certain Final Order (I) Authorizing the Debtors to Obtain Postpetition Financing, (II) Authorizing the Debtors to Use Cash Collateral, (III) Granting Liens and Providing Superpriority Administrative Expense Status, (IV) Granting

Adequate Protection to the Prepetition Lenders, (V) Modifying the Automatic Stay, and (VI) Granting Related Relief, entered by the Bankruptcy Court on May 17, 2017 [Docket No. 778], as may be amended from time to time in accordance with the terms thereof and the DIP Documents.

- 69. "Final Order" means an order or judgment of the Bankruptcy Court, or other court of competent jurisdiction with respect to the subject matter, as entered on the docket in any Chapter 11 Case or the docket of any court of competent jurisdiction, that has not been reversed, stayed, modified, or amended, and as to which the time to appeal, or seek certiorari or move for a new trial, reargument, or rehearing has expired and no appeal or petition for certiorari or other proceedings for a new trial, reargument, or rehearing been timely taken, or as to which any appeal that has been taken or any petition for certiorari that has been timely filed has been withdrawn or resolved by the highest court to which the order or judgment was appealed or from which certiorari was sought or the new trial, reargument, or rehearing shall have been denied, resulted in no modification of such order or has otherwise been dismissed with prejudice; provided, however, that the possibility that a motion under Rule 60 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, or any analogous rule under the Bankruptcy Rules, may be filed relating to such order shall not cause such order to not be a Final Order.
- 70. "General Unsecured Claims" means any other Claims against any Debtor that are not otherwise paid in full during the Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to an order of the Bankruptcy Court and are not: (a) an Administrative Claim; (b) a Priority Tax Claim; (c) an ABL DIP Claim; (d) a Term DIP Facility Claim; (e) an Other Priority Claim; (f) an Other Secured Claim; (g) a Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim; (h) a Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim; (i) an Intercompany Claim; or (j) a Section 510(b) Claim; provided, however, that, for the avoidance of doubt, Prepetition First Lien Deficiency Claims and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall not constitute General Unsecured Claims at any applicable Debtor.
- 71. "Governmental Bar Date" means 11:59 p.m. prevailing Central Time on October 2, 2017, or such other period of limitation as may be specifically fixed by an order of the Bankruptcy Court.
- 72. "Governmental Unit" shall have the meaning set forth in section 101(27) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 73. "<u>Holder</u>" means an Entity holding a Claim against or an Interest in any of the Debtors.
- 74. "<u>Impaired</u>" means any impaired Claim or Interest in an Impaired Class within the meaning of section 1124 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 75. "<u>Impaired Class</u>" means an impaired Class within the meaning of section 1124 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 76. "Indemnification Obligation" means a Debtor's obligation under an Executory Contract assumed in the Chapter 11 Cases or otherwise to indemnify directors, officers,

employees, or agents of such Debtor who served in such capacity at any time, with respect to or based upon any act or omission taken or omitted in any of such capacities, or for or on behalf of any Debtor, pursuant to and to the maximum extent provided by such Debtor's respective certificate of incorporations, certificates of formation, bylaws, similar corporate documents, and applicable law, as in effect as of the Effective Date.

- 77. "<u>Initial Distribution Date</u>" means the date that is as soon as practicable after the Effective Date, but no later than thirty (30) days after the Effective Date, when distributions under the Plan shall commence.
- 78. "<u>Insurance Policies</u>" means all insurance policies that have been issued at any time to or that provide coverage to any of the Debtors (excluding any D&O Liability Insurance Policies) and all agreements, documents, or instruments related thereto.
- 79. "Intercompany Claim" means, collectively, any Claim held by a Debtor against another Debtor or an Affiliate of a Debtor or any Claim held by an Affiliate of a Debtor against a Debtor; *provided*, *however*, that Claims held by any of the LatAm JV Entities on account of the rejection of an agreement by a Debtor pursuant to section 365(g) of the Bankruptcy Code shall not be Intercompany Claims.
- 80. "<u>Intercompany Interest</u>" means an Equity Interest in a Debtor held by another Debtor.
  - 81. "Interest" means, collectively, Equity Interests and Intercompany Interests.
- 82. "Interim Compensation Order" means that certain Order (I) Pursuant to Section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 2016(a), and Local Rules 2016-1 and 2016-2, Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Retained Professionals and (II) Granting Related Relief, entered by the Bankruptcy Court on May 17, 2017 [Docket No. 784], as may be amended from time to time, including by an order entered by the Bankruptcy Court approving the retention of a specific Retained Professional.
- 83. "LatAm JV Partners" means, collectively, (a) PLP, S.A., (b) South America Local Partners, S.A., (c) Pataya Inc., (d) Bluestone Financial, Inc., and (e) Patagonia Capital Limited, and with respect to each of the foregoing entities in clauses (a) through (e), such entities' predecessors, successors, and assigns, wholly-owned subsidiaries, managed accounts, or funds, current or former officers, directors, principals, shareholders, members, partners, employees, agents, advisory board members, financial advisors, attorneys, accountants, investment bankers, consultants, representatives, management companies, fund advisors, and other professionals, and such entities' respective heirs, executors, estates, servants, and nominees, in each case, solely in their capacity as such.
- 84. "<u>LatAm JV Entities</u>" means, collectively, (a) Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd.; (b) Payless ShoeSource Andean Holdings; (c) Payless Colombia (BVI) Holdings, LTD.; (d) Payless ShoeSource Peru Holding/Holdings, S.L.; (e) Payless ShoeSource Honduras S. de R.L.; (f) Payless ShoeSource, Limitada; (g) Payless ShoeSource de Guatemala Ltda, S.A.; (h) Payless ShoeSource de la Republica Dominicana, S.R.L.; (i) Payless ShoeSource of St. Lucia, Ltd; (j)

Payless ShoeSource Overseas S.R.L.; (k) Payless ShoeSource of El Salvador Ltda. De C.V.; (l) Payless ShoeSource (Panama) S.A.; (m) Payless ShoeSource Trinidad Unlimited; (n) Payless ShoeSource Jamaica Limited; (o) Payless ShoeSource (Barbados) SRL; (p) Payless ShoeSource Dominica Ltd.; (q) Payless ShoeSource St. Kitts Ltd.; (r) Payless ShoeSource Uruguay SRL; (s) Payless ShoeSource Ecuador CIA Ltda; (t) Payless Ecuador CIA Ltda.; (u) Payless ShoeSource PSS de Colombia S.A.S.; (v) Payless ShoeSource Peru S.R.L.; (w) Payless ShoeSource PSS de Colombia Ltda; (x) Payless ShoeSource Limitada & Compania Limitada (Nicaragua); (y) Payless ShoeSource of Trinidad Unlimited; (z); Payless ShoeSource (Barbados) SRL Antigua Branch; (aa) Payless ShoeSource (Barbados) SRL Grenada Branch; (bb) Payless ShoeSource (Barbados) SRL St. Lucia Branch; (cc) Payless ShoeSource (Barbados) SRL St. Vincent Branch; (dd) Payless ShoeSource (Barbados) SRL-AG BR; (ee) Payless ShoeSource (Barbados) SRL-GD BR; (ff) Payless ShoeSource (Barbados) SRL-LC BR; (gg) Payless ShoeSource (Barbados) SRL-VC BR; (hh) Payless ShoeSource of El Salvador Ltda.; (ii) Payless ShoeSource of Jamaica c/o of GT.; (jj) Payless ShoeSource de la Republica Dominicana SA; (kk) Payless ShoeSource de Guatemala Limitada; and (ll) Payless ShoeSource Ltda. (Costa Rica), and such entities' predecessors, successors, and assigns, wholly-owned subsidiaries, managed accounts, or funds, current or former officers, directors, principals, shareholders, members, partners, employees, agents, advisory board members, financial advisors, attorneys, accountants, investment bankers, consultants, representatives, management companies, fund advisors, and other professionals, and such entities' respective heirs, executors, estates, servants, and nominees, in each case, solely in their capacity as such.

- 85. "<u>Letters of Credit</u>" means the letters of credit referenced in paragraph G(ii) of the Final DIP Order.
- 86. "<u>Local Bankruptcy Rules</u>" means the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure for the Eastern District of Missouri.
- 87. "Management Equity Incentive Plan" means that certain post-Effective Date director and employee compensation program to be approved and implemented by the New Board as set forth in Article IV.R hereof.
- 88. "MSCS Swap Claim" means any Claim arising from or related to that certain ISDA Master Agreement dated as of October 2, 2013, by and between Morgan Stanley Capital Services LLC and Payless Inc., as supplemented by those three certain Confirmations thereunder, dated as of April 4, 2014.
- 89. "New ABL Credit Agreement" means that certain credit agreement related to the New ABL Facility, the form of which shall be included in the Plan Supplement.
- 90. "New ABL Facility" means up to a \$305 million senior secured asset-based revolving credit facility.
- 91. "New ABL Facility Documents" means, in connection with the New ABL Facility, the New ABL Credit Agreement and other loan documents related to or evidencing the loans and obligations thereunder.

- 92. "New Board" means the initial board of directors of Reorganized Holdings, which board of directors shall be selected by the Requisite Consenting Lenders and disclosed in accordance with section 1129(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 93. "New Credit Facilities" means, collectively, the New ABL Facility and the New First Lien Term Loan Facility.
- 94. "New Credit Facilities Documents" means, collectively, the New ABL Facility Documents and the New First Lien Term Loan Facility Documents.
- 95. "New Equity" means the common equity in Reorganized Holdings to be authorized, issued, or reserved on the Effective Date pursuant to the Plan, which shall constitute all of the direct or indirect common equity of Reorganized Holdings.
- 96. "New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche" means the first-out amortizing tranche of the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, which term loan shall (i) be in an amount equal to the outstanding balance of the Term DIP Facility on the Effective Date, (ii) mature 4.5 years after the Effective Date, and (iii) not contain call or prepayment protections.
- 97. "New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche" means a last-out amortizing term loan tranche of the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, which term loan shall (i) be in an amount of \$280 million less the amount of the outstanding balance of the Term DIP Facility on the Effective Date, (ii) mature 5 years after the Effective Date, and (iii) not contain call or prepayment protections.
- 98. "New First Lien Term Loan Credit Agreement" means that certain credit agreement related to the New First Lien Term Loan Facility. The New First Lien Term Loan Credit Agreement will be included in the Plan Supplement.
- 99. "New First Lien Term Loan Facility" means a \$280 million first lien senior secured term loan facility, composed of (i) the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche and (ii) the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche, the material terms of which are set forth in **Exhibit I** to the Disclosure Statement and the forms of which shall be included in the Plan Supplement.
- 100. "New First Lien Term Loan Facility Documents" means, in connection with the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, the New First Lien Term Loan Credit Agreement and other loan documents related to or evidencing the loans and obligations thereunder.
- 101. "New Organizational Documents" means the forms of the certificates or articles of incorporation, bylaws, or such other applicable formation documents of each of the Reorganized Debtors, which forms shall be included in the Plan Supplement.
- 102. "Noticing and Claims Agent" means Prime Clerk LLC, in its capacity as notice and claims agent for the Debtors, pursuant to that certain *Order (I) Authorizing and Approving the Appointment of Prime Clerk LLC as Notice and Claims Agent Nunc Pro Tunc to the Petition Date and (II) Granting Related Relief*, entered by the Bankruptcy Court on April 14, 2017 [Docket No. 237], as may be amended from time to time.

- 103. "Other General Unsecured Claim" means any unsecured, non-priority Claim against one or more of the Debtors (other than a Worldwide General Unsecured Claim or a Canadian General Unsecured Claim); *provided*, *however*, that, for the avoidance of doubt, Prepetition First Lien Deficiency Claims and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall not constitute Other General Unsecured Claims hereunder.
  - 104. "Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool" means \$28,658,000 in Cash.
- 105. "Other Priority Claim" means any Claim accorded priority in right of payment under section 507(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, other than a Priority Tax Claim or Claims entitled to administrative expense priority pursuant to section 503(b)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 106. "Other Secured Claim" means any secured Claim against the Debtors not specifically described in the Plan.
- 107. "<u>Periodic Distribution Date</u>" means the first day of the month immediately following the month in which a Claim becomes Allowed, when distributions shall be made to Holders of any such then-Allowed Claims.
  - 108. "Person" has the meaning set forth in section 101(41) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 109. "Petition Date" means April 4, 2017, the date on which the Debtors commenced the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 110. "Plan" means the Fourth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code dated June 23, 2017, as amended, supplemented, or modified from time to time in accordance with its terms, including, without limitation, by the Plan Supplement, which is incorporated in the Plan by reference, subject to the terms of the Restructuring Support Agreement.
- 111. "Plan Supplement" means the compilation of documents and forms of documents, schedules and exhibits, in each case, in a form reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders and the ABL Lenders, to be filed on the Plan Supplement Filing Date, as amended, modified or supplemented from time to time in accordance with the terms of the Plan and the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code and the Bankruptcy Rules, comprising, without limitation, the following documents: (a) the Shareholders Agreement; (b) the New First Lien Term Loan Credit Agreement; (c) the New ABL Credit Agreement; (d) the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases; (e) the Schedule of Rejected Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases; (f) a list of retained Causes of Action; (g) the New Organizational Documents; and (h) the documents and agreements necessary to implement the Cash Incentive Program.
  - 112. "Plan Supplement Filing Date" means July 10, 2017.
- 113. "<u>Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee</u>" means a committee or other body appointed by the Creditors' Committee that will be established on the Effective Date.

- 114. "<u>Prepetition ABL Credit Agreement</u>" means that certain credit agreement, dated as of October 9, 2012 (as amended, restated, modified, or supplemented from time to time prior to the date of the Restructuring Support Agreement), among certain of the Debtors, the Prepetition ABL Facility Lenders, the Prepetition ABL Facility Agent, and the other parties thereto.
- 115. "<u>Prepetition ABL Facility Agents</u>" means Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, in its capacity as administrative and collateral agent with respect to the Prepetition ABL Credit Agreement, and TPG Specialty Lending, Inc., in its capacity as tranche A-1 agent with respect to the Prepetition ABL Credit Agreement.
- 116. "<u>Prepetition ABL Facility Lenders</u>" means those lenders party to the Prepetition ABL Credit Agreement from time to time.
- 117. "<u>Prepetition Agents</u>" means, collectively, the Prepetition ABL Facility Agents, the Prepetition First Lien Agent, and the Prepetition Second Lien Agent.
- 118. "<u>Prepetition Credit Agreements</u>" means, collectively, the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement, the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement, and the Prepetition ABL Credit Agreement.
- 119. "<u>Prepetition Credit Agreement Claims</u>" means, collectively, the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims and the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims.
- 120. "<u>Prepetition First Lien Agent</u>" means Cortland Products Corp., in its capacity as administrative and collateral agent with respect to the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement (as successor to Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. in such capacity).
- 121. "<u>Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement</u>" means that certain First Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014 (as amended, restated, modified, or supplemented from time to time prior to the date of the Restructuring Support Agreement), among certain of the Debtors, the Prepetition First Lien Lenders, and Cortland Products Corp., in its capacity as administrative agent and collateral agent thereunder.
- 122. "<u>Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims</u>" means all claims arising under or in connection with the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement and any related documents, including any MSCS Swap Claim.
- 123. "<u>Prepetition First Lien Deficiency Claims</u>" means the portion of the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims constituting unsecured Claims under section 506(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 124. "<u>Prepetition First Lien Lenders</u>" means those lenders party to the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement from time to time.
- 125. "<u>Prepetition Lenders</u>" means, collectively, the Prepetition First Lien Lenders and the Prepetition Second Lien Lenders.

- 126. "<u>Prepetition Second Lien Agent</u>" means Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, in its capacity as administrative and collateral agent with respect to the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement (as successor to Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. in such capacity).
- 127. "Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement" means that certain Second Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014 (as amended, restated, modified or supplemented from time to time prior to the date of the Restructuring Support Agreement), among certain of the Debtors, the Prepetition Second Lien Lenders, and Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc., in its capacity as administrative agent and collateral agent thereunder.
- 128. "<u>Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims</u>" means all claims arising under or in connection with the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement and any related documents.
- 129. "<u>Prepetition Second Lien Lenders</u>" means those lenders party to the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement from time to time.
- 130. "<u>Priority Tax Claim</u>" means any Claim of a Governmental Unit of the kind specified in section 507(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 131. "<u>Pro Rata</u>" means the proportion that an Allowed Claim in a particular Class bears to the aggregate amount of Allowed Claims in that Class, or the proportion that Allowed Claims in a particular Class bear to the aggregate amount of Allowed Claims in a particular Class and other Classes entitled to share in the same recovery as such Allowed Claim under the Plan.
- 132. "<u>Professional Fee Claim</u>" means a Claim by a Retained Professional seeking an award by the Bankruptcy Court of compensation for services rendered or reimbursement of expenses incurred through and including the Confirmation Date under sections 330, 331, 363, 503(b)(2), 503(b)(3), 503(b)(4), or 503(b)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 133. "<u>Professional Fee Escrow Account</u>" means an interest-bearing escrow account in an amount equal to the Professional Fee Reserve Amount funded and maintained by the Reorganized Debtors on and after the Effective Date solely for the purpose of paying all Allowed and unpaid fees and expenses of Retained Professionals in the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 134. "<u>Professional Fee Reserve Amount</u>" means the aggregate Accrued Professional Compensation through the Effective Date as estimated by the Retained Professionals in accordance with Article II.C.3 hereof.
- 135. "<u>Proof of Claim</u>" means a proof of claim filed against any of the Debtors in the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 136. "Record Date" means June 14, 2017 for all Claims filed before such date, or, for any Claims filed after such date, the Claims Bar Date.
- 137. "Reinstated" or "Reinstatement" means, with respect to Claims and Interests, the treatment provided for in section 1124 of the Bankruptcy Code.

- 138. "Released Parties" means, collectively, (a) each Debtor and Reorganized Debtor; (b) the Debtors' current and former officers and directors; (c) the Creditors' Committee; (d) the Prepetition Agents; (e) the Prepetition Lenders (and Morgan Stanley Capital Services LLC as Holder of the MSCS Swap Claim); (f) the Prepetition ABL Facility Lenders; (g) the DIP Agents; (h) the DIP Lenders; (i) the Sponsor Entities; (j) the parties to the Restructuring Support Agreement; and (k) with respect to each of the foregoing entities in clauses (a) through (j), such entities' predecessors, successors and assigns, subsidiaries, affiliates, managed accounts or funds, current or former officers, directors, principals, shareholders, members, partners, employees, agents, advisory board members, financial advisors, attorneys, accountants, investment bankers, consultants, representatives, management companies, fund advisors and other professionals, and such entities' respective heirs, executors, estates, servants and nominees, in each case, solely in their capacity as such.
- 139. "Releasing Parties" means, collectively, (a) the Debtors; (b) the Consenting Lenders; (c) the Prepetition Agents; (d) the DIP Lenders; (e) the DIP Agents; (f) the Sponsor Entities; (g) all Holders of Claims and Interests that are deemed unimpaired and presumed to accept the Plan; (h) all Holders of Claims who either (1) vote to accept or (2) receive a Ballot providing them the right to opt out of any applicable releases but abstain from voting on the Plan or otherwise do not elect pursuant to such Ballot to opt out of the Third-Party Release; (i) all Holders of Claims and Interests who are not entitled to vote on the Plan but receive a notice advising them of their ability to opt out of the Third-Party Release but who do not elect to opt out of the Third-Party Release; (j) all Holders of Claims entitled to vote who vote to reject the Plan and do not elect on their Ballot to opt out of the Third-Party Release; (k) all other Holders of Claims and Interests to the maximum extent permitted by law; and (1) with respect to the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, and each of the foregoing Entities in clauses (a) through (k), each such Entity's current and former Affiliates, and each such Entity's and their current and former Affiliates' current and former directors, managers, officers, principals, members, employees, equity holders (regardless of whether such interests are held directly or indirectly), predecessors, successors, assigns, subsidiaries, agents, advisory board members, financial advisors, partners, attorneys, accountants, investment bankers, consultants, representatives, and other professionals; provided, however that any opt out of the Third-Party Release by a Holder of a Claim or Interest shall not affect the releases of the Sponsor Entities or the Prepetition Lenders by such Holder of a Claim or Interest.
- 140. "<u>Reorganized Debtors</u>" means the Debtors, in each case, or any successor thereto, by merger, consolidation or otherwise, on or after the Effective Date.
- 141. "Reorganized Holdings" means Payless Holdings LLC, as reorganized pursuant to and under the Plan, or a new corporation or limited liability company that may be formed to directly or indirectly acquire all of the assets and/or stock of the Debtors, or any successor thereto, by merger, consolidation, or otherwise, on or after the Effective Date.
- 142. "Requisite Consenting Lenders" means, as of the relevant date, Consenting Lenders that collectively hold at least a majority of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims held by all of the Consenting Lenders as of such date and are party to the Restructuring Support Agreement.

- 143. "<u>Restructuring Support Agreement</u>" means that certain restructuring support agreement, dated as of April 4, 2017, among certain of the Debtors and the Consenting Lenders, as amended, supplemented, or otherwise modified from time to time subject to the terms thereof.
- 144. "<u>Restructuring Term Sheet</u>" means the term sheet annexed as <u>Exhibit A</u> to the Restructuring Support Agreement.
- 145. "<u>Retained Professional</u>" means any Entity: (a) employed in these Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to a Final Order in accordance with sections 327 and 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code and to be compensated for services rendered prior to the Effective Date, pursuant to sections 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, or 363 of the Bankruptcy Code; or (b) for which compensation and reimbursement has been allowed by the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to section 503(b)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 146. "Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases" means the schedule, in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders (including any amendments or modifications thereto), if any, of certain Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases to be assumed by the Debtors pursuant to the Plan, as set forth in the Plan Supplement, as amended by the Debtors from time to time prior to the Confirmation Date.
- 147. "Schedule of Rejected Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases" means the schedule, in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders (including any amendments or modification thereto), if any, of certain Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases to be rejected by the Debtors pursuant to the Plan, as set forth in the Plan Supplement, as amended by the Debtors from time to time prior to the Confirmation Date.
- 148. "Schedules" mean, collectively, the schedules of assets and liabilities, schedules of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases, and statements of financial affairs filed by the Debtors on May 10, 2017, pursuant to section 521 of the Bankruptcy Code and in substantial accordance with the Official Bankruptcy Forms, as the same may have been amended, modified or supplemented from time to time.
- 149. "Section 510(b) Claim" means any Claim against the Debtors arising from the rescission of a purchase or sale of a security of the Debtors or an Affiliate of the Debtors, for damages arising from the purchase or sale of such a security or for reimbursement or contribution allowed under section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code on account of such a Claim.
- 150. "Secured" means, when referring to a Claim, a Claim: (a) secured by a lien on property in which the applicable Estate has an interest, which lien is valid, perfected, and enforceable pursuant to applicable law or by reason of a Bankruptcy Court order, or that is subject to setoff pursuant to section 553 of the Bankruptcy Code, to the extent of the value of the creditor's interest in such Estate's interest in such property or to the extent of the amount subject to setoff, as applicable, as determined pursuant to section 506(a) of the Bankruptcy Code; or (b) otherwise Allowed pursuant to the Plan as a Secured Claim.

- 151. "Securities Act" means the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- 152. "Shareholders Agreement" means the stockholders' agreement with respect to the New Equity or the second amended and restated limited liability company agreement of the Company (as applicable), the form of which shall be set forth in the Plan Supplement.
- 153. "Sponsor Payment" means \$5.44 million of the Cash on the balance sheet of Payless Holdings LLC (in which certain of the Sponsor Entities claim a beneficial interest) plus an additional \$15.750 million in Cash (for a total of \$21.190 million) that will be contributed to the Debtors and shall be distributed under the Plan.
- 154. "Sponsors" means, collectively, (a) Golden Gate Capital Inc., (b) Blum Capital Partners, L.P., and (c) funds and entities advised by each such Entity, and each such Entity's current and former Affiliates, who own or owned any equity in the Debtors.
- 155. "Sponsor Entities" means, collectively, (a) the Sponsors, (b) Golden Gate Private Equity, Inc., GGC Administration, L.P., GGC Administration, LLC, Multi-Channel Opportunity Holdings LLC, Angel Island Capital Management, L.L.C., AIC Finance Partnership, L.P., Blum Capital Partners, L.P., Blum Strategic Partners IV, L.P., BCP IV AIV PL, L.P. and BCP V AIV PL, L.P., and (c) any current or former employees, officers, managers, partners, operating executives, and directors of the foregoing Entities.
- 156. "Standing Motion" means the Motion of the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors for Entry of an Order Authorizing the Committee to Prosecute Certain Claims on Behalf of the Bankruptcy Estates, which the Creditors' Committee sought authority to file under seal pursuant to the Motion of the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors for Entry of an Order Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 107(b)(1) Authorizing Committee to File Motion and Exhibit Under Seal [Docket No. 1073].
- 157. "<u>Term DIP Agent</u>" means Cortland Products Corp., in its capacity as administrative agent and collateral agent pursuant to the Term DIP Facility.
- 158. "<u>Term DIP Credit Agreement</u>" means that certain debtor-in-possession term loan and guarantee agreement, dated April 5, 2017, by and among: (a) certain of the Debtors, (b) the Term DIP Agent, and (c) the Term DIP Lenders (as may be amended, restated, supplemented, or otherwise modified from time to time).
- 159. "<u>Term DIP Facility</u>" means that certain postpetition debtor-in-possession financing facility, comprised of an up to \$80 million secured superpriority term loan pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Term DIP Credit Agreement.
- 160. "<u>Term DIP Lenders</u>" means the several lenders from time to time party to the Term DIP Credit Agreement.
- 161. "<u>Term DIP Facility Claims</u>" means any claims arising from the Debtors' Term DIP Facility, including any accrued but unpaid interest and fees due and owing under the DIP

Facilities as of the Effective Date pursuant to the terms of the DIP Documents, the Final DIP Order, and/or any related documents.

- 162. "Third-Party Release" means the releases set forth in Article IX.F.
- 163. "<u>Tranche A-1 Agent</u>" means TPG Specialty Lending, Inc., in its capacity as tranche A-1 agent pursuant to the ABL DIP Facility.
- 164. "<u>Unencumbered Property</u>" means all present and after acquired property of the Debtors, wherever located, not subject to a lien or security interest on the Petition Date.
- 165. "<u>Unexpired Lease</u>" means a lease to which one or more of the Debtors is a party that is subject to assumption or rejection under sections 365 or 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 166. "<u>Unimpaired</u>" means any unimpaired Claim or Interest in an Unimpaired Class within the meaning of section 1124 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 167. "<u>Unimpaired Class</u>" means an unimpaired Class within the meaning of section 1124 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 168. "<u>United States Trustee</u>" means the United States Trustee for the Eastern District of Missouri.
- 169. "<u>Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow</u>" means an escrow account established by the Reorganized Debtors with a third-party escrow agent reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Creditors' Committee to hold funds to be distributed in accordance with the terms of the Plan to Holders of Allowed Claims in Class 5A (Other General Unsecured Claims) and Class 5B (Worldwide General Unsecured Claims).
  - 170. "Voting Classes" means, collectively, Classes 3, 4, 5A, and 5B.
  - 171. "Voting Deadline" means 4:00 p.m. prevailing Central Time on July 18, 2017.
- 172. "Worldwide General Unsecured Claim" means any General Unsecured Claim against Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc.; *provided*, *however*, that for the avoidance of doubt, Prepetition First Lien Lender Deficiency Claims and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall not constitute Worldwide General Unsecured Claims hereunder.
  - 173. "Worldwide GUC Claims Recovery Pool" means \$3,658,000 in Cash.

#### ARTICLE II.

# ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIMS, PRIORITY TAX CLAIMS, ABL DIP CLAIMS, TERM DIP FACILITY CLAIMS, AND UNITED STATES TRUSTEE STATUTORY FEE

In accordance with section 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, Administrative Claims, Priority Tax Claims, ABL DIP Claims, and Term DIP Facility Claims have not been classified and thus are excluded from the Classes of Claims and Equity Interests set forth in Article III.

#### A. Administrative Claims

Except with respect to Administrative Claims that are Professional Fee Claims and ABL DIP Claims, and except to the extent that an Administrative Claim has already been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or a Holder of an Allowed Administrative Claim and the applicable Debtor(s) agree to less favorable treatment, each Holder of an Allowed Administrative Claim shall be paid in full in Cash on the unpaid portion of its Allowed Administrative Claim on the (a) on or as soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date if such Administrative Claim is Allowed as of the Effective Date; (b) on or as soon as reasonably practicable after the date such Administrative Claim is Allowed; and (c) the date such Allowed Administrative Claim becomes due and payable, or as soon thereafter as is reasonably practicable; provided that Allowed Administrative Claims that arise in the ordinary course of the Debtors' businesses shall be paid in the ordinary course of business in accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions of any agreements governing, instruments evidencing, or other documents relating to such transactions. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no request for payment of an Administrative Claim need be filed with respect to an Administrative Claim previously Allowed by Final Order. Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan to the contrary, no Governmental Unit shall be required to file a request for the payment of an expense described in 11 U.S.C. § 503(b)(1)(B) or (C) as a condition of it being allowed as an administrative expense.

#### B. Administrative Claims Bar Date

All requests for payment of an Administrative Claim (other than Prepetition Credit Agreement Claims or Professional Fee Claims) that accrued on or before the Effective Date that were not accrued in the ordinary course of business must be filed with the Bankruptcy Court and served on the Debtors no later than the Administrative Claims Bar Date. Holders of Administrative Claims that are, based on the preceding sentence, required to, but do not, file and serve a request for payment of such Administrative Claims by such date shall be forever barred, estopped, and enjoined from asserting such Administrative Claims against the Debtors or their property and such Administrative Claims shall be deemed discharged as of the Effective Date.

Subject to Article VII.B.2, the Reorganized Debtors, in their sole and absolute discretion, may settle Administrative Claims in the ordinary course of business without further Bankruptcy Court approval. The Debtors may also choose to object to any Administrative Claim no later than 60 days from the Administrative Claims Bar Date, subject to extensions by the Bankruptcy Court, agreement in writing of the parties, or on motion of a party in interest approved by the Bankruptcy Court. Unless the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors (or other party with standing) object to a timely-filed and properly served Administrative Claim, such Administrative Claim will be deemed allowed in the amount requested. In the event that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors object to an Administrative Claim, the parties may confer to try to reach a settlement and, failing that, the Bankruptcy Court will determine whether such Administrative Claim should be allowed and, if so, in what amount.

#### C. Professional Compensation

#### 1. <u>Final Fee Applications</u>

All final requests for Professional Fee Claims shall be filed no later than 30 days after the Effective Date. After notice and a hearing in accordance with the procedures established by the Bankruptcy Code and prior Bankruptcy Court orders, the Allowed amounts of such Professional Fee Claims shall be determined by the Bankruptcy Court.

#### 2. <u>Professional Fee Escrow Account</u>

On the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall establish and fund the Professional Fee Escrow Account with Cash equal to the aggregate Professional Fee Reserve Amount for all Retained Professionals. The Professional Fee Escrow Account shall be maintained in trust solely for the Retained Professionals. Such funds shall not be considered property of the Estates of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors. The amount of Professional Fee Claims owing to the Retained Professionals shall be paid in Cash to such Retained Professionals by the Reorganized Debtors from the Professional Fee Escrow Account as soon as reasonably practicable after such Professional Fee Claims are Allowed by a Final Order. When all such Allowed amounts owing to Retained Professionals have been paid in full, any remaining amount in the Professional Fee Escrow Account shall promptly be paid to the Reorganized Debtors without any further action or order of the Bankruptcy Court.

#### 3. Professional Fee Reserve Amount

To receive payment for unbilled fees and expenses incurred through the Effective Date, the Retained Professionals shall estimate their Accrued Professional Compensation prior to and as of the Effective Date and shall deliver such estimate to the Debtors on or before the Effective Date. If a Retained Professional does not provide such estimate, the Reorganized Debtors may estimate the unbilled fees and expenses of such Retained Professional; *provided* that such estimate shall not be considered an admission or limitation with respect to the fees and expenses of such Retained Professional. The total amount so estimated as of the Effective Date shall comprise the Professional Fee Reserve Amount.

#### 4. Post-Confirmation Date Fees and Expenses

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, from and after the Confirmation Date, each Debtor and Reorganized Debtor (as applicable) shall pay in Cash the reasonable legal fees and expenses incurred by such Debtor or Reorganized Debtor (as applicable) after the Confirmation Date in the ordinary course of business and without any further notice to or action, order or approval of the Bankruptcy Court. The Debtors and Reorganized Debtors (as applicable) shall pay, within ten Business Days after submission of a detailed invoice to the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors (as applicable), such reasonable claims for compensation or reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Retained Professionals of the Debtors and Reorganized Debtors (as applicable). If the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors (as applicable), dispute the reasonableness of any such invoice, the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors (as applicable) or the affected professional may submit such dispute to the Bankruptcy Court for

a determination of the reasonableness of any such invoice, and the disputed portion of such invoice shall not be paid until the dispute is resolved. The undisputed portion of such reasonable fees and expenses shall be paid as provided herein. Upon the Confirmation Date, any requirement that Retained Professionals comply with sections 327 through 331 and 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code in seeking retention or compensation for services rendered after such date shall terminate, and each Debtor or Reorganized Debtor (as applicable) may employ and pay any Retained Professional in the ordinary course of business without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

#### 5. Substantial Contribution Compensation and Expenses

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, any Entity that requests compensation or expense reimbursement for making a substantial contribution in the Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to sections 503(b)(3), (4), and (5) of the Bankruptcy Code must file an application and serve such application on counsel for the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, and as otherwise required by the Bankruptcy Court, the Bankruptcy Code, and the Bankruptcy Rules on or before the Administrative Claims Bar Date.

#### D. Priority Tax Claims

Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Priority Tax Claim agrees to a less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, compromise, settlement, release, and discharge of, and in exchange for, each Allowed Priority Tax Claim, each Holder of such Allowed Priority Tax Claim shall be treated in accordance with the terms set forth in section 1129(a)(9)(C) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### E. ABL DIP Claims

On the Effective Date, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed ABL DIP Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each Allowed ABL DIP Claim, each Holder of an Allowed ABL DIP Claim shall indefeasibly receive payment in full, in Cash.

#### F. Term DIP Facility Claims

On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Term DIP Facility Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each Allowed Term DIP Facility Claim, each such Holder of an Allowed Term DIP Facility Claim shall receive, on a dollar-for-dollar-basis, its Pro Rata share of the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche.

#### G. United States Trustee Statutory Fees

The Debtors shall timely pay all United States Trustee quarterly fees under 28 U.S.C. § 1930(a)(6), plus interest due and payable under 31 U.S.C. § 3717 on all disbursements, including Plan payments and disbursements in and outside the ordinary course of the Debtors'

businesses, until the entry of a Final Order, dismissal of the Chapter 11 Cases, or conversion of the Chapter 11 Cases to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. Following Confirmation, the Debtors shall file with the Bankruptcy Court quarterly reports in a form reasonably acceptable to the U.S. Trustee.

#### ARTICLE III.

#### CLASSIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF CLASSIFIED CLAIMS AND INTERESTS

#### A. Summary

This Plan constitutes a separate chapter 11 plan of reorganization for each Debtor. Except for the Claims addressed in Article II above (or as otherwise set forth herein), all Claims against and Interests in a particular Debtor are placed in Classes for each of the Debtors. In accordance with section 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtors have not classified Administrative Claims, Priority Tax Claims, ABL DIP Claims, and Term DIP Facility Claims as described in Article II.

The categories of Claims and Interests listed below classify Claims and Interests for all purposes, including, without limitation, voting, Confirmation, and distribution pursuant hereto and pursuant to sections 1122 and 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code. The Plan deems a Claim or Interest to be classified in a particular Class only to the extent that the Claim or Interest qualifies within the description of that Class and shall be deemed classified in a different Class to the extent that any remainder of such Claim or Interest qualifies within the description of such different Class. A Claim or an Interest is in a particular Class only to the extent that any such Claim or Interest is Allowed in that Class and has not been paid or otherwise settled prior to the Effective Date.

#### 1. Summary of Classification and Treatment of Classified Claims and Interests

Class	Claim	Status	<b>Voting Rights</b>
1	Other Priority Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
2	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
3	Prepetition First Lien Credit	<b>Impaired</b>	Entitled to Vote
	Agreement Claims		
4	Prepetition Second Lien Credit	<b>Impaired</b>	Entitled to Vote
	Agreement Claims		
5A	Other General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
5B	Worldwide General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
5C	Canadian General Unsecured Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
6	Intercompany Claims	Unimpaired/	Deemed to
		<b>Impaired</b>	Accept/Deemed to
			Reject
7	Existing Equity Interests	Impaired	Deemed to Reject
8	Intercompany Interests	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept

Class	Claim	Status	<b>Voting Rights</b>
9	Section 510(b) Claims	Impaired	Deemed to Reject

B. Classification and Treatment of Claims and Interests

#### 1. Class 1 – Other Priority Claims

- (a) Classification: Class 1 consists of Other Priority Claims against the Debtors.
- (b) Treatment: On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent a Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim has already been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Other Priority Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim shall receive payment in full, in Cash, of the unpaid portion of its Allowed Other Priority Claim.
- (c) Voting: Unimpaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 2. Class 2 – Other Secured Claims

- (a) Classification: Class 2 consists of Other Secured Claims against the Debtors.
- (b) Treatment: On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim has already been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such Holder, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Other Secured Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim shall receive: (i) payment in full, in Cash, of the unpaid portion of its Allowed Other Secured Claim; (ii) delivery of the collateral securing such Allowed Other Secured Claim; or (iii) other treatment, as decided by the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders to their mutual satisfaction, such that the Other Secured Claim shall be rendered unimpaired.
- (c) *Voting*: Unimpaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of an Allowed

Other Secured Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 3. Class 3 – Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims

- (a) Classification: Class 3 consists of Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims against the Debtors.
- (b) Allowance: The Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be allowed in the aggregate amount of \$506.3 million (including \$633,433.66 (plus accrued and unpaid interest and any reasonable, actual, and documented fees) on account of the Allowed MSCS Swap Claim).
- (c) Treatment: On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its Pro Rata share of: (i) the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche; and (ii) 91.0% of the New Equity, subject to dilution from the Management Equity Incentive Plan and the Exit Commitment Fee.
- (d) *Voting*: Impaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 4. <u>Class 4 – Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims</u>

- (a) Classification: Class 4 consists of Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims against the Debtors.
- (b) *Allowance*: The Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be allowed in the aggregate amount of \$145 million.
- (c) Treatment: Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim (including the unsecured deficiency claim of its Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim), each Holder of an Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its Pro Rata share of 9.0% of the New Equity, subject to dilution from the Management Equity Incentive Plan and the Exit Commitment Fee.

(d) *Voting*: Impaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 5. Class 5A – Other General Unsecured Claims

- (a) Classification: Class 5A consists of Other General Unsecured Claims against the Debtors.
- (b) Treatment: Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of an in exchange for its Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim shall receive (i) its Pro Rata share of \$3.658 million of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool, which shall be shared Pro Rata only among Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims and (ii) its Pro Rata share of the remaining \$25 million of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool, which shall be shared Pro Rata only among Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims (based on the amount of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims after reduction by payments received under Article III.B.5(b)(i)) and Holders of Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims (based on the amount of Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims after reduction by payments received under Article III.B.6(b)(i)).
- (c) *Voting*: Impaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 6. Class 5B – Worldwide General Unsecured Claims

- (a) Classification: Class 5B consists of Worldwide General Unsecured Claims against Debtor Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc.
- (b) Treatment: Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall receive (i) its Pro Rata share of the Worldwide GUC Claims Recovery Pool of \$3.658 million, which shall be shared Pro Rata only among Holders of Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims and (ii) its Pro Rata share of the remaining \$25 million of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool, which shall be shared Pro Rata only among Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims (based on the amount of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims after reduction by payments received under Article III.B.5(b)(i)) and Holders of Allowed Worldwide

- General Unsecured Claims (based on the amount of Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims after reduction by payments received under Article III.B.6(b)(i)).
- (c) *Voting*: Impaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 7. Class 5C – Canadian General Unsecured Claims

- (a) Classification: Class 5C consists of Canadian General Unsecured Claims against the Canadian Debtors.
- (b) Treatment: On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent a Holder of a Canadian General Unsecured Claim has already been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or a Holder of a Canadian General Unsecured Claim, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Canadian General Unsecured Claim, each Holder of a Canadian General Unsecured Claim shall have its Claim Reinstated; provided, however, that nothing in this Plan shall affect any of the Debtors' rights and defenses, whether legal, equitable, or otherwise, in respect of such claims and all such rights and defenses of all Debtors (including any right of counterclaims or right of set off) shall continue following the Effective Date.
- (c) Voting: Unimpaired. Each Holder of a Canadian General Unsecured Claim will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of a Canadian General Unsecured Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 8. Class 6 – Intercompany Claims

- (a) Classification: Class 6 consists of all Intercompany Claims.
- (b) *Treatment*: To preserve the Debtors' corporate structure, as of the Effective Date, Intercompany Claims shall be Reinstated, cancelled, or compromised as determined by the Debtors, with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders; *provided* that an Intercompany Claim held by one of the LatAm JV Entities shall not be cancelled or compromised without the consent of the Holder of such Intercompany Claim.
- (c) *Voting*: Impaired or Unimpaired. Each Holder of an Intercompany Claim will be conclusively deemed to have (a) rejected the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan or (b) accepted the Plan pursuant to

section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 9. Class 7 – Existing Equity Interests

- (a) Classification: Class 7 consists of Existing Equity Interests.
- (b) *Treatment*: On the Effective Date, all Existing Equity Interests shall be discharged, cancelled, released, and extinguished.
- (c) Voting: Impaired. Each Holder of an Existing Equity Interest will be conclusively deemed to have rejected the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of an Existing Equity Interest will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 10. Class 8 – Intercompany Interests

- (a) Classification: Class 8 consists of all Intercompany Interests.
- (b) *Treatment*: To preserve the Debtors' corporate structure, on the Effective Date, all Intercompany Interests shall be cancelled or Reinstated, as determined by the Debtors, with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- (c) Voting: Unimpaired. Each Holder of an Intercompany Interest will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 11. Class 9 – Section 510(b) Claims

- (a) Classification: Class 9 consists of Section 510(b) Claims against the Debtors.
- (b) *Treatment*: On the Effective Date, all Section 510(b) Claims shall be cancelled without any distribution.
- (c) Voting: Impaired. Each Holder of a Section 510(b) Claim will be conclusively deemed to have rejected the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of a Section 510(b) Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### C. Special Provision Governing Unimpaired Claims

Subject to Article IV.O, nothing under the Plan shall affect the Debtors' or the Reorganized Debtors' rights in respect of any Unimpaired Claims, including, without limitation, all rights in respect of legal and equitable defenses to or setoffs or recoupments against any such Unimpaired Claims.

#### D. Acceptance or Rejection of the Plan

#### 1. Presumed Acceptance of Plan

Classes 1, 2, 5C and 8, and certain Class 6 Claims are Unimpaired under the Plan, and are, therefore, presumed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### 2. <u>Voting Classes</u>

Each Holder of an Allowed Claim in each of Classes 3, 4, 5A, and 5B shall be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 3. Presumed Rejection of Plan

Class 7 Existing Equity Interests, Class 9 Section 510(b) Claims, and certain Class 6 Claims shall receive no distribution under the Plan on account of their Existing Equity Interests and Claims, and are, therefore, presumed to have rejected the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### 4. Controversy Concerning Impairment

If a controversy arises as to whether any Claims or Interests, or any Class thereof, are Impaired, the Bankruptcy Court shall, after notice and a hearing, determine such controversy on or before the Confirmation Date.

#### E. Confirmation Pursuant to Sections 1129(a)(10) and 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code

Acceptance of the Plan by either Class 3, 4, 5A, or 5B will satisfy section 1129(a)(10) of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors will seek confirmation of the Plan under section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code with respect to any rejecting class of Claims or Equity Interests.

#### F. Elimination of Vacant Classes

Any Class of Claims that is not occupied as of the date of commencement of the Confirmation Hearing by the Holder of an Allowed Claim or a Claim temporarily Allowed under Bankruptcy Rule 3018 (*i.e.*, no Ballots are cast in a Class entitled to vote on the Plan) shall be deemed eliminated from the Plan for purposes of voting to accept or reject the Plan and for purposes of determining acceptances or rejection of the Plan by such Class pursuant to section 1129(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### ARTICLE IV.

#### MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN

## A. General Settlement of All Claims

As discussed further in the Disclosure Statement and as otherwise provided herein, pursuant to section 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019, and in consideration for the classification, distributions, releases, and other benefits provided under the Plan, upon the Effective Date, the provisions of the Plan shall constitute a good-faith compromise and settlement of all Claims, Equity Interests, Causes of Action, and controversies released, settled, compromised, discharged, or otherwise resolved pursuant to the Plan. The Plan shall be deemed a motion to approve the good-faith compromise and settlement of all such Claims, Interests, Causes of Action, and controversies pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019, and the entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval of such compromise and settlement under section 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019, as well as a finding by the Bankruptcy Court that such settlement and compromise is fair, equitable, reasonable, and in the best interests of the Debtors and their Estates. Distributions made to Holders of Allowed Claims in any Class are intended to be final.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Sponsor Payment is made as a settlement, without admitting any wrongdoing of any kind, of any potential claims, including without limitation claims for breach of fiduciary duty arising in connection with the authorization and payment of certain dividends in 2013 and 2014, that could be asserted against the Sponsor Entities, any of their subsidiaries, affiliates, managed accounts or funds, current or former officers and directors, and certain other related parties, the Debtors' current and former officers and directors, the Prepetition Lenders, and all individuals and entities named as defendants in the draft complaint attached as an exhibit to the Standing Motion.

## B. Restructuring Transactions

On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, the Reorganized Debtors may take all actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effect any transaction described in, approved by, contemplated by, or necessary to effectuate the Plan, including: (1) the execution and delivery of appropriate agreements or other documents of merger, consolidation, or reorganization containing terms that are consistent with the terms of the Plan and that satisfy the requirements of applicable law; (2) the execution and delivery of appropriate instruments of transfer, assignment, assumption, or delegation of any property, right, liability, duty, or obligation on terms consistent with the terms of the Plan; (3) the filing of appropriate certificates of incorporation, merger, or consolidation with the appropriate governmental authorities pursuant to applicable law; and (4) all other actions that the Reorganized Debtors determine are necessary or appropriate; *provided*, *however*, that no such restructuring transactions may violate the terms of any Unexpired Lease or Executory Contract assumed by the Debtors.

# C. The New Credit Facilities and Approval of the New Credit Facilities

Confirmation of the Plan shall be deemed to constitute approval of the New Credit Facilities and the New Credit Facilities Documents (including all transactions contemplated thereby and all actions to be taken, undertakings to be made, and obligations to be incurred by the Reorganized Debtors in connection therewith, including the payment of all fees, indemnities, and expenses provided for therein) and, subject to the occurrence of the Effective Date, authorization for the Reorganized Debtors to enter into and perform their obligations under the New Credit Facilities Documents and such other documents as may be reasonably required or appropriate, in each case, in accordance with the New Credit Facilities Documents.

On the Effective Date, the New Credit Facilities Documents shall constitute legal, valid, binding, and authorized obligations of the Reorganized Debtors, enforceable in accordance with their terms. The financial accommodations to be extended pursuant to the New Credit Facilities Documents are being extended, and shall be deemed to have been extended, in good faith, for legitimate business purposes, are reasonable, shall not be subject to avoidance, recharacterization, or subordination (including equitable subordination) for any purposes whatsoever, and shall not constitute preferential transfers, fraudulent conveyances, or other voidable transfers under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable non-bankruptcy law. On the Effective Date, all of the liens and security interests to be granted in accordance with the New Credit Facilities Documents (a) shall be legal, binding, and enforceable liens on, and security interests in, the collateral granted thereunder in accordance with the terms of the New Credit Facilities Documents, (b) shall be deemed automatically attached and perfected on the Effective Date, subject only to such liens and security interests as may be permitted under the New Credit Facilities Documents, and (c) shall not be subject to avoidance, recharacterization, or subordination (including equitable subordination) for any purposes whatsoever and shall not constitute preferential transfers, fraudulent conveyances, or other voidable transfers under the Bankruptcy Code or any applicable non-bankruptcy law. The Reorganized Debtors and the Entities granted such liens and security interests are authorized to make all filings and recordings, and to obtain all governmental approvals and consents necessary to establish, attach, and perfect such liens and security interests under the provisions of the applicable state, provincial, federal, or other law (whether domestic or foreign) that would be applicable in the absence of the Plan and the Confirmation Order (it being understood that perfection shall occur automatically by virtue of the entry of the Confirmation Order, and any such filings, recordings, approvals, and consents shall not be required), and will thereafter cooperate to make all other filings and recordings that otherwise would be necessary under applicable law to give notice of such liens and security interests to third parties. To the extent that any Holder of a Secured Claim that has been satisfied or discharged in full pursuant to the Plan, or any agent for such Holder, has filed or recorded publicly any liens and/or security interests to secure such Holder's Secured Claim, then as soon as practicable on or after the Effective Date, such Holder (or the agent for such Holder) shall take any and all steps requested by the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, or any administrative agent under the New Credit Facilities Documents that are necessary to cancel and/or extinguish such liens and/or security interests.

# D. Corporate Existence

Subject to any restructuring transactions as permitted under Article IV.B, each Debtor shall continue to exist after the Effective Date as a separate corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other form of entity, as the case may be, with all the powers of a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other form of entity, as the case may be, pursuant to the applicable law in the jurisdiction in which each applicable Debtor is incorporated or formed and pursuant to the respective certificate of incorporation and bylaws (or other similar formation and governance documents) in effect prior to the Effective Date, except to the extent such certificate of incorporation or bylaws (or other similar formation and governance documents) are amended by or in connection with the Plan or otherwise, and, to the extent such documents are amended, such documents are deemed to be amended pursuant to the Plan and require no further action or approval (other than any requisite filings required under applicable state, provincial, or federal law).

# E. Vesting of Assets in the Reorganized Debtors

Subject to Article IV.O, and except as otherwise provided in the Plan or in any agreement, instrument, or other document incorporated in the Plan, on the Effective Date, all property in each Estate, all Causes of Action, and any property acquired by any of the Debtors pursuant to the Plan shall vest in each respective Reorganized Debtor, free and clear of all liens, Claims, charges, or other encumbrances. For the avoidance of doubt, the Reorganized Debtors shall have no property interest in the funds in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow and such funds shall not be considered property of the Reorganized Debtors and any liens, charges, or other encumbrances granted under the Plan shall not extend to an interest in the funds held in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow. On and after the Effective Date, subject to Article VII.B.2 and except as otherwise provided in the Plan, each Reorganized Debtor may operate its business and may use, acquire, or dispose of property and compromise or settle any Claims, Interests, or Causes of Action without supervision or approval by the Bankruptcy Court and free of any restrictions of the Bankruptcy Code or Bankruptcy Rules.

# F. Cancellation of Prepetition Credit Agreements and Equity Interests

On the Effective Date, except as otherwise specifically provided for in the Plan: (1) the obligations of the Debtors under the Prepetition Credit Agreements and any other certificate, equity security, share, note, bond, indenture, purchase right, option, warrant, or other instrument or document directly or indirectly evidencing or creating any indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors giving rise to any Claim or Equity Interest (except such certificates, notes, or other instruments or documents evidencing indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors that are Reinstated pursuant to the Plan), shall be cancelled solely as to the Debtors and their Affiliates, and the Reorganized Debtors shall not have any continuing obligations thereunder; and (2) the obligations of the Debtors and their Affiliates pursuant, relating, or pertaining to any agreements, indentures, certificates of designation, bylaws, or certificate or articles of incorporation or similar documents governing the shares, certificates, notes, bonds, indentures, purchase rights, options, warrants, or other instruments or documents evidencing or creating any indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors (except such agreements, certificates, notes, or other instruments evidencing

indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors that are specifically Reinstated pursuant to the Plan) shall be released and discharged. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that (i) has been, or will be, assumed pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code or (ii) relating to a Claim that was paid in full prior to the Effective Date, shall be terminated or cancelled on the Effective Date, except that:

- the Prepetition Credit Agreements, the ABL DIP Credit Agreement, and the Term DIP Credit Agreement shall continue in effect solely for the purpose of: (i) allowing Holders of the ABL DIP Claims, Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable, to receive the distributions provided for under the Plan; (ii) allowing the Prepetition Agents to receive distributions from the Debtors and to make further distributions to the Holders of such Claims on account of such Claims, as set forth in Article VI.A of the Plan; and (iii) preserving the rights of the Prepetition Agents, DIP Agents, and DIP Lenders to indemnification pursuant and subject to the terms of the Prepetition Credit Agreements, the ABL DIP Credit Agreement, and the Term DIP Credit Agreement, as applicable, in respect of any Claim or Cause of Action asserted against the Prepetition Agents, DIP Agents, and DIP Lenders, as applicable; *provided* that any Claim or right to payment on account of such indemnification shall be an Administrative Claim; and
- the foregoing shall not affect the cancellation of shares issued pursuant to the Plan nor any other shares held by one Debtor in the capital of another Debtor.

# G. Sources of Cash for Plan Distributions and Transfers of Funds Among Debtors

The Cash necessary for the Reorganized Debtors to make payments required pursuant to the Plan will be funded from three sources: (1) proceeds from the New ABL Facility, (2) the Sponsor Payment, and (3) Cash on hand as of the Effective Date. Specifically, the Debtors expect that the New ABL Facility<sup>3</sup> will provide sufficient Cash to pay all ABL DIP Claims. Additionally, prior to the Effective Date, the Debtors may draw remaining available proceeds, if any, under the Term DIP Facility (subject to and in accordance with the Final DIP Order). The Debtors will rely on this draw under the Term DIP Facility, the Sponsor Payment, and Cash on hand to fund other payments required for emergence.

In making such Cash payments, the Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors will be entitled to transfer funds between and among themselves as they determine to be necessary or appropriate to enable the Reorganized Debtors to satisfy their obligations under the Plan. Except as set forth in the Plan, any changes in intercompany account balances resulting from such transfers will be accounted for and settled in accordance with the Debtors' historical intercompany account settlement practices and will not violate the terms of the Plan.

From and after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors, subject to any applicable limitations set forth in any post-Effective Date financing, shall have the right and authority

The New ABL Facility is expected to include guarantees from the Canadian Debtors.

without further order of the Bankruptcy Court, to raise additional capital and obtain additional financing as the boards of directors of the applicable Reorganized Debtors deem appropriate.

# H. Payment of Commitment Fees

On the Effective Date, to the extent any portion of the commitments under the Term DIP Facility are not borrowed, the Reorganized Debtors shall pay a Cash fee equal to 3% of the commitments under the Term DIP Facility that are not borrowed to each Backstop Lender in accordance with the DIP Documents.

On the Effective Date, to the extent any portion of the commitments under the Term DIP Facility are not borrowed, the Reorganized Debtors shall pay a Cash fee equal to 2% of the commitments under the Term DIP Facility that are not borrowed to each lender under the Term DIP Facility in accordance with the DIP Documents.

On the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall pay the Exit Commitment Fee to lenders under the Term DIP Facility in accordance with the DIP Documents.

# I. Effectuating Documents and Further Transactions

The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, may take all actions to execute, deliver, file, or record such contracts, instruments, releases, and other agreements or documents and take such actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate and implement the provisions of the Plan, including, without limitation, the distribution of the securities to be issued pursuant hereto in the name of and on behalf of the Reorganized Debtors, without the need for any approvals, authorizations, actions, or consents except for those expressly required pursuant hereto. The secretary and any assistant secretary of each Debtor shall be authorized to certify or attest to any of the foregoing actions. Prior to, on or after the Effective Date (as appropriate), all matters provided for pursuant to the Plan that would otherwise require approval of the shareholders, directors, or members of the Debtors shall be deemed to have been so approved and shall be in effect prior to, on or after the Effective Date (as appropriate) pursuant to applicable law and without any requirement of further action by the shareholders, directors, managers, or partners of the Debtors, or the need for any approvals, authorizations, actions or consents.

# J. Issuance of New Equity

#### 1. New Equity

On the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall issue all securities, notes, instruments, certificates, and other documents required to be issued pursuant to the Plan. The issuance of such documents is authorized without the need for any further corporate action or without any further action by the Holders of Claims or Interests. Distributions of New Equity will be made only through broker accounts via electronic issuance and Reorganized Holdings will not issue separate stock certificates.

# 2. Shareholders Agreement

On the Effective Date, Holders of New Equity shall be parties to a Shareholders Agreement, in substantially the form included in the Plan Supplement, and which shall otherwise be satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders. On the Effective Date, Reorganized Holdings and the Requisite Consenting Lenders shall enter into and deliver the Shareholders Agreement to each Entity that is intended to be a party thereto and such Shareholders Agreement shall be deemed to be valid, binding, and enforceable in accordance with its terms, and each Holder of New Equity shall be bound thereby, in each case without the need for execution by any party thereto other than Reorganized Holdings.

# 3. Private Companies

On the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall be private, non-SEC reporting companies.

# K. Section 1145 Exemption

Pursuant to section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code and, to the extent that section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code is inapplicable, section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act, and/or the safe harbor of Regulation D promulgated thereunder, or such other exemption as may be available from any applicable registration requirements, the offering, issuance, and distribution of any securities pursuant to the Plan and any and all settlement agreements incorporated herein shall be exempt from, among other things, the registration requirements of section 5 of the Securities Act to the maximum extent permitted thereunder and any other applicable law requiring registration by virtue of section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, prior to the offering, issuance, distribution, or sale of securities. In addition, to the maximum extent provided under section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, any and all New Equity contemplated by the Plan and any and all settlement agreements incorporated therein will be freely tradable and transferable by any initial recipient thereof that (x) is not an "affiliate" of the Reorganized Debtors (as defined in rule 144(a)(1) under the Securities Act), (y) has not been such an "affiliate" within 90 days of such transfer, and (z) is not an entity that is an "underwriter" as defined in section 1145(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

# L. New Organizational Documents

On or immediately prior to the Effective Date, the organizational documents of each of the Debtors shall be amended and restated, as may be necessary to effectuate the transactions contemplated by the Plan, in a manner consistent with section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code and shall otherwise be satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders. Each of the Reorganized Debtors will file its New Organizational Documents with the applicable Secretaries of State and/or other applicable authorities in its respective state, province, or country of incorporation in accordance with the corporate laws of the respective state, province, or country of incorporation. The New Organizational Documents will prohibit the issuance of non-voting equity securities to the extent required under section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code.

# M. Exemption from Certain Transfer Taxes and Recording Fees

Pursuant to section 1146(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, any transfer from a Debtor to a Reorganized Debtor or to any Entity pursuant to, in contemplation of, or in connection with the Plan or pursuant to: (1) the issuance, distribution, transfer, or exchange of any debt, securities, or other interest in the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors; (2) the creation, modification, consolidation, or recording of any mortgage, deed of trust, or other security interest, or the securing of additional indebtedness by such or other means; (3) the making, assignment, or recording of any lease or sublease; or (4) the making, delivery, or recording of any deed or other instrument of transfer under, in furtherance of, or in connection with, the Plan, including any deeds, bills of sale, assignments, or other instrument of transfer executed in connection with any transaction arising out of, contemplated by, or in any way related to the Plan, shall not be subject to any document recording tax, stamp tax, conveyance fee, intangibles or similar tax, mortgage tax, real estate transfer tax, mortgage recording tax, Uniform Commercial Code filing or recording fee, regulatory filing or recording fee, or other similar tax or governmental assessment, and the appropriate state or local governmental officials or agents shall forego the collection of any such tax or governmental assessment and to accept for filing and recordation any of the foregoing instruments or other documents without the payment of any such tax or governmental assessment. All filing or recording officers (or any other Person with authority over any of the foregoing), wherever located and by whomever appointed, shall comply with the requirements of section 1146(c) of the Bankruptcy Code, shall forgo the collection of any such tax or governmental assessment, and shall accept for filing and recordation any of the foregoing instruments or other documents without the payment of any such tax or governmental assessment.

# N. Directors and Officers of Reorganized Holdings and Other Reorganized Debtors

The initial directors and officers of the Reorganized Holdings shall be selected by the Requisite Consenting Lenders. Unless otherwise set forth in the Plan Supplement, the existing directors of each of the subsidiary Debtors shall remain in their current capacities as directors of the applicable Reorganized Debtor until replaced or removed in accordance with the organizational documents of the applicable Reorganized Debtors. The identity of each of the members of the New Board will be disclosed prior to the Confirmation Hearing and any directors elected pursuant to this section shall be subject to approval of the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to and to the extent necessary to satisfy section 1129(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.

## O. Avoidance Actions

The Debtors waive all rights to commence or otherwise pursue any and all Avoidance Actions, including, without limitation, to assert or use any such Avoidance Actions for defensive purposes, and such Avoidance Actions shall be released on the Effective Date.

# P. Preservation of Causes of Action

In accordance with section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, but subject to Article IX below, the Reorganized Debtors shall retain and may enforce all rights to commence and pursue, as appropriate, any and all Causes of Action, whether arising before or after the Petition Date,

and the Reorganized Debtors' rights to commence, prosecute, or settle such Causes of Action shall be preserved notwithstanding the occurrence of the Effective Date, other than (i) Avoidance Actions released by the Debtors pursuant to Article IV.O and (ii) the Causes of Action released by the Debtors pursuant to the releases and exculpations contained in the Plan, including Article IX. The Reorganized Debtors may pursue such Causes of Action, as appropriate, in accordance with the best interests of the Reorganized Debtors. No Entity may rely on the absence of a specific reference in the Plan, the Plan Supplement, or the Disclosure Statement to any Cause of Action against it as any indication that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, will not pursue any and all available Causes of Action against it. The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, expressly reserve all rights to prosecute any and all Causes of Action against any Entity, except as otherwise expressly provided in the Plan, including Article IV.O and Article IX of the Plan. Unless any Causes of Action against an Entity are expressly waived, relinquished, exculpated, released, compromised, or settled in the Plan or a Bankruptcy Court order, the Reorganized Debtors expressly reserve all Causes of Action, for later adjudication, and, therefore no preclusion doctrine, including the doctrines of res judicata, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim preclusion, estoppel (judicial, equitable, or otherwise) or laches, shall apply to such Causes of Action upon, after, or as a consequence of the Confirmation or the Effective Date.

The Reorganized Debtors reserve and shall retain the Causes of Action notwithstanding the rejection or repudiation of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease during the Chapter 11 Cases or pursuant to the Plan. In accordance with section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code, any Causes of Action that a Debtor may hold against any Entity shall vest in the applicable Reorganized Debtor, except as otherwise expressly provided in the Plan, including Article IV.O and Article IX of the Plan. The applicable Reorganized Debtors, through their authorized agents or representatives, shall retain and may exclusively enforce any and all such Causes of Action. The Reorganized Debtors shall have the exclusive right, authority, and discretion to determine and to initiate, file, prosecute, enforce, abandon, settle, compromise, release, withdraw, or litigate to judgment any such Causes of Action and to decline to do any of the foregoing without the consent or approval of any third party or further notice to or action, order or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

# Q. Directors and Officers Insurance Policies and Agreements

Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, effective as of the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall be deemed to have assumed all unexpired D&O Liability Insurance Policies with respect to the Debtors' directors, managers, officers, and employees serving on or prior to the Petition Date pursuant to section 365(a) of the Bankruptcy Code. Entry of the Confirmation Order will constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval of the Reorganized Debtors' assumption of each of the unexpired D&O Liability Insurance Policies. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Plan, Confirmation of the Plan shall not discharge, impair, or otherwise modify any indemnity obligations assumed by the foregoing assumption of the D&O Liability Insurance Policies, and each such indemnity obligation will be deemed and treated as an Executory Contract that has been assumed by the Reorganized Debtors under the Plan as to which no Proof of Claim need be filed.

After the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall not terminate or otherwise reduce the coverage under any D&O Liability Insurance Policy (including such tail coverage liability insurance) in effect and all members, managers, directors, and officers of the Debtors who served in such capacity at any time prior to the Effective Date of the Plan shall be entitled to the full benefits of any such policy for the full term of such policy regardless of whether such members, managers, directors, and/or officers remain in such positions after the Effective Date of the Plan.

# R. Compensation and Benefits Programs

Unless otherwise provided herein or in the Plan Supplement, the Confirmation Order, or any applicable agreements binding on the Debtors, all employee wages, compensation, and benefit programs in place as of the Effective Date with the Debtors shall be assumed by the Reorganized Debtors and shall remain in place as of the Effective Date, and the Reorganized Debtors will continue to honor such agreements, arrangements, programs, and plans. Notwithstanding the foregoing, pursuant to section 1129(a)(13) of the Bankruptcy Code, from and after the Effective Date, all retiree benefits (as such term is defined in section 1114 of the Bankruptcy Code), if any, shall continue to be paid in accordance with applicable law.

# 1. Management Equity Incentive Plan

Promptly on or as soon as practicable after the Effective Date, the New Board will adopt and implement the Management Equity Incentive Plan whereby equity awards for 6–10% of the New Equity (on a fully diluted basis) of Reorganized Holdings will be granted to continuing employees of the Debtors and members of the New Board with pricing, vesting and exercise terms to be determined by the New Board upon consultation with the Chief Executive Officer of Reorganized Holdings.

#### 2. Cash Incentive Program

Promptly on or as soon as practicable after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors will assume the Cash Incentive Program.

# 3. Continuation of Retiree Benefits

The Reorganized Debtors' obligations with respect to the payment of "retiree benefits" (as that term is defined in section 1114(a) of the Bankruptcy Code) shall continue for the duration of the periods the Debtors have obligated themselves to provide such benefits, if any, subject to any contractual rights to terminate or modify such benefits.

# 4. Workers' Compensation Programs

As of the Effective Date, the Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors shall continue to honor their obligations under: (i) all applicable workers' compensation laws in states in which the Reorganized Debtors operate; and (ii) the Debtors' written contracts, agreements, agreements of indemnity, self-insurer workers' compensation bonds, policies, programs, and plans for workers' compensation and workers' compensation insurance, including without limitation, any Insurance Policies providing workers' compensation insurance coverage to the Debtors.

All Proofs of Claims on account of workers' compensation shall be deemed withdrawn automatically and without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court; *provided*, *however*, that nothing in the Plan shall limit, diminish, or otherwise alter the Debtors' or Reorganized Debtors' defenses, Causes of Action, or other rights under applicable non-bankruptcy law with respect to any such contracts, agreements, policies, programs and plans; *provided*, *further*, that nothing herein shall be deemed to impose any obligations on the Debtors in addition to what is provided for under applicable state law.

# S. Gift Card Programs

The Reorganized Debtors will honor and satisfy all of the Debtors' prepetition and postpetition obligations related to their Gift Card Program, as set forth and defined in the *Final Order (I) Authorizing the Debtors to (A) Honor Certain Prepetition Obligations to Customers and Partners and (B) Otherwise Continue Certain Customer and Partner Programs in the Ordinary Course of Business and (II) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 638]. Nothing in the Confirmation Order shall alter the Debtors' or Reorganized Debtors' obligations with respect to the Gift Card Program.* 

#### ARTICLE V.

#### TREATMENT OF EXECUTORY CONTRACTS AND UNEXPIRED LEASES

# A. Assumption and Rejection of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases

On the date of the Confirmation Hearing, except as otherwise provided in the Plan or by other Bankruptcy Court order, each Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, not previously assumed, assumed and assigned, or rejected shall be deemed automatically rejected pursuant to sections 365 and 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors will not assign any Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases pursuant to the Plan.

Entry of the Confirmation Order by the Bankruptcy Court shall, subject to and upon the occurrence of the Effective Date, constitute a Bankruptcy Order approving the assumptions or rejections of the Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases assumed or rejected pursuant to the Plan. Each Executory Contract and Unexpired Lease assumed pursuant to this Article V.A or by any order of the Bankruptcy Court shall revest in and be fully enforceable by the Reorganized Debtors in accordance with its terms, unless otherwise agreed by the Debtors and the applicable counterparty to the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, and except as such terms are modified by any order of the Bankruptcy Court authorizing and providing for its assumption under applicable federal law.

# B. Indemnification Obligations

On the Effective Date, except as otherwise provided herein, all indemnification provisions, consistent with applicable law, in place as of the date of the Restructuring Support Agreement (whether in the bylaws, certificates of incorporation or formation, limited liability company agreements, other organizational documents, board resolutions, indemnification agreements, employment contracts, or otherwise) for the current directors, officers, managers,

employees, attorneys, accountants, investment bankers, and other professionals of the Debtors, as applicable, shall be assumed, which assumption shall be irrevocable, and shall survive the Effective Date.

# C. Directors and Officers Insurance Policies and Agreements

Pursuant to Article IV.Q hereof, notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, effective as of the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall be deemed to have assumed all unexpired D&O Liability Insurance Policies.

# D. Insurance Policies and Surety Bonds

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Disclosure Statement, the Plan, the Plan Supplement, the New Credit Facility Documents, the Confirmation Order, the Claims Bar Date Order, any claim objection, any other document related to any of the foregoing, or any other order of the Bankruptcy Court (including, without limitation, any other provision that purports to be preemptory or supervening, grants an injunction or release, confers Bankruptcy Court jurisdiction, or requires a party to opt out of any releases): (1) on the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall be deemed to have assumed all Insurance Policies (other than the D&O Liability Insurance Policies, which shall receive the treatment set forth in Article V.C of the Plan) and all obligations thereunder, regardless of when they arise; and (2) except as set forth in Article V.C of the Plan, nothing (a) alters, modifies, or otherwise amends the terms and conditions of (or the coverage provided by) any of such Insurance Policies or (b) alters or modifies the duty, if any, that the insurers or third-party administrators have to pay claims covered by such Insurance Policies and their right to seek payment or reimbursement from the Debtors (or after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors) or draw on any collateral or security therefor. For the avoidance of doubt, insurers and third-party administrators shall not need to nor be required to file or serve a Cure objection or a request, application, Claim, Proof of Claim, or motion for payment and shall not be subject to any Claims Bar Date or similar deadline governing Cure Claims or Claims.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan, on the Effective Date, (1) all of the Debtors' obligations and commitments to any surety bond provider, including without limitation, obligations under any related indemnity agreements, shall be deemed reaffirmed and shall be continuing obligations of the Reorganized Debtors; (2) all bonded obligations of the Debtors for which such surety bonds secure performance by the Debtors shall be deemed assumed by the Debtors and shall be unimpaired by the Plan or Confirmation Order; and (3) to the extent any of the obligations and commitments set forth in this provision are secured by collateral, such collateral shall remain in place. Nothing in the Plan or Confirmation Order shall be deemed to (1) modify or impair the rights of any party under the Debtors' surety bonds, related indemnity agreements, or applicable law; (2) require any surety bond provider to issue any new surety bonds or extensions or renewals of any surety bonds; or (3) affect the sureties' respective rights (only to the extent such rights exist with respect to the surety bonds, indemnity agreements or under applicable law) to require the Reorganized Debtors to execute and deliver to the Sureties new indemnity agreements containing such new or additional terms as the Sureties may require in their discretion.

# E. Cure of Defaults for Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases

Any monetary defaults under each Executory Contract and Unexpired Lease to be assumed pursuant to the Plan shall be satisfied, pursuant to section 365(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, by payment of the default amount in Cash on the Effective Date, subject to the limitation described below, or on such other terms as the parties to such Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases may otherwise agree. In the event of a dispute between the Debtors and a counterparty to any Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases that is not resolved between the parties regarding (1) the amount of any payments to cure such a default, (2) the ability of the Reorganized Debtors or any assignee to provide "adequate assurance of future performance" (within the meaning of section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code) under the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease to be assumed, or (3) any other matter pertaining to assumption, the Cure payments required by section 365(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code shall be made following the entry of a Final Order or orders resolving the dispute and approving the assumption, which Final Order or orders may, for the avoidance of doubt, be entered (and any related hearing may be held) after the Effective Date.

The Debtors shall file the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases (including the proposed Cure Claim amounts) with the Plan Supplement, which schedule will not be modified with regard to any Unexpired Leases without the consent of any affected parties. The Debtors will cause notices of proposed assumption and proposed Cure Claims to be served by overnight delivery service upon the applicable contract counterparty affected by such notices and by email upon counsel of record for the applicable contract counterparty, if any. Any objection by a counterparty to an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease to a proposed assumption or related Cure Claim must be filed, served, and actually received by the Debtors no later than fourteen (14) days after the Plan Supplement Filing Date. Any such objections will be scheduled to be heard by the Bankruptcy Court at the Debtors' or Reorganized Debtors', as applicable, first scheduled omnibus hearing after which such objection is timely filed. Any counterparty to an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that fails to object timely to the proposed assumption or Cure Claim will be deemed to have assented to such assumption or Cure Claim. To the extent any such dispute regarding the assumption of an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease is not consensually resolved by the parties or otherwise resolved prior to the Effective Date, such assumption will be deemed to occur retroactively to the date of the Confirmation Hearing if approved by the Bankruptcy Court. Notwithstanding the foregoing, all landlords' rights to recover amounts which have accrued or come due between the Cure objection deadline and the effective date of assumption are reserved.

Any Cure Claim shall be deemed fully satisfied, released, and discharged upon payment by the Debtors of any one of the following: (1) amounts listed on the Debtors' Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases (if no objections to the Cure Claim is filed within the applicable objection period), (2) amounts agreed to by the Debtors and the applicable counterparty, or (3) amounts as ordered by the Court; *provided*, *however*, that nothing shall prevent the Reorganized Debtors from paying any Cure despite the failure of the relevant counterparty to file such request for payment of such Cure. The Reorganized Debtors may settle any Cure without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

Assumption of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease pursuant to the Plan or otherwise shall result in the full release and satisfaction of any Claims or defaults, whether monetary or nonmonetary, including defaults of provisions restricting the change in control or ownership interest composition or other bankruptcy-related defaults, arising under any assumed Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease at any time prior to the effective date of assumption.

Any Proofs of Claim filed with respect to an Executory Contract, Unexpired Lease, or Insurance Policy that has been assumed pursuant to the provisions of the Plan shall be deemed satisfied upon the Debtors' curing of any and all defaults related thereto, without further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

# F. Claims Based on Rejection of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases

The Debtors shall file the Schedule of Rejected Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases with the Plan Supplement, which schedule will not be modified with regard to any Unexpired Leases without the consent of any affected parties. Unless otherwise provided by a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court, all Proofs of Claim with respect to Claims arising from the rejection of Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases, pursuant to the Plan or the Confirmation Order, if any, must be filed with the Bankruptcy Court within thirty (30) days after the later of (1) the date of entry of an order of the Bankruptcy Court (including the Confirmation Order) approving such rejection, (2) the effective date of such rejection, or (3) the Effective Date. Any Claims arising from the rejection of an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease not filed with the Bankruptcy Court within such time will be automatically disallowed, forever barred from assertion, and shall not be enforceable against the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, the Estates, or their property without the need for any objection by the Reorganized Debtors or further notice to, or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court or any other Entity, and any Claim arising out of the rejection of the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease shall be deemed fully satisfied, released, and discharged, notwithstanding anything in the Schedules or a Proof of Claim to the contrary.

# G. Preexisting Obligations to the Debtors Under Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases

Rejection of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease pursuant to the Plan or otherwise shall not constitute a termination of preexisting obligations owed to the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, under such Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases. In particular, notwithstanding any non-bankruptcy law to the contrary, the Reorganized Debtors expressly reserve and do not waive any right to receive, or any continuing obligation of a counterparty to provide, warranties or continued maintenance obligations on goods previously purchased by the Debtors contracting from non-Debtor counterparties to rejected Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases.

# H. Modifications, Amendments, Supplements, Restatements, or Other Agreements

Unless otherwise provided in the Plan, each Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that is assumed shall include all modifications, amendments, supplements, restatements, or other agreements that in any manner affect such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, and Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases related thereto, if any, including easements, licenses,

permits, rights, privileges, immunities, options, rights of first refusal, and any other interests, unless any of the foregoing agreements has been previously rejected or repudiated or is rejected or repudiated under the Plan.

Modifications, amendments, supplements, and restatements to prepetition Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases that have been executed by the Debtors during the Chapter 11 Cases shall not be deemed to alter the prepetition nature of the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, or the validity, priority, or amount of any Claims that may arise in connection therewith.

# I. Contracts and Leases Entered Into After the Petition Date

Contracts and leases entered into after the Petition Date by any Debtor, including any Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases assumed by such Debtor, and any agreements entered into with creditors pursuant to the interim and final orders authorizing the Debtors to pay prepetition claims of critical vendors, carriers, warehousemen, and section 503(b)(9) claimants [Docket Nos. 94, 642], will be performed by the applicable Debtor or the Reorganized Debtor liable thereunder in the ordinary course of its business. Accordingly, such contracts and leases (including any assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases) will survive and remain unaffected by entry of the Confirmation Order.

# J. Reservation of Rights

Neither the exclusion nor inclusion of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease on the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contract and Unexpired Leases, nor anything contained in the Plan, shall constitute an admission by the Debtors that any such contract or lease is in fact an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease or that any of the Reorganized Debtors has any liability thereunder. If there is a dispute regarding whether a contract or lease is or was executory or unexpired at the time of assumption or rejection, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall have 30 days following entry of a Final Order resolving such dispute to alter their treatment of such contract or lease under the Plan.

# K. Nonoccurrence of Effective Date

In the event that the Effective Date does not occur, the Bankruptcy Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to any request to extend the deadline for assuming or rejecting Unexpired Leases pursuant to section 365(d)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### ARTICLE VI.

#### PROVISIONS GOVERNING DISTRIBUTIONS

#### A. Distributions for Claims Allowed as of the Effective Date

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, a Final Order, or as agreed to by the relevant parties, the Reorganized Debtors shall make initial distributions under the Plan on account of Claims Allowed before the Effective Date on or as soon as practicable after the Initial Distribution Date; *provided*, *however*, that payments on account of Other General Unsecured

Claims that become Allowed Claims on or before the Effective Date shall commence on the Effective Date; *provided* further that all payments under this Article VI shall be subject to the reserves for Disputed Other General Unsecured Claims and Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims established pursuant to Article VI.B.

# B. Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow and Reserve Procedures

On the Effective Date, funds for the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool and the Worldwide GUC Claims Recovery Pool, in the aggregate amount of \$32.316 million, shall be deposited into the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow. The Confirmation Order shall provide that the Reorganized Debtors shall not have a property interest in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow and such funds shall not be considered property of the Reorganized Debtors and any liens, charges, or other encumbrances granted under the Plan shall not extend to an interest in the funds held in the Unsecured Claims Payment Escrow.

From and after the Effective Date, and until such time as all Disputed Other General Unsecured Claims and Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims have been compromised and settled or determined by order of the Bankruptcy Court, for the benefit of each Holder of such Disputed Other General Unsecured Claims and Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims, Cash in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow shall be reserved, in an amount equal to the lesser of: (i) the amount of the applicable Disputed Other General Unsecured Claim or Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim or Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall be estimated by the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code for purposes of allowance, which amount, unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court, shall constitute and represent the maximum amount in which such Claim may ultimately become an Allowed Claim; and (iii) such other amount as may be agreed upon by the Holder of such applicable Disputed Other General Unsecured Claim or Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim.

Any amount of the Cash in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow reserved and held for the benefit of a Holder of a Disputed Other General Unsecured Claim or Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim, as applicable, shall be treated as a payment and reduction on account of such Other General Unsecured Claim or Worldwide General Unsecured Claim for purposes of computing any additional amounts to be paid to such Holder if the Other General Unsecured Claim or Worldwide General Unsecured Claim, as applicable, ultimately becomes an Allowed Claim. Such amount of the Cash in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow shall be reserved for the benefit of the applicable Holders pending determination of their entitlement thereto under the terms of the Plan.

Any amount remaining in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow being held for the benefit of Holders of Disputed Other General Unsecured Claims or Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims after reconciliation of all General Unsecured Claims asserted against the Debtors shall be distributed to Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims and Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims in accordance with the provisions of the Plan.

The Reorganized Debtors are authorized to make distributions to Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim or Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim out of the

Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow based on the reserve amount established pursuant to this Article VI.B. The Reorganized Debtors will consult with the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee with respect to the Allowed amounts of other General Unsecured Claims and Worldwide General Unsecured Claims and the timing of such distributions to Holders of Class 5A (Other General Unsecured Claims) and Allowed Class 5B (Worldwide General Unsecured Claims).

# C. Distributions on Account of Claims Allowed After the Effective Date

# 1. Payments and Distributions on Disputed Claims

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, a Final Order, or as agreed to by the relevant parties, distributions under the Plan on account of a Disputed Claim that becomes an Allowed Claim after the Effective Date shall be made on the first Periodic Distribution Date after the Disputed Claim becomes an Allowed Claim. Payments to Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims or Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims shall be made out of the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow.

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, Holders of Claims shall not be entitled to interest, dividends, or accruals on the distributions provided for in the Plan, regardless of whether such distributions are delivered on or at any time after the Effective Date.

# 2. Special Rules for Distributions to Holders of Disputed Claims

Notwithstanding any provision otherwise in the Plan and except as otherwise agreed to by the relevant parties, no partial payments and no partial distributions shall be made with respect to a Disputed Claim until all such disputes in connection with such Disputed Claim have been resolved by settlement or Final Order. In the event that there are Disputed Claims requiring adjudication and resolution, the Reorganized Debtors shall establish appropriate reserves for potential payment of such Claims.

# D. Timing and Calculation of Amounts to Be Distributed

Except as otherwise provided herein, on the Initial Distribution Date (or if a Claim is not an Allowed Claim on the Effective Date, on or as soon as practicable after the date that such a Claim becomes an Allowed Claim), each Holder of an Allowed Claim against the Debtors shall receive the full amount of the distributions that the Plan provides for Allowed Claims in the applicable Class.

If and to the extent that there are Disputed Claims, distributions on account of any such Disputed Claims shall be made pursuant to the provisions set forth in the applicable class treatment or in this Article VI. Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, Holders of Claims shall not be entitled to interest, dividends, or accruals on the distributions provided for in the Plan, regardless of whether such distributions are delivered on or at any time after the Effective Date.

# E. Delivery and Distributions and Undeliverable or Unclaimed Distributions

#### 1. Record Date for Distributions

On the Distribution Record Date, the Claims Register shall be closed and any party responsible for making distributions shall instead be authorized and entitled to recognize only those Holders of Claims listed on the Claims Register as of the close of business on the Distribution Record Date. If a Claim is transferred twenty (20) or fewer days before the Distribution Record Date, the Distribution Agent shall make distributions to the transferee only to the extent practical and, in any event, only if the relevant transfer form contains an unconditional and explicit certification and waiver of any objection to the transfer by the transferor.

# 2. Delivery of Distributions in General

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable shall make distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims at the address for each such Holder as indicated on the Debtors' records as of the date of any such distribution; *provided*, *however*, that the manner of such distributions shall be determined at the discretion of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable; and *provided further*, that the address for each Holder of an Allowed Claim shall be the address set forth in any Proof of Claim filed by that Holder.

# 3. Delivery of Distributions to Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims

Except as set forth in this Article VI.E.3, the Prepetition First Lien Agent shall be deemed to be the Holder of all Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable, for purposes of distributions to be made hereunder, and all distributions on account of such Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be made to or on behalf of the Prepetition First Lien Agent. The Prepetition First Lien Agent shall hold or direct such distributions for the benefit of the Holders of Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable; provided, however, that Morgan Stanley Capital Services LLC shall be deemed to be the Holder of the MSCS Swap Claim for all purposes hereunder and any distributions to be made under the Plan on account of the MSCS Swap Claim shall be made to Morgan Stanley Capital Services LLC directly. As soon as practicable following compliance with the requirements set forth in this Article VI of the Plan, the Prepetition First Lien Agent shall arrange to deliver or direct the delivery of such distributions for which it is the deemed Holder to or on behalf of such Holders of Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims. Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, and without limiting the exculpation and release provisions of the Plan, the Prepetition First Lien Agent shall not have any liability to any person with respect to distributions made or directed to be made by the Prepetition First Lien Agent.

# 4. Delivery of Distributions to Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims

The Prepetition Second Lien Agent shall be deemed to be the Holder of all Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable, for purposes of distributions to be made hereunder, and all distributions on account of such Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement

Claims shall be made to or on behalf of the Prepetition Second Lien Agent. The Prepetition Second Lien Agent shall hold or direct such distributions for the benefit of the Holders of Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable. practicable following compliance with the requirements set forth in this Article VI of the Plan, the Prepetition Second Lien Agent shall arrange to deliver or direct the delivery of such distributions to or on behalf of such Holders of Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims. Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, and without limiting the exculpation and release provisions of the Plan, the Prepetition Second Lien Agent shall not have any liability to any person with respect to distributions made or directed to be made by the Prepetition Second Lien Agent. On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall pay in Cash all reasonable and documented (in summary form) fees, costs, and expenses incurred by the Prepetition Second Lien Agent prior to the Effective Date, which shall include the reasonable and documented fees and expenses of Pryor Cashman LLP (including for services, if any, provided prior to the Petition Date), without the need for the Prepetition Second Lien Agent to file a fee application with the Bankruptcy Court. From and after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall pay in Cash the reasonable and documented fees, costs, and expenses incurred by the Prepetition Second Lien Agent (including the reasonable and documented fees and expenses of Pryor Cashman LLP for services rendered on or after the Effective Date) in connection with distributions to Holders of Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims in accordance with the Plan.

# 5. <u>Distributions by Distribution Agents (if any)</u>

The Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall have the authority, in their sole discretion, to enter into agreements with one or more Distribution Agents to facilitate the distributions required hereunder. To the extent the Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, do determine to utilize a Distribution Agent to facilitate the distributions under the Plan to Holders of Allowed Claims, any such Distribution Agent would first be required to: (a) affirm its obligation to facilitate the prompt distribution of any documents; (b) affirm its obligation to facilitate the prompt distribution of any recoveries or distributions required under the Plan; (c) waive any right or ability to setoff, deduct from, or assert any lien or encumbrance against the distributions required under the Plan to be distributed by such Distribution Agent; and (d) post a bond, obtain a surety bond, or provide some other form of security for the performance of its duties, the costs and expenses of procuring which shall be borne by the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable.

The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall pay to the Distribution Agents all reasonable and documented fees and expenses of the Distribution Agents without the need for any approvals, authorizations, actions, or consents. The Distribution Agents shall submit detailed invoices to the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, for all fees and expenses for which the Distribution Agent seeks reimbursement and the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall pay those amounts that they, in their sole discretion, deem reasonable, and shall object in writing to those fees and expenses, if any, that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, deem to be unreasonable. In the event that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, object to all or any portion of the amounts

requested to be reimbursed in a Distribution Agent's invoice, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, and such Distribution Agent shall endeavor, in good faith, to reach mutual agreement on the amount of the appropriate payment of such disputed fees and/or expenses. In the event that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, and a Distribution Agent are unable to resolve any differences regarding disputed fees or expenses, either party shall be authorized to move to have such dispute heard by the Bankruptcy Court.

#### 6. Minimum Distributions

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Reorganized Debtors shall not be required to make distributions or payments of less than \$10 (whether Cash or otherwise) and shall not be required to make partial distributions or payments of fractions of dollars. Whenever any payment or distribution of a fraction of a dollar or fractional share of New Equity under the Plan would otherwise be called for, the actual payment or distribution will reflect a rounding of such fraction to the nearest whole dollar or share of New Equity (up or down), with half dollars and half shares of New Equity or less being rounded down.

No Distribution Agent shall have any obligation to make a distribution on account of an Allowed Claim if: (a) the aggregate amount of all distributions authorized to be made on the Periodic Distribution Date in question is or has an economic value less than \$25,000, unless such distribution is a final distribution; or (b) the amount to be distributed to the specific Holder of an Allowed Claim on such Periodic Distribution Date does not constitute a final distribution to such Holder and is or has an economic value of less than \$10, which shall be treated as an undeliverable distribution under Article VI.E.7 below.

# 7. <u>Undeliverable Distributions</u>

#### (a) Holding of Certain Undeliverable Distributions

If any distribution to a Holder of an Allowed Claim made in accordance herewith is returned to the Reorganized Debtors (or their Distribution Agent) as undeliverable, no further distributions shall be made to such Holder unless and until the Reorganized Debtors (or their Distribution Agent) are notified in writing of such Holder's then current address, at which time all currently due missed distributions shall be made to such Holder on the next Periodic Distribution Date. Undeliverable distributions shall remain in the possession of the Reorganized Debtors, subject to Article VI.E.7(b) hereof, until such time as any such distributions become deliverable; *provided*, that undeliverable distributions out of the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow shall be returned to the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow for subsequent distribution to Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims or Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims. Undeliverable distributions shall not be entitled to any additional interest, dividends, or other accruals of any kind on account of their distribution being undeliverable.

## (b) Failure to Claim Undeliverable Distributions

No later than 120 days after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall file with the Bankruptcy Court a list of the Holders of undeliverable distributions. This list shall be maintained and updated periodically in the sole discretion of the Reorganized Debtors for as long

as the Chapter 11 Cases stay open. Any Holder of an Allowed Claim, irrespective of when a Claim becomes an Allowed Claim, that does not notify the Reorganized Debtors of such Holder's then current address in accordance herewith within 180 days of the Effective Date, shall have its Claim for such undeliverable distribution discharged and shall be forever barred, estopped and enjoined from asserting any such Claim against the Reorganized Debtors or their property.

In such cases, (i) any Cash or New Equity held for distribution on account of Allowed Claims shall be redistributed to Holders of Allowed Claims in the applicable Class on the next Periodic Distribution Date and (ii) any Cash held for distribution to other creditors shall be deemed unclaimed property under section 347(b) of the Bankruptcy Code and become property of the Reorganized Debtors, free of any Claims of such Holder with respect thereto. Nothing contained herein shall require the Reorganized Debtors to attempt to locate any Holder of an Allowed Claim.

#### (c) Failure to Present Checks

Checks issued by the Distribution Agent on account of Allowed Claims shall be null and void if not negotiated within 180 days after the issuance of such check. In an effort to ensure that all Holders of Allowed Claims receive their allocated distributions, the Reorganized Debtors shall file with the Bankruptcy Court a list of the Holders of any un-negotiated checks no later than 160 days after the issuance of such checks. This list shall be maintained and updated periodically in the sole discretion of the Reorganized Debtors for as long as the Chapter 11 Cases stay open. Requests for reissuance of any check shall be made directly to the Distribution Agent by the Holder of the relevant Allowed Claim with respect to which such check originally was issued.

Any Holder of an Allowed Claim holding an un-negotiated check that does not request reissuance of such un-negotiated check within 120 days after the date of mailing or other delivery of such check shall have its Claim for such un-negotiated check discharged and be discharged and forever barred, estopped and enjoined from asserting any such Claim against the Reorganized Debtors or their property. In such cases, any Cash held for payment on account of such Claims shall be property of the Reorganized Debtors, free of any Claims of such Holder with respect thereto; *provided*, that any Cash held for payment on account of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim or Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall be returned to the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow for subsequent distribution to Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim or Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims. Nothing contained herein shall require the Reorganized Debtors to attempt to locate any Holder of an Allowed Claim.

# F. Compliance with Tax Requirements/Allocations

In connection with the Plan, to the extent applicable, the Reorganized Debtors shall comply with all tax withholding and reporting requirements imposed on them by any Governmental Unit, and all distributions pursuant hereto shall be subject to such withholding and reporting requirements. Notwithstanding any provision in the Plan to the contrary, the Reorganized Debtors and the Distribution Agent shall be authorized to take all actions necessary

or appropriate to comply with such withholding and reporting requirements, including liquidating a portion of the distribution to be made under the Plan to generate sufficient funds to pay applicable withholding taxes, withholding distributions pending receipt of information necessary to facilitate such distributions, or establishing any other mechanisms they believe are reasonable and appropriate. The Reorganized Debtors reserve the right to allocate all distributions made under the Plan in compliance with all applicable wage garnishments, alimony, child support and other spousal awards, liens, and encumbrances. For tax purposes, distributions in full or partial satisfaction of Allowed Claims shall be allocated first to the principal amount of Allowed Claims, with any excess allocated to unpaid interest that accrued on such Claims.

# G. Setoffs

Subject to Article IV.O, the Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors may withhold (but not setoff except as set forth below) from the distributions called for hereunder on account of any Allowed Claim an amount equal to any Claims, Equity Interests, rights, and Causes of Action of any nature that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors may hold against the Holder of any such Allowed Claim. In the event that any such Claims, Equity Interests, rights, and Causes of Action of any nature that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors may hold against the Holder of any such Allowed Claim are adjudicated by Final Order or otherwise resolved, the Debtors may, pursuant to section 553 of the Bankruptcy Code or applicable non-bankruptcy law, set off against any Allowed Claim and the distributions to be made pursuant hereto on account of such Allowed Claim (before any distribution is made on account of such Allowed Claim), the amount of any adjudicated or resolved Claims, Equity Interests, rights, and Causes of Action of any nature that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors may hold against the Holder of any such Allowed Claim, but only to the extent of such adjudicated or resolved amount. Neither the failure to effect such a setoff nor the allowance of any Claim hereunder shall constitute a waiver or release by the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors of any such Claims, Equity Interests, rights, and Causes of Action that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors may possess against any such Holder, except as specifically provided herein.

### H. Foreign Currency Exchange Rate

Except as otherwise provided in a Bankruptcy Court order, as of the Effective Date, any Claim asserted in currency other than U.S. dollars shall be automatically deemed converted to the equivalent U.S. dollar value using the exchange rate for the applicable currency as published in *The Wall Street Journal*, National Edition, on the Effective Date.

#### I. Claims Paid or Payable by Third Parties

# 1. Claims Paid by Third Parties

The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall reduce in full a Claim, and such Claim shall be disallowed without a Claims objection having to be filed and without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court, to the extent that the Holder of such Claim receives payment in full on account of such Claim from a party that is not a Debtor or Reorganized Debtor. Subject to the last sentence of this paragraph, to the extent a Holder of a Claim receives a distribution from the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors on account of

such Claim and also receives payment from a party that is not a Debtor or a Reorganized Debtor on account of such Claim, such Holder shall, within two weeks of receipt thereof, repay or return the distribution to the applicable Reorganized Debtor, to the extent the Holder's total recovery on account of such Claim from the third party and under the Plan exceeds the total amount of such Claim as of the date of any such distribution under the Plan. If the Debtors become aware of the payment by a third party, the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, will send a notice of wrongful payment to such party requesting return of any excess payments and advising the recipient of the provisions of the Plan requiring turnover of excess estate funds. The failure of such Holder to timely repay or return such distribution shall result in the Holder owing the applicable Reorganized Debtor annualized interest at the Federal Judgment Rate on such amount owed for each Business Day after the two-week grace period specified above until the amount is repaid.

# 2. Claims Payable by Third Parties

No distributions under the Plan shall be made on account of an Allowed Claim that is payable pursuant to one of the Debtors' Insurance Policies until the Holder of such Allowed Claim has exhausted all remedies with respect to such Insurance Policy. To the extent that one or more of the Debtors' insurers agrees to satisfy in full or in part a Claim (if and to the extent adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction), then immediately upon such insurers' agreement, the applicable portion of such Claim may be expunged without a Claims objection having to be filed and without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

# 3. Applicability of Insurance Policies

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims shall be made in accordance with the provisions of any applicable Insurance Policy. Nothing contained in the Plan shall constitute or be deemed a waiver of any Cause of Action that the Debtors or any Entity may hold against any other Entity, including any insurer(s) under any Insurance Policy, nor shall anything contained herein constitute or be deemed a waiver by such insurers of any rights or defenses, including coverage defenses, held by such insurers under the Insurance Policies.

#### ARTICLE VII.

# PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING CONTINGENT, UNLIQUIDATED AND DISPUTED CLAIMS

# A. Allowance of Claims

After the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall have and retain any and all rights and defenses the Debtors had with respect to any Claim or Interest immediately before the Effective Date.

# B. Claims Administration Responsibilities

Subject to Article VII.B.2, and except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, including, without limitation, Article XII.N hereof, after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall have the sole authority: (1) to file, withdraw, or litigate to judgment objections to Claims or Interests; (2) to settle or compromise any Disputed Claim without any further notice to or action, order, or approval by the Bankruptcy Court; and (3) to administer and adjust the Claims Register to reflect any such settlements or compromises without any further notice to or action, order, or approval by the Bankruptcy Court.

Notwithstanding Article VII.B.1, the Reorganized Debtors shall not consent or agree to the allowance or reclassification of any Claim as a Class 5A (Other General Unsecured Claim) or Class 5B (Worldwide General Unsecured Claim) without the prior written consent of the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee or order of the Bankruptcy Court.

# C. Estimation of Claims

Before or after the Effective Date, the Debtors, Reorganized Debtors, or Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee, as applicable, may (but are not required to) at any time request that the Bankruptcy Court estimate any Claim that is contingent or unliquidated pursuant to section 502(c) of the Bankruptcy Code for any reason, regardless of whether any party previously has objected to such Claim or Interest or whether the Bankruptcy Court has ruled on any such objection, and the Bankruptcy Court shall retain jurisdiction to estimate any such Claim or Interest, including during the litigation of any objection to any Claim or Interest or during the appeal relating to such objection. Notwithstanding any provision otherwise in the Plan, a Claim that has been expunged from the Claims Register, but that either is subject to appeal or has not been the subject of a Final Order, shall be deemed to be estimated at zero dollars, unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court. In the event that the Bankruptcy Court estimates any contingent or unliquidated Claim or Interest, that estimated amount shall constitute a maximum limitation on such Claim or Interest for all purposes under the Plan (including for purposes of distributions), and the relevant Reorganized Debtor may elect to pursue any supplemental proceedings to object to any ultimate distribution on such Claim or Interest.

# D. Adjustment to Claims Without Objection

Any Claim or Interest that has been paid or satisfied, or any such Claim or Interest that has been cancelled, or otherwise expunged (including pursuant to the Plan), may be adjusted or expunged (including on the Claims Register, to the extent applicable) by the Reorganized Debtors without a Claims objection having to be filed and without any further notice to or action, order or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

# E. Time to File Objections to Claims

Any objections to Claims shall be filed on or before the Claims Objection Bar Date; *provided*, however, that the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee shall have standing to seek an extension of the Claims Objection Bar Date with respect to Class 5A (Other General Unsecured Claims) and Class 5B (Worldwide General Unsecured Claims).

# F. Disallowance of Claims

All Claims filed on account of an indemnification obligation to a director, officer, or employee shall be deemed satisfied and expunged from the Claims Register as of the Effective Date to the extent such indemnification obligation is assumed (or honored or reaffirmed, as the case may be) pursuant to the Plan, without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

Except as provided herein or otherwise agreed, any and all Proofs of Claim filed after the Claims Bar Date shall be deemed disallowed and expunged as of the Effective Date without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court, and Holders of such Claims may not receive any distributions on account of such Claims, unless on or before the Confirmation Hearing such late Claim has been deemed timely filed by a Final Order.

# G. No Distribution Pending Allowance

If an objection to a Claim or portion thereof is filed as set forth in Article VII.E, no payment or distribution provided under the Plan shall be made on account of such Claim or portion thereof unless and until such Disputed Claim becomes an Allowed Claim.

# H. Distribution After Allowance

To the extent that a Disputed Claim ultimately becomes an Allowed Claim, distributions (if any) shall be made to the Holder of such Allowed Claim in accordance with the provisions of the Plan. As soon as practicable after the date that the order or judgment of the Bankruptcy Court allowing any Disputed Claim becomes a Final Order, the Distribution Agent shall provide to the Holder of such Claim the distribution (if any) to which such Holder is entitled under the Plan as of the Effective Date, without any interest, dividends, or accruals to be paid on account of such Claim unless required under applicable bankruptcy law.

## ARTICLE VIII.

# CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO CONFIRMATION AND CONSUMMATION OF THE PLAN

# A. Conditions Precedent to the Confirmation of the Plan

The following shall be satisfied or waived as conditions precedent to the Confirmation of the Plan:

- 1. The Plan must be, in form and substance, reasonably acceptable to the Debtors, the Requisite Consenting Lenders, and the ABL DIP Lenders.
- 2. The Debtors shall have achieved 85% of the projected rent savings from landlord concessions on ongoing lease obligations on an annual run-rate, which projected rent savings were agreed to prior to the Petition Date by (a) the Backstop Lenders and (b) the Debtors.

- 3. The Definitive Documents shall satisfy the Definitive Document Restructuring Support Agreement Requirements.
- 4. The proposed form of order confirming the Plan shall be, in form and substance, reasonably acceptable to the Debtors, the Requisite Consenting Lenders, and the ABL DIP Lenders.

# B. Conditions Precedent to Effective Date

The following shall be satisfied or waived as conditions precedent to the Effective Date:

- 1. The Bankruptcy Court shall have approved the Disclosure Statement as containing adequate information with respect to the Plan within the meaning of section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 2. The Definitive Documents shall satisfy the Definitive Document Restructuring Support Agreement Requirements.
- 3. The Confirmation Order shall have been entered and become a Final Order. The Confirmation Order shall provide that, among other things, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as appropriate, are authorized and directed to take all actions necessary or appropriate to consummate the Plan, including, without limitation, entering into, implementing, and consummating the contracts, instruments, releases, leases, indentures, and other agreements or documents created in connection with or described in the Plan.
- 4. All documents and agreements necessary to implement the Plan, including, without limitation, the New Credit Facilities Documents, shall have (a) been tendered for delivery and (b) been effected or executed. All conditions precedent to the effectiveness of such documents and agreements shall have been satisfied or waived pursuant to the terms of such documents or agreements, and the commitment fees described in Article IV.H of this Plan shall have been paid.
- 5. All actions, documents, certificates, and agreements necessary to implement this Plan, including, without limitation, the Sponsors' payment of the Sponsor Payment to the Debtors, shall have been effected or executed and delivered to the required parties and, to the extent required, filed with the applicable Governmental Units in accordance with applicable laws.
  - 6. The Professional Fee Escrow Account shall have been established and funded.
  - 7. The Unsecured Claims Payment Escrow shall be established and funded.

# C. Waiver of Conditions

The conditions to Confirmation and to Consummation set forth in this Article VIII may be waived by the Debtors, with the written consent of the Creditors' Committee, the Requisite Consenting Lenders, and the ABL DIP Lenders, without notice to parties in interest and without any further notice, leave, or order of the Bankruptcy Court or any formal action other than proceeding to confirm or consummate the Plan.

#### D. Substantial Consummation

"Substantial Consummation" of the Plan, as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 1101(2), shall be deemed to occur on the Effective Date.

# E. Effect of Non Occurrence of Conditions to the Effective Date

If the Effective Date does not occur, the Plan shall be null and void in all respects and nothing contained in the Plan or the Disclosure Statement shall: (1) constitute a waiver or release of any claims by or Claims against or Equity Interests in the Debtors; (2) prejudice in any manner the rights of the Debtors, any Holders, or any other Entity; or (3) constitute an admission, acknowledgment, offer, or undertaking by the Debtors, any Holders, or any other Entity in any respect.

#### ARTICLE IX.

# SETTLEMENT, RELEASE, INJUNCTION, AND RELATED PROVISIONS

# A. Compromise and Settlement

Pursuant to section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019 and in consideration for the distributions and other benefits provided pursuant to the Plan, the provisions of the Plan, including the releases set forth in this Article IX, shall constitute a good faith compromise of all Claims, Interests, and controversies relating to the contractual, legal, and subordination rights that a Holder of a Claim may have with respect to any Allowed Claim or Interest, or any distribution to be made on account of such Allowed Claim or Interest. The entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval of the compromise or settlement of all such Claims, Interests, and controversies, as well as a finding by the Bankruptcy Court that such compromise or settlement is in the best interests of the Debtors, their Estates, and Holders of Claims and Interests and is fair, equitable, and reasonable. In accordance with the provisions of the Plan, pursuant to section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019(a), without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court, after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors may compromise and settle Claims against them and Causes of Action against other Entities.

#### B. Subordinated Claims

The allowance, classification, and treatment of all Allowed Claims and Equity Interests and the respective distributions and treatments under the Plan take into account and conform to the relative priority and rights of the Claims and Equity Interests in each Class in connection with any contractual, legal, and equitable subordination rights relating thereto, whether arising under general principles of equitable subordination, section 510(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, or otherwise. Pursuant to section 510 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Reorganized Debtors reserve the right to re-classify any Allowed Claim or Interest in accordance with any contractual, legal or equitable subordination relating thereto.

# C. Discharge of Claims and Termination of Equity Interests

Pursuant to and to the fullest extent permitted by section 1141(d) of the Bankruptcy Code, and except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, the distributions, rights and treatment that are provided in the Plan shall be in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release and discharge, effective as of the Effective Date, of all Claims (including any Intercompany Claims resolved or compromised after the Effective Date by the Reorganized Debtors), Equity Interests, and Causes of Action of any nature whatsoever, including any interest accrued on Claims or Equity Interests from and after the Petition Date, whether known or unknown, against, liabilities of, liens on, obligations of, rights against, and Equity Interests in, the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, or any of their assets or properties, regardless of whether any property shall have been distributed or retained pursuant to the Plan on account of such Claims and Equity Interests, including demands, liabilities, and Causes of Action that arose before the Effective Date, any liability (including withdrawal liability) to the extent such Claims or Equity Interests relate to services performed by current or former employees of the Debtors prior to the Effective Date and arise from a termination of employment or a termination of any employee or retiree benefit program regardless of whether such termination occurred prior to or after the Effective Date, any contingent or non-contingent liability on account of representations or warranties issued on or before the Effective Date, and all debts of the kind specified in sections 502(g), 502(h), or 502(i) of the Bankruptcy Code, in each case whether or not: (1) a Proof of Claim or Interest based upon such Claim, debt, right, or Interest is filed or deemed filed pursuant to section 501 of the Bankruptcy Code; (2) a Claim or Interest based upon such Claim, debt, right, or Interest is Allowed pursuant to section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code; or (3) the Holder of such a Claim or Interest has accepted the Plan. Except as otherwise provided herein, any default by the Debtors or their Affiliates with respect to any Claim or Interest that existed immediately prior to or on account of the filing of the Chapter 11 Cases shall be deemed cured on the Effective Date. The Confirmation Order shall be a judicial determination of the discharge of all Claims and Equity Interests subject to the occurrence of the Effective Date.

#### D. Release of Liens

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, the Confirmation Order, or in any contract, instrument, release, or other agreement or document entered into or delivered in connection with the Plan, on the Effective Date and concurrently with the applicable distributions made pursuant to Articles II.E and III hereof and, in the case of (i) the ABL DIP Claims, indefeasible payment in full in Cash of such ABL DIP Claims, and (ii) a Secured Claim, satisfaction in full of the portion of the Secured Claim that is Allowed as of the Effective Date, all mortgages, deeds of trust, liens, pledges, or other security interests against any property of the Estates shall be fully released and discharged, and all of the right, title, and interest of any Holder of such mortgages, deeds of trust, liens, pledges, or other security interests shall revert to the Reorganized Debtors and their successors and assigns.

#### E. Debtor Release

Pursuant to section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, and except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, for good and valuable consideration, including the service of the Released Parties in facilitating the expeditious reorganization of the Debtors and the

implementation of the restructuring contemplated by the Plan, effective as of the Effective Date, the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, and any Person seeking to exercise the rights of the Estates, including, without limitation, any successor to the Debtors or any estate representative appointed or selected pursuant to section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code shall be deemed to forever release, waive, and discharge the Released Parties of any and all claims, obligations, rights, suits, damages, Causes of Action, remedies, and liabilities whatsoever, including any derivative claims asserted on behalf of the Debtors, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, liquidated or unliquidated, contingent or fixed, existing or hereafter arising, in law, at equity or otherwise, whether for tort, contract, violations of federal or state securities laws or otherwise, including, without limitation, those that any of the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, the Estates, or their Affiliates would have been legally entitled to assert in their own right (whether individually or collectively) or on behalf of the Holder of any claim or Equity Interest, based on or relating to, or in any manner arising from, in whole or in part, the Debtors, the Estates, the conduct of the Debtors' businesses, the Chapter 11 Cases, the purchase, sale, or rescission or the purchase or sale of any security of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, the subject matter of, or the transactions or events giving rise to, any Claim or Equity Interest that is treated in the Plan, the business or contractual arrangements between any of the Debtors and any Released Party, the restructuring of claims and Equity Interests prior to or in the Chapter 11 Cases, the negotiation, formulation, or preparation of the Plan, the Plan Supplement, the Disclosure Statement, or related agreements, instruments, or other documents, or upon any other act or omission, transaction, or occurrence relating to the foregoing taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan, other than claims or liabilities arising out of or relating to any act or omission of a Released Party that constitutes criminal conduct, willful misconduct, or gross negligence.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the "Debtor Release" shall not operate to waive or release any Causes of Action of any Debtor: (1) arising under any contract, instrument, agreement, release, or document delivered pursuant to the Plan, including, without limitation, the New ABL Facility Documents, the New First Lien Term Loan Facility Documents, or the Shareholders Agreement or documents, agreements, or instruments executed in connection therewith, or (2) expressly set forth in and preserved by the Plan, the Plan Supplement, or related documents.

For the avoidance of doubt, and notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Debtor Release includes a release of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders of any claim or Cause of Action whatsoever that was or could have been raised in the draft complaint attached to the Standing Motion, including without limitation any claims, Causes of Action or liabilities arising out of or related to the Sponsors' equity ownership of Payless Holdings LLC, the 2012 transaction in which the Sponsors became the majority equity owners of Payless Holdings LLC, any dividends or fees paid to the Sponsor Entities or Prepetition Lenders, any loans incurred by the Debtors, and any role by any of the Sponsor Entities in managing the Debtors. The consideration provided by the Prepetition Lenders under the Plan and the Sponsor Payment being made by the Sponsors are in settlement of any and all potential claims, Causes of Action, or liabilities against any of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders arising out of or relating to any act or

omission, transaction, or occurrence relating to the Debtors or the Debtors' Estates taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan.

Entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval, pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019, of the Debtor Release, which includes by reference each of the related provisions and definitions contained herein, and further, shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's finding that the Debtor Release is: (1) in exchange for the good and valuable consideration provided by the Released Parties; (2) a good faith settlement and compromise of the claims released by the Debtor Release; (3) in the best interests of the Debtors and all Holders of Claims and Equity Interests; (4) fair, equitable and reasonable; (5) given and made after reasonable investigation by the Debtors and after notice and opportunity for hearing; and (6) a bar to any of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors asserting any claim released by the Debtor Release against any of the Released Parties.

# F. Third-Party Release

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, for good and valuable consideration, including the service of the Released Parties in facilitating the expeditious reorganization of the Debtors and the implementation of the restructuring contemplated by the Plan, effective as of the Effective Date, the Releasing Parties (regardless of whether a Releasing Party is a Released Party) shall be deemed to forever release, waive, and discharge the Released Parties of any and all claims, obligations, rights, suits, damages, Causes of Action, remedies, and liabilities whatsoever, including any derivative claims asserted on behalf of a Debtor, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, liquidated or unliquidated, contingent or fixed, existing or hereafter arising, in law, at equity, or otherwise, whether for tort, contract, violations of federal or state securities laws or otherwise, including, without limitation, those that any of the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, the Estates, or their Affiliates would have been legally entitled to assert in their own right (whether individually or collectively) or on behalf of the Holder of any Claim or Equity Interest, based on or relating to, or in any manner arising from, in whole or in part, the Debtors, the Estates, the conduct of the Debtors' businesses, the Chapter 11 Cases, the purchase, sale, or rescission or the purchase or sale of any security of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, the subject matter of, or the transactions or events giving rise to, any Claim or Equity Interest that is treated in the Plan, the business or contractual arrangements between any of the Debtors and any Released Party, the restructuring of Claims and Equity Interests prior to or in the Chapter 11 Cases, the negotiation, formulation, or preparation of the Plan, the Plan Supplement, the Disclosure Statement, or related agreements, instruments, or other documents, or upon any other act or omission, transaction, or occurrence relating to the foregoing taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan, other than claims or liabilities arising out of or relating to any act or omission of a Released Party that constitutes criminal conduct, willful misconduct, or gross negligence.

Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, the foregoing release does not release any post-Effective Date obligations of any party under the Plan or any document, instrument, or agreement (including those set forth in the Plan Supplement) executed to implement the Plan.

For the avoidance of doubt, and notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Third-Party Release includes a release of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders of any claim or Cause of Action whatsoever that was or could have been raised in the draft complaint attached to the Standing Motion, including without limitation any claims, Causes of Action or liabilities arising out of or related to the Sponsors' equity ownership of Payless Holdings LLC, the 2012 transaction in which the Sponsors became the majority equity owners of Payless Holdings LLC, any dividends or fees paid to the Sponsor Entities or Prepetition Lenders, any loans incurred by the Debtors, and any role by any of the Sponsor Entities in managing the Debtors. The consideration provided by the Prepetition Lenders under the Plan and the Sponsor Payment being made by the Sponsors are in settlement of any and all potential claims, Causes of Action, or liabilities against any of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders arising out of or relating to any act or omission, transaction, or occurrence relating to the Debtors or the Debtors' Estates taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan.

Entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval, pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019, of the Third-Party Release, which includes by reference each of the related provisions and definitions contained herein, and further, shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's finding that the Third-Party Release is: (1) in exchange for the good and valuable consideration provided by the Released Parties; (2) a good faith settlement and compromise of the claims released by the Releasing Parties; (3) in the best interests of the Debtors and all Holders of Claims and Equity Interests; (4) fair, equitable and reasonable; (5) given and made after notice and opportunity for hearing; and (6) a bar to any of the Releasing Parties asserting any Claim released by the Third-Party Release against any of the Released Parties.

# G. Exculpation

Upon and effective as of the Effective Date, the Debtors and their directors, officers, employees, attorneys, investment bankers, financial advisors, restructuring consultants, and other professional advisors and agents will be deemed to have solicited acceptances of this Plan in good faith and in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, including section 1125(e) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Except with respect to any acts or omissions expressly set forth in and preserved by the Plan, the Plan supplement, or related documents, the Exculpated Parties shall neither have nor incur any liability to any Entity for any prepetition or postpetition act taken or omitted to be taken in connection with, or arising from or relating in any way to, the Chapter 11 Cases, including, without limitation, the operation of the Debtors' businesses during the pendency of these Chapter 11 Cases; formulating, negotiating, preparing, disseminating, implementing, and/or effecting the Restructuring Support Agreement, the DIP Documents, the Disclosure Statement, and the Plan (including the Plan Supplement and any related contract, instrument, release, or other agreement or document created or entered into in connection therewith); the solicitation of votes for the Plan and the pursuit of Confirmation and Consummation of the Plan; the administration of the Plan and/or the property to be distributed under the Plan; the offer and issuance of any securities under the Plan; and/or any other prepetition or postpetition act taken or omitted to be taken in

connection with or in contemplation of the restructuring of the Debtors. In all respects, each Exculpated Party shall be entitled to rely upon the advice of counsel concerning his, her, or its respective duties under, pursuant to, or in connection with the Plan.

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, nothing in the foregoing "Exculpation" shall exculpate any Person or Entity from any liability resulting from any act or omission constituting fraud, willful misconduct, gross negligence, criminal conduct, malpractice, misuse of confidential information that causes damages, or ultra vires acts as determined by a Final Order.

#### H. Injunction

The satisfaction, release, and discharge pursuant to this Article IX of the Plan shall also act as an injunction against any Person commencing or continuing any action, employment of process or act to collect, offset, or recover any claim or Cause of Action satisfied, released, or discharged under the Plan or the Confirmation Order to the fullest extent authorized or provided by the Bankruptcy Code, including, without limitation, to the extent provided for or authorized by sections 524 and 1141 thereof.

# I. No Release of Any Claims Held by the United States

Nothing in the Confirmation Order or the Plan shall effect a release of any Claim by the United States Government or any of its agencies or any state and local authority whatsoever, including, without limitation, any Claim arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental laws, or any criminal laws of the United States or any state and local authority against the Released Parties, nor shall anything in the Confirmation Order or the Plan enjoin the United States or any state or local authority from bringing any Claim, suit, action, or other proceedings against the Released Parties for any liability whatever, including, without limitation, any Claim, suit, or action arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental laws, or any criminal laws of the United States or any state or local authority, nor shall anything in the Confirmation Order or the Plan exculpate any party from any liability to the United States Government or any of its agencies or any state and local authority whatsoever, including any liabilities arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental laws, or any criminal laws of the United States or any state and local authority against the Released Parties.

#### ARTICLE X.

#### RETENTION OF JURISDICTION

Notwithstanding the entry of the Confirmation Order and the occurrence of the Effective Date, the Bankruptcy Court shall retain exclusive jurisdiction over all matters arising out of, or related to, the Chapter 11 Cases and the Plan pursuant to sections 105(a) and 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code, including jurisdiction to:

1. Allow, disallow, determine, liquidate, classify, estimate, or establish the priority, secured or unsecured status, or amount of any Claim or Interest, including the resolution of any

request for payment of any Administrative Claim and the resolution of any and all objections to the Secured or unsecured status, priority, amount, or allowance of Claims or Equity Interests;

- 2. Decide and resolve all matters related to the granting and denying, in whole or in part, any applications for allowance of compensation or reimbursement of expenses to Retained Professionals authorized pursuant to the Bankruptcy Code or the Plan;
- 3. Resolve any matters related to: (a) the assumption, assumption and assignment, or rejection of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease to which a Debtor is party or with respect to which a Debtor may be liable and to hear, determine, and, if necessary, liquidate, any Cure or Claims arising therefrom, including Cure or Claims pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code; (b) any potential contractual obligation under any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that is assumed; and (c) any dispute regarding whether a contract or lease is or was executory or expired;
- 4. Ensure that distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims and Equity Interests are accomplished pursuant to the provisions of the Plan;
- 5. Adjudicate, decide, or resolve any motions, adversary proceedings, contested or litigated matters, and any other matters, and grant or deny any applications involving a Debtor that may be pending on the Effective Date;
  - 6. Adjudicate, decide, or resolve any and all matters related to Causes of Action;
- 7. Adjudicate, decide, or resolve any and all matters related to section 1141 of the Bankruptcy Code;
- 8. Enter and implement such orders as may be necessary or appropriate to execute, implement, or consummate the provisions of the Plan and all contracts, instruments, releases, indentures, and other agreements or documents created in connection with the Plan or the Disclosure Statement:
- 9. Enter and enforce any order for the sale of property pursuant to sections 363, 1123, or 1146(a) of the Bankruptcy Code;
- 10. Resolve any cases, controversies, suits, disputes, or Causes of Action that may arise in connection with the interpretation or enforcement of the Plan or any Entity's obligations incurred in connection with the Plan;
- 11. Issue injunctions, enter and implement other orders, or take such other actions as may be necessary or appropriate to restrain interference by any Entity with enforcement of the Plan;
- 12. Resolve any cases, controversies, suits, disputes, or Causes of Action with respect to the releases, injunctions, and other provisions contained in the Plan and enter such orders as may be necessary or appropriate to implement such releases, injunctions, and other provisions;

- 13. Resolve any cases, controversies, suits, disputes, or Causes of Action with respect to the repayment or return of distributions and the recovery of additional amounts owed by the Holder of a Claim or Interest for amounts not timely repaid;
- 14. Enter and implement such orders as are necessary or appropriate if the Confirmation Order is for any reason modified, stayed, reversed, revoked, or vacated;
- 15. Determine any other matters that may arise in connection with or relate to the Plan, the Disclosure Statement, the Confirmation Order, or any contract, instrument, release, indenture, or other agreement or document created in connection with the Plan or the Disclosure Statement;
  - 16. Enter an order or final decree concluding or closing the Chapter 11 Cases;
- 17. Adjudicate any and all disputes arising from or relating to distributions under the Plan;
- 18. Consider any modifications of the Plan, to cure any defect or omission, or to reconcile any inconsistency in any Bankruptcy Court order, including the Confirmation Order;
- 19. Determine requests for the payment of Claims and Equity Interests entitled to priority pursuant to section 507 of the Bankruptcy Code;
- 20. Hear and determine disputes arising in connection with the interpretation, implementation, or enforcement of the Plan or any Entity's obligations incurred in connection with the Plan, or the Confirmation Order, including disputes arising under agreements, documents, or instruments executed in connection with the Plan (other than any dispute arising after the Effective Date under, or directly with respect to, the New ABL Credit Agreement, the New First Lien Term Loan Credit Agreement and any intercreditor agreement relating thereto, and the Shareholders Agreement, which disputes shall be adjudicated in accordance with the terms of such agreements);
- 21. Hear and determine matters concerning state, local, and federal taxes in accordance with sections 346, 505, and 1146 of the Bankruptcy Code;
- 22. Hear and determine all disputes involving the existence, nature, or scope of the Debtors' discharge, including any dispute relating to any liability arising out of the termination of employment or the termination of any employee or retiree benefit program, regardless of whether such termination occurred prior to or after the Effective Date;
  - 23. Enforce all orders previously entered by the Bankruptcy Court; and
  - 24. Hear any other matter not inconsistent with the Bankruptcy Code.

#### ARTICLE XI.

# MODIFICATION, REVOCATION AND WITHDRAWAL OF THE PLAN

# A. Modification of Plan

Subject to the limitations contained in the Plan, the Restructuring Support Agreement, the ABL DIP Facility, and the Term DIP Facility, and in accordance with the Restructuring Support Agreement: (1) the Debtors reserve the right, in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code and the Bankruptcy Rules, to amend or modify the Plan prior to the entry of the Confirmation Order, including amendments or modifications to satisfy section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code; and (2) after the entry of the Confirmation Order, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as the case may be, may, upon the order of the Bankruptcy Court, amend or modify the Plan, in accordance with section 1127(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, or remedy any defect or omission or reconcile any inconsistency in the Plan in such manner as may be necessary to carry out the purpose and intent of the Plan; provided, however, that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as the case may be, shall not amend or modify the Plan in a manner that affects the treatment of Class 5A (Other General Unsecured Claims) or Class 5B (Worldwide General Unsecured Claims) without the prior written consent of the Creditors' Committee or the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee, as the case may be; provided further, however, that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as the case may be, shall not amend or modify the Plan in a manner that adversely affects the Sponsor Entities without the prior consent of the Sponsors or in a manner that adversely affects the Prepetition Lenders without the prior consent of the Prepetition Lenders.

# B. Effect of Confirmation on Modifications

Entry of a Confirmation Order shall mean that all modifications or amendments to the Plan since the solicitation thereof are approved pursuant to section 1127(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and do not require additional disclosure or resolicitation under Bankruptcy Rule 3019.

# C. Revocation of Plan

Subject to the Restructuring Support Agreement and conditions to the Effective Date, the Debtors reserve the right to revoke or withdraw the Plan prior to the entry of the Confirmation Order and to file subsequent plans of reorganization. If the Debtors revoke or withdraw the Plan, or if entry of the Confirmation Order or the Effective Date does not occur, then: (1) the Plan shall be null and void in all respects; (2) any settlement or compromise embodied in the Plan, assumption or rejection of Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases effected by the Plan, and any document or agreement executed pursuant hereto shall be deemed null and void; and (3) nothing contained in the Plan shall: (a) constitute a waiver or release of any claims by or against, or any Equity Interests in, such Debtor or any other Entity; (b) prejudice in any manner the rights of the Debtors or any other Entity; or (c) constitute an admission of any sort by the Debtors or any other Entity.

#### ARTICLE XII.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

## A. Immediate Binding Effect

Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rules 3020(e), 6004(g), or 7062 or otherwise, upon the occurrence of the Effective Date, the terms of the Plan and the Plan Supplement shall be immediately effective and enforceable and deemed binding upon the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, and any and all Holders of Claims or Equity Interests (irrespective of whether Holders of such Claims or Equity Interests are deemed to have accepted the Plan), all Entities that are parties to or are subject to the settlements, compromises, releases, discharges, and injunctions described in the Plan, each Entity acquiring property under the Plan, and any and all non-Debtor parties to Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases with the Debtors.

#### B. Additional Documents

On or before the Effective Date, the Debtors may file with the Bankruptcy Court such agreements and other documents as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate and further evidence the terms and conditions of the Plan. The Debtors or Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, and all Holders of Claims or Equity Interests receiving distributions pursuant to the Plan and all other parties in interest shall, from time to time, prepare, execute, and deliver any agreements or documents and take any other actions as may be necessary or advisable to effectuate the provisions and intent of the Plan.

# C. Reservation of Rights

Except as expressly set forth herein, the Plan shall have no force or effect unless and until the Bankruptcy Court enters the Confirmation Order. Neither the filing of the Plan, any statement or provision contained herein, nor the taking of any action by a Debtor or any other Entity with respect to the Plan shall be or shall be deemed to be an admission or waiver of any rights of: (1) any Debtor with respect to the Holders of Claims or Equity Interests or other Entity; or (2) any Holder of a Claim or an Equity Interest or other Entity prior to the Effective Date.

# D. Successors and Assigns

The rights, benefits, and obligations of any Entity named or referred to herein shall be binding on, and shall inure to the benefit of, any heir, executor, administrator, successor, or assign of such Entity.

# E. Service of Documents

After the Effective Date, the Debtors are authorized to limit the list of Entities receiving documents pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002 to those Entities who have filed renewed requests for service.

In accordance with Bankruptcy Rules 2002 and 3020(c), within ten (10) Business Days of the date of entry of the Confirmation Order, the Debtors shall serve a notice of Confirmation by United States mail, first class postage prepaid, by hand, or by overnight courier service to all parties served with notice of the Confirmation Hearing; *provided*, *however*, that no notice or service of any kind shall be required to be mailed or made upon any Entity to whom the Debtors served the notice of the Confirmation Hearing, but received such notice returned marked "undeliverable as addressed," "moved, left no forwarding address" or "forwarding order expired," or similar reason, unless the Debtors have been informed in writing by such Entity, or are otherwise aware, of that Entity's new address.

To supplement the notice described in the preceding sentence, within twenty (20) days of the date of the Confirmation Order the Debtors shall publish notice of the Confirmation Hearing on one occasion in the national editions of *The Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today*. Mailing and publication of the notice of the Confirmation Hearing in the time and manner set forth in the this paragraph shall be good and sufficient notice under the particular circumstances and in accordance with the requirements of Bankruptcy Rules 2002 and 3020(c), and no further notice is necessary.

# F. Term of Injunctions or Stays

Unless otherwise provided in the Plan or in the Confirmation Order, all injunctions or stays in effect in the Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to sections 105 or 362 of the Bankruptcy Code or any order of the Bankruptcy Court, and extant on the Confirmation Date (excluding any injunctions or stays contained in the Plan or the Confirmation Order) shall remain in full force and effect until the Effective Date. All injunctions or stays contained in the Plan or the Confirmation Order shall remain in full force and effect in accordance with their terms.

# G. Entire Agreement

On the Effective Date, the Plan and the Plan Supplement supersede all previous and contemporaneous negotiations, promises, covenants, agreements, understandings, and representations on such subjects, all of which have become merged and integrated into the Plan.

# H. Governing Law

Unless a rule of law or procedure is supplied by federal law (including the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules) or unless otherwise specifically stated, the laws of the State of New York, without giving effect to the principles of conflict of laws, shall govern the rights, obligations, construction, and implementation of the Plan, any agreements, documents, instruments, or contracts executed or entered into in connection with the Plan (except as otherwise set forth in those agreements, in which case the governing law of such agreement shall control), and corporate governance matters; *provided*, *however*, that corporate governance matters relating to Debtors or Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, not incorporated or organized in New York shall be governed by the laws of the place of incorporation or organization of the applicable Debtor or Reorganized Debtor, as applicable.

#### I. Exhibits

All exhibits and documents included in the Plan Supplement are incorporated into and are a part of the Plan as if set forth in full in the Plan. Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, such exhibits and documents included in the Plan Supplement shall be filed with the Bankruptcy Court on or before the Plan Supplement Filing Date. After the exhibits and documents are filed, copies of such exhibits and documents shall have been available upon written request to the Debtors' counsel at the address above or by downloading such exhibits and documents from the Debtors' private website at <a href="https://cases.primeclerk.com/payless">https://cases.primeclerk.com/payless</a> or the Bankruptcy Court's website at <a href="https://cases.primeclerk.com/payless">https://cases.primeclerk.com/payless</a> or the Bankruptcy Court's the terms of the Plan, unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court, the non-exhibit or non-document portion of the Plan shall control.

# J. Nonseverability of Plan Provisions Upon Confirmation

If, prior to Confirmation, any term or provision of the Plan is held by the Bankruptcy Court to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the Bankruptcy Court shall have the power to alter and interpret such term or provision to make it valid or enforceable to the maximum extent practicable, consistent with the original purpose of the term or provision held to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, and such term or provision shall then be applicable as altered or interpreted. Notwithstanding any such holding, alteration, or interpretation, the remainder of the terms and provisions of the Plan will remain in full force and effect and will in no way be affected, impaired, or invalidated by such holding, alteration, or interpretation. The Confirmation Order shall constitute a judicial determination and shall provide that each term and provision of the Plan, as it may have been altered or interpreted in accordance with the foregoing, is: (1) valid and enforceable pursuant to its terms; (2) integral to the Plan and may not be deleted or modified without the consent of the Debtors; and (3) nonseverable and mutually dependent.

# K. Closing of Chapter 11 Cases

The Reorganized Debtors shall, promptly after the full administration of the Chapter 11 Cases, file with the Bankruptcy Court all documents required by Bankruptcy Rule 3022 and any applicable order of the Bankruptcy Court to close the Chapter 11 Cases.

# L. Conflicts

Except as set forth in the Plan, to the extent that any provision of the Disclosure Statement, the Plan Supplement, or any other order (other than the Confirmation Order) referenced in the Plan (or any exhibits, appendices, supplements, or amendments to any of the foregoing), conflict with or are in any way inconsistent with any provision of the Plan, the Plan shall govern and control.

# M. Dissolution of Creditors' Committee

The Creditors' Committee shall dissolve, and the members thereof shall be released and discharged from all rights and duties arising from, or related to, the Chapter 11 Cases on the Effective Date; *provided*, that the Creditors' Committee shall be deemed to remain in existence

solely with respect to, and shall not be heard on any issue except, applications filed by the Retained Professionals pursuant to sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Reorganized Debtors shall not be responsible for paying fees or expenses incurred by the members of or advisors to the Creditors' Committee after the Effective Date.

# N. Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee

On the Effective Date, the Creditors' Committee shall appoint and establish the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee pursuant to the Plan. The Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee may in their sole discretion retain professionals, including professionals previously retained by the Creditors' Committee, without any further notice to or action, order, or approval by the Bankruptcy Court.

On the Effective Date, funds of the Debtors in the amount of \$500,000 shall be set aside in a segregated account for exclusive use by the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee. All costs and expenses of the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee and its members, including reasonable professional fees will be paid exclusively from such funds without any further notice to or action, order, or approval by the Bankruptcy Court. Any unused portion of the funds set aside for the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee at the time of the entry of a final decree closing these Chapter 11 Cases, or such earlier time as the Reorganized Debtors may be advised by the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee, will revert to the Reorganized Debtors.

From and after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors and the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee shall have the authority to prosecute and settle or compromise Claims in Class 5A or Class 5B. The Reorganized Debtors and the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee will work together in good faith to prosecute objections to Claims in Class 5A or Class 5B and compromise or settle Claims in Class 5A or Class 5B. The Reorganized Debtors shall make their employees and books and records reasonably available to the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee to assist them with respect to these matters.

If there is a dispute between the Reorganized Debtors and the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee regarding any proposed objection, settlement, or compromise of a Claim in Class 5A or Class 5B, the parties shall endeavor to resolve any such dispute informally, and either party shall be entitled to seek a hearing before the Bankruptcy Court on an expedited basis to resolve such dispute if it cannot be informally resolved before such proposed objection, settlement, or compromise becomes effective. The Bankruptcy Court shall have jurisdiction to decide any such disputes.

# O. Section 1125(e) Good Faith Compliance

The Debtors, Reorganized Debtors, the Prepetition Agents, the DIP Agents, and the Creditors' Committee, and each of their respective representatives, shall be deemed to have acted in "good faith" under section 1125(e) of the Bankruptcy Code.

# P. Further Assurances

The Debtors, Reorganized Debtors, all Holders of Claims receiving distributions hereunder, and all other parties-in-interest shall, from time to time, prepare, execute, and deliver any agreements or documents and take any other actions as may be necessary or advisable to effectuate the provisions and intent of the Plan or the Confirmation Order.

# Q. No Stay of Confirmation Order

The Confirmation Order shall contain a waiver of any stay of enforcement otherwise applicable, including pursuant to Bankruptcy Rules 3020(e) and 7062.

# R. Waiver or Estoppel

Each Holder of a Claim or an Interest shall be deemed to have waived any right to assert any argument, including the right to argue that its Claim or Interest should be Allowed in a certain amount, in a certain priority, secured, or not subordinated by virtue of an agreement made with the Debtors or their counsel, or any other Entity, if such agreement was not disclosed in the Plan, the Disclosure Statement, or papers filed with the Bankruptcy Court prior to the Confirmation Date.

# S. Payment of Restructuring Support Advisor and DIP Document Fees

Prior to the occurrence of the Effective Date of the Plan, the Debtors will indefeasibly pay in full, in Cash all fees and expenses due and owing (or good-faith estimates thereof) to lenders or advisors pursuant to the terms of the Restructuring Support Agreement, the Final DIP Order, or the Definitive Documents that have not previously been paid.

# Case 17-42267 Doc 1507 Filed 07/21/17 Entered 07/21/17 12:54:25 Main Document Pg 73 of 73

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 21, 2017

By: /s/ Michael Schwindle

Name: Michael Schwindle

Title: Chief Financial Officer, Payless ShoeSource,

Inc.

# VCD'D"

# **Disclosure Statement**

THIS IS EXHIBIT "B" REFERRED TO IN THE AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL SHAKRA, SWORN BEFORE ME THIS 24th DAY OF JULY, 2017.

A Commissioner for taking Affidavits, etc.

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

	)
In re:	) Case No. 17-42267-659
	) CHAPTER 11
PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, et al., 1	)
	) Jointly Administered
	)
Debtors.	)
	)

# DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR THE FOURTH AMENDED JOINT PLAN OF REORGANIZATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC AND ITS DEBTOR AFFILIATES PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 11 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

THIS IS NOT A SOLICITATION OF ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF THE PLAN. ACCEPTANCES OR REJECTIONS MAY NOT BE SOLICITED UNTIL A DISCLOSURE STATEMENT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE BANKRUPTCY COURT. THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IS BEING SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL BUT HAS NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE COURT.

Nicole L. Greenblatt, P.C. (admitted pro hac vice)

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The Debtors (as defined herein) in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Payless Holdings LLC [5704]; Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC [5190]; WBG-PSS Holdings LLC [0673]; Payless Inc. [3160]; Payless Finance, Inc. [2101]; Collective Brands Services, Inc. [7266]; PSS Delaware Company 4, Inc. [1466]; Shoe Sourcing, Inc. [4075]; Payless ShoeSource, Inc. [4097]; Eastborough, Inc. [2803]; Payless Purchasing Services, Inc. [3043]; Payless ShoeSource Merchandising, Inc. [0946]; Payless Gold Value CO, Inc. [3581]; Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc. [0944]; Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. [6884]; Payless NYC, Inc. [4126]; Payless ShoeSource of Puerto Rico, Inc. [9017]; Payless Collective GP, LLC [2940]; Collective Licensing, LP [1256]; Collective Licensing International LLC [5451]; Clinch, LLC [9836]; Collective Brands Franchising Services, LLC [3636]; Payless International Franchising, LLC [6448]; Collective Brands Logistics, Limited [6466]; Dynamic Assets Limited [1978]; PSS Canada, Inc. [4969]; Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc. [4180]; Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. [4182]; and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP [4179]. The location of Debtor Payless Holdings LLC's corporate headquarters and the Debtors' service address is: c/o Payless ShoeSource Inc. 3231 SE 6th Avenue Topeka, KS 66607 United States.

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOU TO READ

# THE DEADLINE TO VOTE ON THE PLAN IS JULY 18, 2017, AT 4:00 P.M. CENTRAL TIME.

FOR YOUR VOTE TO BE COUNTED, YOUR BALLOT MUST BE ACTUALLY RECEIVED BY THE NOTICING AND CLAIMS AGENT BEFORE THE VOTING DEADLINE AS DESCRIBED HEREIN.

This Disclosure Statement provides information regarding the Debtors' Plan, which the Debtors seek to have confirmed in the Bankruptcy Court. A copy of the Plan is attached hereto as Plan. Unless otherwise noted, all capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meaning ascribed to them in the Plan.

The consummation and effectiveness of the Plan are subject to certain material conditions precedent described herein and set forth in Article VIII of the Plan. There is no assurance that the Bankruptcy Court will confirm the Plan or, if the Bankruptcy Court does confirm the Plan, that the conditions necessary for the Plan to go effective will be satisfied or otherwise waived.

You are encouraged to read this Disclosure Statement (including Article VIII hereof entitled "Plan-Related Risk Factors") and the Plan in their entirety before submitting your Ballot to vote on the Plan.

The Bankruptcy Court's approval of this Disclosure Statement does not constitute a guarantee by the Bankruptcy Court of the accuracy or completeness of the information contained herein or an endorsement by the Bankruptcy Court of the merits of the Plan.

Summaries of the Plan and statements made in this Disclosure Statement are qualified in their entirety by reference to the Plan. The summaries of the financial information and the documents annexed to this Disclosure Statement or otherwise incorporated herein by reference are qualified in their entirety by reference to those documents. The statements contained in this Disclosure Statement are made only as of the date of this Disclosure Statement, and there is no assurance that the statements contained herein will be correct at any time after such date. Except as otherwise provided in the Plan or in accordance with applicable law, the Debtors are under no duty to update or supplement this Disclosure Statement.

The Debtors are providing the information in this Disclosure Statement to Holders of Claims and Interests for purposes of soliciting votes to accept or reject the Debtors' Fourth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. In the event of any inconsistency between the Disclosure Statement and the Plan, the relevant provisions of the Plan will govern. Nothing in this Disclosure Statement may be relied upon or used by any entity for any other purpose. Before deciding whether to vote for or against the Plan, each Holder entitled to vote should carefully consider all of the information in this Disclosure Statement, including the Plan-Related Risk Factors described in Article VIII.

The Debtors urge each Holder of a Claim or Interest to consult with its own advisors with respect to any legal, financial, securities, tax, or business advice in reviewing this Disclosure Statement, the Plan, and each proposed transaction contemplated by the Plan.

This Disclosure Statement contains, among other things, summaries of the Plan, certain statutory provisions, certain events in the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases, and certain documents related to the Plan, attached hereto and/or incorporated by reference herein. Although the Debtors believe that these summaries are fair and accurate, they are qualified in their entirety to the extent that they do not set forth the entire text of such documents or statutory provisions or every detail of such events. In the event of any inconsistency or discrepancy between a description in this Disclosure Statement and the terms and provisions of the Plan or any other documents incorporated herein by reference, the Plan or such other documents will govern for all purposes. Factual information contained in this Disclosure Statement has been provided by the Debtors'

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined in this Disclosure Statement shall have the meaning ascribed to such terms in the Plan.

management except where otherwise specifically noted. The Debtors do not represent or warrant that the information contained herein or attached hereto is without any material inaccuracy or omission.

The Debtors have prepared this Disclosure Statement in accordance with section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 3016(b), and Local Bankruptcy Rule 3017, and this Disclosure Statement is not necessarily prepared in accordance with federal or state securities laws or other similar laws.

In preparing this Disclosure Statement, the Debtors relied on financial data derived from the Debtors' books and records and on various assumptions regarding the Debtors' businesses. Although the Debtors believe that such financial information fairly reflects the financial condition of the Debtors as of the date hereof and that the assumptions regarding future events reflect reasonable business judgments, the Debtors make no representations or warranties as to the accuracy of the financial information contained in this Disclosure Statement or assumptions regarding the Debtors' businesses and their future results and operations. The Debtors expressly caution readers not to place undue reliance on any forward looking statements contained herein.

This Disclosure Statement does not constitute, and should not be construed as, an admission of fact, liability, stipulation, or waiver. The Debtors may seek to investigate, file, and prosecute Claims and may object to Claims after the Confirmation or Effective Date of the Plan irrespective of whether this Disclosure Statement identifies such Claims or objections to Claims.

The Debtors are making the statements and providing the financial information contained in this Disclosure Statement as of the date hereof, unless otherwise specifically noted. Although the Debtors may subsequently update the information in this Disclosure Statement, the Debtors have no affirmative duty to do so, and expressly disclaim any duty to publicly update any forward looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise. Holders of Claims and Interests reviewing this Disclosure Statement should not infer that, at the time of their review, the facts set forth herein have not changed since this Disclosure Statement was filed. Information contained herein is subject to completion, modification, or amendment. The Debtors reserve the right to file an amended or modified Plan and related Disclosure Statement from time to time, subject to the terms of the Plan.

The Debtors have not authorized any Entity to give any information about or concerning the Plan other than that contained in this Disclosure Statement. The Debtors have not authorized any representations concerning the Debtors or the value of their property other than as set forth in this Disclosure Statement.

If the Bankruptcy Court confirms the Plan and the Effective Date occurs, the terms of the Plan and the restructuring transactions contemplated by the Plan will bind the Debtors, any Person acquiring property under the Plan, all Holders of Claims and Interests (including those Holders of Claims and Interests that do not submit Ballots to accept or reject the Plan or that are not entitled to vote on the Plan), and any other Person or Entity as may be ordered by the Bankruptcy Court in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.

# SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING FEDERAL AND STATE SECURITIES LAWS

Neither this Disclosure Statement nor the Plan have been filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") or any state authority. The Plan has not been approved or disapproved by the SEC or any state securities commission and neither the SEC nor any state securities commission has passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Disclosure Statement or the merits of the Plan. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

This Disclosure Statement has been prepared pursuant to section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 3016(b) and is not necessarily in accordance with federal or state securities laws or other similar laws. The securities to be issued on or after the Effective Date will not have been the subject of a registration statement filed with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") or any securities regulatory authority of any state under any state securities law ("Blue Sky Laws"). The Debtors are relying on section 4(2) of the Securities Act, section 701 promulgated under the Securities Act,

and similar provisions of Blue Sky Laws, as well as, to the extent applicable, the exemption from the Securities Act and equivalent state law registration requirements provided by section 1145(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, to exempt the issuance of new securities in connection with the solicitation and the Plan from registration under the Securities Act and Blue Sky Laws.

This Disclosure Statement contains "forward looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements consist of any statement other than a recitation of historical fact and can be identified by the use of forward looking terminology such as "may," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate," or "continue" or the negative thereof or other variations thereon or comparable terminology. You are cautioned that all forward looking statements are necessarily speculative and there are certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual events or results to differ materially from those referred to in such forward looking statements. The Liquidation Analysis, distribution projections, and other information contained herein and attached hereto are estimates only, and the timing and amount of actual distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims may be affected by many factors that cannot be predicted. Any analyses, estimates, or recovery projections may or may not turn out to be accurate.

Making investment decisions based on the information contained in this Disclosure Statement and/or the Plan is therefore highly speculative. The Debtors recommend that potential recipients of any securities issued pursuant to the Plan consult their own legal counsel concerning the securities laws governing the transferability of any such securities.

#### QUESTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you would like to obtain copies of this Disclosure Statement, the Plan, or any of the documents attached hereto or referenced herein, or have questions about the solicitation and voting process or these Chapter 11 Cases generally, please contact Prime Clerk LLC by (a) calling the Debtors' restructuring hotline at (844) 648-5574; (b) emailing paylessballots@primeclerk.com; (c) visiting the Debtors' restructuring website at: https://cases.primeclerk.com/payless; and/or (d) writing to Prime Clerk LLC at Payless Balloting Center c/o Prime Clerk LLC, 830 Third Avenue, 3rd Floor, New York, New York 10022.

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# **EXHIBITS**

EXHIBIT A	Plan of Reorganization
EXHIBIT B	Corporate Structure Chart
EXHIBIT C	Disclosure Statement Order
EXHIBIT D	Financial Projections
EXHIBIT E	Liquidation Analysis
EXHIBIT F	Estimation of Payless' Enterprise Value
EXHIBIT G	Restructuring Support Agreement (together with the Restructuring Term Sheet)
EXHIBIT H	Cash Incentive Program Term Sheet
EXHIBIT I	New First Lien Term Loan Facility Term Sheet

THE DEBTORS HEREBY ADOPT AND INCORPORATE EACH EXHIBIT ATTACHED TO THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY REFERENCE AS THOUGH FULLY SET FORTH HEREIN.

# I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

#### A. INTRODUCTION

Payless ShoeSource Inc., a Missouri corporation, together with its affiliates identified on the title page above, as debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>"), each filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri on April 4, 2017 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"). The Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases are jointly administered under lead case name Payless Holdings LLC and lead case number 17-42267-659.

Before soliciting acceptances of a proposed chapter 11 plan of reorganization, section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code requires a debtor to prepare a disclosure statement that contains information of a kind, and in sufficient detail, to permit a hypothetical reasonable investor to make an informed judgment regarding acceptance of the plan of reorganization.

Accordingly, the Debtors submit this disclosure statement (this "<u>Disclosure Statement</u>"), pursuant to section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code, to Holders of Claims against and Interests in the Debtors in connection with the solicitation of votes for acceptance of the *Fourth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and Its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code* (the "<u>Plan</u>") [Docket No. 1256], dated June 23, 2017, as amended, supplemented, or modified from time to time in accordance with its terms. A copy of the Plan is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u> and incorporated herein by reference. The Plan constitutes a separate chapter 11 plan for each of the Debtors.

On June [\_], 2017, the Bankruptcy Court entered an order [Docket No. [\_]] (the "<u>Disclosure Statement Order</u>") (a) approving the Disclosure Statement as containing adequate information, (b) approving, among other things, the dates, procedures, and forms applicable to the process of soliciting votes on and providing notice of the Plan and certain vote tabulation procedures, (c) establishing the deadline for filing objections to the Plan, and (d) scheduling the Confirmation Hearing. The Disclosure Statement Order is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit C</u>.

A hearing to consider confirmation of the Plan is scheduled to be held before the Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States at 10:00 a.m. prevailing Central Time on July 24, 2017 at the Bankruptcy Court, Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse, 111 S. 10th Street, 4th Floor, Courtroom 7 North, St. Louis, MO 63102. Additional information with respect to Confirmation is provided in Article VII of this Disclosure Statement.

This Disclosure Statement includes information about, without limitation, (i) the Debtors' business, prepetition operations, financial history, and events leading up to these Chapter 11 Cases, (ii) the significant events that occurred thus far in these Chapter 11 Cases, (iii) the anticipated recoveries of Creditors under the Plan, (iv) the procedures by which the Debtors intend to solicit and tabulate votes on the Plan, (v) the Plan Confirmation process, (vi) certain risk factors to be considered before voting on the Plan, and (vi) discussions relating to certain securities registration and tax consequences of the Plan. The descriptions and summaries of certain provisions of, and financial transactions contemplated by, the Plan being proposed by the Debtors relate to the Plan filed with the Bankruptcy Court on June 23, 2017. The Plan remains subject to ongoing negotiations between the Debtors and their stakeholders and may be modified.

This Executive Summary is only a general overview of this Disclosure Statement and the material terms of, and transactions proposed by, the Plan. The Executive Summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the more detailed discussions appearing elsewhere in this Disclosure Statement and the exhibits attached to this Disclosure Statement (including the Plan) and the Plan Supplement. The Debtors urge all parties to read this Executive Summary in conjunction with the entire Disclosure Statement, the Plan, and the Plan Supplement.

# B. KEY CONSTITUENT SUPPORT FOR THE PLAN AND GLOBAL SETTLEMENT

The Plan is supported by substantially all of the Debtors key stakeholders, including the Creditors' Committee and parties that collectively hold or control at least 85% and 75% of the Debtors' first and second lien term loans, respectively.

Prior to the Petition Date, the Debtors engaged in extensive, good-faith negotiations with a steering committee of their secured term loan lenders to develop a comprehensive financing, restructuring, and recapitalization plan to be implemented through these Chapter 11 Cases. That agreement was memorialized in the Restructuring Support Agreement attached hereto as **Exhibit G**, executed by parties that collectively hold or control at least 85% and 75% of the Debtors' first and second lien term loans, respectively. The Plan effectively serves to document the Restructuring Support Agreement and implement its terms.

The Creditors' Committee initially did not support the Plan contemplated by the Restructuring Support Agreement or the versions of the Plan that were filed by the Debtors prior to the Fourth Amended Plan on the grounds that, among other arguments, the releases contemplated by the Plan were improper and the recovery to general unsecured creditors was insufficient given the potential value of Estate Claims. The Creditors' Committee conducted its own analysis of the value of such Estate Claims and presented the findings to the Debtors, the Sponsors, and the advisors to certain Prepetition First Lien Lenders that are parties to the Restructuring Support Agreement. The Sponsors denied that they had any liability in connection with the Estate Claims, and denied that there had been any wrongdoing whatsoever. After intensive, arm's-length negotiations, the Debtors (through their independent director, as more fully described in Section III.B.7 hereof), the Creditors' Committee, the Sponsors, and the parties to the Restructuring Support Agreement entered into a settlement. Pursuant to the settlement, among other terms: (i) the Sponsors agreed to make the Sponsor Payment to the Debtors (a contribution of over \$20 million to the Debtors' estates) in settlement of any potential claims and in order to obtain releases from any potential liability, (ii) the Plan will provide for non-consensual, full releases of the Sponsor Entities, the Debtors' current and former officers, as well as all individuals named as defendants by the Creditors' Committee in the draft complaint attached to the Standing Motion (as defined herein) filed on June 13, 2017, (iii) Holders of General Unsecured Claims will receive their respective share, as set forth herein, of two recovery pools in the aggregate amount of \$32.316 million, (iv) the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche will mature 4.5 years after the Effective Date (instead of 5 years) and will not have a prepayment penalty or "make-whole" premium or other such call protection, and (v) the Plan will provide for the release of any and all Avoidance Actions against Holders of Claims in Class 5A and Class 5B. This settlement is a global settlement of all issues related to, among other issues, the Debtors' business, capital structure, and the Estate Claims. The Sponsor Payment is made as a settlement, without admitting any wrongdoing of any kind, of any potential claims, including without limitation claims for breach of fiduciary duty arising in connection with the authorization and payment of certain dividends in 2013 and 2014, that could be asserted against the Sponsor Entities, any of their subsidiaries, affiliates, managed accounts or funds, current or former officers and directors, and certain other related parties, the Debtors' current and former officers and directors, the Prepetition Lenders, and all individuals and entities named as defendants in the motion of the Creditors' Committee for standing to pursue Estate Claims.

With the settlement, the Creditors' Committee supports the Plan and the releases contained therein, and recommends that all Holders of General Unsecured Claims vote to accept the Plan.

Accordingly, the Plan reflects the agreement reached among the Debtors, the Creditors' Committee, the Debtors' Prepetition Lenders, and the Sponsors to reorganize the Debtors as a going-concern business and incorporates an agreed-upon settlement with increased recoveries to unsecured creditors resulting from additional contributions to the Plan from the Sponsors and from the Debtors' estates. The Plan outlines a consensual deleveraging transaction that will leave the Debtors appropriately capitalized and with access to financing to support their emergence and go-forward business needs. The Debtors and their major constituents believe that the compromises, settlements, and transactions reflected in the Plan and DIP Documents will provide the Debtors with liquidity to achieve the financial restructuring contemplated by the Plan, implement the Debtors' long-term business plan, and positively signal the market about the Debtors' post-emergence prospects. Further, the Plan leads to an overall healthier, restructured company, which will benefit all creditors doing business with the Reorganized Debtors. Avoiding a liquidation (which may be triggered if the Debtors do not meet certain milestone contemplated by the Restructuring Support Agreement), preserves value for creditors and minimizes additional potential Claims

that could dilute recoveries to all Holders. The Debtors believe that these, among many others, are substantial reasons to vote to  $\underline{ACCEPT}$  the Plan.

The Debtors and the parties supporting the Plan have also agreed that a prolonged chapter 11 case would drain estate assets and is not in the best interest of creditors. Accordingly, the Restructuring Support Agreement and DIP Documents provide for certain milestones designed to ensure the Debtors move expeditiously towards confirmation of the Plan in the current distressed retail environment, as well as certain conditions and covenants requiring the Debtors to meet operational objectives associated with rent concessions, EBITDA targets, inventory receipts, and a renegotiation of existing joint venture agreements.

Consummation of the Plan and the financial restructurings contemplated thereby will both significantly de-lever the Debtors' capital structure and provide the Debtors with access to new money necessary for ongoing operations. With a sustainable capital structure aligned with the Debtors' revised business plan and adequate operating liquidity, the Reorganized Debtors will be positioned to compete more effectively in the evolving retail industry.

THE DEBTORS, THE PREPETITION SECURED LENDERS, AND THE CREDITORS' COMMITTEE SUPPORT THE PLAN AND BELIEVE THAT THE COMPROMISES, SETTLEMENTS, AND RELEASES CONTEMPLATED UNDER THE PLAN ARE FAIR AND EQUITABLE, MAXIMIZE THE VALUE OF THE DEBTORS' ESTATES, AND PROVIDE THE BEST RECOVERY TO STAKEHOLDERS. FOR THESE REASONS AND OTHERS DESCRIBED HEREIN, THE DEBTORS STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU VOTE TO ACCEPT THE PLAN.

#### C. PLAN OVERVIEW

## 1. Purpose and Effect of the Plan

The Debtors are reorganizing under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, which is the principal business reorganization chapter of the Bankruptcy Code. Under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, a debtor may reorganize its business for the benefit of its stakeholders. The consummation of a plan of reorganization is the principal objective of a chapter 11 case. A plan of reorganization sets forth how a debtor will treat claims and equity interests.

A bankruptcy court's confirmation of a plan of reorganization binds the debtor, any entity or person acquiring property under the plan, any creditor of or equity security holder in a debtor, and any other entities and persons to the extent ordered by the bankruptcy court pursuant to the terms of the confirmed plan, whether or not such entity or person is impaired pursuant to the plan, has voted to accept the plan, or receives or retains any property under the plan.

Among other things (subject to certain limited exceptions and except as otherwise provided in the Plan or the Confirmation Order), the Confirmation Order will discharge the Debtors from any debt arising before the Effective Date, terminate all of the rights and interests of pre-bankruptcy equity security holders and substitute the obligations set forth in the Plan for those pre-bankruptcy Claims and Equity Interests. Under the Plan, Claims and Equity Interests are divided into Classes according to their relative priority and other criteria.

Each of the Debtors is a proponent of the Plan within the meaning of section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Plan does not contemplate the substantive consolidation of the Debtors' estates. Instead, the Plan, although proposed jointly, constitutes a separate plan for each of the Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases. Holders of Allowed Claims or Interests against each of the Debtors will receive the same recovery provided to other Holders of Allowed Claims or Interests in the applicable Class and will be entitled to their share of assets available for distribution to such Class.

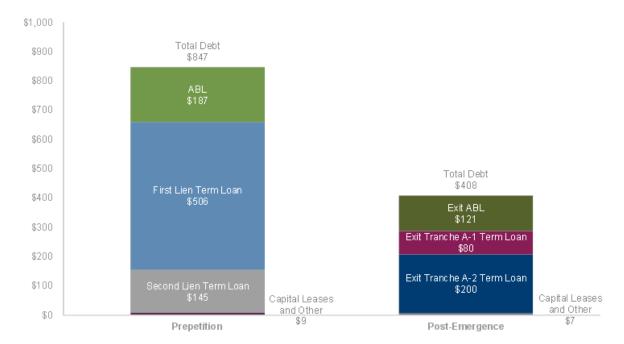
The feasibility of the Plan is premised upon, among other things, the Debtors' ability to achieve the goals of its long-range business plan, make the distributions contemplated under the Plan and pay certain continuing obligations in the ordinary course of the Reorganized Debtors' business. The Reorganized Debtors'

financial projections are set forth on **Exhibit D**.<sup>3</sup> Although the Debtors believe the projections are reasonable and appropriate, they include a number of assumptions and are subject to a number of risk factors and to significant uncertainty. Actual results may differ from the projections, and the differences may be material.

# 2. Financial Restructurings Under the Plan

As of the Petition Date, the Debtors had outstanding funded debt obligations in the aggregate principal amount of approximately \$847 million, consisting primarily of approximately (a) \$187 million outstanding under their ABL Credit Facility (inclusive of Letters of Credit of approximately \$30.5 million); (b) \$506 million outstanding under their First Lien Term Loan; and (c) \$145 million outstanding under their Second Lien Term Loan.<sup>4</sup> Additionally, based on invoices in their accounts payable systems and estimated accruals, the Debtors estimate that an aggregate of approximately \$240 million was owing and outstanding to the Debtors' trade creditors, including vendors, suppliers, service providers, and contract counterparties, as of the Petition Date.

If the Plan is confirmed, Payless (as defined herein) will emerge from these Chapter 11 Cases with approximately 50% less funded debt. Payless' pro forma exit capital structure will consist of a New ABL Facility, a New First Lien Term Loan Facility, and New Equity in Reorganized Holdings, as set forth below (in millions):<sup>5</sup>



Specifically, the Plan contemplates the following restructuring transactions:

• The Debtors' Prepetition ABL Facility has been rolled up into the ABL DIP Facility, a \$305 million asset-based lending facility consisting of an up to \$245 million Tranche A Credit Facility and an up to \$60 million Tranche A-1 Credit Facility. The Plan provides that the ABL DIP Facility will be indefeasibly paid in full, in Cash.<sup>6</sup>

The Debtors' business plan and projections also incorporate forecasts of operating performance for the foreign franchise and joint venture businesses that relate to entities that are not Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases.

In addition, Payless had \$8.9 million of obligations outstanding under capital leases and similar payables that Payless has treated as debt for accounting and financial projection purposes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The Debtors will also assume existing capital leases and similar obligations.

The Debtors are in the process of soliciting, and expect to secure, a replacement revolving exit financing facility, which together with cash on hand, will finance repayment of the ABL DIP Facility.

- Certain of the Debtors' Prepetition First Lien Lenders have provided the Debtors with a Term DIP Facility of up to \$80 million to finance these Chapter 11 Cases and the Debtors' emergence. The Term DIP Facility will roll into the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche under the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, which New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche will be in an amount equal to the outstanding balance of the Term DIP Facility on the Effective Date (each Holder of a Term DIP Facility Claim shall convert its Term DIP Facility Claim into a claim under the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche, on a dollar-for-dollar basis).
- The Prepetition First Lien Lenders (on account of their Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, including the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims that are Secured and their Prepetition First Lien Deficiency Claims) will receive their Pro Rata share of (a) 91.0% of the common equity of Reorganized Holdings (subject to dilution from the Management Equity Incentive Plan and the Exit Commitment Fee<sup>7</sup>) and (b) the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche under the New First Lien Term Loan Facility in the amount of \$280 million less the amount of the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche.
- The Debtors' obligations under the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement will be discharged, and in exchange each Holder of a Claim under the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement will receive their Pro Rata share of 9.0% of the common equity of Reorganized Holdings (subject to dilution from the Management Equity Incentive Plan and the Exit Commitment Fee).
- Holders of General Unsecured Claims against Debtor Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. will receive their (i) Pro Rata share of \$3.658 million (from the Worldwide GUC Claims Recovery Pool) and (ii) Pro Rata share of the remaining \$25 million of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool, which shall be shared Pro Rata only among Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims and Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims (in each case, after reduction by payments received on account of such Claim from the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool and the Worldwide GUC Claims Recovery Pool, respectively).
- Holders of Other General Unsecured Claims will receive their (i) Pro Rata share of \$3.658 million (from the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool) to be shared Pro Rata only among Holders of Other General Unsecured Claims and (ii) Pro Rata share of the remaining \$25 million of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool, which shall be shared Pro Rata only among Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims and Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims (in each case, after reduction by payments received on account of such Claims from the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool and the Worldwide GUC Claims Recovery Pool, respectively).
- Canadian General Unsecured Claims against the Canadian Debtors shall be Reinstated.
- All Equity Interests in Payless Holdings LLC will be extinguished with no consideration paid.

As a result of the restructuring transactions contemplated by the Plan, the New Equity in Reorganized Holdings will be allocated among (i) the Prepetition First Lien Lenders and (ii) the Prepetition Second Lien Lenders, in each case based on each such parties' relative rights and priorities, and in each instance, subject to dilution by the 6–10% of the New Equity (on a fully diluted basis) issued under the Management Equity Incentive Plan and by the Exit Commitment Fee as set forth in the Plan.

# 3. Recovery Analysis

The Plan, which provides for a comprehensive restructuring of the Debtors' prepetition obligations, preserves the going-concern value of the Debtors' businesses, maximizes creditor recoveries, provides for an equitable distribution to the Debtors' stakeholders and protects the jobs of employees. In developing the Plan, the Debtors gave due consideration to various alternatives and engaged in significant discussions with representatives

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The Exit Commitment Fee is New Equity of a value equal to 2.5% of the amount of the Allowed Term DIP Facility Claims as of the Effective Date.

and/or professionals of the senior secured lenders under their prepetition first lien and second lien term loans, whom the Debtors believe will be the primary economic stakeholders in the Reorganized Debtors. With the assistance of their professional advisors, the Debtors also conducted a careful review of their current operations, prospects as an ongoing business, financial projections, and the go-forward business plan developed by management. Based on this analysis and a review of estimated recoveries in a liquidation scenario, the Debtors concluded that recoveries to the Debtors' stakeholders will be maximized by the Debtors' continued operation as a going concern. Indeed, the Debtors believe that their business and assets have significant value that would <u>not</u> be realized in a liquidation scenario.

Substantially all of the Debtors' assets are subject to valid and perfected liens held by the DIP Lenders and the Prepetition Lenders, which obligations require payment in full prior to distributions to Holders of unsecured claims against the Debtors.<sup>8</sup> The Debtors do, however, have certain assets that were unencumbered as of the Petition Date, the primary value of which relates to minority interests in certain first-tier foreign subsidiaries. Specifically, certain of the Debtors' direct and indirect subsidiaries are subject to only 65% equity interest pledges for the benefit of the Prepetition Lenders.<sup>9</sup> The value of the 35% of the equity interests in these direct and indirect subsidiaries that is not pledged for the benefit of the Prepetition Lenders was unencumbered as of the Petition Date and flows only to the benefit of Holders of Claims at Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc., which includes only the Worldwide General Unsecured Claims and the deficiency claims of the Prepetition First Lien Lenders and the Prepetition Second Lien Lenders. These subsidiaries include entities that operate the Debtors' business in Latin America, Puerto Rico, Saipan, and Mexico.

Prior to commencing these Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors and a steering committee of the Debtors' Prepetition First Lien Lenders recognized the critical need for the Debtors to consummate the Plan in an efficient manner to avoid significant harm to the Debtors' businesses and operations. The parties also recognized the real risk that the complexities surrounding the unencumbered value, if litigated, could result in a value-destructive liquidation. Absent a global deal among stakeholders, the Debtors believe the cost and delay of litigating (i) the value of unencumbered assets and (ii) the amount of such value that would be available for distribution to unsecured creditors after taking into account (a) the costs of these Chapter 11 Cases; (b) the significant deficiency claims of the Prepetition Secured Lenders; and (c) any potential adequate protection claims of the Prepetition First Lien Lenders would exceed the recovery proposed to be paid to unsecured creditors under the Plan. Moreover, such distractions would divert the Debtors from their operational restructuring initiatives—a key component of the success of these Chapter 11 Cases for the Reorganized Debtors.

In an effort to minimize potential litigation during the Chapter 11 Cases, the steering committee of Prepetition First Lien Lenders and certain Prepetition Second Lien Lenders engaged in substantial, good-faith negotiations regarding recoveries to Holders of Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims. The Debtors believe that the negotiated treatment of such Claims provides at least as much value to such Holders as such Holders may realize were the issues surrounding unencumbered value litigated to a decision.

Likewise, during the Chapter 11 Cases and as described herein, the Debtors and their advisors negotiated with the Creditors' Committee, the Sponsors, and certain Prepetition First Lien lenders that are parties to the Restructuring Support Agreement, and their respective advisors, regarding a potential global settlement of any and all claims related to the Debtors' business, capital structure, or any Estate Claims that could have increased recoveries to Holders of General Unsecured Claims. The parties recognized that absent a deal among stakeholders, the cost and delay of litigating who had standing to pursue such claims and the actual pursuit of such claims could significantly derail the Debtors' Plan confirmation timeline and lead to increased expenses and a possible liquidation. Accordingly, as a result of a global settlement between the Debtors, the Sponsors, the Creditors' Committee, and the parties to the Restructuring Support Agreement, Holders of General Unsecured Claims will receive their allocated share of two Cash recovery pools containing, in the aggregate, \$32.316 million. Furthermore, Holders of General Unsecured Claims stand to greatly benefit from the Debtors' ability to consummate the Plan and

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Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims are secured by valid, perfected liens on, among other things, all of the Debtors' Cash, accounts receivable, intellectual property, contract rights, general intangibles, equipment and fixtures, and proceeds of collateral.

For tax purposes, the Debtors pledged only 65% of the equity interests of certain of their foreign subsidiaries to secure obligations under the Prepetition Credit Agreements.

continue as a going concern. Accordingly, the Debtors believe, as supported by the analysis underlying Guggenheim Securities' estimate of Payless enterprise value set forth in Exhibit F, that the Plan provides all Holders of General Unsecured Claims with a greater recovery over what such Holders otherwise would receive under a priority waterfall recovery analysis and is therefore in the best interest of all creditors.

The Debtors also believe that any alternative to Confirmation of the Plan, such as an attempt by another party to file a competing plan or any plan that does not contemplate a global settlement of all potential claims related to, among others, the Debtors' business, capital structure, and Estate Claims, would result in significant delays, litigation, and additional costs, could negatively affect value by causing unnecessary uncertainty with the Debtors' key customer and supplier constituencies, and could potentially lead to a liquidation by the Debtors, in which case substantially all Holders of Claims would do substantially worse or receive no recovery at all.

ACCORDINGLY, FOR ALL OF THESE AND THE OTHER REASONS DESCRIBED HEREIN, THE DEBTORS AND THE CREDITORS' COMMITTEE URGE YOU TO TIMELY RETURN YOUR BALLOT ACCEPTING THE PLAN.

#### D. TREATMENT OF CLAIMS AND INTERESTS UNDER THE PLAN

The table below summarizes the classification and treatment of Claims and Interests under the Plan. These summaries are qualified in their entirety by reference to the provisions of the Plan. For a more detailed description of the treatment of Claims and Interests under the Plan, see Section IV.B hereof.

The table below also sets forth the estimated percentage recovery for Holders of Claims and Interests in each Class and the Debtors' estimates of the amount of Claims that will ultimately become Allowed in each Class based upon (a) review by the Debtors of their books and records, (b) all Claims scheduled by the Debtors (as modified by the Bankruptcy Court through certain hearings), and (c) consideration of the provisions of the Plan that affect the allowance of certain Claims.

Because each Debtor's Plan contemplates distributions to Holders of Claims in the amount of the estimated percentage recoveries set forth below, the estimated aggregate Claim amounts in each Class and the estimated percentage recoveries in the table below are set forth for the Debtors on a consolidated basis.

# THE ESTIMATED PROJECTED RECOVERIES SET FORTH IN THE TABLE BELOW ARE ESTIMATES ONLY AND ARE THEREFORE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

# SUMMARY OF CLAIMS AND INTERESTS AND ESTIMATED RECOVERIES

Class	Claim/Equity Interest	<u>Status</u>	Estimated Amount of Allowed Claims <sup>10</sup>	Estimated Percent Recovery Under the Plan <sup>11</sup>
1	Other Priority Claims	Unimpaired	\$0.9	100%
2	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired	\$0.0	100%
3	Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	Impaired	\$506.3	83.0%
4	Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	Impaired	\$145.0	15.0%
5A	Other General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	\$121.8	18.1%

All dollar amounts in millions

Recoveries are based on the estimated midpoint enterprise value and do not take into account dilution caused by the Management Equity Incentive Plan and the Exit Commitment Fee.

Class	Claim/Equity Interest	<u>Status</u>	Estimated Amount of Allowed Claims <sup>10</sup>	Estimated Percent Recovery Under the Plan <sup>11</sup>
5B	Worldwide General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	\$46.6	22.1%
5C	Canadian General Unsecured Claims	Unimpaired	\$1.6	100%
6	Intercompany Claims	Unimpaired / Impaired	\$104.9	100% / 0%
7	Existing Equity Interests	Impaired	n/a	0%
8	Intercompany Interests	Unimpaired	n/a	100%
9	Section 510(b) Claims	Impaired	n/a	0%

While the Debtors are continuing their work to reconcile their claims register, as set forth in the Schedules, the Debtors have classified Claims of certain retirees under the supplemental executive retirement plan as Claims against Payless Inc., which would mean such claims are in Class 5A (Other General Unsecured Claims).

#### E. PLAN TIMELINE AND RELATED CONTINGENCIES

Although the Debtors believe that the restructuring proposed in the Plan is the best alternative for maximizing stakeholder recoveries, the Plan is subject to a number of conditions and there are certain material risks to the Debtors' ability to implement the Plan and consummate near-term creditor distributions. The Plan will be consummated on the Effective Date so long as certain conditions precedent are satisfied or waived in accordance with Article VIII.B of the Plan, including:

- The Bankruptcy Court shall have approved the Disclosure Statement as containing adequate information with respect to the Plan within the meaning of section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- The Definitive Documents shall satisfy the Definitive Document Restructuring Support Agreement Requirements.
- The Confirmation Order shall have been entered and become a Final Order. The Confirmation Order shall provide that, among other things, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as appropriate, are authorized and directed to take all actions necessary or appropriate to consummate the Plan, including, without limitation, entering into, implementing, and consummating the contracts, instruments, releases, leases, indentures, and other agreements or documents created in connection with or described in the Plan.
- All documents and agreements necessary to implement the Plan, including, without limitation, the New
  Credit Facilities Documents, shall have (a) been tendered for delivery and (b) been effected or
  executed. All conditions precedent to such documents and agreements shall have been satisfied or
  waived pursuant to the terms of such documents or agreements, and the commitment fees described in
  Article IV.H of the Plan shall have been paid.
- All actions, documents, certificates, and agreements necessary to implement this Plan shall have been effected or executed and delivered to the required parties and, to the extent required, filed with the applicable Governmental Units in accordance with applicable laws.
- The Professional Fee Escrow Account shall have been established and funded.

In addition, the Plan is subject to certain contingencies and risk factors, which are set forth in Article VIII hereof, and include, among others:

• Case Milestones. The Debtors' Restructuring Support Agreement and the DIP Documents set forth a series of case milestones (the "Milestones") that the Debtors must meet. Pursuant to the Milestones, the Debtors must, among other Milestones, (a) obtain Bankruptcy Court approval of the Disclosure Statement by June 15, 2017; (b) renegotiate the terms of agreements related to their Latin American joint venture with their joint venture partners by July 13, 2017; (c) obtain entry of the Confirmation Order by July 27, 2017; and (d) reach the Effective Date by August 10, 2017.

The importance of meeting these Milestones cannot be overstated. If the Debtors fail to satisfy the Milestones set out in the Restructuring Support Agreement or the DIP Documents, or otherwise fail to obtain waivers in accordance with the terms of such documents, the Debtors may lose support from their current stakeholders for the Plan and may lose access to the DIP Facilities. Fundamentally, this means that the DIP Lenders may declare a default under the DIP Facilities and exercise remedies to foreclose on their collateral, or that counterparties to the Restructuring Support Agreement may declare a default thereunder and terminate the Restructuring Support Agreement. Moreover, the Debtors have Milestones that require them to commence going out of business sales on a timeline that will result in the liquidation of their inventory in their stores prior to the expiration of the 210-day statutory deadline for the Debtors to make decisions whether to assume or reject their thousands of store leases. In either case, the likely outcome for the Debtors of missing these Milestones is a liquidation of their Estates. As set forth in the Liquidation Analysis, recoveries to creditors in a liquidation scenario are vastly inferior to the recoveries contemplated by the Plan. Accordingly, the Debtors believe that failure to meet the case Milestones may jeopardize the Plan recoveries for all creditors.

- Lease Renegotiation Efforts. The Plan contemplates a substantial reduction of annual expenditures on account of agreements with existing landlords to modify the terms of existing leases. Further, the Restructuring Support Agreement contemplates that the Debtors will realize 85% of their projected rent savings from landlord concessions. If such reductions cannot be realized, the Debtors may not be able to implement the Plan.
- Latin America Joint Venture Renegotiation. The Debtors' Latin America operations are run through a non-Debtor affiliate that is party to certain joint venture arrangements with local partners, but heavily dependent upon management services, sourcing services, and intellectual property licensing from the Debtors. The Debtors and certain stakeholders believe that the payment terms for such services and licensing arrangements are on below market terms. Accordingly, the Restructuring Support Agreement requires that the Debtors renegotiate these agreements related to the joint venture during the Chapter 11 Cases in order to obtain agreements on current market terms. While the Debtors at this time are not prepared to disclose the agreements and terms to be renegotiated, a successful renegotiation will be value enhancing to the Debtors and their stakeholders and an unsuccessful renegotiation would result in either the status quo being maintained or agreements needing to be rejected and/or replaced. The Financial Projections, however, assume that the status quo is maintained. If the Debtors fail to secure the necessary consents for a renegotiation of these agreements from the LatAm JV Partners and the Debtors elect to reject any of these agreements, the counterparty to the applicable agreements will be entitled to assert rejection damages claims against the applicable Debtor and there may be additional claims asserted against non-Debtor affiliates, which could negatively affect the value of Reorganized Payless. Under the Plan, the Claims of the LatAm JV Entities are classified in Class 6 (Intercompany Claims). In addition to the contemplated renegotiation of the commercial terms of the agreements related to the Latin American joint ventures, the Debtors and the LatAm JV Partners are in the process of negotiating certain changes to the Plan. Parties should be aware that such negotiations may result in certain changes to the Plan during the solicitation process and prior to the Confirmation Hearing (including, but not limited to, changes that (a) modify the definition of Intercompany Claims to provide that rejection damage claims of the LatAm JV Entities shall be treated as general unsecured claims and not Intercompany Claims, (b) provide that Intercompany Claims of the LatAm JV Entities shall not be cancelled or compromised without the consent of the applicable Latin American joint venture entities, and (c) prevent the LatAm JV Entities from granting the release and exculpation under the Plan without the consent of the LatAm JV Entities). There are no assurances, however, that an agreement will be reached and the Debtors and the LatAm JV Partners reserve all rights with respect to the Plan.

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• Exit ABL Financing. Because the Plan contemplates that the ABL DIP Claims will be paid in full, in Cash, the Debtors must procure a New ABL Facility to ensure they have sufficient liquidity to pay the ABL DIP Claims and to maintain their business operations after the Effective Date. The Debtors have begun to solicit a New ABL Facility, including by engaging the ABL DIP Lenders regarding rolling the ABL DIP Facility into a New ABL Facility as part of their pursuit of a New ABL Facility. If the Debtors cannot procure a New ABL Facility on market terms, they will not be able to consummate the Plan. 12

The Debtors do not currently have a commitment for the New ABL Facility, but the terms of such commitment (either from the ABL DIP Lenders or a third party) will be included in the Plan Supplement. The New ABL Facility is expected to include guarantees from the Canadian Debtors.

# II. BACKGROUND TO THESE CHAPTER 11 CASES

#### A. CORPORATE HISTORY AND CURRENT STRUCTURE

Founded in 1956, Payless Holdings LLC is the parent company for each of the Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases and certain direct and indirect Affiliates which are not debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases (collectively, the "Company" or "Payless"). Headquartered in Topeka, Kansas, Payless is an iconic American footwear retailer selling quality shoes at affordable prices in a self-select environment. With nearly 4,300 stores<sup>13</sup> in more than 30 countries across the world and nearly 22,000 employees as of the Petition Date, a brand that is globally recognized and a business that generates significant unlevered free cash flow, Payless is the largest specialty footwear retailer in the Western hemisphere. In fiscal year 2016, Payless generated approximately \$2.3 billion of sales and \$95 million of EBITDA.

Payless was founded as an everyday footwear retailer with a strategy of selling low-cost, high-quality, fashion-forward family footwear. Today, Payless is the second largest footwear retailer by unit sales in the United States, with North American sales of approximately \$1.9 billion in 2016 and \$2.0 billion in 2015. Payless operates in more than 30 countries through its three business segments (North America, Latin America, and franchised stores), sourcing approximately 110 million pairs of shoes per year across the world. Worldwide, Payless had approximately \$2.3 billion in net sales in 2016.

Payless is able to offer its budget-conscious customers outstanding value on basics, on-trend and special occasion footwear through a national assisted-service store footprint, localized assortment, and a low-cost integrated-sourcing business model, including a growing online presence. Through this unique product development strategy, which ensures popular, quality, and on-trend merchandise in stores for the right price, Payless retains its customers' loyalty. This business model depends upon (a) identifying and developing on-trend merchandise, (b) developing strong relationships with branding partners, and (c) maintaining an overseas sourcing network that can develop and produce products at a scale and cost necessary to serve Payless' customers.

Payless has a strong seasonal cadence, as evidenced by its four key selling seasons: Easter, sandals, back-to-school, and boots. Because these periods fall relatively evenly throughout the course of the year, Payless' selling periods create a broad, even flow of business throughout the year, even though the composition of the business varies widely depending on the time of the year. This has served over many years to create a largely continuous overall flow of product from overseas suppliers through Payless' supply chain to customers in North America and abroad. These peak seasons are very important to the Debtors' business, bringing in approximately 47% of total revenue on an annual basis.

#### B. CURRENT BUSINESSES AND OPERATIONS

The Debtors are headquartered in Topeka, Kansas, but their operations are extensive and span across Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, Europe, and the United States.

#### 1. North America

Payless' North American business represents a majority of the Debtors' store base, with more than 3,500 wholly-owned stores in the United States, Puerto Rico, and Canada. In the United States, 76% of household disposable income and 3 out of 4 children under age 10 live within five miles of a Payless store.<sup>14</sup>

Despite the industry-wide shift away from brick-and-mortar stores, North American wholly-owned stores generated nearly \$1.9 billion in sales in fiscal year 2016 and nearly \$2 billion in fiscal year 2015, representing approximately 63% and 56% of Payless' overall EBITDA, respectively. Payless North America provides an

Data as of February 2017.

Data as of February 2017.

extensive range of operational and corporate services to the Latin American and franchised segments, including product development and sourcing, retail operations, marketing, IT, finance, tax, and legal assistance.

#### 2. Latin America

Seventeen years after opening its first store in Latin America, Payless has become the largest specialty footwear retailer in the region. Payless Latin America has provided stable growth since its inception, opening 15 to 35 new stores per year and averaging 8% annual revenue growth since 2013. It is also highly profitable, generating approximately 39% of Payless' overall EBITDA despite accounting for less than 10% of Payless' store footprint. Payless Latin America is expected to continue to grow through new stores and increased e-commerce. Payless currently operates nearly 400 stores across 22 countries in Latin America and enjoys leadership positions in the relevant markets.

Many of Payless' Latin American operations are governed by joint venture agreements and related ancillary agreements, pursuant to which Payless receives certain sourcing and other corporate fees, as well as dividends, on a periodic basis, in exchange for use of Payless' intellectual property, sourcing, operational management, and information technology. In exchange, the joint venture agreements have allowed Payless to utilize their partners' significant local market knowledge to buy, plan, and distribute their products

# 3. Franchised Store Segment

Finally, Payless' franchised segment consists of stores operated by franchisees in several countries in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. Since opening their first franchised stores in 2009, the Debtors' franchise business has grown to nearly 400 stores across 17 countries. The franchised stores are held to the same high standards as the Debtors' wholly-owned and joint venture stores and provide a similar customer experience. The Debtors receive favorable royalty fees, which typically range from 6 to 8 percent of the franchisee's net revenue, pursuant to the franchise agreements. The Debtors' franchise business requires minimal upfront risk, capital requirements, and overhead expenses, as they successfully leverage their existing North American operations and sourcing capabilities to support the business segment. Looking forward, Payless intends to further develop new markets through its franchised segment in the next three years.

# 4. Merchandising strategy

Core to the Debtors' business model is the customer loyalty generated by their core demographic. Payless is particularly popular in the women's and children's shoes market, serving as the second largest retailer of women's and children's shoes in the under \$30 footwear category. Payless' women's and children's segments account for 50% and 25% of sales, respectively. 45% of women in the United States shop at Payless annually, driven in part by the fact that Payless is able to sell its goods at approximately 50% of the industry average price. To maintain their loyal consumer base, Payless' merchandising strategy necessitates having a wide selection of core products alongside the latest fashion styles at prices significantly below that of most competitors. This is particularly important to Payless' customers, who typically have less than \$75,000 of household income.

Payless' business model is highly dependent on identifying on-trend merchandise through its branding and merchandising partners. Payless is able to keep its products on-trend by utilizing a design team, agent partners, and third-party consultants—each of whom monitor marketplace trends and provide input on each style of shoe. The Debtors also maintain a number of branding relationships to assist them in bringing to market popular brands and designs to follow the trends of their core customer groups.

The Debtors are parties to certain license agreements that grant them rights to use a number of popular, broadly-recognized brands, including Champion, Christian Siriano, Disney, DreamWorks, Star Wars, and Marvel, each of which helps the Debtors maintain their strength in various niche target markets. The Debtors also utilize design partnerships, through which popular labels provide the Debtors with existing product designs in exchange for a fee. These partnerships allow the Debtors to offer their partners' designs under the Payless name at much cheaper prices for the consumer. Finally, the Debtors market certain high-volume proprietary brands, such as American Eagle and Brash, which they own outright. These brands make up over 40 percent of the Debtors' sales.

# 5. Procurement and Global Supply Chain

Also key to serving the Debtors' customer base is the Debtors' well-established and seamless global supply chain. Payless focuses on developing core products internally, rather than retailing shoes developed by third parties, which dramatically reduces product costs and allows Payless to sell products at value-positioned price points. Direct sourcing, as a percentage of Payless' product lines, has increased from 59% in 2011 to 70% in 2016. Payless has unique relationships with its vendors, primarily based out of China and Vietnam.

Because the Debtors' business model depends heavily on their supply chain, the Debtors have developed long-standing relationships (in some cases extending over 15 years) and highly streamlined processes with key supplier factories. These factories provide shoes made to the Debtors' specification at the right volume and at the right price. Given the significant volume of made-to-order shoes, the Debtors cannot replace the volume provided by their key critical vendors, so they depend heavily on regularly receiving product from their existing vendors. The Debtors' ability to deliver their products in a timely manner is also critically important to their financial performance and depends on a seamless interaction with various third-party service providers who ship and store the Debtors' products. The coordination across factories, distributors, shippers, carriers, warehousemen, and customer-facing stores is vital to ensuring Payless' shoes reach customers in the right season and at the right price.

# C. PREPETITION ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, CAPITALIZATION, AND INDEBTEDNESS

Payless was first traded publicly in 1962, and was taken private in May 2012. As set forth in the structure chart attached hereto as **Exhibit B**, Payless Holdings LLC currently owns, directly or indirectly, each of Payless' Debtor subsidiaries. Of the wholly-owned entities, 20 entities are obligors on all of the Debtors' approximately \$847 million of prepetition funded debt.

#### 1. Prepetition Capital Structure and Indebtedness

Payless' prepetition capital structure includes approximately \$847 million in outstanding debt as of the Petition Date, consisting of: (a) approximately \$187 million in secured debt under their asset-backed revolving credit facility (the "ABL Credit Facility"); (b) approximately \$506 million in secured debt under their first lien credit facility (the "First Lien Term Loan"); and (c) approximately \$145 million in secured debt outstanding under their second lien credit facility (the "Second Lien Term Loan").<sup>15</sup>

The chart below summarizes Payless' prepetition funded indebtedness, including approximate outstanding amounts, as of the Petition Date.

Debt Obligation	Debt Facility Size	Approximate Amount Outstanding as of the Petition Date	Maturity Date	Collateral
ABL Credit Facility	\$300 million	\$187 million	March 14, 2019	Substantially all tangible and intangible assets; first priority over ABL Priority Collateral
First Lien Term Loan	\$520 million	\$506 million	March 11, 2021	Substantially all tangible and intangible assets; first priority over Term Priority Collateral

In addition, the Debtors had \$8.9 million of obligations outstanding under capital leases and similar payables that the Debtors have treated as debt for accounting and financial projections purposes.

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Debt Obligation	Debt Facility Size	Approximate Amount Outstanding as of the Petition Date	Maturity Date	Collateral
Second Lien Term Loan	\$145 million	\$145 million	March 11, 2022	Substantially all tangible and intangible assets; second priority over Term Priority Collateral
Trade Claims	N/A	Approximately \$240 million	Past Due	N/A (not including potential liens held by carriers, shippers, or warehouse vendors)

#### (a) The ABL Credit Facility

Payless, Inc., as the lead borrower, the other Debtors party thereto as borrowers and guarantors, and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association ("Wells Fargo"), as administrative agent, entered into a revolving credit facility documented by the Credit Agreement dated as of October 9, 2012. Under the ABL Credit Facility, which has two tranches bearing interest at different rates, the Debtors may draw up to \$300 million for general corporate purposes. The ABL Credit Facility is secured by a first-priority lien over substantially all tangible and intangible assets of the Debtors including, among other things, accounts, cash, inventory, and real property (such collateral package, the "ABL Priority Collateral"). The ABL Credit Facility is also secured by a third-priority lien on the remaining assets of the Debtors including, among other things and subject to certain limitations, thresholds, and exclusions, equipment, intellectual property, and stock pledges (such collateral package, the "Term Loan Priority Collateral"). An aggregate amount of approximately \$187 million was outstanding as of the Petition Date under the ABL Credit Facility. Facility.

Due to the Debtors' diminishing liquidity and decreasing borrowing base, and in an effort to prepare for these Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors agreed to enter into "cash dominion" with Wells Fargo, pursuant to which the Debtors agreed to cause all funds in certain of their deposit accounts, subject to any nominal minimum balances required, to be swept daily into an account owned by Wells Fargo (the "Concentration Account"), and cause the proceeds of all collections and balances of all other deposit accounts, subject to any nominal minimum balances required, to also be swept daily into the Concentration Account.

# (b) The First Lien Term Loan

Payless, Inc., Payless Finance, Inc., Payless ShoeSource, Inc., and Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc., as borrowers, the other Debtors party thereto as guarantors, Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc., <sup>17</sup> as administrative and collateral agent, and the lenders party thereto are parties to that certain First Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014<sup>18</sup> (as amended, restated, modified, and/or supplemented and in effect immediately prior to the Petition Date, the "<u>First Lien Term Loan Agreement</u>"). The First Lien Term Loan Agreement, which matures on March 11, 2021, provides a \$520 million first lien term loan secured by a first priority lien in the Term Loan Priority Collateral and a second priority lien in the ABL Priority Collateral (in each case,

Pursuant to the Final DIP Order, all prepetition amounts under the ABL Credit Facility were rolled up into and converted into DIP ABL Obligations, as defined thereunder. See Final DIP Order at ¶ J.vii. Accordingly, the ABL Credit Facility is no longer outstanding.

<sup>17</sup> Cortland Products Corporation has since replaced Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. as the administrative and security agent for the First Lien Term Loan.

The First Lien Term Loan Agreement was originally dated October 9, 2012, but was refinanced in March 2014.

subject to certain limitations, thresholds, and exclusions). An aggregate amount of approximately \$506 million was outstanding as of the Petition Date under the First Lien Term Loan.

#### (c) <u>The Second Lien Term Loan</u>

Payless, Inc., Payless Finance, Inc., Payless ShoeSource, Inc., and Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc., as borrowers, the other Debtors party thereto as guarantors, Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc., <sup>19</sup> as administrative and collateral agent, and the lenders party thereto are parties to that certain Second Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014<sup>20</sup> (as amended, restated, modified, and/or supplemented and in effect immediately prior to the Petition Date, the "Second Lien Term Loan Agreement" and together with the First Lien Term Loan Agreement, the "Term Loan Agreements"). The Second Lien Term Loan Agreement, which matures on March 11, 2022, provides a \$145 million second lien term loan secured by a second priority lien in the Term Loan Priority Collateral and a third priority lien in the ABL Priority Collateral (in each case, subject to certain limitations, thresholds, and exclusions). An aggregate amount of \$145 million was outstanding as of the Petition Date under the Second Lien Term Loan.

# (d) <u>Swap Transactions</u>

Pursuant to the Term Loan Agreements, Payless is permitted to enter into interest rate swap transactions to mitigate certain risks, including in connection with hedging the variable interest rates contemplated thereunder. Presently, Payless is party to three such transactions (the "Swap Transactions"), one with respect to the First Lien Term Loan Agreement and two with respect to the Second Lien Term Loan Agreement, each with Morgan Stanley Capital Services LLC as counterparty. The Swap Transactions are governed by an ISDA 2002 Master Agreement dated as of October 2, 2013.

## (e) <u>Intercreditor Agreements</u>

The Debtors' prepetition indebtedness is also subject to two different intercreditor agreements, generally referred to as the ABL/Term Loan Intercreditor Agreement<sup>21</sup> and the Term Loan Intercreditor Agreement.<sup>22</sup> The ABL/Term Loan Intercreditor Agreement governs the relative contractual rights of lenders under the ABL Credit Facility, the First Lien Term Loan, and the Second Lien Term Loan. The Term Loan Intercreditor Agreement, in turn, governs the relative contractual rights of lenders under the First Lien Term Loan, on the one hand, and the lenders under the Second Lien Term Loan, on the other hand.

#### D. EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE CHAPTER 11 FILING

#### 1. Difficult Market Conditions and Adverse Non-Recurring Events

Since early 2015, the Debtors have experienced a top-line sales decline driven primarily by (a) a set of significant and detrimental non-recurring events, (b) foreign exchange rate volatility, and (c) challenging retail market conditions. These pressures led to the Debtors' inability to both service their prepetition secured indebtedness and remain current with their trade obligations.

Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB has since replaced Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. as the administrative and security agent for the Second Lien Term Loan

The Second Lien Term Loan was originally dated October 9, 2012, but was refinanced in March 2014.

<sup>21</sup> The "ABL/Term Loan Intercreditor Agreement" means that certain Intercreditor Agreement dated as of March 11, 2014 (as amended, restated, modified, and/or supplemented from time to time) by and among Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as administrative agent for the lenders under the ABL Credit Agreement, the Prepetition First Lien Agent, and the Prepetition Second Lien Agent, and acknowledged by the Debtors.

The "Term Loan Intercreditor Agreement" means that certain Intercreditor Agreement dated as of March 11, 2014 (as amended, restated, modified, and/or supplemented from time to time) between the Prepetition First Lien Agent and the Prepetition Second Lien Agent, and acknowledged by the Debtors.

Specifically, a confluence of events in 2015 lowered Payless' EBITDA by 34 percent—a level from which it has not fully recovered. In early 2015, the Debtors meaningfully over purchased inventory due to antiquated systems and processes (that have since undergone significant enhancement). Then, in February 2015, West Coast port strikes delayed the arrival of the Debtors' products by several months, causing a major inventory flow disruption just before the important Easter selling period, leading to diminished sales. When delayed inventory arrived after that important selling period, the Debtors were saddled with a significant oversupply of spring seasonal inventory after the relevant seasonal peak, and were forced to sell merchandise at steep markdowns, which depressed margins and drained liquidity. Customers filled their closets with these deeply discounted products, which served to reduce demand; the reset of customer price expectations away from unsustainably high markdowns further depressed traffic in late 2015 and 2016. In total, millions of pairs of shoes were sold below cost in order to realign inventory and product mix.

Industry-wide declines in sales and traffic during 2015 and 2016 compounded the aforementioned challenges, as did sharp and unexpected declines in foreign exchange rates in 2015, primarily in Canada, Colombia, and Australia. Although Payless implemented many measures to improve liquidity as well as decrease operating expenses, the port strike and the inventory management issues meaningfully reduced profitability and liquidity.

This weaker-than-anticipated financial performance forced management to curtail capital and marketing investments required to combat the broader challenges facing the retail industry. For example, liquidity constraints prevented the Debtors from purchasing normal television advertising throughout the second half of 2016, which further compounded traffic declines. Reduced capital availability also delayed Payless' plans for omni-channel development and implementation, *i.e.*, the integration of physical store presence with online digital presence to offer a unified customer experience. Payless' ability to invest in omni-channel development is essential if Payless is to maintain relevancy with its customer base as the retail industry transitions away from a focus on brick-and-mortar stores.

Notwithstanding these pressures, the Debtors' core business remains strong and operates in an underserved market. In the Debtors' strongest customer segment, domestic women's footwear, they maintain strong brand awareness and high customer penetration and market share relative to the Debtors' competitive set. The Debtors' international expansion has also proven successful with continued growth in its higher margin, lower risk franchise business and through its Latin American joint ventures, as further discussed above.

# 2. Prepetition Restructuring Efforts

To address their financial difficulties, the Debtors took significant steps to evaluate and implement cost reduction initiatives in the months leading up to the Petition Date. These initiatives have included (a) closing 128 brick-and-mortar stores, which closures are expected to result in an additional \$9 million in annual cost savings, (b) terminating approximately 145 employees from their corporate offices and support organization, which is expected to generate \$15 million in annual cost savings, and (c) pursuing rent concessions across remaining stores.

At the same time, the Debtors managed liquidity constraints by stretching payments to the merchandise vendors and suppliers that are essential to the Debtors' operations. Given the significant product volume concentrated among Payless' small group of merchandise vendors abroad, the suppliers withstood delayed payments for up to 100 days, and some of them continued to ship products to the Debtors in January and February 2017. But, the suppliers were stretched to the brink of their own survival and required immediate liquidity to procure the raw materials necessary to meet the Debtors' product needs for the important back-to-school selling season. Accordingly, to maintain stability during the opening days of these chapter 11 cases and to avoid jeopardizing the Debtors' ability to service their customers and reorganize their business, the Debtors sought and obtained interim and final authority to pay certain prepetition obligations owed to critical vendors.<sup>23</sup>

Beginning in February 2017, the Debtors commenced discussions with a steering committee of their senior term loan lenders regarding a potential transaction structure that would enable the Debtors to obtain capital, manage

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See Interim Order (A) Authorizing the Debtors to Pay Certain Prepetition Claims of (I) Critical Vendors and (II) Carrier, Warehousemen, and Section 503(b)(9) Claimants and (B) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 94] and Final Order (A) Authorizing the Debtors to Pay Certain Prepetition Claims of (I) Critical Vendors and (II) Carrier, Warehousemen, and Section 503(b)(9) Claimants and (B) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 642].

their vendor issues, right size their balance sheet, and invest in their omni-channel presence and relevance. As these discussions progressed, and given the Debtors' objectives, it became apparent that an in-court reorganization was the best path to reorganizing the Debtors' business and improving their overall financial condition.

For several months before the Petition Date, the Debtors worked closely with the term lender steering committee and their existing ABL lenders to develop a comprehensive financing and recapitalization plan, and commenced these Chapter 11 Cases to access that financing and the tools necessary to effectuate their business objectives. Through these Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors continued to prioritize the vendors they need to meet their consumer demands and obtained the liquidity to pay their key vendors while rejecting contracts with non-critical prepetition creditors. The Debtors also used these cases to consummate a comprehensive evaluation of their North American store footprint. Through the bankruptcy process, the Debtors intend to close some stores (797 of which have already been identified for immediate closure) and negotiate significant rent concessions with the landlords of others. Finally, the Debtors will be able to increase marketing spend in the North American business segment (including significant omni-channel expansion) and further expansion in North America and Asia through an agreement with their lenders to significantly reduce their outstanding debt.

# 3. Restructuring Support Agreement

On April 4, 2017, the Debtors entered into the Restructuring Support Agreement attached hereto (as amended or modified) as **Exhibit G**. The Restructuring Support Agreement has the support of parties who hold or control, in the aggregate, more than 85% and 75% of the Debtors' first and second lien term loans, respectively. The Debtors have also secured the DIP Facilities from their Prepetition ABL Facility Lenders and certain of the consenting lenders under the Restructuring Support Agreement. Collectively, the Restructuring Support Agreement and DIP Facilities enable the Debtors to (a) obtain immediate and long-term financial support to address a distressed supply chain and otherwise execute on their strategic plan, (b) right-size their balance sheet by significantly reducing annual debt service and total outstanding debt from \$847 million to approximately \$408 million (inclusive of assumed revolving loans), and (c) rationalize their store fleet to eliminate unprofitable locations and renegotiate above-market leases.

Importantly, the Restructuring Support Agreement provides for certain Milestones designed to ensure the Debtors move expeditiously towards confirmation of the Plan in the current distressed retail environment. Specifically, the Milestones contemplate emergence from the Chapter 11 Cases within 128 days of the Petition Date.

The Debtors believe that the terms of the Restructuring Support Agreement, which are built into the Plan, are fair, equitable, and maximize the value of the Debtors' estates, providing the best available recovery for the Debtors stakeholders.

# III. CHAPTER 11 CASES

#### A. FIRST AND SECOND DAY RELIEF

On or around the Petition Date, in addition to filing voluntary petitions for relief, the Debtors also filed a number of motions (the "First Day Motions") with the Bankruptcy Court seeking relief designed to, among other things, prevent interruptions to the Debtors' business, ease the strain on the Debtors' relationships with certain essential constituents, including employees, vendors, customers and utility providers, provide access to much needed working capital, and allow the Debtors to retain certain advisors to assist them with the administration of the Chapter 11 Cases. At the first day hearing conducted on April 5, 2017 and in the days that followed, the Bankruptcy Court entered several orders approving the First Day Motions. Additional hearings were held on May 9, 2017 and May 15, 2017 at which the Bankruptcy Court considered the approval of the First Day Motions on a final basis and certain additional relief requested by the Debtors.

#### 1. Procedural Motions

To facilitate a smooth and efficient administration of these Chapter 11 Cases, the Bankruptcy Court entered certain "procedural" orders, by which the Bankruptcy Court (a) approved the joint administration of the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases, (b) scheduled an expedited first day hearing; (c) granted leave to exceed the page limitation in the Debtors' First Day Motions; (d) authorized the Debtors to prepare a list of creditors and file a consolidated list of their 50 largest unsecured creditors; (e) approved an extension of time to file their Schedules; (f) approved certain procedures for the rejection and assumption of contracts and leases; and (g) established procedures for interim compensation and reimbursement of expenses of retained professionals.

# 2. Stabilizing Operations

Recognizing that any interruption of the Debtors' business, even for a brief period of time, would negatively impact their operations, customer relationships, revenue and profits, and facilitate a stabilization of their businesses and effectuate a smooth transition into operating as debtors in possession, the Debtors sought and obtained orders authorizing them to:

- maintain and administer customer programs and honor obligations arising under or relating to those customer programs;
- pay prepetition wages, salaries and other compensation, reimbursable employee expenses, and employee medical and similar benefits;
- determine adequate assurance for future utility service and establish procedures for utility providers to object to such assurance;
- continue insurance coverage, including performance under their self-insurance programs, and enter into new insurance policies, if necessary;
- continue and renew their surety bond program;
- establish procedures for certain transfers and declarations of worthlessness with respect to common stock;
- begin the orderly liquidation of approximately 400 stores and set forth procedures for ongoing liquidation efforts;
- maintain their existing cash management systems; and
- remit and pay certain taxes and fees.

In addition to the foregoing relief, to prevent the imposition of the automatic stay from disrupting their business and to ensure continued deliveries on favorable credit terms, the Debtors sought and obtained Bankruptcy Court approval to pay up to approximately \$113 million of prepetition claims of certain vendors and third-party service providers who the Debtors believed were essential to the ongoing operation of their business. Importantly, the Debtors were able to condition payments of these prepetition claims on the vendors' agreement to provide, among other things, favorable trade terms for the postpetition procurement of goods from the vendors. These agreements also resulted in vendors waiving over approximately \$44 million of unsecured claims that would have otherwise received distributions under the Plan, thereby substantially increasing the recoveries of the remaining unsecured creditors. The Debtors' ability to pay the Claims of these vendors and service providers was critical to maintaining their ongoing business operations at the early stages of their Chapter 11 Cases.

#### 3. Postpetition Financing and Use of Cash Collateral

Following the First Day Hearing, the Court authorized the Debtors pursuant to the Interim DIP Order to (a) enter into the ABL DIP Facility comprised of a revolving loan facility in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$305 million, (b) enter into the Term DIP Credit Facility comprised of a term loan facility in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$80 million, and (c) use Cash Collateral on the terms set forth in the Interim DIP Order [Docket No. 69]. On May 17, 2017, the Court entered the Final DIP Order authorizing the Debtors to, among other things, access the full amount of the ABL DIP Facility and use Cash Collateral on a final basis pursuant to the terms of the Final DIP Order [Docket No. 778].

The ABL DIP Facility is an up to \$305 million (aggregate amount) asset-based lending facility consisting of an up to \$245 million Tranche A Credit Facility and an up to \$60 million Tranche A-1 Credit Facility, which facility rolled up all amounts outstanding under the tranche A prepetition asset-based lending facility in full pursuant the Final DIP Order.

The Term DIP Facility is a term loan facility in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$80 million of principal loaned (subject to original issue discount) consisting of (a) a \$30 million initial draw that was authorized pursuant to the Final DIP Order and (b) up to an aggregate of \$50 million in additional draws that would be available to be drawn following entry of an order by the Bankruptcy Court approving the Disclosure Statement through the Effective Date (subject to the consent of the Required Lenders), including a final draw of remaining availability, if any, under the Term DIP Facility.

The proceeds of the DIP Facilities, access to letters of credit, and the use of Cash Collateral, have allowed the Debtors to, among other things, continue their businesses in an orderly manner; maintain valuable relationships with vendors, suppliers, customers, and employees; pay certain interest, fees, and expenses owing under the DIP Credit Facilities; satisfy their adequate protection obligations; and support working capital, general corporate, and overall operational needs—all of which were necessary to preserve and maintain the going-concern value of the Debtors' business and, ultimately, help ensure a successful reorganization.

#### 4. Employment and Compensation of Professionals

With authorization from the Bankruptcy Court, the Debtors retained the following professional advisors to assist the Debtors in carrying out their duties as debtors in possession and to represent their interests in the Chapter 11 Cases: (a) Kirkland & Ellis LLP and Kirkland & Ellis International LLP, as restructuring counsel; (b) Armstrong Teasdale LLP, as local counsel; (c) Guggenheim Securities, LLC ("Guggenheim Securities"), as investment banker; (d) Alvarez & Marsal North America, LLC ("A&M"), as restructuring advisor, which provided the Debtors with a Chief Restructuring Officer (Robert Campagna of A&M) and certain additional personnel; (e) RCS Real Estate Advisors ("RCS"), as real estate advisor; (f) Keen-Summit Capital Partners LLC ("Keen"), as real estate advisor; and (g) Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP ("MTO"), as conflicts counsel.<sup>24</sup>

The Debtors also filed applications seeking to retain Ernst & Young LLP as tax services provider [Docket No. 931] and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as independent auditors and tax consultants [Docket No. 936].

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In January 2017, Charles Cremens was appointed to serve as an independent director of the Board of Directors of Payless Holdings LLC, to, among other things, assist the Debtors' restructuring efforts. In that capacity, Mr. Cremens had Payless retain MTO to advise and assist Mr. Cremens with respect to conflicts matters, including with respect to the independent investigation described below in section III.B.7.

The Debtors also sought and received approval of Prime Clerk LLC as the Noticing and Claims Agent [Docket No. 237] and filed an application to retain Prime Clerk LLC as Solicitation and Administrative Agent [Docket No. 652].

#### B. OTHER MATERIAL EVENTS IN THESE CHAPTER 11 CASES

#### 1. Claims Bar Date and the Debtors' Schedules

On April 18, 2017, the Debtors filed the *Debtors' Motion for an Order Establishing Bar Dates for Filing Proofs of Claim and Approving Form and Manner of Notice Thereof* [Docket No. 287], (the "Bar Date Motion") seeking to establish June 19, 2017, as the deadline by which all persons and entities must file and serve proofs of claim asserting claims that arose on or prior to the Petition Date, including claims asserted pursuant to section 503(b)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code, against the Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases (the "Claims Bar Date"). Additionally, the Debtors' requested that the Court establish October 2, 2017, as the deadline by which all governmental units must file and serve proofs of claim asserting prepetition claims against any of the Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases (the "Government Bar Date"). The Bankruptcy Court granted the bar date Motion on May 16, 2017 [Docket No. 767].

The Debtors filed their Schedules of Assets and Liabilities and Statements of Financial Affairs on May 10, 2017 [Docket Nos. 655 - 683].

## 2. Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases

As set forth in the Debtors' Motion For Entry of an Order (I) Extending the Time Within Which the Debtors Must Assume or Reject Unexpired Leases of Nonresidential Real Property and (II) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 280] (the "Lease Rejection Extension Motion"), the Debtors are party to approximately 3,500 unexpired non-residential real property leases in North America alone. Further, the Debtors are party to a substantial number of executory contracts. In connection with their restructuring efforts, the Debtors are attempting to enhance the competitiveness of their global operations, which, among other things, involves a careful and comprehensive evaluation of all aspects of the Debtors' leases and supply chain. The Debtors intend to utilize the tools afforded a chapter 11 debtor to achieve the necessary cost savings and operational effectiveness envisioned in their revised strategic business plan, including modifying or, in some cases eliminating, burdensome or underutilized agreements and leases.

As such, the Debtors are conducting a comprehensive analysis of their executory contracts and unexpired leases and have, and intend to continue to, engage in extensive discussions with contract and lease counterparties regarding the contributions such parties are making to the restructuring process and can make to the post-emergence businesses. While the Debtors intend to efficiently work through these leases, given the number of leases and contracts, they will likely need more than the 120 days afforded by section 365(d)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code. To that end, the Debtors filed the Lease Rejection Extension Motion on April 18, 2017, seeking an extension of the applicable deadline for an additional 90 days until October 31, 2017. The Bankruptcy Court issued an order approving the motion on May 4, 2017 [Docket No. 551].

# 3. Lease Renegotiation and Store Closing Process

On the Petition Date, the Debtors filed the *Debtors' Motion for Entry of Interim and Final Orders (I)* Authorizing the Debtors to Assume the Consulting Agreement, (II) Approving Procedures for Store Closing Sales, and (III) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 15] (the "Store Closing Motion") seeking to implement a key component of their restructuring strategy and right-size their operations by closing underperforming or geographically undesirable stores. The Bankruptcy Court approved the Store Closing Motion on an interim basis on April 7, 2017 [Docket No. 129] and on a final basis on May 17, 2017 [Docket No. 786], pursuant to which the Debtors began the liquidation of 389 underperforming stores. These efforts, which are ongoing, are part of the Debtors' attempt to rationalize their store fleet. On May 24, 2017, the Debtors filed a second motion seeking approval to close an additional 408 stores [Docket No. 883] (the "Second Store Closing Motion"). On June 7, 2017, the Debtors revised the store closing list, reducing the number of stores to close pursuant to the Second Store Closing Motion on June 8, 2017, pursuant to which the Debtors began the liquidation of 216 underperforming stores. On

June 13, 2017, the Debtors filed a third motion seeking approval to close an additional 81 stores [Docket No. 1071] (the "<u>Third Store Closing Motion</u>"). The Bankruptcy Court approved the Third Store Closing Motion on June 21, 2017, pursuant to which the Debtors began the liquidation of 81 underperforming stores.

As set forth above, the Debtors continue to evaluate approximately 3,000 additional leases to determine whether or not to reject or assume such unexpired leases. Further, based on this analysis, the Debtors are in the middle of negotiations with their landlords regarding the terms of the Debtors' unexpired leases in an effort to procure more favorable lease terms such that these stores can continue to operate. These negotiations have generally been successful and the Debtors' have reached agreements to consensually modify hundreds of the Debtors' leases resulting in substantial cost savings (over \$20 million in annual occupancy costs have already been saved), which savings will accrue to the benefit of the Debtors' estates and improve the profitability of the Debtors as a going-concern. Negotiations with the Debtors other landlords are ongoing and significant amounts of additional savings are expected to be achieved in an amount consistent with the Debtors' Financial Projections.

If the Debtors' efforts to renegotiate these other leases are unsuccessful, they are prepared to seek authority to expand their liquidation efforts and close additional stores in a manner consistent with the process set forth in the Store Closing Motion.

Any savings projected by the Debtors on account of the lease renegotiation process are merely projections, and the actual realized savings may be greater than or less than such projections.

Pursuant to the Final DIP Order, the Debtors have agreed that within five (5) business days of the earlier of (a) the effective date of rejection (or natural expiration or termination, as may be applicable) of a real property lease for a store location that has been or will be closed and vacated by the Debtors after the Petition Date or (b) the Effective Date of a plan of reorganization, the Debtors shall pay to the applicable landlord under such lease the amount of rent and all related charges due under such lease for the period from April 4, 2017 through April 30, 2017 (i.e., the prorated amount of monthly amounts due for such period). As Administrative Claims, these amounts are required to be paid in full under the Plan. The Financial Projections attached hereto include the payment of these amounts in full.

#### 4. Canadian Recognition Proceeding

On April 7, 2017, the Debtors sought and were granted a Recognition Order by R.S.J. Morawetz of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice (Commercial List) (the "Canadian Court") pursuant to which the Chapter 11 Cases were recognized in Canada under Part IV of the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 (the "CCAA Recognition Proceedings"). On April 12, 2017, R.S.J. Morawetz granted the Debtors a Supplemental Order. Among other things, the Recognition Order and the Supplemental Order: (i) recognized the Chapter 11 Cases as a foreign main proceeding; (ii) recognized Payless Holdings LLC as the Foreign Representative of the Debtors in Canada; (iii) recognized certain first-day orders granted by the Bankruptcy Court; (iv) granted a stay of proceedings in Canada in respect of the Debtors, their property and business, and their directors and officers; (v) prohibited the commencement of any proceedings against the Debtors in Canada absent further order of the Canadian Court; and (iv) appointed Alvarez & Marsal Canada Inc. as the Information Officer in respect of the CCAA Recognition Proceedings.

As of the date hereof, the Final DIP Order has not yet been recognized by the Canadian Court. The Debtors originally intended to include the Canadian Debtors as guarantors on the ABL DIP Facility. The Debtors no longer believe this is necessary but do expect the reorganized Canadian Debtors to guarantee any exit ABL financing.

# 5. Appointment of the Creditors' Committee and Retention of Professionals

On April 14, 2017, the United States Trustee appointed the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "<u>Creditors' Committee</u>") pursuant to section 1102 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 241]. As of the date hereof, the Creditors' Committee consists of (a) Moda Shoe, Ltd.; (b) GGP Limited Partnership; (c) Qingdao Doublestar Mingren Imp. & Exp. Co.; (d) C and C Accord, LTD.; (e) Simon Property Group, Inc.; (f) The Asean Corporation, Ltd.; and (g) Brixmor Property Group, Inc.

With authorization from the Bankruptcy Court, the Creditors' Committee retained the following professional advisors to assist the Creditors' Committee in carrying out its duties and to represent their interests in the Chapter 11 Cases: (a) Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP ("Pachulski"), as lead counsel; (b) Polsinelli P.C. ("Polsinelli") as local counsel; (c) Province, Inc. ("Province"), as financial advisor; and (d) Back Bay Management Corporation and its division, The Michel-Shaked Group, as expert consultant and Dr. Israel Shaked as expert witness ("Back Bay Management Corporation and the Michel-Shaked Group").

#### 6. Meeting of Creditors

The meeting of creditors pursuant to section 341 of the Bankruptcy Code was held on May 15, 2017. In accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 9001(5) (which requires, at a minimum, that one representative of the Debtors appear at such meeting of creditors for the purpose of being examined by the United States Trustee and other attending parties in interest), one representative of the Debtors as well as counsel to the Debtors attended the meeting and answered questions posed by the United States Trustee and other parties in interest present at the meeting. On June 14, 2017, the United States Trustee held follow-up meeting of creditors to review the Debtors' Schedules.

# 7. Independent Director Investigation

The Debtors' independent director, Mr. Charles Cremens, was appointed to Payless Holdings LLC's Board of Directors in January 2017. Mr. Cremens has extensive business and restructuring experience, as well as a strong background as an independent director. He has more than thirty years of experience restructuring public and private companies and has served as the President and/or Chief Executive Officer of several large and complex companies during their restructurings, including Spirit Finance Corporation, Conseco Finance Corporation, and WMF Group, Ltd. Prior to those assignments, Mr. Cremens served as the Chief Investment Officer of Beacon Properties Corp., President of Real Estate Investments at Aetna Inc., and held various executive management positions at the Bank of Boston. Mr. Cremens has served as an independent or disinterested director for various companies in financial distress and restructurings. His present director engagements include Bluestem Brands (f/k/a Capmark Financial Group), U.S. Steel Canada, iHeartMedia Inc., Payless Holdings LLC, and Energy Future Intermediate Holding Company LLC.

Since his appointment, Mr. Cremens has actively participated as a member of the board with management and the advisors on the restructuring of Payless. This includes approval of the commencement of these cases and entry into the Restructuring Support Agreement. In addition to participating as a member of the Board in decisions regarding the restructuring, Mr. Cremens also has been conducting an investigation into any Estate Claims and estate causes of action the Debtors may have with respect to transactions between the Debtors and the Sponsors. In particular, MTO, at the direction of Mr. Cremens and with the assistance of the existing financial professionals of the Debtors, has been investigating dividends paid by certain of the Debtors on February 28, 2013 in the amount of \$217.5 million and March 10, 2014 in the amount of \$120 million ("Dividends"), the 2012 acquisition of Payless by the Sponsors, and management and transaction fees paid to certain of the Sponsor Entities under that certain Advisory Agreement dated as of October 9, 2012 among certain of the Debtors, GGC Administration, LLC, and Blum Capital Partners (collectively with the Dividends, the "Transactions").

The investigation has included a legal analysis and factual investigation of the Transactions to determine whether they give rise to potential claims against the Sponsors ("<u>Potential Claims</u>"). The efforts by MTO and the Debtors existing financial advisors to date have included, among other activities, the review and evaluation of hundreds of documents pertinent to the Transactions, including transaction documents, related Board minutes and presentations, lender and rating agency and other presentations and related materials, financial projections, and publicly-available materials. In addition, the investigation has included an evaluation of the work of Duff & Phelps, who was engaged to opine on the solvency of the pertinent Debtor entities at the time, and as a result of, the 2012 acquisition and each Dividend. For each of the three dates, Duff & Phelps issued an opinion that the pertinent Debtor entities were solvent, which was provided to the Debtors' Boards of Directors, with accompanying presentations by Duff & Phelps.

MTO has also interviewed twelve potential witnesses from the Debtors, the Sponsors, and Duff & Phelps and engaged in several calls with Debtors' management involving follow-up questions or additional background. MTO also has had, and continues to have, discussions with the Debtors' existing financial advisors regarding the

Debtors' business and history, the Transactions, and considerations relating to Potential Claims. MTO and the financial advisors are also analyzing various external factors that potentially bear on the reasonableness of the prior solvency determinations by Duff & Phelps and the Board.

Throughout the course of the investigation, MTO has taken direction from Mr. Cremens, the privilege over the investigation is controlled by Mr. Cremens, and MTO has regularly consulted with and reported to Mr. Cremens on the status of the investigation and the facts surrounding the Potential Claims. MTO, at the direction of Mr. Cremens, has also sought to engage cooperatively with the Committee and other creditor groups regarding the Potential Claims. In that regard, shortly after the appointment of the Committee and its engagement of counsel, on April 24, 2017, MTO spoke with Committee counsel regarding the investigation and subsequently met with Committee counsel in person on May 2, 2017 to review the work done on behalf of Mr. Cremens. MTO subsequently produced documents it had reviewed and worked with the Committee on an informal, cooperative basis to gather and produce additional documents requested as part of its investigation and diligence of the Transactions. These efforts have included responding to more than 20 document requests made by the Committee on May 5, 2017, which were directed at the Debtors, the Sponsors, and Duff & Phelps, gathering and producing several hundred documents during May, responding to several additional information requests by the Committee, and having status calls with the Committee on May 15 and May 19, 2017.

#### 8. Creditors' Committee Objections to Plan, Standing Motion, and Global Settlement

The Creditors' Committee filed two objections to the Debtors' motion to approve the Disclosure Statement [Docket Nos. 881, 1023], objecting to, among other things, the adequacy of disclosure in the Disclosure Statement regarding potential claims the Debtors may have against the Sponsor Entities. These objections also raised various concerns regarding the confirmability of the Plan. At a hearing on June 14, 2017, the Court approved the Disclosure Statement over the objections of the Creditors' Committee.

Additionally, on June 13, 2017, the Creditors' Committee filed its *Motion of the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors for Entry of an Order Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 107(b)(1) Authorizing Committee to File Motion and Exhibit Under Seal* [Docket No. 1073] seeking authority to file the *Motion of the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors for Entry of an Order Authorizing the Committee to Prosecute Certain Claims on Behalf of the Bankruptcy Estates* (the "Standing Motion"). By the Standing Motion, the Creditors' Committee sought authority to bring, among other claims, the Potential Claims against the Sponsor Entities and other parties on account of the Transactions.

On June 15 and 16, 2017, the Debtors, the Sponsors, the Creditors' Committee, and the Consenting Lenders to the Restructuring Support Agreement convened in-person negotiations seeking a global settlement to all claims that the Debtors (or the Creditors' Committee, on the Debtors' behalf) could bring against the Sponsor Entities. These intensive, arm's-length negotiations culminated in a global settlement, the terms of which were agreed to on June 20, 2017. Pursuant to this global settlement, the Sponsors agreed to contribute \$21.190 million<sup>25</sup> (consisting of \$15.750 million in cash and the \$5.44 million on the balance sheet of Payless Holdings LLC (in which the Sponsors claim a beneficial interest)) to the Debtors' Estates, and the Prepetition First Lien Lenders and the Prepetition Second Lien Lenders agreed that their deficiency claims would not be entitled to share in any distributions from the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool or the Worldwide GUC Claims Recovery Pool, in exchange for the Creditors' Committee's support of the Plan, including the Debtor Release and Third-Party Release contemplated thereby. Additionally, the Standing Motion is continued until the Effective Date and will be withdrawn with prejudice upon the occurrence of the Effective Date. These contributions, along with an additional contribution from the Debtors, will result in substantially increased recoveries to unsecured creditors that far exceed any amounts such creditors would receive in a liquidation scenario. As a result of this global settlement, the Debtors, the Creditors' Committee, the Debtors' Prepetition Lenders, and the Sponsors support the Plan.

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The Sponsor Payment is made as a settlement, without admitting any wrongdoing of any kind, of any potential claims, including without limitation claims for breach of fiduciary duty arising in connection with the authorization and payment of certain dividends in 2013 and 2014, that could be asserted against the Sponsor Entities, any of their subsidiaries, affiliates, managed accounts or funds, current or former officers and directors, and certain other related parties, the Debtors' current and former officers and directors, the Prepetition Lenders, and all individuals and entities named as defendants in the motion of the Creditors' Committee for standing to pursue Estate Claims.

# IV. SUMMARY OF THE PLAN

THIS SECTION IV IS INTENDED ONLY TO PROVIDE A SUMMARY OF THE KEY TERMS, STRUCTURE, CLASSIFICATION, TREATMENT, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN, AND IS QUALIFIED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY REFERENCE TO THE ENTIRE PLAN AND EXHIBITS THERETO. ALTHOUGH THE STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT INCLUDE SUMMARIES OF THE PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE PLAN AND IN DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO THEREIN, THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT DOES NOT PURPORT TO BE A PRECISE OR COMPLETE STATEMENT OF ALL SUCH TERMS AND PROVISIONS, AND SHOULD NOT BE RELIED ON FOR A COMPREHENSIVE DISCUSSION OF THE PLAN. INSTEAD, REFERENCE IS MADE TO THE PLAN AND ALL SUCH DOCUMENTS FOR THE FULL AND COMPLETE STATEMENTS OF SUCH TERMS AND PROVISIONS. THE PLAN ITSELF (INCLUDING ATTACHMENTS) WILL CONTROL THE TREATMENT OF CREDITORS AND EQUITY SECURITY HOLDERS UNDER THE PLAN. TO THE EXTENT THERE ARE ANY INCONSISTENCIES BETWEEN THIS SECTION IV AND THE PLAN (INCLUDING ATTACHMENTS), THE LATTER SHALL GOVERN.

## A. GENERAL BASIS FOR THE PLAN

Each of the Debtors is a proponent of the Plan within the meaning of section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Plan, though proposed jointly, constitutes a separate chapter 11 plan of reorganization proposed by each Debtor. Therefore, the classifications set forth in Article III of the Plan shall be deemed to apply separately with respect to each Plan proposed by each Debtor.

The terms of the Debtors' Plan are based upon, among other things, the Debtors' assessment of their ability to achieve the goals of their business plan, make the distributions contemplated under the Plan, and pay their continuing obligations in the ordinary course of business. Under the Plan, Claims against and Interests in the Debtors are divided into separate Classes according to their relative seniority, legal nature, and other criteria, and the Plan proposes recoveries for Holders of Claims against and Interests in the Debtors in such Classes, if any. The Debtors believe that the Plan maximizes value for all stakeholders.

## B. PROPOSED TREATMENT OF EACH CLASS OF CLAIMS AND INTERESTS

As set forth in Article III of the Plan and in accordance with sections 1122 and 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, all Claims and Interests (other than Administrative Claims, Priority Tax Claims, ABL DIP Claims, Term DIP Facility Claims, and Professional Fee Claims, which are unclassified Claims under the Plan) are classified into Classes for all purposes, including voting, Confirmation, and distributions pursuant to the Plan. A Claim or Interest is classified in a particular Class only to the extent that the Claim or Interest qualifies within the description of that Class. A Claim or Interest is also classified in a particular Class for the purpose of receiving distributions pursuant to the Plan only to the extent that such Claim or Interest is an Allowed Claim or Allowed Interest in that Class and has not been paid, released, or otherwise satisfied prior to the Effective Date.

#### 1. Unclassified Claims

In accordance with section 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Plan does not classify Administrative Claims, ABL DIP Claims, Term DIP Facility Claims, Priority Tax Claims, or Professional Fee Claims and, thus, Article III of the Plan does not include such Claims in the Classes of Claims set forth therein. Instead, Article II of the Plan provides for the satisfaction of these unclassified Claims. The treatment and the projected recoveries under the Plan of these unclassified Claims, which are not entitled to vote on the Plan, are described in summary form below for illustrative purposes only.

Unclassified Claim	Plan Treatment	Estimated Percent Recovery Under the Plan
Administrative Claims	Unimpaired	100%
ABL DIP Claims	Unimpaired	100%
Term DIP Facility Claims	Unimpaired	100%
Priority Tax Claims	Unimpaired	100%
Professional Fee Claims <sup>26</sup>	Unimpaired	100%

#### (a) <u>Administrative Claims</u>

Except with respect to Administrative Claims that are Professional Fee Claims and ABL DIP Claims, and except to the extent that an Administrative Claim has already been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or a Holder of an Allowed Administrative Claim and the applicable Debtor(s) agree to less favorable treatment, each Holder of an Allowed Administrative Claim shall be paid in full in Cash on the unpaid portion of its Allowed Administrative Claim on the latest of: (a) on or as soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date if such Administrative Claim is Allowed as of the Effective Date; (b) on or as soon as reasonably practicable after the date such Administrative Claim becomes due and payable, or as soon thereafter as is reasonably practicable; *provided* that Allowed Administrative Claims that arise in the ordinary course of the Debtors' businesses shall be paid in the ordinary course of business in accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions of any agreements governing, instruments evidencing, or other documents relating to such transactions. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no request for payment of an Administrative Claim need be filed with respect to an Administrative Claim previously Allowed by Final Order. Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan to the contrary, no Governmental Unit shall be required to file a request for the payment of an expense described in 11 U.S.C. § 503(b)(1)(B) or (C) as a condition of it being allowed as an administrative expense.

#### (b) <u>Administrative Claims Bar Date</u>

All requests for payment of an Administrative Claim (other than Prepetition Credit Agreement Claims or Professional Fee Claims) that accrued on or before the Effective Date that were not accrued in the ordinary course of business must be filed with the Bankruptcy Court and served on the Debtors no later than the Administrative Claims Bar Date. Holders of Administrative Claims that are, based on the preceding sentence, required to, but do not, file and serve a request for payment of such Administrative Claims by such date shall be forever barred, estopped, and enjoined from asserting such Administrative Claims against the Debtors or their property and such Administrative Claims shall be deemed discharged as of the Effective Date.

Subject to Article VII.B.2 of the Plan, The Reorganized Debtors, in their sole and absolute discretion, may settle Administrative Claims in the ordinary course of business without further Bankruptcy Court approval. The Debtors may also choose to object to any Administrative Claim no later than 60 days from the Administrative Claims Bar Date, subject to extensions by the Bankruptcy Court, agreement in writing of the parties, or on motion of a party in interest approved by the Bankruptcy Court. Unless the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors (or other party with standing) object to a timely-filed and properly served Administrative Claim, such Administrative Claim will be deemed allowed in the amount requested. In the event that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors object to an Administrative Claim, the parties may confer to try to reach a settlement and, failing that, the Bankruptcy Court will determine whether such Administrative Claim should be allowed and, if so, in what amount.

The Professional Fee Claims set forth herein and in the Plan constitute the estimated unpaid Professional Fee Claims as of a hypothetical Effective Date of August 10, 2017, and this estimate is nonbinding and is subject to material revision.

## (c) <u>Professional Compensation</u>

## (i) Final Fee Applications

All final requests for Professional Fee Claims shall be filed no later than 30 days after the Effective Date. After notice and a hearing in accordance with the procedures established by the Bankruptcy Code and prior Bankruptcy Court orders, the Allowed amounts of such Professional Fee Claims shall be determined by the Bankruptcy Court.

## (ii) Professional Fee Escrow Account

On the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall establish and fund the Professional Fee Escrow Account with Cash equal to the aggregate Professional Fee Reserve Amount for all Retained Professionals. The Professional Fee Escrow Account shall be maintained in trust solely for the Retained Professionals. Such funds shall not be considered property of the Estates of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors. The amount of Professional Fee Claims owing to the Retained Professionals shall be paid in Cash to such Retained Professionals by the Reorganized Debtors from the Professional Fee Escrow Account as soon as reasonably practicable after such Professional Fee Claims are Allowed by a Final Order. When all such Allowed amounts owing to Retained Professionals have been paid in full, any remaining amount in the Professional Fee Escrow Account shall promptly be paid to the Reorganized Debtors without any further action or order of the Bankruptcy Court.

## (iii) Professional Fee Reserve Amount

To receive payment for unbilled fees and expenses incurred through the Effective Date, the Retained Professionals shall estimate their Accrued Professional Compensation prior to and as of the Effective Date and shall deliver such estimate to the Debtors on or before the Effective Date. If a Retained Professional does not provide such estimate, the Reorganized Debtors may estimate the unbilled fees and expenses of such Retained Professional; provided that such estimate shall not be considered an admission or limitation with respect to the fees and expenses of such Retained Professional. The total amount so estimated as of the Effective Date shall comprise the Professional Fee Reserve Amount.

## (iv) Post-Confirmation Date Fees and Expenses

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, from and after the Confirmation Date, each Debtor and Reorganized Debtor (as applicable) shall pay in Cash the reasonable legal fees and expenses incurred by such Debtor or Reorganized Debtor (as applicable) after the Confirmation Date in the ordinary course of business and without any further notice to or action, order or approval of the Bankruptcy Court. The Debtors and Reorganized Debtors (as applicable) shall pay, within ten Business Days after submission of a detailed invoice to the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors (as applicable), such reasonable claims for compensation or reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Retained Professionals of the Debtors and Reorganized Debtors (as applicable). If the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors (as applicable), dispute the reasonableness of any such invoice, the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors (as applicable) or the affected professional may submit such dispute to the Bankruptcy Court for a determination of the reasonableness of any such invoice, and the disputed portion of such invoice shall not be paid until the dispute is resolved. The undisputed portion of such reasonable fees and expenses shall be paid as provided herein. Upon the Confirmation Date, any requirement that Retained Professionals comply with sections 327 through 331 and 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code in seeking retention or compensation for services rendered after such date shall terminate, and each Debtor or Reorganized Debtor (as applicable) may employ and pay any Retained Professional in the ordinary course of business without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

## (v) Substantial Contribution Compensation and Expenses

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, any Entity that requests compensation or expense reimbursement for making a substantial contribution in the Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to sections 503(b)(3), (4), and (5) of the Bankruptcy Code must file an application and serve such application on counsel for the Debtors or

Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, and as otherwise required by the Bankruptcy Court, the Bankruptcy Code, and the Bankruptcy Rules on or before the Administrative Claims Bar Date.

# (d) Priority Tax Claims

Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Priority Tax Claim agrees to a less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, compromise, settlement, release, and discharge of, and in exchange for, each Allowed Priority Tax Claim, each Holder of such Allowed Priority Tax Claim shall be treated in accordance with the terms set forth in section 1129(a)(9)(C) of the Bankruptcy Code.

## (e) <u>ABL DIP Claims</u>

On the Effective Date, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed ABL DIP Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each Allowed ABL DIP Claim, each Holder of an Allowed ABL DIP Claim shall indefeasibly receive payment in full, in Cash.

## (f) Term DIP Facility Claims

On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Term DIP Facility Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each Allowed Term DIP Facility Claim, each such Holder of an Allowed Term DIP Facility Claim shall receive, on a dollar-for-dollar-basis, its Pro Rata share of the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche.

## (g) <u>United States Trustee Statutory Fees</u>

The Debtors shall pay all United States Trustee quarterly fees under 28 U.S.C. § 1930(a)(6), plus interest due and payable under 31 U.S.C. § 3717 on all disbursements, including Plan payments and disbursements in and outside the ordinary course of the Debtors' businesses, until the entry of a Final Order, dismissal of the Chapter 11 Cases or conversion of the Chapter 11 Cases to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code.

### 2. Classified Claims and Interests

## (a) Proposed Distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims and Interests

The Plan contemplates the following distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims and Interests, among other recoveries:

Class 1 – Other Priority	<b>Treatment</b> . On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable		
Claims	thereafter, except to the extent a Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim has		
	already been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such Holder of an Allowed		
	Other Priority Claim, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting		
	Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction,		
	settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Other		
	Priority Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim shall receive		
	payment in full, in Cash, of the unpaid portion of its Allowed Other Priority		
	Claim.		
	<b>Voting</b> . Unimpaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claims will be		
	conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the		
	Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim		
	will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.		
Class 2 – Other Secured	<b>Treatment</b> . On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable		

Claims	thereafter, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim has already been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such Holder, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Other Secured Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim shall receive: (i) payment in full, in Cash, of the unpaid portion of its Allowed Other Secured Claim; (ii) delivery of the collateral securing such Allowed Other Secured Claim; or (iii) other treatment, as decided by the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders to their mutual satisfaction, such that the Other Secured Claim shall be rendered unimpaired.  Voting. Unimpaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.
Class 3 – Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	<b>Allowance</b> . The Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be allowed in the aggregate amount of \$506.3 million (including \$633,433.66 (plus accrued and unpaid interest and any reasonable, actual, and documented fees) on account of the Allowed MSCS Swap Claim).
	<b>Treatment</b> . On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its Pro Rata share of: (i) the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche; and (ii) 91.0% of the New Equity subject to dilution from the Management Equity Incentive Plan and the Exit Commitment Fee.
	<b>Voting</b> . Impaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.
Class 4 – Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	<b>Allowance</b> . The Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be allowed in the aggregate amount of \$145 million.
	<b>Treatment</b> . Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim (including the unsecured deficiency claim of its Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim), each Holder of an Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement shall receive its Pro Rata share of 9.0% of the New Equity, subject to dilution from the Management Equity Incentive Plan and the Exit Commitment Fee.
	<b>Voting</b> . Impaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.
Class 5A – Other General Unsecured Claims	Treatment. Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of an in exchange for its Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim shall receive (i) its Pro Rata share of \$3.658 million of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool, which shall be shared Pro Rata only among Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims and (ii) its Pro Rata share

of the remaining \$25 million of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool, which shall be shared Pro Rata only among Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims (based on the amount of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims after reduction by payments received under Article III.B.5(b)(i) of the Plan) and Holders of Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims (based on the amount of Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims after reduction by payments received under Article III.B.6(b)(i) of the Plan).

**Voting**. Impaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

# Class 5B – Worldwide General Unsecured Claims

Treatment. Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall receive (i) its Pro Rata share of the Worldwide GUC Claims Recovery Pool of \$3.658 million, which shall be shared Pro Rata only among Holders of Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims and (ii) its Pro Rata share of the remaining \$25 million of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool, which shall be shared Pro Rata only among Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims (based on the amount of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims after reduction by payments received under Article III.B.5(b)(i) of the Plan) and Holders of Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims after reduction by payments received under Article III.B.6(b)(i) of the Plan).

**Voting**. Impaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

## Class 5C – Canadian General Unsecured Claims

**Treatment**. On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent a Holder of a Canadian General Unsecured Claim has already been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or a Holder of a Canadian General Unsecured Claim, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Canadian General Unsecured Claim, each Holder of a Canadian General Unsecured Claim shall have its Claim Reinstated provided, however, that nothing in this Plan shall affect any of the Debtors' rights and defenses, whether legal, equitable, or otherwise, in respect of such claims and all such rights and defenses of all Debtors (including any right of counterclaims or right of set off) shall continue following the Effective Date.

The Debtors intend to seek recognition with the Canadian Court in the pending CCAA Recognition Proceedings of the confirmation order authorizing the treatment set forth in the Plan. The Debtors also expect that the reorganized Canadian Debtors will be guarantors on the exit ABL facility.

**Voting**. Unimpaired. Each Holder of a Canadian General Unsecured Claim will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of a Canadian General Unsecured Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

Class 6 – Intercompany Claims	Treatment. To preserve the Debtors' corporate structure, as of the Effective Date, Intercompany Claims shall be reinstated, cancelled, or compromised as determined by the Debtors, with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders; provided that an Intercompany Claim held by one of the LatAm JV Entities shall not be cancelled or compromised without the consent of the Holder of such Intercompany Claim.  Voting. Impaired or Unimpaired. Each Holder of an Intercompany Claim will be conclusively deemed to have (a) rejected the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan or (b) accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.
Class 7 – Existing Equity Interests	Treatment. On the Effective Date, all Existing Equity Interests shall be discharged, cancelled, released, and extinguished.  Voting. Impaired. Each Holder of an Existing Equity Interest will be conclusively deemed to have rejected the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of an Existing Equity Interest will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.
Class 8 –Intercompany Interests	Treatment. To preserve the Debtors' corporate structure, on the Effective Date, all Intercompany Interests shall be cancelled or Reinstated, as determined by the Debtors, with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.  Voting. Unimpaired. Each Holder of an Intercompany Interest will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.
Class 9 – Section 510(b) Claims	<ul> <li>Treatment. On the Effective Date, all Section 510(b) Claims shall be cancelled without any distribution.</li> <li>Voting. Impaired. Each Holder of a Section 510(b) Claim will be conclusively deemed to have rejected the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of a Section 510(b) Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.</li> </ul>

## C. POST-EMERGENCE CAPITAL STRUCTURE

The Debtors capital structure at emergence will consist of:

- New ABL Facility. An up to \$305 million senior secured asset-based revolving credit facility, on terms at least as favorable to the Debtors and the lenders under the New First Lien Term Loan Facility as the Prepetition ABL Facility, as determined by the Requisite Consenting Lenders (as defined herein) in their reasonable discretion. The New ABL Facility is expected to include guarantees from the Canadian Debtors.
- New First Lien Term Loan Facility. A \$280 million first lien senior secured term loan (the "New First Lien Term Loan Facility") consisting of (i) the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche, a first-out amortizing term loan which shall be in an amount equal to the outstanding balance of the Term DIP Facility on the Effective Date and (ii) the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche, a last-out amortizing term loan, which shall be in an amount of \$280 million less the amount of the outstanding balance of the Term DIP Facility on the Effective Date.

• New Equity. Payless Holdings LLC, as reorganized pursuant to and under the Plan, or a new corporation or limited liability company that may be formed to directly or indirectly acquire all of the assets and/or stock of the Debtors shall issue equity (the "New Equity") on the Effective Date on the terms set forth in the Plan.

#### D. CERTAIN MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN

#### 1. General Settlement of All Claims

As set forth herein, the Debtors, the Debtors' independent director (as advised by MTO), the Sponsors, the Prepetition Lenders, and the Creditors' Committee have reached a settlement regarding among other issues, the Debtors' business, capital structure, and any and all claims the Estates may have against the Sponsor Entities arising from the Potential Claims (as defined herein). Pursuant to that settlement, the Sponsors will make the Sponsor Payment of over \$21 million (consisting of \$5.44 million in Cash held by Payless Holdings LLC and \$15.750 million in Cash from the Sponsors) to the Debtors' Estates to be distributed to Holders of General Unsecured Claims pursuant to the Plan and the Creditors' Committee agreed to support the Debtor Release, Third-Party Release, Injunction, and Exculpation provisions of Article IX of the Plan. This settlement is now embodied in the Plan. For the avoidance of doubt, the Sponsor Payment is made as a settlement, without admitting any wrongdoing of any kind, of any potential claims, including without limitation claims for breach of fiduciary duty arising in connection with the authorization and payment of certain dividends in 2013 and 2014, that could be asserted against the Sponsor Entities, any of their subsidiaries, affiliates, managed accounts or funds, current or former officers and directors, and certain other related parties, the Debtors' current and former officers and directors, the Prepetition Lenders, and all individuals and entities named as defendants in draft complaint attached as an exhibit to the motion of the Creditors' Committee for standing to pursue certain claims on behalf of the Estates.

Accordingly, pursuant to section 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019, and in consideration for the classification, distributions, releases, and other benefits provided under the Plan, upon the Effective Date, the provisions of the Plan shall constitute a good-faith compromise and settlement of all Claims, Equity Interests, Causes of Action, and controversies released, settled, compromised, discharged, or otherwise resolved pursuant to the Plan. The Plan shall be deemed a motion to approve the good-faith compromise and settlement of all such Claims, Interests, Causes of Action, and controversies pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019, and the entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval of such compromise and settlement under section 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019, as well as a finding by the Bankruptcy Court that such settlement and compromise is fair, equitable, reasonable, and in the best interests of the Debtors and their Estates. Distributions made to Holders of Allowed Claims in any Class are intended to be final.

The Plan reflects a global settlement of issues pursuant to section 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019. Critical components of the integrated settlement provisions of the Restructuring Support Agreement, which have been incorporated into the Plan, include, among other things, the Debtor Release and Third-Party Release, treatment of and distributions to creditors under the Plan, post-emergence governance rights, incentive programs, conditions precedent to Plan confirmation, the treatment of Avoidance Actions, DIP Financing, Milestones, and covenants. The components of the Plan reflect and implement the concessions and compromises contained in the Restructuring Support Agreement as well as the settlement agreement with the Creditors' Committee. The parties to the Restructuring Support Agreement and the parties to be released under the Plan afforded value to the Debtors and aided in the reorganization process by playing a role in the formulation of the Plan and have expended time and resources analyzing and negotiating the complex issues presented by the Debtors' capital structure. The release provisions in the Plan were a component of the Debtors' ability to achieve consensus on the Restructuring Support Agreement and a prearranged plan of reorganization that maximizes recoveries to the Debtors' creditors and affords the Reorganized Debtors the opportunity to restructure their businesses to compete effectively post-emergence. Absent the prearranged bankruptcy filing and expeditious implementation of the Plan (which preserves trade relationships and, therefore, enterprise value), the Debtors could face a longer, costlier, and uncertain chapter 11 process mired with contentious litigation or a near-term liquidation, which could materially delay and reduce distributions to creditors.

## 2. Restructuring Transactions

The Plan provides that, on the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, the Reorganized Debtors may take all actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effect any transaction described in, approved by, contemplated by, or necessary to effectuate the Plan, including: (a) the execution and delivery of appropriate agreements or other documents of merger, consolidation, or reorganization containing terms that are consistent with the terms of the Plan and that satisfy the requirements of applicable law; (b) the execution and delivery of appropriate instruments of transfer, assignment, assumption, or delegation of any property, right, liability, duty, or obligation on terms consistent with the terms of the Plan; (c) the filing of appropriate certificates of incorporation, merger or consolidation with the appropriate governmental authorities pursuant to applicable law; and (d) all other actions that the Reorganized Debtors determine are necessary or appropriate; *provided*, *however*, that no such restructuring transactions may violate the terms of any Unexpired Lease or Executory Contract assumed by the Debtors.

# 3. The New Credit Facilities and Approval of the New Credit Facilities

Confirmation of the Plan shall be deemed to constitute approval of the New Credit Facilities and the New Credit Facilities Documents (including all transactions contemplated thereby and all actions to be taken, undertakings to be made, and obligations to be incurred by the Reorganized Debtors in connection therewith, including the payment of all fees, indemnities, and expenses provided for therein) and, subject to the occurrence of the Effective Date, authorization for the Reorganized Debtors to enter into and perform their obligations under the New Credit Facilities Documents and such other documents as may be reasonably required or appropriate, in each case, in accordance with the New Credit Facilities Documents.

On the Effective Date, the New Credit Facilities Documents shall constitute legal, valid, binding, and authorized obligations of the Reorganized Debtors, enforceable in accordance with their terms. The financial accommodations to be extended pursuant to the New Credit Facilities Documents are being extended, and shall be deemed to have been extended, in good faith, for legitimate business purposes, are reasonable, shall not be subject to avoidance, recharacterization, or subordination (including equitable subordination) for any purposes whatsoever, and shall not constitute preferential transfers, fraudulent conveyances, or other voidable transfers under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable non-bankruptcy law. On the Effective Date, all of the liens and security interests to be granted in accordance with the New Credit Facilities Documents (a) shall be legal, binding, and enforceable liens on, and security interests in, the collateral granted thereunder in accordance with the terms of the New Credit Facilities Documents, (b) shall be deemed automatically attached and perfected on the Effective Date, subject only to such liens and security interests as may be permitted under the New Credit Facilities Documents, and (c) shall not be subject to avoidance, recharacterization, or subordination (including equitable subordination) for any purposes whatsoever and shall not constitute preferential transfers, fraudulent conveyances, or other voidable transfers under the Bankruptcy Code or any applicable non bankruptcy law. The Reorganized Debtors and the Entities granted such liens and security interests are authorized to make all filings and recordings, and to obtain all governmental approvals and consents necessary to establish, attach, and perfect such liens and security interests under the provisions of the applicable state, provincial, federal, or other law (whether domestic or foreign) that would be applicable in the absence of the Plan and the Confirmation Order (it being understood that perfection shall occur automatically by virtue of the entry of the Confirmation Order, and any such filings, recordings, approvals, and consents shall not be required), and will thereafter cooperate to make all other filings and recordings that otherwise would be necessary under applicable law to give notice of such liens and security interests to third parties. To the extent that any Holder of a Secured Claim that has been satisfied or discharged in full pursuant to the Plan, or any agent for such Holder, has filed or recorded publicly any liens and/or security interests to secure such Holder's Secured Claim, then as soon as practicable on or after the Effective Date, such Holder (or the agent for such Holder) shall take any and all steps requested by the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, or any administrative agent under the New Credit Facilities Documents that are necessary to cancel and/or extinguish such liens and/or security interests.

## 4. Corporate Existence

Subject to any restructuring transactions as permitted under Article IV.B of the Plan, each Debtor shall continue to exist after the Effective Date as a separate corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other form of entity, as the case may be, with all the powers of a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other form of entity, as the case may be, pursuant to the applicable law in the jurisdiction in which each applicable

Debtor is incorporated or formed and pursuant to the respective certificate of incorporation and bylaws (or other similar formation and governance documents) in effect prior to the Effective Date, except to the extent such certificate of incorporation or bylaws (or other similar formation and governance documents) are amended by or in connection with the Plan or otherwise, and, to the extent such documents are amended, such documents are deemed to be amended pursuant to the Plan and require no further action or approval (other than any requisite filings required under applicable state, provincial, or federal law).

#### 5. Vesting of Assets in the Reorganized Debtors

Subject to Article IV.O of the Plan, and except as otherwise provided in the Plan or in any agreement, instrument, or other document incorporated in the Plan, on the Effective Date, all property in each Estate, all Causes of Action, and any property acquired by any of the Debtors pursuant to the Plan shall vest in each respective Reorganized Debtor, free and clear of all liens, Claims, charges, or other encumbrances. For the avoidance of doubt, the Reorganized Debtors shall have no property interest in the funds in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow and such funds shall not be considered property of the Reorganized Debtors and any liens, charges, or other encumbrances granted under the Plan shall not extend to an interest in the funds held in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow. On and after the Effective Date, subject to Article VII.B.2 and except as otherwise provided in the Plan, each Reorganized Debtor may operate its business and may use, acquire, or dispose of property and compromise or settle any Claims, Interests, or Causes of Action without supervision or approval by the Bankruptcy Court and free of any restrictions of the Bankruptcy Code or Bankruptcy Rules.

## 6. Cancellation of Prepetition Credit Agreements and Equity Interests

On the Effective Date, except as otherwise specifically provided for in the Plan: (a) the obligations of the Debtors under the Prepetition Credit Agreements and any other certificate, equity security, share, note, bond, indenture, purchase right, option, warrant, or other instrument or document directly or indirectly evidencing or creating any indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors giving rise to any Claim or Equity Interest (except such certificates, notes, or other instruments or documents evidencing indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors that are Reinstated pursuant to the Plan), shall be cancelled solely as to the Debtors and their Affiliates, and the Reorganized Debtors shall not have any continuing obligations thereunder; and (b) the obligations of the Debtors and their Affiliates pursuant, relating, or pertaining to any agreements, indentures, certificates of designation, bylaws, or certificate or articles of incorporation or similar documents governing the shares, certificates, notes, bonds, indentures, purchase rights, options, warrants, or other instruments or documents evidencing or creating any indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors (except such agreements, certificates, notes, or other instruments evidencing indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors that are specifically Reinstated pursuant to the Plan) shall be released and discharged. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that (i) has been, or will be, assumed pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code or (ii) relating to a Claim that was paid in full prior to the Effective Date, shall be terminated or cancelled on the Effective Date, except that:

- the Prepetition Credit Agreements shall continue in effect solely for the purpose of: (i) allowing Holders of the ABL DIP Claims, Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable, to receive the distributions provided for under the Plan; (ii) allowing the Prepetition Agents to receive distributions from the Debtors and to make further distributions to the Holders of such Claims on account of such Claims, as set forth in Article VI.A of the Plan; and (iii) preserving the Prepetition Agents' right to indemnification pursuant and subject to the terms of the Prepetition Credit Agreements in respect of any Claim or Cause of Action asserted against the Prepetition Agents; provided that any Claim or right to payment on account of such indemnification shall be an Administrative Claim; and
- the foregoing shall not affect the cancellation of shares issued pursuant to the Plan nor any other shares held by one Debtor in the capital of another Debtor.

## 7. Sources of Cash for Plan Distributions and Transfers of Funds Among Debtors

The Cash necessary for the Reorganized Debtors to make payments required pursuant to the Plan will be funded from three sources: (1) proceeds from the New ABL Facility, (2) the Sponsor Payment, and (3) Cash on hand as of the Effective Date. Specifically, the Debtors expect that the New ABL Facility<sup>27</sup> will provide sufficient Cash to pay all ABL DIP Claims. Additionally, prior to the Effective Date, the Debtors may draw remaining available proceeds, if any, under the Term DIP Facility (subject to and in accordance with the Final DIP Order). The Debtors will rely on this draw under the Term DIP Facility, the Sponsor Payment, and Cash on hand to fund other payments required for emergence.

In making such Cash payments, the Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors will be entitled to transfer funds between and among themselves as they determine to be necessary or appropriate to enable the Reorganized Debtors to satisfy their obligations under the Plan. Except as set forth in the Plan, any changes in intercompany account balances resulting from such transfers will be accounted for and settled in accordance with the Debtors' historical intercompany account settlement practices and will not violate the terms of the Plan.

From and after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors, subject to any applicable limitations set forth in any post-Effective Date financing, shall have the right and authority without further order of the Bankruptcy Court, to raise additional capital and obtain additional financing as the boards of directors of the applicable Reorganized Debtors deem appropriate.

## 8. Payment of Commitment Fees

On the Effective Date, to the extent any portion of the commitments under the Term DIP Facility are not borrowed, the Reorganized Debtors shall pay a Cash fee equal to 3% of the commitments under the Term DIP Facility that are not borrowed to each Backstop Lender in accordance with the DIP Documents.

On the Effective Date, to the extent any portion of the commitments under the Term DIP Facility are not borrowed, the Reorganized Debtors shall pay a Cash fee equal to 2% of the commitments under the Term DIP Facility that are not borrowed to each lender under the Term DIP Facility in accordance with the DIP Documents.

On the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall pay the Exit Commitment Fee to lenders under the Term DIP Facility in accordance with the DIP Documents.

## 9. Effectuating Documents and Further Transactions

The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, may take all actions to execute, deliver, file, or record such contracts, instruments, releases, and other agreements or documents and take such actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate and implement the provisions of the Plan, including, without limitation, the distribution of the securities to be issued pursuant hereto in the name of and on behalf of the Reorganized Debtors, without the need for any approvals, authorizations, actions, or consents except for those expressly required pursuant hereto. The secretary and any assistant secretary of each Debtor shall be authorized to certify or attest to any of the foregoing actions. Prior to, on or after the Effective Date (as appropriate), all matters provided for pursuant to the Plan that would otherwise require approval of the shareholders, directors, or members of the Debtors shall be deemed to have been so approved and shall be in effect prior to, on or after the Effective Date (as appropriate) pursuant to applicable law and without any requirement of further action by the shareholders, directors, managers or partners of the Debtors, or the need for any approvals, authorizations, actions or consents.

## 10. Issuance of New Equity

## 1. New Equity

On the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall issue all securities, notes, instruments, certificates, and other documents required to be issued pursuant to the Plan. The issuance of such documents is authorized without the need for any further corporate action or without any further action by the Holders of Claims or Interests.

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The New ABL Facility is expected to include guarantees from the Canadian Debtors.

Distributions of New Equity will only be made through broker accounts via electronic issuance and Reorganized Holdings will not issue separate stock certificates.

## 2. Shareholders Agreement

On the Effective Date, Holders of New Equity shall be parties to a Shareholders Agreement, in substantially the form included in the Plan Supplement, and which shall otherwise be satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders. On the Effective Date, Reorganized Holdings and the Requisite Consenting Lenders shall enter into and deliver the Shareholders Agreement to each Entity that is intended to be a party thereto and such Shareholders Agreement shall be deemed to be valid, binding, and enforceable in accordance with its terms, and each Holder of New Equity shall be bound thereby, in each case without the need for execution by any party thereto other than Reorganized Holdings.

## 3. Private Companies

On the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall be private, non-SEC reporting companies.

## 11. Section 1145 Exemption

Pursuant to section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code and, to the extent that section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code is inapplicable, section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act, and/or the safe harbor of Regulation D promulgated thereunder, or such other exemption as may be available from any applicable registration requirements, the offering, issuance, and distribution of any securities pursuant to the Plan and any and all settlement agreements incorporated herein shall be exempt from, among other things, the registration requirements of section 5 of the Securities Act to the maximum extent permitted thereunder and any other applicable law requiring registration by virtue of section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, prior to the offering, issuance, distribution, or sale of securities. In addition, to the maximum extent provided under section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, any and all New Equity contemplated by the Plan and any and all settlement agreements incorporated therein will be freely tradable and transferable by any initial recipient thereof that (x) is not an "affiliate" of the Reorganized Debtors (as defined in rule 144(a)(1) under the Securities Act), (y) has not been such an "affiliate" within 90 days of such transfer, and (z) is not an entity that is an "underwriter" as defined in section 1145(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

## 12. New Organizational Documents

On or immediately prior to the Effective Date, the organizational documents of each of the Debtors shall be amended and restated, as may be necessary to effectuate the transactions contemplated by the Plan, in a manner consistent with section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code and shall otherwise be satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders. Each of the Reorganized Debtors will file its New Organizational Documents with the applicable Secretaries of State and/or other applicable authorities in its respective state, province, or country of incorporation in accordance with the corporate laws of the respective state, province, or country of incorporation. The New Organizational Documents will prohibit the issuance of non-voting equity securities, to the extent required under section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code.

## 13. Exemption from Certain Transfer Taxes and Recording Fees

Pursuant to section 1146(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, any transfer from a Debtor to a Reorganized Debtor or to any Entity pursuant to, in contemplation of, or in connection with the Plan or pursuant to: (1) the issuance, distribution, transfer, or exchange of any debt, securities, or other interest in the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors; (2) the creation, modification, consolidation, or recording of any mortgage, deed of trust, or other security interest, or the securing of additional indebtedness by such or other means; (3) the making, assignment, or recording of any lease or sublease; or (4) the making, delivery, or recording of any deed or other instrument of transfer under, in furtherance of, or in connection with, the Plan, including any deeds, bills of sale, assignments, or other instrument of transfer executed in connection with any transaction arising out of, contemplated by, or in any way related to the Plan, shall not be subject to any document recording tax, stamp tax, conveyance fee, intangibles or similar tax, mortgage tax, real estate transfer tax, mortgage recording tax, Uniform Commercial Code filing or recording fee, regulatory filing or recording fee, or other similar tax or governmental assessment, and the appropriate state or local governmental officials or agents shall forego the collection of any such tax or governmental assessment and to

accept for filing and recordation any of the foregoing instruments or other documents without the payment of any such tax or governmental assessment. All filing or recording officers (or any other Person with authority over any of the foregoing), wherever located and by whomever appointed, shall comply with the requirements of section 1146(c) of the Bankruptcy Code, shall forgo the collection of any such tax or governmental assessment, and shall accept for filing and recordation any of the foregoing instruments or other documents without the payment of any such tax or governmental assessment.

#### 14. Directors and Officers of Reorganized Holdings and Other Reorganized Debtors

The initial directors and officers of the Reorganized Holdings shall be selected by the Requisite Consenting Lenders. Unless otherwise set forth in the Plan Supplement, the existing directors of each of the subsidiary Debtors shall remain in their current capacities as directors of the applicable Reorganized Debtor until replaced or removed in accordance with the organizational documents of the applicable Reorganized Debtors. The identity of each of the members of the New Board will be disclosed prior to the Confirmation Hearing and any directors elected pursuant to this section shall be subject to approval of the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to and to the extent necessary to satisfy section 1129(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.

## 15. Avoidance Actions

The Debtors waive all rights to commence or otherwise pursue any and all Avoidance Actions, including, without limitation, to assert or use any such Avoidance Actions for defensive purposes, and such Avoidance Actions shall be released on the Effective Date.

#### 16. Preservation of Causes of Action

In accordance with section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, but subject to Article IX of the Plan, the Reorganized Debtors shall retain and may enforce all rights to commence and pursue, as appropriate, any and all Causes of Action, whether arising before or after the Petition Date, and the Reorganized Debtors' rights to commence, prosecute, or settle such Causes of Action shall be preserved notwithstanding the occurrence of the Effective Date, other than (i) Avoidance Actions released by the Debtors pursuant to Article IV.O of the Plan and (ii) the Causes of Action released by the Debtors pursuant to the releases and exculpations contained in the Plan, including Article IX. The Reorganized Debtors may pursue such Causes of Action, as appropriate, in accordance with the best interests of the Reorganized Debtors. No Entity may rely on the absence of a specific reference in the Plan, the Plan Supplement, or the Disclosure Statement to any Cause of Action against it as any indication that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, will not pursue any and all available Causes of Action against it. The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, expressly reserve all rights to prosecute any and all Causes of Action against any Entity, except as otherwise expressly provided in the Plan, including Article IV.O and Article IX of the Plan. Unless any Causes of Action against an Entity are expressly waived, relinquished, exculpated, released, compromised, or settled in the Plan or a Bankruptcy Court order, the Reorganized Debtors expressly reserve all Causes of Action, for later adjudication, and, therefore no preclusion doctrine, including the doctrines of res judicata, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim preclusion, estoppel (judicial, equitable, or otherwise) or laches, shall apply to such Causes of Action upon, after, or as a consequence of the Confirmation or the Effective Date.

The Reorganized Debtors reserve and shall retain the Causes of Action notwithstanding the rejection or repudiation of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease during the Chapter 11 Cases or pursuant to the Plan. In accordance with section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code, any Causes of Action that a Debtor may hold against any Entity shall vest in the applicable Reorganized Debtor, except as otherwise expressly provided in the Plan, including Article IV.O and Article IX of the Plan. The applicable Reorganized Debtors, through their authorized agents or representatives, shall retain and may exclusively enforce any and all such Causes of Action. The Reorganized Debtors shall have the exclusive right, authority, and discretion to determine and to initiate, file, prosecute, enforce, abandon, settle, compromise, release, withdraw, or litigate to judgment any such Causes of Action and to decline to do any of the foregoing without the consent or approval of any third party or further notice to or action, order or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

## 17. Directors and Officers Insurance Policies and Agreements

Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, effective as of the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall be deemed to have assumed all unexpired D&O Liability Insurance Policies with respect to the Debtors' directors, managers, officers, and employees serving on or prior to the Petition Date pursuant to section 365(a) of the Bankruptcy Code. Entry of the Confirmation Order will constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval of the Reorganized Debtors' assumption of each of the unexpired D&O Liability Insurance Policies. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Plan, Confirmation of the Plan shall not discharge, impair, or otherwise modify any indemnity obligations assumed by the foregoing assumption of the D&O Liability Insurance Policies, and each such indemnity obligation will be deemed and treated as an Executory Contract that has been assumed by the Reorganized Debtors under the Plan as to which no Proof of Claim need be filed.

After the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall not terminate or otherwise reduce the coverage under any D&O Liability Insurance Policy (including such tail coverage liability insurance) in effect and all members, managers, directors, and officers of the Debtors who served in such capacity at any time prior to the Effective Date of the Plan shall be entitled to the full benefits of any such policy for the full term of such policy regardless of whether such members, managers, directors, and/or officers remain in such positions after the Effective Date of the Plan.

## 18. Compensation and Benefits Programs

Unless otherwise provided herein or in the Plan Supplement, the Confirmation Order, or any applicable agreements binding on the Debtors, all employee wages, compensation, and benefit programs in place as of the Effective Date with the Debtors shall be assumed by the Reorganized Debtors and shall remain in place as of the Effective Date, and the Reorganized Debtors will continue to honor such agreements, arrangements, programs, and plans. Notwithstanding the foregoing, pursuant to section 1129(a)(13) of the Bankruptcy Code, from and after the Effective Date, all retiree benefits (as such term is defined in section 1114 of the Bankruptcy Code), if any, shall continue to be paid in accordance with applicable law.

# (a) <u>Management Equity Incentive Plan</u>

Promptly on or as soon as practicable after the Effective Date, the New Board will adopt and implement the Management Equity Incentive Plan whereby equity awards for 6–10% of the New Equity (on a fully diluted basis) of Reorganized Holdings will be granted to continuing employees of the Debtors and members of the New Board with pricing, vesting and exercise terms to be determined by the New Board upon consultation with the Chief Executive Officer of Reorganized Holdings.

## (b) <u>Cash Incentive Program</u>

Promptly on or as soon as practicable after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors will assume the Cash Incentive Program.

#### (c) Continuation of Retiree Benefits

The Reorganized Debtors' obligations with respect to the payment of "retiree benefits" (as that term is defined in section 1114(a) of the Bankruptcy Code) shall continue for the duration of the periods the Debtors have obligated themselves to provide such benefits, if any, subject to any contractual rights to terminate or modify such benefits.

## (d) Workers' Compensation Programs

As of the Effective Date, the Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors shall continue to honor their obligations under: (i) all applicable workers' compensation laws in states in which the Reorganized Debtors operate; and (ii) the Debtors' written contracts, agreements, agreements of indemnity, self-insurer workers' compensation bonds, policies, programs, and plans for workers' compensation and workers' compensation insurance, including without limitation, any Insurance Policies providing workers' compensation insurance coverage to the Debtors.

All Proofs of Claims on account of workers' compensation shall be deemed withdrawn automatically and without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court; *provided*, *however*, that nothing in the Plan shall limit, diminish, or otherwise alter the Debtors' or Reorganized Debtors' defenses, Causes of Action, or other rights under applicable non-bankruptcy law with respect to any such contracts, agreements, policies, programs and plans; *provided*, *further*, that nothing herein shall be deemed to impose any obligations on the Debtors in addition to what is provided for under applicable state law.

## 19. Gift Card Programs

The Reorganized Debtors will honor and satisfy all of the Debtors' prepetition and postpetition obligations related to their Gift Card Program, as set forth and defined in the Final Order (I) Authorizing the Debtors to (A) Honor Certain Prepetition Obligations to Customers and Partners and (B) Otherwise Continue Certain Customer and Partner Programs in the Ordinary Course of Business and (II) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 638]. Nothing in the Confirmation Order shall alter the Debtors' or Reorganized Debtors' obligations with respect to the Gift Card Program.

## E. PLAN SUPPLEMENT

The Debtors will file the Plan Supplement with the Bankruptcy Court on or before the date that is seven (7) calendar days prior to the Voting Deadline. The Noticing and Claims Agent will serve the 2002 List and Master List with a courtesy notice that will inform parties that the Plan Supplement was filed, list the information included therein and explain how copies of the Plan Supplement may be obtained. The Plan Supplement will include, without limitation, the forms of:

- the Shareholders Agreement;
- the New First Lien Credit Agreement;
- the New ABL Credit Agreement;
- the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases;
- the Schedule of Rejected Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases;
- a list of retained Causes of Action;
- the New Organizational Documents; and
- the documents and agreements necessary to implement the Cash Incentive Program.

## F. TREATMENT OF EXECUTORY CONTRACTS AND UNEXPIRED LEASES

## 1. Assumption and Rejection of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases, Generally

On the date of the Confirmation Hearing, except as otherwise provided in the Plan, each Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, not previously assumed, assumed and assigned, or rejected shall be deemed automatically rejected pursuant to sections 365 and 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors will not assign any Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases pursuant to the Plan.

Entry of the Confirmation Order by the Bankruptcy Court shall, subject to and upon the occurrence of the Effective Date, constitute a Bankruptcy Order approving the assumptions or rejections of the Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases assumed or rejected pursuant to the Plan. Each Executory Contract and Unexpired Lease assumed pursuant to Article V.A of the Plan or by any order of the Bankruptcy Court shall revest in and be fully enforceable by the Reorganized Debtors in accordance with its terms, unless otherwise agreed by the Debtors and the applicable counterparty to the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, and except as such terms are modified by any order of the Bankruptcy Court authorizing and providing for its assumption under applicable federal law.

## 2. Indemnification Obligations

On the Effective Date, except as otherwise provided by the Plan, all indemnification provisions, consistent with applicable law, in place as of the date of the Restructuring Support Agreement (whether in the bylaws, certificates of incorporation or formation, limited liability company agreements, other organizational documents, board resolutions, indemnification agreements, employment contracts, or otherwise) for the current directors, officers, managers, employees, attorneys, accountants, investment bankers, and other professionals of the Debtors, as applicable, shall be assumed, which assumption shall be irrevocable, and shall survive the Effective Date.

# 3. Directors and Officers Insurance Policies and Agreements

Pursuant to Article IV.R of the Plan, notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, effective as of the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall be deemed to have assumed all unexpired D&O Liability Insurance Policies.

## 4. Insurance Policies and Surety Bonds

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Disclosure Statement, the Plan, the Plan Supplement, the New Credit Facility Documents, the Confirmation Order, the Claims Bar Date Order, any Claim objection, any other document related to any of the foregoing, or any other order of the Bankruptcy Court (including, without limitation, any other provision that purports to be preemptory or supervening, grants an injunction or release, confers Bankruptcy Court jurisdiction, or requires a party to opt out of any releases): (a) on the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall be deemed to have assumed all Insurance Policies (other than the D&O Liability Insurance Policies, which shall receive the treatment set forth in Article V.C of the Plan) and all obligations thereunder, regardless of when they arise; and (b) except as set forth in Article V.C of the Plan, nothing (x) alters, modifies, or otherwise amends the terms and conditions of (or the coverage provided by) any of such Insurance Policies or (y) alters or modifies the duty, if any, that the insurers or third party administrators have to pay claims covered by such Insurance Policies and their right to seek payment or reimbursement from the Debtors (or after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors) or draw on any collateral or security therefor. For the avoidance of doubt, insurers and third party administrators shall not need to nor be required to file or serve a Cure objection or a request, application, Claim, Proof of Claim, or motion for payment and shall not be subject to any Claims Bar Date or similar deadline governing Cure Claims or Claims.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan, on the Effective Date, (1) all of the Debtors' obligations and commitments to any surety bond provider, including without limitation, obligations under any related indemnity agreements, shall be deemed reaffirmed and shall be continuing obligations of the Reorganized Debtors; (2) all bonded obligations of the Debtors for which such surety bonds secure performance by the Debtors shall be deemed assumed by the Debtors and shall be unimpaired by the Plan or Confirmation Order; and (3) to the extent any of the obligations and commitments set forth in this provision are secured by collateral, such collateral shall remain in place. Nothing in the Plan or Confirmation Order shall be deemed to (1) modify or impair the rights of any party under the Debtors' surety bonds, related indemnity agreements, or applicable law; (2) require any surety bond provider to issue any new surety bonds or extensions or renewals of any surety bonds; or (3) affect the sureties' respective rights (only to the extent such rights exist with respect to the surety bonds, indemnity agreements or under applicable law) to require the Reorganized Debtors to execute and deliver to the Sureties new indemnity agreements containing such new or additional terms as the Sureties may require in their discretion.

# 5. Cure of Defaults for Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases

Any monetary defaults under each Executory Contract and Unexpired Lease to be assumed pursuant to the Plan shall be satisfied, pursuant to section 365(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, by payment of the default amount in Cash on the Effective Date, subject to the limitation described below, or on such other terms as the parties to such Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases may otherwise agree. In the event of a dispute between the Debtors and a counterparty to any Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases that is not resolved between the parties regarding (1) the amount of any payments to cure such a default, (2) the ability of the Reorganized Debtors or any assignee to provide "adequate assurance of future performance" (within the meaning of section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code) under the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease to be assumed, or (3) any other matter pertaining to assumption, the Cure payments required by section 365(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code shall be made following the entry of a

Final Order or orders resolving the dispute and approving the assumption, which Final Order or orders may, for the avoidance of doubt, be entered (and any related hearing may be held) after the Effective Date.

The Debtors shall file the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases (including the proposed Cure Claim amounts) with the Plan Supplement, which schedule will not be modified with regard to any Unexpired Leases without the consent of any affected parties. The Debtors will cause notices of proposed assumption and proposed Cure Claims to be served by overnight delivery service upon the applicable contract counterparty affected by such notices and by email upon counsel of record for the applicable contract counterparty, if any. Any objection by a counterparty to an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease to a proposed assumption or related Cure Claim must be filed, served, and actually received by the Debtors no later than fourteen (14) days after the Plan Supplement Filing Date. Any such objections will be scheduled to be heard by the Bankruptcy Court at the Debtors' or Reorganized Debtors', as applicable, first scheduled omnibus hearing after which such objection is timely filed. Any counterparty to an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that fails to object timely to the proposed assumption or Cure Claim will be deemed to have assented to such assumption or Cure Claim. To the extent any such dispute regarding the assumption of an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease is not consensually resolved by the parties or otherwise resolved prior to the Effective Date, such assumption will be deemed to occur retroactively to the date of the Confirmation Hearing if approved by the Bankruptcy Court. To the extent any such dispute regarding the assumption of an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease is not consensually resolved by the parties or otherwise resolved prior to the Effective Date, such assumption will be deemed to occur retroactively to the date of the Confirmation Hearing if approved by the Bankruptcy Court. Notwithstanding the foregoing, all landlords' rights to recover amounts which have accrued or come due between the Cure objection deadline and the effective date of assumption are reserved.

Any Cure Claim shall be deemed fully satisfied, released, and discharged upon payment by the Debtors of any one of the following: (1) amounts listed on the Debtors' Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases (if no objections to the Cure Claim is filed within the applicable objection period), (2) amounts agreed to by the Debtors and the applicable counterparty, or (3) amounts as ordered by the Court; provided, however, that nothing shall prevent the Reorganized Debtors from paying any Cure despite the failure of the relevant counterparty to file such request for payment of such Cure. The Reorganized Debtors may settle any Cure without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

Assumption of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease pursuant to the Plan or otherwise shall result in the full release and satisfaction of any Claims or defaults, whether monetary or nonmonetary, including defaults of provisions restricting the change in control or ownership interest composition or other bankruptcy-related defaults, arising under any assumed Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease at any time prior to the effective date of assumption.

Any Proofs of Claim filed with respect to an Executory Contract, Unexpired Lease, or Insurance Policy that has been assumed pursuant to the provisions of the Plan shall be deemed satisfied upon the Debtors' curing of any and all defaults related thereto, without further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

## 6. Claims Based on Rejection of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases

The Debtors shall file the Schedule of Rejected Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases with the Plan Supplement, which schedule will not be modified with regard to any Unexpired Leases without the consent of any affected parties. Unless otherwise provided by a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court, all Proofs of Claim with respect to Claims arising from the rejection of Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases, pursuant to the Plan or the Confirmation Order, if any, must be filed with the Bankruptcy Court within thirty (30) days after the later of (1) the date of entry of an order of the Bankruptcy Court (including the Confirmation Order) approving such rejection, (2) the effective date of such rejection, or (3) the Effective Date. Any Claims arising from the rejection of an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease not filed with the Bankruptcy Court within such time will be automatically disallowed, forever barred from assertion, and shall not be enforceable against the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, the Estates, or their property without the need for any objection by the Reorganized Debtors or further notice to, or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court or any other Entity, and any Claim arising out of the rejection of the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease shall be

deemed fully satisfied, released, and discharged, notwithstanding anything in the Schedules or a Proof of Claim to the contrary.

# 7. Preexisting Obligations to the Debtors Under Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases

Rejection of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease pursuant to the Plan or otherwise shall not constitute a termination of preexisting obligations owed to the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, under such Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases. In particular, notwithstanding any non-bankruptcy law to the contrary, the Reorganized Debtors expressly reserve and do not waive any right to receive, or any continuing obligation of a counterparty to provide, warranties or continued maintenance obligations on goods previously purchased by the Debtors contracting from non-Debtor counterparties to rejected Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases.

## 8. Modifications, Amendments, Supplements, Restatements, or Other Agreements

Unless otherwise provided in the Plan, each Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that is assumed shall include all modifications, amendments, supplements, restatements, or other agreements that in any manner affect such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, and Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases related thereto, if any, including easements, licenses, permits, rights, privileges, immunities, options, rights of first refusal, and any other interests, unless any of the foregoing agreements has been previously rejected or repudiated or is rejected or repudiated under the Plan.

Modifications, amendments, supplements, and restatements to prepetition Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases that have been executed by the Debtors during the Chapter 11 Cases shall not be deemed to alter the prepetition nature of the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, or the validity, priority, or amount of any Claims that may arise in connection therewith.

## 9. Contracts and Leases Entered Into After the Petition Date

Contracts and leases entered into after the Petition Date by any Debtor, including any Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases assumed by such Debtor, and any agreements entered into with creditors pursuant to the interim and final orders authorizing the Debtors to pay prepetition claims of critical vendors, carriers, warehousemen, and section 503(b)(9) claimants [Docket Nos. 94, 642], will be performed by the applicable Debtor or the Reorganized Debtor liable thereunder in the ordinary course of its business. Accordingly, such contracts and leases (including any assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases) will survive and remain unaffected by entry of the Confirmation Order.

## 10. Reservation of Rights

Neither the exclusion nor inclusion of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease on the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contract and Unexpired Leases, nor anything contained in the Plan, shall constitute an admission by the Debtors that any such contract or lease is in fact an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease or that any of the Reorganized Debtors has any liability thereunder. If there is a dispute regarding whether a contract or lease is or was executory or unexpired at the time of assumption or rejection, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall have 30 days following entry of a Final Order resolving such dispute to alter their treatment of such contract or lease under the Plan.

#### 11. Nonoccurrence of Effective Date

In the event that the Effective Date does not occur, the Bankruptcy Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to any request to extend the deadline for assuming or rejecting Unexpired Leases pursuant to section 365(d)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code.

## G. DISTRIBUTIONS ON ACCOUNT OF CLAIMS

## 1. Claims Allowed as of the Effective Date

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, a Final Order, or as agreed to by the relevant parties, the Reorganized Debtors shall make initial distributions under the Plan on account of Claims Allowed before the Effective Date on or as soon as practicable after the Initial Distribution Date; *provided, however*, that payments on account of Other General Unsecured Claims that become Allowed Claims on or before the Effective Date shall commence on the Effective Date; *provided* further that all payments under this Article VI shall be subject to the reserves for Disputed Other General Unsecured Claims and Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims established pursuant to Article VI.B.

## 2. Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow and Reserve Procedures

On the Effective Date, funds for the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool and the Worldwide GUC Claims Recovery Pool, in the aggregate amount of \$32.316 million, shall be deposited into the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow. The Confirmation Order shall provide that the Reorganized Debtors shall not have a property interest in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow and such funds shall not be considered property of the Reorganized Debtors and any liens, charges, or other encumbrances granted under the Plan shall not extend to an interest in the funds held in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow.

From and after the Effective Date, and until such time as all Disputed Other General Unsecured Claims and Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims have been compromised and settled or determined by order of the Bankruptcy Court, for the benefit of each Holder of such Disputed Other General Unsecured Claims and Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims, Cash in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow shall be reserved, in an amount equal to the lesser of: (a) the amount of the applicable Disputed Other General Unsecured Claim or Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim; (b) the amount in which the applicable Disputed Other General Unsecured Claim or Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall be estimated by the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code for purposes of allowance, which amount, unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court, shall constitute and represent the maximum amount in which such Claim may ultimately become an Allowed Claim; and (c) such other amount as may be agreed upon by the Holder of such applicable Disputed Other General Unsecured Claim or Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim.

Any amount of the Cash in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow reserved and held for the benefit of a Holder of a Disputed Other General Unsecured Claim or Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim, as applicable, shall be treated as a payment and reduction on account of such Other General Unsecured Claim or Worldwide General Unsecured Claim for purposes of computing any additional amounts to be paid to such Holder if the Other General Unsecured Claim or Worldwide General Unsecured Claim, as applicable, ultimately becomes an Allowed Claim. Such amount of the Cash in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow shall be reserved for the benefit of the applicable Holders pending determination of their entitlement thereto under the terms of the Plan.

Any amount remaining in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow being held for the benefit of Holders of Disputed Other General Unsecured Claims or Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims after reconciliation of all General Unsecured Claims asserted against the Debtors shall be distributed to Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims and Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims in accordance with the provisions of the Plan.

The Reorganized Debtors are authorized to make distributions to Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim or Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim out of the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow based on the reserve amount established pursuant to Article VI.B of the Plan. The Reorganized Debtors will consult with the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee with respect to the Allowed amounts of other General Unsecured Claims and Worldwide General Unsecured Claims and the timing of such distributions to Holders of Class 5A (Other General Unsecured Claims) and Allowed Class 5B (Worldwide General Unsecured Claims).

## 3. Distributions on Account of Claims Allowed After the Effective Date

## (a) Payments and Distributions on Disputed Claims

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, a Final Order, or as agreed to by the relevant parties, distributions under the Plan on account of a Disputed Claim that becomes an Allowed Claim after the Effective Date shall be made on the first Periodic Distribution Date after the Disputed Claim becomes an Allowed Claim. Payments to Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims or Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims shall be made out of the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow.

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, Holders of Claims shall not be entitled to interest, dividends, or accruals on the distributions provided for in the Plan, regardless of whether such distributions are delivered on or at any time after the Effective Date.

# (b) Special Rules for Distributions to Holders of Disputed Claims

Notwithstanding any provision otherwise in the Plan and except as otherwise agreed to by the relevant parties, no partial payments and no partial distributions shall be made with respect to a Disputed Claim until all such disputes in connection with such Disputed Claim have been resolved by settlement or Final Order. In the event that there are Disputed Claims requiring adjudication and resolution, the Reorganized Debtors shall establish appropriate reserves for potential payment of such Claims.

# 4. Timing and Calculation of Amounts to Be Distributed

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, on the Initial Distribution Date (or if a Claim is not an Allowed Claim on the Effective Date, on or as soon as practicable after the date that such a Claim becomes an Allowed Claim), each Holder of an Allowed Claim against the Debtors shall receive the full amount of the distributions that the Plan provides for Allowed Claims in the applicable Class.

If and to the extent that there are Disputed Claims, distributions on account of any such Disputed Claims shall be made pursuant to the provisions set forth in the applicable class treatment or in Article VI of the Plan. Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, Holders of Claims shall not be entitled to interest, dividends, or accruals on the distributions provided for in the Plan, regardless of whether such distributions are delivered on or at any time after the Effective Date.

# 5. Delivery and Distributions and Undeliverable or Unclaimed Distributions

## (a) Record Date for Distributions

On the Distribution Record Date, the Claims Register shall be closed and any party responsible for making distributions shall instead be authorized and entitled to recognize only those Holders of Claims listed on the Claims Register as of the close of business on the Distribution Record Date. If a Claim is transferred twenty (20) or fewer days before the Distribution Record Date, the Distribution Agent shall make distributions to the transferee only to the extent practical and, in any event, only if the relevant transfer form contains an unconditional and explicit certification and waiver of any objection to the transfer by the transferor.

# (b) <u>Delivery of Distributions in General</u>

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable shall make distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims at the address for each such Holder as indicated on the Debtors' records as of the date of any such distribution; provided, however, that the manner of such distributions shall be determined at the discretion of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable; and provided further, that the address for each Holder of an Allowed Claim shall be the address set forth in any Proof of Claim filed by that Holder.

## (c) <u>Delivery of Distributions to Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims</u>

Except as set forth in Article VI.E.3 of the Plan, the Prepetition First Lien Agent shall be deemed to be the Holder of all Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable, for purposes of distributions to be made hereunder, and all distributions on account of such Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be made to or on behalf of the Prepetition First Lien Agent. The Prepetition First Lien Agent shall hold or direct such distributions for the benefit of the Holders of Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable; *provided, however*, that Morgan Stanley Capital Services LLC shall be deemed to be the Holder of the MSCS Swap Claim for all purposes under the Plan and any distributions to be made under the Plan on account of the MSCS Swap Claim shall be made to Morgan Stanley Capital Services LLC directly. As soon as practicable following compliance with the requirements set forth in this Article VI of the Plan, the Prepetition First Lien Agent shall arrange to deliver or direct the delivery of such distributions for which it is the deemed Holder to or on behalf of such Holders of Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims. Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, and without limiting the exculpation and release provisions of the Plan, the Prepetition First Lien Agent shall not have any liability to any person with respect to distributions made or directed to be made by the Prepetition First Lien Agent.

## (d) Delivery of Distributions to Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims

The Prepetition Second Lien Agent shall be deemed to be the Holder of all Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable, for purposes of distributions to be made hereunder, and all distributions on account of such Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be made to or on behalf of the Prepetition Second Lien Agent. The Prepetition Second Lien Agent shall hold or direct such distributions for the benefit of the Holders of Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable. As soon as practicable following compliance with the requirements set forth in Article VI of the Plan, the Prepetition Second Lien Agent shall arrange to deliver or direct the delivery of such distributions to or on behalf of such Holders of Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims. Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, and without limiting the exculpation and release provisions of the Plan, the Prepetition Second Lien Agent shall not have any liability to any person with respect to distributions made or directed to be made by the Prepetition Second Lien Agent. On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall pay in Cash all reasonable and documented (in summary form) fees, costs, and expenses incurred by the Prepetition Second Lien Agent prior to the Effective Date, which shall include the reasonable and documented fees and expenses of Pryor Cashman LLP (including for services, if any, provided prior to the Petition Date), without the need for the Prepetition Second Lien Agent to file a fee application with the Bankruptcy Court. From and after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall pay in Cash the reasonable and documented fees, costs, and expenses incurred by the Prepetition Second Lien Agent (including the reasonable and documented fees and expenses of Pryor Cashman LLP for services rendered on or after the Effective Date) in connection with distributions to Holders of Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims in accordance with the Plan.

# (e) <u>Distributions by Distribution Agents (if any)</u>

The Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall have the authority, in their sole discretion, to enter into agreements with one or more Distribution Agents to facilitate the distributions required hereunder. To the extent the Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, do determine to utilize a Distribution Agent to facilitate the distributions under the Plan to Holders of Allowed Claims, any such Distribution Agent would first be required to: (a) affirm its obligation to facilitate the prompt distribution of any documents; (b) affirm its obligation to facilitate the prompt distributions required under the Plan; (c) waive any right or ability to setoff, deduct from or assert any lien or encumbrance against the distributions required under the Plan to be distributed by such Distribution Agent; and (d) post a bond, obtain a surety bond, or provide some other form of security for the performance of its duties, the costs and expenses of procuring which shall be borne by the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable.

The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall pay to the Distribution Agents all reasonable and documented fees and expenses of the Distribution Agents without the need for any approvals, authorizations, actions, or consents. The Distribution Agents shall submit detailed invoices to the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, for all fees and expenses for which the Distribution Agent seeks reimbursement and the

Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall pay those amounts that they, in their sole discretion, deem reasonable, and shall object in writing to those fees and expenses, if any, that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, deem to be unreasonable. In the event that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, object to all or any portion of the amounts requested to be reimbursed in a Distribution Agent's invoice, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, and such Distribution Agent shall endeavor, in good faith, to reach mutual agreement on the amount of the appropriate payment of such disputed fees and/or expenses. In the event that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, and a Distribution Agent are unable to resolve any differences regarding disputed fees or expenses, either party shall be authorized to move to have such dispute heard by the Bankruptcy Court.

## (f) <u>Minimum Distributions</u>

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Reorganized Debtors shall not be required to make distributions or payments of less than \$10 (whether Cash or otherwise) and shall not be required to make partial distributions or payments of fractions of dollars. Whenever any payment or distribution of a fraction of a dollar or fractional share of New Equity under the Plan would otherwise be called for, the actual payment or distribution will reflect a rounding of such fraction to the nearest whole dollar or share of New Equity (up or down), with half dollars and half shares of New Equity or less being rounded down.

No Distribution Agent shall have any obligation to make a distribution on account of an Allowed Claim if: (a) the aggregate amount of all distributions authorized to be made on the Periodic Distribution Date in question is or has an economic value less than \$25,000, unless such distribution is a final distribution; or (b) the amount to be distributed to the specific Holder of an Allowed Claim on such Periodic Distribution Date does not constitute a final distribution to such Holder and is or has an economic value of less than \$10, which shall be treated as an undeliverable distribution under Article VI.E.7 of the Plan.

## (g) <u>Undeliverable Distributions</u>

## (i) Holding of Certain Undeliverable Distributions

If any distribution to a Holder of an Allowed Claim made in accordance herewith is returned to the Reorganized Debtors (or their Distribution Agent) as undeliverable, no further distributions shall be made to such Holder unless and until the Reorganized Debtors (or their Distribution Agent) are notified in writing of such Holder's then current address, at which time all currently due missed distributions shall be made to such Holder on the next Periodic Distribution Date. Undeliverable distributions shall remain in the possession of the Reorganized Debtors, subject to Article VI.E.7(b) of the Plan, until such time as any such distributions become deliverable; provided, that undeliverable distributions out of the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow shall be returned to the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow for subsequent distribution to Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims or Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims. Undeliverable distributions shall not be entitled to any additional interest, dividends or other accruals of any kind on account of their distribution being undeliverable.

## (ii) Failure to Claim Undeliverable Distributions

No later than 120 days after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall file with the Bankruptcy Court a list of the Holders of undeliverable distributions. This list shall be maintained and updated periodically in the sole discretion of the Reorganized Debtors for as long as the Chapter 11 Cases stay open. Any Holder of an Allowed Claim, irrespective of when a Claim becomes an Allowed Claim, that does not notify the Reorganized Debtors of such Holder's then current address in accordance herewith within 180 days of the Effective Date, shall have its Claim for such undeliverable distribution discharged and shall be forever barred, estopped and enjoined from asserting any such Claim against the Reorganized Debtors or their property.

In such cases, (i) any Cash or New Equity held for distribution on account of Allowed Claims shall be redistributed to Holders of Allowed Claims in the applicable Class on the next Periodic Distribution Date and (ii) any Cash held for distribution to other creditors shall be deemed unclaimed property under section 347(b) of the Bankruptcy Code and become property of the Reorganized Debtors, free of any Claims of such Holder with respect

thereto. Nothing contained herein shall require the Reorganized Debtors to attempt to locate any Holder of an Allowed Claim.

## (iii) Failure to Present Checks

Checks issued by the Distribution Agent on account of Allowed Claims shall be null and void if not negotiated within 180 days after the issuance of such check. In an effort to ensure that all Holders of Allowed Claims receive their allocated distributions, the Reorganized Debtors shall file with the Bankruptcy Court a list of the Holders of any un-negotiated checks no later than 160 days after the issuance of such checks. This list shall be maintained and updated periodically in the sole discretion of the Reorganized Debtors for as long as the Chapter 11 Cases stay open. Requests for reissuance of any check shall be made directly to the Distribution Agent by the Holder of the relevant Allowed Claim with respect to which such check originally was issued.

Any Holder of an Allowed Claim holding an un-negotiated check that does not request reissuance of such un-negotiated check within 120 days after the date of mailing or other delivery of such check shall have its Claim for such un-negotiated check discharged and be discharged and forever barred, estopped and enjoined from asserting any such Claim against the Reorganized Debtors or their property. In such cases, any Cash held for payment on account of such Claims shall be property of the Reorganized Debtors, free of any Claims of such Holder with respect thereto; *provided*, that any Cash held for payment on account of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim or Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall be returned to the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow for subsequent distribution to Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim or Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims. Nothing contained herein shall require the Reorganized Debtors to attempt to locate any Holder of an Allowed Claim.

## 6. Compliance with Tax Requirements/Allocations

In connection with the Plan, to the extent applicable, the Reorganized Debtors shall comply with all tax withholding and reporting requirements imposed on them by any Governmental Unit, and all distributions pursuant hereto shall be subject to such withholding and reporting requirements. Notwithstanding any provision in the Plan to the contrary, the Reorganized Debtors and the Distribution Agent shall be authorized to take all actions necessary or appropriate to comply with such withholding and reporting requirements, including liquidating a portion of the distribution to be made under the Plan to generate sufficient funds to pay applicable withholding taxes, withholding distributions pending receipt of information necessary to facilitate such distributions, or establishing any other mechanisms they believe are reasonable and appropriate. The Reorganized Debtors reserve the right to allocate all distributions made under the Plan in compliance with all applicable wage garnishments, alimony, child support and other spousal awards, liens, and encumbrances. For tax purposes, distributions in full or partial satisfaction of Allowed Claims shall be allocated first to the principal amount of Allowed Claims, with any excess allocated to unpaid interest that accrued on such Claims.

## 7. Setoffs

Subject to Article IV.O of the Plan, the Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors may withhold (but not setoff except as set forth below) from the distributions called for hereunder on account of any Allowed Claim an amount equal to any Claims, Equity Interests, rights, and Causes of Action of any nature that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors may hold against the Holder of any such Allowed Claim. In the event that any such Claims, Equity Interests, rights, and Causes of Action of any nature that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors may hold against the Holder of any such Allowed Claim are adjudicated by Final Order or otherwise resolved, the Debtors may, pursuant to section 553 of the Bankruptcy Code or applicable non-bankruptcy law, set off against any Allowed Claim and the distributions to be made pursuant hereto on account of such Allowed Claim (before any distribution is made on account of such Allowed Claim), the amount of any adjudicated or resolved Claims, Equity Interests, rights, and Causes of Action of any nature that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors may hold against the Holder of any such Allowed Claim, but only to the extent of such adjudicated or resolved amount. Neither the failure to effect such a setoff nor the allowance of any Claim hereunder shall constitute a waiver or release by the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors of any such Claims, Equity Interests, rights, and Causes of Action that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors may possess against any such Holder, except as specifically provided herein.

## 8. Foreign Currency Exchange Rate

Except as otherwise provided in a Bankruptcy Court order, as of the Effective Date, any Claim asserted in currency other than U.S. dollars shall be automatically deemed converted to the equivalent U.S. dollar value using the exchange rate for the applicable currency as published in The Wall Street Journal, National Edition, on the Effective Date.

# 9. Claims Paid or Payable by Third Parties

## (a) Claims Paid by Third Parties

The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall reduce in full a Claim, and such Claim shall be disallowed without a Claims objection having to be filed and without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court, to the extent that the Holder of such Claim receives payment in full on account of such Claim from a party that is not a Debtor or Reorganized Debtor. Subject to the last sentence of this paragraph, to the extent a Holder of a Claim receives a distribution from the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors on account of such Claim and also receives payment from a party that is not a Debtor or a Reorganized Debtor on account of such Claim, such Holder shall, within two weeks of receipt thereof, repay or return the distribution to the applicable Reorganized Debtor, to the extent the Holder's total recovery on account of such Claim from the third party and under the Plan exceeds the total amount of such Claim as of the date of any such distribution under the Plan.

If the Debtors become aware of the payment by a third party, the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, will send a notice of wrongful payment to such party requesting return of any excess payments and advising the recipient of the provisions of the Plan requiring turnover of excess estate funds. The failure of such Holder to timely repay or return such distribution shall result in the Holder owing the applicable Reorganized Debtor annualized interest at the Federal Judgment Rate on such amount owed for each Business Day after the two-week grace period specified above until the amount is repaid.

## (b) Claims Payable by Third Parties

No distributions under the Plan shall be made on account of an Allowed Claim that is payable pursuant to one of the Debtors' Insurance Policies until the Holder of such Allowed Claim has exhausted all remedies with respect to such Insurance Policy. To the extent that one or more of the Debtors' insurers agrees to satisfy in full or in part a Claim (if and to the extent adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction), then immediately upon such insurers' agreement, the applicable portion of such Claim may be expunged without a Claims objection having to be filed and without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

## (c) Applicability of Insurance Policies

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims shall be made in accordance with the provisions of any applicable Insurance Policy. Nothing contained in the Plan shall constitute or be deemed a waiver of any Cause of Action that the Debtors or any Entity may hold against any other Entity, including any insurer(s) under any Insurance Policy, nor shall anything contained herein constitute or be deemed a waiver by such insurers of any rights or defenses, including coverage defenses, held by such insurers under the Insurance Policies.

## H. RESOLUTION OF CONTINGENT, UNLIQUIDATED, OR DISPUTED CLAIMS

#### 1. Allowance of Claims

After the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall have and retain any and all rights and defenses the Debtors had with respect to any Claim or Interest immediately before the Effective Date.

### 2. Claims Administration Responsibilities

Subject to Article VII.B.2 of the Plan, except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, including, without limitation, Article XII.N of the Plan, after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall have the sole

authority: (1) to file, withdraw, or litigate to judgment objections to Claims or Interests; (2) to settle or compromise any Disputed Claim without any further notice to or action, order, or approval by the Bankruptcy Court; and (3) to administer and adjust the Claims Register to reflect any such settlements or compromises without any further notice to or action, order, or approval by the Bankruptcy Court.

Notwithstanding Article VII.B.1 of the Plan, the Reorganized Debtors shall not consent or agree to the allowance or reclassification of any Claim as a Class 5A (Other General Unsecured Claim) or Class 5B (Worldwide General Unsecured Claim) without the prior written consent of the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee or order of the Bankruptcy Court.

#### 3. Estimation of Claims

Before or after the Effective Date, the Debtors, Reorganized Debtors, or Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee, as applicable, may (but are not required to) at any time request that the Bankruptcy Court estimate any Claim that is contingent or unliquidated pursuant to section 502(c) of the Bankruptcy Code for any reason, regardless of whether any party previously has objected to such Claim or Interest or whether the Bankruptcy Court has ruled on any such objection, and the Bankruptcy Court shall retain jurisdiction to estimate any such Claim or Interest, including during the litigation of any objection to any Claim or Interest or during the appeal relating to such objection. Notwithstanding any provision otherwise in the Plan, a Claim that has been expunged from the Claims Register, but that either is subject to appeal or has not been the subject of a Final Order, shall be deemed to be estimated at zero dollars, unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court. In the event that the Bankruptcy Court estimates any contingent or unliquidated Claim or Interest, that estimated amount shall constitute a maximum limitation on such Claim or Interest for all purposes under the Plan (including for purposes of distributions), and the relevant Reorganized Debtor may elect to pursue any supplemental proceedings to object to any ultimate distribution on such Claim or Interest.

# 4. Adjustment to Claims Without Objection

Any Claim or Interest that has been paid or satisfied, or any such Claim or Interest that has been cancelled, or otherwise expunged (including pursuant to the Plan), may be adjusted or expunged (including on the Claims Register, to the extent applicable) by the Reorganized Debtors without a Claims objection having to be filed and without any further notice to or action, order or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

## 5. Time to File Objections to Claims

Any objections to Claims shall be filed on or before the Claims Objection Bar Date.

## 6. Disallowance of Claims

All Claims filed on account of an indemnification obligation to a director, officer, or employee shall be deemed satisfied and expunged from the Claims Register as of the Effective Date to the extent such indemnification obligation is assumed (or honored or reaffirmed, as the case may be) pursuant to the Plan, without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

Except as provided in the Plan or otherwise agreed, any and all Proofs of Claim filed after the Claims Bar Date shall be deemed disallowed and expunged as of the Effective Date without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court, and Holders of such Claims may not receive any distributions on account of such Claims, unless on or before the Confirmation Hearing such late Claim has been deemed timely filed by a Final Order.

## 7. No Distribution Pending Allowance

If an objection to a Claim or portion thereof is filed as set forth in Article VII.E of the Plan, no payment or distribution provided under the Plan shall be made on account of such Claim or portion thereof unless and until such Disputed Claim becomes an Allowed Claim.

## 8. Distribution After Allowance

To the extent that a Disputed Claim ultimately becomes an Allowed Claim, distributions (if any) shall be made to the Holder of such Allowed Claim in accordance with the provisions of the Plan. As soon as practicable after the date that the order or judgment of the Bankruptcy Court allowing any Disputed Claim becomes a Final Order, the Distribution Agent shall provide to the Holder of such Claim the distribution (if any) to which such Holder is entitled under the Plan as of the Effective Date, without any interest, dividends, or accruals to be paid on account of such Claim unless required under applicable bankruptcy law.

## I. THE DEBTOR RELEASE, THIRD-PARTY RELEASE, INJUNCTION, AND EXCULPATION

## 1. Compromise and Settlement

Pursuant to section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019 and in consideration for the distributions and other benefits provided pursuant to the Plan, the provisions of the Plan shall constitute a good faith compromise of all Claims, Interests, and controversies relating to the contractual, legal, and subordination rights that a Holder of a Claim may have with respect to any Allowed Claim or Interest, or any distribution to be made on account of such Allowed Claim or Interest. The entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval of the compromise or settlement of all such Claims, Interests, and controversies, as well as a finding by the Bankruptcy Court that such compromise or settlement is in the best interests of the Debtors, their Estates, and Holders of Claims and Interests and is fair, equitable, and reasonable. In accordance with the provisions of the Plan, pursuant to section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019(a), without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court, after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors may compromise and settle Claims against them and Causes of Action against other Entities.

## 2. Subordinated Claims

The allowance, classification, and treatment of all Allowed Claims and Equity Interests and the respective distributions and treatments under the Plan take into account and conform to the relative priority and rights of the Claims and Equity Interests in each Class in connection with any contractual, legal, and equitable subordination rights relating thereto, whether arising under general principles of equitable subordination, section 510(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, or otherwise. Pursuant to section 510 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Reorganized Debtors reserve the right to re-classify any Allowed Claim or Interest in accordance with any contractual, legal or equitable subordination relating thereto.

#### 3. Discharge of Claims and Termination of Equity Interests

Pursuant to and to the fullest extent permitted by section 1141(d) of the Bankruptcy Code, and except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, the distributions, rights and treatment that are provided in the Plan shall be in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release and discharge, effective as of the Effective Date, of all Claims (including any Intercompany Claims resolved or compromised after the Effective Date by the Reorganized Debtors), Equity Interests, and Causes of Action of any nature whatsoever, including any interest accrued on Claims or Equity Interests from and after the Petition Date, whether known or unknown, against, liabilities of, liens on, obligations of, rights against, and Equity Interests in, the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, or any of their assets or properties, regardless of whether any property shall have been distributed or retained pursuant to the Plan on account of such Claims and Equity Interests, including demands, liabilities, and Causes of Action that arose before the Effective Date, any liability (including withdrawal liability) to the extent such Claims or Equity Interests relate to services performed by current or former employees of the Debtors prior to the Effective Date and arise from a termination of employment or a termination of any employee or retiree benefit program regardless of whether such termination occurred prior to or after the Effective Date, any contingent or non-contingent liability on account of representations or warranties issued on or before the Effective Date, and all debts of the kind specified in sections 502(g), 502(h), or 502(i) of the Bankruptcy Code, in each case whether or not: (1) a Proof of Claim or Interest based upon such Claim, debt, right, or Interest is filed or deemed filed pursuant to section 501 of the Bankruptcy Code; (2) a Claim or Interest based upon such Claim, debt, right, or Interest is Allowed pursuant to section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code; or (3) the Holder of such a Claim or Interest has accepted the Plan. Except as otherwise provided herein, any default by the Debtors or their Affiliates with respect to any Claim or Interest that existed immediately prior to or on account of the filing of the Chapter 11 Cases shall be deemed cured on the Effective Date. The Confirmation Order

shall be a judicial determination of the discharge of all Claims and Equity Interests subject to the occurrence of the Effective Date.

#### 4. Release of Liens

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan or in any contract, instrument, release or other agreement or document entered into or delivered in connection with the Plan, on the Effective Date and concurrently with the applicable distributions made pursuant to Article III of the Plan and, in the case of a Secured Claim, satisfaction in full of the portion of the Secured Claim that is Allowed as of the Effective Date, all mortgages, deeds of trust, liens, pledges or other security interests against any property of the Estates shall be fully released and discharged, and all of the right, title, and interest of any Holder of such mortgages, deeds of trust, liens, pledges, or other security interests shall revert to the Reorganized Debtors and their successors and assigns.

#### 5. Debtor Release

Pursuant to section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, and except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, for good and valuable consideration, including the service of the Released Parties in facilitating the expeditious reorganization of the Debtors and the implementation of the restructuring contemplated by the Plan, effective as of the Effective Date, the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, and any Person seeking to exercise the rights of the Estates, including, without limitation, any successor to the Debtors or any estate representative appointed or selected pursuant to section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code shall be deemed to forever release, waive, and discharge the Released Parties of any and all claims, obligations, rights, suits, damages, Causes of Action, remedies, and liabilities whatsoever, including any derivative claims asserted on behalf of the Debtors, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, liquidated or unliquidated, contingent or fixed, existing or hereafter arising, in law, at equity or otherwise, whether for tort, contract, violations of federal or state securities laws or otherwise, including, without limitation, those that any of the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, the Estates, or their Affiliates would have been legally entitled to assert in their own right (whether individually or collectively) or on behalf of the Holder of any claim or Equity Interest, based on or relating to, or in any manner arising from, in whole or in part, the Debtors, the Estates, the conduct of the Debtors' businesses, the Chapter 11 Cases, the purchase, sale, or rescission or the purchase or sale of any security of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, the subject matter of, or the transactions or events giving rise to, any Claim or Equity Interest that is treated in the Plan, the business or contractual arrangements between any of the Debtors and any Released Party, the restructuring of claims and Equity Interests prior to or in the Chapter 11 Cases, the negotiation, formulation, or preparation of the Plan, the Plan Supplement, the Disclosure Statement, or related agreements, instruments, or other documents, or upon any other act or omission, transaction, or occurrence relating to the foregoing taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan, other than claims or liabilities arising out of or relating to any act or omission of a Released Party that constitutes criminal conduct, willful misconduct, or gross negligence.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the "Debtor Release" shall not operate to waive or release any Causes of Action of any Debtor: (1) arising under any contract, instrument, agreement, release, or document delivered pursuant to the Plan, including, without limitation, the New ABL Facility Documents, the New First Lien Term Loan Facility Documents, or the Shareholders Agreement or documents, agreements, or instruments executed in connection therewith, or (2) expressly set forth in and preserved by the Plan, the Plan Supplement, or related documents.

For the avoidance of doubt, and notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Debtor Release includes a release of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders of any claim or Cause of Action whatsoever that was or could have been raised in the draft complaint attached to the Standing Motion, including without limitation any claims, Causes of Action or liabilities arising out of or related to the Sponsors' equity ownership of Payless Holdings LLC, the 2012 transaction in which the Sponsors became the majority equity owners of Payless Holdings LLC, any dividends or fees paid to the Sponsor Entities or Prepetition Lenders, any loans incurred by the Debtors, and any role by any of the Sponsor Entities in managing the Debtors. The consideration provided by the Prepetition Lenders under the Plan and the Sponsor Payment being made by the Sponsors are in settlement of any and all potential claims, Causes of Action, or liabilities against any of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders arising out of or relating

to any act or omission, transaction, or occurrence relating to the Debtors or the Debtors' Estates taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan.

Entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval, pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019, of the Debtor Release, which includes by reference each of the related provisions and definitions contained herein, and further, shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's finding that the Debtor Release is: (1) in exchange for the good and valuable consideration provided by the Released Parties; (2) a good faith settlement and compromise of the claims released by the Debtor Release; (3) in the best interests of the Debtors and all Holders of Claims and Equity Interests; (4) fair, equitable and reasonable; (5) given and made after reasonable investigation by the Debtors and after notice and opportunity for hearing; and (6) a bar to any of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors asserting any claim released by the Debtor Release against any of the Released Parties.

## 6. Third-Party Release

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, for good and valuable consideration, including the service of the Released Parties in facilitating the expeditious reorganization of the Debtors and the implementation of the restructuring contemplated by the Plan, effective as of the Effective Date, the Releasing Parties (regardless of whether a Releasing Party is a Released Party) shall be deemed to forever release, waive, and discharge the Released Parties of any and all claims, obligations, rights, suits, damages, Causes of Action, remedies, and liabilities whatsoever, including any derivative claims asserted on behalf of a Debtor, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, liquidated or unliquidated, contingent or fixed, existing or hereafter arising, in law, at equity, or otherwise, whether for tort, contract, violations of federal or state securities laws or otherwise, including, without limitation, those that any of the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, the Estates, or their Affiliates would have been legally entitled to assert in their own right (whether individually or collectively) or on behalf of the Holder of any Claim or Equity Interest, based on or relating to, or in any manner arising from, in whole or in part, the Debtors, the Estates, the conduct of the Debtors' businesses, the Chapter 11 Cases, the purchase, sale, or rescission or the purchase or sale of any security of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, the subject matter of, or the transactions or events giving rise to, any Claim or Equity Interest that is treated in the Plan, the business or contractual arrangements between any of the Debtors and any Released Party, the restructuring of Claims and Equity Interests prior to or in the Chapter 11 Cases, the negotiation, formulation, or preparation of the Plan, the Plan Supplement, the Disclosure Statement, or related agreements, instruments, or other documents, or upon any other act or omission, transaction, or occurrence relating to the foregoing taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan, other than claims or liabilities arising out of or relating to any act or omission of a Released Party that constitutes criminal conduct, willful misconduct, or gross negligence.

Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, the foregoing release does not release any post-Effective Date obligations of any party under the Plan or any document, instrument, or agreement (including those set forth in the Plan Supplement) executed to implement the Plan.

For the avoidance of doubt, and notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Third-Party Release includes a release of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders of any claim or Cause of Action whatsoever that was or could have been raised in the draft complaint attached to the Standing Motion, including without limitation any claims, Causes of Action or liabilities arising out of or related to the Sponsors' equity ownership of Payless Holdings LLC, the 2012 transaction in which the Sponsor became the majority equity owners of Payless Holdings LLC, any dividends or fees paid to the Sponsor Entities or Prepetition Lenders, any loans incurred by the Debtors, and any role by any of the Sponsor Entities in managing the Debtors. The consideration provided by the Prepetition Lenders under the Plan and the Sponsor Payment being made by the Sponsors are in settlement of any and all potential claims, Causes of Action, or liabilities against any of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders arising out of or relating to any act or omission, transaction, or occurrence relating to the Debtors or the Debtors' Estates taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan.

Entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval, pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019, of the Third-Party Release, which includes by reference each of the related provisions and definitions contained herein, and further, shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's finding that the Third-

Party Release is: (1) in exchange for the good and valuable consideration provided by the Released Parties; (2) a good faith settlement and compromise of the claims released by the Releasing Parties; (3) in the best interests of the Debtors and all Holders of Claims and Equity Interests; (4) fair, equitable and reasonable; (5) given and made after notice and opportunity for hearing; and (6) a bar to any of the Releasing Parties asserting any Claim released by the Third-Party Release against any of the Released Parties.

## 7. Exculpation

Upon and effective as of the Effective Date, the Debtors and their directors, officers, employees, attorneys, investment bankers, financial advisors, restructuring consultants, and other professional advisors and agents will be deemed to have solicited acceptances of this Plan in good faith and in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, including section 1125(e) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Except with respect to any acts or omissions expressly set forth in and preserved by the Plan, the Plan supplement, or related documents, the Exculpated Parties shall neither have nor incur any liability to any Entity for any prepetition or postpetition act taken or omitted to be taken in connection with, or arising from or relating in any way to, the Chapter 11 Cases, including, without limitation, the operation of the Debtors' businesses during the pendency of these Chapter 11 Cases; formulating, negotiating, preparing, disseminating, implementing, and/or effecting the Restructuring Support Agreement, the DIP Documents, the Disclosure Statement, and the Plan (including the Plan Supplement and any related contract, instrument, release, or other agreement or document created or entered into in connection therewith); the solicitation of votes for the Plan and the pursuit of Confirmation and Consummation of the Plan; the administration of the Plan and/or the property to be distributed under the Plan; the offer and issuance of any securities under the Plan; and/or any other prepetition or postpetition act taken or omitted to be taken in connection with or in contemplation of the restructuring of the Debtors. In all respects, each Exculpated Party shall be entitled to rely upon the advice of counsel concerning his, her, or its respective duties under, pursuant to, or in connection with, the Plan.

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, nothing in the foregoing "Exculpation" shall exculpate any Person or Entity from any liability resulting from any act or omission constituting fraud, willful misconduct, gross negligence, criminal conduct, malpractice, misuse of confidential information that causes damages, or ultra vires acts as determined by a Final Order.

# 8. Injunction

The satisfaction, release, and discharge pursuant to Article IX of the Plan shall also act as an injunction against any Person commencing or continuing any action, employment of process or act to collect, offset, or recover any claim or Cause of Action satisfied, released, or discharged under the Plan or the Confirmation Order to the fullest extent authorized or provided by the Bankruptcy Code, including, without limitation, to the extent provided for or authorized by sections 524 and 1141 thereof.

## 9. No Release of Any Claims Held by the United States

Nothing in the Confirmation Order or the Plan shall effect a release of any Claim by the United States Government or any of its agencies or any state and local authority whatsoever, including, without limitation, any Claim arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental laws, or any criminal laws of the United States or any state and local authority against the Released Parties, nor shall anything in the Confirmation Order or the Plan enjoin the United States or any state or local authority from bringing any Claim, suit, action, or other proceedings against the Released Parties for any liability whatever, including, without limitation, any Claim, suit, or action arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental laws, or any criminal laws of the United States or any state or local authority, nor shall anything in the Confirmation Order or the Plan exculpate any party from any liability to the United States Government or any of its agencies or any state and local authority whatsoever, including any liabilities arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental laws, or any criminal laws of the United States or any state and local authority against the Released Parties.

## J. MODIFICATION, REVOCATION, OR WITHDRAWAL OF THE PLAN

## 1. Modification of Plan

Subject to the limitations contained in the Plan, the Restructuring Support Agreement, the ABL DIP Facility, and the Term DIP Facility, and in accordance with the Restructuring Support Agreement: (1) the Debtors reserve the right, in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code and the Bankruptcy Rules, to amend or modify the Plan prior to the entry of the Confirmation Order, including amendments or modifications to satisfy section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code; and (2) after the entry of the Confirmation Order, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as the case may be, may, upon the order of the Bankruptcy Court, amend or modify the Plan, in accordance with section 1127(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, or remedy any defect or omission or reconcile any inconsistency in the Plan in such manner as may be necessary to carry out the purpose and intent of the Plan; *provided*, however, that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as the case may be, shall not amend or modify the Plan in a manner that affects the treatment of Class 5A (Other General Unsecured Claims) or Class 5B (Worldwide General Unsecured Claims) without the prior written consent of the Creditors' Committee or the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee, as the case may be; *provided further*, however, that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as the case may be, shall not amend or modify the Plan in a manner that adversely affects the Sponsor Entities without the prior consent of the Sponsors or in a manner that adversely affects the Prepetition Lenders without the prior consent of the Prepetition Lenders.

## 2. Effect of Confirmation on Modifications

Entry of a Confirmation Order shall mean that all modifications or amendments to the Plan since the solicitation thereof are approved pursuant to section 1127(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and do not require additional disclosure or resolicitation under Bankruptcy Rule 3019.

## 3. Revocation of Plan

Subject to the Restructuring Support Agreement and conditions to the Effective Date, the Debtors reserve the right to revoke or withdraw the Plan prior to the entry of the Confirmation Order and to file subsequent plans of reorganization. If the Debtors revoke or withdraw the Plan, or if entry of the Confirmation Order or the Effective Date does not occur, then: (1) the Plan shall be null and void in all respects; (2) any settlement or compromise embodied in the Plan, assumption or rejection of Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases effected by the Plan, and any document or agreement executed pursuant hereto shall be deemed null and void; and (3) nothing contained in the Plan shall: (a) constitute a waiver or release of any claims by or against, or any Equity Interests in, such Debtor or any other Entity; (b) prejudice in any manner the rights of the Debtors or any other Entity; or (c) constitute an admission of any sort by the Debtors or any other Entity.

#### K. IMPORTANT SECURITIES LAW DISCLOSURE

#### 1. General Disclosure

Section 1145(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code exempts the offer and sale of securities under a plan of reorganization from registration under section 5 of the Securities Act and state laws if three principal requirements are satisfied: (a) the securities must be issued "under a plan" of reorganization by the debtor or its successor under a plan or by an affiliate participating in a joint plan of reorganization with the debtor; (b) the recipients of the securities must hold a claim against, an interest in, or a claim for administrative expenses in the case concerning the debtor or such affiliate; and (c) the securities must be issued in exchange for the recipient's claim against or interest in the debtor, or such affiliate, or "principally" in such exchange and "partly" for cash or property. In reliance upon this exemption, the Debtors believe that the offer and sale, under the Plan of the New Equity will be exempt from registration under the Securities Act and Blue Sky Laws with respect to any such Holder who is not deemed to be an "underwriter" as defined in section 1145(b) of the Bankruptcy Code. Accordingly, such New Equity may be resold without registration under the Securities Act, unless the holder is an "underwriter" (as discussed below) with respect to such securities, as that term is defined in 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code. In addition, such New Equity governed by section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code generally may be able to be resold without registration under applicable Blue Sky Laws pursuant to various exemptions provided by the respective securities laws of those states; however, the availability of such exemptions cannot be known unless individual Blue Sky Laws are examined.

Section 1145(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code defines an "underwriter" as one who, except with respect to "ordinary trading transactions" of an entity that is not an "issuer":

- purchases a claim against, an interest in, or a claim for an administrative expense against the debtor, if that purchase is with a view to distributing any security received in exchange for such a claim or interest;
- offers to sell securities offered under a plan of reorganization for the Holders of those securities;
- offers to buy those securities from the Holders of the securities, if the offer to buy is (i) with a view to distributing those securities; and (ii) under an agreement made in connection with the plan of reorganization, the completion of the plan of reorganization, or with the offer or sale of securities under the plan of reorganization; or
- is an issuer with respect to the securities, as the term "issuer" is defined in section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act.

In addition, a Person who receives a fee in exchange for purchasing an issuer's securities could also be considered an underwriter within the meaning of section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act. You should confer with your own legal advisors to help determine whether or not you are an "underwriter."

The definition of an "issuer" for purposes of whether a Person is an underwriter under section 1145(b)(1)(D) of the Bankruptcy Code, by reference to section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act, includes as "statutory underwriters" all persons who, directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, control, are controlled by, or are under common control with, an issuer of securities. The reference to "issuer," as used in the definition of "underwriter" contained in section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act, is intended to cover "Controlling Persons" of the issuer of the securities. "Control," as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act, means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract, or otherwise. Accordingly, an officer or director of a reorganized debtor or its successor under a plan of reorganization may be deemed to be a "Controlling Person" of the debtor or successor, particularly if the management position or directorship is coupled with ownership of a significant percentage of the reorganized debtors' or its successor's voting securities. In addition, the legislative history of section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code suggests that a creditor who owns ten percent (10%) or more of a class of securities of a reorganized debtor may be presumed to be a "Controlling Person" and, therefore, an underwriter.

Resales of the New Equity issued to holders deemed to be "underwriters" (which definition includes "Controlling Persons") are not exempted by section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code from registration under the Securities Act or other applicable law. Under certain circumstances, holders of such New Equity who are deemed to be "underwriters" may be entitled to resell their New Equity pursuant to the limited safe harbor resale provisions of Rule 144 of the Securities Act. Generally, Rule 144 of the Securities Act would permit the public sale of securities received by such Person if the required holding period has been met and, under certain circumstances, current information regarding the issuer is publicly available and volume limitations, manner of sale requirements and certain other conditions are met. Whether any particular Person would be deemed to be an "underwriter" (including whether the Person is a "Controlling Person") with respect to such New Equity would depend upon various facts and circumstances applicable to that Person. Accordingly, the Debtors express no view as to whether any Person would be deemed an "underwriter" with respect to the New Equity issued to holders and, in turn, whether any Person may freely resell such New Equity.

# 2. Management Equity Incentive Plan

The Plan contemplates the implementation of the Management Equity Incentive Plan, which will reserve up to 6–10% of the New Equity (on a fully diluted basis) for issuance. The Management Equity Incentive Plan will be established and implemented by the New Board as soon as reasonably practicable following the Effective Date. Such New Equity will be exempt from registration under the Securities Act by virtue of Rule 701 promulgated under the Securities Act, Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act, or a "no sale" under the Securities Act.

PERSONS WHO RECEIVE SECURITIES UNDER THE PLAN ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR OWN LEGAL ADVISOR WITH RESPECT TO THE RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE UNDER THE FEDERAL OR STATE SECURITIES LAWS AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH SECURITIES MAY BE SOLD IN RELIANCE ON SUCH LAWS.

THE FOREGOING SUMMARY DISCUSSION IS GENERAL IN NATURE AND HAS BEEN INCLUDED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT SOLELY FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES. WE MAKE NO REPRESENTATIONS CONCERNING, AND DO NOT PROVIDE, ANY OPINIONS OR ADVICE WITH RESPECT TO THE SECURITIES OR THE BANKRUPTCY MATTERS DESCRIBED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT. IN LIGHT OF THE UNCERTAINTY CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF EXEMPTIONS FROM THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF FEDERAL AND STATE SECURITIES LAWS, WE ENCOURAGE EACH HOLDER AND PARTY-IN-INTEREST TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY AND CONSULT WITH ITS OWN LEGAL ADVISORS WITH RESPECT TO ALL SUCH MATTERS. BECAUSE OF THE COMPLEX, SUBJECTIVE NATURE OF THE QUESTION OF WHETHER A SECURITY IS EXEMPT FROM THE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE FEDERAL OR STATE SECURITIES LAWS OR WHETHER A PARTICULAR HOLDER MAY BE AN UNDERWRITER, WE MAKE NO REPRESENTATION CONCERNING THE ABILITY OF A PERSON TO DISPOSE OF THE SECURITIES ISSUED UNDER THE PLAN.

# V. VALUATION AND FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS

THE VALUATIONS SET FORTH HEREIN REPRESENT ESTIMATED DISTRIBUTABLE VALUE AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT VALUES THAT COULD BE ATTAINABLE IN THE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MARKETS. THE VALUE OF THE NEW EQUITY DOES NOT PURPORT TO BE AN ESTIMATE OF THE POST-REORGANIZATION MARKET VALUE.

## A. ESTIMATION OF PAYLESS' ENTERPRISE VALUE

In connection with developing the Plan, the Debtors directed Guggenheim Securities to perform various indicative financial analyses to assess the estimated enterprise value of Payless on a going-concern basis upon emergence from chapter 11 pursuant to the Plan. A summary of Guggenheim Securities' estimation of Payless' enterprise value is attached hereto as **Exhibit F** (the "Estimation of Payless' Enterprise Value").

The Estimation of Payless' Enterprise Value is subject to various important qualifiers and assumptions that are set forth in  $\underline{\textbf{Exhibit } F}$ .

## B. FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS

As discussed more fully in Article VII.A.5 herein, the Debtors believe the Plan meets the feasibility requirement set forth in section 1129(a)(11) of the Bankruptcy Code, as Confirmation is not likely to be followed by liquidation or the need for further financial reorganization of the Reorganized Debtors. In connection with developing the Plan, and for purposes of determining whether the Plan satisfies the "feasibility" standard, the Debtors, with the assistance of A&M, prepared the financial projections for the fiscal years of 2017 through 2021 set forth on **Exhibit D** (the "Financial Projections"). In general, as illustrated by the Financial Projections, the Debtors believe that with a significantly de-leveraged capital structure, the Reorganized Debtors will operate a successful business with sufficient liquidity to fund obligations as they arise, thereby maintaining value. Accordingly, the Debtors believe the Plan satisfies the feasibility requirement of section 1129(a)(11) of the Bankruptcy Code.

The Financial Projections are subject to various important qualifiers and assumptions that are set forth in the Financial Projections.

No representations can be made as to the accuracy of the Financial Projections or the Reorganized Debtors' ability to achieve the projected results. Therefore, the Financial Projections may not be relied upon as a guaranty or other assurance of the actual results that will occur. The inclusion of the Financial Projections herein should not be regarded as an indication that the Debtors considered or consider the Financial Projections to reliably predict future performance.

The Financial Projections are subjective in many respects, and thus are susceptible to interpretations and periodic revisions based on actual experience and recent developments. The Debtors do not intend to update or otherwise revise the Financial Projections to reflect the occurrence of future events, even in the event that assumptions underlying the Financial Projections are not borne out. The Financial Projections should be read in conjunction with the assumptions and qualifications set forth herein.

# C. LIQUIDATION ANALYSIS

As discussed more fully in Article VII.A.4, hereof, the Debtors believe that the Plan satisfies the "best interests" test of section 1129(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code. In connection with developing the Plan, and for purposes of determining whether the Plan satisfies the "best interest" test, the Debtors, with the assistance of A&M, prepared the Liquidation Analysis attached here to as **Exhibit E** (the "Liquidation Analysis"). In general, as illustrated by the Liquidation Analysis, the Debtors believe that the Plan provides all Holders of a claim or interest property of a value that is equal to or greater than such Holder would receive in a liquidation.

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The Liquidation Analysis is subject to various important qualifiers and assumptions that are set forth in the Liquidation Analysis.

# VI. SOLICITATION AND VOTING PROCEDURES

On [\_\_], 2017, the Bankruptcy Court entered the Disclosure Statement Order by which the Bankruptcy Court approved, among other things, procedures and documents for the solicitation of acceptances on the Plan, certain key dates and deadlines relating to the voting and Confirmation and procedures for tabulating votes. For purposes of this Article VI, capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to such terms in the Disclosure Statement Order. The procedures and instructions for voting on the Plan are set forth in the exhibits annexed to the Disclosure Statement Order. The Disclosure Statement Order is incorporated herein by reference and should be read in conjunction with this Disclosure Statement and in formulating a decision to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

THIS DISCUSSION OF THE SOLICITATION AND VOTING PROCESS IS A SUMMARY.
PLEASE REFER TO THE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT ORDER ATTACHED AS **EXHIBIT C**FOR A MORE COMPREHENSIVE DISCUSSION OF THE SOLICITATION AND VOTING PROCESS.

## 1. Solicitation Packages

Pursuant to the Disclosure Statement Order, Holders of Claims who are eligible to vote to accept or reject the Plan will receive appropriate solicitation materials (the "General Solicitation Package"), including:

- a copy of the Solicitation Procedures;
- the Confirmation Hearing Notice;
- a cover letter, describing the contents of the General Solicitation Package and urging the Holders of Claims in each of the Voting Classes to vote to accept the Plan;
- an appropriate form of Ballot for Holders of Claims;
- the approved Disclosure Statement (with all exhibits attached thereto, including the Plan and the exhibits attached thereto); and
- a letter from the Creditors' Committee with a recommendation on how unsecured creditors should vote on the Plan.

The Solicitation Packages will provide the Disclosure Statement and Plan in electronic format (*i.e.*, CD ROM or flash drive) and all other contents of the Solicitation Packages, including Ballots, in paper format. Any Holder of a Claim or Interest may obtain, at no charge, a paper copy of the documents otherwise provided by (a) accessing Prime Clerk's website at https://cases.primeclerk.com/payless.

## 2. Voting Rights

Classes Entitled to Vote. Under the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, not all Holders of claims against and equity interests in a debtor are entitled to vote on a chapter 11 plan. As shown in the table below, the Debtors are soliciting votes to accept the Plan only from Holders of Claims in Classes 3, 4, 5A, and 5B (the "Voting Classes") because Holders of Claims in the Voting Classes are Impaired under the Plan and, may, in certain circumstances, receive a distribution under the Plan. Accordingly, Holders of Claims in the Voting Classes have the right to vote to accept or reject the Plan. If your Claim or Interest is not included in one of these Classes, you are not entitled to vote and you will not receive a Solicitation Package.

Each of the Voting Classes will have accepted the Plan if: (1) the Holders of at least two thirds in dollar amount of the Allowed Claims actually voting in each Class for each Debtor, as applicable, have voted to accept the Plan; and (2) the Holders of more than one half in number of the Allowed Claims actually voting in each Class for each Debtor, as applicable, have voted to accept the Plan. Additionally, if Prime Clerk receives no votes to accept

or reject the Plan with respect to any particular Class of Claims, the Debtors may seek to deem such class as having accepted the Plan.

The following table provides a summary of the status and voting rights of each Class (and, therefore, of each Holder within such Class) under the Plan:

Class	Claim/Equity Interest	<u>Status</u>	Voting Rights
3	Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
4	Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
5A	Other General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
5B	Worldwide General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote

Classes not Entitled to Vote. Under the Bankruptcy Code, Holders of Claims or Interests are not entitled to vote if such Claims or Interests are Unimpaired under the Plan or if they will receive no distribution of property under the Plan. Based on this standard, the following Classes of Claims and Interest for each Debtor, as applicable, will not be entitled to vote on the Plan and the Holders of such Claims will not be solicited to vote on the Plan.

Class	Claim/Equity Interest	<u>Status</u>	Voting Rights
1	Other Priority Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
2	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
5C	Canadian General Unsecured Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
6	Intercompany Claims	Impaired	Deemed to Reject
7	Equity Interests	Impaired	Deemed to Reject
8	Intercompany Interests	Impaired	Deemed to Reject
9	Section 510(b) Claims	Impaired	Deemed to Reject

#### 3. Record Date

The Record Date is June 14, 2017 for all Claims filed before such date, or, for any Claims filed after such date, the Claims Bar Date. This means that it will be determined (a) which Holders of Claims in Classes 3, 4, 5A, and 5B are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan and (b) whether Claims have been properly assigned or transferred under Bankruptcy Rule 3001(e) such that an assignee can vote as the Holder of a Claim by the Record Date.

## 4. Voting Deadline

The Voting Deadline is 4:00 p.m. prevailing Central Time on July 18, 2017. In order to be counted as votes to accept or reject the Plan, all Ballots must be properly executed, completed and delivered (either by using the return envelope provided, by first class mail, overnight courier or personal delivery) so that each Ballot is *actually received* on or before the Voting Deadline by either the Noticing and Claims Agent or the Solicitation and Subscription Agent at the applicable address:

Payless Balloting Center c/o Prime Clerk LLC 830 Third Avenue, 3rd Floor New York, New York, 10022

#### 5. Ballots Not Counted

The following Ballots will not be counted toward Confirmation of the Plan: (a) any Ballot that is illegible or contains insufficient information to permit the identification of the Holder of the Claim or transmitted by facsimile or other electronic means; (b) any Ballot cast by an entity that is not entitled to vote on the Plan; (c) any Ballot cast for a Claim listed in the Schedules as contingent, unliquidated or disputed for which the applicable bar

date has passed and no proof of claim was timely filed; (d) any Ballot cast for a Claim that is subject to an objection pending as of the Record Date (unless temporarily allowed in accordance with the Disclosure Statement Order); (e) any Ballot sent to the Debtors, the Debtors' agents/representatives (other than the Noticing and Claims Agent), the Indenture Trustee or the Debtors' financial or legal advisors; (e) any unsigned Ballot; or (f) any Ballot not marked to accept or reject the Plan or marked both to accept and reject the Plan.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SOLICITATION OR VOTING PROCESS, PLEASE CONTACT THE NOTICING AND CLAIMS AGENT OR THE SOLICITATION AND SUBSCRIPTION AGENT, AS APPLICABLE. ANY BALLOT RECEIVED AFTER THE VOTING DEADLINE WILL NOT BE COUNTED UNLESS THE DEADLINE IS EXTENDED BY THE DEBTORS.

# VII. CONFIRMATION AND CONSUMMATION OF THE PLAN

#### A. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFIRMATION OF THE PLAN

#### 1. Confirmation Hearing

The Confirmation Hearing is scheduled to commence on July 24, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. prevailing Central Time. The Confirmation Hearing will be held before the Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States, United States Bankruptcy Judge, at the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse, 111 S. 10th Street, 4th Floor, Courtroom 7 North, St. Louis, MO 63102. The Bankruptcy Court may adjourn the Confirmation Hearing from time to time without further notice. Objections to Confirmation of the Plan must be filed and served on the Debtors, and certain other parties, by no later than July 17, 2017, at 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Central Time) in accordance with the notice of the Confirmation Hearing, attached to the Disclosure Statement Order as Exhibit 2 and incorporated herein by reference. Unless an objection to the Plan is timely served and filed, it may not be considered by the Bankruptcy Court.

The "Plan Objection Deadline" is 4:00 p.m. prevailing Central Time on July 18, 2017. This means that written objections to Confirmation of the Plan, if any, which conform to the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Bankruptcy Rules, must be filed, together with a proof of service, with the Bankruptcy Court and served on all parties that have requested notice in these cases pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002, so as to be *actually received* on or before the Plan Objection Deadline by such parties.

#### 2. Effect of Confirmation

Following Confirmation, subject to Article VIII of the Plan, the Plan will be consummated on the Effective Date. Among other things, on the Effective Date, certain release, injunction, exculpation and discharge provisions set forth in Article IX will become effective. As such, it is important to read the provisions contained in Article IX of the Plan very carefully so that you understand how Confirmation and Consummation of the Plan – which effectuates such provisions – will affect you and any Claim you may hold against the Debtors so that you cast your vote accordingly. Additionally, for a more detailed description of the provisions set forth in Article IX of the Plan, please refer to Section IV.I herein.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, the "Third-Party Release" set forth in Article IX.F of the Plan is a consensual release as to most of the Released Parties. The Releasing Parties are bound by the "Third-Party Release" pursuant to Article IX.F of the Plan. "Releasing Parties" means, collectively, (a) the Debtors; (b) the Consenting Lenders; (c) the Prepetition Agents; (d) the DIP Lenders; (e) the DIP Agents; (f) the Sponsor Entities; (g) all Holders of Claims and Interests that are deemed unimpaired and presumed to accept the Plan; (h) all Holders of Claims who either (1) vote to accept or (2) receive a Ballot providing them the right to opt out of any applicable releases but abstain from voting on the Plan or otherwise do not elect pursuant to such Ballot to opt out of the Third-Party Release; (i) all Holders of Claims and Interests who are not entitled to vote on the Plan but receive a notice advising them of their ability to opt out of the Third-Party Release but who do not elect to opt out of the Third-Party Release; (j) all Holders of Claims entitled to vote who vote to reject the Plan and do not elect on their Ballot to opt out of the Third-Party Release; (k) all other Holders of Claims and Interests to the maximum extent permitted by law; and (l) with respect to the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, and each of the foregoing Entities in clauses (a) through (k), each such Entity's current and former Affiliates, and each such Entity's and their current and former Affiliates' current and former directors, managers, officers, principals, members, employees, equity holders (regardless of whether such interests are held directly or indirectly), predecessors, successors, assigns, subsidiaries, agents, advisory board members, financial advisors, partners, attorneys, accountants, investment bankers, consultants, representatives, and other professionals; provided, however that any opt out of the Third-Party Release by a Holder of a Claim or Interest shall not affect the releases of the Sponsor Entities or the Prepetition Lenders by such Holder of a Claim or Interest.

The Debtors will be prepared to defend the non-consensual release as to the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders at Confirmation, and the Creditors' Committee and the Prepetition Lenders have agreed to support the non-consensual release of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders. Holders of Claims who vote to <u>reject</u> the Plan are <u>not</u> bound by the Third-Party Release (except as to the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders) if they elect on their ballot to opt out of the release.

THE PLAN WILL BIND ALL HOLDERS OF CLAIMS AGAINST AND INTERESTS IN THE DEBTORS TO THE FULLEST EXTENT AUTHORIZED OR PROVIDED UNDER THE BANKRUPTCY CODE, INCLUDING SECTIONS 524 AND 1141 THEREOF, AND BY ALL OTHER APPLICABLE LAW.

#### 3. Confirmation Requirements

At the Confirmation Hearing, the Bankruptcy Court will determine whether the Plan satisfies the requirements of section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors believe that the Plan will satisfy all of the statutory requirements of chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code and that they have complied or will have complied with all of the requirements of chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Specifically, the Debtors believe that the Plan will satisfy the applicable confirmation requirements of section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code, including those set forth below.

- The Plan complies with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.
- The Debtors, as the Plan proponents, have complied with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.
- The Plan has been proposed in good faith and not by any means forbidden by law.
- Any payment made or to be made under the Plan for services or for costs and expenses in, or in connection with, the Chapter 11 Cases, or in connection with the Plan and incident to the Chapter 11 Cases, has been or will be disclosed to the Bankruptcy Court, and any such payment: (1) made before the confirmation of the Plan is reasonable; or (2) is subject to the approval of the Bankruptcy Court as reasonable, if it is to be fixed after confirmation of the Plan.
- With respect to each Class of Claims, each Holder of an Impaired Claim has accepted the Plan or will receive or retain under the Plan on account of such Claim property of a value as of the Effective Date of the Plan that is not less than the amount that such Holder would receive or retain if the Debtors were liquidated on that date under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. With respect to each Class of Interests, each Holder of an Impaired Interest has accepted the Plan or will receive or retain under the Plan on account of such Interest property of a value as of the Effective Date of the Plan that is not less than the amount that such Holder would receive or retain if the Debtors were liquidated on that date under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- Each Class of Claims or Interests that is entitled to vote on the Plan has either accepted the Plan or is not Impaired under the Plan, or the Plan can be confirmed without the approval of such voting Class of Claims or Interests pursuant to section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- Except to the extent that the Holder of a particular Claim will agree to a different treatment of its Claim, the Plan provides that: (1) Holders of Claims specified in sections 507(a)(2) and 507(a)(3) will receive, under different circumstances, Cash equal to the amount of such Claim either on the Effective Date (or as soon as practicable thereafter), no later than 30 days after the Claim becomes Allowed, or pursuant to the terms and conditions of the transaction giving rise to the Claim; (2) Holders of Claims specified in sections 507(a)(1), 507(a)(4), 507(a)(5), 507(a)(6), or 507(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code will receive on account of such Claims Cash equal to the Allowed amount of such Claim on the Effective Date of the Plan (or as soon thereafter as is reasonably practicable) or Cash payable over no more than six months after the Petition Date; and (3) Holders of Claims specified in section 507(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code will receive on account of such Claim regular installment payments of Cash of a total value, as of the Effective Date of the Plan, equal to the Allowed amount of such Claim over a period ending not later than five years after the Petition Date.
- At least one Class of Impaired Claims has accepted the Plan, determined without including any acceptance of the Plan by any "insider," as that term is defined by section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code, holding a Claim in that Class.
- With respect to each Class, each Holder of a Claim or an Equity Interest in the Class either (i) has accepted the Plan or (ii) will receive or retain under the Plan property of a value that is not less than the amount that the Holder would receive or retain if the Debtors liquidated under chapter 7.

- Confirmation of the Plan is not likely to be followed by the liquidation or the need for further financial reorganization of the Debtors or any successors thereto under the Plan, unless the Plan contemplates such liquidation or reorganization.
- The Debtors have paid or the Plan provides for the payment of the required filing fees pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1930 to the clerk of the Bankruptcy Court.

#### 4. Best Interests of Creditors Test/Liquidation Analysis

Often called the "best interests" test, section 1129(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that a bankruptcy court find as a condition to confirmation, that a chapter 11 plan provides, with respect to each class, that each holder of a claim or an equity interest in the class either (i) has accepted the plan or (ii) will receive or retain under the plan property of a value that is not less than the amount that the Holder would receive or retain if the debtors liquidated under chapter 7.

If no plan can be Confirmed, the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases may be converted to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code, pursuant to which a trustee would be elected or appointed to liquidate the assets of the Debtors for distribution in accordance with the priorities established by the Bankruptcy Code. A discussion of the effects that a chapter 7 liquidation would have on the recoveries of Holders of Claims and the Debtors' Liquidation Analysis is described herein and attached hereto as **Exhibit E**.

Thus, the Plan satisfies the requirements of section 1129(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code with respect to such Classes.

#### 5. Feasibility Requirements

Section 1129(a)(11) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that confirmation of a plan of reorganization is not likely to be followed by the liquidation, or the need for further financial reorganization of the debtor, or any successor to the debtor (unless such liquidation or reorganization is proposed in the plan of reorganization). To determine whether the Plan meets this feasibility requirement, the Debtors have analyzed their ability to meet their respective obligations under the Plan. As part of this analysis, the Debtors have prepared certain Financial Projections, which projections and the assumptions upon which they are based are attached hereto as **Exhibit D**. These Financial Projections relate to the expected performance of the Reorganized Debtors under the Plan. Based on these Financial Projections and the fact that the Debtors will have sufficient funds upon Confirmation to make all payments required under the Plan, the Debtors believe that the deleveraging contemplated by the Plan meets the feasibility requirement of section 1129(a)(11) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### 6. Acceptance by Impaired Classes

The Bankruptcy Code requires, as a condition to confirmation, that, except as described in the following section, each class of claims or equity interests that is impaired under a plan, accept the plan. A class that is not "impaired" under a plan is deemed to have accepted the plan and, therefore, solicitation of acceptances with respect to such class is not required. Pursuant to section 1124 of the Bankruptcy Code, a class is "impaired" unless the plan: (a) leaves unaltered the legal, equitable, and contractual rights to which the claim or the equity interest entitles the holder of such claim or equity interest; (b) cures any default and reinstates the original terms of such obligation; or (c) provides that, on the consummation date, the holder of such claim or equity interest receives cash equal to the allowed amount of that claim or, with respect to any equity interest, any fixed liquidation preference to which the holder of such equity interest is entitled to any fixed price at which the debtor may redeem the security.

Section 1126(c) of the Bankruptcy Code defines acceptance of a plan by a class of impaired claims as acceptance by holders of at least two-thirds in dollar amount and more than one-half in number of claims in that class, but for that purpose counts only those who actually vote to accept or to reject the plan. Thus, a class of claims will have voted to accept the plan only if two-thirds in amount and a majority in number actually voting cast their ballots in favor of acceptance.

Claims in Classes 1, 2, 5C, and 8, and certain Claims in Class 6 are Unimpaired under the Plan, and, as a result, the Holders of such Claims are deemed to have accepted the Plan. Holders of Claims and Interests in

Classes 7 and 9 will receive no distribution under the Plan and are, therefore, presumed deemed to have rejected the Plan.

Claims in Classes 3, 4, 5A, and 5B are Impaired under the Plan, and as a result, the Holders of Claims in such Classes are entitled to vote on the Plan. Pursuant to section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Holders of Claims in the Voting Classes must accept the Plan for the Plan to be confirmed without application of the "fair and equitable test" to such Classes, and without considering whether the Plan "discriminates unfairly" with respect to such Classes, as both standards are described directly below. As stated above, Classes of Claims will have accepted the Plan if the Plan is accepted by at least two-thirds in amount and a majority in number of the Claims of each such Class (other than any Claims of creditors designated under section 1126(e) of the Bankruptcy Code) that have voted to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 7. Confirmation Without Acceptance by All Impaired Classes

Section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code allows a bankruptcy court to confirm a plan even if all impaired classes have not accepted it; *provided*, *however*, that the plan has been accepted by at least one impaired class. Pursuant to section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, notwithstanding an impaired class's rejection or deemed rejection of the plan, the plan will be confirmed, at the plan proponent's request, in a procedure commonly known as a "cramdown" so long as the plan does not "discriminate unfairly" and is "fair and equitable" with respect to each class of claims or equity interests that is impaired under, and has not accepted, the plan.

If any Impaired Class rejects the Plan, the Debtors reserve the right to seek to confirm the Plan utilizing the "cramdown" provision of section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code. To the extent that any Impaired Class rejects the Plan or is deemed to have rejected the Plan, the Debtors will request Confirmation of the Plan, as it may be modified from time to time, under section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### (a) No Unfair Discrimination

The "unfair discrimination" test applies to classes of claims or interests that are of equal priority and are receiving different treatment under a plan. The test does not require that the treatment be the same or equivalent, but that treatment be "fair." In general, bankruptcy courts consider whether a plan discriminates unfairly in its treatment of classes of claims of equal rank (e.g., classes of the same legal character). Bankruptcy courts will take into account a number of factors in determining whether a plan discriminates unfairly. A plan could treat two classes of unsecured creditors differently without unfairly discriminating against either class.

#### (b) <u>Fair and Equitable</u>

The "fair and equitable" test applies to classes of different priority and status (e.g., secured versus unsecured) and includes the general requirement that no class of claims receive more than 100 percent of the amount of the allowed claims in the class. As to the dissenting class, the test sets different standards depending upon the type of claims or equity interests in the class.

The Debtors submit that if the Debtors "cramdown" the Plan pursuant to section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Plan will be structured so that it does not "discriminate unfairly" and satisfies the "fair and equitable" requirement. With respect to the unfair discrimination requirement, all Classes under the Plan are provided treatment that is substantially equivalent to the treatment that is provided to other Classes that have equal rank. The Debtors believe that the Plan and the treatment of all Classes of Claims and Interests under the Plan satisfy the foregoing requirements for nonconsensual Confirmation of the Plan:

Secured Claims. The condition that a plan be "fair and equitable" to a non-accepting class of secured claims may be satisfied, among other things, if a debtor demonstrates that: (i) the holders of such secured claims retain the liens securing such claims to the extent of the allowed amount of the claims, whether the property subject to the liens is retained by the debtor or transferred to another entity under the plan; and (ii) each holder of a secured claim in the class receives deferred cash payments totaling at least the allowed amount of such claim with a present value, as of the effective date of the plan, at least equivalent to the value of the secured claimant's interest in the debtor's property subject to the liens.

- <u>Unsecured Claims</u>. The condition that a plan be "fair and equitable" to a non-accepting class of unsecured claims includes the requirement that either: (i) the plan provides that each holder of a claim of such class receive or retain on account of such claim property of a value, as of the effective date of the plan, equal to the allowed amount of such claim; or (ii) the holder of any claim or any interest that is junior to the claims of such class will not receive or retain under the plan on account of such junior claim or junior interest any property.
- Equity Interests. The condition that a plan be "fair and equitable" to a non-accepting class of unsecured claims includes the requirement that either: (i) the plan provides that each holder of a claim of such class receive or retain on account of such claim property of a value, as of the effective date of the plan, equal to the allowed amount of such claim; or (ii) the holder of any claim or any interest that is junior to the claims of such class will not receive or retain under the plan on account of such junior claim or junior interest any property:

#### B. CONDITIONS FOR CONSUMMATION OF THE PLAN

The Plan will be consummated on the Effective Date so long as certain conditions precedent are satisfied or waived in accordance with the Article VIII.B of the Plan, including:

- The Bankruptcy Court shall have approved the Disclosure Statement as containing adequate information with respect to the Plan within the meaning of section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- The Definitive Documents shall satisfy the Definitive Document Restructuring Support Agreement Requirements.
- The Confirmation Order shall have been entered and become a Final Order in form and in substance reasonably satisfactory to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders. The Confirmation Order shall provide that, among other things, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as appropriate, are authorized and directed to take all actions necessary or appropriate to consummate the Plan, including, without limitation, entering into, implementing, and consummating the contracts, instruments, releases, leases, indentures, and other agreements or documents created in connection with or described in the Plan.
- All documents and agreements necessary to implement the Plan, including, without limitation, the New Credit Facilities Documents, shall have (a) been tendered for delivery and (b) been effected or executed. All conditions precedent to the effectiveness of such documents and agreements shall have been satisfied or waived pursuant to the terms of such documents or agreements, and the commitment fees described in Article IV.H of the Plan shall have been paid.
- All actions, documents, certificates and agreements necessary to implement this Plan shall have been effected or executed and delivered to the required parties and, to the extent required, filed with the applicable Governmental Units in accordance with applicable laws.
- The Professional Fee Escrow Account shall have been established and funded.

#### C. ALTERNATIVES TO CONFIRMATION AND CONSUMMATION OF THE PLAN

#### 1. Liquidation Under Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code

If no chapter 11 plan can be confirmed, the Chapter 11 Cases may be converted to a case under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code in which case, a trustee would be elected or appointed to liquidate the Debtors' assets. A discussion of the effect that a chapter 7 liquidation would have on the recovery of Holders of Claims is set forth in Section VII.A herein, titled "Statutory Requirements for Confirmation of the Plan." In performing the liquidation analysis, the Debtors have assumed that all Holders of Claims will be determined to have "claims" that are entitled to share in the proceeds from any such liquidation. The Debtors believes that liquidation under chapter 7 would result in (i) smaller distributions being made to creditors than those provided for in the Plan because of the additional administrative expenses involved in the appointment of a trustee and attorneys and other professionals to

assist such trustee, (ii) additional expenses and claims, some of which would be entitled to priority, which would be generated during the liquidation and from the rejection of unexpired leases and executory contracts in connection with the cessation of the Debtors' operations, and (iii) the failure to realize the greater, going-concern value of all of the Debtors' assets.

#### 2. Filing of an Alternative Plan of Reorganization

If the Plan is not confirmed, the Debtors or any other party in interest could attempt to formulate a different plan of reorganization. Such a plan might involve either a reorganization and continuation of the Debtors' business or an orderly liquidation of their assets. During the negotiations prior to the filing of the Plan, the Debtors explored various alternatives to the Plan.

The Debtors believe that the Plan enables the Debtors to emerge from chapter 11 successfully and expeditiously, preserves their business and allows creditors to realize the highest recoveries under the circumstances. In a liquidation under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, the assets of the Debtors would be sold in an orderly fashion over a more extended period of time than in a liquidation under chapter 7, and a trustee need not be appointed. Accordingly, creditors would receive greater recoveries than in a chapter 7 liquidation. Although a chapter 11 liquidation is preferable to a chapter 7 liquidation, the Debtors believe that a liquidation under chapter 11 is a much less attractive alternative to creditors than the Plan because the Plan provides for a greater return to creditors. In any liquidation, creditors would be paid their distribution in Cash, whereas, under the Plan, some creditors will receive a part of their distribution in New Equity (if issued).

## VIII. PLAN-RELATED RISK FACTORS

PRIOR TO VOTING TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN, ALL HOLDERS OF CLAIMS ENTITLED TO VOTE ON THE PLAN SHOULD READ AND CONSIDER CAREFULLY EACH OF THE FACTORS SET FORTH HEREIN, AS WELL AS ALL OTHER INFORMATION SET FORTH OR OTHERWISE REFERENCED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT. WHILE NUMEROUS, THESE RISK FACTORS SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS THE ONLY RISKS RELATING TO THE DEBTORS' BUSINESSES AND/OR THE PLAN.

The following provides a summary of various important considerations and risk factors associated with the Plan. However, it is not exhaustive. In considering whether to vote for or against the Plan, Holders of Claims in Voting Classes should read and carefully consider the factors set forth below and all other information set forth or otherwise referenced or incorporated by reference in this Disclosure Statement.

#### A. RISKS RELATING TO CONFIRMATION OF THE PLAN

#### 1. Parties in Interest May Object to the Plan's Classification of Claims and Interests

Section 1122 of the Bankruptcy Code provides that a plan may place a claim or an equity interest in a particular class only if such claim or equity interest is substantially similar to the other claims or equity interests in such class. The Debtors believe that the classification of the Claims and Interests under the Plan complies with the requirements set forth in the Bankruptcy Code because the Debtors created Classes of Claims and Interests, each encompassing Claims and Interests that are substantially similar to the other Claims and Interests in each such Class. Nevertheless, there can be no assurance that the Bankruptcy Court will reach the same conclusion.

#### 2. Failure to Satisfy Vote Requirements

If votes are received in number and amount sufficient to enable the Bankruptcy Court to confirm the Plan, the Debtors intend to seek, as promptly as practicable thereafter, Confirmation of the Plan. In the event that sufficient votes are not received, the Debtors may seek to confirm an alternative chapter 11 plan. There can be no assurance that the terms of any such alternative chapter 11 plan would be similar or as favorable to the Holders of Allowed Claims as those proposed in the Plan.

#### 3. The Debtors May Not Be Able to Secure Confirmation of the Plan.

Section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code sets forth the requirements for confirmation of a chapter 11 plan, and requires, among other things, a finding by the Bankruptcy Court that: (a) such plan "does not unfairly discriminate" and is "fair and equitable" with respect to any non-accepting classes; (b) confirmation of such plan is not likely to be followed by a liquidation or a need for further financial reorganization unless such liquidation or reorganization is contemplated by the plan; and (c) the value of distributions to non-accepting Holders of claims and equity interests within a particular class under such plan will not be less than the value of distributions such Holders would receive if the debtors were liquidated under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code.

There can be no assurance that the requisite acceptances to confirm the Plan will be received. Even if the requisite acceptances are received, there can be no assurance that the Bankruptcy Court will confirm the Plan. A non-accepting Holder of an Allowed Claim or an Allowed Interest might challenge either the adequacy of this Disclosure Statement or whether the balloting procedures and voting results satisfy the requirements of the Bankruptcy Code or Bankruptcy Rules. Even if the Bankruptcy Court determined that this Disclosure Statement, the balloting procedures and voting results were appropriate, the Bankruptcy Court could still decline to confirm the Plan if it found that any of the statutory requirements for Confirmation had not been met. If the Plan is not confirmed, it is unclear what distributions, if any, Holders of Allowed Claims and Allowed Interests would receive with respect to their Allowed Claims and Allowed Interests.

The Debtors, subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan, reserve the right to modify the terms and conditions of the Plan as necessary for Confirmation. Any such modifications could result in a less favorable

treatment of any Class than the treatment currently provided in the Plan. Such less favorable treatment could include a distribution of property to the Class affected by the modification of a lesser value than currently provided in the Plan or no distribution of property whatsoever under the Plan. Changes to the Plan may also delay the confirmation of the Plan and the Debtors' emergence from bankruptcy.

#### 4. The Debtors May Object to the Amount or Classification of a Claim

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, the Debtors reserve the right to object to the amount or classification of any Claim under the Plan. The estimates set forth in this Disclosure Statement cannot be relied upon by any Holder of a Claim where such Claim is or may be subject to an objection. Any Holder of a Claim that is or may be subject to an objection thus may not receive its expected share of the estimated distributions described in this Disclosure Statement.

#### 5. Contingencies Could Affect Votes of Impaired Classes to Accept or Reject the Plan

The distributions available to Holders of Allowed Claims under the Plan can be affected by a variety of contingencies, including, without limitation, whether the Bankruptcy Court orders certain Allowed Claims and Allowed Interests to be subordinated to other Allowed Claims and Allowed Interests. The occurrence of any and all such contingencies, which could affect distributions available to Holders of Allowed Claims and Allowed Interests under the Plan, will not affect the validity of the vote taken by the Impaired Classes to accept or reject the Plan or require any sort of revote by the Impaired Classes.

#### 6. Failure to Obtain Exit ABL Financing

The Debtors will not be able to operate or pay the ABL DIP Claims as contemplated under the Plan without a New ABL Facility. If the Debtors cannot procure a New ABL Facility on market terms prior to the Confirmation Hearing, they will likely be unable to meet the feasibility requirement for confirmation of the Plan.

#### 7. The Restructuring Support Agreement May Terminate

The parties to the Restructuring Support Agreement have agreed to support the Plan provided certain conditions are met. To the extent that the terms or conditions of the Restructuring Support Agreement are not satisfied, or to the extent events of termination arise under the Restructuring Support Agreement, the Restructuring Support Agreement may terminate prior to the Confirmation or Consummation of the Plan, which could result in the loss of support for the Plan by important creditor constituents. Any such loss of support could adversely affect the Debtors' ability to confirm and consummate the Plan.

#### 8. Release, Injunction, and Exculpation Provisions May Not Be Approved

Article IX of the Plan provides for certain releases, injunctions, and exculpations. All of the releases, injunctions, and exculpations provided in the Plan are subject to objection by parties in interest and may not be approved. If they are not approved, the Plan may lose the support of certain parties and likely cannot be confirmed and likely cannot go effective.

#### B. RISKS RELATING TO RECOVERIES UNDER THE PLAN

#### 1. The Recovery to Holders of Allowed Claims Can Not be Stated With Absolute Certainty.

This Disclosure Statement contains various projections concerning the Reorganized Debtors' operations, including the Financial Projections, that are, by their nature, forward looking, and which projections are necessarily based on certain assumptions and estimates regarding the anticipated future performance of the Reorganized Debtors, including, without limitation, their ability to maintain or increase revenue and gross margins, control future operating expenses, or make necessary capital, as well as assumptions concerning general business and economic conditions and overall industry performance and trends, which the Debtors are unable to control. Should any or all of these assumptions or estimates ultimately prove to be incorrect or not materialize, the actual future experiences of the Reorganized Debtors may turn out to be different from the Financial Projections. Also, because the Liquidation Analysis, distribution projections, and other information contained herein and attached hereto are estimates only, the

timing and amount of actual distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims may be affected by many factors that cannot be predicted.

Further, because the Claims Bar Date has not yet occurred, the Claims estimates set forth herein are based on various assumptions and the best information available to the Debtors at this time. Accordingly, they are estimates. The actual amounts of Allowed Claims may differ significantly from those estimates should one or more underlying assumption prove to be incorrect. Such differences may adversely affect the percentage recovery to Holders of such Allowed Claims under the Plan. Moreover, the estimated recoveries set forth herein are necessarily based on numerous assumptions, the realization of many of which are beyond the Debtors' control, including, without limitation, (a) the successful reorganization of the Debtors, (b) an assumed date for the occurrence of the Effective Date, (c) the Debtors' ability to achieve the operating and financial results included in the Financial Projections, (d) the Debtors' ability to maintain adequate liquidity to fund operations, and (e) the assumption that capital and equity markets remain consistent with current conditions.

The actual amounts of Allowed Claims may differ significantly from those estimates should one or more underlying assumption prove to be incorrect, which could affect the percentage recovery to Holders of such Allowed Claims under the Plan, in some instances adversely. Also, the estimated recoveries to Holders of Allowed Claims are not intended to represent the private sale values of the Reorganized Debtors' securities.

#### 2. The Value of New Equity Can Not Be Stated With Absolute Certainty.

On the Effective Date, 100% of the New Equity will be issued to Prepetition First Lien Lenders and Prepetition Second Lien Lenders on account of their Claims, but will be subject to dilution by (a) 6–10% of the New Equity (on a fully-diluted basis) that will be reserved for issuance in connection with the Management Equity Incentive Plan to be granted at the discretion of the New Board and (b) the New Equity that will be used to pay the Exit Commitment Fee. Despite the Debtors' best efforts to value the New Equity, various uncertainties, including market conditions, the Debtors' inability to implement their business plan, and lack of a market for the New Equity may cause fluctuations or variations in value of the New Equity not fully accounted for herein.

In addition, the value of the New Equity may be impacted by changes to the Reorganized Debtors' post-emergence capital structure.

#### 3. Risk of Non-Occurrence of the Effective Date

The Debtors can provide no assurance as to the timing or as to whether the Effective Date will, in fact, occur. The occurrence of the Effective Date is subject to certain conditions precedent as described in Article VIII.B of the Plan, including, among others, those relating to Consummation of the Plan, as well as the receipt of certain regulatory approvals. Failure to meet any of these conditions could result in the Plan not being consummated or the Confirmation Order being vacated.

#### C. RISKS RELATING TO THE DEBTORS' BUSINESSES

#### 1. Prolonged Continuation of the Chapter 11 Cases Is Likely To Harm the Debtors' Business.

The prolonged continuation of these Chapter 11 Cases is likely to adversely affect the Debtors' business and operations. So long as the Chapter 11 Cases continue, senior management of the Debtors will be required to spend a significant amount of time and effort dealing with the Debtors' reorganization instead of focusing exclusively on business operations. Prolonged continuation of the Chapter 11 Cases will also make it more difficult to attract and retain management and other key personnel necessary to the success and growth of the Debtors' business. In addition, so long as the Chapter 11 Cases continue, the Debtors will be required to incur substantial costs for professional fees and other expenses associated with the proceedings. The prolonged continuation of the Chapter 11 Cases may also require the Debtors to seek additional financing, either under the DIP Facilities or otherwise, in order to service their debt and other obligations. It may not be possible for the Debtors to obtain additional financing during the pendency of the Chapter 11 Cases on commercially favorable terms or at all. If the Debtors were to require additional financing during the Chapter 11 Cases and were unable to obtain the financing on favorable terms or at all, it is unlikely the Debtors could successfully reorganize.

#### 2. The Debtors Are Subject to Restrictive Covenants That Impair Their Business Operations.

The DIP Facilities and Restructuring Support Agreement include financial covenants that, among other things, require the Debtors to perform within a budget and meet certain milestones. If the Debtors are unable to achieve the results that are contemplated in their business plan, they may fail to comply with these covenants. Furthermore, the DIP Facilities and Restructuring Support Agreement contain limitations on the Debtors' ability, among other things, to incur additional indebtedness, make capital expenditures, pay dividends, make investments (including acquisitions), or sell assets. If the Debtors fail to comply with the covenants in the DIP Facilities and Restructuring Support Agreement and are unable to obtain a waiver or amendment of such covenants, an event of default will occur thereunder. The DIP Facilities and Restructuring Support Agreement contain other events of defaults customary for debtor-in-possession financings.

#### 3. The Debtors May Fail in Their Lease Rationalization Efforts

The Debtors' efforts to renegotiate leases and close stores depends during the Chapter 11 Cases is an effort to cut costs and maintain profitability. The Debtors' forward-looking financial projections are based on a certain amount of savings and number of operating stores, which amounts anticipate substantial concessions from various landlords. If the Debtors are unable to reach satisfactory terms with the quantity of landlords they anticipate, the Debtors may be forced to close additional stores, decreasing revenue. Further, the actual savings may be substantially greater than or less than the projected savings ranges.

#### 4. The Debtors May Fail in Their Latin America Joint Venture Renegotiation Efforts

The Debtors' efforts to renegotiate their joint venture partnership agreements with their Latin American partners may not yield the market terms contemplated by the Debtors and the Restructuring Support Agreement counterparties. Failure to achieve the goals set in the Restructuring Support Agreement could result in termination of the Restructuring Support Agreement. If this covenant is waived, failure to modify terms will likely negatively effect the Debtors actual performance as compared to current projections, negatively impacting business performance.

#### 5. The Chapter 11 Cases May Affect the Tax Liability of Reorganized Debtors.

In connection with the Debtors' emergence from these Chapter 11 Cases, it is likely that the Debtors' tax attributes will be significantly reduced due to the cancellation of indebtedness income, with any remaining tax attributes subject to limitation under Sections 382 and 383 of the IRC.

#### 6. The Debtors May Not Perform in Accordance with the Financial Projections

As set forth in **Exhibit D**, the Financial Projections are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties. Such risk factors, many of which are beyond the control of the Company, could cause actual results to differ materially from the Financial Projections. A material deviation from the Financial Projections may have a negative impact on the Debtors' ongoing business performance. If the Debtors do not achieve the projected levels of same store sales, they may have inadequate capital to operate their business and service their debt during the periods covered by the Financial Projections, and there could be a need for further restructuring.

Holders of Claims should carefully review Article IX hereof, to determine how the tax implications of the Chapter 11 Cases and treatment of Allowed Claims under the Plan could adversely affect the Reorganized Debtors and such Holders.

#### D. DISCLOSURE STATEMENT DISCLAIMER

#### 1. No Representations Made Outside this Disclosure Statement Are Authorized.

The information contained in this Disclosure Statement is for purposes of soliciting acceptances of the Plan and may not be relied upon for any other purposes. Except as otherwise provided herein or in the Plan, no representations relating to the Debtors, the Chapter 11 Cases or the Plan are authorized by the Bankruptcy Court or the Bankruptcy Code. Any representations or inducements made to secure your acceptance or rejection of the Plan that are other than as contained in, or included with, this Disclosure Statement, should not be relied upon by you in

arriving at your decision. You should promptly report unauthorized representations or inducements to the counsel to the Debtors, the counsel to the Creditors' Committee and the United States Trustee.

#### 2. The Debtors Relied on Certain Exemptions from Registration Under the Securities Act.

This Disclosure Statement has not been filed with the SEC or any state regulatory authority. Neither the SEC nor any state regulatory authority has passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Disclosure Statement, or the exhibits or the statements contained herein, and any representation to the contrary is unlawful. This Disclosure Statement has been prepared pursuant to section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 3016(b) and is not necessarily in accordance with the requirements of federal or state securities laws or other similar laws.

The offer of New Equity under the Plan has not been registered under the Securities Act or similar state securities or "blue sky" laws. To the maximum extent permitted by section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Securities Act and other applicable non-bankruptcy law, the issuance of the New Equity or any shares reserved for issuance under the Management Equity Incentive Plan, will be exempt from registration under the Securities Act by virtue of section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act, Rule 701 promulgated under the Securities Act, or a "no sale" under the Securities Act as described herein.

#### 3. The Information Herein Was Provided by the Debtors and Relied Upon by Their Advisors.

The Debtors have used their reasonable business judgment to ensure the accuracy of the information, including financial information, provided in this Disclosure Statement, the Plan and related documents. Nonetheless, the Debtors cannot, and do not, confirm the current accuracy of every statement appearing in this Disclosure Statement.

Statements contained in this Disclosure Statement are made by the Debtors as of the date hereof, unless otherwise specified herein, and the delivery of this Disclosure Statement after that date does not imply that there has not been a change in the information set forth herein since that date. Although the Debtors may subsequently update the information in this Disclosure Statement, the Debtors have no affirmative duty to do so unless ordered to do so by the Bankruptcy Court.

The financial information contained in this Disclosure Statement has not been audited. In preparing this Disclosure Statement, the Debtors relied on financial data derived from their books and records that was available at the time of such preparation. While the Debtors believe that such financial information fairly reflects the financial condition of the Debtors, the Debtors are unable to warrant or represent that the financial information contained herein and attached hereto is without inaccuracies.

Counsel to and other advisors retained by the Debtors have relied upon information provided by the Debtors in connection with the preparation of this Disclosure Statement. Although counsel to and other advisors retained by the Debtors have performed certain limited due diligence in connection with the preparation of this Disclosure Statement, they have not verified independently the information contained herein.

#### 4. No Legal or Tax Advice Is Provided to You by this Disclosure Statement.

This Disclosure Statement is not legal advice to you. The contents of this Disclosure Statement should not be construed as legal, business or tax advice. Each Holder of a Claim or an Equity Interest should consult his or her own legal counsel and accountant with regard to any legal, tax and other matters concerning his or her Claim or Equity Interest. This Disclosure Statement may not be relied upon for any purpose other than to determine how to vote on the Plan or object to Confirmation of the Plan.

#### 5. No Admissions Are Made by This Disclosure Statement.

The information and statements contained in this Disclosure Statement will neither constitute an admission of any fact or liability by any Entity (including, without limitation, the Debtors) nor be deemed evidence of the tax or other legal effects of the Plan on the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, Holders of Allowed Claims or Equity Interest or any other parties in interest. The vote by a Holder of an Allowed Claim for or against the Plan does not constitute a waiver or release of any Claims or rights of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors (or any party in

interest, as the case may be) to object to that Holder's Allowed Claim, or recover any preferential, fraudulent or other voidable transfer or assets, regardless of whether any Claims or Causes of Action of the Debtors or their respective Estates are specifically or generally identified herein.

In addition, no reliance should be placed on the fact that a particular litigation claim or projected objection to a particular Claim or Equity Interest is, or is not, identified in this Disclosure Statement. The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors may seek to investigate, file and prosecute Claims and Equity Interest and may object to Claims after the Confirmation or Effective Date of the Plan irrespective of whether this Disclosure Statement identifies such Claims or Objections to Claims.

# IX. CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE PLAN

#### A. BRIEF OVERVIEW AND DISCLOSURE

The following discussion is a summary of certain U.S. federal income tax consequences of the consummation of the Plan to the Debtors and to certain U.S. Holders and Non-U.S. Holders (each as defined below) of Claims. The following summary does not address the U.S. federal income tax consequences to Holders of Claims who are Unimpaired or otherwise entitled to payment in full in Cash under the Plan. This summary is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "IRC"), the U.S. Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder, judicial authorities, published administrative positions of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") and other applicable authorities, all as in effect on the date of this Disclosure Statement and all of which are subject to change or differing interpretations, possibly with retroactive effect. Due to the lack of definitive judicial and administrative authority in a number of areas, substantial uncertainty may exist with respect to some of the tax consequences described below. No opinion of counsel has been obtained and the Debtors do not intend to seek a ruling from the IRS as to any of the tax consequences of the Plan discussed below. The discussion below is not binding upon the IRS or the courts. No assurance can be given that the IRS would not assert, or that a court would not sustain, a different position than any position discussed herein.

For purposes of this discussion, the term "U.S. Holder" means a Holder of a Claim, the New Equity, or the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, (i) an individual citizen or resident of the United States, (ii) a corporation, or entity treated as a corporation, organized in or under the laws of the United States or any state thereof or the District of Columbia, (iii) a trust if (a) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (b) such trust has made a valid election to be treated as a U.S. person for U.S. federal income tax purposes or (iv) an estate, the income of which is includible in gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes regardless of its source.

For purposes of this discussion, a "Non-U.S. Holder" means a Holder of a Claim, the New Equity, or the New First Lien Term Loan Facility that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, (i) a nonresident alien individual, (ii) a non-U.S. corporation or (iii) a non-U.S. estate or non-U.S. trust. This summary does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income taxes that may be relevant to Non-U.S. Holders in light of their personal circumstances, and does not deal with federal taxes other than the federal income tax or with non-U.S., state, local or other tax considerations. Special rules, not discussed here, may apply to certain Non-U.S. Holders, including U.S. expatriates, controlled foreign corporations, passive foreign investment companies and corporations that accumulate earnings to avoid U.S. federal income tax. Such Non-U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors to determine the U.S. federal, state, local and other tax consequences that may be relevant to them. In the case of a Holder that is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the tax treatment of a partner generally will depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partner or the partnership. If you are a partner of a partnership that is, or will be, a Holder of a Claim, the New Equity, or the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, then you should consult your own tax advisors.

This discussion does not purport to address all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be relevant to the Debtors or to certain Holders in light of their individual circumstances. This discussion does not address tax issues with respect to such Holders subject to special treatment under the U.S. federal income tax laws (including, for example, banks, governmental authorities or agencies, pass-through entities, dealers and traders in securities, insurance companies, financial institutions, tax-exempt organizations, small business investment companies and regulated investment companies and those holding, or who will hold, a Claim, the New Equity, or the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, as part of a hedge, straddle, conversion, or constructive sale transaction). No aspect of state, local, estate, gift, or non-U.S. taxation is addressed.

The following discussion assumes that each Holder of a Claim holds its New Equity or New First Lien Term Loan Facility, as applicable, as a "capital asset" within the meaning of Section 1221 of the IRC.

ACCORDINGLY, THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR CAREFUL TAX PLANNING AND ADVICE BASED UPON THE INDIVIDUAL CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO YOU. ALL HOLDERS ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS AS TO THE U.S. FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND NON-U.S. TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE PLAN.

#### B. CONSEQUENCES TO THE DEBTORS

#### 1. Cancellation of Indebtedness and Reduction of Tax Attributes

In general, absent an exception, a debtor will realize and recognize cancellation of debt income ("<u>COD Income</u>") upon satisfaction of its outstanding indebtedness for total consideration less than the amount of such indebtedness. The amount of COD Income, in general, is the excess of (a) the adjusted issue price of the indebtedness satisfied over (b) the sum of (x) the amount of Cash paid, (y) the issue price of any new indebtedness of the taxpayer issued and (z) the fair market value of any new consideration given in satisfaction of such indebtedness at the time of the exchange.

A debtor will not, however, be required to include any amount of COD Income in gross income if the debtor is under the jurisdiction of a court in a case under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code and the discharge of debt occurs pursuant to that proceeding. Instead, as a consequence of such exclusion, a debtor must reduce its tax attributes by the amount of COD Income that it excluded from gross income pursuant to Section 108 of the IRC. In general, tax attributes will be reduced in the following order: (a) net operating losses ("NOLs"); (b) most tax credits; (c) capital loss carryovers; (d) tax basis in assets (but not below the amount of liabilities to which the debtor remains subject); (e) passive activity loss and credit carryovers; and (f) foreign tax credits. A debtor with COD Income may elect first to reduce the basis of its depreciable assets pursuant to Section 108(b)(5) of the IRC, though it has not been determined whether the Debtors would make this election. In the context of a consolidated group of corporations, the tax rules provide for a complex ordering mechanism in determining how the tax attributes of one member can be reduced by the COD Income of another member.

Because the Plan provides that Holders of certain Claims will receive shares of the New Equity, the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, and/or the New ABL Facility, the amount of COD Income, and accordingly the amount of tax attributes required to be reduced, will depend on the fair market value of the New Equity, and the issue price of the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, and the New ABL Facility. This value cannot be known with certainty until after the Effective Date. Following this reduction, the Debtors expect that, subject to the limitations discussed herein and subject to whether the Debtors decide to reduce first the basis in their depreciable assets, they may not have NOL carryforwards remaining after emergence from chapter 11, but will have other significant tax attributes remaining.

#### 2. Limitation of NOL Carryforwards and Other Tax Attributes

Under Section 382 of the IRC, if a corporation undergoes an "ownership change," the amount of its NOLs and built-in losses (collectively, "Pre-Change Losses") that may be utilized to offset future taxable income generally is subject to an annual limitation. As discussed in greater detail herein, the Debtors anticipate that the issuance of the New Equity pursuant to the Plan will result in an "ownership change" of the Reorganized Debtors for these purposes, and that the Debtors' use of their Pre-Change Losses will be subject to limitation unless an exception to the general rules of Section 382 of the IRC applies.

#### (a) General Section 382 Annual Limitation

This discussion refers to the limitation determined under Section 382 of the IRC in the case of an "ownership change" as the "Section 382 Limitation." In general, the annual Section 382 Limitation on the use of Pre-Change Losses in any "post-change year" is equal to the product of (a) the fair market value of the stock of the corporation immediately before the "ownership change" (with certain adjustments) multiplied by (b) the "long-term tax-exempt rate" in effect for the month in which the "ownership change" occurs (approximately 2.09% for the month of May 2017). If the Debtors are in a net unrealized built in gain position, the Section 382 Limitation may be increased to the extent that the Debtors recognize certain built-in gains in their assets during the five-year period following the ownership change, or are treated as recognizing built-in gains pursuant to the safe harbors provided in

IRS Notice 2003-65. Section 383 of the IRC applies a similar limitation to capital loss carryforwards and tax credits. Any unused limitation may be carried forward, thereby increasing the annual limitation in the subsequent taxable year. As discussed below, however, special rules may apply in the case of a corporation which experiences an ownership change as the result of a bankruptcy proceeding.

The issuance under the Plan of the New Equity, along with the cancellation of Existing Equity Interests through the Plan, is expected to cause an ownership change with respect to the Debtors on the Effective Date. As a result, unless an exception applies, Section 382 of the IRC will apply to limit the Debtors' use of any remaining Pre-Change Losses after the Effective Date. This limitation is independent of, and in addition to, the reduction of tax attributes described in the preceding section resulting from the exclusion of COD Income.

#### (b) Special Bankruptcy Exceptions

An exception to the foregoing annual limitation rules generally applies when so-called "qualified creditors" of a debtor company in chapter 11 receive, in respect of their claims, at least 50% of the vote and value of the stock of a reorganized debtor (or a controlling corporation if also in chapter 11) pursuant to a confirmed chapter 11 plan (the "382(l)(5) Exception"). Under the 382(l)(5) Exception, a debtor's Pre-Change Losses are not limited on an annual basis but, instead, the debtor's NOLs are required to be reduced by the amount of any interest deductions claimed during any taxable year ending during the three-year period preceding the taxable year that includes the effective date of the plan of reorganization, and during the part of the taxable year prior to and including the effective date of the plan of reorganization, in respect of all debt converted into stock in the reorganization. If the 382(l)(5) Exception applies and the debtor undergoes another ownership change within two years after consummation, then the debtor's Pre-Change Losses effectively would be eliminated in their entirety.

Where the 382(1)(5) Exception is not applicable (either because a debtor does not qualify for it or a debtor otherwise elects not to utilize the 382(1)(5) Exception), a second special rule will generally apply (the "382(1)(6) Exception"). When the 382(1)(6) Exception applies, a debtor corporation that undergoes an ownership change generally is permitted to determine the fair market value of its stock after taking into account the increase in value resulting from any surrender or cancellation of creditors' claims in the bankruptcy. This differs from the ordinary rule that requires the fair market value of a debtor corporation that undergoes an ownership change to be determined before the events giving rise to the change. The 382(1)(6) Exception also differs from the 382(1)(5) Exception in that the debtor corporation is not required to reduce its NOLs by interest deductions in the manner described above, and the debtor may undergo a change of ownership within two years without triggering the elimination of its Pre-Change Losses.

Regardless of whether the Reorganized Debtors take advantage of the 382(1)(6) Exception or the 382(1)(5) Exception, the Reorganized Debtors' use of any Pre-Change Losses after the Effective Date may be adversely affected if an "ownership change" within the meaning of Section 382 of the IRC were to occur after the Effective Date.

#### 3. Alternative Minimum Tax

In general, an alternative minimum tax ("<u>AMT</u>") is imposed on a corporation's alternative minimum taxable income ("<u>AMTI</u>") at a 20% rate to the extent such tax exceeds the corporation's regular federal income tax for the year. AMTI is generally equal to regular taxable income with certain adjustments. For purposes of computing AMTI, certain tax deductions and other beneficial allowances are modified or eliminated. For example, generally, only 90% of a corporation's AMTI may be offset by available alternative tax NOL carryforwards.

Additionally, under Section 56(g)(4)(G) of the IRC, an ownership change (as discussed above) that occurs with respect to a corporation having a net unrealized built-in loss in its assets will cause, for AMT purposes, the adjusted basis of each asset of the corporation immediately after the ownership change to be equal to its proportionate share (determined on the basis of respective fair market values) of the fair market value of the assets of the corporation, as determined under Section 382(h) of the IRC, immediately before the ownership change.

#### C. CONSEQUENCES TO U.S. HOLDERS OF ALLOWED CLAIMS

#### 1. Holders of Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims

The following discussion assumes that each U.S. Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim holds such Claim as a "capital asset" within the meaning of Section 1221 of the IRC. Pursuant to the Plan, each U.S. Holder of such Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its Pro Rata share of the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche and the New Equity, as further described above.

(a) Exchange of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim for New Equity and New First Lien Term A-2 Tranche

Whether a U.S. Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim recognizes gain or loss as a result of the exchange of its Claim for New Equity and its Pro Rata share of the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche depends on whether (i) both the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche qualify as securities for U.S. federal income tax purposes, (ii) the U.S. Holder has previously included in income any accrued but unpaid interest with respect to the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim, (iii) the U.S. Holder has claimed a bad debt deduction or worthless security deduction with respect to such Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim and (iv) the U.S. Holder uses the accrual or cash method of accounting for tax purposes.

(i) Treatment of a Debt Instrument as a "Security"

Neither the Tax Code nor the Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder defines the term "security." Whether a debt instrument constitutes a "security" for U.S. federal income tax purposes is determined based on all the relevant facts and circumstances, but most authorities have held that the length of the term of a debt instrument is an important factor in determining whether such instrument is a security for U. S. federal income tax purposes. These authorities have indicated that a term of less than five years is evidence that the instrument is not a security, whereas a term of ten years or more is evidence that it is a security. There are numerous other factors that could be taken into account in determining whether a debt instrument is a security, including the security for payment, the creditworthiness of the obligor, the subordination or lack thereof to other creditors, the right to vote or otherwise participate in the management of the obligor, convertibility of the instrument into an equity interest of the obligor, whether payments of interest are fixed, variable or contingent, and whether such payments are made on a current basis or accrued. Each U.S. Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim should consult with its own tax advisor to determine whether or not the debt underlying its Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim is a "security" for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

(ii) Treatment of a U.S. Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim if such U.S. Holder receives New Equity and New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche, and the debt underlying the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche are Both Treated as "Securities" for U.S. Federal Income Tax Purposes

If the debt underlying both the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche are treated as "securities" for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the exchange of the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim for the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche and New Equity should constitute a "recapitalization" for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

If the exchange is treated as a recapitalization for U.S. federal income tax purposes, a U.S. Holder exchanging an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim would not recognize loss on the exchange and would generally recognize gain equal to the lesser of:

a. the fair market value of the New Equity received, (other than to the extent attributable to accrued but untaxed interest on the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim that will be treated as discussed below under "—Accrued Interest"); and

b. the gain realized by the U.S. Holder (*i.e.*, the excess of the "issue price" (as described below) of the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche received plus the fair market value of the New Equity received, (in each case, other than to the extent attributable to accrued but untaxed interest on the debt underlying the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim that will be treated as discussed below under "—Accrued Interest") over the U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in the debt underlying the Claim surrendered in the exchange).

The adjusted tax basis of the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim generally will equal a U.S. Holder's purchase price for the debt as reduced in the event that the U.S. Holder claimed a bad debt deduction with respect thereto, increased by any original issue discount previously accrued and any market discount previously included in income, and reduced by any amortizable bond premium previously amortized and any payments previously received that do not constitute "qualified stated interest." Except as provided below under "—Market Discount" with respect to accrued market discount, any such gain generally will be long-term capital gain if the U.S. Holder held the debt underlying the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim for more than one year at the time of the exchange. Long-term capital gains of a non-corporate taxpayer may be taxed at a preferential rate. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations as described in more detail below under "—Limitations on Use of Capital Losses."

Except to the extent the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche received is attributable to accrued interest on the debt underlying the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim, a U.S. Holder's holding period for the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche received will include the period of time during which the U.S. Holder held the corresponding debt underlying such Claim, and a U.S. Holder's initial tax basis in the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche will equal the adjusted tax basis in the debt underlying the Claim immediately prior to the exchange, decreased by the fair market value of New Equity received and increased by the amount of gain, if any, recognized by the U.S. Holder in respect of the exchange. Any portion of the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche received that is attributable to accrued but untaxed interest will have an initial tax basis in a U.S. Holder's hands equal to such accrued interest and a holding period that begins the day following the Effective Date. A U.S. Holder's initial basis in the New Equity will be equal to fair market value and its holding period for the New Equity will generally begin the day following the Effective Date.

(iii) Treatment of a U.S. Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim if such U.S. Holder receives New Equity and New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche, and the debt underlying the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche are not Both Treated as "Securities" for U.S. Federal Income Tax Purposes

If either the debt underlying the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim or the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche is not treated as a "security" for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the exchange of the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim for a Pro Rata Share of New Equity, a New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche, and Cash (if any) will, in each case, constitute a fully taxable exchange under Section 1001 of the IRC. Accordingly, each U.S. Holder generally should recognize gain or loss in the exchange equal to the difference between (1) the sum of the fair market value of the New Equity received, plus the "issue price" (as discussed below) of the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche received, (in each case, to the extent such consideration is not allocable to accrued but untaxed interest on the debt underlying the Claim, as discussed below under "—Accrued Interest") and (2) such U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis, if any, in the debt underlying the Claim. The character of such gain or loss as capital gain or loss or as ordinary income or loss will be determined by a number of factors, including the tax status of the U.S. Holder, the nature of the debt underlying the Claim in such U.S. Holder's hands, whether that debt constitutes a capital asset in the hands of the U.S. Holder, whether the debt underlying the Claim was purchased at a discount, and whether and to what extent the U.S. Holder has previously claimed a bad debt deduction with respect thereto. If recognized gain is capital gain, it generally would be longterm capital gain if the holder held the debt underlying the Claim for more than one year at the time of the exchange. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to certain limitations as discussed below. In addition, see the discussions of accrued interest and market discount below. A U.S. Holder's tax basis in any New Equity received should equal the fair market value of such New Equity as of the date such New Equity is distributed to the U.S. Holder and a U.S. Holder's tax basis in the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche received should equal its "issue

price" (as discussed below). A U.S. Holder's holding period for the New Equity received and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche should each begin on the day following the Effective Date.

#### 2. Exchange of an Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim for New Equity

An exchange of an Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim for New Equity should constitute a fully taxable exchange under section 1001 of the IRC. Accordingly, each U.S. Holder of such Claim should generally recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between (i) the fair market value of the New Equity to the extent such consideration is not allocable to accrued but untaxed interest (which will be treated as discussed below under —Accrued Interest) that is received in exchange for the Claim; and (ii) such U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis, if any, in the debt underlying such Claim. The character of such gain or loss as capital gain or loss or as ordinary income or loss will be determined by a number of factors, including the tax status of the U.S. Holder, the nature of the Claim in such U.S. Holder's hands, whether the Claim constitutes a capital asset in the hands of the U.S. Holder, whether the Claim was purchased at a discount, and whether and to what extent the U.S. Holder has previously claimed a bad debt deduction with respect to its Claim. If recognized gain is capital gain, it generally would be long-term capital gain if the holder held its Claim for more than one year at the time of the exchange. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to certain limitations as discussed above. In addition, see the discussions of accrued interest and market discount below. A U.S. Holder's tax basis in any New Equity received should equal the fair market value of such New Equity. A U.S. Holder's holding period for the New Equity should begin on the day following the Effective Date.

# 3. Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims or Worldwide General Unsecured Claims

Pursuant to the Plan, each U.S. Holder of an Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim or Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall receive Cash, as further described above. Such exchange should be treated as a taxable exchange under Section 1001 of the IRC. The U.S. Holder should recognize capital gain or loss equal to the difference between (i) the Cash received and (ii) the U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in its claim. Such gain or loss should be capital in nature (subject to the "market discount" rules described below) and should be long-term capital gain or loss if the debts constituting the surrendered Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim or Worldwide General Unsecured Claim, as applicable, were held for more than one year. To the extent that a portion of the Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim or Worldwide General Unsecured Claim, as applicable, is allocable to accrued but untaxed interest, the U.S. Holder may recognize ordinary interest income. See "Accrued Interest" below.

#### 4. Issue Price

The determination of "issue price" for purposes of this analysis will depend, in part, on whether the debt instruments issued to a U.S. Holder or the property surrendered under the Plan are traded on an "established securities market" at any time during the 60-day period ending thirty (30) days after the Effective Date. In general, a debt instrument (or the stock or securities exchanged therefor) will be treated as traded on an established market if (a) it is listed on (i) a qualifying national securities exchange, (ii) certain qualifying interdealer quotation systems, or (iii) certain qualifying non-U.S. securities exchanges; (b) it appears on a system of general circulation that provides a reasonable basis to determine fair market value; or (c) in certain situations the price quotations are readily available from dealers, brokers or traders. The issue price of a debt instrument that is traded on an established market (or that is issued for stock or securities so traded) would be the fair market value of such debt instrument (or such stock or securities so traded) on the issue date as determined by such trading. The issue price of a debt instrument that is neither so traded nor issued for stock or securities so traded would be its stated principal amount (provided that the interest rate on the debt instrument exceeds the applicable federal rate published by the IRS).

#### 5. Accrued Interest

To the extent that any amount received by a U.S. Holder of a surrendered Allowed Claim under the Plan is attributable to accrued but unpaid interest and such amount has not previously been included in the U.S. Holder's gross income, such amount should be taxable to the U.S. Holder as ordinary interest income. Conversely, a U.S. Holder of a surrendered Allowed Claim may be able to recognize a deductible loss to the extent that any accrued

interest on the debt instruments constituting such Claim was previously included in the U.S. Holder's gross income but was not paid in full by the Debtors. Such loss may be ordinary, but the tax law is unclear on this point.

The extent to which the consideration received by a U.S. Holder of a surrendered Allowed Claim will be attributable to accrued interest on the debts constituting the surrendered Allowed Claim is unclear. Certain Treasury Regulations generally treat a payment under a debt instrument first as a payment of accrued and untaxed interest and then as a payment of principal. Application of this rule to a final payment on a debt instrument being discharged at a discount in bankruptcy is unclear.

Pursuant to the Plan, distributions in respect of Allowed Claims shall be allocated first to the principal amount of such Claims (as determined for federal income tax purposes) and then, to the extent the consideration exceeds the principal amount of the Claims, to any portion of such Claims for accrued but unpaid interest. However, the provisions of the Plan are not binding on the IRS or a court with respect to the appropriate tax treatment for creditors.

#### 6. Market Discount

Under the "market discount" provisions of Sections 1276 through 1278 of the IRC, some or all of any gain realized by a U.S. Holder exchanging the debt instruments constituting its Allowed Claim may be treated as ordinary income (instead of capital gain), to the extent of the amount of "market discount" on the debt constituting the surrendered Allowed Claim.

In general, a debt instrument is considered to have been acquired with "market discount" if its Holder's adjusted tax basis in the debt instrument is less than (a) the sum of all remaining payments to be made on the debt instrument, excluding "qualified stated interest" or (b) in the case of a debt instrument issued with OID, its adjusted issue price, by at least a de minimis amount (equal to 0.25% of the sum of all remaining payments to be made on the debt instrument, excluding qualified stated interest, multiplied by the number of remaining whole years to maturity).

Any gain recognized by a U.S. Holder on the taxable disposition (determined as described above) of debts that it acquired with market discount should be treated as ordinary income to the extent of the market discount that accrued thereon while such debts were considered to be held by the U.S. Holder (unless the U.S. Holder elected to include market discount in income as it accrued). To the extent that the surrendered debts that had been acquired with market discount are exchanged in a tax-free or other reorganization transaction for other property (as may occur here), any market discount that accrued on such debts but was not recognized by the U.S. Holder may be required to be carried over to the property received therefor and any gain recognized on the subsequent sale, exchange, redemption or other disposition of such property may be treated as ordinary income to the extent of the accrued but unrecognized market discount with respect to the exchanged debt instrument.

#### 7. Limitations on Use of Capital Losses

U.S. Holders of Claims who recognize capital losses as a result of the distributions under the Plan will be subject to limits on their use of capital losses. For non-corporate U.S. Holders, capital losses may be used to offset any capital gains (without regard to holding periods) plus ordinary income to the extent of the lesser of (1) \$3,000 (\$1,500 for married individuals filing separate returns) or (2) the excess of the capital losses over the capital gains. U.S. Holders, other than corporations, may carry over unused capital losses and apply them to capital gains and a portion of their ordinary income for an unlimited number of years. For corporate U.S. Holders, losses from the sale or exchange of capital assets may only be used to offset capital gains. Corporate U.S. Holders generally may only carry over unused capital losses for the five years following the capital loss year, but are generally allowed to carry back unused capital losses to the three years preceding the capital loss year.

#### D. CONSEQUENCES TO NON-U.S. HOLDERS OF ALLOWED CLAIMS

Any gain or interest income realized by a Non-U.S. Holder on the exchange of its claim generally will be exempt from U.S. federal income or withholding tax, provided that:

• such Non-U.S. Holder does not own, actually or constructively, 10 percent or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of the voting stock of Payless Holding LLC, is

not a controlled foreign corporation related, directly or indirectly, to Payless Holding LLC through stock ownership, and is not a bank receiving interest described in Section 881(c)(3)(A) of the IRC;

- the statement requirement set forth in Section 871(h) or Section 881(c) of the IRC has been fulfilled with respect to the beneficial owner, as discussed below;
- such Non-U.S. Holder is not an individual who is present in the United States for 183
  days or more in the taxable year of disposition or who is subject to special rules
  applicable to former citizens and residents of the United States; and
- such gain or interest income is not effectively connected with the conduct by such Non-U.S. Holder of a trade or business in the United States.

The statement requirement referred to in the preceding paragraph will generally be fulfilled if the beneficial owner of the property or Cash received on the exchange certifies on IRS Form W-8BEN (or such successor form as the IRS designates) under penalties of perjury that it is not a U.S. person and provides its name and address. The Non-U.S. Holder must provide the form to the Debtors or their paying agent, or in the case of a note held through a securities clearing organization, bank or other financial institution holding customers' securities in the ordinary course of its trade or business, to such organization, bank or other financial institution, which must in turn provide to the Debtors or their paying agent a statement that it has received the form and furnish a copy thereof; *provided*, that a non-U.S. financial institution will fulfill this requirement by filing IRS Form W-8IMY if it has entered into an agreement with the IRS to be treated as a qualified intermediary. These forms must be periodically updated.

If a Non-U.S. Holder is engaged in a trade or business in the United States, and if any gain or interest income realized on the exchange of its claim is effectively connected with the conduct of such trade or business, the Non-U.S. Holder, although exempt from the withholding tax discussed in the preceding paragraphs, will generally be subject to regular U.S. federal income tax on such gain or interest income in the same manner as if it were a U.S. Holder. In lieu of the certificate described in the preceding paragraph, such a Non-U.S. Holder will be required to provide a properly executed IRS Form W-8ECI (or such successor form as the IRS designates), in the manner described above, in order to claim an exemption from withholding tax. In addition, if such a Non-U.S. Holder is a corporation, it may be subject to a branch profits tax equal to 30% (or such lower rate provided by an applicable treaty) of its effectively connected earnings and profits for the taxable year, subject to certain adjustments.

#### E. WITHHOLDING AND REPORTING

The Debtors will withhold all amounts required by law to be withheld from payments of interest and dividends. The Debtors will comply with all applicable reporting requirements of the IRC. In general, information reporting requirements may apply to distributions or payments made to a Holder of a claim. The IRS may make the information returns reporting such interest and dividends and withholding available to the tax authorities in the country in which a Non-U.S. Holder is resident. Additionally, backup withholding of taxes, currently at a rate of 28%, will apply to such payments if a U.S. Holder fails to provide an accurate taxpayer identification number or otherwise fails to comply with the applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules. Any amounts withheld under the withholding rules will be allowed as a credit against such Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle such Holder to a refund from the IRS, provided that the required information is provided to the IRS.

In addition, from an information reporting perspective, U.S. Treasury Regulations generally require disclosure by a taxpayer on its U.S. federal income tax return of certain types of transactions in which the taxpayer participated, including, among other types of transactions, certain transactions that result in the taxpayer's claiming a loss in excess of specified thresholds. Holders are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding these regulations and whether the transactions contemplated by the Plan would be subject to these regulations and require disclosure on the Holders' tax returns.

THE FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE PLAN ARE COMPLEX. THE FOREGOING SUMMARY DOES NOT DISCUSS ALL ASPECTS OF FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION THAT MAY BE RELEVANT TO A PARTICULAR HOLDER IN LIGHT OF SUCH HOLDER'S

CIRCUMSTANCES AND INCOME TAX SITUATION. ALL HOLDERS OF CLAIMS AND EQUITY INTERESTS SHOULD CONSULT WITH THEIR TAX ADVISORS AS TO THE PARTICULAR TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED BY THE PLAN, INCLUDING THE APPLICABILITY AND EFFECT OF ANY STATE, LOCAL OR NON-U.S. TAX LAWS, AND OF ANY CHANGE IN APPLICABLE TAX LAWS.

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### X. RECOMMENDATION

In the opinion of the Debtors, the Plan is preferable to the alternatives described in this Disclosure Statement because it provides for a larger distribution to the Debtors' creditors than would otherwise result in a liquidation under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. In addition, any alternative other than Confirmation of the Plan could result in extensive delays and increased administrative expenses resulting in smaller distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims than that which is proposed under the Plan. Accordingly, the Debtors recommend that Holders of Claims entitled to vote on the Plan support Confirmation of the Plan and vote to accept the Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Michael Schwindle

Payless Holdings LLC

(for itself and on behalf of each of the Debtors)

By: Michael Schwindle

Title: Chief Financial Officer, Payless ShoeSource,

Inc.

Dated: June 23, 2017

#### Exhibit A

Plan of Reorganization

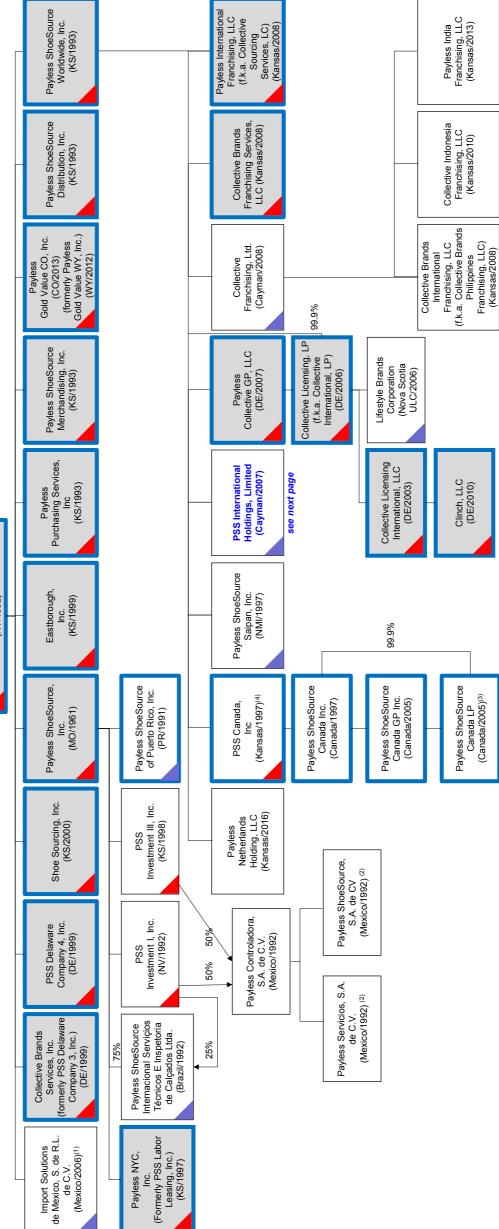
[Filed at Docket No. 1256]

#### Exhibit B

Corporate Structure Chart

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65% Equity Pledged 100% Equity Pledged Borrower / Guarantor Under ABL, First Lien Term Loan and Second Lien Term Loan Non-Wholly Owned JV Debtor Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC Corporate Structure WBG - PSS Holdings LLC (DE/April 2012) (Consolidated Parent) Payless Holdings LLC (DE/2012) Payless Finance, Inc. (NV/1992) Payless Inc. (DE/1998) DF/2012)



- One share owned by Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc.

- PSS Investment I, Inc. owns one share in Payless Servicios, S.A. de C.V. and in Payless ShoeSource, S.A. de C.V. Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. General Partner 0.1% Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc. Limited Partner 99.9%

  - 0.0001726892% owned by Collective Brands Logistics, Limited 2 shares owned by Payless Finance, Inc. One Share owned by Collective Brands Services Limited
- 0.1% owned by Collective Brands Cayman Finance, Limited
- One share owned by Payless ShoeSource, Inc. South America Local Partners S.A. 40% PSS Latin America Holdings 60%

- PLP S.A. 40% Payless CA Management Ltd. 60%
  Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. 98% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada 2%
  Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. 99% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada 1%
  Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. 99.98% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada .02%
- Collective Brands Cooperatief U.A. 99% and Collective Brands II Cooperatief U.A. 1% Collective Brands Cooperatief U.A. - 99% and is Oscar Brelles Mariño Dicen- 1% (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22) (23) (23) (25)
- Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. 99.99% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada 0.1% Payless Colombia (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. 60,524,009 quotas Payless CA Management Limited 1 quota Payless CO Management Ltd. 60% Patagonia Capital Limited 30% Pataya Inc., 10% This entity is owned by Xavier Rosales of our law firm Corral & Rosales

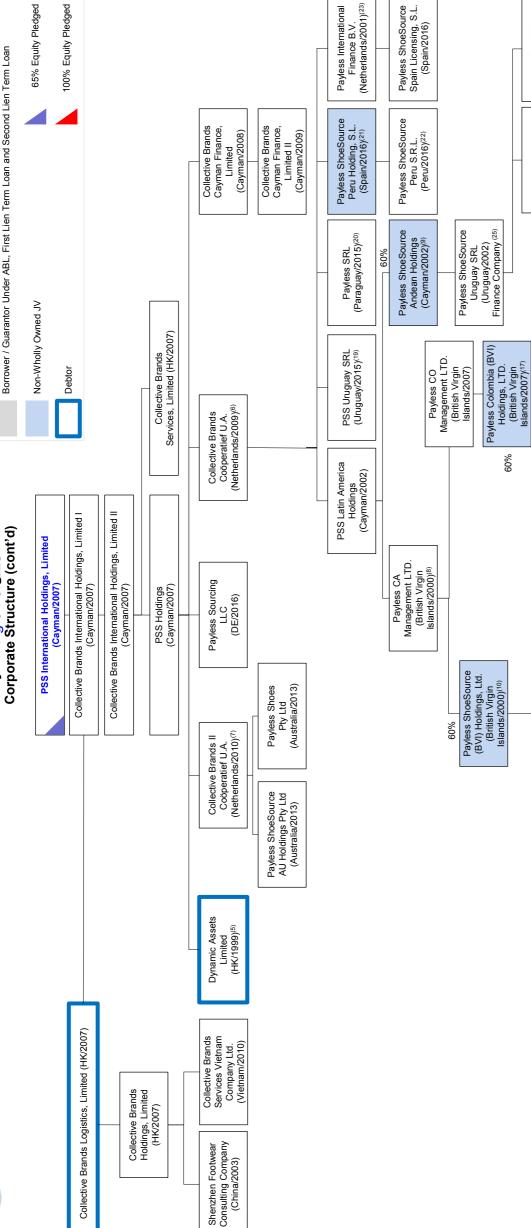
Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 999 shares Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – 1 share

- Payless ShoeSource Peru Holding, S.L. is a JV entity which is owned 60% by Collective Brands Coöperatief U.A. and 40% by Bluestone Financial Inc Payless ShoeSource Peru Holding, S.L. owns 9,999 quotas and Collective Brands II Coöperatief U.A. owns 1 quota

  - Payless international Finance B.V. and its subsidiary, Payless ShoeSource Spain Licensing, S.L. moved under Collective Brands II Cooperatief U.A. 500 shares are owned (250 & 250) by our law firm in trust on behalf of Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd.
    Payless ShoeSource Andean Holdings (99.93333%) and PSS Latin America Holdings (0.066670%)
    One share owned by PSS Latin America Holdings

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Corporate Structure (cont'd)



One share owned by Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc.

PSS Investment I, Inc. owns one share in Payless Servicios, S.A. de C.V. and in Payless ShoeSource, S.A. de C.V. Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. General Partner – 0.1% Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc. Limited Partner – 99.9%

0.0001726892% owned by Collective Brands Logistics, Limited 2 shares owned by Payless Finance, Inc. One Share owned by Collective Brands Services Limited

0.1% owned by Collective Brands Cayman Finance, Limited

One share owned by Payless ShoeSource, Inc. South America Local Partners S.A. – 40% PSS Latin America Holdings – 60%

PLP S.A. – 40% Payless CA Management Ltd. – 60%
Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 98% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – 2%
Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 99% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – 1%
Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 99.98% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – .02%

Payless international Finance B.V. and its subsidiary, Payless ShoeSource Spain Licensing, S.L. moved under Collective Brands II Coôperatief U.A. 500 shares are owned (250 & 250) by our law firm in trust on behalf of Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd.
Payless ShoeSource Andean Holdings (99.93333%) and PSS Latin America Holdings (0.066670%)
One share owned by PSS Latin America Holdings 

199 Payless ShoeSource Peru Holding, S.L. is a JV entity which is owned 60% by Collective Brands Coöperatief U.A. and 40% by Bluestone Financial Inc Payless ShoeSource Peru Holding, S.L. owns 9,999 quotas and Collective Brands II Coöperatief U.A. owns 1 quota

Bacate Cia. Ltda (Ecuador/2009) (18)

Zurivides Cia. Ltda (Ecuador/2009)<sup>(18)</sup>

PaylessShoeSource St.

PaylessShoeSource

Dominica Ltd. (Dominica/2014)

Shoe Source (Barbados) SRL (Barbados/2010)

Payless

Payless ShoeSource

Jamaica Limited

ShoeSource Trinidad Unlimited(Trinidad & Tobago/2001)

Payless

(Jamaica/2010)

(St. Kitts/2014)

Kitts Ltd.

(Rep of Panama/2001) Retail Company<sup>(24)</sup>

(El Salvador/2001)(15)

Panama/2002)<sup>(12)</sup>

(Rep of

Payless ShoeSource (Panama) S.A.

Payless ShoeSource of

Payless ShoeSource

Overseas S.R.L.

Payless ShoeSource of St. Lucia, Ltd (St. Lucia/2001)

Payless ShoeSource

de la Republica

Payless ShoeSource de Guatemala LTDA, (Guatemala/2001)<sup>(13)</sup>

Limitada y Compania Limitada Payless ShoeSource

Payless ShoeSource, (Costa Rica/2000)

Payless ShoeSource Honduras S. DE R.L. Honduras/2002)<sup>(11)</sup>

(Rep of

(Nicaragua/2002)<sup>(12)</sup>

(Nicaragua)

Dominicana, S.R.L. (DR/2001)<sup>(14)</sup>

Payless ShoeSource PSS De Colombia S.A.S. (formerly Ltda) (Colombia/2008)<sup>(16)</sup>

El Salvador Ltda.

De C.V.

Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 999 shares Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – 1 share Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 99.99% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – 0.1% Payless Colombia (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 60,524,009 quotas Payless CA Management Limited – 1 quota Payless CO Management Ltd. – 60% Patagonia Capital Limited – 30% Pataya Inc., – 10% This entity is owned by Xavier Rosales of our law firm Corral & Rosales

Collective Brands Coöperatief U.A. - 99% and Collective Brands II Coöperatief U.A. - 1%

Collective Brands Coöperatief U.A. - 99% and is Oscar Brelles Mariño Dicen-1%

Payless ShoeSource

Payless ShoeSource

Ecuador CIA Ltda (Ecuador/2001)<sup>(26)</sup>

Spain, S.L. (Spain/2004)

#### Exhibit C

Disclosure Statement Order

[To Come]

#### Exhibit D

**Financial Projections** 

#### REORGANIZED PAYLESS' FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS<sup>1</sup>

#### **Introduction to Financial Projections**

As a condition to Confirmation, the Bankruptcy Code requires, among other things, the Bankruptcy Court to find that Confirmation is not likely to be followed by either a liquidation or the need to further reorganize the Debtors (and together with their non-Debtor affiliates, the "Company"). In accordance with this condition and in order to assist each holder of a Claim in determining whether to vote to accept or reject the Plan, the Company's management team ("Management"), with the assistance of their advisors, developed financial projections (the "Financial Projections") to support the feasibility of the Plan.

The Financial Projections were prepared by Management and are based on a number of assumptions made by Management, within the bounds of their knowledge of their business and operations, with respect to the future performance of the Company's operations. In addition, the Financial Projections contain statements which constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Securities Act and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements in these projections include the intent, belief, or current expectations of the Company and members of its Management team with respect to the timing of, completion of, and scope of the current restructuring, the Plan, the Company's strategic business plan, bank financing, debt and equity market conditions, and the Company's future liquidity, as well as the assumptions upon which such statements are based. Although Management has prepared the Financial Projections in good faith and believes the assumptions to be reasonable, it is important to note that the Company can provide no assurance that such assumptions will be realized. Because future events and circumstances may well differ from those assumed and unanticipated events or circumstances may occur, the Company expects that the actual and projected results will differ and the actual results may be materially greater or less than those contained in the Financial Projections and from those contemplated by such forward-looking statements. No representations can be made as to the accuracy of the Financial Projections or the Company's ability to achieve the projected results. Therefore, the Financial Projections may not be relied upon as a guarantee or as any other form of assurance as to the actual results that will occur. The inclusion of the Financial Projections herein should not be regarded as an indication that the Company considered or consider the Financial Projections to reliably predict future performance. Accordingly, in deciding whether to vote to accept or reject the Plan, creditors should review the Financial Projections in conjunction with a review of the risk factors set forth in the Disclosure Statement and the assumptions and risks described herein, including all relevant qualifications and footnotes.

The Company's board of directors was not asked to and did not approve the Financial Projections or evaluate or endorse the projections or the assumptions underlying the Financial Projections. Moreover, the following Financial Projections were not prepared with a view toward compliance with published rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission or the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants regarding projections. The Company's independent auditor has not examined, compiled, or performed any procedures with respect to the prospective financial information contained in this exhibit and, accordingly, it does not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on such information or its achievability. The Company's independent auditor assumes no responsibility for, and denies any association with the prospective financial information.

The Company does not intend to and disclaims any obligation to: (1) furnish updated Financial Projections to holders of Claims or Equity Interests prior to the Effective Date or to any other party after the Effective Date; (2) include any such updated information in any documents that may be required to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission; or (3) otherwise make such updated information publicly available.

#### **Select Assumptions of the Financial Projections**

The Financial Projections are based on, but not limited to factors such as industry performance, general business, economic, competitive, regulatory, market, and financial conditions, as well as the assumptions detailed below. Many of these factors and assumptions are beyond the control of the Company and do not take into account

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the *Fourth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code*.

the uncertainty and disruption of business that may accompany an in-court restructuring. Accordingly, the assumptions should be reviewed in conjunction with a review of the risk factors described below under "Select Risk Factors Related to the Financial Projections".

- Methodology: The Financial Projections were developed on an operational rather than legal entity basis
- Plan and Effective Date: The Financial Projections assume that the Plan will be consummated in accordance with its terms and that all transactions contemplated by the Plan will be consummated by August 26, 2017 (the "Assumed Effective Date"). This is done as a matter of convenience as August 26, 2017 represents the final day of August within the Company's 2017 fiscal retail calendar.
- Projection Period: The Financial Projections contained herein commence after the Assumed Effective Date, and cover the period beginning August 27, 2017 through January 29, 2022. This period represents September 2017 through January 2022 within the Company's fiscal retail calendar.
- Fresh Start Accounting: The Financial Projections reflect an anticipated emergence from chapter 11 on or before August 26, 2017. The Financial Projections do not, however, consider the potential impact of the application of "fresh start" accounting under Accounting Standards Codification 852, "Reorganizations" ("ASC 852") that may apply upon the Effective Date. If the Debtors do fully implement fresh start accounting, differences from the depiction presented are anticipated and those differences may be material.
- Macroeconomic & Industry Environment: The Financial Projections take into account the current difficult retail and competitive environment. These projections also assume constant foreign currency exchange rates and stable commodity pricing environments.
- Operations: The Financial Projections incorporate the Company's planned sales and cost initiatives, as well as operational restructuring activities. The Financial Projections reflect two main operational restructuring activities:
  - 1. Store Closings: Recognizing the need to rationalize its brick-and-mortar footprint to align with current retail-industry conditions, the Debtors' Management and advisors undertook an extensive analysis of the Debtors' existing store footprint to determine whether the Debtors should close any stores in connection with their broader financial and operational restructuring initiatives. In formulating the list of stores, the Debtors considered, among other factors, historical store profitability, recent sales trends, the geographic market in which the store is located, the potential to realize negotiated rent reductions with applicable landlords, and specific circumstances related to a store's performance. The projections herein reflect approximately 800 store closures, but the actual total amount of store closures will be based upon, among other factors, ongoing renegotiating of leases for the Debtors' lower-profitability stores.
  - 2. <u>Lease Renegotiations</u>: Given the current real estate environment and in order to reduce operating costs, the Debtors' Management and advisors are currently renegotiating above-market and unfavorable leases. The Financial Projections reflect a material amount of lease and occupancy savings, with total lease and occupancy costs being more aligned with current market rates. The results of the lease renegotiation process will have a significant impact on the total amount of store closures.
- Other Assumptions: The Financial Projections also assume that: (1) there will be no material change in legislation or regulations, or the administration thereof, that will have an unexpected effect on the operations of the Company; (2) there will be no change in generally accepted accounting principles in the United States that will have a material effect on the reported financial results of the Company; (3) the potential application of fresh start accounting will not materially change the Debtors' accounting

procedures; and (4) there will be no material contingent or unliquidated litigation or indemnity claims applicable to the Debtors.

#### Select Risk Factors Related to the Financial Projections

The Financial Projections herein are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties. Such risk factors, many of which are beyond the control of the Company, could cause actual results to differ materially from the Financial Projections. Although the Financial Projections take into account the current difficult retail and competitive environment, no other specific risks (including the below listed risks) are reflected within the Financial Projections. Select industry and Company-specific risks include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The Company operates in a highly competitive market, with significant established competitors, and competition may reduce overall market share, sales and profitability. Additionally, the Company operates in a cyclical industry that is heavily dependent upon the overall level of consumer spending and disposable income of their core customer base. Any substantial deterioration in general economic conditions could adversely impact sales and profitability.
- The industry in which the Company operates fluctuates according to changing fashion tastes and seasons, and merchandise usually must be ordered well in advance of the season, frequently before consumer fashion tastes are evidenced by consumer purchases. If the Company fails to properly gauge the fashion tastes of consumers or to respond in a timely manner, this failure could adversely affect consumer acceptance of the Company's merchandise and leave the Company with substantial unsold inventory.
- The Company depends on third-party manufacturers to manufacture the merchandise that the Company sells. If these manufacturers are unable to secure sufficient supplies of raw materials, produce products that meet quality standards, or maintain adequate manufacturing and shipping capacity, they may be unable to provide the Company with timely delivery of products. Additionally, manufacturers in China are the Company's major suppliers. Any deterioration in the trade relationship between the United States and China or any other disruption in the Company's ability to import footwear, accessories, or other products from China or any other country where the Company operates could have a material adverse effect on financial results.
- The Company licenses trademarks and brands through various agreements with third parties. The inability to renew or replace any trademark, brand, or character mark could have a significant impact on sales.
- The Company currently uses distribution centers which serve as the source of replenishment of inventory for stores and serve wholesale operations. If complications arise with any of the operating distribution centers or distribution centers are severely damaged or destroyed, other distribution centers may not be able to support the resulting additional distribution demands and the Company may be unable to locate alternative persons or entities capable of doing so. This may adversely impact the Company's ability to deliver inventory on a timely basis.
- The Company's profitability is dependent on, among other things, the prices of commodities used to make and transport their products, as well as labor prices. Any meaningful fluctuation in any of these items may have a material impact on the financial results.
- A majority of the Company's operating expenses are fixed costs that are not directly dependent on sales performance. If sales decline, the Company may be unable to reduce or offset these fixed operating expenses in the short term.
- Any significant delay in the Assumed Effective Date may have significant adverse impacts on the Company's operations and financial performance including, but not limited to, an increased risk or inability to meet sales forecasts and the incurrence of greater reorganization expenses.

- The Company may be subjected to continued risks associated with a decline in sales associated with the stigma of having filed for reorganization under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, which is not incorporated within the Financial Projections. Additionally, the Company may be subjected to employee turnover at the Management, product development, and sales force levels due to having filed for reorganization under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Loss of employees from these and other parts of the Company's organization could have an adverse impact on the Company's financial performance.
- The Financial Projections incorporate the Company's planned sales and cost initiatives, as well as operational restructuring activities including store closures and lease renegotiations. The Company may be unable to execute or may only partially realize certain or all of these initiatives and activities due to factors that may be beyond the control of the Company. Not realizing such initiatives or activities may have a material impact on the financial results.
- Upon emergence, the Debtors will be required to determine the amount by which its reorganization value as of the Effective Date exceeds, or is less than, the fair value of its assets as of the Effective Date. Such determination will be based upon the fair value at that time, which may be based on, among other things, a different methodology than what is reflected within the Financial Projections. In any event, such valuation, as well as the determination of the fair value of the Debtors' assets and liabilities, will be made as of the Effective Date. The differences between the amounts of any or all of the foregoing items as assumed in the Financial Projections and the actual amounts thereof as of the Effective Date may be material.

THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR FOR THE COMPANY HAS NOT EXAMINED, COMPILED, OR OTHERWISE PERFORMED ANY PROCEDURES ON THE FOLLOWING PROSPECTIVE FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND, CONSEQUENTLY, DOES NOT EXPRESS AN OPINION OR ANY OTHER FORM OF ASSURANCE WITH RESPECT TO THE PROSPECTIVE FINANCIAL INFORMATION.

#### UNAUDITED PROJECTED INCOME STATEMENT

		FIS	CAL YEAR TOTALS			
	FY2017					
(\$ in millions)	(Sept Jan.)	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	Note
Ending Store Count	3,201	3,220	3,212	3,207	3,201	
Sales	\$814.1	\$1,965.0	\$2,045.5	\$2,123.2	\$2,202.5	[1]
Cost of Sales	(357.7)	(865.9)	(902.3)	(935.4)	(968.6)	[2]
Merchandise Margin	\$456.3	\$1,099.1	\$1,143.2	\$1,187.8	\$1,233.9	
Store Expenses	(\$302.0)	(\$732.5)	(\$751.9)	(\$769.3)	(\$786.2)	[3]
Advertising	(23.9)	(100.5)	(105.0)	(109.1)	(112.9)	[4]
Operating Expenses	(54.1)	(146.9)	(147.8)	(151.1)	(153.3)	[5]
EBITDA	\$76.3	\$119.1	\$138.4	\$158.3	\$181.5	
Depreciation and Amortization	(\$29.5)	(\$69.1)	(\$69.1)	(\$69.1)	(\$69.1)	[6]
EBIT	\$46.9	\$50.0	\$69.3	\$89.2	\$112.4	
Interest Expense	(\$15.0)	(\$35.5)	(\$36.2)	(\$36.1)	(\$34.3)	[7
Income Taxes	(8.3)	(26.0)	(30.2)	(34.6)	(39.5)	[8]
Restructuring Related Items	(8.5)					[9
Other, Net	(1.9)	(3.6)	(3.6)	(3.6)	(3.6)	[10
Net Income / (Loss)	\$13.3	(\$15.0)	(\$0.7)	\$15.0	\$35.0	

 $Note: The\ above\ FY2017\ data\ represents\ the\ post-emergence\ period\ from\ August\ 27,\ 2017\ -\ February\ 3,\ 2018.$ 

#### UNAUDITED PROJECTED BALANCE SHEET

	FISCAL YEAR END TOTALS					
(\$ in millions)	FY2017	FY2018	\$43.6 18.8	\$44.1 19.8	\$44.7 20.9	
SETS		\$43.1 17.9				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$44.5					
Accounts Receivable, Net	17.1					
Inventory	320.7	340.9	353.9	367.1	381.3	
Current Deferred Income Tax Asset	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	
Prepaid Expenses	21.6	21.6	21.6	21.6	21.6	[
Other Current Assets	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	
Total Current Assets	\$417.0	\$436.7	\$451.1	\$465.8	\$481.7	
PP&E, Net	\$187.3	\$170.3	\$161.0	\$159.1	\$157.2	[
Goodwill and Intangible Assets	228.3	222.1	215.9	209.8	203.6	-
Long Term Deferred Inc. Tax Asset	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	
Other Long Term Assets	27.5	27.5 \$421.4	27.5 \$406.0	27.5 \$397.9	27.5 \$389.8	-
Total Long Term Assets	\$444.6					
Fotal Assets	\$861.6	\$858.1	\$857.1	\$863.7	\$871.5	
	ć110.7	¢152.4	¢150.3	¢105.2	Ć174 C	
Accounts Payable	\$119.7	\$153.4 117.0	\$159.2	\$165.2	\$171.6	
Accounts Payable Accrued Exp. and Other Liabilities	\$119.7 110.4 \$230.1	\$153.4 117.9 \$271.4	\$159.2 118.3 \$277.6	\$165.2 118.7 \$283.9	\$171.6 119.0 \$290.6	
ABILITIES & SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY  Accounts Payable  Accrued Exp. and Other Liabilities  Total Current Liabilities	\$230.1	117.9 \$271.4	118.3 \$277.6	118.7 \$283.9	\$290.6	ļ
Accounts Payable Accrued Exp. and Other Liabilities Total Current Liabilities Long Term Debt	\$230.1 \$365.0	\$271.4 \$335.3	\$277.6 \$328.7	\$283.9 \$314.1	\$290.6 \$280.1	1
Accounts Payable Accrued Exp. and Other Liabilities Total Current Liabilities  Long Term Debt Long Term Deferred Inc. Tax Liab.	\$230.1 \$365.0 18.6	\$271.4 \$335.3 18.6	\$277.6 \$328.7 \$36.6	\$283.9 \$314.1 18.6	\$290.6 \$280.1 18.6	
Accounts Payable Accrued Exp. and Other Liabilities Total Current Liabilities Long Term Debt	\$230.1 \$365.0	\$271.4 \$335.3	\$277.6 \$328.7	\$283.9 \$314.1	\$290.6 \$280.1	
Accounts Payable Accrued Exp. and Other Liabilities Total Current Liabilities  Long Term Debt Long Term Deferred Inc. Tax Liab. Other Long Term Liabilities  Total Long Term Liabilities	\$230.1 \$365.0 \$365.0 \$365.0	\$271.4 \$335.3 18.6 108.3	\$277.6 \$328.7 \$3.6 108.3	\$283.9 \$314.1 18.6 108.3	\$290.6 \$280.1 \$286.1 18.6 108.3	
Accounts Payable Accrued Exp. and Other Liabilities Total Current Liabilities  Long Term Debt Long Term Deferred Inc. Tax Liab. Other Long Term Liabilities Total Long Term Liabilities  Restructuring Related Liabilities	\$230.1 \$365.0 \$365.0 \$18.6 \$108.3 \$491.9	\$271.4 \$335.3 \$18.6 \$108.3 \$462.1	\$277.6 \$328.7 \$18.6 \$108.3 \$455.5	\$283.9 \$314.1 \$18.6 \$108.3 \$440.9	\$290.6 \$280.1 \$18.6 \$407.0	
Accounts Payable Accrued Exp. and Other Liabilities Total Current Liabilities Long Term Debt Long Term Deferred Inc. Tax Liab. Other Long Term Liabilities	\$365.0 \$365.0 \$18.6 \$108.3 \$491.9 \$687.3	\$271.4 \$335.3 \$18.6 \$108.3 \$462.1 \$687.3	\$277.6 \$328.7 \$18.6 \$108.3 \$455.5 \$687.3	\$283.9 \$314.1 \$18.6 \$108.3 \$440.9 \$687.3	\$290.6 \$280.1 \$280.1 18.6 108.3 \$407.0	ļ

## **UNAUDITED PROJECTED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

		FIS	CAL YEAR TOTALS			
	FY2017					
(\$ in millions)	(Sept Jan.)	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	Notes
OPERATING ACTIVITIES						
Net Income / (Loss)	\$13.3	(\$15.0)	(\$0.7)	\$15.0	\$35.0	
Depreciation and Amortization	\$29.5	\$69.1	\$69.1	\$69.1	\$69.1	
Net Changes in Working Capital	48.2	20.2	(7.7)	(7.9)	(8.5)	[17]
Changes in Other Assets and Liab.						
Cash Flow from Operating Activities	\$90.9	\$74.3	\$60.7	\$76.1	\$95.6	
INVESTING ACTIVITIES						
Capital Expenditures	(\$12.4)	(\$45.9)	(\$53.7)	(\$61.0)	(\$61.0)	[18]
Cash Flow from Investing Activities	(\$12.4)	(\$45.9)	(\$53.7)	(\$61.0)	(\$61.0)	
FINANCING ACTIVITIES						
Repayments of Long Term Debt	(\$3.4)	(\$5.4)	(\$4.4)	(\$4.4)	(\$3.3)	[19]
ABL Proceeds / (Repayments)	(40.5)	(24.3)	(2.2)	(10.2)	(30.7)	[20]
Cash Flow from Financing Activities	(\$43.9)	(\$29.8)	(\$6.6)	(\$14.6)	(\$34.0)	
RESTRUCTURING ACTIVITIES						
Total Restructuring Related Items	(\$32.0)					[21]
Cash Flow from Restruct. Activities	(\$32.0)					
Total Cash Flow	\$2.8	(\$1.4)	\$0.5	\$0.5	\$0.6	
CASH ROLLFORWARD						
Beginning Cash	\$41.7	\$44.5	\$43.1	\$43.6	\$44.1	
Total Cash Flow	2.8	(1.4)	0.5	0.5	0.6	
Ending Cash	\$44.5	\$43.1	\$43.6	\$44.1	\$44.7	

 $Note: The \ above \ FY2017 \ data \ represents \ the \ post-emergence \ period \ from \ August \ 27, \ 2017 - February \ 3, \ 2018.$ 

#### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS**

#### Note 1 - Sales

The Financial Projections are based on Management's view of the Company's market position and overall economic outlook. Sales consist of retail, e-commerce, wholesale, and franchising sales. Transactions at the Company's retail stores are recognized at the time the sale is made to the customer. Sales for wholesale and e-commerce transactions are recognized when title passes and the risks or rewards of ownership have transferred to the customer based on the shipping terms, the price is fixed and determinable, and collectability is reasonably assured. Products are sold free on board shipping point for wholesale customers. Any shipping charges that the Company pays are recorded as cost of sales and any reimbursement is recorded as sales.

With respect to Latin American joint venture sales, 100% of sales are reflected within the Financial Projections. The Company's joint venture partners' share of sales, net of costs, is eliminated within the store expenses line item.

#### *Note 2 – Cost of Sales*

Cost of sales includes the cost of merchandise sold and the Company's buying, occupancy, warehousing, product development, and product movement costs.

#### Note 3 – Store Expenses

Store expenses include store payroll/benefits/incentive compensation, rent and other occupancy expense, treasury expense, general and property insurance, supplies, and other store expenses. As noted above, the Company's joint venture partners' share of sales, net of costs, is eliminated within the store expenses line item.

### Note 4 - Advertising

Advertising costs and sales promotion costs are expensed at the time the advertising takes place. The Company engages in co-op advertising programs with certain wholesale customers. Co-op advertising funds are available to all wholesale customers in good standing. Wholesale customers receive reimbursement under this program if they meet established advertising guidelines and trademark requirements. Advertising costs are net of the Company's joint venture partners' share of expenses.

### Note 5 - Operating Expenses

Operating expenses consist of information technology, field, finance, human resources, store development, legal, merchandise/supply chain, customer support, administrative, and incentive compensation costs. Operating expenses are net of the Company's joint venture partners' share of expenses.

### Note 6 - Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation is associated with buildings, leasehold improvements, furniture, fixtures and equipment, and property under capital leases and is determined on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the assets. Amortization is associated with intangible assets. The Debtors' depreciation and amortization are subject to material change based on accounting treatment of the Debtors' financials upon emergence.

#### Note 7 – Interest Expense

Interest expense is primarily based upon interest associated with the New ABL Facility (tranche A and tranche A-1), the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche, and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche. Interest rates for the tranche A and tranche A-1 portions of the New ABL Facility are assumed to be LIBOR plus 200 bps and LIBOR plus 700 bps, respectively, and interest accrues and is paid monthly. Interest rates for the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche are assumed to be LIBOR plus 800 bps and LIBOR

plus 900 bps, respectively. Interest expense for both the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche accrues monthly and is paid quarterly. LIBOR rates are projected based on a forward LIBOR curve. Interest expense also reflects applicable commitment and letter of credit fees as set forth in the New ABL Credit Agreement. In addition, interest expense incorporates interest associated with the Debtors' capital lease obligations.

#### Note 8 - Income Taxes

The Debtors are projected to be federal and state cash tax payers based on the anticipated capital structure and tax attribute reduction as a result of the Chapter 11 Cases. Latin America income taxes are net of the Company's joint venture partners' share of taxes. In addition, income taxes also reflect withholding taxes associated with the Company's joint venture dividends that flow from Latin America to North America.

### Note 9 – Restructuring Related Items

Restructuring related items consist of restructuring professional advisor fees, costs related to the satisfaction of claims, taxes, duties, insurance items, and utility deposits.

#### Note 10 - Other, Net

This line item is related to the Company's assumed and ongoing severance obligations.

#### Note 11 - Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company considers cash equivalents to consist of liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less. Cash in excess of \$10 million held by the domestic entities is assumed to be swept to repay the New ABL Facility. Cash generated by the Latin American entities and in excess of \$30 million is assumed to be distributed via dividend to North America. The timing of such dividends is based upon the meeting schedules of the Company's joint ventures' boards of directors during which such dividends are approved. Such dividends are net of the Company's joint venture partners' shares.

### Note 12 - Working Capital Accounts

The Financial Projections assume the Company's working capital accounts, including accounts receivable (net), inventory, prepaid expenses, other current assets, accounts payable, accrued expenses, and other liabilities continue to perform according to the historical relationships with respect to sales and expense activity. All working capital balances fluctuate significantly within years depending on seasonality. Substantially all of the Company's inventories are finished goods. Prepaid expenses largely relate to prepaid rent. Fluctuations within accrued expenses and other liabilities are associated with interest and fee accruals and payments, as well as the Company's incentive compensation programs.

#### *Note 13 – PP&E, Net*

Property, plant, and equipment ("PP&E") is composed of buildings, leasehold improvements, furniture, fixtures and equipment, and property under capital leases. The Debtors' PP&E is subject to material change based on accounting treatments of the Debtors' financials upon emergence.

### Note 14 - Goodwill and Intangible Assets

Intangible assets consist of favorable lease rights, trademarks, customer relationships, and other intangible assets. The Debtors' goodwill and intangible assets are subject to material change based on the potential implementation of fresh start accounting in connection with emergence.

#### Note 15 - Long Term Debt

Long term debt consists of the New ABL Facility (tranche A and tranche A-1), the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche, the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche, the Debtors' capital lease obligations, and the Latin America term loan. The New ABL Facility is based on a total commitment of up to \$305 million, but borrowing ability is constrained based upon the Debtors' borrowing base calculation. The New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche are in the amounts of \$80 million and \$200 million, respectively. Both term loan tranches are subject to a 1% annual amortization, which is paid quarterly. Collectively, the capital lease obligations and the Latin America term loan account for less than \$10 million of total long term debt.

### Note 16 - Restructuring Related Liabilities

Restructuring related liabilities are related to liabilities subject to compromise associated with prepetition accounts payable and debt obligations. Such liabilities are subject to extinguishment based upon the potential impact of fresh start accounting, which the Financial Projections do not contemplate or reflect.

### Note 17 - Net Changes in Working Capital

Net changes in working capital are driven by changes in accounts receivable (net), inventory, prepaid expenses, accounts payable, accrued expenses, and other liabilities.

#### Note 18 - Capital Expenditures

Latin America capital expenditures are net of the Company's joint venture partners' share of such expenditures.

#### Note 19 - Repayments of Long Term Debt

Repayments of long term debt primarily relate to the 1% annual amortization associated with the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche, which are paid at quarter end. Repayments of long term debt also reflect principal payments of capital lease obligations and payoff of the Latin America term loan.

### Note 20 - ABL Proceeds / (Repayments)

ABL proceeds and repayments are based on maintaining a minimum cash amount of \$10 million at the domestic entities. Any excess cash is assumed to be swept to repay amounts outstanding under the New ABL Facility.

#### Note 21 - Restructuring Activities

Restructuring activities reflect any cash payments associated with restructuring professional advisor fees, costs related to the satisfaction of claims, taxes, duties, insurance items, and utility deposits.

# Exhibit E

Liquidation Analysis

### LIQUIDATION ANALYSIS FOR PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, et al.

### I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Under the "best interests" of creditors test set forth by section 1129(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Court may not confirm a plan of reorganization unless the plan provides each holder of a claim or interest who does not otherwise vote in favor of the plan with property of a value, as of the effective date of the plan, that is not less than the amount that such holder would receive or retain if the debtor were liquidated under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. See 11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(7). Accordingly, to demonstrate that the proposed plan satisfies the "best interests" of creditors test, the Debtors, with assistance from its advisors, have prepared the following hypothetical liquidation analysis presenting recoveries available assuming a hypothetical liquidation (the "Liquidation Analysis") which is based upon certain assumptions discussed in the Disclosure Statement and in the accompanying notes to the Liquidation Analysis.

All capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the *Disclosure Statement for the Debtors' Fourth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code* (the "<u>Disclosure Statement</u>") to which this Liquidation Analysis is attached.

## **Statement of Limitations**

The determination of the costs of, and proceeds from, the hypothetical liquidation of the Debtors' assets in a chapter 7 case is an uncertain process involving the extensive use of significant estimates and assumptions that, although considered reasonable by the Debtors based upon their business judgment and input from their advisors, are inherently subject to significant business, economic, and competitive uncertainties and contingencies beyond the control of the Debtors, their management and their advisors. Inevitably, some assumptions in the Liquidation Analysis would not materialize in an actual chapter 7 liquidation, and unanticipated events and circumstances could materially affect the ultimate results in an actual chapter 7 liquidation. The Liquidation Analysis was prepared for the sole purpose of generating a reasonable good faith estimate of the proceeds that would be generated if the Debtors' assets were liquidated in accordance with chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Liquidation Analysis is not intended and should not be used for any other purpose. The underlying financial information in the Liquidation Analysis was not compiled or examined by independent accountants in accordance with standards promulgated by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

NEITHER THE DEBTORS NOR THEIR ADVISORS MAKE ANY REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY THAT THE ACTUAL RESULTS WOULD OR WOULD NOT APPROXIMATE THE ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS REPRESENTED IN THE LIQUIDATION ANALYSIS. ACTUAL RESULTS COULD VARY MATERIALLY.

THE RECOVERIES SHOWN DO NOT CONTEMPLATE A SALE OR SALES OF THE DEBTORS' BUSINESS UNITS ON A GOING CONCERN BASIS. WHILE THE DEBTORS

MAKE NO ASSURANCES, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT PROCEEDS RECEIVED FROM SUCH GOING CONCERN SALE(S) WOULD BE MORE THAN IN THE HYPOTHETICAL LIQUIDATION, THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SALE(S) WOULD BE LESS, FEWER CLAIMS WOULD BE ASSERTED AGAINST THE BANKRUPTCY ESTATES AND/OR CERTAIN ORDINARY COURSE CLAIMS WOULD BE ASSUMED BY THE BUYER(S) OF SUCH BUSINESS(ES).

THIS LIQUIDATION ANALYSIS IS A HYPOTHETICAL EXERCISE THAT HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF PRESENTING A REASONABLE GOOD FAITH ESTIMATE OF THE PROCEEDS THAT WOULD BE REALIZED IF THE DEBTORS WERE LIQUIDATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 7 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE AS OF THE PLAN EFFECTIVE DATE. THIS LIQUIDATION ANALYSIS IS NOT INTENDED AND SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE. THIS LIQUIDATION ANALYSIS DOES NOT PURPORT TO BE A VALUATION OF THE DEBTORS' ASSETS AS A GOING CONCERN, AND THERE MAY BE A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THIS LIQUIDATION ANALYSIS AND THE VALUES THAT MAY BE REALIZED OR CLAIMS GENERATED IN AN ACTUAL LIQUIDATION.

NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS LIQUIDATION ANALYSIS IS INTENDED TO BE, OR CONSTITUTES, A CONCESSION, ADMISSION, OR ALLOWANCE OF ANY CLAIM BY THE DEBTORS. THE ACTUAL AMOUNT OR PRIORITY OF ALLOWED CLAIMS IN THE CHAPTER 11 CASES COULD MATERIALLY DIFFER FROM THE ESTIMATED AMOUNTS SET FORTH AND USED IN THIS LIQUIDATION ANALYSIS. THE DEBTORS RESERVE ALL RIGHTS TO SUPPLEMENT, MODIFY, OR AMEND THE ANALYSIS SET FORTH HEREIN.

### **Basis of Presentation**

This Liquidation Analysis is based on estimated asset and liability values as of July 1, 2017 (except as otherwise indicated), representing the last day of the Debtors' June 2017 fiscal month end. As noted above, the actual assets available to the Debtors' estates and claims arising in the event of an actual liquidation may differ from the assets assumed to be available pursuant to this Liquidation Analysis.

This Liquidation Analysis was prepared before the deadline for filing claims against the Debtors' Estates, and the Debtors have therefore neither fully evaluated claims filed against the Debtors or adjudicated such claims before the Bankruptcy Court. Accordingly, the amount of the final Allowed Claims against the Debtors' estates may differ from the claim amounts used in this Liquidation Analysis.

In preparing the Liquidation Analysis, the Debtors estimated Allowed Claims based upon a review of claims listed on the Debtors' Schedules of Assets and Liabilities and the Debtors' financial statements to account for other known liabilities, as necessary. In addition, the Liquidation Analysis includes estimates for claims not currently asserted in the chapter 11 cases, but which could be asserted and allowed in a chapter 7 liquidation, including unpaid chapter 11 administrative claims, and chapter 7 administrative claims such as wind-down costs, trustee fees,

and tax liabilities. To date, the Bankruptcy Court has not estimated or otherwise fixed the total amount of Allowed Claims used for purposes of preparing this Liquidation Analysis. Therefore, the Debtors' estimate of Allowed Claims set forth in the Liquidation Analysis should not be relied on for any other purpose, including determining the value of any distribution to be made on account of Allowed Claims and Interests under the Plan.

### **Conversion Date and Appointment of a Chapter 7 Trustee**

The Liquidation Analysis has been prepared assuming that the Debtors converted their cases from chapter 11 cases to chapter 7 cases on or about July 1, 2017 (the "Conversion Date"). Except as otherwise noted herein, the Liquidation Analysis is based upon the unaudited balance sheets of the Debtors as projected as of July 1, 2017. On the Conversion Date, it is assumed that the Bankruptcy Court would appoint a chapter 7 trustee to oversee the liquidation of the Debtors' estates, during which time all of the Debtors' major assets would be sold or surrendered to the respective lien holders, and the cash proceeds, net of liquidation-related costs, would then be distributed to creditors in accordance with relevant law. There can be no assurance that the liquidation would be completed in a limited time frame, nor is there any assurance that the recoveries assigned to the assets would in fact be realized. Under section 704 of the Bankruptcy Code, a trustee must, among other duties, collect and convert the property of the estate as expeditiously (generally at distressed prices) as is compatible with the best interests of parties in interest. In addition, there is a significant likelihood, and therefore it is assumed, that each of the Debtors' direct and/or indirect foreign non-debtor affiliates would commence insolvency proceedings under their respective local foreign jurisdictions because of the wind-down of the Debtors. In addition, the Debtors' interests in various joint ventures and minority investments would be sold or otherwise monetized.

### **Deconsolidated Liquidations**

The Liquidation Analysis assumes that the Debtors would be liquidated in a jointly administered, but not substantively consolidated proceeding. Therefore, the Liquidation Analysis considers an entity-by-entity liquidation for both domestic and international operations. The Liquidation Analysis takes into account administrative priority status of intercompany claims arising post-petition, unsecured pre-petition intercompany claims, and the equity interests of each parent and subsidiary relationship. In an iterative and sequential fashion, the Liquidation Analysis assumes that liquidation value is cycled among the Debtors and non-Debtor affiliates to satisfy these intercompany claims and interests, which in certain circumstances alters the liquidation value available to satisfy third-party claims at particular entities. The results of the individual entity-by-entity analysis have been aggregated in certain circumstances for presentation purposes as presented herein.

### **Values**

Unless otherwise stated, the Liquidation Analysis is based on estimated net book value ("NBV") as of the Conversion Date. Estimated NBV for certain assets was projected by rolling forward certain of the unaudited NBV for the Debtors based on the financial projections (the "Financial Projections") in the Debtors' business plan. Certain recoveries in this Liquidation

Analysis may be greater than NBV because certain assets are recorded on the Debtors' books and records at amounts that are lower than estimated market values for such assets.

This Liquidation Analysis uses analyses from third-party appraisers to estimate recoveries in a liquidation for the Debtors' inventory and intellectual property, specifically the Debtors' trade names. The remaining asset recovery values were estimated by the Debtors' management and their advisors.

### **Additional Global Notes and Assumptions**

The Liquidation Analysis should be read in conjunction with the following global notes and assumptions:

- 1. Additional unsecured claims. The cessation of business in a liquidation is likely to trigger certain claims that otherwise would not exist under a plan absent a liquidation. Examples of these kinds of claims include various potential employee claims (for such items as severance and potential WARN Act claims), tax liabilities, claims related to the rejection of unexpired leases (*i.e.*, real and personal property) and executory contracts, and other potential Allowed Claims. These additional claims could be significant and some will be entitled to priority in payment over General Unsecured Claims. Those priority claims likely would need to be paid in full from the liquidation proceeds before any balance would be made available to pay General Unsecured Claims or to make any distribution in respect of equity interests. No adjustment has been made for these potential claims.
- 2. Significant dependence on unaudited financial statements. This Liquidation Analysis contains numerous estimates. Proceeds available for recovery are based upon the unaudited financial statements and balance sheets of the Debtors as projected as of the Conversion Date, unless otherwise noted herein.
- 3. Chapter 7 liquidation costs and length of liquidation process. The Debtors have assumed that liquidation would occur over approximately six months in order to pursue orderly sales of substantially all remaining assets and collect receivables, as well as to arrange distributions and otherwise administer and close the estates. In an actual liquidation, the wind-down process and time-period could vary significantly, thereby impacting recoveries. For example, the potential for priority, contingent, and other claims, litigation, rejection costs, and delays in the final determination of Allowed Claims could substantially impact both the timing and amount of the distribution of the asset proceeds to creditors. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that the values reflected in the Liquidation Analysis would be realized if the Debtors were, in fact, to undergo such a liquidation.

Pursuant to section 726 of the Bankruptcy Code, the allowed administrative claims incurred by the chapter 7 trustee, including expenses affiliated with selling the Debtors' assets, will be entitled to payment in full prior to any distribution to chapter 11 Administrative Claims and Other Priority Claims. The estimate used in the Liquidation

Analysis for these expenses include estimates for operational expenses and certain legal, accounting, and other professionals, as well as an assumed 3% fee based upon liquidated assets payable to a chapter 7 trustee. Since the majority of the net proceeds of the liquidation of non-cash assets would be for the benefit of holders of the DIP Facility Claims and Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, it is assumed that chapter 7 administrative and other priority claims, post-conversion operational expenses and professional fees, and chapter 7 trustee fees are entitled to payment in full prior to any distribution to holders of the DIP Facility Claims or Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims. Parties, however, may dispute that allocation of costs.

- 4. Distribution of net proceeds. Chapter 11 Administrative Claim amounts and Priority Claim amounts, professional fees, trustee fees, and other such claims that may arise in a liquidation scenario would be paid in full from the liquidation proceeds before the balance of any proceeds will be made available to pay General Unsecured Claims. Under the absolute priority rule, no junior creditor at a given entity would receive any distribution until all senior creditors are paid in full at such entity, and no equity holder at such entity would receive any distribution until all creditors at such entity are paid in full. The assumed distributions to creditors as reflected in the Liquidation Analysis are estimated in accordance with the absolute priority rule.
- 5. Certain exclusions and assumptions. This Liquidation Analysis does not include detailed estimates for the tax consequences that may be triggered upon the liquidation and sale events included in the analysis. Such tax consequences may be material.

### II. CONCLUSIONS

THE DEBTORS HAVE DETERMINED, AS SUMMARIZED IN THE FOLLOWING ANALYSIS, THAT CONFIRMATION OF THE PLAN WILL PROVIDE CREDITORS WITH A RECOVERY THAT IS NOT LESS THAN WHAT THEY WOULD OTHERWISE RECEIVE IN CONNECTION WITH A LIQUIDATION OF THE DEBTORS UNDER CHAPTER 7 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE.

# SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED RECOVERIES FOR CLAIMS AND INTERESTS

Class	Name of Class Under Plan	Status	Estimated Percentage Recovery Under the Plan	Recovery Under Hypothetical Liquidation (Low)	Recovery Under Hypothetical Liquidation (High)
1	Other Priority Claims	Unimpaired	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
2	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
3	Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	Impaired	83.0%	32.0%	40.0%
4	Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	Impaired	15.0%	0.0%	0.0%
5A	Other General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	18.1%	0.0%	0.0%
5B	Worldwide General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	22.1%	0.0%	0.0%
5C	Canadian General Unsecured Claims	Unimpaired	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
6	Intercompany Claims	Unimpaired / Impaired	100.0% / 0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
7	Existing Equity Interests	Impaired	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
8	Intercompany Interests	Unimpaired	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
9	Section 510(b) Claims	Impaired	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

## III. LIQUIDATION ANALYSIS RESULTS

The following pages present the results for the hypothetical liquidation of the Debtors. While the liquidation has been conducted on an entity-by-entity basis, for presentation purposes, the results have been presented in the following groups:

- A. Debtor entities (20) that are borrowers or guarantors under the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement<sup>2</sup>
  - PSS Delaware Company 4, Inc. and Payless International Franchising, LLC are holding companies with no assets or liabilities (other than their obligations under the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement) and no trial balances are maintained. Accordingly, there are no individual liquidation results presented for these entities.
- B. Debtor entities (4) that relate to the Debtors' Canadian operations
- C. Debtor entities (1) that are organized in Puerto Rico
- D. Collective Brands Logistics, Limited (1)
- E. Dynamic Assets Limited (1)
- F. Payless Holdings LLC (1)
- G. Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC (1)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The estimated claims on the following pages may differ to the estimated claims included in the Disclosure Statement as a result of differing assumptions between the going-concern and liquidation scenarios.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For illustrative purposes, net proceeds allocated to satisfaction of Secured Claims are based on a pro-rata split for all borrower and guarantor entities.

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A. Debtor Entities (20) that are Borrowers or Guarantors under the Prepetition First and Second Lien Credit Agreements (Aggregated Results – Individual Results by Entity are Set Forth on the Following Pages)

Pages)	Estimated		Total	Fatimated		Total	l Catimatad		
	Estimated Net Book Value			Estimated overy \$'s			l Estimated covery %'s		
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017		Low N	1iddle	High	Low	Middle	High	See Note
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:									
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 10.2	\$	9.7 \$	10.0 \$	10.2	95%	98%	100%	1
Accounts Receivable, Net	8.8		7.5	7.9	8.4	85%	90%	95%	2
Inventory	265.1		397.6	424.2	450.7	150%	160%	170%	3 4
Prepaid Expenses Other Current Assets	23.6		0.2	0.2	0.2	1%	1%	1%	5
Other Current Assets Land	5.3 2.5		0.3 1.1	0.4 1.2	0.5 1.4	6% 45%	8% 50%	10% 55%	6
Buildings	12.6		5.7	6.3	6.9	45%	50%	55%	6
PP&E	147.8		2.2	2.9	3.7	1%	2%	2%	6
Intangibles	66.4		95.2	100.4	105.6	143%	151%	159%	7
Other Long Term Assets	8.4		0.3	0.5	0.6	4%	6%	7%	8
Intercompany Balances	25.8		20.7	20.7	20.7	80%	80%	80%	9
Investments in Subsidiaries	-		14.2	16.5	19.1	0%	0%	0%	10
Avoidance Actions	Ξ		-	=	-	0%	0%	0%	11
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	576.5		554.8	591.2	628.0	96%	103%	109%	
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:									
Operating Expenses - Inventory			(184.9)	(199.4)	(211.8)				12
Operating Expenses - Corporate / Other			(25.9)	(26.5)	(27.0)				12
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			(7.8)	(7.8)	(7.6)				12
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			(15.3)	(16.3)	(17.3)				12
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	(233.9) \$	(249.9) \$	(263.8)				
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	320.9 \$	341.3 \$	364.2				
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	320.9 \$	341.3 \$	364.2				
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		(159.7)	(159.7)	(159.7)	100%	100%	100%	13
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			161.2	181.6	204.5				
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	=		-	ē	=	100%	100%	100%	14
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			161.2	181.6	204.5				
Less: Secured Claims									
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3)		(161.2)	(181.6)	(204.5)	32%	36%	40%	15
Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	15
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)		(161.2)	(181.6)	(204.5)	25%	28%	31%	
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-				
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds			6.1	6.8	7.6				16
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		-	6.1	6.8	7.6	-			10
,									
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims									
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	17
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	(109.7)		(5.3)	(5.9)	(6.6)	5%	5%	6%	17
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	17
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	(10.6)		(0.5)	(0.6)	(0.6)	5%	5%	6%	17
Priority Tax Claims	(0.9)		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.1)	5%	5%	6%	17
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	(5.0)		(0.2)	(0.3)	(0.3)	5%	5%	6%	17
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	(126.2)		(6.1)	(6.8)	(7.6)	5%	5%	6%	
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		_	-	-	-				
Less: Unsecured Claims									
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	(43.7)		-	-	_	0%	0%	0%	18
Class 5B: Worldwide General Unsecured Claims	(52.4)		_	-	-	0%	0%	0%	18
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	18
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	18
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	18
Lease Rejection Claims	(300.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	18
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(290.3)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	18
Class 7: Existing Equity Interests	=		-	=	=	0%	0%	0%	19
Total Unsecured Claims	(1,156.2)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	
	Claims (Middle)								
Summary of Estimated Recoveries Class									
			450-	450-	450 -				
DIP Facility Claims	159.7		159.7	159.7	159.7	100%	100%	100%	
DIP Facility Claims Secured Claims - Other 2	-		-	-	-	100%	100%	100%	
DIP Facility Claims Secured Claims - Other 2 Secured Claims - Term Loans 3, 4	- 651.3		- 161.2	- 181.6	- 204.5	100% 25%	100% 28%	100% 31%	
DIP Facility Claims Secured Claims - Other 2	-		-	-	-	100%	100%	100%	
DIP Facility Claims Secured Claims - Other 2 Secured Claims - Term Loans 3, 4 Other Administrative and Priority Tax Claims	- 651.3 126.2	_	- 161.2 6.1	- 181.6 6.8	- 204.5 7.6	100% 25% 5%	100% 28% 5%	100% 31% 6%	

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	Estimated		otal Estimated			Total Estimated	
	Net Book Value		Recovery \$'s			Recovery %'s	
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:							
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$ - \$	- 5	; -	0%	0%	
Accounts Receivable, Net	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
nventory	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Prepaid Expenses	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Other Current Assets	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
and	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Buildings	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
PP&E	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
ntangibles	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Other Long Term Assets	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
ntercompany	274.2	-	-	-	0%	0%	
nvestments in Subsidiaries	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Noidance Actions	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	0%	0%	
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	274.2	-	-	-	0%	0%	
3. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:							
perating Expenses - Inventory							
perating Expenses - Inventory		-	-	-			
ale Expenses - Non-Inventory							
hapter 7 - Professional Fees		_	_	_			
hapter 7 - Trustee Fees		-	-	-			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$ - \$		-			
. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$ - \$	- ;	-			
. Distribution to Creditors		\$ - \$	- ;	<b>5</b> -			
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)	-	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		 -	-		-		
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-	-	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		 -	-	-			
Less: Secured Claims							
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3)	_	_	_			
Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(145.0)	-	-	-			
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)	 -	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors							
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		 -	-	-			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims							
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims					0%	0%	
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Chapter 11 - Administrative claims  Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	_	-	-	_	0%	0%	
Chapter 11 - Froiessionari ee claims  Chapter 11 - Employee Claims					0%	0%	
Priority Tax Claims	_	_	_	_	0%	0%	
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims		 -	_		0%	0%	
·		 _					
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		-	-	-			
Less: Unsecured Claims					= :		
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Other General Unsecured Claims	(224.7)	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)	-		-	0%	0%	
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Lease Rejection Claims	-	-	-	-	0% 0%	0% 0%	
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	-	-	-	-	υ%	U%	

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	Estimated Not Book Value			al Estimated			Possesses %'s	
Access / Claims (file in millions)	Net Book Value	_		ecovery \$'s	11i-l	Lave	Recovery %'s	Hink
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017		Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:								
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$	- \$	- \$	-	0%	0%	0
Accounts Receivable, Net	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
nventory	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Prepaid Expenses	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Other Current Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
and	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Buildings	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
PP&E	-			-	-	0%	0%	0
ntangibles	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Other Long Term Assets	5.4		0.2	0.3	0.4	4%	6%	7
ntercompany	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
nvestments in Subsidiaries	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Avoidance Actions	tbd		tbd	tbd	tbd	0%	0%	0
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	5.4		0.2	0.3	0.4	4%	6%	7
3. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:								
Operating Expenses - Inventory			-	-	-			
Operating Expenses - Other			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Sale Expenses - Non-Inventory			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	(0.0) \$	(0.0) \$	(0.0)	-		
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	0.2 \$	0.3 \$	0.3			
D. Distribution to Creditors		<i>\$</i>	0.2 \$	0.3 \$	0.3			
	(450.7)	,						
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		0.1	0.1	0.2			
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-		-	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		0.1	0.1	0.2	-		
Less: Secured Claims								
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3) (145.0)		(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.2)			
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)		(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.2)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds			-	-				
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims								
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Priority Tax Claims 503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-	-	-	0% 0%	0% 0%	0
			-	<u>-</u>				
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims			-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Less: Unsecured Claims								
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	(28.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Lease Rejection Claims			-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(2,023.7)		-	-	-	0%	0%	O

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Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)  A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:  Cash and Cash Equivalents  Accounts Receivable, Net	As of July 1, 2017		Low	ecovery \$'s Middle	High	Low	Recovery %'s Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:  Cash and Cash Equivalents	AS OF July 1, 2017		LOW	ivilaale	High	LOW		
Cash and Cash Equivalents								
Accounts Receivable, Net	\$ 3.3	\$	3.1 \$	3.2 \$	3.3	95%	98%	1009
,,	0.6		0.5	0.5	0.6	85%	90%	955
nventory	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Prepaid Expenses	0.1		0.0	0.0	0.0	1%	1%	15
Other Current Assets	0.8		0.0	0.1	0.1	6%	8%	10
and	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Buildings	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
PP&E	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
ntangibles	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Other Long Term Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
ntercompany	784.3		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
nvestments in Subsidiaries	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	789.0		3.7	3.8	3.9	0%	0%	0:
3. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:								
Operating Expenses - Inventory			_	_	_			
Operating Expenses - Other			(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)			
Sale Expenses - Non-Inventory			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	(0.2) \$	(0.2) \$	(0.2)	-		
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	3.4 \$	3.5 \$	3.7			
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	3.4 \$	3.5 \$	3.7			
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		(1.8)	(1.8)	(1.8)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			1.6	1.7	1.8	-		
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-		-	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-	-	1.6	1.7	1.8			
Less: Secured Claims								
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3) (145.0)		(1.6)	(1.7)	(1.8)			
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)		(1.6)	(1.7)	(1.8)	-		
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-				
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds			-	_	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims								
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Priority Tax Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Less: Unsecured Claims								
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	(2.7)			-		0%	0%	0
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Lease Rejection Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(116.3)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
	(588.8)					0%	0%	0

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	F-12		T	e.c			T. 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1	
	Estimated Net Book Value			Estimated overy \$'s			Total Estimated Recovery %'s	
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017		Low 1	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:								
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$	- \$	- \$	_	0%	0%	0%
Accounts Receivable, Net	-	,		-	-	0%	0%	0%
Inventory	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Prepaid Expenses	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	1%	1%	1%
Other Current Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Land	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Buildings	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
PP&E	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	1%	2%	2%
Intangibles	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other Long Term Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Intercompany	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Investments in Subsidiaries	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	1%	2%	2%
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	1/6	276	276
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:								
Operating Expenses - Inventory			-	-	-			
Operating Expenses - Other			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Sale Expenses - Non-Inventory			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	(0.0) \$	(0.0) \$	(0.0)			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	0.0 \$	0.0 \$	0.0			
						-		
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	0.0 \$	0.0 \$	0.0			
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			0.0	0.0	0.0			
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-		-	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			0.0	0.0	0.0			
Less: Secured Claims								
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3)		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-			
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds								
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		-	-	-	-	-		
the Other Administration of Princip Claims								
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims								
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Priority Tax Claims 503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-	-	-	0% 0%	0% 0%	0% 0%
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims			-	-		0%	0%	0%
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Less: Unsecured Claims								
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	(0.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Lease Rejection Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(9.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Unsecured Claims	(478.8)		-	-		0%	0%	0%
	(/					3,0		3/0

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	Estimated Notice			tal Estimated		1	Otal Estimated	
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	Net Book Value As of July 1, 2017		Low	Recovery \$'s Middle	High	Low	Recovery %'s Middle	High
Assets / Claims (\$ 5 in millions)	AS 01 July 1, 2017		LOW	Midule	nigii	LOW	Wildule	підіі
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:								
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 7.0	\$	6.6 \$	6.8 \$	7.0	95%	98%	1009
Accounts Receivable, Net	0.7		0.6	0.6	0.7	85%	90%	95
Inventory	199.7		299.5	319.5	339.5	150%	160%	170
Prepaid Expenses	9.2		0.1	0.1	0.1	1%	1%	1
Other Current Assets	1.7		0.1	0.1	0.2	6%	8%	10
Land	2.4		1.1	1.2	1.3	45%	50%	55
Buildings	2.6		1.2	1.3	1.4	45%	50%	55
PP&E	76.4		1.1	1.5	1.9	1%	2%	2
Intangibles	5.0		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Other Long Term Assets	0.5		0.0	0.0	0.0	4%	6%	7
Intercompany	287.2		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Investments in Subsidiaries	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	592.3		310.3	331.1	352.0	52%	56%	59
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:								
Operating Expenses - Inventory			(139.3)	(150.2)	(159.5)			
Operating Expenses - Other			(12.1)	(12.3)	(12.3)			
Sale Expenses - Non-Inventory			(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.3)			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			(4.7)	(4.6)	(4.6)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			(9.1)	(9.7)	(10.4)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	(165.4) \$	(177.0) \$	(187.1)			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	144.9 \$	154.1 \$	164.9			
D. Dishiibukina ta Carditana		\$	1440 6	1541 6	164.0			
D. Distribution to Creditors	(450.7)	>	144.9 \$	154.1 \$	164.9			
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		(80.3)	(80.3)	(80.3)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		64.6	73.8	84.6			
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-		-	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		64.6	73.8	84.6			
Less: Secured Claims								
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3) (145.0)		(64.6)	(73.8) -	(84.6)			
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)		(64.6)	(73.8)	(84.6)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-	-		
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds			-	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims								
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	(11.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	(6.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Priority Tax Claims 503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	(1.0)		-	-	-	0% 0%	0% 0%	0
						0%		
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	(18.0)		-				0%	0
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Less: Unsecured Claims								
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	(7.4)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Class 4: Second Lion Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Lease Rejection Claims  Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(300.0)		-	-	-	0% 0%	0% 0%	0
	(7.0)		-	-	-	υ%	υ%	U:
class of intercompany claims								

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	Estimated			al Estimated			Total Estimated	
	Net Book Value			ecovery \$'s			Recovery %'s	
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017		Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:								
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 0.0	\$	0.0 \$	0.0 \$	0.0	95%	98%	100%
Accounts Receivable, Net	0.1		0.0	0.0	0.0	85%	90%	95%
Inventory	35.0		52.5	56.1	59.6	150%	160%	170%
Prepaid Expenses	14.0		0.1	0.1	0.1	1%	1%	19
Other Current Assets	0.8		0.1	0.1	0.1	6%	8%	109
Land	0.1		0.1	0.1	0.1	45%	50%	559
Buildings	9.8		4.4	4.9	5.4	45%	50%	559
PP&E	59.9		0.9	1.2	1.5	1%	2%	29
Intangibles	61.4		95.2	100.4	105.6	155%	164%	1729
Other Long Term Assets	2.4		0.1	0.1	0.2	4%	6%	75
ntercompany	663.2		20.7	20.7	20.7	3%	3%	39
nvestments in Subsidiaries	-		14.2	16.5	19.1	0%	0%	09
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	846.7		188.3	200.2	212.4	22%	24%	259
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:								
Operating Expenses - Inventory			(24.4)	(26.3)	(28.0)			
Operating Expenses - Inventory  Operating Expenses - Other			(6.0)	(6.0)	(6.0)			
Sale Expenses - Non-Inventory			(5.0)	(5.3)	(5.7)			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			(2.3)	(2.3)	(2.2)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			(4.6)	(4.9)	(5.2)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	(42.4) \$	(44.9) \$	(47.1)			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	145.9 \$	155.3 \$	165.3			
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	145.9 \$	155.3 \$	165.3			
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		(61.6)	(61.6)	(61.6)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			84.4	93.7	103.7			
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims			-	33.7	103.7			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			84.4	93.7	103.7			
	-		04.4	33.7	103.7			
Less: Secured Claims	(=0.5.0)		(0)	(00 =)	(100 =)			
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3) (145.0)		(84.4)	(93.7)	(103.7)			
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)		(84.4)	(93.7)	(103.7)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds			6.1	6.8	7.6			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			6.1	6.8	7.6			
Lane. Other Administration and Drieste. Claims								
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	_		_	_	_	0%	0%	09
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	(50.1)		(5.5)	(6.1)	(6.8)	11%	12%	149
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	(30.1)		(5.5)	(0.1)	(0.8)	0%	0%	09
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	(1.8)		(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.3)	11%	12%	149
Priority Tax Claims	(1.0)		-	(0.2)	(0.5)	0%	0%	09
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	(4.0)		(0.4)	(0.5)	(0.5)	11%	12%	149
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	(56.0)	-	(6.1)	(6.8)	(7.6)	11%	12%	149
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Less: Unsecured Claims								
Class 5B: Worldwide General Unsecured Claims	(52.4)			-		0%	0%	09
Other General Unsecured Claims	-			-		0%	0%	09
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)			-		0%	0%	09
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)			-		0%	0%	09
Lease Rejection Claims			-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Total Unsecured Claims	(522.1)		_	_		0%	0%	0%

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	Estimated		Total Estim	ated			Total Estimated	
	Net Book Value		Recovery				Recovery %'s	
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	<b>:</b>	High	Low	Middle	High
A. Constitution Descends								
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:								
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$	- \$	- \$	-	0%	0%	0:
Accounts Receivable, Net	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0:
Inventory	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0:
Prepaid Expenses	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Other Current Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0:
Land	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0:
Buildings	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
PP&E	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
ntangibles	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Other Long Term Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
ntercompany	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
nvestments in Subsidiaries	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:								
Operating Expenses - Inventory			-	-	-			
Operating Expenses - Other			-	-	-			
Sale Expenses - Non-Inventory			-	-	-			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			-	-	-			
Chapter 7 - Hustee rees			-	-	-			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	- \$	- \$	-			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	- \$	- \$				
C. Proceeus Available for Distribution to Creditors		3	- •	- •				
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	- \$	- \$	-			
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		-	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-		-	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-				
Lane Capital Claims								
Less: Secured Claims	(500.3)							
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3)		-	-	-			
Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-			
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)	-	-	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	<del></del>		-	-		-		
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-					
,								
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims								
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0:
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Priority Tax Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims			-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Less: Unsecured Claims								
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	(0.6)			_		0%	0%	0
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)					0%	0%	0
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Lease Rejection Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(170.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
						-		

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		mated			al Estimated			Total Estimated	
		ok Value			ecovery \$'s			Recovery %'s	
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of Ju	ly 1, 2017		Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:									
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	(0.0)	\$	(0.0) \$	(0.0) \$	(0.0)	95%	98%	100%
Accounts Receivable, Net	Ţ	7.3	ý	6.2	6.6	7.0	85%	90%	95%
Inventory		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Prepaid Expenses		-		-	-	_	0%	0%	0%
Other Current Assets					-	_	0%	0%	0%
Land		-		-	-	_	0%	0%	0%
Buildings		-		-	-	_	0%	0%	0%
PP&E		-		-	-	_	0%	0%	0%
Intangibles		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Other Long Term Assets		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Intercompany		3.0		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
nvestments in Subsidiaries		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Avoidance Actions		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds		10.3		6.2	6.6	7.0	60%	64%	67%
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:									
Operating Expenses - Inventory				-	-	-			
Operating Expenses - Other				(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)			
Sale Expenses - Non-Inventory				(0.3)	(0.3)	(0.3)			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees				(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees				(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery			\$	(0.8) \$	(0.9) \$	(0.9)			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors			\$	5.4 \$	5.7 \$	6.1			
D. Distribution to Creditors			\$	5.4 \$	5.7 \$	6.1			
Less: DIP Facility Claims		(159.7)		(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors				2.4	2.8	3.1			
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims						-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors				2.4	2.8	3.1			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		-		2.4	2.0	3.1			
Less: Secured Claims									
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims		(506.3) (145.0)		(2.4)	(2.8)	(3.1)			
Total Secured Claims		(651.3)		(2.4)	(2.8)	(3.1)	-		
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors				-	-	<del>-</del>			
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds									
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors				-	-	-			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims									
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims				-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims				-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Priority Tax Claims		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors				-	-	-	-		
Less: Unsecured Claims									
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other General Unsecured Claims		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims		(324.7)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims		(145.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Lease Rejection Claims		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
								00/	0%
Class 6: Intercompany Claims		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0/6

	Estimated	Total	Estimated			Total Estimated	
	Net Book Value		overy \$'s			Recovery %'s	
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017	Low N	1iddle	High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:							
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$ - \$	- \$	-	0%	0%	0
Accounts Receivable, Net	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0
nventory	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Prepaid Expenses	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1%	1%	1
Other Current Assets	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0
and	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Buildings	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0
PP&E	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1%	2%	2
ntangibles	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	C
Other Long Term Assets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4%	6%	7
ntercompany	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	C
nvestments in Subsidiaries	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	C
Avoidance Actions	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	C
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	0.2	 0.0	0.0	0.0	2%	2%	3
3. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:							
Operating Expenses - Inventory		-	-	-			
Operating Expenses - Other		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
ale Expenses - Non-Inventory		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
hapter 7 - Professional Fees		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
hapter 7 - Trustee Fees		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$ (0.0) \$	(0.0) \$	(0.0)			
. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$ 0.0 \$	0.0 \$	0.0			
					1		
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$ 0.0 \$	0.0 \$	0.0			
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		 0.0	0.0	0.0			
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-	-	-	-			
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		 0.0	0.0	0.0			
Less: Secured Claims							
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(145.0)	-	-	-			
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)	 (0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	-		
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		 -	-	-			
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds							
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		 -	-	-			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims							
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Priority Tax Claims	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims		 -	-	-	0%	0%	
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		 -	-				
Less: Unsecured Claims							
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	(0.0)				0%	0%	
Other General Unsecured Claims	(0.0)	-	-	-	0%	0%	
		-	-	-			
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)	-	-	-	0%	0%	
Lease Rejection Claims	- (2.4.0)	-	-	-	0%	0%	•
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(34.0)	-	-	-	0%	0%	(
Total Unsecured Claims	(503.8)	 -	-		0%	0%	

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	Estimated			l Estimated			Total Estimated				
Accepted Charles (Alacha and Haran)	Net Book Value			covery \$'s	112.1		Recovery %'s	111.1.			
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017	Low	V	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High			
. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:											
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$	- \$	- \$	-	0%	0%				
ccounts Receivable, Net	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
nventory	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
repaid Expenses	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
ther Current Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
and	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
uildings	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
P&E	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
ntangibles	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
ther Long Term Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
itercompany	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
vestments in Subsidiaries voidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0% 0%	0% 0%				
voldance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
Expenses for Creditor Recovery:											
perating Expenses - Inventory											
perating Expenses - Inventory perating Expenses - Other			_	-	-						
ale Expenses - Non-Inventory			_		_						
hapter 7 - Professional Fees			_		_						
hapter 7 - Trustee Fees			-	-	-						
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	- \$	- \$							
Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	- \$	- \$	-						
. Distribution to Creditors		\$	- \$	- \$	-						
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		-	-	-						
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		-	-	-						
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-		-	-	-						
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		-	-	-						
Less: Secured Claims											
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3)				_						
Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-						
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)		-	-	-						
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-						
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds											
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-						
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims											
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-		-		-	0%	0%				
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
Priority Tax Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-						
Less: Unsecured Claims											
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	-					0%	0%				
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)		-	-	-	0%	0%				
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%				
Lease Rejection Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%				
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(34.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%				
Total Unsecured Claims	(503.7)					0%	0%				

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	Estimated Nation			tal Estimated			Total Estimated	
Assats / Claims (Élain millions)	Net Book Value	_		ecovery \$'s	Hick	1	Recovery %'s	III:ala
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017		Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:								
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$	- \$	- \$	-	0%	0%	0
Accounts Receivable, Net	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
nventory	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Prepaid Expenses	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Other Current Assets	0.2		0.0	0.0	0.0	6%	8%	10
and	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Buildings	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
PP&E	2.6		0.0	0.1	0.1	1%	2%	2
ntangibles	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Other Long Term Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
ntercompany	-			-	-	0%	0%	0
nvestments in Subsidiaries	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	2.8		0.0	0.1	0.1	2%	2%	3
3. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:								
Operating Expenses - Inventory			_	_	_			
Operating Expenses - Other			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Gale Expenses - Non-Inventory			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	(0.0) \$	(0.0) \$	(0.0)			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	0.0 \$	0.1 \$	0.1			
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	0.0 \$	0.1 \$	0.1			
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		0.0	0.0	0.0			
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-		-	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		0.0	0.0	0.0			
Less: Secured Claims								
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3) (145.0)		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)	-	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		-	-	-	-			
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds			-	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims								
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Priority Tax Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)			-	-		0%	0%	C
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	C
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Less: Unsecured Claims								
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	(2.9)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)		-	-	-	0%	0%	C
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Lease Rejection Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Lease Rejection Claims								
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(7.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0

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	Estimated		Tota	I Estimated		Total Estimated			
	Net Book Value			covery \$'s			Recovery %'s		
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017		Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High	
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:									
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$	- \$	- \$	_	0%	0%	09	
Accounts Receivable, Net	-	Ý	-	-	_	0%	0%	09	
Inventory	31.3		46.9	50.0	53.2	150%	160%	1709	
Prepaid Expenses	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09	
Other Current Assets	1.6		0.1	0.1	0.2	6%	8%	109	
Land	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09	
Buildings	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09	
PP&E	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09	
Intangibles	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09	
Other Long Term Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09	
Intercompany	529.3		-	-	-	0%	0%	0:	
investments in Subsidiaries	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0:	
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0:	
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	562.2		47.0	50.2	53.3	8%	9%	99	
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:									
Operating Evapores Inventory			(21.9)	(22.5)	(35.0)				
Operating Expenses - Inventory Operating Expenses - Other			(21.8) (1.8)	(23.5) (1.9)	(25.0) (1.9)				
Sale Expenses - Non-Inventory Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)				
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			(0.7) (1.4)	(0.7) (1.5)	(0.7) (1.6)				
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		<u> </u>	(25.8) \$	(27.6) \$	(29.1)				
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	21.2 \$	22.6 \$	24.2				
c. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Cleditors		-	21.2 3	22.0 \$	24.2				
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	21.2 \$	22.6 \$	24.2				
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		(11.8)	(11.8)	(11.8)				
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			9.5	10.8	12.4				
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-		-	-	-				
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		9.5	10.8	12.4				
Less: Secured Claims									
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3)		(9.5)	(10.8)	(12.4)				
Class 4: Prepetition First Den Credit Agreement Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-				
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)		(9.5)	(10.8)	(12.4)	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-				
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds			_	_	-				
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-				
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims									
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	05	
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09	
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	05	
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	05	
Priority Tax Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	05	
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	05	
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09	
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-				
Less: Unsecured Claims									
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	(1.4)		-	-	-	0%	0%	09	
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09	
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)		-	-	-	0%	0%	09	
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	05	
Lease Rejection Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09	
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	05	
Total Unsecured Claims	(471.1)		-				0%		
Total Unsecured Claims	(471.1)		-	-	-	0%	υ%	09	

	Estimated			al Estimated		1	otal Estimated	
Assats / Claims / Éta in millions	Book Value			ecovery \$'s	High	Low	Recovery %'s Middle	Uinh
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017	Lov	w	Middle	High	Low	iviidale	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:								
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$	- \$	- \$	-	0%	0%	0%
Accounts Receivable, Net	0		0	0	0	85%	90%	95%
Inventory	0		0	0	0	150%	160%	170%
Prepaid Expenses	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other Current Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Land	-		-	-	-	0% 0%	0% 0%	0%
Buildings PP&E	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0% 0%
Prac Intangibles			-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other Long Term Assets						0%	0%	0%
Intercompany	3		_	-	_	0%	0%	0%
Investments in Subsidiaries	-		_	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
						-		
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	3		0	0	0	6%	6%	7%
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:								
Operating Expenses - Inventory			(0)	(0)	(0)			
Operating Expenses - Other			(0)	(0)	(0)			
Sale Expenses - Non-Inventory			(0)	(0)	(0)			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			(0)	(0)	(0)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			(0)	(0)	(0)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	(0) \$	(0) \$	(0)			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	0 \$	0 \$	0			
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	0 \$	0 \$	0			
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(160)		(0)	(0)	(0)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		0	0	0			
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-		-	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		0	0	0	-		
Less: Secured Claims								
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506)		(0)	(0)	(0)			
Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(145)		-	-	-			
Total Secured Claims	(651)		(0)	(0)	(0)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds			_					
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims								
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	_		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Priority Tax Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-	-		
Less: Unsecured Claims								
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	(0)		_			0%	0%	0%
Other General Unsecured Claims	(0)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(325)		_	_	_	0%	0%	0%
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Lease Rejection Claims	/		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Unsecured Claims	(470)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%

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	Estimated			stimated		Total Estimated  Recovery %'s			
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	Net Book Value As of July 1, 2017	Low		very \$'s iddle H	ligh		overy %'s Viiddle	High	
	, ,								
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:									
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$	- \$	- \$	-	0%	0%	0	
Accounts Receivable, Net	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0	
Inventory	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0	
Prepaid Expenses	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	C	
Other Current Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	C	
and	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	(	
Buildings	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	(	
P&E	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	(	
ntangibles	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Other Long Term Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
ntercompany	1.1		-	-	-	0% 0%	0%		
nvestments in Subsidiaries woidance Actions	-		-	-		0%	0% 0%		
wordance Actions				-			0%		
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	1.1		-	-	-	0%	0%		
3. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:									
Operating Expenses - Inventory			-	-	-				
perating Expenses - Other			-	-	-				
ale Expenses - Non-Inventory			-	-	-				
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			-	-	-				
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			-	-	-				
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	- \$	- \$	-				
. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	- \$	- \$	-				
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	- \$	- \$	-				
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		-	-	-				
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		-	-	-				
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-		-	-	-				
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		-	-	-				
Lorey Cogured Claims									
Less: Secured Claims	(FOC 3)								
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3) (145.0)		-	-	-				
	(113.0)								
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)		-	-	-				
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-				
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds			-	-					
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-				
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims									
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	(	
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Priority Tax Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-				
Less: Unsecured Claims									
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	(0.1)		-	-	-	0%	0%	(	
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-		-	0%	0%	Č	
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)		-	-	-	0%	0%	(	
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Lease Rejection Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	(	
Total Unsecured Claims	(469.8)		_			0%	0%		
	(-05.0)					370	076		

	Estimated			Estimated		Total Estimated			
Accepted Chairman (Chairman)	Net Book Value			overy \$'s	111-1		Recovery %'s		
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017	Lov	v M	liddle	High	Low	Middle	High	
. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:									
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$	- \$	- \$	-	0%	0%		
ccounts Receivable, Net	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
nventory	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
repaid Expenses	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
ther Current Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
and	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
uildings	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
P&E	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
ntangibles	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
ther Long Term Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
itercompany	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
vestments in Subsidiaries voidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0% 0%	0% 0%		
voldance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	U%		
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Expenses for Creditor Recovery:									
perating Expenses - Inventory			_	_	_				
perating Expenses - Other									
ale Expenses - Non-Inventory				_	_				
hapter 7 - Professional Fees			-	-	_				
hapter 7 - Trustee Fees			-	-	-				
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	- \$	- \$					
Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	- \$	- \$					
. Distribution to Creditors		\$	- \$	- \$	-				
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		-	-	-				
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		-	-	-	-			
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-		-	-	-				
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		-	-	-				
Less: Secured Claims									
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3)		-	-	-				
Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-				
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)		-	-					
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-	-			
Add. Harrywhered Aresta Net Personds									
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-				
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims									
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-		-		-	0%	0%		
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Priority Tax Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-	-			
Less: Unsecured Claims									
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)		-	-	-	0%	0%		
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%		
,						00/	0%		
Lease Rejection Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	076		
	(0.0)		-	-	-	0%	0%		

	Estimated		Total Estima			Total Estimated	
	Net Book Value		Recovery			Recovery %'s	
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:							
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$	- \$	- \$ -	0%	0%	C
Accounts Receivable, Net	-		-	-	0%	0%	C
nventory	-		-	-	0%	0%	0
Prepaid Expenses	-		-	-	0%	0%	0
Other Current Assets and	-		-	-	0% 0%	0% 0%	0
and Buildings	-				0%	0%	0
PP&E	_		_		0%	0%	0
ntangibles	-				0%	0%	C
Other Long Term Assets	-		-		0%	0%	C
ntercompany	3.1		-		0%	0%	C
nvestments in Subsidiaries	-		-	-	0%	0%	C
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	0%	0%	C
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	3.1		-		0%	0%	C
3. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:							
Operating Expenses - Inventory Operating Expenses - Other			-	_			
iale Expenses - Non-Inventory			-				
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees							
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			-				
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	- \$	- \$ -			
Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors			- \$	- \$ -	_		
. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		<del>-</del>	- 3	- 3			
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	- \$	- \$ -			
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		-				
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		-				
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-		-				
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		-		-		
Less: Secured Claims							
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3)		-				
Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(145.0)		-				
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)		-		-		
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-				
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds							
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-				
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims							
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-		-		0%	0%	(
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-		-		0%	0%	(
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	0%	0%	(
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	0%	0%	(
Priority Tax Claims	-		-	-	0%	0%	(
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-		0%	0%	(
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	-		-		0%	0%	(
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-				
Less: Unsecured Claims							
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-		0%	0%	C
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	0%	0%	C
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)		-	-	0%	0%	(
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)		-	-	0%	0%	(
Lease Rejection Claims Class 6: Intercompany Claims	-		-	-	0% 0%	0% 0%	(
Gass o. intercompany Califfs	-			-	0%	U%	L
Total Unsecured Claims	(469.7)		-		- 0%	0%	(

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	Estimated		Total Esti	mated		Total Estimated			
	Net Book Value		Recover				Recovery %'s		
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Midd	le	High	Low	Middle	High	
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:									
Cash and Cash Equivalents Accounts Receivable, Net	\$ -	\$	- \$	- \$	-	0% 0%		09	
•	-		-	-	-	0%		09	
Inventory Prepaid Expenses	-			-		0%		09	
Other Current Assets	-		-	-	-	0%		09	
Land				-		0%		09	
Buildings	-		-	-	-	0%		0:	
PP&E	-		-	_		0%		0:	
Intangibles	_			_		0%		0:	
Other Long Term Assets	_		-			0%		0:	
Intercompany	1.1		-	-	-	0%		0	
Investments in Subsidiaries	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0	
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0:	
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	1.1					0%	0%	0:	
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:									
Operating Expenses - Inventory			-	-	-				
Operating Expenses - Other			-	-	-				
Sale Expenses - Non-Inventory			-	-	-				
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			-	-	-				
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			-	-	-				
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	- \$	- \$					
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	- \$	- \$					
a. Hoccas Admission of Figure 1		<u>*</u>	<u> </u>	- 4					
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	- \$	- \$	-				
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		-	-	-				
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-				
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-		-	-	-				
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-				
Less: Secured Claims									
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3)		-	-	-				
Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-				
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)		-	-	-				
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-				
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds			-	-	-	-			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-				
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims									
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0:	
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%		0:	
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%		05	
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%		0	
Priority Tax Claims	-		-	-	-	0%		0	
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0	
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0	
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-				
Less: Unsecured Claims									
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%		0:	
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%		0	
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)		-	-	-	0%		0:	
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)		-	-	-	0%		0:	
Lease Rejection Claims	-		-	-	-	0%		0	
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0	

	Estimated		Total Estimate			Total Estimated			
	Net Book Value		Recovery \$'s			Recovery %'s			
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High		
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:									
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$	- \$ -	\$ -	0%	0%	0		
Accounts Receivable, Net	-			-	0%	0%	0		
nventory	-			-	0%	0%	0		
Prepaid Expenses	-			-	0%	0%	0		
Other Current Assets and	-			-	0% 0%	0% 0%	0		
and Buildings	-			-	0%	0%	0		
PP&E	_			_	0%	0%	0		
ntangibles	-			_	0%	0%	0		
Other Long Term Assets	-			-	0%	0%	0		
ntercompany	0.6			-	0%	0%	0		
nvestments in Subsidiaries	-			-	0%	0%	C		
Avoidance Actions	-			-	0%	0%	0		
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	0.6			-	0%	0%	0		
3. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:									
Operating Expenses - Inventory Operating Expenses - Other				-					
ale Expenses - Non-Inventory				_					
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees				_					
hapter 7 - Trustee Fees				_					
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	- \$ -	\$ -					
. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors				\$ -					
. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	-						
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	- \$ -	<i>\$</i> -					
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)			-					
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-			-					
Less: Class 2 - Other Secured Claims	-			-					
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-			-	-				
Less: Secured Claims									
Class 3: Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(506.3)			_					
Class 4: Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	(145.0)			-					
Total Secured Claims	(651.3)			-					
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors					-				
Add: Unencumbered Assets - Net Proceeds									
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors				-					
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims									
Class 3: Diminution in Value Administrative Claims	-			_	0%	0%	C		
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-			-	0%	0%	0		
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-			-	0%	0%	0		
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-			-	0%	0%	C		
Priority Tax Claims	-			-	0%	0%	0		
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)			-	· -	0%	0%	0		
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	-		-	-	0%	0%	C		
roceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-					
Less: Unsecured Claims									
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	-			-	0%	0%	C		
Other General Unsecured Claims	-			-	0%	0%	C		
Class 3: First Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(324.7)			-	0%	0%	0		
Class 4: Second Lien Term Loan Deficiency Claims	(145.0)			-	0% 0%	0% 0%	0		
Lease Rejection Claims Class 6: Intercompany Claims	-			-	0% 0%	0% 0%	0		
ciass of intercompany ciains	-		-	-	5%	0/8	Ü		

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B. Debtor Entities (4) that relate to the Debtors Panadian Operations (Aggregated Results – Individual Results by Entity are Set Forth on the Following Pages)

	Estimated		I Estimated		1	Total Estimated	
	Net Book Value		covery \$'s			Recovery %'s	
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:							
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.5 \$	1.5 \$	1.6	95%	98%	100
Accounts Receivable, Net	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	85%	90%	95
Inventory	20.7	31.0	33.1	35.2	150%	160%	170
Prepaid Expenses	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	1%	1%	1
Other Current Assets	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	6%	8%	10
and	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	C
Buildings	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	C
PP&E	8.7	0.1	0.2	0.2	1%	2%	2
Intangibles	0.4	-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Other Long Term Assets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4%	6%	7
Intercompany Balances	190.7	-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Investments in Subsidiaries		-	_	-	0%	0%	0
Avoidance Actions	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	224.0	 32.8	34.9	37.1	15%	16%	17
Total Assets and Estimated Gloss Froceds	224.0	32.0	34.5	37.1	1370	10/0	17.
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:							
Operating Expenses - Inventory		(14.4)	(15.6)	(16.5)			
Operating Expenses - Corporate / Other		(1.3)	(1.3)	(1.3)			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees		(0.5)	(0.5)	(0.5)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees		(0.9)	(1.0)	(1.1)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$ (17.1) \$	(18.4) \$	(19.4)			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$ 15.6 \$	16.6 \$	17.7			
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$ 15.6 \$	16.6 \$	17.7			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims							
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	100%	100%	100
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Priority Tax Claims	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	(3.0)	 (3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	100%	100%	100
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		 12.6	13.6	14.7			
Less: Unsecured Claims							
Class 5C: Canadian General Unsecured Claims	(1.6)	(1.6)	(1.6)	(1.6)	100%	100%	100
Other General Unsecured Claims	(1.0)	(1.0)	(1.0)	(1.0)	0%	0%	0
Lease Rejection Claims	_	_	_	_	0%	0%	0
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(69.5)	(9.3)	(9.3)	(9.3)	13%	13%	13
Total Unsecured Claims	(71.1)	 (10.9)	(10.9)	(10.9)	15%	15%	15

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**B1. Payless ShoeSource Canada, LP** 

Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	Estimated Net Book Value		Estimated			otal Estimated	
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)		Recovery \$'s			Recovery %'s		
	As of July 1, 2017			High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:							
A. Gross Equidation Froceeds.							
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.5 \$	1.5 \$	1.6	95%	98%	100%
Accounts Receivable, Net	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	85%	90%	95%
Inventory	20.7	31.0	33.1	35.2	150%	160%	170%
Prepaid Expenses	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	1%	1%	1%
Other Current Assets	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	6%	8%	10%
Land	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Buildings	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
PP&E	8.7	0.1	0.2	0.2	1%	2%	2%
Intangibles	0.4	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other Long Term Assets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4%	6%	7%
Intercompany	2.5	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Investments in Subsidiaries		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Avoidance Actions	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Access and Estimated Cours Broads	25.7	 22.7	24.0	37.1		000/	104%
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	35.7	32.7	34.9	37.1	92%	98%	104%
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:							
Operating Expenses - Inventory		(14.4)	(15.6)	(16.5)			
Operating Expenses - Other		(1.3)	(1.3)	(1.3)			
Sale Expenses - Non-Inventory		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees		(0.5)	(0.5)	(0.5)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees		(0.9)	(1.0)	(1.1)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$ (17.1) \$	(18.4) \$	(19.4)			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$ 15.6 \$	16.6 \$	17.7			
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$ 15.6 \$	16.6 \$	17.7			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims							
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	100%	100%	100%
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	(5.0)	(5.0)	(3.0)	(5.0)	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims					0%	0%	0%
Priority Tax Claims					0%	0%	0%
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	(3.0)	 (3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	100%	100%	100%
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors		 12.6	13.6	14.7			
Less: Unsecured Claims							
Class 5C: Canadian General Unsecured Claims	(1.6)	(1.6)	(1.6)	(1.6)	100%	100%	100%
Other General Unsecured Claims	(1.0)	(1.0)	(1.0)	(1.0)	0%	0%	0%
Lease Rejection Claims		-	_	-	0%	0%	0%
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(9.3)	(9.3)	(9.3)	(9.3)	100%	100%	100%
					100%		100%

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**B2.** Payless ShoeSource Canada, Inc.

	Estimated		Total	Estimated		To	otal Estimated	
	Net Book Value			very \$'s			Recovery %'s	
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017	L			High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:								
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 0.0	\$	0.0 \$	0.0 \$	0.0	95%	98%	100%
Accounts Receivable, Net	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Inventory	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Prepaid Expenses	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other Current Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Land	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Buildings	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
PP&E	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Intangibles	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other Long Term Assets	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	4%	6%	7%
Intercompany	90.0		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Investments in Subsidiaries	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	90.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0%
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:								
Operating Expenses - Inventory			_	_	_			
Operating Expenses - Other			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Sale Expenses - Non-Inventory			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	(0.0) \$	(0.0) \$	(0.0)			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	0.0 \$	0.0 \$	0.0			
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	0.0 \$	0.0 \$	0.0			
D. Distribution to Creditors		,	0.0 3	0.0 \$	0.0			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims								
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Priority Tax Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			0.0	0.0	0.0			
Less: Unsecured Claims								
Class 5C: Canadian General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Lease Rejection Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(60.2)		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	0%	0%	0%
Total Unsecured Claims	(60.2)		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	0%	0%	0%

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**B3.** Payless ShoeSource Canada GP, Inc.

Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	Estimated	Total Estimated				Total Estimated		
	Net Book Value		Recovery \$'s			Recovery %'s		
	As of July 1, 2017	L			High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:								
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 0.0	\$	0.0 \$	0.0 \$	0.0	95%	98%	100%
Accounts Receivable, Net	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Inventory	_		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Prepaid Expenses	_		_	_	_	0%	0%	09
Other Current Assets						0%	0%	09
Land						0%	0%	09
Buildings	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
PP&E	-		-	-	-			
	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Intangibles	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Other Long Term Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Intercompany	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Investments in Subsidiaries	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	95%	98%	100%
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:								
Operating Expenses - Inventory			_	-	_			
Operating Expenses - Other			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Sale Expenses - Non-Inventory			-	-	-			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Chapter 7 - Hustee rees			-	-	-			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	(0.0) \$	(0.0) \$	(0.0)			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	0.0 \$	0.0 \$	0.0			
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	0.0 \$	0.0 \$	0.0			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims								
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Priority Tax Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			0.0	0.0	0.0			
Less: Unsecured Claims								
Class 5C: Canadian General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Lease Rejection Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	09
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(0.0)		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	100%	100%	1009
Total Unsecured Claims	(0.0)		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	100%	100%	1009

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Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	Estimated		Total Estimated		Total Estimated		
	Net Book Value	Recovery \$'s			Recovery %'s		
	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:							
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$	\$ -	\$ -	0%	0%	0%
Accounts Receivable, Net	-			-	0%	0%	0%
Inventory	-			-	0%	0%	0%
Prepaid Expenses	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other Current Assets	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
Land	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
Buildings	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
PP&E	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
Intangibles	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other Long Term Assets	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
Intercompany	98.2		-	-	0%	0%	0%
Investments in Subsidiaries	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
		-			-		
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	98.2			-	0%	0%	0%
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:							
Operating Expenses - Inventory				_			
Operating Expenses - Other				-			
Sale Expenses - Non-Inventory				-			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees				_			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees				-			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	- \$ -	\$ -			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	\$ -	\$ -			
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	· \$ -	\$ -			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims							
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	-			-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-			-	0%	0%	0%
Priority Tax Claims	-			-	0%	0%	0%
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-			
Less: Unsecured Claims							
Class 5C: Canadian General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
Lease Rejection Claims	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	-		-	-	0%	0%	0%
						0%	

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	Estimated			Estimated			otal Estimated	
	Net Book Value			covery \$'s			Recovery %'s	
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017	Lo	ow I	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:								
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 0.1	\$	0.1 \$	0.1 \$	0.1	95%	98%	100%
Accounts Receivable, Net	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	85%	90%	95%
Inventory	2.9		4.4	4.7	5.0	150%	160%	170%
Prepaid Expenses	0.2		0.0	0.0	0.0	1%	1%	1%
Other Current Assets	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	6%	8%	10%
Land	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Buildings	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
PP&E	0.9		0.0	0.0	0.0	1%	2%	2%
Intangibles	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other Long Term Assets	0.4		0.0	0.0	0.0	4%	6%	7%
Intercompany Balances	3.9		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Investments in Subsidiaries			-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Avoidance Actions			-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	8.5		4.6	4.9	5.2	54%	57%	61%
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:								
Operating Expenses - Inventory			(2.0)	(2.2)	(2.3)			
Operating Expenses - Corporate / Other			(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.2)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery		\$	(2.4) \$	(2.6) \$	(2.7)			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	2.1 \$	2.3 \$	2.4			
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	2.1 \$	2.3 \$	2.4			
Less: DIP Facility Claims	(159.7)		(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)			
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	(159.7)		0.9	1.1	1.2			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims								
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	(1.3)		(0.9)	(1.1)	(1.2)	73%	83%	96%
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Priority Tax Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	(1.3)		(0.9)	(1.1)	(1.2)	73%	83%	96%
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors			-	-	-			
Less: Unsecured Claims								
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	(0.1)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Lease Rejection Claims			-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
	(0.1)					0%	0%	0%

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## D. Collective Brands Logistics, Limited (1)

	Estimated		Total	Estimated			Total Estimated	
	Net Book Value		Rec	overy \$'s			Recovery %'s	
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017	Lo	ow N	/liddle	High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:								
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 0.1	\$	0.1 \$	0.1 \$	0.1	95%	98%	100%
Accounts Receivable, Net	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Inventory	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Prepaid Expenses	0.1		0.0	0.0	0.0	1%	1%	1%
Other Current Assets	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	6%	8%	10%
Land	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Buildings	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
PP&E	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	1%	2%	2%
Intangibles	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other Long Term Assets	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	4%	6%	7%
Intercompany Balances	23.2		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Investments in Subsidiaries	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	23.4		0.1	0.1	0.1	1%	1%	1%
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:								
Operating Expenses - Inventory				_	_			
Operating Expenses - Inventory Operating Expenses - Corporate / Other			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery			(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	0.1 \$	0.1 \$	0.1			
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	0.1 \$	0.1 \$	0.1			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims								
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	(38.4)		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Priority Tax Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	(0.6)		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	0%	0%	0%
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	(39.0)		(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	0%	0%	0%
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors	-		0.1	0.1	0.1			
Less: Unsecured Claims								
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	(9.1)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Lease Rejection Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(21.5)		(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)	0%	0%	0%
Total Unsecured Claims	(30.7)		(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)	0%	0%	0%

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E. Dynamic Assets Lin	mited	(1)
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	Estimated		Total	Estimated			Total Estimated	
	Net Book Value			overy \$'s			Recovery %'s	
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 1, 2017	Lo		/liddle	High	Low	Middle	High
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:								
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 0.3	\$	0.3 \$	0.3 \$	0.3	95%	98%	100%
Accounts Receivable, Net	1.5		1.2	1.3	1.4	85%	90%	95%
Inventory	1.3		1.9	2.1	2.2	150%	160%	170%
Prepaid Expenses	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	1%	1%	1%
Other Current Assets	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Land	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Buildings	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
PP&E	0.1		0.0	0.0	0.0	1%	2%	2%
Intangibles	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other Long Term Assets	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	4%	6%	7%
Intercompany Balances	36.0		4.4	4.4	4.4	12%	12%	12%
Investments in Subsidiaries	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Avoidance Actions	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds	39.1		7.8	8.0	8.2	20%	21%	21%
B. Expenses for Creditor Recovery:								
Operating Expenses - Inventory			(0.9)	(1.0)	(1.0)			
Operating Expenses - Corporate / Other			(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)			
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)			
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees			(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)			
Total Estimated Expenses for Creditor Recovery			(1.2)	(1.3)	(1.4)			
C. Proceeds Available for Distribution to Creditors		\$	6.6 \$	6.7 \$	6.9			
D. Distribution to Creditors		\$	6.6 \$	6.7 \$	6.9			
Less: Other Administrative and Priority Claims								
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims	(9.3)		(6.4)	(6.5)	(6.6)	68%	69%	71%
Chapter 11 - Administrative Claims  Chapter 11 - Professional Fee Claims	(5.5)		(0.4)	(0.5)	(0.0)	0%	0%	0%
Chapter 11 - Froiessional rec claims  Chapter 11 - Employee Claims	_		_	_	_	0%	0%	0%
Priority Tax Claims			_	_	_	0%	0%	0%
503(b)(9) Claims (20 Day Shipments)	(0.3)		(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)	68%	69%	71%
Total Other Administrative and Priority Claims	(9.7)		(6.6)	(6.7)	(6.9)	68%	69%	71%
Proceeds Available for Next Priority of Creditors					-			
Less: Unsecured Claims								
Class 5A: Other General Unsecured Claims	(4.8)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other General Unsecured Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Lease Rejection Claims	-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Class 6: Intercompany Claims	(11.9)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Total Unsecured Claims	(16.8)		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%

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F.	<b>Payless</b>	<b>Holdings</b>	LLC (	<b>(1)</b>
	I uyicoo	HUIUHE	LLC	/

	Esti	mated		Total I	stimated		Total Estimated			
	Net Bo	ok Value		Reco	very \$'s		Re	ecovery %'s		
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of Ju	ıly 1, 2017	L	ow M	iddle	High	Low	Middle	High	
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:										
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	5.4	\$	5.4 \$	5.4 \$	5.4	100%	100%	100%	
Accounts Receivable, Net		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	
Inventory		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	
Prepaid Expenses		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	
Other Current Assets		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	
Land		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	
Buildings		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	
PP&E		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	
Intangibles		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	
Other Long Term Assets		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	
Intercompany Balances		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	
Investments in Subsidiaries		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	
Avoidance Actions		tbd		tbd	tbd	tbd	0%	0%	0%	
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds		5.4		5.4	5.4	5.4	100%	100%	100%	
B. Expenses for Recovery:										
Operating Expenses - Inventory				-	-	-				
Operating Expenses - Corporate / Other				-	-	-				
Chapter 7 - Professional Fees				-	-	-				
Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees										
Chapter 7 - Trustee rees				-	-	-				
Total Estimated Expenses for Recovery			\$	- \$	- - \$	-				
			\$	- \$	- \$	5.4				
Total Estimated Expenses for Recovery  C. Proceeds Available for Distribution										
Total Estimated Expenses for Recovery  C. Proceeds Available for Distribution  D. Distribution to Parties			\$	5.4 \$	5.4 \$	5.4				
Total Estimated Expenses for Recovery  C. Proceeds Available for Distribution		· .	\$	5.4 \$	5.4 \$	5.4				

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## G. Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC (1)

	Estima	ted		Total E	stimated		То	tal Estimated		
	Book Va	alue		Reco	very \$'s		R	ecovery %'s		
Assets / Claims (\$'s in millions)	As of July 2	1, 2017	Lo	w M	iddle	High	Low	Middle	High	See Note
A. Gross Liquidation Proceeds:										
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	-	\$	- \$	- \$	-	0%	0%	0%	1
Accounts Receivable, Net		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	2
Inventory		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	3
Prepaid Expenses		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	4
Other Current Assets		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	5
Land		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	6
Buildings		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	6
PP&E		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	6
Intangibles		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	7
Other Long Term Assets		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	8
Intercompany Balances		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	9
Investments in Subsidiaries		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	10
Avoidance Actions		tbd		tbd	tbd	tbd	0%	0%	0%	11
Total Assets and Estimated Gross Proceeds		-		-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	
										-
B. Expenses for Recovery:										
				-	-	-				12
Operating Expenses - Inventory				-	- -	-				12 12
Operating Expenses - Inventory Operating Expenses - Corporate / Other				- - -	- - -	- - -				
Operating Expenses - Inventory Operating Expenses - Corporate / Other Chapter 7 - Professional Fees				- - -	- - -	- - -				12
Operating Expenses - Inventory Operating Expenses - Corporate / Other Chapter 7 - Professional Fees			\$	- - - -	- - - -	- - - - -				12 12
B. Expenses for Recovery:  Operating Expenses - Inventory Operating Expenses - Corporate / Other Chapter 7 - Professional Fees Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees  Total Estimated Expenses for Recovery  C. Proceeds Available for Distribution			\$	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - \$	- - - - - -				12 12
Operating Expenses - Inventory Operating Expenses - Corporate / Other Chapter 7 - Professional Fees Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees  Total Estimated Expenses for Recovery  C. Proceeds Available for Distribution			\$	- \$	- \$					12 12
Operating Expenses - Inventory Operating Expenses - Corporate / Other Chapter 7 - Professional Fees Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees  Total Estimated Expenses for Recovery										12 12
Operating Expenses - Inventory Operating Expenses - Corporate / Other Chapter 7 - Professional Fees Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees  Total Estimated Expenses for Recovery C. Proceeds Available for Distribution			\$	- \$	- \$					12 12
Operating Expenses - Inventory Operating Expenses - Corporate / Other Chapter 7 - Professional Fees Chapter 7 - Trustee Fees  Total Estimated Expenses for Recovery C. Proceeds Available for Distribution  D. Distribution to Parties		-	\$	- \$	- \$					12 12 12

#### IV. NOTES FOR PROCEEDS AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION

## Note 1 – Cash and Cash Equivalents

This Liquidation Analysis utilizes the Debtors' estimated cash balance, based on the Financial Projections, as of the Conversion Date. Approximately \$1 million in restricted cash deposited as assurance to utility providers is not anticipated to be recovered. All other cash and cash equivalents on hand are assumed to be recoverable at 98% to 100% of the total balance as of the Conversion Date.

## Note 2 – Accounts Receivable, Net

Estimated proceeds from accounts receivable balances (exclusive of intercompany balances), which consist primarily of credit card and trade receivables, as of the Conversion Date, are assumed to be recoverable between 85% and 95% of net book value. These assumed recovery rates are based on the Debtors' ability to collect on accounts receivable, taking into consideration the credit quality, aging of the accounts and any disputed amounts. Additionally, despite historically low write-downs on accounts receivable, there is inherent risk and difficulty in collecting receivables, which may require certain concessions to facilitate recovery. Ceasing all operations would terminate various contracts and business relationships, which may also impact collection of receivables. As of the Conversion Date, it is assumed the Debtors will no longer honor returns nor refunds.

Consolidated (Debtor / Non-Debtor)	Estimated	Total Estimated		Total Estimated			
	Net Book Values	1	Recovery \$'s		F	Recovery %'s	
\$'s in millions	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
Accounts Receivable, Net	16.0	13.6	14.4	15.2	85%	90%	95%
Total Accounts Receivable, Net	16.0	13.6	14.4	15.2	85%	90%	95%

## Note 3 – Inventory

The net recoverable rates were based on a third-party appraisal, which reflects the net orderly liquidation value and realized rates in the marketplace as the Debtors reduce the store count in North America. Gross recovery assumptions range between approximately 150% and 170% of net book value and, after deducting operating expenses such as payroll, occupancy, freight, and fees, the result is a net recoverable rate between 80% and 90% of net book value. The assumption is the inventory is sold "as is, where is" during the wind-down period and consummated over a three-month period.

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Consolidated (Debtor / Non-Debtor)	Estimated	To	tal Estimated		To	Total Estimated			
	<b>Net Book Values</b>	1	Recovery \$'s		Recovery %'s				
\$'s in millions	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High		
Inventory - Merchandise in Store	268.8	403.2	430.1	457.0	150%	160%	170%		
Inventory - Warehouse	33.1	49.7	53.0	56.4	150%	160%	170%		
Inventory - In-Transit	44.2	66.2	70.7	75.1	150%	160%	170%		
Inventory - Other and Intercompany	6.7	10.0	10.7	11.4	150%	160%	170%		
Total Inventory	352.8	529.2	564.5	599.8	150%	160%	170%		

## Note 4 – Prepaid Expenses

The Debtors have prepaid certain expenses, including but not limited to: insurance, services, lease deposits, retainer deposits, and other miscellaneous deposits. This Liquidation Analysis assumes that prepaid amounts and deposits will be consumed during the liquidation period, to offset against potential liabilities, or otherwise deemed non-recoverable. This Liquidation Analysis assumes recovery rates of between 1% and 2% of net book value, with estimated recoveries coming from prepaid contracts.

Consolidated (Debtor / Non-Debtor)	Estimated	To	tal Estimated		Total Estimated		
	Net Book Values	1	Recovery \$'s		1	Recovery %'s	
\$'s in millions	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
Prepaid Agreements (e.g. advertising)	15.0	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Prepaid Rent and Taxes	1.8	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Prepaid Expenses	8.5	0.2	0.3	0.4	2%	4%	5%
Total Prepaid Expenses	25.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	1%	1%	2%

#### **Note 5 – Other Current Assets**

Other current assets include prepaid taxes, tenant allowances, supplies, and deferred income taxes and were assumed recoverable between 6% and 10% of net book value, with estimated recoveries from prepaid tax accounts and other contracts.

Consolidated (Debtor / Non-Debtor)	Estimated	To	tal Estimated		To	Total Estimated  Recovery %'s			
\$'s in millions	Net Book Values	1	Recovery \$'s		ı				
	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High		
Taxes - Duty and VAT	7.6	0.8	0.9	1.1	10%	13%	15%		
Tenant Allowances	1.5	0.1	0.2	0.2	10%	13%	15%		
Other Current Assets	3.4	0.0	0.1	0.1	1%	2%	3%		
Current Deferred Income Taxes	2.4	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%		
Total Other Current Assets	14.8	0.9	1.2	1.5	6%	8%	10%		

## Note 6 - Fixed Assets and Other

Fixed assets include all land, buildings, machinery, and equipment owned by the Debtors. The most significant assets in this category include leasehold improvements, construction in progress, and equipment.

Land and buildings were assumed to be recoverable between 45% and 55% of their net book value based on the advance rate found in the borrowing base as set by the ABL DIP Lenders. This represents a discount to the appraised amount, primarily related to the Debtors' headquarters building in Topeka, Kansas.

The fixtures and equipment were assumed to be recoverable at approximately \$500 to \$1,000 per store based on input from the third-party appraiser. Based on the retail store count, the resulting range of recoveries are \$3 million to \$5 million or 1% to 2% of total net book value of fixed assets. These assets are assumed to have a low recoverable rate to book value based on sale experience in the marketplace and the fact that the entire portfolio of the Debtors would be wound-down starting at the Conversion Date, which would inundate the market with similar assets (tables and racking) from the Debtors' stores across North America.

Management has considered all of the above factors in determining the recovery range for fixed assets.

Consolidated (Debtor / Non-Debtor)	Estimated	To	tal Estimated		Total Estimated		
	Net Book Values		Recovery \$'s			Recovery %'s	
\$'s in millions	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
Land, Net	2.5	1.1	1.2	1.4	45%	50%	55%
Total Land, Net	2.5	1.1	1.2	1.4	45%	50%	55%
Buildings, Net	12.6	5.7	6.3	6.9	45%	50%	55%
Total Buildings, Net	12.6	5.7	6.3	6.9	45%	50%	55%

Consolidated (Debtor / Non-Debtor)	Estimated		tal Estimated		Total Estimated		
\$'s in millions	Net Book Values As of July 1, 2017	Recovery \$'s			Recovery %'s		
		Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
Leasehold Improvements, Net	71.0	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Construction in Progress, Net	52.1	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Machine Fixtures & Equipment, Net	71.0	2.5	3.2	3.9	4%	5%	6%
Capital Inventory	4.0	0.4	0.7	1.0	10%	18%	25%
Total Fixed Assets, Net	198.2	2.9	3.9	4.9	1%	2%	2%

### Note 7 – Intangible Assets

Intellectual property owned by the Debtors is comprised of 1) Payless trademarks registered in the United States and globally, 2) Payless copyrights, patents and domain names, 3) trade names such as Brash and Fioni and perpetual paid up licenses to use certain brands (collectively, the "Debtors' I/P").

Management based the net recoverable value on a third-party appraisal report. The net recoverable value of the Debtors' I/P was developed using the income approach. This Liquidation Analysis uses the forced liquidation value from the appraisal report which assumed recoverable rates between 145% and 165% of net book value of the trademarks. The value is assumed to be realized through a marketing process administered by the chapter 7 trustee to third-party buyers in the first two months of the liquidation period.

The Debtors lease most of their stores and distribution centers. Based upon preliminary review of existing lease terms relative to market, it was determined that no existing real property leases contained material value in an assignment scenario. This assessment is based on the small footprint of the Debtors' stores, locations predominately in class B and C commercial areas, and the general market environment for retail.

Management assumed there is no recoverable value to the customer contracts for this Liquidation Analysis as these balances relate to franchise agreements that would be rejected during the wind-down.

Consolidated (Debtor / Non-Debtor)	Estimated	Total Estimated			Total Estimated				
	Net Book Values		Recovery \$'s			Recovery %'s			
\$'s in millions	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High		
Intangibles - Trademark (Payless)	34.3	49.9	53.4	56.8	145%	155%	165%		
Intangibles - Trademark (Other Brands)	32.3	47.0	50.2	53.5	145%	155%	165%		
Favorable Lease Rights, Net	5.9	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%		
Customer Contracts, Net	12.3	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%		
Total Intangibles	84.8	96.9	103.6	110.3	114%	122%	130%		

## **Note 8 – Other Long Term Assets**

Other long term assets consist of rent and utility deposits and miscellaneous receivables. These assets were assumed recoverable between 4% and 7% of book value, with the recoveries coming from prepaid contracts and other receivables.

Consolidated (Debtor / Non-Debtor)	Estimated	Total Estimated			Total Estimated			
	Net Book Values	1	Recovery \$'s		Recovery %'s			
\$'s in millions	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High	
Deposits - Rent and Utilities	2.5	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%	
Other Long Term Assets	7.4	0.4	0.6	0.7	5%	8%	10%	
Total Other Long Term Assets	10.0	0.4	0.6	0.7	4%	6%	7%	

## Note 9 and 10 – Intercompany and Investment in Subsidiaries

Management assumed the foreign affiliates of the Debtors ("Foreign Affiliates") would commence wind-downs as of the Conversion Date. The Foreign Affiliates have operations located within Latin America, Europe, Middle East, and Asia. The assumption is that the Foreign Affiliates would not have the infrastructure nor capabilities to operate their businesses as the Debtors wound-down over the liquidation period. The recoverable value for the Debtors' interest in its Foreign Affiliates is through (a) the net intercompany balances owed to the Debtors and (b) the Debtors' equity interests in the Foreign Affiliates. Net liquidation proceeds were first allocated to claims (i.e., third party claims, intercompany debt, intercompany payables) then as distributions to the joint venture partners and then the remaining proceeds, if any, were allocated to investment in subsidiaries. Based on the equity pledges that are limited under the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement to 65% of the value of certain first-tier foreign subsidiaries, 3 65% of available proceeds of the equity interests of such first-tier foreign subsidiaries collateral are assets distributed to the Prepetition Lenders and the residual 35% of available proceeds constitute unencumbered assets and are distributed in accordance with the priority waterfall. Note, the intercompany claims are pledged as collateral to the Prepetition First Credit Agreement and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Legal entities that are subject to the 65% equity pledge are: (1) PSS International Holdings, Limited (including numerous subsidiaries), (2) Import Solutions de Mexico, S. de R.L. de C.V., (3) Internacional Serviçios Técnicos E Inspetoria de Calçados Ltda., (4) Payless ShoeSource of Puerto Rico, Inc., (5) Payless ShoeSource Saipan, Inc., (6) Lifestyle Brands Corporation, and (7) Collective Franchising, Ltd.

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Consolidated (Debtor / Non-Debtor)	Estimated	Total Estimated Recovery \$'s			Total Estimated Recovery %'s		
	<b>Net Book Values</b>						
\$'s in millions	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
Latin America	11.8	9.9	9.9	9.9	84%	84%	84%
Canada	9.3	9.3	9.3	9.3	100%	100%	100%
Other Affiliates	4.7	1.5	1.5	1.5	32%	32%	32%
Total Intercompany Balances	25.8	20.7	20.7	20.7	80%	80%	80%

Consolidated (Debtor / Non-Debtor)	Estimated	Total Estimated Recovery \$'s			Total Estimated Recovery %'s			
	Net Book Values							
\$'s in millions	As of July 1, 2017	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High	
Investment in Subsidiaries								
Encumbered - 65% Equity Pledge	-	14.2	16.5	19.1				
Unencumbered - 35% Equity Pledge	-	6.1	6.8	7.6				
Total Investment in Subsidiaries		20.3	23.3	26.7	-			

#### **Note 11 – Avoidance Actions**

As described in the Disclosure Statement, the Debtors' independent director (Mr. Charles Cremens) has been conducting an investigation into any estate claims and estate causes of action the Debtors may have with respect to transactions between the Debtors and the equity holders of Payless Holdings LLC (the "Sponsors"). In particular, MTO, at the direction of Mr. Cremens and with the assistance of the existing financial professionals of the Debtors, has been investigating, dividends paid by certain of the Debtors on February 28, 2013 and March 10, 2014 ("Dividends"), the 2012 acquisition of Payless by the Sponsors, and management and transaction fees paid to the Sponsors under certain Advisory Agreement dated as of October 9, 2012 among certain of the Debtors, GGC Administration, LLC, and Blum Capital Partners (collectively with the Dividends, the "Transactions"). For purposes of this Liquidation Analysis, no recovery values have been ascribed to any potential claims related to the Transactions or related to any other Avoidance Actions. The Debtor entities who may hold potential claims related to the Dividends (Payless Holdings LLC, Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC, WBG - PSS Holdings LLC, and Payless Inc.) have a "TBD" in the Avoidance Action line item to reflect that the investigation by Mr. Cremens has not concluded.

Any amounts recovered in a liquidation on account of Avoidance Actions, including preferences, would be paid first to holders of administrative and priority claims (until paid in full) and then to holders of General Unsecured Claims, if any, against the Debtor entity that made the avoided transfer.

## Note 12 – Expenses for Creditor Recovery

Creditor Recovery Expenses include the following:

- Operating Expenses: Operating expenses consist of estimated costs developed by the third-party appraiser to wind-down the Debtors' stores, including payroll and benefits, occupancy, advertising, agent's fees, and other operating costs. Any operating losses are inclusive of all operating costs incurred during the wind-down period. Corporate / other costs include accounting, IT, insurance, occupancy, incentive compensation, and other critical personnel needed to collect receivables and assist the chapter 7 trustee with the wind-down. Wind-down costs do not include severance, as WARN notices are assumed to be given sufficiently in advance of the wind-down. Fees for the recovery of accounts receivable and the auction of owned fixtures, equipment, machinery, land, and real estate were estimated at 5% of gross proceeds. Total corporate operational expenses and fees range from \$25 million to \$30 million for the liquidation period.
- Chapter 7 Professional Fees: Professional fees include costs for financial advisors, attorneys, accountants, and other professionals retained by the chapter 7 trustee. Professional fees were estimated at approximately \$8 million for the liquidation period, based on an estimate of approximately \$1 million to \$2 million per month.
- Chapter 7 Trustee Fees: In a chapter 7 liquidation, the Bankruptcy Court may allow reasonable compensation for the trustee's services not to exceed 3% of such proceeds greater than \$1 million, upon all proceeds disbursed or turned over in the case by the trustee to parties in interest. Chapter 7 trustee fees were estimated at 3% of gross liquidation proceeds, excluding recoveries related to cash and cash equivalents and capital lease obligations.

## **Note 13 – DIP Facility Claims**

DIP Facility Claims outstanding as projected at the Conversion Date included the following:

- <u>DIP ABL Credit Facility</u>: Consisting of amount borrowed, accrued and unpaid interest and accrued and unpaid chapter 11 Professional Fee Claims for the DIP Facilities and Letters of Credit outstanding of approximately \$130 million (inclusive of amounts drawn to fund the Carve-Out under the Final DIP Order, as defined therein); and
- <u>DIP Term Facility</u>: Approximately \$30 million.

## Note 14 – Other Secured Claims

Other Secured Claims are estimated to be \$0 million as of Conversion Date.

## **Note 15 – Prepetition Credit Agreement Claims (Term Loans)**

Prepetition Credit Agreement Claims (*i.e.*, Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims) outstanding at the Conversion Date included the following:

- Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims: Approximately \$506 million of aggregate principal amount outstanding on the First Lien Term Loan (inclusive of any MSCS Swap Claim).
- <u>Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims</u>: Approximately \$145 million of aggregate principal amount outstanding on the Second Lien Term Loan.

#### Note 16 – Net Proceeds from Unencumbered Assets

Estimated net proceeds from unencumbered assets consist of:

■ <u>35% equity share of the Foreign Affiliates</u>: Estimated proceeds of \$6 million to \$8 million to be realized during the liquidation period and available for chapter 11 administrative and unsecured claims in accordance with the priority waterfall.

## Note 17 – Other Administrative and Priority Claims

Other Administrative and Priority Claims consist of:

- Class 3 Diminution in Value Administrative Claims: The Liquidation Analysis assumes that no super-priority administrative expense claims are Allowed on account of any Diminution in Value (as defined in the Final DIP Order) ("Diminution in Value Claims"). If Diminution in Value Claims are Allowed, the recoveries set forth in the Liquidation Analysis for all other holders of Claims and Interests junior to such Diminution in Value Claims would be reduced.
- <u>Chapter 11 Post-petition Administrative Claims</u>: \$110 million of post-petition trade payables, payroll, and related accruals were estimated to remain outstanding at the Conversion Date.
- <u>Chapter 11 Post-petition Professional Fees Claims</u>: Post-petition professional fees that remain outstanding at the Conversion Date are funded through the carve-out provision in paragraph # 39 of the DIP Order.
- Chapter 11 Employee and Tax-Related Priority Claims: Approximately \$12 million of priority claims related to accrued and unpaid employee benefit amounts, in addition to outstanding prepetition tax balances, were estimated to remain outstanding at the Conversion Date.

• <u>503(b)(9) Claims</u>: Approximately \$5 million of prepetition 503(b)(9) claims were estimated to remain outstanding at the Conversion Date.

## Note 18 – General Unsecured Claims

General Unsecured Claims consist of the following:

- Other General Unsecured Claims: Claims outstanding at the Conversion Date were estimated to be \$58 million for the Debtors.
- <u>Worldwide General Unsecured Claims</u>: Claims outstanding at the Conversion Date were estimated to be \$52 million for the Debtors.
- <u>Canadian General Unsecured Claims</u>: Claims outstanding at the Conversion Date were estimated to be \$2 million for the Debtors.
- Other General Unsecured Claims including the following:
  - <u>Deficiency Claims</u>: The deficiency claims under the First Lien Term Loan range from approximately \$300 million to \$350 million and the deficiency claims under the Second Lien Term Loan totals \$145 million (*i.e.* all claims under the Second Lien Term Loan are unsecured). For presentation purposes, the deficiency claims have been illustrated as the same amount at each entity.
  - <u>Lease Rejection Claims</u>: These claims primarily include contract rejection claims related to the store leases as the Debtors' operations are wound-down and are preliminarily estimated at \$300 million at the Conversion Date.
  - <u>Intercompany Claims</u>: These claims primarily relate to activity between the Debtors and affiliates such as merchandise, service fees, interest allocation, investments, and other. These prepetition claims are estimated to be greater than \$200 million at the Conversion Date.

In the event of liquidation, the aggregate amount of general unsecured claims will likely increase significantly. For example, employees likely will file claims for wages and other benefits, some of which will be entitled to priority. Landlords may file large claims for both unsecured and priority amounts which could include lease rejection damages. The resulting increase in both general unsecured and priority claims could significantly dilute the unsecured claims pool included in this Liquidation Analysis.

## Note 19 – Existing Equity Interests at Payless Holdings LLC

As set forth in the Schedules, Payless Holdings LLC is a holding company whose only assets are the equity interests it owns in Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC and certain assets with an approximate value of \$5 million. There are no known creditors at Payless holdings LLC. For purposes of this Liquidation Analysis, the Debtors assume that the asset values are reserved to satisfy contingent or other liabilities that may be prosecuted by a liquidating trustee.

## Exhibit F

Estimation of Payless' Enterprise Value

## ESTIMATION OF PAYLESS' ENTERPRISE VALUE<sup>1</sup>

#### Overview

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS NOT A PREDICTION OR GUARANTEE REGARDING, AND GUGGENHEIM SECURITIES, LLC ("GUGGENHEIM SECURITIES") DOES NOT EXPRESS ANY VIEW OR OPINION AS TO, THE PRICE OR RANGE OF PRICES AT WHICH THE SHARES OF COMMON STOCK OR OTHER SECURITIES OF PAYLESS MAY TRADE, BE SALEABLE OR OTHERWISE BE TRANSFERABLE AT ANY TIME, INCLUDING SUBSEQUENT TO CONSUMMATION OF THE PLAN. THE SUMMARY SET FORTH BELOW DOES NOT PURPORT TO BE A COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF THE INDICATIVE FINANCIAL ANALYSES PERFORMED BY GUGGENHEIM SECURITIES. THE PREPARATION OF SUCH ANALYSES INVOLVES VARIOUS COMPLEX DETERMINATIONS AND JUDGMENTS AS TO THE MOST APPROPRIATE AND RELEVANT METHODS OF FINANCIAL ANALYSIS AND THE APPLICATION OF THESE METHODS IN THE PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES AND, THEREFORE, SUCH ANALYSES ARE NOT READILY SUSCEPTIBLE TO SUMMARY DESCRIPTION.

MOREOVER, THE ESTIMATED ENTERPRISE VALUE AND ESTIMATED EQUITY VALUE (EACH AS DEFINED BELOW) OF AN OPERATING BUSINESS SUCH AS PAYLESS ARE SUBJECT TO VARIOUS UNCERTAINTIES AND CONTINGENCIES THAT ARE DIFFICULT TO PREDICT AND WILL FLUCTUATE WITH CHANGES IN VARIOUS FACTORS AFFECTING THE FINANCIAL CONDITION, FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL PROSPECTS OF SUCH A BUSINESS (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, GENERAL BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, CAPITAL MARKETS CONDITIONS AND INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC AND COMPANY-SPECIFIC FACTORS, ALL OF WHICH ARE BEYOND THE CONTROL OF PAYLESS AND GUGGENHEIM SECURITIES). ACCORDINGLY, THE ESTIMATES SET FORTH HEREIN ARE NOT NECESSARILY INDICATIVE OF ACTUAL OUTCOMES, WHICH MAY BE SIGNIFICANTLY MORE OR LESS FAVORABLE THAN THOSE SET FORTH HEREIN. BECAUSE SUCH ESTIMATES (INCLUDING ANY ESTIMATE OF THE ENTERPRISE VALUE OR EQUITY VALUE SET FORTH HEREIN) ARE INHERENTLY SUBJECT TO SUCH UNCERTAINTIES AND CONTINGENCIES, NONE OF THE DEBTORS, GUGGENHEIM SECURITIES OR ANY OTHER PERSON ASSUMES ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR ACCURACY OR ACHIEVABILITY.

THE INFORMATION IS PRESENTED SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ADEQUATE INFORMATION UNDER SECTION 1125 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE TO ENABLE THE HOLDERS OF CLAIMS AND INTERESTS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS ENTITLED TO VOTE TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN TO MAKE AN INFORMED JUDGMENT ABOUT THE PLAN AND SHOULD NOT BE USED OR RELIED UPON FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE, INCLUDING THE PURCHASE OR SALE OF CLAIMS AGAINST THE DEBTORS OR ANY OF THEIR AFFILIATES.

All capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Disclosure Statement for the Debtors' Fourth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Disclosure Statement"), to which this "Estimation of Payless' Enterprise Value" is attached as **Exhibit F**.

With authorization from the Bankruptcy Court, the Debtors' retained Guggenheim Securities as their investment banker in connection with the Chapter 11 Cases. Solely for purposes of the Plan and Disclosure Statement, Guggenheim Securities performed various indicative financial analyses to assess the estimated enterprise value of Payless on a going-concern basis upon emergence from these Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to the Plan (the "Enterprise Value").

## **Estimated Enterprise Value of Payless**

Based on the indicative financial analyses outlined herein, Guggenheim Securities' estimate of the Enterprise Value of Payless is a range between \$580 and \$700 million, with a midpoint of \$640 million. In connection with assessing the estimated Enterprise Value of Payless, Guggenheim Securities assumed an August 26, 2017 effective date under the Plan at which time the Debtors would emerge from the Chapter 11 Cases (the "Assumed Effective Date"). After deducting *pro forma* funded net debt of \$398² million as of the Assumed Effective Date, Guggenheim Securities' estimated Enterprise Value implies an estimated Equity Value of Payless (the "Equity Value") ranging from \$182 million and \$302 million, with a midpoint of \$242 million.

#### **Certain Caveats and Considerations**

Guggenheim Securities' analyses (and any materials provided in connection therewith) do not constitute a recommendation to the Debtors' Board of Directors with respect to the Plan, nor do they constitute an opinion as to fairness, from a financial point of view, of the consideration to be received under the Plan or of the terms and provisions thereof or advice or a recommendation to any Holder of any Claim or Interest or any of the Debtors' other stakeholders as to how to vote or act in connection with the Plan. More specifically, Guggenheim Securities' analyses (i) do not address the Debtors' or any Claim or Interest Holder's (or other stakeholder's) underlying business or financial decision to pursue the Plan (and any transactions contemplated thereby), the relative merits of the Plan and such transactions as compared to any alternative business or financial strategies that might exist for the Debtors or such Holders (or other stakeholders) or the effects of any other transaction in which the Debtors or such Holders (or other stakeholders) might engage; (ii) express no view or opinion as to (a) any term, aspect or implication of the Plan (including, without limitation, the form or structure of any transaction contemplated thereby) or any agreement, transaction document or instrument contemplated by the Plan or to be entered into or amended in connection with the Plan or (b) the fairness, financial or otherwise, of the Plan to, or of any consideration to be paid to or received by, the Holders of any Claim or Interest, creditors or other stakeholders of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors; (iii) express no view or opinion as to the fairness, financial or otherwise, of the amount or nature of any compensation payable to or to be received by any of the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors' officers, directors or employees, or any class of such persons, in connection with the Plan relative to the consideration to be received pursuant to the Plan or otherwise; and (iv) do not constitute a solvency opinion, a fair value opinion or a liquidation analysis prepared in connection with the Chapter 11 Cases or any other purpose.

In the course of performing its various indicative financial analyses to assess the estimated

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Pro forma funded net debt is calculated assuming \$121 million of funded revolver draw (which has been adjusted to reflect the Global Settlement), \$280 million of Tranche A-1 and Tranche A-2 Term Loans, \$6 million in capital leases, and \$1 million of other debt less \$10 million of estimated North American cash.

Enterprise Value of Payless, Guggenheim Securities:

- reviewed the Restructuring Support Agreement;
- reviewed drafts of the Plan and Disclosure Statement, each dated as of June 5, 2017;
- reviewed certain business and financial information regarding the business and prospects
  of Payless (including financial projections for the fiscal years 2017 through 2021 (the
  "Projections")), all as prepared and provided to Guggenheim Securities by the Debtors'
  senior management and the Debtors' other advisors;
- discussed with the Debtors' senior management and the Debtors' other advisors (as applicable) their respective views of the business, operations, historical and projected financial results and future prospects of Payless, as well as the key assumptions related to the Projections;
- compared the financial performance of Payless with corresponding data for certain publicly traded companies that Guggenheim Securities deemed relevant in evaluating Payless;
- performed discounted cash flow analyses based on the Projections for Payless as furnished to Guggenheim Securities by the Debtors' senior management and the Debtors' other advisors; and
- conducted such other studies, analyses, inquiries and investigations as Guggenheim Securities deemed appropriate.

With respect to the information used in performing the indicative financial analyses described herein, Guggenheim Securities notes that:

- Guggenheim Securities relied upon and assumed the accuracy, completeness and reasonableness of all industry, business, financial, legal, regulatory, tax, accounting, actuarial and other information (including, without limitation, the Projections, other estimates and other forward-looking information) furnished by or discussed with the Debtors and their other advisors or obtained from public sources, data suppliers and other third parties.
- Guggenheim Securities (i) does not assume any responsibility, obligation or liability for the accuracy, completeness, reasonableness, achievability or independent verification of, and Guggenheim Securities did not independently verify, any such information (including, without limitation, the Projections and any other estimates and other forward-looking information), (ii) expresses no view, opinion, representation, guaranty or warranty (in each case, express or implied) regarding the reasonableness or achievability of the Projections, other estimates and other forward-looking information or the assumptions upon which they are based and (iii) relied upon the assurances of Payless' senior management that they were unaware of any facts or circumstances that would make such information (including, without limitation, the Projections and any other estimates or forward-looking information) incomplete, inaccurate or misleading.

- Specifically, with respect to (i) the Projections, any other estimates and any other forward-looking information furnished by or discussed with the Debtors and their other advisors, (a) Guggenheim Securities was advised by the Debtors' senior management, and Guggenheim Securities assumed, that such Projections, other estimates and other forward-looking information utilized in its analyses had been reasonably prepared on bases reflecting the best then-currently available estimates and judgments of the Debtors' senior management as to the expected future performance of Payless and the corporate income tax rates applicable to such Projections, other estimates and other forwardlooking information and (b) Guggenheim Securities assumed that such Projections, other estimates and other forward-looking information had been reviewed by the Debtors' senior management with the understanding that such information would be used and relied upon by Guggenheim Securities in connection with performing the analyses described herein and (ii) any financial projections, other estimates and/or other forwardlooking information obtained by Guggenheim Securities from public sources, data suppliers and other third parties, Guggenheim Securities assumed that such information was reasonable and reliable.
- Guggenheim Securities further assumed that (i) in all respects meaningful to its analyses, (x) the final executed form of the Plan and the Disclosure Statement will not differ from the drafts that Guggenheim Securities reviewed, (y) the Debtors will comply with all terms and conditions of the Plan, the Disclosure Statement and the Restructuring Support Agreement and (z) the representations and warranties of the Debtors contained in the Restructuring Support Agreement and the information in the Disclosure Statement are and shall at all times remain true and correct and all conditions to the obligations of each party to the aforementioned agreements and documents will be satisfied without any waiver, amendment or modification thereof; and (ii) the Plan will be consummated in a timely manner in accordance with its terms and the terms of the Restructuring Support Agreement and in compliance with all applicable laws, documents and other requirements, without any delays, limitations, restrictions, conditions, waivers, amendments or modifications (regulatory, tax-related or otherwise) that would have an effect on the Debtors in any way meaningful to Guggenheim Securities' analyses.

Guggenheim Securities did not perform or obtain any independent appraisal of the assets or liabilities (including any contingent, derivative or off-balance sheet assets and liabilities) of the Debtors or any other entity and did not evaluate the solvency, the fair value or the liquidation value of the Debtors or any other entity under any relevant laws relating to bankruptcy, insolvency or similar matters.

Guggenheim Securities' professionals are not legal, regulatory, tax, consulting, accounting, appraisal or actuarial experts and Guggenheim Securities' analyses should not be construed as constituting advice with respect to such matters; accordingly, Guggenheim Securities relied on the assessments of the Debtors' senior management and the Debtor's other advisors with respect to such matters. The Debtors' senior management advised Guggenheim Securities that all tax-affected financial projections, other estimates and other forward-looking information reflect the current US federal corporate income tax regime pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; Guggenheim Securities did not consider or analyze the impacts of any potential or proposed reform thereof in connection with its analyses. Guggenheim Securities did not express any view or render any opinion regarding the tax consequences to the Debtors', any Holders of

Claims or Interests or any of the Debtors' other stakeholders of the Plan becoming effective.

## **Summary of Indicative Financial Analyses**

This "Summary of Indicative Financial Analyses" presents a summary of the principal indicative financial analyses performed by Guggenheim Securities in connection with assessing the Enterprise Value of Payless as described elsewhere herein.

Guggenheim Securities' indicative financial analyses, particularly those based on estimates and projections, are themselves estimates and are not assurances of actual values or actual future results, which may be significantly more or less favorable than suggested by these analyses.

In assessing the estimated Enterprise Value of Payless, Guggenheim Securities:

- based its indicative financial analyses on various assumptions, including assumptions concerning general business and economic conditions, capital markets conditions and industry-specific and company-specific factors, all of which are beyond the control of Payless and Guggenheim Securities;
- did not form a view or opinion as to whether any individual analysis or factor, whether positive or negative, considered in isolation, supported or failed to support its analysis; and
- ultimately arrived at its assessment based on the results of all of its indicative financial analyses assessed as a whole and believes that the totality of the factors considered and the various indicative financial analyses performed by Guggenheim Securities in connection with its assessment of estimated Enterprise Value of Payless operated collectively to support its assessment.

Guggenheim Securities employed two valuation methodologies (commonly used by investment bankers and other finance practitioners) to estimate the Enterprise Value of Payless: (i) Selected Public Company Analysis and (ii) Discounted Cash Flow Analysis.

## Selected Public Company Analysis

Selected Public Company Analysis involves estimating a subject company's stand-alone fully distributed public market trading value based on both qualitative and quantitative reviews and analyses of the subject company versus certain publicly traded companies which are deemed to be reasonably comparable to the subject company. Among other things, such quantitative analyses typically include calculating various prevailing public market trading valuation multiples (based on various financial metrics considered appropriate given the subject company's and its peer group's industry or sector) and then assessing such public market trading valuation multiples in the context of both historical and projected/forecasted financial performance.

With respect to its Selected Public Company Analysis related to Payless, Guggenheim Securities notes that:

 None of the selected publicly traded companies used in the Selected Public Company Analysis is identical or directly comparable to Payless; however, such companies were selected by Guggenheim Securities, among other reasons, because they represented publicly traded companies which may be considered broadly similar, for purposes of Guggenheim Securities' indicative financial analyses, to Payless based on Guggenheim Securities' familiarity with the global footwear retail industry.

• In any event, the Selected Public Company Analysis is not mathematical; rather, such analysis involves complex considerations and judgments concerning the differences in business, financial, operating and capital markets-related characteristics and other factors regarding the selected publicly traded companies to which Payless was compared.

### Discounted Cash Flow Analysis

Discounted Cash Flow Analysis involves estimating a subject company's "intrinsic value" based on the sum of the present values of its (i) projected/forecasted annual unlevered after-tax free cash flows during an explicit projection/forecast period and (ii) terminal/continuing value beyond the explicit projection/forecast horizon. Guggenheim Securities typically estimates the subject company's terminal/continuing value by applying a range of assumed perpetual growth rates to the subject company's projected/forecasted normalized unlevered after-tax free cash flow in the terminal year. The present values of such projected/forecasted annual unlevered after-tax free cash flows and terminal/continuing value are then calculated by discounting them back to the present date based on the subject company's estimated weighted average cost of capital.

With respect to its Discounted Cash Flow Analysis of Payless, Guggenheim Securities notes that:

- Guggenheim Securities based its Discounted Cash Flow Analyses on the Projections for Payless as furnished to Guggenheim Securities by the Debtors' senior management and the Debtors' other advisors.
- As mentioned elsewhere herein, the Projections are subject to various uncertainties and contingencies that are difficult to predict and depend on various factors affecting the financial condition, financial performance and financial prospects of Payless (including, without limitation, general business and economic conditions, capital markets conditions and industry-specific and company-specific factors, all of which are beyond the control of Payless and Guggenheim Securities).
- Accordingly, the Projections and the Discounted Cash Flow Analysis are not necessarily indicative of actual outcomes or values, which may be significantly more or less favorable than as set forth in or implied by such Projections.

OTHERWISE INDICATED HEREIN, THE FOREGOING INDICATIVE UNLESS FINANCIAL ANALYSES ARE BASED ON THE PROJECTIONS AND ON MARKET DATA AS OF JUNE 2, 2017, REFLECT INFORMATION MADE AVAILABLE TO GUGGENHEIM SECURITIES AS OF OR PRIOR TO SUCH DATE AND ARE BASED ON ECONOMIC, CAPITAL MARKETS AND OTHER CONDITIONS AS OF SUCH DATE. ALTHOUGH THE FOREGOING INDICATIVE FINANCIAL ANALYSES MAY BE AFFECTED **SECURITIES** SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS, **GUGGENHEIM ASSUMES** NO RESPONSIBILITY **FOR UPDATING REVISING** PAYLESS' **ESTIMATED** OR ENTERPRISE VALUE OR ESTIMATED EQUITY VALUE FOR ANY REASON, WHETHER Case 17-42267 Doc 1257 Filed 06/23/17 Entered 06/23/17 16:02:52 Main Document Pg 161 of 218

DUE TO FACTS, CIRCUMSTANCES OR EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER SUCH DATE OR OTHERWISE.

## Exhibit G

Restructuring Support Agreement (together with the Restructuring Term Sheet)

#### RESTRUCTURING SUPPORT AGREEMENT

This RESTRUCTURING SUPPORT AGREEMENT (as amended, supplemented, or otherwise modified from time to time in accordance with the terms hereof, this "Agreement<sup>1</sup>"), dated as of April 4, 2017, is entered into by and among the following parties:

- i. the Company;<sup>2</sup> and
- ii. the undersigned Holders of First Lien Claims (as defined below) in their capacity as holders of First Lien Claims and, if applicable, their capacity as Holders of Second Lien Claims (as defined below), collectively with their respective successors and permitted assigns and any subsequent holder of First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims that becomes party hereto in accordance with the terms hereof, the "Consenting Lenders").

The Company and each Consenting Lender, and any subsequent person or entity that becomes a party hereto in accordance with the terms hereof, are referred to herein as the "<u>Parties</u>" and individually as a "<u>Party</u>." Each Consenting Party intends to be and is bound under this Agreement with respect to any and all claims against, or interests in, the Company whether currently held or hereafter acquired, by such Consenting Party.

**WHEREAS,** the Parties and their respective professionals have negotiated a restructuring and recapitalization transaction (the "<u>Restructuring</u>," and the transactions contemplated thereby, the "<u>Restructuring Transactions</u>") that will be implemented and consummated pursuant to a chapter 11 plan of reorganization (as may be modified in accordance with <u>Section 10</u> hereof, the "<u>Plan</u>"), the terms of which shall be consistent in all respects with those set forth in this Agreement, the term sheet attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u> (the "<u>Term Sheet</u>3"), the DIP Documents (as defined below), and the Definitive Documents (as defined below) to be filed in cases (the "<u>Chapter 11 Cases</u>") commenced under chapter 11 of title 11 of

- Each of the exhibits attached hereto and any schedules to such exhibits (collectively, the "Exhibits and Schedules") is expressly incorporated herein and made a part of this Agreement, and all references to this Agreement shall include the Exhibits and Schedules. In the event of any inconsistency between this Agreement (without reference to the Exhibits and Schedules) and the Exhibits and Schedules, this Agreement (without reference to the Exhibits and Schedules) shall govern; provided, however, that to the extent there is a conflict among the Exhibits and Schedules, the conflicting term of the Term Sheet shall control and govern.
- The "Company" shall mean, collectively, Payless Holdings LLC; Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC; WBG-PSS Holdings LLC; Payless Inc.; Payless Finance, Inc.; Collective Brands Services, Inc.; PSS Delaware Company 4, Inc.; Shoe Sourcing, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource, Inc.; Eastborough, Inc.; Payless Purchasing Services, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Merchandising, Inc.; Payless Gold Value CO, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc.; Payless NYC Inc.; Payless ShoeSource of Puerto Rico, Inc.; Payless Collective GP, LLC; Collective Licensing, L.P.; Collective Licensing International, LLC; Clinch, LLC; Collective Brands Franchising Services, LLC; and Payless International Franchising, LLC.
- Capitalized terms used and not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Term Sheet. The Term Sheet is expressly incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this Agreement as if fully set forth herein. The Term Sheet sets forth the material terms and conditions of the Restructuring Transactions; provided, however, that the Term Sheet is supplemented by the terms and conditions of this Agreement. In the event of any inconsistency between the Term Sheet and this Agreement, this Agreement shall control.

the United States Code (the "<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri (the "<u>Bankruptcy Court</u>");

WHEREAS, as of the date hereof, the Debtors have debt outstanding under that certain First Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014, by and among (i) WBG – PSS Holdings LLC, as Holdings, and Payless Inc., Payless Finance, Inc., Payless ShoeSource, Inc., and Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc., as Borrowers, (collectively, the "Company Credit Agreement Parties"), (ii) the banks and other financial institutions named therein as lenders (the "First Lien Lenders"), (iii) Cortland Products Corp. ("Cortland"), as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent (as successor to Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. ("Morgan Stanley") in such capacity, the "First Lien Agent"), and (iv) Morgan Stanley, Jefferies Finance LLC, and MCS Capital Markets LLC, as Joint Lead Arrangers and Joint Bookrunners (as amended, modified, or otherwise supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the "First Lien Term Loan Agreement," and the claims and other obligations arising thereunder, the "First Lien Claims"), as further set forth in the Term Sheet;

WHEREAS, as of the date hereof, the Debtors have debt outstanding under that certain Second Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014, by and among (i) the Company Credit Agreement Parties, (ii) the banks and other financial institutions named therein as lenders (the "Second Lien Lenders"), (iii) Morgan Stanley, as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent, and (iv) Morgan Stanley, Jefferies Finance LLC, and MCS Capital Markets LLC, as Joint Lead Arrangers and Joint Bookrunners (as amended, modified, or otherwise supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the "Second Lien Term Loan Agreement," and the claims and other obligations arising thereunder, the "Second Lien Claims"), as further set forth in the Term Sheet;

**WHEREAS**, as of the date hereof, the Consenting Lenders beneficially own or control (with sole investment or voting discretion), in the aggregate, approximately 65.6% of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the First Lien Claims and 64.8% of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Second Lien Claims;

WHEREAS, as of the date hereof, the Debtors have debt outstanding under that certain asset-based credit agreement dated as of October 9, 2012, by and among (i) the Company Credit Agreement Parties, (ii) the banks and other financial institutions named therein as lenders (the "ABL Lenders"), (iii) Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, in its capacity as Agent and Co-Collateral Agent (the "ABL Agent"), (iv) General Electric Capital Corporation, as Co-Collateral Agent, Bank of America, N.A., as Syndication Agent, and Wells Fargo Capital Finance, LLC, and (v) Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, as Joint Lead Arrangers and Joint Bookrunners (as amended, modified, or otherwise supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the "ABL Credit Agreement"), as further set forth in the Term Sheet;

**WHEREAS,** the Debtors have requested and (i) certain of the ABL Lenders or their affiliates (in their capacities as such, the "<u>DIP ABL Lenders</u>") have agreed to provide a \$305 million debtor-in-possession revolving financing facility (the "<u>DIP ABL Facility</u>"); (ii) certain of the Consenting Lenders or their affiliates (in their capacities as such, the "<u>DIP Term Lenders</u>," and collectively with the DIP ABL Lenders, the "<u>DIP Lenders</u>") have agreed to provide an up to \$80 million debtor-in-possession term loan financing facility (the "<u>DIP Term Facility</u>," and with

the DIP ABL Facility, the "<u>DIP Financing</u>"), with the ABL Agent acting as the agent for the DIP ABL Facility and the First Lien Agent acting as the agent under the DIP Term Facility (in their capacity as such, the "<u>DIP Agents</u>"); and (iii) the Consenting Lenders and the ABL Agent have agreed to the Company's use of cash collateral, which DIP Financing and use of cash collateral will be in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the credit agreement governing the ABL Facility (the "<u>DIP ABL Credit Agreement</u>") and the credit agreement governing the DIP Term Facility (the "<u>DIP Term Credit Agreement</u>"; together with the <u>DIP ABL Credit Agreement</u>, the "<u>DIP Credit Agreements</u>") and a proposed order approving the DIP Financing, attached hereto as <u>Exhibit B</u> (the "<u>Interim DIP Order</u>," and collectively with the DIP Credit Agreements and any documents related thereto, the "<u>DIP Documents</u>");

WHEREAS, prior to the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases, the Company and the Consenting Lenders engaged in arm's-length, good-faith negotiations, culminating in the Parties' agreement on the terms of the Plan, as more particularly detailed and described herein, in the Term Sheet, and in the DIP Documents, that will be implemented through the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases and the filing by the Company of voluntary petitions with the Bankruptcy Court (the date of such filing, the "Petition Date"), which date shall be no later than one calendar day after the Agreement Effective Date; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parties are prepared to perform their obligations hereunder, subject to the terms and conditions hereof.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** in consideration of the premises and the mutual covenants and agreements set forth herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties, intending to be legally bound hereunder, do agree as follows:

## 1. Effectiveness.

This Agreement shall be effective and binding with respect to each of the Parties at the time at which (i) the Company shall have executed and delivered counterpart signature pages of this Agreement to counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee and (ii) Consenting Lenders holding more than 50.0% in principal amount of the First Lien Claims and more than 50.0% in principal amount of the Second Lien Claims shall have executed and delivered counterpart signature pages of this Agreement to counsel to the Company (the "Agreement Effective Date"); provided, however, that signature pages executed by the Consenting Parties shall be delivered to (a) counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee in an unredacted form and (b) the Company and its counsel in an unredacted form (to be held on a confidential basis by such counsel in accordance with Section 9 hereof).

## 2. Certain Definitions.

As used in this Agreement, the following terms have the following meanings:

- (a) "Confirmation Order" means the order confirming the Plan.
- (b) "Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee" means the undersigned Consenting Lenders represented by King & Spalding LLP and Houlihan Lokey Capital Inc.

- (c) "Definitive Documents" means all documents (including any related orders, agreements, instruments, schedules, or exhibits) that are contemplated by the Plan and that are otherwise necessary or desirable to implement, effectuate, or otherwise relate to the Restructuring, including, without limitation: (i) the Plan; (ii) the documents to be filed in the supplement to the Plan; (iii) the Disclosure Statement; (iv) Disclosure Statement Motion and the Disclosure Statement Order; (v) the Confirmation Order; (vi) any documentation relating to the use of cash collateral and the DIP Financing, including motions seeking authority to use cash collateral and obtain the DIP Financing, any Financing Orders, and the DIP Documents; (vii) any organizational documents, shareholder and member related agreements, or other governance documents for the reorganized Company; and (viii) such other documents or agreements as may be reasonably necessary to implement the Restructuring contemplated by this Agreement and the Term Sheet.
- (d) "*Disclosure Statement*" means the disclosure statement for the Plan that is prepared and distributed in accordance with sections 1125, 1126(b), and 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- (e) "Disclosure Statement Motion" means the motion seeking approval of the Disclosure Statement.
- (f) "Disclosure Statement Order" means the order approving the Disclosure Statement.
- (g) "*Final Financing Order*" means one or more final orders entered by the Bankruptcy Court authorizing the Debtors to enter into the DIP Financing.
- (h) "**Financing Orders**" means the Final Financing Order and Interim Financing Order, collectively.
- (i) "Holder" means any individual, partnership, joint venture, firm, or corporation that beneficially owns or controls (with sole investment or voting discretion) First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims, as applicable.
- (j) "Interim Financing Order" means one or more interim orders entered by the Bankruptcy Court authorizing the Debtors to enter into the DIP Financing on an interim basis.
  - (k) "Plan Effective Date" means the effective date of the Plan.
- (1) "*Plan Support Period*" means the period commencing on the Agreement Effective Date and ending on the earlier of the (i) date on which this Agreement is terminated in accordance with <u>Section 6</u> hereof and (ii) the Plan Effective Date.
- (m) "Requisite Consenting Lenders" means, as of the relevant date, Consenting Lenders that collectively hold at least a majority of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the First Lien Claims held by all of the Consenting Lenders as of such date.

## 3. Definitive Documents

Each of the Definitive Documents shall (A) contain terms and conditions consistent in all material respects with this Agreement, the Term Sheet, and the DIP Documents and (B) shall otherwise be reasonably satisfactory in all respects to the Company and the Consenting Lenders, including with respect to any modifications, amendments, deletions, or supplements to such Definitive Documents at any time during the Plan Support Period.

## 4. Agreements of the Consenting Parties.

- (a) During the Plan Support Period, subject to the terms and conditions hereof, each Consenting Party agrees, solely with respect to itself, that:
- (i) it will use its commercially reasonable efforts to support the Restructuring and the transactions contemplated by the Term Sheet, as applicable, and to act in good faith and take all commercially reasonable actions necessary to consummate the Restructuring and the Restructuring Transactions in a manner consistent with this Agreement, including the timelines set forth herein;
- it shall not (A) direct any administrative agent or collateral agent to take any action inconsistent with such Consenting Party's obligations under this Agreement, and, if any applicable administrative agent or collateral agent takes any action inconsistent with such Consenting Party's obligations under this Agreement, such Consenting Party shall use its commercially reasonable efforts to request that such administrative agent or collateral agent cease and refrain from taking any such action (but shall not be required to incur any indemnification obligations in respect of such request or otherwise), or (B) directly or indirectly encourage any other person or entity to directly or indirectly, (x) object to, delay, impede, or take any other action or any inaction to interfere with the acceptance, approval, implementation, consummation, or amendment of the Plan (whether before or after confirmation, provided that such amendment is consistent with this Agreement); (y) propose, file, support, vote for, or take any other action in furtherance of any restructuring, workout, plan of arrangement, or plan of reorganization for the Company that is inconsistent with this Agreement, the DIP Documents, the Term Sheet, or the Plan, as applicable; or (z) exercise any right or remedy for the enforcement, collection, or recovery of any claim against the Company except in a manner consistent with this Agreement, the Financing Orders, and the Plan, as applicable;
- (iii) subject to the receipt of the Disclosure Statement pursuant to the Disclosure Statement Order, it shall (A) timely vote or cause to be voted any First Lien Claims and Second Lien Claims (as applicable) it holds to accept the Plan by timely delivering its duly executed and completed ballot or ballots, as applicable, accepting the Plan on a timely basis following commencement of the solicitation of acceptances of the Plan in accordance with sections 1125(g) and 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code; (B) not change or withdraw such vote or the elections described above (or cause or direct such vote or elections to be changed or withdrawn); provided, however, that such vote or elections shall be immediately revoked (and deemed void ab initio) by all Consenting Parties upon the expiration of the Plan Support Period or the termination of this Agreement; and (C) to the extent it is permitted to elect whether to opt out of

the releases set forth in the Plan, not elect to opt out of the releases set forth in the Plan by timely delivering its duly executed and completed ballot or ballots indicating such election; and

- (iv) use commercially reasonable efforts to support, and take all commercially reasonable actions necessary to facilitate, the approval of the Disclosure Statement, solicitation of votes on the Plan, and confirmation and consummation of the Plan.
- Transfers. During the Plan Support Period, subject to the terms and (b) conditions hereof, each Consenting Party agrees, solely with respect to itself, that it shall not sell, use, assign, convey, grant, transfer, permit the participation in, or otherwise dispose of, in whole or in part (each, a "Transfer"), any ownership (including any beneficial ownership)<sup>4</sup> in the First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims, as applicable, that it holds (collectively, for purposes of this Section 4, the "Consenting Party Claims"), as applicable, or any option thereon or any right or interest therein (including, but not limited to, accomplishing the same, by granting any proxies or depositing any interests in the Consenting Party Claims into a voting trust or by entering into a voting agreement with respect to the Consenting Party Claims), unless (i) the intended transferee is a Consenting Party or (ii) if the intended transferee is not a Consenting Party, such intended transferee executes and delivers to counsel to the Company on the terms set forth below an executed transfer agreement in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C (a "Transfer Agreement") before such Transfer is effective (it being understood and agreed by the Parties that any such Transfer shall not be effective as against the Company until notification of such Transfer and a copy of the executed, unaltered, and unredacted Transfer Agreement is received by counsel to the Company, in each case, on the terms set forth herein) (such transfer, a "Permitted Transfer" and such party to such Permitted Transfer, a "Permitted Transferee"), in which event (I) the transferee (including the Consenting Party transferee, if applicable) shall be deemed to be a Consenting Party hereunder to the extent of such transferred rights and obligations, and (II) the transferor shall be deemed to relinquish its rights (and be released from its obligations) under this Agreement to the extent of such transferred rights and obligations. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, during the Plan Support Period, each Consenting Party may offer, sell, or otherwise transfer any or all of its holdings of First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims to any entity that, as of the date of transfer, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with such Consenting Party; provided, however, that such entity shall automatically be subject to the terms of this Agreement and deemed a Consenting Party hereunder, and shall execute a Transfer Agreement.
- (i) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, (A) the foregoing provisions shall not preclude any Consenting Party from settling or delivering any Consenting Party Claims to settle any confirmed transaction pending as of the date of such Consenting Party's entry into this Agreement (subject to compliance with applicable securities laws and it being understood that such Consenting Party Claims so acquired and held (i.e., not as a part of a short transaction) shall be subject to the terms of this Agreement), (B) a Qualified Marketmaker<sup>5</sup>

As used herein, the term "beneficial ownership" means the direct or indirect economic ownership of, and/or the power, whether by contract or otherwise, to direct the exercise of the voting rights and the disposition of, all or any portion of the Consenting Party Claims or the right to acquire any such Consenting Party Claims.

As used herein, the term "Qualified Marketmaker" means an entity that (a) holds itself out to the public or the applicable private markets as standing ready in the ordinary course of business to purchase from customers and

that acquires any Consenting Party Claims with the purpose and intent of acting as a Qualified Marketmaker for such Consenting Party Claims, shall not be required to execute and deliver to counsel a Transfer Agreement or otherwise agree to be bound by the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement if the transfer otherwise is a Permitted Transfer; provided, however, that if any of the conditions in this clause (B) is not satisfied, the Qualified Marketmaker will be required to execute and deliver a Transfer Agreement, and (C) to the extent any Party is acting solely in its capacity as a Qualified Marketmaker, it may Transfer any ownership interests in the Consenting Party Claims (as applicable) that it acquires from a holder of the Consenting Party Claims that is not a Consenting Party to a transferee that is not a Consenting Party at the time of such Transfer without the requirement that the transferee be or become a signatory to this Agreement or execute a Transfer Agreement; provided, however, that in the event such Party fails to act solely in its capacity as a Qualified Marketmaker in compliance with this clause (C), any transferee that is not a Consenting Party must execute and deliver a Transfer Agreement.

- Consenting Party from acquiring additional Consenting Party Claims; provided, however, that (A) any Consenting Party that acquires additional Consenting Party Claims during the Plan Support period shall promptly notify counsel to the Company and counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee of such acquisition, including the amount of such acquisition, and (B) such acquired Consenting Party Claims shall automatically and immediately upon acquisition by a Consenting Party be deemed subject to the terms of this Agreement (regardless of when or whether notice of such acquisition is given to the Company), in the case of each of clauses (A) and (B), other than with respect to any Consenting Party Claims acquired by such Consenting Party in its capacity as a Qualified Marketmaker, in accordance with Section 4(b)(i).
- (iii) This <u>Section 4</u> shall not impose any obligation on the Company to issue any "cleansing letter" or otherwise publicly disclose information for the purpose of enabling a Consenting Party to Transfer any Consenting Party Claims. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, to the extent the Company and another Party have entered into a separate agreement with respect to the issuance of a "cleansing letter" or other public disclosure of information (each such executed agreement, a "<u>Confidentiality Agreement</u>"), the terms of such Confidentiality Agreement shall continue to apply and remain in full force and effect according to its terms.
- (iv) Any Transfer made in violation of this <u>Section 4(b)</u> shall be void *ab initio*.
- (c) <u>DIP Term Facility Backstop</u>. Each Consenting Lender holding a First Lien Claim that has executed this Agreement prior to the Petition Date (each, an "<u>Initial Consenting Lender</u>" and collectively, the "<u>Initial Consenting Lenders</u>"), may, at its option, directly or through one more affiliated funds or financing vehicles (or funds or accounts advised or sub-advised by such person) commit to backstop the aggregate Term DIP Commitments (as

sell to customers claims against the Company (or enter with customers into long and short positions in claims against the Company), in its capacity as a dealer or market maker in claims against the Company and (b) is, in fact, regularly in the business of making a market in claims against issuers or borrowers (including debt securities or other debt).

such term is defined in the Term DIP Credit Agreement) on a pro rata basis, determined based on the outstanding aggregate principal amount of First Lien Claims held by the Initial Consenting Lenders or their affiliated funds as of the Petition Date (each such Initial Consenting Lender backstopping the Term DIP Commitments, a "Backstop Lender"; collectively, the "Backstop Lender's commitment, a "Backstop DIP Commitment"; and collectively, the "Backstop DIP Commitments"). To the extent one or more of the Initial Consenting Lenders elects to not backstop its pro rata share of the Term DIP Commitments, the remaining Backstop Lenders shall cover such Initial Consenting Lender's funding obligation on a pro rata basis. In exchange for each Backstop Lender's Backstop DIP Commitment, each such Backstop Lender shall be entitled to a backstop fee equal to 3.00% on the entire Backstop DIP Commitments as set forth in the DIP Fee Letter (as such term is defined in the Term DIP Credit Agreement).

## 5. Agreements of the Company.

- (a) Subject to the terms and conditions hereof, including <u>Section 6(c)(iii)</u>, prior to and during the Plan Support Period, the Company agrees that it shall, without limitation:
- (i) (A)(1) complete and file, within the timeframes contemplated herein, the Plan, the Disclosure Statement, and the other Definitive Documents and (2) use commercially reasonable efforts to obtain entry by the Bankruptcy Court of the Financing Orders, the Disclosure Statement Order, and the Confirmation Order within the timeframes contemplated by this Agreement; and (B) use commercially reasonable efforts to obtain any and all required regulatory and/or third-party approvals for the Restructuring embodied in the Plan, if any, and solely to the extent necessary to effectuate the Restructuring;
- (ii) continue to operate its businesses without material change in such operations or disposition of material assets (in each case, unless the Requisite Consenting Lenders have expressly consented thereto in writing) in accordance with its business judgment, and confer with the Consenting Parties and their respective representatives, as reasonably requested, to report on operational matters and the general status of ongoing operations; provided, however, notwithstanding the forgoing, the Debtors shall be permitted to continue the liquidation of certain business assets as contemplated by the "going-out-of-business" motion to be filed with the Bankruptcy Court or any disposition of assets contemplated by a budget prepared in connection with the Final Financing Orders.
- (iii) (A) support and take all reasonable actions necessary or reasonably requested by the Requisite Consenting Lenders to facilitate the solicitation, confirmation, and consummation of the Restructuring, the Plan, and the transactions contemplated thereby, (B) not take any action directly or indirectly that is inconsistent with, or that would reasonably be expected to prevent, interfere with, delay, or impede the approval of the Disclosure Statement, the solicitation of votes on the Plan, and the confirmation and consummation of the Plan and the Restructuring, including soliciting, causing, or allowing any of its agents or representatives to solicit any agreements relating to any chapter 11 plan or restructuring transaction (including, for the avoidance of doubt, a transaction premised on an asset sale of substantially all of the Company's assets under section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code) other than the Restructuring (an "Alternative Transaction"), and (C) (x) not, nor encourage any other person to, take any action

which would, or would reasonably be expected to, breach or be inconsistent with this Agreement or delay, impede, appeal, or take any other negative action, directly or indirectly, or encourage any other entity to interfere with the acceptance or implementation of the Restructuring, and (y) in the event any other person takes any action described in the preceding clause (x), take all steps reasonably necessary to affirmatively contest such action and/or object thereto, including, without limitation, timely filing a formal written response in opposition thereto with the Bankruptcy Court;

(iv) (A) provide (x) draft copies of all first day motions or applications and other documents that the Company intends to file with the Bankruptcy Court on the Petition Date, and (y) draft copies of all other material motions and applications that the Company intends to file with the Bankruptcy Court after the Petition Date, in each case, to counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee at least three (3) calendar days prior to the date on which the Company intends to file such documents; provided, that final filing versions of such documents shall be reasonably acceptable, in form and substance, to the Requisite Consenting Lenders or otherwise amended to be reasonably acceptable, in form and substance, to the Requisite Consenting Lenders upon the Company receiving notice that any final filing versions were not reasonably acceptable to the Requisite Consenting Lenders;

(B) file on the Petition Date such first day motions and pleadings that are reasonably acceptable in form and substance, to the Requisite Consenting Lenders;

(C) (i) file the Plan, the Disclosure Statement (other than any exhibits attached thereto), and the Disclosure Statement Motion with the Bankruptcy Court within 21 calendar days of the Petition Date (the "Plan Filing Date"); (ii) obtain approval of the Disclosure Statement Motion within 35 calendar days of the Plan Filing Date, and (iii) obtain entry of the Confirmation Order within 91 calendar days of the Plan Filing Date (such date that the Confirmation Order is entered, the "Confirmation Date");

(D) seek a Confirmation Order that becomes effective and enforceable immediately upon its entry and seek to have the period in which an appeal thereto must be filed commence immediately upon its entry;

(v) obtain authority, pursuant to the Financing Orders, to pay all preand postpetition reasonable and documented (in summary form) fees and expenses of (A)
King & Spalding LLP, as counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee, (B) Houlihan
Lokey Capital, Inc., as financial advisor to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee, (C)
Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP, as counsel to the First Lien Agent; and (D) counsel retained by
any Initial Consenting Lender prior to the Petition Date (and acknowledged on or prior to such
date by counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee); provided that, and so long as,
such Initial Consenting Lender (i) remains a party to and fulfills its obligations under this
Agreement (unless such Initial Consenting Lender terminates this Agreement pursuant to Section
6(e), in which case the fees and expenses of such terminating Initial Consenting Lender's
counsel shall be paid by the Company through and including the termination date); and (ii)
becomes a lender under the Term DIP Facility and fulfills its obligations under the Term DIP
Credit Agreement;

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- (vi) maintain their good standing under the laws of the states in which they are incorporated or organized;
- (vii) timely file with the Bankruptcy Court or any other applicable United States court a formal written objection to any motion filed with the Bankruptcy Court or any other United States court by any party seeking the entry of an order (A) directing the appointment of an examiner with expanded powers or a trustee in any of the Chapter 11 Cases, (B) converting any of the Chapter 11 Cases to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code, (C) dismissing any of the Chapter 11 Cases, (D) modifying or terminating the Company's exclusive right to file and/or solicit acceptances of a plan of reorganization, or (E) granting any relief inconsistent with this Agreement and the Definitive Documents;
- (viii) provide to the Consenting Parties and/or their respective professionals, upon reasonable advance notice to the Company, (A) reasonable access to the respective management and advisors of the Company for the purposes of evaluating the Company's finances and operations and participating in the planning process with respect to the Restructuring; (B) prompt access to any information provided to any existing or prospective financing sources (including lenders under any exit financing facility); and (C) timely and reasonable responses to all diligence requests;
- (ix) use their commercially reasonable efforts to preserve intact in all material respects their current business organizations, keep available the services of their current officers and material employees (in each case, other than voluntary resignations, terminations for cause, or terminations consistent with applicable fiduciary duties), and preserve in all material respects their relationships with customers, sales representatives, suppliers, distributors, and others, in each case, having material business dealings with the Company (other than terminations for cause or consistent with applicable fiduciary duties);
- (x) provide prompt written notice to the Consenting Parties between the date hereof and the Plan Effective Date of (A) the occurrence, or failure to occur, of any event of which the Company knows (or, upon reasonable inquiry, should have known), which occurrence or failure would be likely to cause (1) any covenant of the Company contained in this Agreement not to be satisfied in any material respect or (2) any condition precedent contained in the Plan or this Agreement not to timely occur or become impossible to satisfy, (B) receipt of any notice from any third-party alleging that the consent of such party is or may be required in connection with the transactions contemplated by the Restructuring, (C) receipt of any notice from any governmental unit with jurisdiction in connection with this Agreement or the transactions contemplated by the Restructuring, (D) receipt of any notice of any proceeding commenced, or, to the actual knowledge of the Company, threatened against the Company, relating to or involving or otherwise affecting in any material respect the transactions contemplated by the Restructuring, and (E) any failure of the Company to comply, in any material respect, with or satisfy any covenant, condition, or agreement to be complied with or satisfied by it hereunder;
- (xi) to the extent permitted under applicable law and confidentiality obligations, promptly notify the other Parties in writing following the receipt, in writing, of notice of any material governmental, regulatory, or third-party complaints, litigations,

investigations, or hearings (or communications indicating that the same may be contemplated or threatened);

- (xii) provide notice of any written or oral offer or proposal for an Alternative Transaction received by the Company or its advisors, together with copies of any and all documents relating thereto, to the advisors to counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee, within one business day of the Company's or their advisors' receipt thereof; and
  - (xiii) comply with all covenants set forth in the Term Sheet.
- (b) Negative Covenants. The Company agrees that, for the duration of the Plan Support Period, the Company shall not take any action inconsistent with, or omit to take any action required by, this Agreement, the Plan, or any of the other Definitive Documents. The Company further agrees that prior to and during the Plan Support Period, the Company shall not: (i) take any action that impairs or removes any interest or right the Consenting Parties have in and to any collateral held or owned by the Company without the consent of the First Lien Lenders or bankruptcy court order authorizing such action; (ii) make any transfers from and after the Agreement Effective Date and through the Plan Support Period to or for the account of insiders or affiliates in respect of antecedent debt without a Bankruptcy Court order; and (iii) other than voluntary departure or termination for cause, change any of its management team without immediate replacement with another qualified individual.
- (c) <u>Automatic Stay.</u> The Company acknowledges and agrees and shall not dispute that after the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases, the giving of notice of termination by any Party pursuant to this Agreement shall not be a violation of the automatic stay of section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code (and the Company hereby waives, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the applicability of the automatic stay as it relates to any such notice being provided). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, following the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases and unless and until there is an unstayed order of the Bankruptcy Court providing that the giving of notice under and/or termination of this Agreement in accordance with its terms is not prohibited by the automatic stay imposed by section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code, the occurrence of any of the termination events in Section 6(b), 6(d), or 6(e) shall result in an automatic termination of this Agreement, to the extent any of the Terminating Consenting Parties (as defined below) would otherwise have the ability to terminate this Agreement in accordance with Section 6(b), 6(d), or 6(e), five (5) calendar days following such occurrence unless waived in writing by all of the Terminating Consenting Parties.
- (d) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, nothing in this Agreement shall require the Company or any directors, officers, or members of the Company, each in its capacity as a director, officer, or member of the Company, to take any action, or to refrain from taking any action, to the extent inconsistent with its or their fiduciary obligations under applicable law (as reasonably determined by them in good faith after consultation with legal counsel).

### **6.** Termination of Agreement.

- (a) <u>Automatic Termination</u>. This Agreement shall terminate automatically, without any further action required by any Party, upon the occurrence of any of the following events: (i) entry of an order denying confirmation of the Plan, (ii) the occurrence of the Plan Effective Date, (iii) an order confirming the Plan is reversed or vacated, or (iv) any court of competent jurisdiction has entered a final, non-appealable judgment or order declaring this Agreement to be unenforceable.
- (b) <u>Consenting Party Termination Events</u>. This Agreement may be terminated by the Requisite Consenting Lenders (or the First Lien Agent acting at the direction of the Requisite Consenting Lenders) by the delivery to the Company, and counsel to the Consenting Parties other than the Consenting Parties seeking to terminate this Agreement pursuant to this <u>Section 6(b)</u> (such Consenting Parties seeking to terminate, the "<u>Terminating Consenting Parties</u>") of a written notice in accordance with <u>Section 19</u> hereof, upon the occurrence of any of the following events (each, a "<u>Consenting Party Termination Event</u>"):
- (i) the Company fails to meet any of the Milestones as set forth in the Term sheet;
- (ii) the breach by any Party other than the Terminating Consenting Parties, of (A) any affirmative or negative covenant contained in this Agreement or (B) any other obligations of such breaching Party set forth in this Agreement, in each case, in any material respect (without giving effect to any "materiality" qualifiers set forth therein), and, in either respect, to the extent such breach would have a material adverse effect on the consummation of the Restructuring in accordance with the Term Sheet or the DIP Documents and which breach remains uncured for a period of 5 calendar days following such breaching Party's receipt of notice pursuant to Section 19 hereof (as applicable);
- (iii) any representation or warranty in this Agreement made by the Company shall have been untrue in any material respect when made or shall have become untrue in any material respect, or the Company violates any of the covenants herein, and such breach remains uncured for a period of 10 calendar days following the Company's receipt of notice pursuant to Section 19 hereof (as applicable);
- (iv) the Company files any motion, pleading, or related document with the Bankruptcy Court in a manner that is materially inconsistent with this Agreement, the DIP Credit Agreements, the Term Sheet, or the Plan, and such motion, pleading, or related document has not been withdrawn after 3 business days of the Company receiving written notice in accordance with Section 19 that such motion, pleading, or related document is materially inconsistent with this Agreement, the Term Sheet, the DIP Documents, or the Plan;
- (v) the issuance by any governmental authority, including any regulatory authority or court of competent jurisdiction, of any ruling, judgment, or order enjoining the consummation of or rendering illegal the Plan or the Restructuring or any material portion thereof, and either (A) such ruling, judgment, or order has been issued at the request of or

with the acquiescence of the Company, or (B) in all other circumstances, such ruling, judgment, or order has not been reversed or vacated within 30 calendar days after such issuance;

- (vi) the Bankruptcy Court (or other court of competent jurisdiction) enters an order (A) directing the appointment of an examiner with expanded powers or a trustee in any of the Chapter 11 Cases, (B) converting any of the Chapter 11 Cases to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code, (C) dismissing any of the Chapter 11 Cases, or (D) the effect of which would render the Plan incapable of consummation on the terms set forth in this Agreement or the Term Sheet;
- (vii) the Company's consensual use of cash collateral has been terminated in accordance with the terms of the Financing Orders;
- (viii) other than pursuant to any relief sought by the Company that is not materially inconsistent with its obligations under this Agreement or the Plan, the Bankruptcy Court grants relief terminating, annulling, or modifying the automatic stay (as set forth in section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code) with respect to any assets of the Company having an aggregate fair market value in excess of \$5.0 million without the prior written consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders;
- (ix) the Company files or supports (or fails to timely object to) another party in filing (A) a motion or pleading challenging the amount, validity, or priority of any First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims or (B) any plan of reorganization, liquidation, or sale of all or substantially all of the Company's assets, other than the Restructuring set forth herein;
- (x) the Company (A) withdraws the Plan, (B) publicly announces or otherwise informs any of the Consenting Parties of its intention not to support the Plan or the Restructuring, (C) files a motion with the Bankruptcy Court seeking the approval of an Alternative Transaction, or (D) agrees to pursue (including, for the avoidance of doubt, as may be evidenced by a term sheet, letter of intent, or similar document) or publicly announces its intent to pursue an Alternative Transaction;
- (xi) if the Definitive Documents and any amendments, modifications, deletions, or supplements thereto do not comply with Section 3 or Section 10 of this Agreement, as applicable; provided that such Definitive Documents or amendments, modifications, deletions, or supplements thereto were not modified to be consistent with Section 3 or Section 10, as applicable, or withdrawn within five (5) business days following such breaching Party's receipt of notice pursuant to Section 19 hereof;
- (xii) the Bankruptcy Court enters an order modifying or terminating the Company's exclusive right to file and/or solicit acceptances of a plan of reorganization (including the Plan);
- (xiii) the occurrence of any Event of Default under (and as defined in) the Definitive Documentation governing the DIP Financing;
- (xiv) the Company has determined to exercise its rights under Section 6(c)(iii) of this Agreement;

- (xv) the Company files a motion seeking entry of an order approving any key employee incentive plan, employee retention plan, or comparable plan, except as provided in the Plan, without the prior written consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders; or
- (xvi) Holders of First Lien Claims do not receive under the Plan on account of such First Lien Claims their pro rata share of at least 86.5% of the New Equity (but subject to dilution from the MEIP and Exit Commitment Fee) after taking into account distributions to all other holders of claims and interests under the Plan.
- (c) <u>Company Termination Events.</u> This Agreement may be terminated by the Company pursuant to this Section 6(c) five (5) calendar days following the delivery to counsel to the Consenting Parties of a written notice in accordance with Section 19 hereof, which notice may be delivered upon the occurrence of any of the following events (each, a "Company Termination Event"):
- (i) the breach by one or more of the Consenting Lenders representing in excess of 50.01% of the aggregate principal amount of the First Lien Claims each with respect to any of the representations, warranties, or covenants of such Consenting Party, as set forth in this Agreement, to the extent such breach would have a material adverse effect on the consummation of the Restructuring, and which breach remains uncured for a period of five (5) calendar days after the receipt by the applicable Consenting Lenders from the Company of written notice of such breach;
- (ii) the issuance by any governmental authority, including any regulatory authority or court of competent jurisdiction, of any ruling, judgment, or order enjoining the consummation of or rendering illegal the Plan or the Restructuring or any material portion thereof, and either (A) such ruling, judgment, or order has been issued at the request of or with the acquiescence of the Company, or (B) in all other circumstances, such ruling, judgment, or order has not been reversed or vacated within thirty (30) calendar days after such issuance; or
- (iii) the board of directors, managers, or similar governing body, as applicable, of any Company entity determines that taking any action, refraining from taking any action, or continued performance under this Agreement would be inconsistent to any extent with its (or their respective officers or directors') fiduciary obligations under applicable law (as reasonably determined by the Company in good faith after consultation with legal counsel).
- (d) <u>Mutual Termination</u>. This Agreement may be terminated by mutual agreement of the Company and the Requisite Consenting Lenders upon the receipt of written notice delivered in accordance with Section 19 hereof.
- (e) <u>Consenting Party Individual Termination Right.</u> Any individual Consenting Party shall have the right to terminate this Agreement, as to itself only, if (i) the Plan Effective Date shall not have occurred by 11:59 p.m. (New York time) on the date that is 210 calendar days after the Petition Date (the "<u>Outside Date</u>") or (ii) (x) the Company or any other Consenting Party takes any action that is inconsistent with this Agreement or the Term Sheet or (y) this Agreement or the Term Sheet or any provision therein is waived, modified, amended or changed without the consent of the affected Consenting Party that, in either case, in the

reasonable determination of the affected Consenting Party, disproportionately and adversely affects the rights of such Consenting Party (including with respect to its Second Lien Claims) and its affiliates (taken as a whole) related to or under this Agreement, the Term Sheet or the Plan. In the event a Consenting Party terminates pursuant to this Section 6(e), such termination shall be effective as to such Consenting Party only and shall not affect any of the rights or obligations of any other party to this Agreement.

(f) Effect of Termination. Upon the termination of this Agreement in accordance with this Section 6, and except as provided in Section 13 hereof, this Agreement shall forthwith become null and void and of no further force or effect as to all Parties and each Party shall, except as provided otherwise in this Agreement, be immediately released from its liabilities, obligations, commitments, undertakings, and agreements under or related to this Agreement and shall have all the rights and remedies that it would have had and shall be entitled to take all actions, whether with respect to the Restructuring or otherwise, that it would have been entitled to take had (notwithstanding the passage of any applicable deadlines) it not entered into this Agreement; provided, however, that in no event shall any such termination relieve a Party from liability for its breach or non-performance of its obligations hereunder prior to the date of such termination. Upon any such termination of this Agreement, any vote or consent given by the Consenting Parties prior to termination shall automatically be deemed, for all purposes, to be null and void ab initio and shall not be considered or otherwise used in any manner by the Parties in connection with the Restructuring and this Agreement and such consents or ballots may be changed or resubmitted regardless of whether the applicable voting deadline has passed (without the need to seek a court order or consent from the Company allowing such change or resubmission).

### 7. Definitive Documents; Good Faith Cooperation; Further Assurances.

Subject to the terms and conditions described herein, during the Plan Support Period, each Party, severally and not jointly, hereby covenants and agrees to reasonably cooperate with each other in good faith in connection with the negotiation, drafting, execution, and delivery of the Definitive Documents. Furthermore, subject to the terms and conditions hereof, each of the Parties shall take such action as may be reasonably necessary or reasonably requested by the other Parties to carry out the purposes and intent of this Agreement, including making and filing any required regulatory filings (provided, however, that no Consenting Party shall be required to incur any out of pocket cost or expense, or any liability in connection therewith).

### 8. Representations and Warranties.

- (a) Each Party, severally and not jointly, represents and warrants to the other Parties that the following statements are true, correct, and complete as of the date hereof (or as of the date a Consenting Party becomes a party hereto):
- (i) such Party is validly existing and in good standing under the laws of its jurisdiction of incorporation or organization, and has all requisite corporate, partnership, limited liability company, or similar authority to enter into this Agreement and carry out the transactions contemplated hereby and perform its obligations contemplated hereunder; and the

execution and delivery of this Agreement and the performance of such Party's obligations hereunder have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate, limited liability company, partnership, or other similar action on its part;

- (ii) the execution, delivery, and performance by such Party of this Agreement does not and will not (A) violate any provision of law, rule, or regulation applicable to it, its charter, or its bylaws (or other similar governing documents), or (B) conflict with, result in a breach of or constitute (with due notice or lapse of time or both) a default under any material contractual obligation to which it is a party (except to the extent such conduct is consented to by the counterparty thereto or the Requisite Consenting Lenders relevant thereto);
- (iii) the execution, delivery, and performance by such Party of this Agreement does not and will not require any registration or filing with, consent or approval of, or notice to, or other action, with or by, any federal, state, or governmental authority or regulatory body, except such filings as may be necessary and/or required by the SEC; and
- (iv) this Agreement is the legally valid and binding obligation of such Party, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, except as enforcement may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, or other similar laws relating to or limiting creditors' rights generally or by equitable principles relating to enforceability or a ruling of the Bankruptcy Court.
- (b) Each Consenting Party severally (and not jointly) represents and warrants to the Company that, as of the date hereof (or as of the date such Consenting Party becomes a party hereto), such Consenting Party (i) is the beneficial owner of the aggregate principal amount of First Lien Claims, and/or Second Lien Claims (as applicable) set forth below its name on the signature page hereof (or below its name on the signature page of a Transfer Agreement for any Consenting Party that becomes a party hereto after the date hereof), and/or (ii) has, with respect to the beneficial owners of such First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims (as applicable), (A) sole investment or voting discretion with respect to such First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims (as applicable), (B) full power and authority to vote on and consent to matters concerning such First Lien Claims, and/or Second Lien Claims, (as applicable), or to exchange, assign, and transfer such First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims (as applicable), and (C) full power and authority to bind or act on the behalf of, such beneficial owners.

### 9. <u>Disclosure</u>; Publicity.

- (a) On or before the Petition Date, the Company shall disseminate a press release disclosing the existence of this Agreement and the terms hereof and of the Plan (including any schedules and exhibits thereto that are filed with the Bankruptcy Court on the Petition Date) with such redactions as may be reasonably requested by counsel to any Consenting Party to maintain the confidentiality of the parties provided in Section 9(b), except as otherwise required by law.
- (b) The Company shall submit drafts to counsel to the Consenting Parties of any press releases and public documents, that constitute disclosure of the existence or terms of this Agreement or any amendment to the terms of this Agreement at least three (3) calendar days

prior to making any such disclosure, and shall afford them a reasonable opportunity under the circumstances to comment on such documents and disclosures, final versions of which shall be reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders. Except as required by law or otherwise permitted under the terms of any other agreement between the Company on the one hand, and any Consenting Party, on the other hand, no Party or its advisors (including counsel to any Party) shall disclose to any person or entity (including, for the avoidance of doubt, any other Consenting Party), other than advisors to the Company, the principal amount or percentage of any First Lien Claims, Second Lien Claims, or any other securities of the Company held by any Party, in each case, without such Party's prior written consent; provided, however, that (i) if such disclosure is required by law, subpoena, or other legal process or regulation, the disclosing Party shall afford the relevant Party a reasonable opportunity to review and comment in advance of such disclosure and shall take all reasonable measures to limit such disclosure (the expense of which, if any, shall be borne by the relevant disclosing Party) and (ii) the foregoing shall not prohibit the disclosure of the aggregate percentage or aggregate principal amount of First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims held by all Consenting Parties. Notwithstanding the provisions in this Section 9, any Party may disclose, to the extent consented to in writing by a duly authorized officer or representative of the affected Consenting Party, such Consenting Party's individual holdings.

### 10. Amendments and Waivers.

During the Plan Support Period, this Agreement, including any exhibits or schedules hereto, may not be waived, modified, amended, or supplemented except in a writing signed by the Company and the Requisite Consenting Lenders; provided, however, that (i) any modification, amendment, deletion, or change to the definition of Requisite Consenting Lenders shall, in each case, require the prior written consent of each Consenting First Lien Lender, (ii) any extension of the Outside Date with respect to any Consenting First Lien Lender shall require the prior written consent of such Consenting First Lien Lender, (iii) any modification, amendment, deletion, or change to this Section 10 or the definition of Requisite Consenting Lenders shall require the prior written consent of each Requisite Creditor and (iv) any modification, amendment, or change to Section 6(e) shall require the prior written consent of each Consenting Party; provided further, however, that any waiver, modification, amendment, deletion, or supplement that disproportionately and adversely affects the economic recoveries or treatment of any Consenting Party under the Plan may not be made without the prior written consent of each such adversely affected Consenting Party.

### 11. Governing Law; Jurisdiction; Waiver of Jury Trial.

- (a) This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and the rights of the Parties shall be governed by, the law of the State of New York, without giving effect to the conflicts of law principles thereof.
- (b) Each of the Parties irrevocably agrees that any legal action, suit, or proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement brought by any party or its successors or assigns shall be brought and determined in any federal or state court in the Borough of Manhattan, the City of New York, and each of the Parties hereby irrevocably submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of the aforesaid courts for itself and with respect to its property, generally

and unconditionally, with regard to any such proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the Restructuring Transactions. Each of the Parties agrees not to commence any proceeding relating hereto or thereto except in the courts described above in New York or in the Bankruptcy Court, other than proceedings in any court of competent jurisdiction to enforce any judgment, decree, or award rendered by any such court in New York as described herein. Each of the Parties further agrees that notice as provided herein shall constitute sufficient service of process and the Parties further waive any argument that such service is insufficient. Subject to the foregoing, each of the Parties hereby irrevocably and unconditionally waives, and agrees not to assert, by way of motion or as a defense, counterclaim, or otherwise, in any proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the Restructuring Transactions, (i) any claim that it is not personally subject to the jurisdiction of the courts in New York as described herein for any reason, (ii) that it or its property is exempt or immune from jurisdiction of any such court or from any legal process commenced in such courts (whether through service of notice, attachment prior to judgment, attachment in aid of execution of judgment, execution of judgment, or otherwise) and (iii) that (A) the proceeding in any such court is brought in an inconvenient forum, (B) the venue of such proceeding is improper, or (C) this Agreement, or the subject matter hereof, may not be enforced in or by such courts. Notwithstanding the foregoing, during the pendency of the Chapter 11 Cases, all proceedings contemplated by this Section 11(b) shall be brought in the Bankruptcy Court.

(c) EACH PARTY HEREBY WAIVES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY RIGHT IT MAY HAVE TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY LEGAL PROCEEDING DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED HEREBY (WHETHER BASED ON CONTRACT, TORT, OR ANY OTHER THEORY). EACH PARTY (I) CERTIFIES THAT NO REPRESENTATIVE, AGENT, OR ATTORNEY OF ANY OTHER PARTY HAS REPRESENTED, EXPRESSLY OR OTHERWISE, THAT SUCH OTHER PARTY WOULD NOT, IN THE EVENT OF LITIGATION, SEEK TO ENFORCE THE FOREGOING WAIVER AND (II) ACKNOWLEDGES THAT IT AND THE OTHER PARTIES HAVE BEEN INDUCED TO ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMENT BY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE MUTUAL WAIVERS AND CERTIFICATIONS IN THIS SECTION.

### 12. Specific Performance/Remedies.

It is understood and agreed by the Parties that money damages would not be a sufficient remedy for any breach of this Agreement by any Party and each non-breaching Party shall be entitled to specific performance and injunctive or other equitable relief (including attorneys' fees and costs) as a remedy of any such breach, without the necessity of proving the inadequacy of money damages as a remedy, including an order of the Bankruptcy Court requiring any Party to comply promptly with any of its obligations hereunder.

### 13. Survival.

Notwithstanding the termination of this Agreement pursuant to  $\underline{\text{Section 6}}$  hereof, the agreements and obligations of the Parties set forth in this  $\underline{\text{Section 13}}$  and the following  $\underline{\text{Sections: 1, 6(f), 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20}}$  and  $\underline{\text{21}}$  hereof (and any defined terms

used in any such Sections) shall survive such termination and shall continue in full force and effect for the benefit of the Consenting Parties in accordance with the terms hereof; <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that any liability of a Party for failure to comply with the terms of this Agreement shall survive such termination.

### 14. Headings.

The headings of the sections, paragraphs, and subsections of this Agreement are inserted for convenience only and shall not affect the interpretation hereof or, for any purpose, be deemed a part of this Agreement.

### 15. <u>Successors and Assigns; Severability; Several Obligations.</u>

This Agreement is intended to bind and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their successors, permitted assigns, heirs, executors, administrators, representatives; provided, however, that nothing contained in this Section 15 shall be deemed to permit Transfers of interests in the First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims other than in accordance with the express terms of this Agreement. If any provision of this Agreement, or the application of any such provision to any person or entity or circumstance, shall be held invalid or unenforceable in whole or in part, such invalidity or unenforceability shall attach only to such provision or part thereof and the remaining part of such provision hereof and this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect so long as the economic or legal substance of the transactions contemplated hereby is not affected in any manner materially adverse to any Party. Upon any such determination of invalidity, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith to modify this Agreement so as to effect the original intent of the Parties as closely as possible in a reasonably acceptable manner in order that the transactions contemplated hereby are consummated as originally contemplated to the greatest extent possible. The agreements, representations, and obligations of the Parties are, in all respects, several and neither joint nor joint and several.

### 16. No Third-Party Beneficiaries.

Unless expressly stated otherwise herein, this Agreement shall be solely for the benefit of the Parties and no other person or entity shall be a third-party beneficiary hereof.

### 17. Prior Negotiations; Entire Agreement.

This Agreement, including the exhibits and schedules hereto, constitutes the entire agreement of the Parties, and supersedes all other prior negotiations (whether written, verbal or otherwise), with respect to the subject matter hereof and thereof, except that the Parties acknowledge that any confidentiality agreement and/or non-disclosure agreement (if any) heretofore executed between the Company and any Consenting Party shall continue in full force and effect in accordance with its terms.

### 18. Counterparts.

This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, and all of which together shall be deemed to be one and the same agreement.

Execution copies of this Agreement may be delivered by facsimile, electronic mail, or otherwise, which shall be deemed to be an original for the purposes of this paragraph.

### 19. Notices.

All notices hereunder shall be deemed given if in writing and delivered, if contemporaneously sent by electronic mail, facsimile, courier, or by registered or certified mail (return receipt requested) to the following addresses and facsimile numbers:

### (1) If to the Company, to:

Payless, Inc.

3231 SE Sixth Avenue

Topeka, Kansas 66607

Attention: Michael Schwindle, Senior Vice President and CFO

With a copy to:

Kirkland & Ellis LLP

601 Lexington Avenue

New York, New York 10022

Attention: Nicole L. Greenblatt, P.C.

(nicole.greenblatt@kirkland.com)

- and -

Kirkland & Ellis LLP

300 North LaSalle

Chicago, Illinois 60654

Attention: William A. Guerrieri

(will.guerrieri@kirkland.com)

### (2) If to counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee, to:

King & Spalding LLP

1185 Avenue of the Americas

New York, NY 10036

Attention: Michael Rupe

(mrupe@kslaw.com)

Jeffrey Pawlitz

(jpawlitz@kslaw.com) Christopher G. Boies

Christopher G. Boles

(cboies@kslaw.com)

Any notice given by electronic mail, facsimile, delivery, mail, or courier shall be effective when received.

### 20. Reservation of Rights; No Admission.

- (a) Nothing contained herein shall (i) limit (A) the ability of any Party to consult with other parties or entities, or (B) the rights of any Party under any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, foreclosure, or similar proceeding, including, without limitation, the right to appear as a party in interest in any matter to be adjudicated in order to be heard concerning any matter arising in the Chapter 11 Cases, in each case, so long as such consultation or appearance is consistent with such Party's obligations hereunder, or under the terms of the Plan; (ii) limit the ability of any Consenting Party to sell or enter into any transactions in connection with the First Lien Claims, Second Lien Claims, or any other interests in the Company, subject to the terms of Section 4(b) hereof; (iii) limit the rights of any Consenting Party under the First Lien Credit Agreement, the Second Lien Credit Agreement, or any agreements executed in connection with the foregoing; or (iv) constitute a waiver or amendment of any provision of the First Lien Credit Agreement, the Second Lien Credit Agreement, or any agreements executed in connection with the foregoing.
- (b) Except as expressly provided in this Agreement, nothing herein is intended to, or does, in any manner waive, limit, impair, or restrict the ability of each of the Parties to protect and preserve its rights, remedies, and interests, including, without limitation, its claims against any of the other Parties (or their respective affiliates or subsidiaries) or its full participation in the Chapter 11 Cases. This Agreement and the Plan are part of a proposed settlement of matters that could otherwise be the subject of litigation among the Parties. Pursuant to Rule 408 of the Federal Rule of Evidence, any applicable state rules of evidence and any other applicable law, foreign or domestic, this Agreement and all negotiations relating thereto shall not be admissible into evidence in any proceeding other than a proceeding to enforce its terms. This Agreement shall in no event be construed as or be deemed to be evidence of an admission or concession on the part of any Party of any claim or fault or liability or damages whatsoever. Each of the Parties denies any and all wrongdoing or liability of any kind and does not concede any infirmity in the claims or defenses which it has asserted or could assert.
- (c) Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, nothing in this Agreement and neither a vote to accept the Plan by any Consenting Party nor the acceptance of the Plan by any Consenting Party shall (a) be construed to prohibit any Consenting Party from contesting whether any matter, fact, or thing is a breach of, or is inconsistent with, this Agreement or the Definitive Documents, or exercising rights or remedies specifically reserved herein, or (b) impair or waive the rights of any Consenting Party to assert or raise any objection permitted under this Agreement in connection with any hearing on confirmation of the Plan or in the Bankruptcy Court.

### 21. Relationship Among Consenting Parties.

(a) It is understood and agreed that no Consenting Party has any duty of trust or confidence in any kind or form with any other Consenting Party, and, except as expressly

provided in this Agreement, there are no commitments among or between them. In this regard, it is understood and agreed that any Consenting Party may trade in the First Lien Claims, and/or the Second Lien Claims, or other equity securities of the Company without the consent of the Company or any other Consenting Party, subject to applicable securities laws, the terms of this Agreement, and any confidentiality agreement and/or non-disclosure agreement entered into with the Company; provided, however, that no Consenting Party shall have any responsibility for any such trading to any other person or entity by virtue of this Agreement. No prior history, pattern, or practice of sharing confidences among or between the Consenting Parties shall in any way affect or negate this understanding and agreement.

### 22. No Solicitation; Representation by Counsel; Adequate Information.

- (a) This Agreement is not and shall not be deemed to be a solicitation for votes in favor of the Plan in the Chapter 11 Cases. The acceptances of the Consenting Parties with respect to the Plan will not be solicited until such Consenting Party has received the Disclosure Statement and related ballots and solicitation materials, each as approved by the Bankruptcy Court.
- (b) Each Party acknowledges that it has had an opportunity to receive information from the Company and that it has been represented by counsel in connection with this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby. Accordingly, any rule of law or any legal decision that would provide any Party with a defense to the enforcement of the terms of this Agreement against such Party based upon lack of legal counsel shall have no application and is expressly waived.
- (c) Although none of the Parties intends that this Agreement should constitute, and they each believe it does not constitute, a solicitation or acceptance of a chapter 11 plan of reorganization or an offering of securities, each Consenting Party acknowledges, agrees, and represents to the other Parties that it (i) is an "accredited investor" as such term is defined in Rule 501(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act"), (ii) understands that any securities to be acquired by it pursuant to the Restructuring Transactions have not been registered under the Securities Act and that such securities are, to the extent not acquired pursuant to section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, being offered and sold pursuant to an exemption from registration contained in the Securities Act, based in part upon such Consenting Party's representations contained in this Agreement, and cannot be sold unless subsequently registered under the Securities Act or an exemption from registration is available, and (iii) has such knowledge and experience in financial and business matters that such Consenting Party is capable of evaluating the merits and risks of the securities to be acquired by it pursuant to the Restructuring Transactions and understands and is able to bear any economic risks with such investment.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed and delivered by their respective duly authorized officers, solely in their respective capacity as officers of the undersigned and not in any other capacity, as of the date first set forth above.

PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC

By:

Name: W. Paul Jones

Title: Chief Executive Officer

PAYLESS INC.

PAYLESS SHOESOURCE, INC.

PAYLESS SHOESOURCE WORLDWIDE, INC.

By:

Name: W. Paul Jones

Title: Chief Executive Officer and President

COLLECTIVE BRANDS FRANCHISING SERVICES, LLC

By:

Name: W. Paul Jones

Title: Chief Executive Officer and President of Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc., as

Managing Member

PAYLESS INTERMEDIATE HOLDINGS LLC WBG-PSS HOLDINGS LLC PAYLESS FINANCE, INC. COLLECTIVE BRANDS SERVICES, INC. PSS DELAWARE COMPANY 4, INC.

PAYLESS PURCHASING SERVICES, INC.

PAYLESS GOLD VALUE CO, INC.

COLLECTIVE LICENSING, L.P.

PSS CANADA, INC.

By:

Name: Michael C. Schwindle

Title: President

SHOE SOURCING, INC.

By:

Name: Michael C. Schwindle Title: Chairman and President

PAYLESS SHOESOURCE OF PUERTO RICO, INC.

CLINCH, LLC

By:

Name: Michael C. Schwindle

Title: Chief Executive Officer

PAYLESS COLLECTIVE GP, LLC

COLLECTIVE LICENSING INTERNATIONAL, LLC

By:

Name: Michael C. Schwindle

Title: Chief Executive Officer and President

PAYLESS	SHOESOURCE	MERCHANDISING.	INC.
		*	

Name: Michael C. Schwindle

Title: Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

PAYLESS SHOESOURCE DISTRIBUTION, INC. PAYLESS INTERNATIONAL FRANCHISING, LLC.

By:

Name: Michael C. Schwindle

Title: Vice President

PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA INC. PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA GP INC.

By:

Name: Michael C. Schwindle

Title: Vice President and Treasurer

PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA LP

By:

Name: Michael C. Schwindle

Title: Vice President and Treasurer of Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc., as General Partner

By:	
Title: Director	
AND	
Ву:	
Name: Wang, Tsung-Yuan	
Title: Director	
DYNAMIC ASSETS LIMITED	
By: White	
Name: Dave Milton	
Title: Director	
AND	
Ву:	
Name: Wang, Tsung-Yuan	
Title: Director	
AND	
By:	
Name: Robert Carroll	
Title: Director	
EASTBOROUGH, INC. PAYLESS NYC, INC.	
TATILISS INTO, INC.	
Ву:	
Name: Gary C. Madsen	
Title: Vice President and Treasurer	

By:		
	Dave Milton	
Title:	Director	
AND		
	Tark Weg	
Ву:		
	Wang, Tsung-Yuan	
Title:	Director	
	DIALLY HOLL GOETO LIN GTED	
	DYNAMIC ASSETS LIMITED	
Dyn		
By:	Dave Milton	
	Director Director	
Title.	Director	
AND		
By:	Tack Way	
Name:	Wang, Tsung-Yuan	
	Director	
AND	MAN AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND A	
Ву:		
	Robert Carroll	
Title:	Director	
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	EASTBOROUGH, INC.	
	PAYLESS NYC, INC.	
D		
By:	O O M I	
	Gary C. Madsen	
11 0	Vice President and Treasurer	

[Signature Page to Plan Support Agreement]

Ву:	
Name: Dave Milton	<del>-</del>
Title: Director	
Title. Director	
AND	
Bv:	
By:Name: Wang, Tsung-Yuan	3
Title: Director	
Title. Director	
DANALL MC LOCETCA I DATED	
DYNAMIC ASSETS LIMITED	
By:	_
By: Name: Dave Milton	
Title: Director	
AND	
Bv.	
By:Name: Wang, Tsung-Yuan	-
Title: Director	
Title. Director	
ANTO	
AND	
A M ( )	
Ву:	
Name: Robert Carroll	
Title: Director	
EASTBOROUGH, INC.	
PAYLESS NYC, INC.	
- X	

Title: Vice President and Treasurer

By:
Name: Dave Milton
Title: Director
AND
Ву:
Name: Wang, Tsung-Yuan
Title: Director
DYNAMIC ASSETS LIMITED
By:
Name: Dave Milton
Title: Director
AND
By:
Name: Wang, Tsung-Yuan
Title: Director
AND
By:
Name: Robert Carroll
Title: Director

EASTBOROUGH, INC. PAYLESS NYC, INC.

Name: Gary C. Madsen

Title: Vice President and Treasurer

[Consenting Lenders' Signature Pages on File with Counsel to Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee]

## RSA EXHIBIT A

**RSA Term Sheet** 

### PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, ET AL.

### RESTRUCTURING TERM SHEET

THIS TERM SHEET (THIS "TERM SHEET") DESCRIBES A PROPOSED RESTRUCTURING (THE "RESTRUCTURING") FOR PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC AND CERTAIN OF ITS AFFILIATES (COLLECTIVELY, THE "DEBTORS") PURSUANT TO A JOINT PLAN OF REORGANIZATION, WHICH WOULD BE FILED BY THE DEBTORS IN CONNECTION WITH A CONTEMPLATED CHAPTER 11 FILING (THE "CHAPTER 11 CASES") IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI (THE "BANKRUPTCY COURT").

THIS TERM SHEET IS NOT AN OFFER OR A SOLICITATION WITH RESPECT TO ANY SECURITIES OF THE DEBTORS. ANY SUCH OFFER OR SOLICITATION SHALL COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE SECURITIES LAWS AND/OR PROVISIONS OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE.

THIS TERM SHEET IS PROVIDED IN CONFIDENCE AND MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE DEBTORS AND THE REQUISITE CONSENTING LENDERS (AS SUCH TERM IS DEFINED HEREIN). THIS TERM SHEET IS A SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL IN FURTHERANCE OF SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS. ACCORDINGLY, THIS TERM SHEET IS PROTECTED BY RULE 408 OF THE FEDERAL RULES OF EVIDENCE AND ANY OTHER APPLICABLE STATUTES OR DOCTRINES PROTECTING THE USE OR DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS.

THIS TERM SHEET IS SUBJECT TO ONGOING REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY, AND IS NOT BINDING UPON, THE DEBTORS AND THE CONSENTING LENDERS (AS SUCH TERM IS DEFINED HEREIN), IS SUBJECT TO MATERIAL CHANGE, AND IS BEING DISTRIBUTED FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY.

GENERAL PROVISIONS REGARDING THE RESTRUCTURING	
Restructuring Summary <sup>1</sup>	Prior to the date upon which the Debtors commence the Chapter 11
	Cases (the "Petition Date"), the Debtors, certain Prepetition First Lien
	Lenders holding Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims (such
	holders, the "Consenting First Lien Lenders" and such claims, the
	"Consenting First Lien Lender Claims"), and certain Prepetition Second
	Lien Lenders holding Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims
	(such holders, the "Consenting Second Lien Lenders" and together with
	the Consenting First Lien Lenders, the "Consenting Lenders") shall
	execute a Restructuring Support Agreement (the "Restructuring Support

Capitalized terms used but not defined in this "Restructuring Summary" section shall have the respective meanings ascribed to such terms herein.

Agreement"), pursuant to which (i) the Debtors shall agree to pursue and implement a plan of reorganization consistent in form and substance in all material respects with this Term Sheet and all exhibits hereto (the "Chapter 11 Plan") and (ii) the Consenting First Lien Lenders and the Consenting Second Lien Lenders shall agree to support the Chapter 11 Plan.

This Term Sheet outlines the proposed capital structure and other material terms and conditions of the Restructuring. The Term Sheet does not include a description of all of the terms, conditions and other provisions that are to be contained in the definitive documentation governing the Restructuring, which remain subject to further discussion and negotiation.

The Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases will be funded by: (i) the new money commitments under the Term DIP Facility in aggregate principal amount of \$80 million; and (ii) the ABL DIP Facility, which shall constitute a roll-up of the Prepetition ABL Facility Claims and the Aggregate Commitments (as defined in the Prepetition ABL Facility).

The Debtors' pro forma exit capital structure will consist of the following:

- New ABL Facility. A senior secured asset-based revolving credit facility on terms at least as favorable to the Debtors and the lenders under the New First Lien Term Loan Facility as the Prepetition ABL Facility, as determined by the Requisite Consenting Lenders (as defined herein) in their reasonable discretion.
- New First Lien Term Loan Facility. \$280 million first lien senior secured term loan facility (the "New First Lien Term Loan Facility"), on the material terms set forth in the New First Lien Term Loan Facility Term Sheet attached hereto as **Exhibit B**, consisting of (i) a first-out amortizing term loan (the "Tranche A-1 Term Loan") and (ii) a last-out amortizing term loan (the "Tranche A-2 Term Loan"). The size of the Tranche A-1 Term Loan shall be equal to the outstanding balance of the Tranche A-2 Term Loan shall be \$280 million less the amount of the Tranche A-1 Term Loan.
- New Equity. Payless Holdings LLC, as reorganized pursuant to and under the Plan, or a new corporation or limited liability company that may be formed to directly or indirectly acquire all of the assets and/or stock of the Debtors ("Reorganized Payless Holdings") shall issue equity (the "New Equity") on the Effective Date on the terms set forth herein, which shall be deemed fully paid and non-assessable.

On the date (the "<u>Effective Date</u>") on which all conditions to the effectiveness of the Chapter 11 Plan are either (i) satisfied or (ii) waived by (a) the Debtors and (b) a group of Consenting First Lien Lenders that collectively hold in the aggregate more than 50% of the aggregate Consenting First Lien Lender Claims held by the Consenting First Lien Lenders as of the relevant date, the "<u>Requisite Consenting Lenders</u>"), the Debtors shall consummate the Chapter 11 Plan, pursuant to which:

- each holder of a Term DIP Facility Claim shall convert its Term DIP Facility Claim into a claim under the Tranche A-1 Term Loan, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, under the New First Lien Term Loan Facility;
- each holder of an ABL DIP Claim shall (i) be paid in full in cash
  with the proceeds of the New ABL Facility or (ii) convert its
  ABL DIP Claim into a claim under the New ABL Facility (with
  such holder's commitment under the ABL DIP Facility
  converting to a commitment under the New ABL Facility);
- each holder of a Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its pro rata share of (i) the Tranche A-2 Term Loan and (ii) 91.0% of the New Equity (subject to reduction on account of the Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery, and subject to dilution from the MEIP and the Exit Commitment Fee);
- each holder of a Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its pro rata share of 9.0% of the New Equity (subject to dilution from the MEIP and the Exit Commitment Fee;
- each holder of a Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall receive its pro rata share of the Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery (subject to dilution from the MEIP and the Exit Commitment Fee); provided that such holder shall have the option to elect to instead receive a cash payment equal to a percentage to be determined by the Debtors (with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders) of the value of its Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery (the "GUC Cash-Out Option").
- each holder of an Other General Unsecured Claim shall receive its pro rata share of \$[•] (the "Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool"); provided that Other General Unsecured Claims shall include unsecured deficiency claims of holders of the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims and the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims (collectively, the "Deficiency Claims") (after taking into account recoveries of such holders received on account of Worldwide General Unsecured Claims); and

• each holder of a Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim shall receive a cash payment equal to a percentage to be determined by the Debtors (with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders) of such holder's remaining allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim after taking into account payments made by the Debtors to such holder during the Chapter 11 Cases on account of general unsecured claims or under other Classes hereto.

The "Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery" shall mean, for all purposes hereunder, the pro rata share of Unencumbered Property at Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. to which a Worldwide General Unsecured Claim is entitled to receive New Equity on account of the value thereof (net of the value of Unencumbered Property used to satisfy Administrative Claims (including diminution in value claims) and other priority claims against the Debtors, if any), which shall be determined by calculating such holder's allowed general unsecured claim against the aggregate value of Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Unencumbered Property as a percentage of all unsecured claims of holders against Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. (including, without limitation, (a) the Prepetition First Lien Deficiency Claims and (b) the amount of Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims outstanding as of the Petition Date) (the "Unencumbered Pro Rata Calculation").

"<u>Unencumbered Property</u>" shall mean all present and after acquired property of the Debtors, wherever located, not subject to a lien or security interest on the Petition Date.

# Prepetition Funded Debt to be Repaid/Restructured

The prepetition funded debt to be repaid and restructured include:

- Approximately \$140 million in Tranche A Loan obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest through the Petition Date (as defined herein), the "Prepetition Tranche A ABL Facility Claims") outstanding under that certain asset-based revolving credit agreement, dated as of October 9, 2012 (as amended, restated, modified or supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the "Prepetition ABL Facility" and together with any Loan Document (as defined in the Prepetition ABL Facility) and any other document related to or evidencing the loans and obligations thereunder, the "Prepetition ABL Facility Loan Documents") among Holdings (as defined therein), the Borrowers (as defined therein), the several lenders from time to time party thereto (the "Prepetition ABL Facility Lenders") and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association (in such capacity, the "Prepetition ABL Facility Agent");
- Approximately \$30.5 million in Letter of Credit obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest through the Petition Date, the "Prepetition ABL Facility L/C Obligations");
- Approximately \$55 million in Tranche A-1 Loan obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest and allowed

- prepayment fees and expenses, the "<u>Prepetition ABL Facility FILO Term Loan Claims</u>" and together with the Prepetition Tranche A ABL Facility Claims and the Prepetition ABL Facility L/C Obligations, the "<u>Prepetition ABL Facility Claims</u>") outstanding under the Prepetition ABL Facility;
- Approximately \$506 million in obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest through the Petition Date, the "Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims") outstanding under that certain First Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014 (as amended, restated, modified or supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the "Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement" and together with any Loan Document (as defined in the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement) and any other document related to or evidencing the loans and obligations thereunder, the "Prepetition First Lien Loan Documents"), among Holdings, the Borrowers, the several lenders from time to time party thereto (the "Prepetition First Lien Lenders") and Cortland Products Corp. (as successor to Morgan Stanley Senior Funding Inc., in such capacity, the "Prepetition First Lien Agent"); and
- Approximately \$145.0 million in obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest through the Petition Date, the "Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims" and together with the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, the "Prepetition Credit Agreement Claims") outstanding under that certain Second Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014 (as amended, restated, modified or supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the "Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement" and together with any Loan Document (as defined in the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement) and any other document related to or evidencing the loans and obligations thereunder, the "Prepetition Second Lien Loan Documents"), among Holdings, the Borrowers, the several lenders from time to time party thereto (the "Prepetition Second Lien Lenders") and Morgan Stanley Senior Funding Inc. (in such capacity, the "Prepetition Second Lien Agent").

The Term DIP Facility	The material terms of the Term DIP Facility are set forth in the Term
	DIP Credit Agreement attached hereto as <b>Exhibit A</b> , which shall govern in all respects.
	On the Petition Date, the Debtors shall file a motion seeking approval of a superpriority senior-secured non-amortizing debtor-in-possession term credit facility (the " <u>Term DIP Facility</u> ") comprised of a term loan facility in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$80 million of principal loaned (subject to original issue discount provided in connection with certain fees as set forth in the DIP Fee Letter (as defined in Term DIP Credit Agreement)), consisting of:
	(i) A \$30 million initial draw at the hearing to approve the Term DIP Facility on a final basis (the " <u>Initial DIP Amount</u> ");
	(ii) During the period of time following entry of the Disclosure Statement Order (as defined herein) through the Effective Date, subject in each case to consent by the Required Lenders (as defined in the Term DIP Facility), up to \$50 million of additional funds available pursuant to multiple draw requests (each, an "Interim DIP Draw"); and
	(iii) upon the Effective Date, a final draw of remaining available proceeds, if any, under the Term DIP Facility in an amount sufficient to provide the Debtors with no more than \$25 million of liquidity upon emergence (the "Final DIP Draw," together with the Initial DIP Amount and Interim DIP Draws, the "Term DIP Loans").
	Each Consenting First Lien Lender that executed the Restructuring Support Agreement prior to the Petition Date (each, a "Backstop Lender"; and collectively, the "Backstop Lenders") shall backstop the Term DIP Loans on a pro rata basis, determined based on the outstanding principal amount of Term Loans under the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement held by the Backstop Lenders or their affiliated funds as of the Petition Date; provided that an Initial Consenting Lender may elect to not backstop its pro rata share of the Term DIP Loans, in which case the remaining Backstop Lenders shall cover such Initial Consenting Lender's funding obligation on a pro rata basis.
	Each Prepetition First Lien Lender that executes the Restructuring Support Agreement within 30 days following the Petition Date shall have the option, at its election, to fund its pro rata share of the Term DIP Loans. For the avoidance of doubt, only the Backstop Lenders are entitled to their pro rata share of the backstop fee (as described in the DIP Fee Letter).
The ABL DIP Facility	The Debtors are seeking to roll the existing Prepetition ABL Facility Claims into a postpetition ABL facility (the "ABL DIP Facility" and together with the Term DIP Facility, the "DIP Facilities"). More

	specifically, amounts outstanding under the Prepetition ABL Facility (including, for the avoidance of doubt, Aggregate Commitments, as defined therein) shall be exchanged on a dollar-for-dollar basis into a superpriority senior secured asset-based revolving credit facility. The ABL DIP Facility is comprised of a revolving loan facility in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$305 million.
Qualified Vendors / Qualified Trade Agreement	Each holder of a general unsecured claim that (i) directly relates to and arises solely from the receipt of goods and services by the Debtors arising with, and held by, entities with whom the Debtors are conducting, and with whom the Debtors elect <sup>2</sup> to continue to conduct, business as of the Effective Date and (ii) has executed an agreement or similar arrangement with the Debtors (a "Qualified Trade Agreement"), which agreement shall be reasonably acceptable to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, to provide favorable vendor terms for at least 12 months following the Effective Date (each such holder, a "Consenting Qualified Vendor" and each such claim, a "Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim"), shall receive treatment in accordance with Class 5 of the Chapter 11 Plan.

### **CLASSIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF CLAIMS**

The following designates the classes of claims against and interests (each, a "Class") in each of the Debtors on a non-consolidated basis. Certain of the Debtors may not have holders of claims or interests in a particular Class or Classes. The summary of classification and treatment of claims set forth below groups the Debtors together solely for the purpose of describing treatment under the Chapter 11 Plan. Such groupings shall not affect each Debtor's status as a separate legal entity, change the organizational structure of the Debtors' business enterprise, constitute a change of control of any Debtor for any purpose, cause a merger of consolidation of any legal entities, or cause the transfer of any assets.

# Administrative Claims Treatment. On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent a holder of an allowed administrative claim, including claims of the type described in section 503(b)(9) of chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101-1532 (the "Bankruptcy Code"), (each, an "Administrative Claim") already has been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such holder of an Administrative Claim, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Administrative Claim, each such holder of an allowed Administrative Claim shall receive payment in full, in cash, of the unpaid portion of its allowed Administrative Claim. Voting. Unimpaired. Unclassified; non-voting.

The Debtors may elect to renegotiate and or reject executory contracts and to separately classify and treat any claims arising therefrom, subject to the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders.

Priority Tax Claims	<b>Treatment</b> . Priority tax claims (" <u>Priority Tax Claims</u> ") shall be treated in accordance with section 1129(a)(9)(C) of the Bankruptcy Code.
	Voting. Unimpaired. Unclassified; non-voting.
ABL DIP Claims	Allowance. The claims under the ABL DIP Facility (the "ABL DIP Claims") shall be allowed in the full amount due and owing under the ABL DIP Facility.
	<b>Treatment</b> . On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a holder of an allowed ABL DIP Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed ABL DIP Claim, each such holder of an allowed ABL DIP Claim shall receive (i) payment in full in cash or (ii) on a dollar-for-dollar-basis, its pro rata share of the New ABL Facility; provided, however, that fees and expenses due and owing thereunder shall be paid in full and in cash on the Effective Date or as soon thereafter as reasonably practicable.
	Voting. Unimpaired. Unclassified; non-voting.
Term DIP Facility Claims	Allowance. The claims under the Term DIP Facility (the "Term DIP Facility Claims") shall be allowed in the full amount due and owing under the Term DIP Facility.
	<b>Treatment</b> . On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a holder of an allowed Term DIP Facility Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Term DIP Facility Claim, each such holder of an allowed Term DIP Facility Claim shall receive, on a dollar-for-dollar-basis, its pro rata share of the Tranche A-1 Term Loan.
	Voting. Unimpaired. Unclassified; non-voting.
	Classified Claims and Interests
Class 1 – Other Priority Claims	<b>Treatment</b> . On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent a holder of an allowed claim described in section 507(a) of the Bankruptcy Code (each, an "Other Priority Claim") already has been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such holder of an Other Priority Claim, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Other Priority Claim, each such holder of an Other Priority Claim shall receive payment in full, in cash, of the unpaid portion of its Other Priority Claim.
	<b>Voting</b> . Unimpaired. Each holder of an Other Priority Claims will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Chapter 11 Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each holder of an Other Priority Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the

	Chapter 11 Plan.
Class 2 – Other Secured Claims	<b>Treatment</b> . On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a holder of an allowed secured claim, other than a Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim (each, an "Other Secured Claim") already has been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such holder, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Other Secured Claim, each holder of Other Secured Claim shall receive
	<ol> <li>payment in full, in cash, of the unpaid portion of its Other Secured Claim;</li> </ol>
	ii. delivery of the collateral securing such Other Secured Claim; or
	iii. other treatment, as decided by the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders to their mutual satisfaction, such that the Other Secured Claim shall be rendered unimpaired.
	<b>Voting</b> . Unimpaired. Each holder of an Other Secured Claim will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Chapter 11 Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each holder of an Other Secured Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.
Class 3 – Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement	<b>Allowance</b> . The Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be allowed in an aggregate amount equal to approximately \$506 million.
Claims	<b>Treatment</b> . On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a holder of an allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim, each holder of a Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its pro rata share of:
	i. the Tranche A-2 Term Loan; and
	ii. 91.0% of the New Equity (subject to reduction on account of the Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery, and subject to dilution from the MEIP and the exit fee set forth in the DIP Fee Letter (as defined in Term DIP Credit Agreement)) (the "Exit Commitment Fee").
	<b>Voting</b> . Impaired. Each holder of a Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.
Class 4 – Prepetition Second Lien Credit	Allowance. The Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be allowed in an aggregate amount equal to approximately

Agreement Claims	\$145.0 million.
	Treatment. Except to the extent that a holder of an allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim (including the unsecured deficiency claim of the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims), each such holder of an allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its pro rata share of 9.0% of the New Equity (subject to dilution from the MEIP and the Exit Commitment Fee).  Voting. Impaired. Each holder of a Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.
Class 5 – Qualified Unsecured Trade Claims	Treatment. On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a holder of an allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim, each such holder of an allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim shall receive a cash payment equal to a percentage to be determined by the Debtors (with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders) of such holder's remaining allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim after taking into account payments made by the Debtors to such holder during the Chapter 11 Cases on account of general unsecured claims or under other Classes hereto.  Voting. Impaired. Each holder of an allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan. <sup>3</sup>
Class 6A – Other General Unsecured Claims	Treatment. Except to the extent that a holder of an allowed general unsecured claim (other than a Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim or Worldwide General Unsecured Claim) (each, an "Other General Unsecured Claim") agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Other General Unsecured Claim, each such holder of an allowed Other General Unsecured Claim shall receive its pro rata share of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool.  Voting. Impaired. Each holder of an allowed Other General Unsecured Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.
Class 6B – Worldwide General Unsecured Claims	<b>Treatment</b> . Except to the extent that a holder of an allowed general unsecured claim against Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. (each, an "Worldwide General Unsecured Claim") agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge

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The Debtors may elect to renegotiate and or reject executory contracts and to separately classify and treat any claims arising therefrom, subject to the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders.

	of and in exchange for each allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim, each such holder of an allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall receive its pro rata share of the GUC Worldwide Equity Recovery, as determined pursuant to the Unencumbered Pro Rata Calculation and subject to the GUC Cash-Out Option.  Voting. Impaired. Each holder of an allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.
Class 7 – Intercompany Claims	<b>Treatment</b> . Intercompany Claims shall be reinstated, cancelled, or compromised as determined by the Debtors with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders.
	<b>Voting</b> . Impaired or Unimpaired. Each holder of an Intercompany Claim will be conclusively deemed to have (a) rejected the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan of Reorganization or (b) accepted the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan, respectively.
Class 8 – Existing Equity Interests	<b>Treatment</b> . On the Effective Date, all equity interests in Payless Holdings LLC (including options, warrants, rights, or other securities or agreements to acquire such equity interests) (collectively, the "Existing Equity Interests") shall be discharged, cancelled, released, and extinguished.
	<b>Voting</b> . Impaired. Each holder of an Existing Equity Interest will be conclusively deemed to have rejected the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each holder of an Existing Equity Interest will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.
Class 9 –Intercompany Interests	<b>Treatment</b> . On the Effective Date, all Intercompany Interests shall be cancelled or reinstated, as determined by the Debtors with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.
	<b>Voting</b> . Impaired or Unimpaired. Each holder of an Intercompany Interest will be conclusively deemed to have (a) rejected the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan of Reorganization or (b) accepted the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan, respectively.
Class 10 – Section 510(b) Claims	<b>Treatment</b> . On the Effective Date, all claims arising under section 510(b) of the Bankruptcy Code (each, a "Section 510(b) Claim") shall be cancelled without any distribution.
	Voting. Impaired. Each holder of a Section 510(b) Claim will be

conclusively deemed to have rejected the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each holder of a Section 510(b) Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.

### RELEASES AND RELATED PROVISIONS

### **Releases**

The Chapter 11 Plan will provide ordinary and customary releases for the released parties:

"Released Party" means each of the following: (a) each Debtor and Reorganized Debtor; (b) the Debtors' current and former officers and directors; (c) the Prepetition First Lien Agent; (d) the Prepetition First Lien Lenders; (e) the Prepetition Second Lien Agent; (f) the Prepetition Second Lien Lenders; (g) the Prepetition ABL Facility Agent; (h) the Prepetition ABL Facility Lenders; (i) the administrative agent under the DIP Term Facility (the "DIP Term Facility Agent"); (j) the DIP Term Facility Lenders; (k) the administrative agent under the DIP ABL Facility (the "DIP ABL Facility Agent" and together with the DIP Term Facility Agent, collectively, the "DIP Agents"); (1) the lenders under the DIP ABL Facility (the "DIP ABL Facility Lenders"); (m) the Sponsors (as such term is defined in the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement); (n) the parties to the Restructuring Support Agreement; and (o) with respect to each of the foregoing entities in clauses (a) through (n), such entities' predecessors, successors and assigns, subsidiaries, affiliates, managed accounts or funds, current or former officers, directors, principals, shareholders, members, partners, employees, agents, advisory board members, financial advisors, attorneys, accountants, investment bankers, consultants, representatives, management companies, fund advisors and other professionals, and such entities' respective heirs, executors, estates, servants and nominees, in each case, solely in their capacity as such.

### **Third Party Releases**

To the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, the Chapter 11 Plan shall provide for a full release from liability of the Released Parties by the Debtors, all of their creditors and all of their interest holders from any claims and causes of action, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, arising from or related to any actions, transactions, events or omissions before the Effective Date relating to the Debtors, the Chapter 11 Cases or the obligations under the Prepetition ABL Facility, the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement, the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement and the DIP Facilities; provided, however, (i) the foregoing release shall not apply to obligations arising under the Chapter 11 Plan; and (ii) the foregoing release shall not be construed to prohibit a party in interest from seeking to enforce the terms of the Chapter 11 Plan.

The Debtors' release of any third party will be provided for in the Chapter 11 Plan only to the extent, after investigation, the Board of Directors determines it is appropriate.

Exculpation	Customary exculpation provisions, including all Released Parties to the extent permitted by applicable law.	
Discharge	Customary discharge provisions.	
Injunction	Customary injunction provisions, including all Released Parties.	
GENERAL PROVISIONS / MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION		
Cancellation of Instruments, Certificates and Other Documents	On the Effective Date, except to the extent otherwise provided above, all instruments, certificates, and other documents evidencing debt or equity interests in the Debtors shall be cancelled, and the obligations of the Debtors thereunder, or in any way related thereto, shall be discharged.	
Board of Directors of Reorganized Payless Holdings	The initial directors and officers of the reorganized Debtors (the "Reorganized Debtors") shall be selected by the Requisite Consenting Lenders and disclosed in accordance with section 1129(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.	
Shareholders Agreement	Holders of New Equity shall be parties to a shareholders agreement, the material terms of which shall be filed as part of the plan supplement, and which shall otherwise be satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders.	
Charter; Bylaws	The charter, bylaws, and/or other organizational documents of each of the Debtors shall be amended and restated in a manner consistent with section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code and shall otherwise be satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders.	
Exemption from SEC Registration; Private Company Status	The issuance of all securities under the Chapter 11 Plan will be exempt from SEC registration under section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code. To the extent section 1145 is unavailable, such securities shall be exempt from SEC registration as a private placement pursuant to Section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and/or the safe harbor of Regulation D promulgated thereunder, or such other exemption as may be available from any applicable registration requirements.	
	The Reorganized Debtors shall be private, non-SEC reporting companies on the Effective Date.	
Management Incentive Program	The Chapter 11 Plan will provide that, promptly on or after the effective date, equity awards for 6%-10% of the New Equity (on a fully diluted basis) of Reorganized Payless Holdings will be granted to continuing employees of the Debtors and members of the new board of directors by the new board of directors of Reorganized Payless Holdings, with pricing, vesting and exercise terms to be determined by the new Board of	

	,
	Directors upon consultation with the CEO. Such equity awards shall be on terms reflective of a policy of rewarding the contribution of management to the long-term financial performance of the Reorganized Debtors.
	The Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders shall negotiate in good faith to reach agreement regarding modified terms of the "Cash Incentive Program" (annual cash incentive and long-term cash incentive for non-senior officers) within 30 days of the Petition Date. The Annual Cash Program, as modified, shall be assumed upon the effectiveness of the Chapter 11 Plan.
<b>Employment Agreements</b>	Notwithstanding the rejection or assumption of any employment agreement, the Chapter 11 Plan will provide for the assumption of severance obligations for up to one (1) year for each of the 12 individuals identified in the document labeled "Senior Officer Severance Costs"; provided that such severance obligations shall not exceed \$5.6 million (excluding taxes) in the aggregate.
Chief Restructuring Officer	Within 30 days of the Petition Date, the Debtors will engage Robert Campagna of Alvarez & Marsal North America LLC as Chief Restructuring Officer (or, if not possible, such other individual as agreed to by the Requisite Consenting Lenders) on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders and will seek court approval of such retention as promptly as possible.
Avoidance Actions	Reorganized Payless Holdings will retain all rights to commence and pursue any and all claims and causes of action arising under the sections 544, 545, 547, 548 and 550 of the Bankruptcy Code (collectively, the "Avoidance Actions") and other litigation.
Tax Issues	The terms of the Chapter 11 Plan and the restructuring contemplated by this Term Sheet shall be structured, with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, to preserve favorable tax attributes of the Debtors to the extent practicable.
Retention of Jurisdiction	The Acceptable Plan will provide for the retention of jurisdiction by the
	Bankruptcy Court for usual and customary matters.
CONDITIONS, MILESTONES, AND COVENANTS	
Conditions Precedent to Plan Confirmation	Confirmation of the Chapter 11 Plan shall be subject to the following conditions precedent:
	i. the Chapter 11 Plan must be in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders;
	ii. the Debtors shall have achieved 85% of the projected rent savings from landlord concessions on ongoing lease obligations on an annual run-rate, which projected rent savings were agreed to by the Backstop Lenders and the Debtors prior to the Petition

	Date; and
	iii. the Proposed form of order confirming the Chapter 11 Plan shall be, in form and substance, reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders.
<b>Conditions to Funding the</b>	The Following shall be conditions to the funding of the Final DIP Draw:
Final DIP Draw	<ol> <li>The order confirming the Chapter 11 Plan shall have been in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders;</li> </ol>
	ii. The Debtors shall have achieved 85% of the projected rent savings from landlord concessions on ongoing lease obligations on an annual run-rate, which projected rent savings were agreed to by the Backstop Lenders and the Debtors prior to the petition date;
	iii. The Debtors shall have performed within 85% of the projected FY 2017 EBITDA run rate, which projection was agreed to by the Backstop Lenders and the Debtors prior to the Petition Date; and
	iv. The Debtors shall have paid all reasonable and documented fees and out-of-pocket expenses payable to the DIP Agents and the Backstop Lenders, including all reasonable and documented out-of-pocket fees and expenses of counsel and other professionals of such parties as set forth in Section 6.1(b) of the Term DIP Credit Agreement and Section 4.1(f) of the credit agreement governing the ABL DIP Facility.
Debtors' Covenants	The Chapter 11 Plan and all supporting and implementing documentation (including all briefs and other pleadings filed in support thereof, all documents filed as part of the plan supplement, and the confirmation order) shall be in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders.
	The Debtors will provide the Backstop Lenders and their respective advisors with bi-weekly updates concerning the status of (i) lease negotiations, (ii) critical vendor negotiations and entry into qualified trade agreements, and (iii) renegotiation of the terms of Joint Venture Agreements, with the first meeting occurring on April 14, 2017.
	The Debtors' inventory shall not be less than 85% of the Debtors' planned inventory level, tested on the last business day of every other month (the first testing period shall be May 31, 2017).
Chapter 11 Milestones	The Debtors shall satisfy the following chapter 11 milestones (the "Milestones"). The Debtors' failure to satisfy any of the below

milestones shall constitute a "(<u>Consenting Lender Termination Event</u>)" under the Restructuring Support Agreement.<sup>4</sup>

- The Bankruptcy Court's entry of the Interim Order (as defined in the Term DIP Credit Agreement) on or before three (3) calendar days following the Petition Date.
- No later than 21 calendar days after the Petition Date the Debtors shall have filed a prearranged Plan or Reorganization, in form and substance satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, and consistent with this Term Sheet and the Restructuring Support Agreement.
- No later than 21 calendar days after the Petition Date the Debtors shall have filed a disclosure statement motion and disclosure statement (the "<u>Disclosure Statement</u>") in form and substance satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders.
- The Bankruptcy Court's entry of an order extending the time period of the Debtors to assume or reject unexpired leases of real property to a date that is 210 calendar days from the Petition Date on or before 30 calendar days following the Petition Date.
- No later than 44 calendar days after the Petition Date the Debtors shall have filed their schedules and Statement of Financial Affairs with the Bankruptcy Court.
- The Bankruptcy Court's entry of the Final Order (as defined in the Term DIP Credit Agreement) on or before 35 calendar days following the Petition Date.
- No later than 60 calendar days after the Petition Date the Bankruptcy Court shall have entered an order setting the date (the "Bar Date") by which proofs of claim for general unsecured creditors must be filed.
- The hearing on the Disclosure Statement shall have been heard by the Bankruptcy Court on or before 61 calendar days following the Petition Date.
- The Bankruptcy Court's entry of an order, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, approving the Disclosure Statement (the "<u>Disclosure Statement Order</u>") on or before 62 calendar days following the Petition Date
- The Bar Date shall have occurred on or before 65 calendar days following the Petition Date.
- The Debtors shall have commenced solicitation on the Chapter 11 Plan on or before 65 calendar days following the

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Any Milestone that falls on a weekend or federal holiday shall be extended to the next business day.

Petition Date.

- The Debtors shall have filed a motion or motions, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, with the Bankruptcy Court seeking an entry of an order or orders authorizing (i) the Remaining Lease Rejections and (ii) GOB sales for each store subject to a rejected lease on or before 90 calendar days following the Petition Date.
- The Debtors shall have renegotiated the terms of Joint Venture Agreements such that they are on market terms, as determined in the reasonable judgment of the Requisite Consenting Lenders, by the date that is 100 calendar days following the Petition Date.
- The hearing on Plan confirmation shall have been heard by the Bankruptcy Court on or before 110 calendar days following the Petition Date.
- The Bankruptcy Court shall have entered an order, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, authorizing the Remaining Lease Rejections on or before 114 calendar days following the Petition Date.
- The Bankruptcy Court's shall have entered an order, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, confirming the Chapter 11 Plan (the "Plan Confirmation Order") on or before 114 calendar days following the Petition Date.
- The Effective Date shall have occurred not later than 128 calendar days following the Petition Date.

# **Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases**

The Debtors shall seek to assume or reject executory contracts and unexpired leases in consultation with, and with the consent (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld) of the Requisite Consenting Lenders.

The Chapter 11 Plan shall provide (a) for the assumption of all indemnification provisions currently in place (whether in the by-laws, certificates of incorporation, board resolutions, indemnification agreements, or employment contracts) for the current directors, managers, and officers of the Debtors and any non-Debtor affiliates, which assumption shall be irrevocable, and shall survive the Plan Effective Date and (b) the Debtors shall maintain their current D&O coverage in place as of the Effective Date of the date of the Restructuring Support Agreement for current and former directors and officers.

The Chapter 11 Plan will provide that the executory contracts and unexpired leases that are not assumed or rejected as of the Effective Date (either pursuant to the Chapter 11 Plan or a separate motion) will be deemed rejected pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code. For the avoidance of doubt, such consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders shall be required to be obtained with respect to all decisions to

assume or reject, including the deemed rejection of executory contracts and unexpired leases pursuant to the Chapter 11 Plan.

#### Exhibit H

Cash Incentive Plan Term Sheet

# Payless ShoeSource Inc. 2017 AIP Summary

The Annual Incentive Plan for fiscal year 2017 (the "AIP") has the following key features:

	Key Terms of 2017 Annual Incentive Plan ("AIP")					
Eligibility The 685 participants are broken out into the following 5 groups:						
g,	Senior Leadership Team ("SLT"): 12 debtor participants (all insiders)					
	Critical Retention Group ("CRG"): 87 debtor participants (4 insiders)					
	Other AIP Participants - U.S. & Canada: 324 debtor participants (1 insider)					
	Other AIP Participants - Asia: 27 debtor participants, 190 non-debtor participants (0 insiders)					
	Other AIP Participants - Latin America: 45 non-debtor participants (0 insiders)					
Cost	Plan Cost					
	Group Threshold Target Maximum					
	SLT \$ 537,712 \$ 4,301,696 \$ 6,452,544					
	CRG 3,115,453 3,930,604 3,930,604					
	Other AIP Participants - U.S. & Canada 1,631,729 6,526,914 6,526,914					
	Other AIP Participants - Asia 195,945 783,779 783,779					
	Other AIP Participants - Latin America 125,339 501,357 752,036					
	Discretionary Pool 1,000,000 1,000,000 1,000,000					
	Total \$ 6,606,177 \$ 17,044,350 \$ 19,445,877					
	As shown above, the AIP includes a \$1 million discretionary pool. Approval by the lenders is					
	required for award amounts in excess of \$50,000 or once cumulative awards exceed					
	\$500,000.					
Performance	SLT:					
Metrics,	EBITDA (50%): Annual					
Periods, &	Rent Concessions (25%): Through emergence					
Goals	Net Trade Payables (25%): Annual					
	CRG & Other AIP Participants:					
	EBITDA (100%): Annual					
	Goals (\$MMs) Threshold Target Maximum					
	EBITDA					
	Rent Concessions n/a Levels agreed to with					
	Net Trade Payables n/a the Board of Directors					
Payout Range	SLT:					
	Threshold: 25% of target (EBITDA only)					
	Maximum: 150% of target					
	CRG:					
	Threshold: 75% of target					
	Maximum: 100% of target  Other AID Participants:					
	Other AIP Participants:					
	Threshold: 25% of target     Maximum 100% of target (150% for Latin America)					
Dayout Floor	Maximum: 100% of target (150% for Latin America)  SLT:					
Payout Floor						
	No payout floor – 100% performance-based.  CRG:					
	Threshold level is guaranteed if they remain employed through the applicable payment dates.  Approximately 18 select members will be entitled to an Additional Petention Payment subject.					
	Approximately 18 select members will be entitled to an Additional Retention Payment subject to a clawback requiring repayment upon voluntary termination within 2 years of the payment.					
	to a clawback requiring repayment upon voluntary termination within 2 years of the payment					
	date. Other AIP Participants (except Latin America):					
	Threshold level is guaranteed if they remain employed through the applicable payment dates.					
	This show it will be guaranteed in they remain employed through the applicable payment dates.					

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Payless ShoeSource Inc. 2017 AIP Summary

Type &
Timing of
Compensation

SLT:

Earned amounts will be paid in cash following the end of the fiscal year.

#### CRG:

 A certain portion of the Guaranteed Minimum Payments (35% of target) and the Additional Retention Payments will be paid in cash following emergence. Remaining incremental earned or guaranteed amounts will be paid in cash following the end of the fiscal year.

#### Other AIP Participants:

For U.S., Canada, and Asia only, a certain portion of the Guaranteed Minimum Payments
(10% of target) will be paid in cash following emergence. Remaining incremental earned or
guaranteed amounts will be paid in cash following the end of the fiscal year. For Latin
America, earned amounts will be paid in cash following the end of the fiscal year.

#### Exhibit I

New First Lien Term Loan Facility Term Sheet

WBG – PSS Holdings LLC
Payless Inc.
Payless Finance, Inc.
Payless Shoesource, Inc.
Payless Shoesource Distribution, Inc.

#### EXIT FIRST LIEN TERM LOAN FACILITY

#### Summary of Proposed Terms and Conditions<sup>1</sup>

- Principal:<sup>2</sup>
  - o Tranche A-1 Term Loan: \$80,000,000; and
  - o Tranche A-2 Term Loan: \$200,000,000.
- Interest:
  - o Tranche A-1 Term Loan: LIBOR (1.00% floor)+8.00%, payable quarterly, in cash; and
  - o Tranche A-2 Term Loan: LIBOR (1.00% floor) + 9.00% payable quarterly, in cash.
- Default Interest: 2%.
- Amortization:
  - Tranche A-1 Term Loan: 1.00% per year; 0.25% per quarter; and
  - o Tranche A-2 Term Loan: 1.00% per year; 0.25% per quarter
- Fees:
  - O Administrative Agent's Fee: (a) \$35,000 payable in cash to the First Lien Exit Term Agent on the Closing Date (minus any unused or unearned portion of the Administrative Agency Fee payable in connection with the Term DIP Facility) and (b) \$35,000 each anniversary thereof; and
  - Exit Fee: To each Term DIP Lender, for itself, a fee (the "Exit Fee") equal to 2.50% of the amount of any relevant Borrowing (a) with respect to the Initial DIP Borrowing (i) earned on the date of the Final Order and (ii) due and payable on the Effective Date, and (b) with respect to any Subsequent DIP Borrowings (i) earned after the entry of the Disclosure Statement Order on the date such Subsequent DIP Borrowing is made and (ii) due and payable on the Effective Date; provided that if the Effective Date occurs, each Term DIP Lender agrees to convert the cash payment of such fee into New Equity on the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to such terms in the Restructuring Support Agreement Term Sheet or Term DIP Credit Agreement, as applicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As set forth in the Restructuring Support Agreement Term Sheet, the size of the Tranche A-1 Term Loan shall be equal to the outstanding balance of the Term DIP Facility on the Effective Date. The size of the Tranche A 2 Term Loan shall be \$280 million less the amount of the Tranche A-1 Term Loan.

Effective Date. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, if the Effective Date has not occurred, upon the DIP Termination Date, any such Exit Fee earned and not paid shall be payable immediately in cash on the DIP Termination Date. For the avoidance of doubt, no Exit Fee shall be payable on any amount of the Final DIP Term Commitments that are not borrowed or any amounts that are borrowed substantially concurrently with the Effective Date.

- Prepayment premium / call protection:
  - o Tranche A-1: None.
  - o Tranche A-2: None.
- Maturity:
  - o Tranche A-1 Term Loan: 4 1/2 years; and
  - o Tranche A-2 Term Loan: 5 years.
- Mandatory Prepayments:
  - o Mandatory prepayment in respect of 75% Excess Cash Flow with step downs at leverage ratios to TBD (commencing in FY 2018).
  - o 100% of debt and asset sale proceeds with customary exceptions.
  - All prepayments applied first to Tranche A-1 until Tranche A-1 obligations are discharged and then to Tranche A-2.
- Financial Covenants:
  - o Net Leverage TBD with step downs, measured quarterly (joint venture & store cash excluded from calculation).
  - o Maximum Capital Expenditures, measured annually (unused may be carried forward 1 year)
- Other Covenants, Representations and Warranties, Events of Default, Expenses, Indemnity, Cost and Assignment as determined by the Requisite Consenting First Lien Lenders in their reasonable discretion.

# TAB C

#### **Debtors' Brief**

THIS IS EXHIBIT "C" REFERRED TO IN THE AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL SHAKRA, SWORN BEFORE ME THIS 24th DAY OF JULY, 2017.

A Commissioner for taking Affidavits, etc.

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

	)
In re:	) Case No. 17-42267-659
	) CHAPTER 11
PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, et al., 1	)
,	) Jointly Administered
	)
Debtors.	)
	)

DEBTORS' BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF CONFIRMATION OF THE FIFTH AMENDED JOINT PLAN OF REORGANIZATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC AND ITS DEBTOR AFFILIATES PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 11 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

The Debtors (as defined herein) in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Payless Holdings LLC [5704]; Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC [5190]; WBG-PSS Holdings LLC [0673]; Payless Inc. [3160]; Payless Finance, Inc. [2101]; Collective Brands Services, Inc. [7266]; PSS Delaware Company 4, Inc. [1466]; Shoe Sourcing, Inc. [4075]; Payless ShoeSource, Inc. [4097]; Eastborough, Inc. [2803]; Payless Purchasing Services, Inc. [3043]; Payless ShoeSource Merchandising, Inc. [0946]; Payless Gold Value CO, Inc. [3581]; Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc. [0944]; Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. [6884]; Payless NYC, Inc. [4126]; Payless ShoeSource of Puerto Rico, Inc. [9017]; Payless Collective GP, LLC [2940]; Collective Licensing, LP [1256]; Collective Licensing International LLC [5451]; Clinch, LLC [9836]; Collective Brands Franchising Services, LLC [3636]; Payless International Franchising, LLC [6448]; Collective Brands Logistics, Limited [6466]; Dynamic Assets Limited [1978]; PSS Canada, Inc. [4969]; Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc. [4180]; Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. [4182]; and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP [4179]. The location of Debtor Payless Holdings LLC's corporate headquarters and the Debtors' service address is: c/o Payless ShoeSource Inc. 3231 SE 6th Avenue Topeka, KS 66607 United States.

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#### PRELIMINARY STATEMENT<sup>2</sup>

When the Debtors filed their chapter 11 bankruptcy petitions on April 4, 2017, they had a Restructuring Support Agreement supported by approximately two-thirds of their first and second lien term loan holders contemplating a restructuring of approximately \$850 million of debt. Since the Petition Date, the Debtors have moved expeditiously through the chapter 11 process, obtaining consensus with regard to key orders entered in these chapter 11 cases, including regarding first day orders (following the April 5, 2017 hearing), the Final DIP Order (May 15, 2017), and the amended disclosure statement order (June 23, 2017). The Plan up for confirmation continues this trend as every voting class has accepted the Plan, with over 99.2% in amount and 96.1% in number of creditors who voted on the Plan voting to accept. The Plan will allow the Debtors to emerge from these Chapter 11 Cases with a simplified and sustainable capital structure that consists of approximately 50% less funded debt than existed at the Petition Date.

Among other things, the Debtors have used the chapter 11 process to (a) rationalize their store fleet to eliminate unprofitable locations and renegotiate above-market leases, (b) consolidate their go-forward vendor base, and (c) obtain \$80 million in new capital from certain existing term lenders to support these cases and help the Debtors emerge with a right-sized balance sheet. In a time where retail businesses are collapsing into bankruptcy to consummate quick liquidations, the Debtors now stand poised to reorganize as a going concern with significantly healthier operating businesses and future prospects.

While the Creditors' Committee initially did not support the Plan contemplated by the Restructuring Support Agreement or previous versions of the Plan that were filed by the Debtors,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to such terms in the Plan.

and intended to pursue certain litigation against the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders, the Creditors' Committee now fully supports the current Plan. The support of the Creditors' Committee was the product of extensive, arm's-length negotiations between the Debtors' stakeholders regarding a consensual resolution to any such litigation. Recognizing that litigating the types of claims that the Creditors' Committee was raising would have been expensive and of uncertain outcome, would have jeopardized the Debtors' ability to reorganize, and may have resulted in a value-destroying liquidation, all of the primary stakeholders in these chapter 11 cases (the Debtors, the Creditors' Committee, the Sponsor Entities, and the lenders party to the Restructuring Support Agreement) were able to reach agreement on a global settlement on June 20, 2017, which has been embodied into the Plan (the "Settlement"). See Declaration of Charles H. Cremens in Support of Confirmation of the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 1516] (the "Cremens Declaration"). The Cremens Declaration provides additional detail on the potential claims raised by the Creditors' Committee, the negotiations that led to the Settlement, and the independent analysis that was completed by the Debtors' independent director that supports the Settlement.

Among other things, pursuant to the Settlement, (a) the Sponsor Entities agreed to contribute \$21.19 million (consisting of \$15.75 million in cash and the \$5.44 million on the balance sheet of Payless Holdings LLC (in which the Sponsor Entities claim a beneficial interest)) to the Debtors' Estates, and (b) the Prepetition First Lien Lenders and the Prepetition Second Lien Lenders agreed that their deficiency claims would not be entitled to share in any distributions from the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool or the Worldwide GUC Claims Recovery Pool, and further agreed to make meaningful contributions regarding the terms

of the New First Lien Term Loan Facility. These contributions, along with an additional contribution from the Debtors, will result in recoveries to unsecured creditors under the Plan of approximately 18.1% to 22.1% (far greater than any amounts such creditors would receive in a liquidation scenario). As an integral part of the Settlement, the Plan also provides releases and exculpation to the parties that participated in the restructuring process to ensure that they get the benefit of their negotiated arrangement and that other creditors do not later assert claims second-guessing the compromises that have permitted the Debtors to obtain this level of consensus regarding their Plan.

No creditor in these chapter 11 cases currently objects to any aspect of the Plan. The Plan enjoys overwhelming support across its creditor constituencies. Every holder of Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims that voted on the Plan voted to accept the Plan. In addition, more than 97.9% of the Debtors' unsecured creditors who voted on the Plan cast ballots in favor of the Plan.

The only objection that needs to be resolved at the Confirmation Hearing is the objection filed by the U.S. Trustee.<sup>3</sup> The U.S. Trustee argues that the Third-Party Release is too broad and contrary to applicable law. Not so. As set forth below, these narrowly-tailored protections comply with applicable precedent and were integral and necessary parts of the Settlement that has been embedded into the Plan and makes possible the recoveries contemplated thereunder and the Debtors' emergence as a going-concern. The Court should approve these critical protections and confirm a Plan that accomplishes the hard-fought consensus that the Debtors and their stakeholders have worked diligently and collaboratively to achieve.

Attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is a chart summarizing the issues raised in each objection filed to the Plan and the Debtors' specific response thereto.

For these reasons and others set forth more fully herein, the Plan satisfies each of the requirements for confirmation and should be confirmed.<sup>4</sup>

#### **BACKGROUND**

#### I. The Debtors

The Debtors and their non-Debtor affiliates (together, the "Company"), comprise the largest specialty family footwear retailer in the Western Hemisphere, offering a wide range of shoes and accessory items at affordable prices. The Company has more than 4,000 stores in more than 30 countries. The Debtors are headquartered in Topeka, Kansas, but their operations are extensive and span across Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, Europe, and the United States.

#### II. The Debtors' Plan of Reorganization

On April 4, 2017 (the "Petition Date"), each of the Debtors filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors are operating their businesses and managing their properties as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. On April 5, 2017, the Bankruptcy Court entered an order authorizing the joint administration and procedural consolidation of the chapter 11 cases pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b) [Docket No. 62]. No request for the appointment of a trustee or examiner has been made in these chapter 11 cases. On April 14, 2017, the Office of the United States Trustee for the Eastern District of Missouri (the "U.S. Trustee") formed the Creditors' Committee pursuant to section 1102 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 241].

The Debtors filed their initial plan of reorganization and disclosure statement on April 25, 2017 [Docket Nos. 375–6]. The Debtors filed amended versions of the plan and related

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> A copy of the proposed order confirming the Plan is available at: <a href="https://www.primeclerk.com/payless">https://www.primeclerk.com/payless</a>.

disclosure statements on June 5, 2017 [Docket Nos. 979–80], June 13, 2017 [Docket Nos. 1067–8], and June 15, 2017 [Docket Nos. 1100–1]. On June 15, 2017, the Court entered an order which, among other things, approved the adequacy of the third amended disclosure statement and set dates and deadlines related to confirmation of the Plan [Docket No. 1111]. Prior to commencing solicitation on the third amended plan and as a result of the Settlement, the Debtors filed their fourth amended plan (as may be modified, amended, or supplemented, the "Plan") and related disclosure statement (the "Disclosure Statement") on June 23, 2017 [Docket Nos. 1256–7]. The Court entered an order amending the original disclosure statement order and approving the Disclosure Statement for the Plan on June 23, 2017 [Docket No. 1261] (the "Disclosure Statement Order"). The Debtors filed a further amended Plan, addressing formal and informal objections raised by certain parties, on July 21, 2017 [Docket No. 1507].

Only holders of claims and interests in impaired classes receiving or retaining property on account of such claims or interests were entitled to vote on the Plan. 11 U.S.C. § 1126. The following classes of claims and interests were not entitled to vote on the Plan.

Class	<u>Claim/Equity</u> <u>Interest</u>	<u>Status</u>
1	Other Priority Claims	Unimpaired
2	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired
5C	Canadian General Unsecured Claims	Unimpaired
6	Intercompany Claims	Unimpaired / Impaired
7	Existing Equity Interests	Impaired
8	Intercompany Interests	Unimpaired
9	Section 510(b) Claims	Impaired

All voting classes at all of the 28 Debtors voted to accept the Plan. Accordingly and as set forth below, the Debtors' Plan is confirmable at all of the Debtors notwithstanding the deemed rejection by certain classes.

#### **III.** Settlement of Potential Claims

The Plan reflects a heavily-negotiated compromise and settlement of potential claims reached by the Debtors and their key creditor constituencies, including the Sponsor Entities, the Prepetition Lenders, and the Creditors' Committee. As set forth in additional detail in the Cremens Declaration, Mr. Cremens was appointed in January 2017 to serve as an independent director on the Board of Directors of Payless Holdings LLC. Since his retention, Mr. Cremens has attended and participated in numerous Board meetings, including meetings evaluating restructuring alternatives, evaluating Restructuring Support Agreement terms, and authorizing the filing of the Debtors' chapter 11 petitions.

Prior to the negotiations that led to the Settlement, Mr. Cremens conducted an independent investigation of potential claims the Debtors might have, including potential claims against the Sponsor Entities (the "Potential Claims"). See Cremens Decl. ¶¶ 5–10. As part of this investigation, Mr. Cremens and his advisors engaged directly with the Creditors' Committee, the Sponsors, and other constituencies. Mr. Cremens and his advisors also worked cooperatively with the Creditors' Committee to facilitate their investigation and analysis of potential claims of the Debtors, including responding to numerous informal document and information requests. See id. at ¶ 9.

Following the approval of the Disclosure Statement on June 14, 2017, Mr. Cremens, his advisors, and the advisors and principals for the Creditors' Committee, the Sponsor Entities, and certain Prepetition Lenders party to the Restructuring Support Agreement participated in two full days of in-person negotiations in an effort to settle the Potential Claims. *See id.* at ¶ 11. During these meetings on June 15–16, 2017, the parties exchanged competing views regarding the merits and potential settlement values of the Potential Claims. *Id.* Several proposals were exchanged on June 16, 2017, but no agreement was reached among the parties. *Id.* The parties

continued these discussions by telephone on June 17 and 18, 2017. *See id.* at ¶ 12. On June 19, 2017, a term sheet proposing a global settlement was delivered to the Creditors' Committee. Further negotiations ensued and on June 20, 2017, the parties reached agreement on the terms of the Settlement that is now embodied in the Plan. *Id.* The Cremens Declaration provides additional detail regarding Mr. Cremens' evaluation of the terms of the Settlement and his conclusion that the Settlement is a fair and appropriate resolution of the Potential Claims, is reasonable, and is in the best interests of the Debtors, their estates, and their stakeholders. *See id.* at ¶¶ 14–20.

#### IV. Modifications to the Debtors' Plan of Reorganization

A plan proponent may modify its plan at any time before confirmation if the modified plan meets the requirements of sections 1122 and 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code. 11 U.S.C. § 1127(a). Once filed, "the plan as modified becomes the plan." *Id.* Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 3019, courts consistently have held that a proposed modification to a previously accepted plan will be deemed accepted where the proposed modification is not material or does not adversely affect the way creditors and stakeholders are treated. See, e.g., In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc., 481 B.R. 503, 524 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 2012) ("[T]he change was so minor that it is not a materially adverse change. Accordingly, pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 3019, such modifications do not require additional disclosure under § 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code or resolicitation of votes under § 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code, nor do they require that holders of Claims or Interests be afforded an opportunity to change previously cast acceptances or rejections of the Plan."); In re Am. Trailer & Storage, Inc., 419 B.R. 412, 419 (Bankr. W.D. Mo. 2009) ("If modifications made to a plan prior to confirmation (but after the ballots have been counted) are minor, impact only a creditor who has been fully involved, and do not adversely impact any other creditor, then it is not necessary to solicit new acceptances").

The Debtors only made minor modifications to the Plan and such modifications did not adversely impact any creditors. Such changes include:

- cleaning up definitions (Plan, Art. I.148, 152);
- clarifying the payment of UST fees and filing of quarterly reports (Plan, Art. II.G); and
- clarifying the cancellation of the Prepetition Credit Agreements (Plan, Art. IV.F).

These Plan modifications are not material and do not adversely affect the way creditors are treated. Moreover, the Debtors' key constituents support these modifications. Accordingly, no additional solicitation or disclosure is required on account of the modifications, and the modifications should be deemed accepted by all holders of claims who have previously accepted the Plan.

#### **ARGUMENT**

To confirm the Plan, the Court must find that the Debtors have satisfied the provisions of section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code by a preponderance of the evidence. *See, e.g., In re Union Fin. Servs. Grp., Inc.*, 303 B.R. 390, 421 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 2003) ("The plan proponent bears the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence"); *Matter of Briscoe Enterprises, Ltd., II*, 994 F.2d 1160, 1165 (5th Cir. 1993) ("preponderance of the evidence is the debtor's appropriate standard of proof both under § 1129(a) and in a cramdown"); *In re Kent Terminal Corp.*, 166 B.R. 555, 561 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1994) ("the final burden of proof [at the] confirmation hearings remains a preponderance of the evidence"); 7 Collier on Bankruptcy ¶ 1129.05[1][d] (16th ed. 2012). Further, "the Court should view all inferences drawn from the underlying facts and matters contained in the Plan and the Disclosure Statement in a light most favorable to the Debtor." *In re Spanish Lake Assocs.*, 92 B.R. 875, 877 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 1988). As set forth below, the Plan satisfies all applicable elements of section 1129 and otherwise complies with all applicable sections of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and non-bankruptcy law. No

party with a financial interest in these cases currently suggests otherwise. Accordingly, the Court should confirm the Plan.

#### I. The Plan Satisfies Each Requirement for Confirmation

#### A. The Plan Complies with Section 1129(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code

Section 1129(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that a chapter 11 plan comply with the applicable provisions of chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The legislative history indicates that a principal objective of this provision is to ensure compliance with the requirements of sections 1122 and 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code, which govern the classification of claims and the contents of a plan of reorganization, respectively. *See* H.R. Rep. No. 95-595, at 412 (1977); S. Rep. No. 95-989, at 126 (1978); *see also In re Nutritional Sourcing Corp.*, 398 B.R. 816, 824 (Bankr. D. Del. 2008); *In re Trans World Airlines, Inc.*, 185 B.R. 302, 311–13 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 1995). As set forth below, the Plan complies with both sections 1122 and 1123 in all respects.

#### 1. The Plan satisfies the classification requirement of section 1122

Courts in the Eighth Circuit have recognized that "[s]ubject to the 'substantially similar' requirement under section 1122(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtors have broad discretion in designating the Classes under the Plan." *In re Apex Oil Co.*, 118 B.R. 683, 696 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 1990). Section 1122(a) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that "a plan may place a claim or an interest in a particular class only if such claim or interest is substantially similar to the other claims or interests of such class." 11 U.S.C. § 1122(a). Similar claims and interests also can be separately classified. *See Hanson v. First Bank of S. Dakota, N.A.*, 828 F.2d 1310, 1313 (8th Cir. 1987) ("We agree that 11 U.S.C. § 1122(a) does not prohibit the placement of substantially similar claims in different classes."), *abrogated on other grounds by Pioneer Inv. Servs. v. Brunswick Assocs. Ltd. P'ship*, 507 U.S. 380 (1993); *In re 11,111, Inc.*, 117 B.R. 471, 476

(Bankr. D. Minn. 1990) ("In *Hanson*, the Eighth Circuit expressly held that § 1122(a) does not prohibit the placement of substantially similar claims in different classes. Rather, § 1122 authorizes flexibility in classification consistent with the rehabilitative purposes of chapter 11."); *In re Lightsquared Inc.*, 513 B.R. 56, 82–83 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2014) ("Courts that have considered the issue [of classification], including the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit as well as numerous courts in this District, have concluded that the separate classification of otherwise substantially similar claims and interests is appropriate so long as the plan proponent can articulate a 'reasonable' (or 'rational') justification for separate classification.").

The Plan complies with section 1122(a) by classifying claims and interests into classes based upon the legal rights, priority, and business considerations underlying such claims and interests, including the specific Debtor against which the claims and interests are held. The Plan's classification scheme reflects the Debtors' capital and corporate structure, thereby taking into account the relative priority among claims and interests, as well as the relative priority between secured and unsecured claims. See Declaration of Robert A. Campagna in Support of Confirmation of the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 1514] (the "Campagna Decl.") ¶ 36. For example, the classification scheme distinguishes between holders of the Debtors' first lien debt, second lien debt, and unsecured debt. Holders of unsecured claims at the various Debtor entities, including the Canadian Debtors and Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc., are separately classified from each other and other general unsecured claims, reflecting the higher recoveries that such holders are entitled based on the Restructuring Support Agreement, the Settlement, and the assets available for distribution to unsecured creditors at such entities. This separate classification of unsecured claims—and the

procedures used to implement payment pursuant to these classifications—promotes administrative efficiency by allowing the Debtors to make distributions to claimholders under the Plan as quickly as possible given the unique circumstances of claims in each class. Because the Debtors' classifications are premised on the legitimate reasons set forth above, the Plan satisfies the classification requirements of section 1122 of the Bankruptcy Code.

## 2. The Plan satisfies the mandatory plan requirements of section 1123(a)

Section 1123(a) of the Bankruptcy Code sets forth seven criteria that every chapter 11 plan must satisfy. The Plan satisfies each of these requirements.

Specification of Classes, Impairment, and Treatment. The first three requirements of section 1123(a) are that a plan specify (a) the classification of claims and interests, (b) whether such claims and interests are impaired or unimpaired, and (c) the precise nature of their treatment under the plan. 11 U.S.C. § 1123(a)(1)–(3). As explained above, the Plan properly designates classes of claims and interests. Plan, Art. III.A; see also Campagna Decl. ¶ 37. The Plan also identifies Classes 1, 2, 5C, and 8 as unimpaired, identifies Classes 3, 4, 5A, 5B, 7, and 9 as impaired, identifies Class 6 claims as being either unimpaired or impaired, and specifies the treatment of the impaired classes. *Id*.

Equal Treatment. Section 1123(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that a plan "provide the same treatment for each claim or interest of a particular class, unless the holder of a particular claim or interest agrees to a less favorable treatment of such particular claim or interest." The Plan satisfies this requirement because holders of allowed claims or interests will receive the same rights and treatment as other holders of allowed claims or interests within such holders' respective class. See Plan, Art. III.B; see also Campagna Decl. ¶ 38.

Adequate Means for Implementation. Section 1123(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that a plan provide "adequate means" for its implementation. The Plan satisfies this requirement by providing for, among other things:

- the sources of Cash for distributions under the Plan, including: (1) proceeds from the New ABL Facility; (2) the Sponsor Payment; and (3) Cash on hand as of the Effective Date, Plan, Art. IV.G;
- the consummation of the restructuring transactions and entry into various agreements contemplated by the Plan, *id.* at Art. IV.B–D;
- the vesting of assets in the Reorganized Debtors, id. at Art. IV.E;
- the cancellation of existing credit agreements and equity interests, id. at Art. IV.F;
- the issuance of New Equity and the implementation of the Shareholders Agreement, *id.* at Art. IV.J; and
- the authorization for the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, to take corporate actions necessary to effectuate the Plan, *id.* at Art. IV.I.

The Court should authorize the means to implement the Plan pursuant to the Bankruptcy Code, and the Debtors should be authorized to implement such transactions. *See* Campagna Decl. ¶ 39.

Non-Voting Stock. Section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that a debtor's corporate constituent documents prohibit the issuance of nonvoting equity securities. The New Organizational Documents prohibit the issuance of non-voting equity securities to the extent required by section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code. See Plan, Art. IV.L. The Plan thus satisfies section 1123(a)(6). See In re Envirodyne Indus., Inc., No. 1993 WL 566565, at \*33 (Bankr. N.D. Ill. Dec. 20, 1993) (finding that a plan complies with section 1123(a)(6) where "[t]he Reorganized Debtors' charter will include a provision restricting the issuance of nonvoting securities"); see also Campagna Decl. ¶ 41 ("The Plan contemplates a provision in the Debtors'

new organizational documents that will prohibit the issuance of non-voting equity securities, and no party has asserted otherwise.").

Selection of Officers and Directors. Section 1123(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that plan provisions regarding the manner of selection of any director, officer, or trustee, or any other successor thereto, be "consistent with the interests of creditors and equity security holders and with public policy." The Plan and the New Organizational Documents describe the corporate governance structure for the Reorganized Debtors. They also outline the manner of selecting the new boards of directors of the Reorganized Debtors. Plan, Art. IV.N. The Plan thus complies with section 1123(a)(7).

3. The discretionary contents of the Plan are appropriate under section 1123(b)

For the reasons set forth in Section II, *infra*, the discretionary contents of the Plan are appropriate under section 1123(b).

B. The Debtors Have Complied Fully with the Applicable Provisions of the Bankruptcy Code (Section 1129(a)(2))

Section 1129(a)(2) requires that a debtor comply with the solicitation provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, including the disclosure and solicitation requirements in section 1125 and the plan acceptance requirements in section 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code. *See In re Apex Oil Co.*, 118 B.R. at 703 ("The principal purpose of [section 1129(a)(2)] is to assure that the plan proponent has complied with the disclosure requirements enumerated in 11 U.S.C. § 1125 in connection with the solicitation of acceptances to the plan"); 5 Collier On Bankruptcy, ¶ 1129.02 (15th ed. rev. 1989). The Debtors have complied with these provisions.

### 1. The Debtors have complied with the disclosure and solicitation requirement of section 1125

Section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code prohibits the solicitation of acceptances or rejections of a plan of reorganization "unless, at the time of or before such solicitation, there is transmitted to such holder the plan or a summary of the plan, and a written disclosure statement approved, after notice and a hearing, by the court as containing adequate information." 11 U.S.C. § 1125(b).

The Debtors have satisfied section 1125. On June 23, 2017, before the Debtors commenced soliciting votes on the Plan, the Court entered the Disclosure Statement Order approving the Disclosure Statement as having adequate information and approving procedures for soliciting votes on the Plan. The Debtors complied with the Disclosure Statement Order, and properly mailed solicitation packages and related notices to all necessary parties. *See Affidavit of Service of Solicitation Materials* [Docket No. 1316]. The Debtors also published the notice of the objection deadline and confirmation hearing as required by the Disclosure Statement Order. *See Affidavit of Publication* [Docket No. 1321].

## 2. The Debtors satisfied the plan acceptance requirements of section 1126

Section 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code provides that only holders of allowed claims and equity interests in impaired classes that will receive or retain property under a plan on account of such claims or equity interests may vote to accept or reject a plan. The Debtors did not solicit votes from Classes 1, 2, 5C, and 8, which are unimpaired. The Debtors likewise did not solicit votes from Classes 7 and 9, which are not entitled to any distributions under the Plan and are deemed to reject the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g). Finally, the Debtors did not solicit votes from Holders of Class 6 Claims, which claims are either (a) unimpaired and deemed to accept the Plan or (b) impaired and deemed to reject the Plan. *See* Plan, Art. III.A.

The Debtors solicited votes from holders of claims in Classes 3, 4, 5A, and 5B (collectively, the "Voting Classes") because each of the Voting Classes is impaired and entitled to receive a distribution under the Plan. See id. at Art. III.A. With respect to the Voting Classes, the Bankruptcy Code provides that a class accepts a plan where holders of claims holding at least two-thirds in amount and more than one-half in number of allowed claims in such class vote to accept such plan. 11 U.S.C. § 1126(c). All Voting Classes voted to accept the Plan in sufficient numbers and by sufficient amounts as required by section 1126(c). See Declaration of Christina Pullo of Prime Clerk LLC Regarding the Solicitation of Votes and Tabulation of Ballots Cast on the Fourth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 1491] (the "Pullo Decl.") Ex. A.

# C. The Plan Has Been Proposed in Good Faith and Not by Any Means Forbidden by Law (Section 1129(a)(3))

Section 1129(a)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that a plan of reorganization be "proposed in good faith and not by any means forbidden by law." Here, because "no objection [was] timely filed, the court may determine that the plan has been proposed in good faith and not by any means forbidden by law without receiving evidence on such issues." Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3020(b)(2). Regardless, there is no dispute that the Plan is a result of extensive, arm's-length negotiations among the Debtors and all of their major stakeholders to resolve issues central to these chapter 11 cases. Campagna Decl. ¶ 52. The Plan provides for significant recoveries that were negotiated by sophisticated parties, all of whom were represented by counsel, and is designed to facilitate the Debtors' reorganization for the benefit of all of the Debtors' stakeholders. Cremens Decl. ¶¶ 13–14, 20. Good faith for purposes of section 1129(a)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code may also be found where, as here, the plan was the result of

arm's-length negotiations with creditors and/or is supported by key creditor constituencies. *See In re Union Fin. Servs. Grp., Inc.*, 303 B.R. 390, 419–20 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 2003) (finding that the debtors' plan was proposed in good faith and that the fact that the "Unsecured Creditors' Committee fully support[ed] and endorse[d] confirmation of the Plan [... was] further evidence that the Plan has been proposed in good faith"); *In re Trans World Airlines*, 185 B.R. 302, 314 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 1995) (finding that the debtor's plan was proposed in good faith in part due to the debtor's "diligent efforts to develop the Plan [and] its enduring commitment to negotiate its provisions with its creditors and stockholders"). Accordingly, the Plan satisfies the requirements of section 1129(a)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code.

### D. The Plan Provides for Bankruptcy Court Approval of Certain Administrative Payments (Section 1129(a)(4))

Section 1129(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that certain professional fees and expenses paid by the plan proponent, by the debtor, or by a person issuing securities or acquiring property under a plan, be subject to approval of a court as reasonable. Thus, all payments of professional fees made from estate assets must be subject to review and approval by the court as to their reasonableness. *In re Apex Oil Co.*, 118 B.R. at 704 (stating that a plan satisfies section 1129(a)(4) when is provides that "any payment that is to be made or fixed after confirmation is subject to the approval of the Court as reasonable"); *see also In re Worldcom, Inc.*, No. 02-13533 (AJG), 2003 WL 23861928, at \*54 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Oct. 31, 2003) (finding requirements of section 1129(a)(4) satisfied where plan provided for payment of only "allowed" administrative expenses) (citing *In re Elsinore Shore Assocs.*, 91 B.R. 238, 268 (Bankr. D.N.J. 1988)).

The Plan satisfies section 1129(a)(4). All previous payments by the Debtors for services, costs, or expenses in connection with these chapter 11 cases, including all claims of retained

pursuant to orders of this Court. Campagna Decl. ¶ 53. In addition, the Plan provides that all final requests for payment of unpaid Professional Fee Claims must be filed no later than 30 days after the Effective Date, which will allow the Court to review those fees as well. *See* Plan, Art. II.C.1. Because the Court will determine the allowed amounts of such Professional Fee Claims, the Plan complies fully with the requirements of section 1129(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code.

# E. The Debtors Have Complied with the Governance Disclosure Requirement (Section 1129(a)(5))

Section 1129(a)(5) requires that prior to confirmation, the proponent of a plan disclose the identity and affiliations of the proposed officers and directors of the reorganized debtor, as well as the identity of any "insider" who will be employed or retained by the reorganized debtor and any compensation they will receive. Additionally, the Bankruptcy Code requires that the appointment or continuance of such officers and directors be consistent with the interests of creditors and equity security holders and with public policy. 11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(5)(A)(i)–(ii).

The Plan satisfies section 1129(a)(5). Pursuant to the Plan, the initial directors and officers of Reorganized Holdings will be selected by the Requisite Consenting Lenders. *See* Plan, Art. IV.N; Campagna Decl. ¶ 42. Unless otherwise set forth in the Plan Supplement, the existing directors and officers of each of the subsidiary Debtors will remain in place at the applicable Debtor. *See* Plan, Art. IV.N. The Debtors will have identified and made any necessary disclosures regarding the identity of their directors and officers and the status and compensation of any insiders prior to confirmation. This adequately complies with section 1129(a)(5). *See*, *e.g.*, *In re Oaks*, No. 11-48903, 2012 WL 5717940, at \*11 (Bankr. N.D. Ill. Nov. 15, 2012) (debtor satisfied section 1129(a)(5) by disclosing the identity and affiliations

of any individual proposed to serve as a director or officer through its plan supplement); *In re Texaco Inc.*, 84 B.R. 893, 908 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1988) ("No reason has been shown why the continuation of these individuals in their respective offices is inconsistent with the interests of creditors and equity security holders or with public policy.").

# F. The Plan is in the Best Interests of Creditors and Interest Holders (Section 1129(a)(7))

The "best interests of creditors" test requires that, with respect to each impaired class of claims or interests, each individual holder of a claim or interest has either accepted the plan or will receive or retain property having a value of not less than the value such holder would receive if the debtor were liquidated under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. See 11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(7); Bank of Am. Nat'l Trust & Sav. Ass'n v. 203 N. LaSalle St. P'ship, 526 U.S. 434, 441 n.13 (1999) ("The 'best interests' test applies to individual creditors holding impaired claims, even if the class as a whole votes to accept the plan."). The best interests test is generally satisfied through a liquidation recovery analysis. See, e.g., In re Apex Oil Co., 118 B.R. at 705 (finding that a plan satisfies the best interests of creditors test when "the Debtors have established that their liquidation analysis accounts for all material quantifiable assets and liabilities that reasonably can be quantified and analyzed for purposes of applying the 'best interest of creditors' test'"); In re Affiliated Foods, Inc., 249 B.R. 770, 787 (Bankr. W.D. Mo. 2000) ("Applying the best interests of creditors test requires the Court to 'conjure up a hypothetical chapter 7 liquidation that would be conducted on the effective date of the plan."") (citing In re Sierra-Cal, 210 B.R. 168, 172 (Bankr. E.D. Cal. 1997)); In re Jartran, Inc., 44 B.R. 331, 389–93 (Bankr. N.D. Ill. 1984) (conducting a liquidation analysis to determine if 1129(a)(7) is satisfied).

The Plan satisfies the best interests test. Only 42 out of the Debtors' thousands of creditors with voting rights voted to reject the Plan. *See* Pullo Decl. Ex. A. With respect to the few claimants that did not vote to accept, the Plan meets the best interests test because it provides recoveries equal to or greater than what these creditors would receive in a chapter 7 liquidation with significantly more certainty regarding the timing of such recovery. Campagna Decl. ¶ 5, Ex. A. Based on this analysis, the Plan continues to provide recoveries equal to or greater than the recoveries in a chapter 7 liquidation. *Id.* at Ex. A.

Specifically, the projected recoveries under the Plan and the results of the Debtors' Liquidation Analysis are as follows:

Class	Name of Class Under Plan	Status	Estimated Percentage Recovery Under the Plan	Recovery Under Hypothetical Liquidation (Low)	Recovery Under Hypothetical Liquidation (High)
1	Other Priority Claims	Unimpaired	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
2	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
3	Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	Impaired	83.0%	32.0%	40.0%
4	Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	Impaired	15.0%	0.0%	0.0%
5A	Other General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	18.1%	0.0%	0.0%
5B	Worldwide General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	22.1%	0.0%	0.0%

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5C	Canadian General Unsecured Claims	Unimpaired	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
6	Intercompany Claims	Unimpaired / Impaired	100.0% / 0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
7	Existing Equity Interests	Impaired	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
8	Intercompany Interests	Unimpaired	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
9	Section 510(b) Claims	Impaired	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

In every instance, individual creditors are recovering more under the Plan than they would in a liquidation scenario.

# G. The Plan Has Been Accepted by Multiple Impaired Classes (Section 1129(a)(8))

Section 1129(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that each class of claims or interests either accept a plan or be unimpaired under a plan. Holders of claims and interests in Classes 7 and 9, and holders of certain claims in Class 6, are deemed to reject the Plan under section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code because they are not entitled to receive or retain any property under the Plan. As discussed above, all Voting Classes voted to accept the Plan. Pullo Decl. Ex. A. Even though certain classes are deemed to reject the Plan, the Plan is confirmable because at least one class of claims has accepted the Plan at each Debtor and the Plan therefore satisfies section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, as discussed below.

### H. The Plan Complies with Statutorily Mandated Treatment of Administrative and Priority Tax Claims (Section 1129(a)(9))

Section 1129(a)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that certain priority claims be paid in full on the effective date of a plan and that the holders of certain other priority claims receive deferred cash payments. In particular, holders of claims of a kind specified in section 507(a)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code—administrative expenses allowed under section 503(b) of the Bankruptcy Code—must receive on the effective date cash equal to the allowed amount of such Each holder of a claim of a kind specified in claims. 11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(9)(A). section 507(a)(1) or (4)–(7) of the Bankruptcy Code—generally wage, employee benefit, and deposit claims entitled to priority—also must receive deferred cash payments of a value, as of the effective date of the plan, equal to the allowed amount of such claim (if such class has accepted the plan), or cash of a value equal to the allowed amount of such claim on the effective date of the plan (if such class has not accepted the plan). 11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(9)(B). Finally, the holder of a claim of a kind specified in section 507(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code—i.e., priority tax claims—must receive cash payments over a period not to exceed five years from the petition date, the present value of which equals the allowed amount of the claim. 11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(9)(C).

The Plan satisfies section 1129(a)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code because it provides that, with the exception of Allowed Administrative Claims that are Professional Fee Claims and ABL DIP Claims, any unpaid Allowed Administrative Claims will be paid, in Cash on the latest of: (a) on or as soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date if such Administrative Claim is Allowed as of the Effective Date; (b) on or as soon as reasonably practicable after the date such Administrative Claim is Allowed; and (c) the date such Allowed Administrative Claim becomes due and payable, or as soon thereafter as is practicable. *See* Plan, Art. II.A; *see also* 

Campagna Decl. ¶ 55. Further, the Plan satisfies section 1129(a)(9)(B) of the Bankruptcy Code because no holders of the types of claims specified in this section were impaired under the Plan and such claims have been paid in the ordinary course. Finally, the Plan satisfies section 1129(a)(9)(C) of the Bankruptcy Code because it provides that holders of Allowed Priority Tax Claims shall be treated in accordance with the terms of section 1129(a)(9)(C) of the Bankruptcy Code. *See id.* at Art. II.D

# I. At Least One Impaired Class of Claims Has Accepted the Plan, Excluding the Acceptances of Insiders (Section 1129(a)(10))

Section 1129(a)(10) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that "[i]f a class of claims is impaired under the plan, at least one class of claims that is impaired under the plan has accepted the plan," excluding acceptance by any insider. 11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(10). Here, Class 3 and Class 4 accepted the Plan as every Holder with Claims in Class 3 and Class 4 that voted on the Plan accepted the Plan. *See* Pullo Decl. Ex. A. Each other Debtor has accepting Classes at Class 5A and Class 5B, as applicable, or has no classes of claims that are impaired under the Plan.<sup>5</sup> *Id.* Accordingly, the Plan satisfies the requirements of section 1129(a)(10) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### J. The Plan Is Feasible (Section 1129(a)(11))

Section 1129(a)(11) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that a court find that a plan is feasible before confirming it. Specifically, the court must conclude that "[c]onfirmation of the plan is not likely to be followed by the liquidation, or the need for further financial reorganization, of the debtor or any successor to the debtor under the plan, unless such

Where there are no impaired classes of claims at a Debtor, section 1129(a)(10) either does not apply or is satisfied. See, e.g., In re Lionel L.L.C., No. 04-17324 (BRL), 2008 WL 905028, at \*8 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Mar. 31, 2008) ("there is no Impaired Class of Claims [...] and therefore, section 1129(a)(10) is not applicable."); In re Azabu Building Co. Ltd., No. 05-50011 (RJF), 2007 WL 1964306, at \*13 (Bankr. D. Haw. June 28, 2007) (there "is no impaired Class of Claims [...] thus section 1129(a)(10) is satisfied.").

liquidation or reorganization is proposed in the plan." 11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(11). To demonstrate that a plan is feasible, it is only necessary to show that there is a reasonable prospect that the reorganized entity will be successful. See, e.g., In re Danny Thomas Properties II Ltd. P'ship, 241 F.3d 959, 963 (8th Cir. 2001) ("[T]he bankruptcy court cannot approve a plan unless it has at least a reasonable prospect for success."); In re Monnier Bros., 755 F.2d 1336, 1341 (8th Cir. 1985) ("In determining whether [a plan] is feasible, the bankruptcy court has an obligation to scrutinize the plan carefully to determine whether it offers a reasonable prospect of success and is workable"); see also Kane v. Johns-Manville Corp., 843 F.2d 636, 649 (2d Cir. 1988) ("the feasibility standard is whether the plan offers a reasonable assurance success . . . [s]uccess need not be guaranteed"). Further, "[f]easibility determinations must be 'firmly rooted in predictions based on objective fact." In re Danny Thomas Properties II Ltd. P'ship, 241 F.3d 959, 964 (8th Cir. 2001) (citing In re Clarkson, 767 F.2d 417, 420 (8th Cir. 1985)). In determining whether a plan is feasible, courts consider factors such as the adequacy of the capital structure, the earning power of the business, economic conditions, the ability of management, the probability of the continuation of the same management, and other matters that determine the prospects of a sufficiently successful operation to enable performance of the provisions of the plan. See, e.g., In re Apex Oil Co., 118 B.R. at 708; GAC Storage El Monte, 489 B.R. at 755; In re Am. Consol. Transp. Cos., 470 B.R. 478, 489 (Bankr. N.D. III. 2012).

The Plan is feasible. Through the Plan, the Debtors will discharge nearly \$440 million of their \$847 million in prepetition debt, nearly halving the Debtors' total prepetition funded debt. See Declaration of Michael Schwindle in Support of the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the

Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 1515] ¶ 11. The Debtors' projections are based on reasonable revenue growth and cost increase assumptions, which are the product of a thorough forecasting process. See id. at ¶¶ 4–9. Based on those projections, as illustrated by the Financial Projections attached to the Disclosure Statement, the Debtors believe that with a significantly deleveraged capital structure, the Reorganized Debtors will operate a successful business with sufficient liquidity to fund payments under the Plan at emergence and other obligations as they arise. See id. at ¶ 10; Declaration of Morgan Suckow in Support of Confirmation of the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 1517] ¶ 9. Thus, the Plan has far more than a reasonable prospect of success and is not likely to be followed by liquidation or by the need for further reorganization.

# K. The Plan Provides for the Payment of All Fees under 28 U.S.C. § 1930 (Section 1129(a)(12))

Section 1129(a)(12) of the Bankruptcy Code requires the payment of all fees payable under 28 U.S.C. § 1930. The Plan provides that such fees will be timely paid until the Debtors' cases have been converted, dismissed, or closed pursuant to a final decree. See Plan, Art. II.G; see also Campagna Decl. ¶ 56. Accordingly, the Plan complies with section 1129(a)(12) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### L. The Plan Complies with Section 1129(a)(13) of the Bankruptcy Code

Section 1129(a)(13) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that retiree benefits are paid post-confirmation at any levels established in accordance with section 1114 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Plan satisfies this requirement by providing that "pursuant to section 1129(a)(13) of the Bankruptcy Code, from and after the Effective Date, all retiree benefits (as such term is

defined in section 1114 of the Bankruptcy Code), if any, shall continue to be paid in accordance with applicable law." Plan, Art. IV.R; *see also* Campagna Decl. ¶ 57.

### M. The Plan Satisfies the "Cramdown" Requirements of Section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code

If an impaired class has not voted to accept the plan, the plan must not "discriminate unfairly" and must be "fair and equitable" with respect to that class. 11 U.S.C. § 1129(b)(1). The Plan satisfies both of these "cramdown" requirements. *See* Campagna Decl. ¶ 58.

# 1. The Plan does not unfairly discriminate with respect to impaired classes that have not voted to accept the Plan

The Plan does not discriminate unfairly with respect to the impaired classes that are deemed to have rejected the Plan. The Bankruptcy Code does not provide a standard for determining whether "unfair discrimination" exists. See In re 203 N. LaSalle St. Ltd. P'ship, 190 B.R. 567, 585 (Bankr. N.D. Ill. 1995) (noting "the lack of any clear standard for determining the fairness of a discrimination in the treatment of classes under a Chapter 11 plan" and that "the limits of fairness in this context have not been established"). Rather, courts examine the facts and circumstances of the particular case. See, e.g., In re Freymiller Trucking, Inc., 190 B.R. 913, 916 (Bankr. W.D. Okla. 1996) (a court should "consider all aspects of the case and the totality of all the circumstances"); In re Aztec Co., 107 B.R. 585, 589 (Bankr. M.D. Tenn. 1989) (courts "have recognized the need to consider the facts and circumstances of each case to give meaning to the proscription against unfair discrimination"). At a minimum, however, a "plan unfairly discriminates in violation of section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code only if similar claims are treated differently without a reasonable basis for the disparate treatment." In re Union Fin. Servs. Grp., Inc., 303 B.R. 390, 421 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 2003); see also Aztec, 107 B.R. at 589–91. The unfair discrimination requirement, which involves a comparison of classes, is distinct from

the equal treatment requirement of section 1123(a)(4), which involves a comparison of the treatment of claims within a particular class.

Because the Debtors seek to confirm the Plan with respect to each Debtor, the relevant inquiry is whether the Plan unfairly discriminates against a rejecting class at each applicable Debtor where there is a rejecting class. Here, the Plan's classification of claims and interests is proper because similarly situated classes are treated comparably at each Debtor. *See Union Fin. Servs. Grp.*, 303 B.R. 390, 421 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 2003) (holding that "[t]here is no unfair discrimination if the classes are comprised of dissimilar claims or interests" or "if, taking into account the particular facts and circumstances of the case, there is a reasonable basis for such disparate treatment"). Each of the impaired Voting Classes voted to accept the Plan. The estimated recovery that holders of the classes that are deemed to reject the Plan will receive pursuant to the Plan is the same recovery that other similarly situated classes will receive. Under these circumstances, and in light of the substantial recovery the Plan provides for all unsecured creditors, there is no "unfair discrimination" against the impaired classes.

# 2. The Plan is fair and equitable with respect to impaired classes that have not voted to accept the Plan

A plan is "fair and equitable" with respect to an impaired class of claims or interests that rejects a plan (or is deemed to reject a plan) if it follows the "absolute priority" rule. *See* 11 U.S.C. § 1129(b); 203 N. LaSalle St. P'ship, 526 U.S. at 441–42; *In re Union Fin. Servs. Grp., Inc.*, 303 B.R. 390, 423 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 2003). The rule mandates that a junior class of claims cannot receive a distribution under the plan unless senior classes are rendered unimpaired or give their consent. 11 U.S.C. § 1129(b). The Plan satisfies the absolute priority rule.

The only junior class potentially receiving a distribution is Class 8—Intercompany Interests. These are Equity Interests in a Debtor held by another Debtor, which create the

Debtors' overall holding company structure. The Plan provides that these Intercompany Interests may be "cancelled or Reinstated, as determined by the Debtors, with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders." Plan, Art. III.B.10.

The option to reinstate these Intercompany Interests is designed to allow the Debtors to preserve their holding company structure instead of having to reconstitute a new one. *See In re Ion Media Networks, Inc.*, 419 B.R. 585, 601 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2009) ("[R]etention of intercompany equity interests for holding company purposes constitutes a device utilized to allow the Debtors to maintain their organizational structure and avoid the unnecessary cost of having to reconstitute that structure."). Courts have explained that this type of "technical preservation of equity" does not violate the absolute priority rule because it is simply a "means to preserve the corporate structure that does not have any economic substance" and "does not enable any junior creditor or interest holder to retain or recover any value under the Plan." *Id.* (rejecting argument that a plan violated the absolute priority rule "because it preserves intercompany interests without paying in full" more senior claims).

#### II. The Discretionary Contents of the Plan, Including the Releases, Are Appropriate

Section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code identifies various discretionary provisions that may be included in a chapter 11 plan, including "any appropriate provisions not inconsistent with the applicable provisions of this title." 11 U.S.C. § 1123(b)(1)–(6). For instance, the Plan provides for the rejection of all executory contracts and unexpired leases under section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code except as otherwise provided under the Plan, as expressly allowed under section 1123(b)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code. Plan, Art. V.A. The Plan also gives effect to the Settlement, which includes a release of the Debtors' claims against certain third parties and third-party release of certain claims against non-Debtors, each as discussed further below. Plan, Art. IX.E–F. The Plan also exculpates certain actions taken in connection with these chapter 11

cases and the Debtors' restructuring, and provides an injunction against claims and causes of action that have been released or exculpated under the Plan. Plan at Art. IX.G–H. As set forth below, the Court should approve the Settlement, the corresponding releases, the exculpation provision, and the other discretionary provisions of the Plan.

#### A. The Settlement Underlying the Plan is Reasonable and in the Best Interests of the Debtors' Estates

The settlement of disputes in bankruptcy is one of the Bankruptcy Codes' primary objectives. *See, e.g., In re Martin,* 212 B.R. 316, 319 (B.A.P. 8th Cir. 1997) ("the purpose of a compromise is to allow the trustee and creditor[s] to avoid the expenses and burdens associated with litigating sharply contested and dubious claims"); *In re Caesars Entm't Operating Co.*, 808 F.3d at 1189 (the "resolution of disputes arising in bankruptcy proceedings is one of the Code's central objectives"); *In re Genco Shipping & Trading Ltd.*, 509 B.R. 455, 468 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2014) ("[A] key goal of a bankruptcy in a mega Chapter 11 such as this is for creditors to negotiate to reach a consensus"). Consistent with this key objective, the Bankruptcy Code states that a plan may "provide for . . . the settlement or adjustment of any claim or interest belonging to the debtor or to the estate." 11 U.S.C. § 1123(b)(3)(A).

Settlements under a plan generally are subject to the same standard as settlements under Bankruptcy Rule 9019. *See In re Wigley*, 557 B.R. 678, 685 (B.A.P. 8th Cir. 2016); *see also In re Nutritional Sourcing Corp.*, 398 B.R. 816, 832 (Bankr. D. Del. 2008); *In re Envirodyne Indus.*, *Inc.*, 1993 WL 566565, at \*31 (Bankr. N.D. Ill. Dec. 20, 1993). "In the Eighth Circuit, the standard for evaluation of a settlement is whether the settlement is fair and equitable and in the best interests of the estate." *In re Wigley*, 557 B.R. 678 at 685 (internal citations omitted). The decision whether to approve "a settlement is committed to the court's sound discretion." *In re Commercial Loan*, 316 B.R. 690, 697 (Bankr. N.D. Ill. 2004) (citation omitted); *see also* 

U.S. 414, 424 (1968). "A settlement need not be perfect. Instead, the bankruptcy court must 'determine that the settlement does not fall below the lowest point in the range of reasonableness." *In re Wigley*, 557 B.R. at 685 (quoting *Tri—State Financial*, *LLC*, 525 F.3d at 654); *see also In re Martin*, 212 B.R. 316, 319 (B.A.P. 8th Cir. 1997) (in evaluating a settlement, "[the] court does not substitute its judgment for that of the trustee, but reviews the issues to see if the settlement fails below the lowest point of reasonableness").

In the Eighth Circuit, courts often look at the *Drexel* factors to determine if a settlement is reasonable. *See, e.g., In re Wigley*, 557 B.R. at 685 (B.A.P. 8th Cir. 2016) (citing *Tri–State Financial, LLC*, 525 F.3d at 654); *In re Petters Co., Inc.*, 455 B.R. 166, 175 (B.A.P. 8th Cir. 2011); *In re Flight Transp. Corp. Sec. Litig.*, 730 F.2d 1128, 1135 (8th Cir. 1984). The *Drexel* factors include: "(a) The probability of success in the litigation; (b) the difficulties, if any, to be encountered in the matter of collection; (c) the complexity of the litigation involved, and the expense, inconvenience and delay necessarily attending it; (d) the paramount interest of the creditors and a proper deference to their reasonable views in the premises." *Drexel v. Loomis*, 35 F.2d 800, 806 (8th Cir. 1929).

Furthermore, when considering a settlement, the Court "need only canvass the issues" to reach an "informed and independent judgment" regarding whether or not the settlement is in the best interests of the estate. *See In re Apex Oil Co.*, 92 B.R. 847, 867 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 1988). But, "the court need not—indeed should not—decide the merits of the dispute." *Commercial Loan*, 316 B.R. at 697.

Here, pursuant to the Settlement, among other things: (i) the Sponsors agreed to make the Sponsor Payment in settlement of any potential claims against the Sponsor Entities and in

order to obtain the releases contemplated under the Plan; (ii) the Plan will provide for non-consensual, full releases of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders in consideration of their respective contributions to the Debtors' reorganization; (iii) Holders of General Unsecured Claims will receive their respective share, as set forth herein, of two recovery pools in the aggregate amount of \$32.316 million; (iv) the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche will mature 4.5 years after the Effective Date (instead of 3 years) and will not have a prepayment penalty, "make-whole" premium, or other such call protection; and (v) the Plan will provide for the release of any and all Avoidance Actions against Holders of Claims in Class 5A and Class 5B. The Settlement is a global settlement of all issues related to, among other issues, the Debtors' business, capital structure, and the Estate Claims.

When examining the Settlement using the *Drexel* factors, it is clear that the Settlement is in the best interests of the Debtors' Estates and should be approved—no party has asserted otherwise. The underlying potential litigation would be very complex and the parties all recognized that pursuing such litigation would necessarily result in substantial delays with respect to the chapter 11 process, significant expenses incurred by multiple parties, and an increased risk of liquidation of the Debtors' Estates. Campagna Decl. ¶ 47. Further, the Debtors' unsecured creditors particularly benefit from the Settlement in that (a) they will receive recoveries that far exceed liquidation value on a significantly more expedited timeframe, as opposed to waiting an unknown number of months or years to resolve any such litigation on a final basis while bearing the risk of receiving substantially decreased (or no) recoveries and (b) they will not share recoveries with the Prepetition Lenders deficiency claims, which would severely dilute the unsecured creditors' portion of the Settlement proceeds. *See generally* Campagna Decl. The Debtors' creditors have effectively demonstrated their support of the

Settlement through their votes on the Plan, and the Court should give great deference to this loud support. *See e.g.*, *In re Del Grosso*, 106 B.R. 165, 168–69 (Bankr. N.D. III. 1989) (court considered "the paramount interest of the creditors and a proper deference to their reasonable views," explaining that these interests "weigh heavily in favor of [the] settlement" where "none of the creditors have objected to the proposed compromise"). Importantly, the probability of success in the potential litigation is uncertain and the Settlement terms reflect this uncertainty, as agreed to by the parties that would have borne the risks of the uncertainty in such litigation. Ultimately, the Settlement reflects the parties' reasoned determination of a value-maximizing endpoint for the various issues that would be raised in any such litigation. Accordingly, the Settlement falls well within the range of possible litigation outcomes and far exceeds "the lowest point in the range of reasonableness." *In re Wigley*, 557 B.R. at 685. Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019 and section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Court should approve the Settlement.

#### **B.** The Third-Party Release Is Appropriate

The Plan includes the Third-Party Release that is necessary to obtain the substantial contributions that the Sponsor Entities, the Prepetition Lenders, and other parties are making to the Debtors' reorganization, which in turn are essential to the Plan's success. Plan, Art. VI.A, G; see also Campagna Decl. ¶¶ 47-48. Significantly, no creditor—or any party with financial interest in these cases—currently objects to the Third-Party Release. But the U.S. Trustee has objected on the grounds that the Third-Party Release is overbroad, not consensual, and contrary to applicable law. [Docket No. 1468] at 14–23. Specifically, the U.S. Trustee argues that the Third-Party Release is (i) overly broad in that it provides impermissible releases to non-debtor entities, (ii) non-consensual, and (iii) not supported by the facts. *Id.* Because the Third-Party

Release complies with the law in the Eighth Circuit and is supported by the facts, the Court should overrule the U.S. Trustee's objection and approve the Third-Party Release.

This Court unambiguously has the authority to approve the Third-Party Release. *See In re Master Mortg. Inv. Fund, Inc.*, 168 B.R. 930, 936 (Bankr. W.D. Mo. 1994) (holding that "the Court has the authority to issue a permanent injunction or third-party release"). Courts in this district routinely exercise that authority by confirming plans containing third-party releases. *See, e.g., In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc.*, 481 B.R. 503, 519 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 2012); *In re Abengoa Bioenergy US Holding, LLC*, Case No. 16-41161 (June 8, 2017); *In re Peabody Energy Corporation*, Case No. 16-42529 (Mar. 17, 2017); *In re Arch Coal, Inc.*, Case No. 16-40120 (Sept. 13, 2016); *In re Patriot Coal Corp.*, Case No. 12-51502 (Dec. 18, 2013).

Section 524(e) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that "[e]xcept as provided in subsection (a)(3) of this section, discharge of a debt of the debtor does not affect the liability of any other entity on, or the property of any other entity for, such debt." 11 U.S.C. § 524(e). The *Master Mortgage* court recognized "that § 524(e) does not explicitly prohibit the court from issuing a permanent injunction." *In re Master Mortg. Inv. Fund, Inc.*, 168 B.R. at 936. But to "interpret the section as prohibiting all permanent injunctions would create a conflict with § 105 where there need be none." *Id.* Accordingly, the *Master Mortgage* court followed several other circuits and reiterated, after a thorough analysis, that "a bankruptcy court has the power to issue a permanent injunction or third party release" in certain circumstances. *In re Master Mortg. Inv. Fund, Inc.*, 168 B.R. at 937; see also In re Specialty Equip. Co., 3 F.3d 1043, 1047 (7th Cir. 1993); *In re A.H. Robins Co.*, 880 F.2d 694, 702 (4th Cir. 1989); *Republic Supply Co. v. Shoaf*, 815 F.2d 1046, 1050 (5th Cir. 1987).

1. Given the ability of parties to opt out, the Third-Party Release should be approved as a consensual release of all of the Released Parties other than the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders

Courts in this circuit and others routinely confirm plans that contain a consensual third-party release, similar to the third-party release here. *See In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc.*, 481 B.R. 503, 517 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 2012) ("Permitting confirmation of a plan that includes consensual releases recognizes that such releases sound in contract law, rather than arise under statutory bankruptcy law [...] Given that a consensual third-party release sounds in contract law, the Court would agree that consent is necessary, and that voting to accept a plan may be the proper standard for establishing consent in many contexts."); *In re Arch Coal, Inc.*, No. 16-40120 [Docket No. 1334] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Sept. 15, 2016) (approving consensual third-party releases); *In re Patriot Coal Corp.*, No. 12-51502 [Docket No. 5169] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Dec. 18, 2013) (same); *In re Metromedia Fiber Network, Inc.*, 416 F.3d 136, 142 (2d Cir. 2005) ("Nondebtor releases may also be tolerated if the affected creditors consent"); *Matter of Specialty Equip. Companies, Inc.*, 3 F.3d 1043, 1047 (7th Cir. 1993) ("Courts have found releases that are consensual and non-coercive to be in accord with the strictures of the Bankruptcy Code").

Here, the Third-Party Release is consensual as to all third-parties other than the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders because only creditors that voted in favor of the Plan, or that otherwise received proper notice of their ability<sup>6</sup> to opt out of the Third-Party Release but did not opt out of such release, provide a release of third parties under the Plan. The Debtors clearly and conspicuously included the Third-Party Release on the Ballots <u>and</u> all notices for deemed rejecting and deemed accepting classes in bold text, and clearly stated that any Holders who accepted the Plan, or otherwise did not elect to opt out of the Third-Party Release, would be

The ability to opt out of the release was provided to parties that were entitled to vote on the Plan but that did not vote to accept the Plan, parties that are deemed to accept the Plan, and parties that are deemed to reject the Plan.

deemed to have consented to the Third-Party Release. See, e.g., Disclosure Statement Order at <a href="Exhibit 2"><u>Exhibit 2</u></a> Form Ballot ("AS A 'RELEASING PARTY' UNDER THE PLAN, YOU ARE DEEMED TO PROVIDE THE RELEASES CONTAINED IN ARTICLE IX.F OF THE PLAN, AS SET FORTH ABOVE. YOU MAY CHECK THE BOX BELOW TO ELECT NOT TO GRANT THE RELEASE CONTAINED IN ARTICLE IX.F OF THE PLAN ONLY IF YOU (A) SUBMIT THE BALLOT BUT ABSTAIN FROM VOTING TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN OR (B) VOTE TO REJECT THE PLAN"); Id. at <a href="Exhibit 4-A"><u>Exhibit 4-A</u></a> Unimpaired Non-Voting Status Notice ("You are advised to carefully review and consider the Plan, including the release, injunction, and exculpation provisions, as your rights may be affected . . . . If you wish to make an election to opt out of the release provisions contained in Article IX.F of the Plan set forth above . . . "); <a href="Exhibit 4-B"><u>Exhibit 4-B</u></a> Fully-Impaired Non-Voting Status Notice (same). Further, the Debtors pointed all creditors to the applicable provisions of the Plan in the Ballots and notices.

Further, all creditors received notice of the deadline to vote on the plan and object to plan confirmation, *see Affidavit of Service of Solicitation Materials* [Docket No. 1316], and the Debtors published the notice of the objection deadline and confirmation hearing as required by the Disclosure Statement Order, *Affidavit of Publication* [Docket No. 1321]. Accordingly, all creditors had proper notice of their rights and could have chosen to opt out of the release (except with respect to the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders) and/or object to confirmation of the Plan.

Courts in this jurisdiction and others regularly find that releases with substantially similar opt-out mechanisms are consensual. *See, e.g., In re Peabody Energy Corporation*, No. 16-42529 [Docket No. 2763] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Mar. 17, 2017) (approving plan where each holder voting

in favor of the plan or conclusively presumed to have accepted the plan were bound by the third-party release without any option to opt out of such third-party release and finding that such third-party releases were consensual); see also In re Paragon Offshore PLC, No. 16-10386 [Docket No. 1614] (Bankr. D. Del. June 7, 2017) (approving third-party releases with opt-out provisions substantially similar to those in the Plan); In re Answers Holdings, Inc., No. 17-10496 [Docket No. 120] (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Apr. 10, 2017) (same); In re Ultra Petroleum Corp., No. 16-32202 [Docket No. 1324] (Bankr. S.D. Texas Mar. 14, 2017) (same); In re Samson Resources Corp., No. 15-11934 [Docket No. 2019] (Bankr. D. Del. Feb. 13, 2017) (same); In re Midstates Petroleum Co., Inc., No. 16-32237 [Docket No. 698] (Bankr. S.D. Texas Sept. 28, 2016) (same); In re Genco Shipping & Trading Ltd., No. 14-11108 [Docket No. 322] (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. July 2, 2014) (same).

# 2. Under the Master Mortgage factors, the Third-Party Release should be approved as to all Released Parties.

To the extent the Third-Party Release is not consensual (as is the case with respect to the release of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders), this Court should still approve the Third-Party Release. Courts in the Eighth Circuit can confirm a Plan with non-consensual third-party releases. *In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc.*, 481 B.R. 503, 518–19 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 2012) ("Under Master Mortgage, the court may confirm a plan that includes compelled releases of non-debtors, if such extraordinary relief is warranted."). Specifically, non-consensual releases can be approved if the Court determines that, among other factors, the five non-conjunctive factors set forth in *Master Mortgage* support granting the releases. The five factors include:

- 1. the identity of interest between the debtor and nondebtor such that a suit against the nondebtor will deplete the estate's resources;
- 2. a substantial contribution to the plan by the nondebtor;
- 3. the necessity of the release to the reorganization;
- 4. the overwhelming acceptance of the plan and release by creditors and interest holders; and

5. the payment of all or substantially all of the claims of the creditors and interest holders under the plan.

In re Master Mortg. Inv. Fund, Inc., 168 B.R. at 937; see also In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc., 481 B.R. 503, 519 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 2012). The Master Mortgage court further recognized that "these factors do not appear to be an exclusive list of considerations, nor are they a list of conjunctive requirements" and should not be seen as a "rigid 'factor test." In re Master Mortg. Inv. Fund, Inc., 168 B.R. at 935. Rather, a court should "engage[] in a fact specific review, weighing the equities of each case." Id. at 935; see also In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc., 481 B.R. 503, 521 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 2012) (analyzing "Master Mortgage, public policy, and the interests of justice" to determine that a non-consensual third-party release was appropriate).

Accordingly, the question before this Court is whether "a fact specific review" leads this Court to the conclusion that the Third-Party Release, including, but not limited to, with respect to the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders, is appropriate in the circumstances of these chapter 11 cases. *In re Master Mortg.*, 168 B.R. at 935; *see also In re Airadigm Commc'ns, Inc.*, 519 F.3d 640, 657 (7th Cir. 2008) ("whether a release is 'appropriate' for the reorganization is fact intensive and depends on the nature of the reorganization"); *In re Genco Shipping & Trading Ltd.*, 513 B.R. 233, 269 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2014) ("[A]nalyzing non-debtor releases is not 'a matter of factors and prongs,' but rather requires a finding of unique circumstances.") (internal citations omitted). Based on the reasoning in *Master Mortgage* and this district's reasoning in *U.S. Fidelis*, the Third-Party Release incorporated in the Plan should be approved. No economic party in interest asserts otherwise and no party has provided any binding authority to the contrary. The Third-Party Release here easily satisfies the relevant considerations.

(i) The Debtors share an identity of interest with the Released Parties

In determining whether this factor is satisfied, courts in the Eighth Circuit consider, among other things, whether there is a right of indemnity between any of the parties such that one party might rely on the Debtors for a contribution and whether the litigation might involve interpleading or discovery or otherwise drain assets and cost time and resources of the estates. *See In re Master Mortg.*, 168 B.R. at 937; *In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc.*, 481 B.R. at 519.

Here, it is clear by the nature of the discovery requests issued prior to the Settlement that any claims against the Sponsor Entities and Prepetition Lenders would impose significant and continuing expenses and other burdens on the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors. Further, and as identified in the Standing Motion, directors and officers who have rights of indemnity against the Debtors will be named as defendants in any litigation of Potential Claims against the Sponsors, and included within the Sponsor Entities receiving the Third-Party Release are Debtor directors who have indemnification claims against the Debtors. *See Declaration of Paul Jones in Support of the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code* [Docket No. 1513] ¶ 24. The credit agreements with the Prepetition Lenders also include indemnification provisions that may embroil the Debtors in any action taken against the Prepetition Lenders. Accordingly, the Debtors believe this factor weighs heavily in favor of approval of the Third-Party Release.

# (ii) The non-Debtor Released Parties made substantial contributions to the reorganization

In determining whether this factor is satisfied, courts in the Eighth Circuit have found many different types of contributions to be substantial. In *Master Mortgage*, the court found that a creditor that "assigned participation interests and released its collateral interest in various notes and mortgages" allowing for recoveries to unsecured creditors amounted to a substantial contribution. *In re Master Mortg.*, 168 B.R. at 937. Additionally, a creditor's release of claims

against another party and an agreement to contribute 80% of payments under post-petition contracts towards the reorganization constituted substantial contribution. *Id.* In *U.S. Fidelis*, the court went further, finding that a third-party made a substantial contribution to reorganization even when the plan was a liquidating plan, such that a party that made a contribution to a liquidation should be able to procure a release if it provides for an "orderly liquidation." *In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc.*, 481 B.R. at 520. Courts in other jurisdictions take similar views regarding substantial contributions in this context. *See, e.g., In re Zenith Elecs. Corp.*, 241 B.R. 92, 111 (Bankr. D. Del. 1999) (finding that the following parties made substantial contribution on account of their actions: "the Officers and Directors by designing and implementing the operational restructuring and negotiating the financial restructuring with LGE; LGE by funding the Plan and agreeing to the compromise of its claim; and the Bondholders' Committee by negotiating the pre-packaged Plan and assisting in the solicitation of the Bondholders, who voted overwhelmingly in favor of the Plan.").

Here, the substantial contributions are clear. The Sponsor Entities have agreed to make the Sponsor Payment of over \$20 million, allowing for recoveries to unsecured creditors that far surpass the recoveries originally contemplated by the Plan. Campagna Decl. ¶ 47; Cremens Decl. ¶ 14. Further, the Prepetition Lenders have (i) waived substantial deficiency claims (which would have significantly reduced recoveries to unsecured creditors), (ii) agreed to a significant additional cash contribution to create (together, with the Sponsor Payment) a \$32.316 million total pool for general unsecured creditors, and (iii) agreed to modify the terms of the New First Lien Facility in a manner favorable to the Reorganized Debtors by extending the maturity date of the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche and removing all prepayment premiums. Just like the secured creditors in *Master Mortgage*, these agreements significantly assisted the Debtors in

maximizing recoveries, gaining unsecured creditor support, and conducting an orderly, expeditious, and efficient reorganization. Accordingly, the Debtors believe this factor weighs heavily in favor of approval of the Third-Party Release.

### (iii) The Third-Party Release is necessary for the reorganization.

In determining whether this factor is satisfied, courts in the Eighth Circuit find that third-party releases are "appropriate only if, without it, there would be little likelihood of the accomplishing of the goal of the chapter 11." *In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc.*, 481 B.R. at 520; *see also In re Master Mortg.*, 168 B.R. at 938 ("There is little debate among the creditors that without the . . . settlement, Master Mortgage could not have reorganized").

Here, the Sponsor Entities negotiated for a full and complete release of potential claims against them, which includes the terms of the Debtors Release and the Third-Party Release in the Plan. It should not be a surprise that a settling party would not be willing to agree to make such a significant and valuable contribution if there is a risk that they (or their affiliates or any other entity that might seek indemnity or claim back against them) will later be sued on the very same claims they agreed to settle. It is a similar story with respect to all of the concessions made under the Plan by the Prepetition Lenders. Simply put, the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders are seeking finality—not the risk that they will be sued later, or become responsible in any way, for the claims they are settling today through their contributions. Accordingly, the Sponsor Entities and Prepetition Lenders refused to allow any opt-out provision as to the releases. As a result, the Debtors added language to the Ballots and notices clearly indicating to all creditors that any effort to opt out of the release would not be effective as to claims against the Sponsor Entities or the Prepetition Lenders. Significantly, the Creditors' Committee also agreed to and accepted the Third-Party Release, including the lack of an opt-out mechanism with

respect to the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders. These provisions are an integral and necessary part of the Settlement embodied in the Plan.

The contributions committed by the Sponsor Entities and Prepetition Lenders under the Settlement are critical to the success of the Debtors' Plan. Under the earlier versions of the Plan prior to incorporation of the terms of the Settlement, unsecured creditors were to obtain recoveries ranging from 0.8% to 2.9% on the dollar. The Creditors' Committee sought standing to bring a variety of claims, as discussed above. The bringing of such claims would have significantly hampered the restructuring process and may have resulted in a liquidation, which would have eliminated any recoveries to unsecured creditors. In contrast, as a result of the Settlement, these same unsecured creditors will receive recoveries that range from 18.1% to 22.1%. The Debtors will reorganize as a going-concern, and the Debtors' Estates will avoid the significant costs, expenses, and uncertainty that would have been encountered had the Creditors' Committee maintained its objections to the Plan. For all these reasons, this factor weighs in favor of granting the Third-Party Release.

# (iv) The Plan, including the Third-Party Release, has the overwhelming acceptance of creditors and interest holders

In determining whether this factor is satisfied, courts in the Eighth Circuit look to the results of creditors' votes on the Plan. Some courts consider this "the single most important factor" in determining whether a third-party release is appropriate. *In re Master Mortg. Inv. Fund, Inc.*, 168 B.R. at 938. Specifically, courts will look at the classes "most affected by the permanent injunction" to determine if this factor is met. *Id.* Additionally, creditor support for a Plan can be assumed if no creditor "actually affected" by the third-party release files an objection to the release provisions of the plan. *In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc.*, 481 B.R. at 520

Here, the unsecured creditors — those most impacted by the release — voted overwhelmingly to accept the Plan, including its release provisions. Specifically, 97.9% in amount and 95.5% in number of the unsecured creditors who voted on the Plan voted to accept. Approximately 130 parties elected to opt-out of the releases. And more importantly, no party with a financial interest in these cases currently objects to the Third-Party Release.

#### (v) The Plan provides for substantial payment of the claims of the creditors and interest holders under the Plan

In determining whether this factor is satisfied, courts in the Eighth Circuit look not only to the total recovery percentage, but also to whether the contributions resulted in a return where there might otherwise have been none. *See e.g., In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc.*, 481 B.R. at 520 (finding that a \$14 million contribution "will ensure a return to the consumer creditors" even when the Plan indicated that lower-priority holders might receive no recovery on account of payments to higher-priority holders). In further analysis, the court noted that this ultimately amounted to a matter of fairness because if the releases were denied, "it is unlikely that the consumer creditors would receive a distribution anywhere close to that offered through the Plan, if they obtain one at all." *In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc.*, 481 B.R. at 520.

Here, unsecured creditors will not be paid in full. But under the Plan incorporating the Settlement, the distributions initially contemplated for unsecured creditors have increased significantly, from a recovery of only a few percent (at best) to the substantial recovery contemplated by the Plan. As demonstrated by the Liquidation Analysis, unsecured creditors (other than Holders of Worldwide General Unsecured Claims) have no guaranteed recovery in a liquidation, and, if the litigation were allowed to proceed, the parties could spend several years and millions of dollars litigating before unsecured creditors would see a recovery, if any. Accordingly, the fixed distribution of approximately \$32 million that general unsecured creditors

are entitled to under the Plan, which amount was determined as part of arm's-length negotiations that led to the Settlement, weighs in favor of granting the Third-Party Release.

### (vi) The Third-Party Release satisfies other important considerations

Because this is a fact-intensive inquiry, courts have looked at other factors, including fairness in general and the public interest, in determining whether a third-party release is appropriate. *See In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc.*, 481 B.R. at 520–21.

Fairness. The U.S. Fidelis court held that the "truly unfair result" would be sustaining the objections to the third-party release because, if the court did that, the restructuring support agreement "falls apart and there is no Plan [... and] the Case eventually would be dismissed or converted to chapter 7." In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc., 481 B.R. at 520. The same general principle holds true here.

Public Interest. The U.S. Fidelis court held that "the public interest would not be served [...] by denying [creditors] a distribution today, in exchange for allowing them to keep whatever claims the [objectors] happen to think those creditors may have against [the third-party]—claims that no creditor, other than the [objectors], have suggested that they believe that they have or that they are interested in pursuing." In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc., 481 B.R. at 521. Here, the Creditors' Committee initially determined to pursue causes of action against the third parties instead of supporting the Plan, but as a result of extensive negotiations and analysis, agreed that the Settlement, including the releases contemplated thereby, provided a more certain, more immediate, and more fair resolution to the causes of action. The party most interested in bringing any claims released by the Third-Party Release supports the Plan. Denying the Third-Party Release (and in turn, rejecting the Settlement) is not in the best interests of any

creditors in these cases. The only party objecting to the Third-Party Release is the U.S. Trustee, which is not even a creditor or other stakeholder of the Debtors.

#### 3. The Objections to the Third-Party Release should be overruled

#### (i) The U.S. Trustee's Objection has no basis in the law.

The objection of the U.S. Trustee to the breadth and non-consensual nature of the Third-Party Release is misguided and not based in the law or the facts and circumstances of this case. First, while the U.S. Trustee points to the law of various other circuits to support its position that third-party releases should be impermissible in the Eighth Circuit, this is a misleading distraction. In this circuit, "[u]nder Master Mortgage, the court may confirm a plan that includes compelled releases of non-debtors, if such extraordinary relief is warranted." In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc., 481 B.R. at 518–19. In fact, this is consistent with most of the cases cited by the U.S. Trustee. See e.g. In re Metromedia Fiber Network, Inc., 416 F.3d 136, 143 (2d Cir. 2005) ("A nondebtor release in a plan of reorganization should not be approved absent the finding that truly unusual circumstances render the release terms important to success of the plan"); In re Drexel Burnham Lambert Grp., Inc., 960 F.2d 285, 293 (2d Cir. 1992) ("a court may enjoin a creditor from suing a third party, provided the injunction plays an important part in the debtor's reorganization plan"); In re A.H. Robins Co., Inc., 880 F.2d 694, 701 (4th Cir. 1989) ("Given the impact of the proposed suits on the bankruptcy reorganization and the fact that the class B members who chose to opt-out could have had their claims fully satisfied by staying within the settlement, the bankruptcy court's equitable powers support the questioned injunction.").

Accordingly, the main point of contention between the Debtors and the U.S. Trustee is whether or not the Court should find that the Third-Party Release is permissible given the facts and circumstances of these cases. As set forth above, there is no doubt that the facts of these

cases, including the Settlement, substantial contributions of various parties, the identity of interest between the Debtors and the non-Debtors being released, the necessity of the release to the organization, the overwhelming acceptance of the Plan by creditors, and the relatively high recoveries of unsecured creditors, support a finding that the Third-Party Release is appropriate. Without the Third-Party Release, there would be no consensual deal, substantially reduced recoveries, potentially no Plan to confirm, and possibly even a liquidation.

Second, the U.S. Trustee seems to assert that the Third-Party Release applies to some broad array of parties and set of actions completely unconnected to these cases. This is not so. The Released Parties and Releasing Parties are all connected in some way—as Debtors, lenders, directors and officers with indemnification rights against the Debtors, Sponsors, parties to the Restructuring Support Agreement, or creditors who received proper notice—to these cases. And the related parties (predecessors, successors, affiliates, current or former officers, etc.) being released under the Plan are all being released precisely because of their relationship with those parties such that they could sue or be sued in that capacity. Accordingly, they are appropriately included in the applicable definitions.

Third, the Third-Party Release does not release "any and all claims whatsoever." Rather, there is a subject-matter limitation and the Third-Party Release clearly states that it extends only to Causes of Action that are:

based on or relating to, or in any manner arising from, in whole or in part, the Debtors, the Estates, the conduct of the Debtors' businesses, the Chapter 11 Cases, the purchase, sale, or rescission or the purchase or sale of any security of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, the subject matter of, or the transactions or events giving rise to, any Claim or Equity Interest that is treated in the Plan, the business or contractual arrangements between any of the Debtors and any Released Party, the restructuring of Claims and Equity Interests prior to or in the Chapter 11 Cases, the negotiation, formulation, or preparation of the Plan, the Plan Supplement, the Disclosure Statement, or related agreements, instruments, or other

documents, or upon any other act or omission, transaction, or occurrence relating to the foregoing taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan, other than claims or liabilities arising out of or relating to any act or omission of a Released Party that constitutes criminal conduct, willful misconduct, or gross negligence.

This is an appropriate breadth for the release as it only applies to causes of action related to these Chapter 11 Cases but not, for example, to contracts between any of these parties unrelated to the Debtors. Accordingly, the Releases are not overly broad, but rather narrowly-tailored to the facts and circumstances of these cases.

Fourth, the deemed consents included in the Plan are appropriate, especially given that the Debtors provided parties with the ability to opt out of the release. As set forth above, all creditors entitled to vote on the Plan received proper notice of their right to vote on the Plan, opt out of the release, and object to the release as part of the Plan confirmation process. The Ballots, notices, and related solicitation materials clearly stated that a vote to accept the Plan included an affirmative agreement to be bound by the Third-Party Release. The Debtors did not coerce or compel any creditor to vote to accept the Plan, and all creditors received proper notice of their right to opt out. The enhanced recovery that each creditor was voting to accept was itself precisely predicated on the Third-Party Release being granted as part and parcel of the overall Settlement. As discussed above, without the Third-Party Release, there is no Plan, and no recovery to vote on. If a creditor did not exercise its right to opt out of the release, such creditor has no right to the increased recovery resulting from the Settlement contemplated by the Plan without also giving the release upon which such recovery was predicated.

Courts in this district and other jurisdictions regularly approve Third-Party Releases substantially similar to those included in the Plan. *See, e.g., In re Abengoa Bioenergy US Holding, LLC*, No. 16-41161 [Docket No. 1443] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. June 8, 2017); *In re Peabody Energy Corporation*, No. 16-42529 [Docket No. 2763] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Mar. 17, 2017); *In re* 

Arch Coal, Inc., No. 16-40120 [Docket No. 1334] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Sept. 15, 2016); In re Airadigm Comm., Inc., 519 F.3d 640, 657 (7th Cir. 2008); In re Am. Gilsonite Co., No. 16-12316-CSS (Bankr. D. Del. Dec. 12, 2016), Docket No. 174; In re Energy Future Holdings Corp., No. 14-10979 [Docket No. 7244] (Bankr. D. Del. Dec. 7, 2015); Genco Shipping & Trading, 513 B.R. at 268; In re Karta Corp., 342 B.R. 45, 53–54 (S.D.N.Y. 2006); In re Friedman's, Inc., 356 B.R. 758, 763–64 (Bankr. S.D. Ga. 2005).

#### C. The Exculpation Provision is Appropriate and Should Be Approved

The Plan includes a customary exculpation provision. Plan, Art. IX.G. Most plans of reorganization in major chapter 11 cases include exculpation provisions. *See, e.g., In re PWS Holding Corp.*, 228 F.3d 224, 245 (3d Cir. 2000) (noting that an exculpation provision "is apparently a commonplace provision in Chapter 11 plans"); *In re Bearing-Point, Inc.*, 453 B.R. 486, 494 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2011) ("[E]xculpation provisions are included so frequently in chapter 11 plans because stakeholders all too often blame others for failures . . . seek vengeance against other parties; or simply wish to second guess the decisionmakers [sic] . . . ."); *Berwick Black Cattle*, 394 B.R. 448, 459 (Bankr. C.D. Ill. 2008) (discussing the "now customary exculpation for acts and omissions in connection with the plan and the bankruptcy case" included in the plan).

Exculpation does not affect the liability of third parties *per se*. Instead, it sets a standard of care applicable in future litigation against an exculpated party for acts that fall within the scope of the exculpation provision. *See, e.g., In re Arch Coal, Inc.*, No. 16-40120 (CER) [Docket No. 1334] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Sept. 16, 2016) (confirming a chapter 11 plan including exculpation provision that excluded gross negligence and willful misconduct). Such provisions are essential to inducing parties to participate collaboratively and constructively in a restructuring process. *See, e.g., In re Drexel Burnham Lambert Group, Inc.*, 960 F.2d 285, 293

(2d Cir. 1992) (finding exculpation provision appropriate where plan negotiations could not have occurred without protection from liability); *In re Chemtura Corp.*, 439 B.R. 561, 610 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2010) (recognizing that "exculpation provisions are included so frequently in chapter 11 plans because stakeholders all too often blame others for failures to get the recoveries they desire; seek vengeance against other parties; or simply wish to second guess the decisionmakers in the chapter 11 case").

Courts in the Eighth Circuit and elsewhere generally evaluate the appropriateness of exculpation provisions based upon a number of factors, including the extent to which the exculpation is appropriately tailored, whether any parties have objected to the provision, whether the exculpation provision was necessary to the reorganization and is integral to the proposed plan, and whether protection from liability was necessary for plan negotiations. See, e.g., In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc., 481 B.R. 503, 525 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 2012) (approving exculpation provisions as "an integral part of the Plan and as fair, equitable, reasonable and in the best interests of the Debtor, the Estate and the holders of Claims"); In re Trans World Airlines, Inc., 185 B.R. 302, 321–22 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 1995) (court considered, inter alia, "the balance of the likelihood of success of the underlying claims or potential claims," "the fact that the Plan is the product of extensive arms-length negotiations among the Debtor and its creditor constituencies," and "the absence of objections thereto" in approving exculpation provision); see also In re Worldcom, Inc., 2003 WL 23861928, at \*28 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2003) (approving exculpation provision and stating that "the inclusion of the Exculpation Provision... in the Plan [was] vital to the successful negotiations of the terms of the Plan in that without such provisions, the [parties] would have been less likely to negotiate the terms of the settlement and the Plan").

Despite the assertions of the U.S. Trustee in its objection, the Exculpation is appropriately tailored to the facts and circumstances of these chapter 11 cases and necessary to the Plan. The scope of the Exculpation is limited to "any prepetition or postpetition act taken or omitted to be taken in connection with, or arising from or relating in any way to, the [se] Chapter 11 Cases" and has no effect on liability that is determined to have constituted actual fraud, gross negligence, willful misconduct, or criminal conduct. Plan, Art. IX.G. Moreover, the Debtors and their fiduciaries could not possibly have developed the Plan without the support and contributions of the parties exculpated under the Plan. Cremens Decl. ¶¶ 19. Moreover, each of the Exculpated Parties made significant concessions in helping the Debtors achieve the significant creditor recoveries in the Plan and the Exculpation was critical to such parties' agreement to make such concessions. See Cremens Decl. ¶¶ 14, 19; Campagna Decl. ¶ 49. Exculpation functions to prevent exculpated parties from being sued in the future by disgruntled constituents that, with the benefit of hindsight, believe that an exculpated party could or should have negotiated for a better deal or continued with their asserted litigation rights. Accordingly, the failure to approve the Exculpation would undermine the very purpose of the Settlement by allowing parties to pursue claims that are supposed to be fully and finally resolved by the Settlement implemented through the Plan.

In light of the facts and circumstances of this case, the Exculpation is permissible and the objection of the U.S. Trustee should be overruled. The Exculpated Parties participated in the chapter 11 cases in reliance upon the protections afforded to those constituents by the Exculpation. As one court reasoned, the "[p]arties participated in the creation of the Plan under the guarantee that they would receive some limited protection. . . . To pull away this string would thus tend to unravel the entire fabric of the Plan, and would be inequitable to all those

who participated in good faith to bring it into fruition." In re Enron Corp., 326 B.R. 497, 503 (S.D.N.Y. 2005). Courts in this jurisdiction have approved exculpation provisions similar to the Exculpation in the Plan, which includes a carve-out for gross negligence and willful misconduct. See In re Peabody Energy Corp., No. 16-42529 (BSS) [Docket No. 2763] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Mar. 17, 2017) (approving exculpation provision in favor of, among others, the official committee of unsecured creditors, DIP agent and lenders, prepetition agent and lenders, securitization parties, and indenture trustees, subject to a carve-out for willful misconduct or gross negligence); In re Arch Coal, Inc., No. 16-40120 (CER) [Docket No. 1334] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Sept. 15, 2016) (approving exculpation provision in favor of, among others, parties to restructuring support agreement, DIP agent and lenders, prepetition agent and lenders, securitization parties, and indenture trustees, subject to a carve-out for willful misconduct or gross negligence); In re Patriot Coal Corp., No. 12-51502 (KAS) [Docket No. 5169] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Dec. 18, 2013) (approving exculpation provision in favor of, among others, prepetition lenders and parties to backstop commitment agreement, subject to carve-out for willful misconduct or gross negligence); In re U.S. Fidelis, Inc., No. 10-41902 (CER) [Docket No. 1184] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Aug. 28, 2012) (approving exculpation provision containing carve-out for willful misconduct or gross negligence); In re Union Fin. Servs. Grp., Inc., No. 03-45870 [Docket No. 1004] (BSS) (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Oct. 15, 2003) (approving exculpation provision in favor of certain third-parties, including lenders); In re Thermadyne Holdings Corp., No. 01-52840 (BSS) [Docket No. 789] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Apr. 3, 2003) (same). The Exculpation is thus amply warranted under existing precedent and on the record of these chapter 11 cases.

As evidenced by the numerous cases cited above, despite the assertions in the objection of the U.S. Trustee, applicable law does not prohibit debtors from including non-estate

fiduciaries within an exculpation provision and subjecting them to the same standard as an estate fiduciary. Nor must exculpation be limited to conduct that occurred during the chapter 11 cases. *See, e.g., In re Peabody Energy Corp.*, No. 16-42529 (BSS) [Docket No. 2763] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Mar. 17, 2017) (approving exculpation provision not limited to conduct that occurred during the chapter 11 cases); *In re Arch Coal, Inc.*, No. 16-40120 (CER) [Docket No. 1334] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Sept. 15, 2016) (approving exculpation provision covering prepetition and postpetition acts and omissions); *In re Patriot Coal Corp.*, No. 12-51502 (KAS) [Docket No. 5157] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Dec. 17, 2013) (approving exculpation provision covering prepetition and postpetition acts and omissions). To be effective, the Exculpation must apply to both prepetition and postpetition conduct in cases such as this where reorganization negotiations and other efforts commenced before the Debtors filed for chapter 11. Finally, no party with an economic interest in these cases has objected to the Exculpation or brought forth any evidence suggesting that the Exculpation is not justified. The Exculpation should therefore be approved.

# D. The Injunction Provision Is Appropriately Tailored to Implement the Plan and Should Be Approved

The Plan generally enjoins all persons or entities from commencing or continuing any suit, action, or other proceeding related to claims or Causes of Action satisfied, released, and discharged under the Plan (the "<u>Injunction</u>"). Plan, Art. IX.H. The Injunction is necessary to effectuate and implement the release provisions of the Plan, including the Debtor Release, the Third-Party Release, and Exculpation. Moreover, the Injunction is essential to protect the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtor, and the assets of the Estate from any potential litigation from prepetition creditors after the Effective Date. Any such litigation would hinder the efforts of the Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors to effectively fulfill their responsibilities as contemplated in the Plan and undermine the Debtors' efforts to maximize value for all of their stakeholders.

An injunction is a standard provision of any plan with releases and is authorized by the Bankruptcy Code. 11 U.S.C. § 524(g). Here, the Injunction is narrowly tailored to achieve its purpose. As authorized by the Bankruptcy Code, the Injunction simply puts into effect the discharge, release, and Exculpation provisions. It enjoins any party that had a claim, interest, or lien discharged or released by the Debtor Release or Third-Party Release, or exculpated by the Exculpation, from taking any further action to enforce such rights. Plan, Art. IX.H. Similar injunctions have been approved by courts in other chapter 11 cases in this district to effectuate release and exculpation provisions. See, e.g., In re Peabody Energy Corp., No. 16-42529 (BSS) [Docket No. 2763] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Mar. 17, 2017) (confirming plan that, inter alia, permanently enjoined all persons from taking actions related to liabilities released or exculpated pursuant to the plan's release and exculpation provisions); In re Arch Coal, Inc., No. 16-40120 (CER) [Docket No. 1334] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Sept. 15, 2016) (enjoining actions related to "Claims, interests, Causes of Action, Interests or liabilities" that "are subject to compromise and settlement pursuant to the terms of the Plan" and/or otherwise subject to the plan's release and exculpation provisions); In re Patriot Coal Corp., No. 12-51502 (KAS) [Docket No. 5157] (Bankr. E.D. Mo. Dec. 17, 2013) (enjoining actions related to "claims, interests, Causes of Action or liabilities" that "are subject to compromise and settlement pursuant to the terms of the Plan" or otherwise subject to the plan's release and exculpation provisions). The injunction here should be approved too.

#### CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth herein, the Plan fully satisfies all applicable requirements of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors respectfully request that this Court confirm the Plan.

Dated: July 21, 2017 St. Louis, Missouri

#### /s/ Thomas B. Walper

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### Exhibit A

**Objection Response Chart** 

# Exhibit Case 17-42267 Doc 1548-1 Filed 07/21/17 Entered 07/21/17 15:42:45 Pg 1 of 6

# In re Payless Holdings LLC, et al., Case No. 17-42267-659 Summary of Plan Confirmation Objections<sup>1</sup>

			Objections to Confirmation of the Plan <sup>2</sup>		
No	Objector and Docket No.		Arguments		Response / Resolution / Status
ri .	Oracle [Docket No. 1411]	• •	The Court should deny confirmation of the Plan solely to the extent that the Plan seeks authority for the Debtors to assume the Oracle Agreements or reject active unidentified contracts that govern any Oracle Agreement.  Oracle objects to the proposed assumption because the Plan Supplement does not contain adequate information regarding the Oracle Agreements, so Oracle is (1) unable to determine whether it is appropriate to consent to the proposed assumption and (2) unable to confirm the proposed Cure amounts. In addition, Oracle has identified a significant number of active Oracle contracts that were omitted from the assumption and rejection schedules and the Debtors have failed to provide adequate assurance of future performance.	•	Resolved. The Debtors and Oracle are working to reconcile the schedule concerns and agreed to continue the reconciliation process, if necessary, after the confirmation hearing. The Debtors understand that Oracle has no objection to confirmation so long as this reconciliation is finalized and the schedules are modified, as necessary, and that Oracle intends to reserve its rights at the Confirmation Hearing.
4	ShopperTrak RCT Corporation [Docket No. 1417]	• •	Limited Objection to Amended Assumption Schedule.  Assumption schedule includes an IT Business Analytics Traffic Subscription Agreement dated October 28, 2011 that was terminated prior to the Petition Date on or around March 25, 2013, which contract cannot therefore be assumed. Counterparty requests that the Debtors remove the contract from the Amended Assumption Schedule.	•	Resolved. The Debtors and objector reached a resolution and the assumption schedule will be modified prior to the Confirmation Hearing.
સં	Charles Pascalar [Docket No. 1435]	•	Third Party Release should be modified to not release his claim for "intentional misconduct" in connection with termination.	•	Withdrawn. [Docket No. 1461]
4	U.S. Trustee [Docket No. 1468]	• • •	The Plan contains overly broad non-consensual third-party releases in favor of numerous non-Debtor parties.  The Debtors' releases are overly extensive and not supported by the record.  The Plan inappropriately extends exculpation coverage to non-estate fiduciaries and third parties.	•	Going Forward. For the reasons set forth in the Confirmation Brief, the Debtors believe this Objection should be overruled.

Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings given to such terms in the Plan, Confirmation Brief, or relevant Objection, as applicable.

This list only includes timely-filed objections to Plan Confirmation raising confirmation-related (as opposed to Cure-related) concerns. Cure-related objections follow.

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	Obje	ction	Objections to Cure Amounts and Related Provisions Received Prior to the Objection Deadline on the Plan <sup>3</sup>	dline	on the Plan <sup>3</sup>
No.	Objector and Docket No.		Arguments		Response / Resolution / Status
1.	Central Valley Associates, L.P. [Docket No. 1395]	•	Objection to Cure amount.	•	To be resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Article V.E of the the Plan.
5	First and Main North, LLC [Docket No. 1397]	•	Objection to Cure amount.	•	To be resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Article V.E of the the Plan.
<b>છ</b>	The Cadillac Fairview Corporation Limited [Docket No. 1403]	•	Objects to Cure amounts as insufficient to cure all defaults under Leases. In addition, unclear whether the Scheduled Cure amounts are in USD or CAD.	•	To be resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Article V.E of the the Plan.
		•	Asserts that in addition to payment of the actual Cure amount, any order approving assumption of leases must provide that the Debtors are liable for any and all unbilled charges, including charges related to prepetition and preassumption periods, and that the Debtors shall pay all year-end adjustments and other charges (e.g., real estate taxes, CAM, obligations to repair/maintain HVAC) when due under the lease, regardless of when the charges accrue.	•	Resolved. The Debtors shared language to resolve this objection with the landlord. The language is included in the Confirmation Order. See ¶96.
		•	Further asserts that the releases set forth in the Plan with respect to Canadian General Unsecured Claims should not apply to limit the Debtors' Cure amounts, obligations, and charges.	•	Obligations due to Holders of Canadian General Unsecured Claims and assumed contracts of Canadian entities are not limited by the Plan.
4.	Requerdo Co. Limited Partnership	•	Objects to Cure amount as insufficient to cure all defaults under Lease.	•	To be resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to

proposed Cure amounts are due on July 24, 2017, or such other date as agreed to by the Debtors or provided under the Plan. Pursuant to the Plan at Art. V.E, if a Cure objection is not consensually resolved, it will be scheduled to be heard at the first omnibus hearing after such objection is timely filed and any resolution to such objection, This list only includes objections to Cure amounts (i) filed prior to the Plan Objection Deadline and (ii) that implicate Plan-related concerns. Objection to the Debtors' consensual or by Court order, will be deemed to occur retroactively to the date of the Confirmation Hearing. Accordingly, all objections to Cure amounts will be resolved pursuant to the Plan, not at the Confirmation Hearing.

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	Objec	ctior	Objections to Cure Amounts and Related Provisions Received Prior to the Objection Deadline on the Plan <sup>3</sup>	dlin	e on the Plan³	
	[Docket No. 1410]				Article V.E of the the Plan.	
		•	Any order approving assumption must provide that the Debtors will be liable for (i) any and all unbilled charges related to prepetition and preassumption periods and shall pay all year-end adjustments and other charges (e.g., real estate taxes, CAM) when due regardless of when those charges accrue and (ii) lease indemnification obligations, regardless of when they arose.	•	Resolved. The Debtors shared language to resolve this objection with the landlord. The language is included in the Confirmation Order. See ¶96.	
v,	PREIT Services, LLC [Docket. No. 1412]	•	Objection to Cure amount.	•	To be resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Article V.E of the the Plan.	
		•	The Exhibits to the Objection appear to reflect the inclusion of various escrows, such as CAM, tax, and utilities in the counterparty's proposed Cure amount.	•	Resolved. The Debtors shared language to resolve this objection with the landlord. The language is included in the Confirmation Order. See ¶ 96.	
6.	Westwood Holdings, LLC [Docket No. 1413]	•	Objection to Cure amount.	•	To be resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Article V.E of the the Plan.	
7.	ESRT 1359 Broadway, L.L.C. [Docket No. 1414]	•	Objection to Cure amount.	•	To be resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Article V.E of the the Plan.	
		•	Objects to confirmation of the Plan to the extent that its lease is treated as an executory contract under the Plan.	•	Resolved. The Debtors do not believe this unexpired lease is being treated as an executory contract under the Plan.	
∞ <b>i</b>	CBL & Associates Management, Inc. [Docket No. 1415]	•	Objection to Cure amount.	•	To be resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Article V.E of the the Plan.	1
9.	13700 Foothill Boulevard, LP	•	Objection to Cure amount.	•	To be resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Article V.E of the the Plan.	

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and Related Provisions Received Prior to the Objection Deadline on the Plan³  and Reservation of Rights.  serve their rights to object to the New Credit Facilities be extent they purport to grant any of the Debtors' secured and use the leased premises to the extent contrary to the Debtors' leased premises to the extent contrary to the state law.  samount.  to the proposed Cure amounts because they do not include (1) s. damages to premises, mechanics/materialmens liens arising beton the leases not presently known to s. damages to premises, mechanics/materialmens liens arising beton due prior to any proposed assumption; and (3) see ¶ 96.	LC currently objects to the o the Cure amount, but the ating an amendment.  To be resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Article V.E of the the Plan.	offer to assume leases as  To be resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Article V.E of the the Plan.		road and improperly deprive • Resolved. The Debtors shared
Limited Objection and Related Provisions Received Prior to the Objection De Limited Objection and Reservation of Rights.      Limited Objection and Reservation of Rights.      Counterparties reserve their rights to object to the New Credit Facilities Documents to the extent they purport to grant any of the Debtors' secured lenders a lien on the Debtors' leasehold interests or grant lenders or their agents rights to access and use the leased premises to the extent contrary to the applicable leases or applicable state law.      Objection to Cure amount.  G. Objection to Cure amount.  A Candlords object to the proposed Cure amounts because they do not include (1) indemnification obligations or defaults under the leases not presently known to the landlords (e.g., damages to premises, mechanics/materialmens liens arising from acts of the Debtors, personal injury claims); (2) amounts that have not yet become due but that may become due prior to any proposed assumption; and (3) attorneys' fees yet to be incurred in connection with the enforcement of the landlords' rights under the leases.	LCI-SVAP NDM LP, SVAP II Park North, LLC currently objects to the proposed assumption as amended in addition to the Cure amount, but the objection notes that the parties are currently negotiating an amendment.	SC MOTA Associates LP has rejected Debtors' offer to assume leases as amended in addition to the Cure amount.	Limited Objection and Reservation of Rights.	The injunction and waiver provisions are overbroad and improperly deprive landlords of their rights of setoff and recomment and other rights that must
• • •	•	•	•	•
Obje  [Docket No. 1416]  [Docket No. 1416]  [LLC, GDC  Properties, Waipahu,  LLC and multiple landlords affiliated with Weingarten Realty Investors [Docket No. 1418]  SUP I Wampanoag,  LLC, LCI-SVAP  NDM LP, SC MOTA  Associates Limited Partnership, and SVAP II Park North,  LLC [Docket  No. 1419]			Landlords' [Docket	145.1454
10.			12.	

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	Obje	ction	Objections to Cure Amounts and Related Provisions Received Prior to the Objection Deadline on the Plan <sup>3</sup>	adline	e on the Plan <sup>3</sup>
			obligations for year-end reconciliation payments that have accrued (or are accruing) prior to confirmation, which have not yet been billed under the leases, as well as indemnify obligations under the leases.		included in the Confirmation Order. See ¶96.
		•	Landlords also reserve their right to object to any proposed exit financing that seeks any lien on the leases or access to collateral on the premises to the extent contrary to the terms of the leases or applicable law.	•	Resolved. The Debtors shared language to resolve this objection with the landlord. The language is
		•	Landlords also join in any objection of the UCC, as well as the objections of other landlords to the extent not inconsistent with this objection.		included in the Confirmation Order. See ¶ 156.
13.	Landlords [Docket No. 1428]	•	Objection to Cure amount.	•	To be resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Article V.E of the the Plan.
		•	The cure amounts reflected in the objection are further subject to upward adjustment for any future amounts that are billed or become due under the lease, including year-end rent true-ups and other later reconciliations that may be billed by the landlords. Further, any order approxing assumption should provide that the Debtors be liable for any and all accrued, but unbilled, charges regardless of whether such charges relate to a pre-assumption period.	•	Resolved. The Debtors shared language to resolve this objection with the landlord. The language is included in the Confirmation Order. See ¶ 96.
4.	Bergenline 3510, LLC [Docket No. 1434]	•	Objection to Cure amount.	•	To be resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Article V.E of the the Plan.
		•	Any order approving assumption must provide that Debtors remain liable for all unbilled charges even if such charges relate to a preassumption period and that Debtors shall pay all year-end adjustments (e.g., CAM, real estate taxes) and any charges as they come due under the terms of the lease, regardless of when the charges accrue.	•	Resolved. The Debtors shared language to resolve this objection with the landlord. The language is included in the Confirmation Order. See ¶96.
15.	South Bay SPE, LLC [Docket No. 1458]	•	Objects to Plan confirmation because Cure Amount as insufficient to cure all defaults under Lease.	•	To be resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Article V.E of the the Plan.
		•	Objects to confirmation because the Plan does not provide that the Debtors will	•	Potentially Unresolved. To be

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Object	Objections to Cure Amounts and Related Provisions Received Prior to the Objection Deadline on the Plan <sup>3</sup>	adline	on the Plan <sup>3</sup>	
	promptly cure defaults under lease, compensate landlords for actual pecuniary losses, and provide adequate assurance of future performance.		resolved following the Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Article V.E of the the Plan. The Debtors believe the Plan and record of these cases (including the Financial Projections) provide adequate assurance of future performance and the Debtors intend to abide by the terms of the applicable contract.	
	<ul> <li>Also objects to the granting of any lien, encumbrance, or security interest in the leased premises in any loan agreement entered into by the Debtors.</li> </ul>	•	Resolved. The Debtors shared language to resolve this objection with the landlord. The language is included in the Confirmation Order. See ¶ 156.	
	Objection to Cure amount.	•	To be resolved in due course pursuant to the Plan.	1
	<ul> <li>Vixxo further objects to any proposed assumption of the Agreement that does not also include the Amendment. The Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases does not list the Amendment.</li> </ul>	•	Article V.H of the Plan provides that any executory contract that is assumed shall include all modifications, amendments, supplements, or other agreements that affect such lease.	

# VCD'F"

### **U.S. Confirmation Order**

THIS IS EXHIBIT "D" REFERRED TO IN THE AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL SHAKRA, SWORN BEFORE ME THIS 24<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2017.

A Commissioner for taking Affidavits, etc.

KE DRAFT: 7/23/17 Privileged & Confidential Attorney Work Product

### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

	)
In re:	) Case No. 17-42267-659
	) CHAPTER 11
PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, et al., 1	)
	) Jointly Administered
	)
Debtors.	)
	)

# FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER CONFIRMING THE FIFTH AMENDED JOINT PLAN OF REORGANIZATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC AND ITS DEBTOR AFFILIATES PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 11 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

The Debtors' Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, dated July 21, 2017 [Docket No. 1507] (attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**, together with the Plan Supplement as amended

The Debtors (as defined herein) in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Payless Holdings LLC [5704]; Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC [5190]; WBG-PSS Holdings LLC [0673]; Payless Inc. [3160]; Payless Finance, Inc. [2101]; Collective Brands Services, Inc. [7266]; PSS Delaware Company 4, Inc. [1466]; Shoe Sourcing, Inc. [4075]; Payless ShoeSource, Inc. [4097]; Eastborough, Inc. [2803]; Payless Purchasing Services, Inc. [3043]; Payless ShoeSource Merchandising, Inc. [0946]; Payless Gold Value CO, Inc. [3581]; Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc. [0944]; Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. [6884]; Payless NYC, Inc. [4126]; Payless ShoeSource of Puerto Rico, Inc. [9017]; Payless Collective GP, LLC [2940]; Collective Licensing, LP [1256]; Collective Licensing International LLC [5451]; Clinch, LLC [9836]; Collective Brands Franchising Services, LLC [3636]; Payless International Franchising, LLC [6448]; Collective Brands Logistics, Limited [6466]; Dynamic Assets Limited [1978]; PSS Canada, Inc. [4969]; Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc. [4180]; Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. [4182]; and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP [4179]. The location of Debtor Payless Holdings LLC's corporate headquarters and the Debtors' service address is: c/o Payless ShoeSource Inc. 3231 SE 6th Avenue Topeka, KS 66607 United States.

or modified from time to time, the "Plan")<sup>2</sup>, having been filed with this Court (the "Court") by Payless Holdings LLC and its subsidiaries that are debtors and debtors in possession in these proceedings (collectively, the "Debtors"); and the Court having entered, after due notice and a hearing, pursuant to sections 1125 and 1126 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), rules 2002 and 3017 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules") and local rule 3017(D) of the Local Rules of the Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, (the "Local Rules") an order dated June 23, 2017 (i) Approving the Adequacy of the Debtors' Disclosure Statement, (ii) Fixing Dates and Deadlines Related to Confirmation of the Plan, (iii) Approving Certain Procedures for Soliciting and Tabulating the Votes on, and for Objecting to, the Plan, and (iv) Approving the Manner and Form of the Notices and Other Documents Related Thereto [Docket No. 1261] (the "Disclosure Statement Order"); and the Debtors having provided a copy of the Solicitation Package to all holders of Claims in Class 3 (Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims), Class 4 (Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims), Class 5A (Other General Unsecured Claims), and Class 5B (Worldwide General Unsecured Claims) (collectively, the "Voting Classes"), as ordered in the Disclosure Statement Order; and the Debtors having provided a copy of the notices contemplated by the Disclosure Statement Order to the applicable creditors as set forth in the Disclosure Statement Order; and the various schedules to the Plan and Plan Supplement having been filed and served as required by the Plan; and the Confirmation Hearing having been held before the Court on July 24, 2017 after due notice to holders of Claims and Interests and other parties in interest in accordance with the Disclosure Statement Order, the Bankruptcy Code and the

Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meaning ascribed to them in the Plan.

Bankruptcy Rules; and upon all of the proceedings had before the Court and after full consideration of: (i) each of the objections to confirmation of the Plan (the "Objections"); (ii) the Debtors' Brief in Support of Confirmation of the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 1548] (the "Confirmation Brief"); (iii) the declarations filed in connection with confirmation of the Plan, including (i) the Declaration of Robert A. Campagna in Support of Confirmation of the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 1514] (the "Campagna Declaration"); (ii) the Declaration of Michael Schwindle in Support of the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 1515] (the "Schwindle Declaration"); (iii) the Declaration of Morgan Suckow in Support of Confirmation of the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 1517] (the "Suckow Declaration"); (iv) the Declaration of Charles H. Cremens in Support of Confirmation of the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 1516] (the "Cremens Declaration"); (v) the Declaration of Paul Jones in Support of the Fifth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 1513] (the "Jones Declaration"); and (vi) the Declaration of Christina Pullo of Prime Clerk LLC Regarding the Solicitation of Votes and Tabulation of Ballots Cast on the Fourth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 1491] (the "Pullo Declaration" and,

collectively with the Campagna Declaration, the Schwindle Declaration, the Suckow Declaration, the Cremens Declaration, and the Jones Declaration, the "<u>Declarations</u>") and the testimony contained therein; and (iv) all other evidence proffered or adduced during, pleadings filed in connection with, and arguments of counsel made at the Confirmation Hearing; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, IT HEREBY IS DETERMINED, FOUND, ADJUDGED, DECREED AND ORDERED THAT:

### FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

### A. <u>Jurisdiction and Venue</u>

1. Venue in the Bankruptcy Court was proper as of the Petition Date pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409 and continues to be proper during these Chapter 11 Cases. Confirmation of the Plan is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(L). The Bankruptcy Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334. The Bankruptcy Court has exclusive jurisdiction to determine whether the Plan complies with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code and should be confirmed.

### B. Eligibility for Relief

2. The Debtors were and are Entities eligible for relief under section 109 of the Bankruptcy Code.

### C. Commencement and Joint Administration of the Chapter 11 Cases

3. Beginning on the Petition Date, each of the Debtors commenced a case by filing a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. By prior order of the Bankruptcy Court, these Chapter 11 Cases have been consolidated for procedural purposes only and are being jointly administered pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1015 [Docket No. 62]. The Debtors have operated their businesses and managed their properties as debtors in possession

pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. No trustee or examiner has been appointed in these Chapter 11 Cases.

### D. The Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors

4. On April 14, 2017, the United States Trustee appointed the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors pursuant to section 1102 of the Bankruptcy Code, consisting of the following members as may be reconstituted from time to time, in each case, solely in their respective capacities as such, namely: (i) Moda Shoe, Ltd.; (ii) GGP Limited Partnership; (iii) Qingdao Doublestar Mingren Imp. And Exp. Co.; (iv) C and C Accord, LTD.; (v) Simon Property Group, Inc.; (vi) The Asean Corporation, Ltd.; and (vii) Brixmor Property Group, Inc. [Docket No. 241].

### E. <u>Judicial Notice</u>

5. The Bankruptcy Court takes judicial notice of (and deems admitted into evidence for Confirmation) the docket of these Chapter 11 Cases, including all pleadings and other documents on file, all orders entered, all hearing transcripts and all evidence and arguments made, proffered or adduced at the hearings held before the Bankruptcy Court during the pendency of these Chapter 11 Cases. Any resolutions of objections to Confirmation explained on the record at the Confirmation Hearing are hereby incorporated by reference.

### F. Claims Bar Date

6. On May 16, 2017, the Bankruptcy Court entered the Claims Bar Date Order [Docket No. 767], which, among other things, (i) set bar dates for filing Proofs of Claim, (ii) approved procedures for filing Proofs of Claim, and (iii) approved notice of the Claims Bar Date. The Claims Bar Date Order also established, as applicable, the following Claims Bar Dates: (i) 11:59 p.m. prevailing Central Time on June 19, 2017 (for general claims), (ii) 11:59 p.m. prevailing Central Time on October 2, 2017 (for claims filed by governmental units), or

(iii) such other period of limitation as may be specifically fixed by an order of the Bankruptcy Court for filing such Claims as the deadline for filing Proofs of Claim.

### G. <u>Disclosure Statement Order Compliance</u>

7. The Court entered an original disclosure statement order on June 15, 2017 and the Disclosure Statement Order on June 23, 2017. The Disclosure Statement Order, among other things: (i) approved the Disclosure Statement as containing adequate information within the meaning of section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code; (ii) fixed June 14, 2017 as the Record Date; (iii) fixed July 18, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. prevailing Central Time, as the Plan Objection Deadline; (iv) fixed July 18, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. prevailing Central Time, as the Voting Deadline; (v) fixed July 24, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. prevailing Central Time, as the date and time for the commencement of the Confirmation Hearing; and (vi) approved the Debtors' solicitation and voting procedures (the "Solicitation and Voting Procedures"), the Solicitation Packages and other materials relating to solicitation, including the Notices of Non-Voting Status sent to Holders of Claims and interests not entitled to vote on the Plan. The Debtors have complied with the Disclosure Statement Order, including the solicitation procedures contained therein, in all respects.

### H. Transmittal and Mailing of Solicitation Materials; Notice

8. Due, adequate, and sufficient notice of the Plan (including the Debtor Release, Third-Party Release, exculpation, and injunction contained therein), the Disclosure Statement, and the Confirmation Hearing, together with all deadlines for voting on or objecting to the Plan, has been given to known Holders of Claims and Interests in compliance with Bankruptcy Rules 2002(b), 2002(p), 3017(d), (e) and (f), as evidenced by the Pullo Declaration. The Solicitation Packages and all other materials relating in any way to the solicitation process (including notice of the filing of the Plan Supplement and Cure Notices) were transmitted and served in substantial compliance with the Disclosure Statement Order and in accordance with the

applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, the solicitation and voting procedures set forth in the Disclosure Statement Order (the "Solicitation and Voting Procedures"), and all other applicable rules, laws and regulations. Additionally, in accordance with the Disclosure Statement Order, the Debtors published the Confirmation Hearing Notice in the applicable publications. *See Affidavit of Publication* [Docket No. 1321]. Because such transmittal and service were adequate and sufficient, all parties in interest in the Chapter 11 Cases had full and fair opportunity to appear and be heard at the Confirmation Hearing and no other or further notice is necessary or shall be required.

### I. Adequacy of Solicitation

9. The Debtors, with the assistance of the Noticing and Claims Agent, distributed Solicitation Packages to all Holders of Claims and sufficient time was prescribed for such Holders of Claims entitled to vote on the Plan to accept or reject the Plan in substantial compliance with the Disclosure Statement Order and the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, the Solicitation and Voting Procedures, and all other applicable rules, laws, and regulations. Additionally, the Debtors, with the assistance of the Noticing and Claims Agent, provided (i) courtesy copies of the Solicitation Packages to the Office of the United States Trustee, counsel to the Creditors' Committee, and counsel to certain of the Debtors' prepetition and postpetition secured lenders and (ii) copies of the Disclosure Statement (and all exhibits thereto) in flash drive format to the 2002 List and the counterparties to the Debtors' Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases. Transmittal and service were adequate and sufficient, and no further notice is or shall be required. In addition, Holders of Claims or Interests in Classes that were not entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan were provided with certain non-voting materials approved by the Bankruptcy Court in compliance with the Disclosure Statement Order. All procedures used to distribute Solicitation Packages to Holders of Claims and Interests were fair, and conducted in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and all other applicable rules, laws, and regulations.

### J. <u>Voting Tabulation and Results</u>

10. On July 21, 2017, the Noticing and Claims Agent filed its voting certification as part of the Pullo Declaration [Docket No. 1491] with the Court. All procedures used to tabulate the Ballots were fair and conducted in accordance with the Disclosure Statement Order, the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and all other applicable rules, laws, and regulations.

11. As set forth in the Plan and Disclosure Statement, only Holders of Claims in Classes 3, 4, 5A, and 5B are eligible to vote on the Plan. In addition, Holders of Claims in Classes 1, 2, 5C, and 6 (to the extent Reinstated) are Unimpaired (collectively, the "Presumed Accepting Classes") and presumed to have accepted the Plan, and, therefore, are not entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan. Holders of Claims in Classes 6 (to the extent cancelled), 7, and 9 (collectively, the "Deemed Rejecting Classes") are deemed to reject the Plan and, therefore, are not entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

- 12. As evidenced by the Pullo Declaration, Classes 3, 4, 5A, and 5B voted to accept the Plan at all applicable Debtors. *See* Pullo Decl. Ex. A.
- 13. Based on the foregoing, and as evidenced by the Pullo Declaration, at least one Impaired Class of Claims (excluding the acceptance by any insiders of any of the Debtors) has voted to accept the Plan in accordance with the requirements of sections 1124 and 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code.

### K. Plan Supplement

14. On July 10, 2017, the Debtors filed the Plan Supplement [Docket No. 1362] with the Bankruptcy Court and served notice of such filing on the 2002 List and all Holders of Claims entitled to vote on the Plan. The documents contained in the Plan Supplement are integral to, part of, and incorporated by reference into the Plan. The Plan Supplement complies with the terms of the Plan, and the filing and notice of such documents constitutes good and proper notice in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and the Disclosure Statement Order, and no other or further notice is or shall be required. The Debtors reserve their right to modify the Plan Supplement (in accordance with the terms of the Plan) prior to the Effective Date in any manner so long as such modifications are consistent with the Plan.

### L. <u>Modifications to the Plan</u>

15. The modifications to the Plan described in the Confirmation Brief and reflected in the redline version of the Plan [Docket No. 1509] constitute non-material or technical changes and do not materially adversely affect or change the treatment of any Claims or interests under the Plan (the "Technical Modifications").

16. The filing and the description of the Technical Modifications on the record at the Confirmation Hearing constitute due and sufficient notice thereof under the circumstances of these Chapter 11 Cases. The Technical Modifications do not materially or adversely affect the treatment of any Claims against or Equity Interests in the Debtors under the Plan. The Technical Modifications neither require additional disclosure under section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code nor re-solicitation of vote on the Plan under section 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules 3018 or 3019.

17. In accordance with section 1127 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 3019, all Holders of Claims against the Debtors who voted to accept the Plan are hereby deemed to have accepted the Plan as amended consistent with the Technical Modifications.

18. No Holder of a Claim against the Debtors who has voted to accept the Plan shall be permitted to change its acceptance to a rejection as a consequence of the Technical Modifications.

19. The Technical Modifications incorporated in the Plan comply with section 1127 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 3019.

### M. Bankruptcy Rule 3016

20. The Plan is dated and identifies the Entities submitting and filing it, thereby satisfying Bankruptcy Rule 3016(a). The filing of the Disclosure Statement satisfied Bankruptcy Rule 3016(b).

### N. Burden of Proof

21. The Debtors, as proponents of the Plan, have the burden of proving the elements of section 1129(a) and 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code by a preponderance of the evidence, which is the applicable evidentiary standard for Confirmation. The Debtors have met their burden of proving that the Plan complies with each element of sections 1129(a) and 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code by a preponderance of the evidence.

### O. Compliance with the Requirements of Section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code

22. The Plan complies with all applicable provisions of section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code as follows:

# (a) Section 1129(a)(1)—Compliance of the Plan with Applicable Provisions of the Bankruptcy Code

23. The Plan complies with all applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code as required by section 1129(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, including sections 1122 and 1123.

### (a) Sections 1122 and 1123(a)(1)—Proper Classification

24. The classification of Claims and Interests under the Plan is proper under the Bankruptcy Code. Pursuant to sections 1122(a) and 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, Article III of the Plan provides for the separate classification of Claims and Interests into eleven Classes, based on differences in the legal nature or priority of such Claims and Interests (other than Administrative Claims, Professional Fee Claims, ABL DIP Claims, Term DIP Facility Claims, and Priority Tax Claims, which are addressed in Article II of the Plan, and which are not required to be designated as separate Classes pursuant to section 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code). Valid business, factual, and legal reasons exist for the separate classification of the various Classes of Claims and Interests created under the Plan, the classifications were not done for any improper purpose and the creation of such Classes does not unfairly discriminate between or among Holders of Claims or Interests.

25. In accordance with section 1122(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, each Class of Claims and Interests contains only Claims or Interests that are substantially similar to the other Claims or Interests within that Class. Accordingly, the requirements of sections 1122(a), 1122(b), and 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code have been satisfied.

### (b) Section 1123(a)(2)—Specification of Unimpaired Classes

26. Article III of the Plan specifies that Claims in Classes 1, 2, 5C, and 6 (to the extent Reinstated) are Unimpaired under the Plan. Accordingly, the requirements of section 1123(a)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code have been satisfied.

### (c) Section 1123(a)(3)—Specification of Treatment of Impaired Classes

27. Article III of the Plan specifies the treatment of each Impaired Class under the Plan, including Classes 3, 4, 5A, 5B, 6 (to the extend cancelled) 7, and 9. Accordingly, the requirements of section 1123(a)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code have been satisfied.

### (d) Section 1123(a)(4)—No Discrimination

28. Article III of the Plan provides the same treatment for each Claim or Interest within a particular class unless the Holder of a particular Claim or Interest has agreed to a less favorable treatment with respect to such Claim or Interest. The Plan, therefore, satisfies the requirements of section 1123(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code.

### (e) Section 1123(a)(5)—Adequate Means for Plan Implementation

29. The Plan and the various documents and agreements set forth in the Plan Supplement and the New Credit Facilities provide adequate and proper means for the Plan's implementation, thereby satisfying section 1123(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.

### (f) Section 1123(a)(6)—Voting Power of Equity Securities

30. The Shareholders Agreement and the New Organizational Documents contained in the Plan Supplement prohibit the issuance of non-voting securities to the extent that the issuance of non-voting securities is prohibited under section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code. The Plan, therefore, satisfies the requirements of section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code.

### (g) Section 1123(a)(7)—Selection of Officers and Directors

31. The identity and affiliations of the initial New Board to the extent known have been disclosed prior to the Confirmation Hearing. The selection of the initial directors and officers of the Reorganized Debtors was, is, and will be consistent with the interests of Holders of Claims and Interests and public policy. Accordingly, the requirements of section 1123(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code have been satisfied.

### (h) Section 1123(b)—Discretionary Contents of the Plan

32. The Plan contains various provisions that may be construed as discretionary and not required for Confirmation under the Bankruptcy Code. As set forth below, such discretionary provisions comply with section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, are not inconsistent with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, and are hereby approved. Thus, section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code is satisfied.

### i. Section 1123(b)(1)–(2)—Claims and Executory Contracts

- 33. The Plan is consistent with section 1123(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code. Article III of the Plan impairs or leaves Unimpaired each Class of Claims and Interests.
- 34. The Plan is consistent with section 1123(b)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code. Article V of the Plan provides that all of the Debtors' Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases shall be deemed rejected as of the Effective Date except any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease (i) previously assumed, assumed and assigned, or rejected by the Debtors during the Chapter 11 Cases, or (ii) for which treatment is otherwise provided in the Plan (as set forth on the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases or Schedule of Rejected Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases filed with the Plan Supplement).

## ii. Section 1123(b)(3)—Settlement, Releases, Exculpation, Injunction and Preservation of Claims and Causes of Action

35. Compromise and Settlement. Pursuant to section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019 and in consideration for the distributions and other benefits provided pursuant to the Plan, including the Sponsor Payment, the provisions of the Plan, including the releases set forth in Article IX, thereof, shall constitute a good faith compromise of (a) all Claims, Interests, and controversies relating to the contractual, legal, and subordination rights that a Holder of a Claim may have with respect to any Allowed Claim or Interest, or any

distribution to be made on account of such Allowed Claim or Interest, and (b) all Causes of Action released under the Plan and the releases set forth in Article IX of the Plan (collectively, the "Settlement"). In accordance with the provisions of the Plan, pursuant to section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019(a), without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court, after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors may compromise and settle Claims and Interests against them and Causes of Action against other Entities. The Settlement embodied in the Plan is fair, equitable, and reasonable and in the best interests of the Debtors, the Estates, and all Holders of Claims and Interests.

36. In reaching the decision on the Settlement, the Court considered the following factors: (i) the probability of success in the litigation; (ii) the difficulties, if any, to be encountered in the matter of collection; (iii) the complexity of the litigation involved, and the expense, inconvenience and delay necessarily attending it; and (iv) the paramount interest of the creditors with a proper deference to their reasonable views in the premises. The Settlement includes significant concessions from each of the parties, is fair and equitable, will avoid the cost and expense of litigation over several issues absent a settlement, and falls well above the lowest point in the range of reasonableness.

37. Accordingly, the Settlement, as incorporated in the Plan: (i) is a permitted means of implementing the Plan pursuant to section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code; (ii) is an integral element of the transactions incorporated into the Plan; (iii) confers material benefits on, and is in the best interests of, the Debtors, the Debtors' Estates, and their creditors; (iv) is fair and equitable and falls well above the lowest point in the range of reasonableness; and (v) is consistent with sections 105, 1123, and 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code, other provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 9019, and other applicable law.

38. Releases and Discharges. The releases and discharges of Claims and Causes of Action described in the Plan, including the Debtor Release described in Article IX.E of the Plan, the Third-Party Release described in Article IX.F of the Plan, the Exculpation described in Article IX.G of the Plan, and the Injunction described in Article IX.H of the Plan constitute good faith compromises and settlements of the matters covered thereby and are consensual, other than with respect to the Sponsor Entities and Prepetition Lenders. Such compromises and settlements are made in exchange for consideration and are in the best interests of Holders of Claims, are fair, equitable, reasonable, and are integral elements of the Settlement and resolution of the Chapter 11 Cases in accordance with the Plan. Each of the discharge, release, indemnification, and exculpation provisions set forth in the Plan (i) is within the jurisdiction of the Court under sections 1334(a), 1334(b) and 1334(e) of title 28 of the United States Code, (ii) is an essential means of implementing the Plan, (iii) is an integral and non-severable element of the Plan and the transactions incorporated therein, (iv) confers a material benefit on, and is in the best interests of, the Debtors, their Estates, and their creditors, (v) is important to the overall objectives of the Plan to finally resolve all Claims among or against the parties in interest in these Chapter 11 Cases with respect to the Debtors, (vi) is fair, equitable, reasonable, and in exchange for good and valuable consideration provided by the Released Parties, and (vii) is consistent with sections 105, 1123, 1129, and other applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019.

39. The distributions and other considerations provided by the Sponsor Entities, including the Sponsor Payment, and by the Prepetition Lenders under the Plan are sufficient under Bankruptcy Rule 9019 to support the binding waivers and releases of any and all Claims and Causes of Action that have been asserted or could have been asserted arising out of or relating to

any act or omission, transaction, or occurrence relating to the Debtors or the Debtors' Estates taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan.

40. The releases and injunction in favor of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders (the "Sponsor/Lender Release") as described in Article IX.E, Article IX.F, and Article IX.H of the Plan are an integral and necessary part of the Plan, represent a valid exercise of the Debtors' business judgment, and are in the best interests of the Estates.

41. For the reasons set forth on the record of the Chapter 11 Cases and the evidence proffered or adduced at the Confirmation Hearing, including the Plan and Settlement embodied therein, the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders have provided substantial consideration in exchange for the Sponsor/Lender Release. Specifically, the Sponsors have agreed to contribute the Sponsor Payment, and the Prepetition Lenders have agreed to, among other matters: (a) convert their Claims into New Equity in the Reorganized Debtors; (b) waive their substantial unsecured deficiency claims; and (c) cede \$7.458 million in value to provide to the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool. In addition, there is an identity of interest between the Debtors and the Sponsor Entities who served as officers or directors of the Debtors because the Debtors have an obligation under their corporate governance documents to indemnify them if any party pursued claims against those officers or directors arising from actions taken in those roles.

42. No Release of Any Claims Held by the United States. Nothing in this Confirmation Order or the Plan shall effect a release of any Claim by the United States Government or any of its agencies or any state and local authority whatsoever, including, without limitation, any Claim arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental laws, or any criminal laws of the United States or any state and local authority against the Released Parties,

nor shall anything in the Confirmation Order or the Plan enjoin the United States or any state or local authority from bringing any Claim, suit, action, or other proceedings against the Released Parties for any liability whatever, including, without limitation, any Claim, suit, or action arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental laws, or any criminal laws of the United States or any state or local authority, nor shall anything in the Confirmation Order or the Plan exculpate any party from any liability to the United States Government or any of its agencies or any state and local authority whatsoever, including any liabilities arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental laws, or any criminal laws of the United States or any state and local authority against the Released Parties.

43. **Preservation of Claims and Causes of Action**. Article IV.P of the Plan appropriately provides for the preservation by the Debtors of the Causes of Action in accordance with section 1123(b)(3)(B) of the Bankruptcy Code. The provisions regarding the Causes of Action in the Plan are appropriate and are in the best interests of the Debtors, the Estates, and Holders of Claims and Interests.

# (b) Section 1129(a)(2)—Compliance of the Debtors with the Applicable Provisions of the Bankruptcy Code

44. The Debtors, as proponents of the Plan, have complied with all applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code as required by section 1129(a)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code, including sections 1122, 1123, 1124, 1125, 1126, and 1128 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules 3017, 3018 and 3019.

45. Votes to accept or reject the Plan were solicited by the Debtors and their respective present and former members, officers, directors, partners, employees, representatives, advisors, attorneys, professionals, affiliates, and agents after the Court approved the adequacy of the Disclosure Statement pursuant to section 1125(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.

46. The Debtors and their respective present and former members, officers, directors, partners, employees, representatives, advisors, attorneys, professionals, affiliates, and agents have solicited and tabulated votes on the Plan and have participated in the activities described in section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code fairly, in good faith within the meaning of section 1125(e) of the Bankruptcy Code, and in a manner consistent with the applicable provisions of the Disclosure Statement Order, the Disclosure Statement, the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and all other applicable rules, laws, and regulations, and are entitled to the protections afforded by section 1125(e) of the Bankruptcy Code and the exculpation provision set forth in Article IX.G of the Plan.

47. The Debtors and their respective present and former members, officers, directors, partners, employees, representatives, advisors, attorneys, professionals, affiliates, and agents have participated in good faith and in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code with regard to the offering, issuance, and distribution of recoveries under the Plan and, therefore, are not (and on account of such distributions, will not be) liable at any time for the violation of any applicable law, rule, or regulation governing the solicitation of acceptances or rejections of the Plan or distributions made pursuant to the Plan, so long as such distributions are made consistent with and pursuant to the Plan.

### (c) Section 1129(a)(3)—Proposal of the Plan in Good Faith

48. The Debtors have proposed the Plan (and all other agreements, documents, and instruments necessary to effectuate the Plan) in good faith and not by any means forbidden by law, thereby satisfying section 1129(a)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors' good faith is evident from the facts and records of these Chapter 11 Cases, the Disclosure Statement and the hearing thereon, and the record of the Confirmation Hearing and other proceedings held in these Chapter 11 Cases. The Plan is based upon extensive, arm's-length negotiations between and

among representatives of the Debtors, the Sponsors, the Prepetition Lenders, the Prepetition Agents, the Creditors' Committee, the DIP Lenders, and the DIP Agents, and represents the culmination of months of intensive negotiations and discussions among all parties in interest. The Plan was proposed with the legitimate and honest purpose of maximizing the value of the Debtors' Estates and effectuating a successful reorganization of the Debtors. Further, the Plan's classification, indemnification, exculpation, release, settlement, and injunctive provisions, including, without limitation, Article IX.E–H of the Plan, have been negotiated in good faith and at arm's length, consistent with sections 105, 1123(b)(3)(A), 1123(b)(6), 1129, and 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019.

## (d) Section 1129(a)(4)—Bankruptcy Court Approval of Certain Payments as Reasonable

49. Payments made or to be made by the Debtors for services or for costs and expenses in or in connection with the Chapter 11 Cases, or in connection with the Plan and incident to the Chapter 11 Cases, have been approved by, or are subject to the approval of, the Court as reasonable, including pursuant to the terms of the Final DIP Order, the DIP Credit Agreements, and the Restructuring Support Agreement. Accordingly, the requirements of section 1129(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code are satisfied.

### (e) Section 1129(a)(5)—Disclosure of Identity of Proposed Management, Compensation of Insiders and Consistency of Management Proposals with the Interests of Creditors and Public Policy

50. The Debtors have complied with section 1129(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code. The identity and affiliations of the persons proposed to serve as members of the New Board to the extent known have been disclosed prior to the Confirmation Hearing, and the appointment to, or continuance in, such positions of such persons is consistent with the interests of Holders of Claims against and Interests in the Debtors and with public policy.

### (f) Section 1129(a)(6)—Approval of Rate Changes

51. The Plan does not contain any rate changes subject to the jurisdiction of any governmental regulatory commission and will not require governmental regulatory approval. Therefore, section 1129(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code is inapplicable to these Chapter 11 Cases.

### (g) Section 1129(a)(7)—Best Interest of Creditors Test

52. The Plan satisfies section 1129(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code. The Liquidation Analysis set forth in **Exhibit E** to the Disclosure Statement and the other evidence related thereto in support of the Plan that was proffered or adduced at or prior to the Confirmation hearing: (i) is persuasive and credible, (ii) has not been controverted by other evidence, (iii) is based on sound methodology, and (iv) conclusively establishes that each Holder of an Impaired Claim or Interest either (A) has accepted the Plan or (B) will receive or retain under the Plan, on account of such Holder's Claim or Interest, property of a value, as of the Effective Date, that is not less than the amount that such Holder would receive or retain if the Debtors (as applicable) were liquidated under Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code on such date.

# (h) Section 1129(a)(8)—Conclusive Presumption of Acceptance by Unimpaired Classes; Acceptance of the Plan by Each Impaired Class

- 53. Classes 1, 2, 5C, and 6 (to the extent reinstated) are Unimpaired Classes of Claims and Class 8 is an Unimpaired Class of Intercompany Interests, each of which are conclusively presumed to have accepted the Plan under section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. As set forth in the Pullo Declaration, Classes 3, 4, 5A, and 5B have voted to accept the Plan. Classes 7 and 9 are not receiving any distributions under the Plan and are conclusively deemed to reject the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 54. Notwithstanding the fact that the Plan has not been accepted by Classes 7 and 9, the Plan is confirmable because it satisfies section 1129(a)(10) and 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

# (i) Section 1129(a)(9)—Treatment of Claims Entitled to Priority Pursuant to Section 507(a) of the Bankruptcy Code

55. The Treatment of Allowed Administrative Claims, Allowed ABL DIP Claims, Term DIP Facility Claims, and Priority Tax Claims under Article II of the Plan satisfies the requirements of, and complies in all respects with, section 1129(a)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code. Accordingly, the requirements of section 1129(a)(9) are satisfied.

### (j) Section 1129(a)(10)—Acceptance by at Least One Impaired Class

56. As set forth in the Pullo Declaration, Classes 3, 4, 5A, and 5B voted to accept the Plan. As such, there is at least one Class of Claims that is Impaired under the Plan that has accepted the Plan without including any acceptance of the Plan by any insider. Accordingly, the Debtors have satisfied the requirements of section 1129(a)(10) of the Bankruptcy Code.

### (k) Section 1129(a)(11)—Feasibility of the Plan

57. The evidence submitted regarding feasibility through the Declarations, together with all evidence proffered or advanced at or prior to the Confirmation Hearing, (i) is persuasive and credible, (ii) has not been controverted by other evidence, and (iii) establishes that confirmation of the Plan is not likely to be followed by the liquidation or the need for further financial reorganization of the Reorganized Debtors. Accordingly, the requirements of section 1129(a)(11) of the Bankruptcy Code have been satisfied.

### (I) Section 1129(a)(12)—Payment of Bankruptcy Fees

58. Article II.G of the Plan provides that the Debtors shall pay all United States Trustee quarterly fees under 28 U.S.C. § 1930(a)(6), plus interest due and payable under 31 U.S.C. § 3717 on all disbursements, including Plan payments and disbursements in and outside the ordinary course of the Debtors' businesses, until the entry of a Final Order, dismissal of the Chapter 11 Cases, or conversion of the Chapter 11 Cases to cases under chapter 7 of the

Bankruptcy Code. Accordingly, the Debtors have satisfied the requirements of section 1129(a)(12) of the Bankruptcy Code.

### (m) Section 1129(a)(13)—Retiree Benefits

59. Section 1129(a)(13) of the Bankruptcy Code requires a plan to provide for "retiree benefits" (as defined in section 1114 of the Bankruptcy Code) at levels established pursuant to section 1114 of the Bankruptcy Code. On and after the Effective Date, all "retiree benefits" (as defined in section 1114 of the Bankruptcy Code) shall continue to be paid in accordance with applicable law. Accordingly, the requirements of section 1129(a)(13) of the Bankruptcy Code have been satisfied.

### (n) Sections 1129(a)(14), (15) and 16—Non-Applicability of Certain Sections

60. The Debtors do not owe any domestic support obligations, are not individuals, and are not non-profit corporations. Therefore, sections 1129(a)(14), 1129(a)(15) and 1129(a)(16) of the Bankruptcy Code do not apply to these Chapter 11 Cases.

# (o) Section 1129(b)—Confirmation of the Plan Over Non-Acceptance of Impaired Classes

- 61. The Plan may be confirmed pursuant to section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code notwithstanding that the requirements of section 1129(a)(8) have not been met because the Debtors have demonstrated by a preponderance of the evidence that the Plan (i) satisfies all of the other requirements of section 1129(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and (ii) does not "discriminate unfairly" pursuant to section 1129(b)(i) and is "fair and equitable" pursuant to section 1129(b)(ii) with respect to Classes 7 and 9 (impaired Classes that were deemed to reject the Plan).
- 62. The evidence supporting the Plan proffered or adduced by the Debtors at, or prior to, or in the declarations filed in connection with, the Confirmation Hearing regarding the Debtors' classification and treatment of Claims: (i) is reasonable, persuasive, credible, and accurate;

- (ii) utilizes reasonable and appropriate methodologies and assumptions; and (iii) has not been controverted by other credible evidence.
- 63. The Plan, therefore, satisfies the requirements of section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code and may be confirmed despite the fact that not all Impaired Classes have voted to accept the Plan.

### (p) Section 1129(c)—Only One Plan

64. Other than the Plan (including previous versions thereof), no other plan has been filed in these Chapter 11 Cases. Accordingly, the Debtors have satisfied the requirements of section 1129(c) of the Bankruptcy Code.

## (q) Section 1129(d)—Principal Purpose of the Plan Is Not the Avoidance of Taxes

65. The principal purpose of the Plan is not the avoidance of taxes or the avoidance of the application of section 5 of the Securities Act and there has been no filing by a Governmental Unit asserting any such attempted avoidance. Accordingly, the Debtors have satisfied the requirements of section 1129(d) of the Bankruptcy Code.

### (r) Section 1129(e)—Small Business Case

66. None of these Chapter 11 Cases is a "small business case," as that term is defined in the Bankruptcy Code, and, accordingly, section 1129(e) of the Bankruptcy Code is inapplicable to these Chapter 11 Cases.

### P. Satisfaction of Confirmation Requirements

67. Based upon the foregoing, all other filed pleadings, documents, exhibits, statements, declarations, and affidavits filed in connection with Confirmation of the Plan and all evidence and arguments made, proffered, or adduced at the Confirmation Hearing, the Plan satisfies the requirements for confirmation set forth in section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code.

### Q. <u>Implementation of Other Necessary Documents and Agreements</u>

68. All documents and agreements necessary to implement the Plan are essential elements of the Plan and entry into and consummation of the transactions contemplated by each such documents and agreements is in the best interests of the Debtors, the Estates, and Holders of Claims and Interests. The Debtors have exercised reasonable business judgment in determining which agreements to enter and have provided sufficient and adequate notice of such documents and agreements. The terms and conditions of such documents and agreements have been negotiated in good faith, at arm's length, are fair and reasonable, and are reaffirmed and approved.

### R. Good Faith

69. Based on the record in these Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors, the Exculpated Parties, the Released Parties, and the Releasing Parties have been and will be acting in good faith if they proceed to: (i) consummate the Plan and the agreements, settlements, transactions, and transfers contemplated thereby; and (ii) take the actions authorized and directed by this Confirmation Order to reorganize the Debtors' businesses. Such parties are entitled to the protections afforded by section 1125(e) of the Bankruptcy Code and the Exculpated Parties are entitled to the protections afforded by the Exculpation set forth in Article X.G of the Plan.

### S. Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases

70. The Debtors have satisfied the provisions of section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code with respect to the assumption, assumption and assignment, and rejection of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases pursuant to the Plan. The Debtors have exercised their reasonable business judgment prior to the Confirmation Hearing in determining whether to assume or reject each of their Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases as set forth in Article V of the Plan, the Plan Supplement, this Confirmation Order, or otherwise. Each assumption or rejection of an

Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease pursuant to this Confirmation Order and in accordance with Article V of the Plan, or otherwise by order of this Court, shall be legal, valid, and binding upon the applicable Reorganized Debtor and all non-Debtor persons or entities party to such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease (subject to the rights of the non-Debtor persons or entities party to such agreements to object to such assumption or rejection and the rights of the applicable Reorganized Debtor in response to any such objection).

71. The Debtors have provided adequate assurance of future performance for each of the Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases that are being assumed by the Debtors pursuant to the Plan. The Debtors have cured or provided adequate assurance that the Reorganized Debtors will cure defaults (if any) under or relating to each of the Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases that are being assumed by the Debtors pursuant to the Plan. The Plan and such assumptions, therefore, satisfy the requirements of section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code.

### T. <u>Transfers by Debtors: Vesting of Assets</u>

72. Except as otherwise provided in the Plan or any agreement, instrument, or other document incorporated therein, on the Effective Date, all property in each Estate, all Causes of Action, and any property acquired by any of the Debtors pursuant to the Plan shall vest in each respective Reorganized Debtor, free and clear of all liens, Claims, charges, or other encumbrances (except for liens, if any, granted to secure any indebtedness that is Unimpaired by the Plan). On and after the Effective Date, except as otherwise provided in the Plan, each Reorganized Debtor may operate its business and may use, acquire, or dispose of property and compromise or settle any Claims, Interests, or Causes of Action without supervision or approval by the Bankruptcy Court and free of any restrictions of the Bankruptcy Code or Bankruptcy Rules.

### U. <u>Disclosure: Agreements and Other Documents</u>

73. The Debtors have disclosed all material facts regarding: (i) the adoption of the New Organizational Documents; (ii) the selection of the members of the New Board and certain new officers (as applicable) for the applicable Reorganized Debtors; (iii) the Reorganized Debtors' obligations under the New Credit Facilities; (iv) the sources and distribution of Cash under the Plan; (v) the terms and issuance of the New Equity and the Reorganized Debtors' reliance on the exemption under section 1145(a) of the Bankruptcy Code; (vi) the terms of the Shareholders Agreement; (vii) the cancellation of the Prepetition Credit Agreements and Equity Interests; (viii) the adoption, execution, and delivery of all contracts, leases, instruments, releases, indentures, and other agreements related to any of the foregoing; and (ix) the adoption, execution, and implementation of the other matters provided for under the Plan involving corporate action to be taken by or required of the Reorganized Debtors.

### V. Approval of the New Credit Facilities

74. The New Credit Facilities and the New Credit Facility Documents are an essential element of the Plan, and entry into the New Credit Facilities is in the best interests of the Debtors, the Estates, and all Holders of Claims, and is necessary for confirmation and consummation of the Plan. The Debtors have exercised reasonable business judgment in determining to enter into the New Credit Facilities and have provided sufficient and adequate notice of material terms of the New Credit Facilities. The terms and conditions of the New Credit Facilities are fair and reasonable, and the New Credit Facilities have been negotiated in good faith and at arm's length. The Debtors and Reorganized Debtors are authorized, without further approval of the Court or any other party and without further corporate, limited liability company, or similar action, to execute and deliver all agreements, documents, instruments, and certificates relating thereto and perform their obligations thereunder.

### W. Issuance of New Equity

75. The issuance of the New Equity is an essential element of the Plan, and is in the best interests of the Debtors, their Estates, and all Holders of Claims.

### X. Conditions Precedent to Effective Date

76. Each of the conditions precedent to the Effective Date, as set forth in Article VIII.B. of the Plan, has been satisfied or waived in accordance with the provisions of the Plan, or is reasonably likely to be satisfied or waived.

### Y. Retention of Jurisdiction

77. Except as otherwise provided in any of the Plan Documents, the Court shall retain jurisdiction over the Chapter 11 Cases and all matters arising out of, or related to, the Chapter 11 Cases and the Plan, including the matters set forth in Article X of the Plan.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \*

### **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing, it is hereby ORDERED:

### A. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

78. The findings of fact and the conclusions of law set forth herein shall constitute findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7052, made applicable to this proceeding by Bankruptcy Rule 9014. To the extent any of the following constitute findings of fact or conclusions of law, they are adopted as such. To the extent any of the prior findings of fact or conclusions of law constitutes an order of this Court, they are adopted as such.

### B. Order

79. All requirements for Confirmation of the Plan have been satisfied. The Plan is confirmed in its entirety pursuant to section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code. A copy of the

confirmed Plan is attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**. The terms of the Plan and the Plan Supplement are incorporated by reference into, and are an integral part of, this Confirmation Order.

### C. Objections

80. To the extent that any objections, reservations of rights, statements or joinders to Confirmation have not been resolved, withdrawn, waived or settled prior to entry of the Confirmation Order or otherwise resolved as stated on the record of the Confirmation Hearing, they are hereby overruled on their merits.

### D. Solicitation and Notice

81. Notice of the Confirmation Hearing complied with the terms of the Disclosure Statement Order, was appropriate and satisfactory based on the circumstances of these Chapter 11 Cases and was in compliance with the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Rules. The solicitation of votes on the Plan and the Solicitation Packages complied with the Solicitation and Voting Procedures, was appropriate and satisfactory based upon the circumstances of these Chapter 11 Cases, and was in compliance with the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Rules.

### E. References to Plan Provisions

82. The failure specifically to include or to refer to any particular article, section, or provision of the Plan, Plan Supplement, or any related document in this Confirmation Order shall not diminish or impair the effectiveness of such article, section, or provision, it being the intent of the Court that the Plan and any related documents be confirmed in their entirety.

### F. Plan Classification Controlling

83. The terms of the Plan shall solely govern the classification of Claims and Interests for purposes of the distributions to be made thereunder. The classifications set forth on the Ballots tendered to or returned by the Holders of Claims in connection with voting on the Plan: (i) were

set forth thereon solely for purposes of voting to accept or reject the Plan; (ii) do not necessarily represent, and in no event shall be deemed to modify or otherwise affect, the actual classification of Claims under the Plan for distribution purposes; (iii) may not be relied upon by any Holder of a Claim as representing the actual classification of such Claim under the Plan for distribution purposes; and (iv) shall not be binding on the Debtors and Reorganized Debtors except for voting purposes.

### G. Immediate Binding Effect

84. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rules 3020(e), 6004(h) or 7062 or otherwise, upon the occurrence of the Effective Date, the terms of the Plan shall be immediately effective and enforceable and deemed binding upon the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, and any and all Holders of Claims or Interests (irrespective of whether Holders of such Claims or Interests are deemed to have accepted the Plan), all Entities that are parties to or are subject to the settlements, compromises, releases, discharges, and injunctions described in the Plan or herein, each Entity acquiring property under the Plan, and any and all non-Debtor parties to Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases with the Debtors.

### H. Cancellation of Prepetition Credit Agreements and Equity Interests

85. On the Effective Date, except as otherwise specifically provided for in the Plan: (1) the obligations of the Debtors under the Prepetition Credit Agreements and any other certificate, equity security, share, note, bond, indenture, purchase right, option, warrant, or other instrument or document directly or indirectly evidencing or creating any indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors giving rise to any Claim or Equity Interest (except such certificates, notes, or other instruments or documents evidencing indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors that are Reinstated pursuant to the Plan), shall be cancelled solely as to the Debtors and their Affiliates, and the Reorganized Debtors shall not

have any continuing obligations thereunder; and (2) the obligations of the Debtors and their Affiliates pursuant, relating, or pertaining to any agreements, indentures, certificates of designation, bylaws, or certificate or articles of incorporation or similar documents governing the shares, certificates, notes, bonds, indentures, purchase rights, options, warrants, or other instruments or documents evidencing or creating any indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors (except such agreements, certificates, notes, or other instruments evidencing indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors that are specifically Reinstated pursuant to the Plan) shall be released and discharged. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that (i) has been, or will be, assumed pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code or (ii) relating to a Claim that was paid in full prior to the Effective Date, shall be terminated or cancelled on the Effective Date, except that:

- the Prepetition Credit Agreements, the ABL DIP Credit Agreement, and the Term a. DIP Credit Agreement shall continue in effect solely for the purpose of: (i) allowing Holders of the ABL DIP Claims, Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable, to receive the distributions provided for under the Plan; (ii) allowing the Prepetition Agents and DIP Agents to receive distributions from the Debtors and to make further distributions to the Holders of such Claims on account of such Claims, as set forth in Article VI.A of the Plan; and (iii) preserving the rights of the Prepetition Agents, DIP Agents, and DIP Lenders to indemnification pursuant and subject to the terms of the Prepetition Credit Agreements, the ABL DIP Credit Agreement, and the Term DIP Credit Agreement, as applicable, in respect of any Claim or Cause of Action asserted against the Prepetition Agents, DIP Agents, and DIP Lenders, as applicable; provided that any Claim or right to payment on account of such indemnification shall be an Administrative Claim; and
- b. the foregoing shall not affect the cancellation of shares issued pursuant to the Plan nor any other shares held by one Debtor in the capital of another Debtor.

### I. Approval of New Credit Facilities

86. The Reorganized Debtors are authorized to enter into the New ABL Facility and the New First Lien Term Loan Facility.

87. The New ABL Facility and the New First Lien Term Loan Facility are hereby approved. The Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors and the appropriate officers thereof, as the case may be, are hereby authorized to issue, enter into, execute, and deliver all agreements, documents, securities, and instruments with respect to the New ABL Facility and the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, including the New Credit Facilities Documents, and are hereby authorized to enter into and to consummate any and all transactions contemplated thereby, including execution of any payoff letter with respect to the DIP Facilities. In connection therewith, the Reorganized Debtors are authorized to: (i) immediately pay as and when required all fees, expenses, and indemnities required to be paid under the New ABL Facility and the New First Lien Term Loan Facility; (ii) immediately pay the Allowed ABL DIP Claims in full in Cash from the proceeds of the New ABL Facility; and (iii) immediately pay as and when required all amounts owing under any payoff letter with respect to the DIP Facilities.

88. The agreements, documents, securities, and instruments entered into in connection with the New Credit Facilities constitute legal, valid, and binding obligations of the Debtors and Reorganized Debtors and shall be enforceable in accordance with their respective terms. The liens contemplated by and related to the New Credit Facilities are valid, binding and enforceable liens on the collateral specified in the relevant agreements executed by the Reorganized Debtors in connection with the New Credit Facilities and such liens shall be deemed perfected upon the Effective Date. The guarantees, mortgages, pledges, liens, and other security interests granted pursuant to or in connection with the New Credit Facilities are granted in good faith, for a legitimate business purpose, and as an inducement to the lenders to extend credit thereunder and shall be, and hereby are, deemed reasonable and not to constitute a fraudulent conveyance or fraudulent transfer, shall not be subject to recharacterization or equitable subordination, and shall

not otherwise be subject to avoidance, and the priorities of such liens and security interests shall be as set forth in the intercreditor agreement and other definitive documentation executed in connection with the New Credit Facilities. The Reorganized Debtors granting such liens and security interests are authorized to make all filings and recordings, and to obtain any governmental approvals and consents necessary to establish and perfect such liens and security interests under the provisions of the applicable state, provincial, federal, or other law (whether domestic or foreign) that would be applicable in the absence of the Plan and this Confirmation Order (it being understood that perfection shall occur automatically by virtue of the Confirmation Order, but subject to the occurrence of the Effective Date, and any such filings, recordings, approvals, and consents shall not be required) and will thereafter cooperate to make all other filings and recordings that otherwise would be necessary under applicable law to give notice of such liens and security interest to third parties, in each case, in accordance with the terms and requirements of the New Credit Facilities.

89. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Confirmation Order or the Plan, the Bankruptcy Court's retention of jurisdiction shall not govern the enforcement of the New Credit Facilities Documents or any rights or remedies related thereto.

### J. New Equity

90. In accordance with the terms of Article IV.J of the Plan, on the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall issue all securities, notes, instruments, certificates, and other documents required to be issued pursuant to the Plan. The issuance of such documents is authorized without the need for any further corporate action or without any further action by the Holders of Claims or Interests. Distributions of New Equity will be made only through broker accounts via electronic issuance and Reorganized Holdings will not issue separate stock certificates.

### K. Section 1145 Exemption

91. The solicitation of acceptances and rejections of the Plan was exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws, and no other non-bankruptcy law applies to the solicitation.

92. Pursuant to section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, the offering, issuance, and distribution of the New Equity and/or implementation of the Management Equity Incentive Plan are exempt from, among other things, the registration requirements of the Securities Act and any other applicable law requiring registration prior to the offering, issuance, distribution or sale of securities. In addition, under section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, such New Equity will be freely tradable in the United States, subject to the provisions of section 1145(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code relating to the definition of an underwriter in section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act, and compliance with applicable securities laws and any rules and regulations of the Securities Exchange Commission, if any, applicable at the time of any further transfer of such securities and instruments and subject to any restrictions in the Shareholders Agreement.

### L. Provisions Governing Distributions

93. The distribution provisions of Article VI of the Plan shall be, and hereby are, approved in their entirety. Except as otherwise set forth in the Plan, the Reorganized Debtors shall make all distributions required under the Plan.

### M. Procedures for Resolving Contingent, Unliquidated, and Disputed Claims

94. The Claims resolution procedures contained in Article VII of the Plan shall be, and hereby are, approved in their entirety.

### N. Treatment of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases

95. The Executory Contract and Unexpired Lease provisions of Article V of the Plan shall be, and hereby are, approved in their entirety.

### O. Ongoing Obligations Under Assumed Real Property Leases

96. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Plan or this Order, with respect to any Unexpired Lease of real property Assumed by the Debtors, the Debtors and Reorganized Debtors shall remain liable for: (i) any portion of rent or amounts owed under such leases that are unbilled or not yet due as of the date of the Confirmation Hearing (such as common area maintenance, insurance, taxes, and similar charges), regardless of when such amounts accrued; (ii) any regular or periodic adjustments or reconciliation of charges under such leases which are not due or cannot be determined as of the date of the Confirmation Hearing; (iii) any percentage rent that may come due under the assumed Unexpired Lease of real property that is not due as of the date of the Confirmation Hearing; (iv) other obligations under such assumed Unexpired Lease (including any indemnification obligations, as applicable), if any, as of the date of the Confirmation Hearing; and (v) any post assumption obligations under such leases. All rights of the parties under such assumed leases for setoff, recoupment, and subrogation (including defenses thereto) shall survive, notwithstanding any terms or conditions of the Plan or this Order to the contrary.

### P. Rejection of Store Leases

97. Effective Date of Rejection (the "Rejection Date"). The Plan Supplement constituted sufficient notice of the rejection of the store leases listed thereon. The Rejection Date for each lease of non-residential real property shall be the later of (i) July 31, 2017 and (ii) the date the Debtors relinquish control of the premises by notifying the affected landlord in writing of the Debtors' surrender of the premises and (A) turning over keys, key codes, and security codes, if any, to the affected landlord or (B) notifying the affected landlord in writing that the keys, key codes, and security codes, if any, are not available, but the landlord may rekey the leased premises.

98. **Abandoned Property**. Subject to the terms and conditions of the New Credit Facilities, the Debtors are authorized but not directed, at any time on or before the applicable Rejection Date, to remove or abandon any of the Debtors' personal property that may be located on the Debtors' leased premises that are subject to a rejected Contract. For the avoidance of doubt, any and all property located on the Debtors' leased premises on the Rejection Date of the applicable lease of nonresidential real property shall be deemed abandoned pursuant to section 554 of the Bankruptcy Code, as is, effective as of the Rejection Date. Landlords may, in their sole discretion and without further notice or order of this Court, utilize and/or dispose of such property without liability to the Debtors or third parties and, to the extent applicable, the automatic stay is modified to allow such disposition.

99. **Security Deposits.** Any security deposit held by a landlord under an Unexpired Lease rejected hereunder may be applied against any Claim amount either (i) as allowed or deemed allowed by the Court or (ii) as agreed to by the Debtors without further order of this Court.

### Q. <u>Vesting of Assets in the Reorganized Debtors</u>

100. Subject to Article IV.O of the Plan and except as otherwise provided in the Plan or in any agreement, instrument, or other document incorporated in the Plan, on the Effective Date, all property in each Estate, all Causes of Action, and any property acquired by any of the Debtors pursuant to the Plan shall vest in each respective Reorganized Debtor, free and clear of all liens, Claims, charges, or other encumbrances. For the avoidance of doubt, the Reorganized Debtors shall have no property interest in the funds in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow and such funds shall not be considered property of the Reorganized Debtors and any liens, charges, or other encumbrances granted under the Plan shall not extend to an interest in the funds held in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow. On and after the Effective Date, subject to

Article VII.B.2 of the Plan and except as otherwise provided in the Plan, each Reorganized Debtor may operate its business and may use, acquire, or dispose of property and compromise or settle any Claims, Interests, or Causes of Action without supervision or approval by the Bankruptcy Court and free of any restrictions of the Bankruptcy Code or Bankruptcy Rules.

### R. Discharge of Claims and Termination of Equity Interests

Pursuant to and to the fullest extent permitted by section 1141(d) of the 101. Bankruptcy Code, and except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, the distributions, rights and treatment that are provided in the Plan shall be in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release and discharge, effective as of the Effective Date, of all Claims (including any Intercompany Claims resolved or compromised after the Effective Date by the Reorganized Debtors), Equity Interests, and Causes of Action of any nature whatsoever, including any interest accrued on Claims or Equity Interests from and after the Petition Date, whether known or unknown, against, liabilities of, liens on, obligations of, rights against, and Equity Interests in, the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, or any of their assets or properties, regardless of whether any property shall have been distributed or retained pursuant to the Plan on account of such Claims and Equity Interests, including demands, liabilities, and Causes of Action that arose before the Effective Date, any liability (including withdrawal liability) to the extent such Claims or Equity Interests relate to services performed by current or former employees of the Debtors prior to the Effective Date and arise from a termination of employment or a termination of any employee or retiree benefit program regardless of whether such termination occurred prior to or after the Effective Date, any contingent or non-contingent liability on account of representations or warranties issued on or before the Effective Date, and all debts of the kind specified in sections 502(g), 502(h), or 502(i) of the Bankruptcy Code, in each case whether or not: (1) a Proof of Claim or Interest based upon such Claim, debt, right, or Interest is filed or

deemed filed pursuant to section 501 of the Bankruptcy Code; (2) a Claim or Interest based upon such Claim, debt, right, or Interest is Allowed pursuant to section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code; or (3) the Holder of such a Claim or Interest has accepted the Plan. Except as otherwise provided herein, any default by the Debtors or their Affiliates with respect to any Claim or Interest that existed immediately prior to or on account of the filing of the Chapter 11 Cases shall be deemed cured on the Effective Date. The Confirmation Order shall be a judicial determination of the discharge of all Claims and Equity Interests subject to the occurrence of the Effective Date.

### S. Restructuring Transactions

102. On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, the Reorganized Debtors may take all actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effect any transaction described in, approved by, contemplated by, or necessary to effectuate the Plan, as further described in the Plan Supplement, including: (1) the execution and delivery of appropriate agreements or other documents of merger, consolidation, or reorganization containing terms that are consistent with the terms of the Plan and that satisfy the requirements of applicable law; (2) the execution and delivery of appropriate instruments of transfer, assignment, assumption, or delegation of any property, right, liability, duty, or obligation on terms consistent with the terms of the Plan; (3) the filing of appropriate certificates of incorporation, merger, or consolidation with the appropriate governmental authorities pursuant to applicable law; and (4) all other actions that the Reorganized Debtors determine are necessary or appropriate; provided, however, that no such restructuring transactions may violate the terms of any Unexpired Lease or Executory Contract assumed by the Debtors.

### T. Compromise and Settlement

103. Pursuant to section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019 and in consideration for the distributions and other benefits provided pursuant to the Plan, the provisions of the Plan, including the releases set forth in Article IX of the Plan, shall constitute a good faith compromise of all Claims, Interests, and controversies relating to the contractual, legal, and subordination rights that a Holder of a Claim or Interest may have with respect to any Allowed Claim or Interest, or any distribution to be made on account of such Allowed Claim or Interest. This Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval of the compromise or settlement of all such Claims, Interests, and controversies, as well as a finding by the Bankruptcy Court that such compromise or settlement (including the Settlement) is in the best interests of the Debtors, their Estates, and Holders of Claims and Interests and is fair, equitable, and reasonable. In accordance with the provisions of the Plan, pursuant to section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019(a), without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court, after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors may compromise and settle Claims against them and Causes of Action against other Entities.

### U. Settlement, Release, Injunction and Related Provisions

104. The following releases, injunction, exculpation and related provisions set forth in Article IX of the Plan are hereby approved and authorized in their entirety:

### (a) Debtor Release

Pursuant to section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, and except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, for good and valuable consideration, including the service of the Released Parties in facilitating the expeditious reorganization of the Debtors and the implementation of the restructuring contemplated by the Plan, effective as of the Effective Date, the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, and any Person seeking to exercise the rights of the Estates, including, without limitation, any successor to the Debtors or any estate representative appointed or selected pursuant to section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code shall be deemed to forever release, waive, and discharge the Released Parties of any and all claims, obligations, rights, suits, damages, Causes of Action, remedies, and liabilities

whatsoever, including any derivative claims asserted on behalf of the Debtors, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, liquidated or unliquidated, contingent or fixed, existing or hereafter arising, in law, at equity or otherwise, whether for tort, contract, violations of federal or state securities laws or otherwise, including, without limitation, those that any of the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, the Estates, or their Affiliates would have been legally entitled to assert in their own right (whether individually or collectively) or on behalf of the Holder of any claim or Equity Interest, based on or relating to, or in any manner arising from, in whole or in part, the Debtors, the Estates, the conduct of the Debtors' businesses, the Chapter 11 Cases, the purchase, sale, or rescission or the purchase or sale of any security of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, the subject matter of, or the transactions or events giving rise to, any Claim or Equity Interest that is treated in the Plan, the business or contractual arrangements between any of the Debtors and any Released Party, the restructuring of claims and Equity Interests prior to or in the Chapter 11 Cases, the negotiation, formulation, or preparation of the Plan, the Plan Supplement, the Disclosure Statement, or related agreements, instruments, or other documents, or upon any other act or omission, transaction, or occurrence relating to the foregoing taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan, other than claims or liabilities arising out of or relating to any act or omission of a Released Party that constitutes criminal conduct, willful misconduct, or gross negligence.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the "Debtor Release" shall not operate to waive or release any Causes of Action of any Debtor: (1) arising under any contract, instrument, agreement, release, or document delivered pursuant to the Plan, including, without limitation, the New ABL Facility Documents, the New First Lien Term Loan Facility Documents, or the Shareholders Agreement or documents, agreements, or instruments executed in connection therewith, or (2) expressly set forth in and preserved by the Plan, the Plan Supplement, or related documents.

For the avoidance of doubt, and notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Debtor Release includes a release of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders of any claim or Cause of Action whatsoever that was or could have been raised in the draft complaint attached to the Standing Motion, including without limitation any claims, Causes of Action or liabilities arising out of or related to the Sponsors' equity ownership of Payless Holdings LLC, the 2012 transaction in which the Sponsors became the majority equity owners of Payless Holdings LLC, any dividends or fees paid to the Sponsor Entities or Prepetition Lenders, any loans incurred by the Debtors, and any role by any of the Sponsor Entities in managing the Debtors. The consideration provided by the Prepetition Lenders under the Plan and the Sponsor Payment being made by the Sponsors are in settlement of any and all potential claims, Causes of Action, or liabilities against any of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders arising out of or relating to any act or omission, transaction, or occurrence relating to the Debtors or the Debtors' Estates taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan.

Entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval, pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019, of the Debtor Release, which includes by reference each of the related provisions and definitions contained herein, *and further*, shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's finding that the Debtor Release is: (1) in exchange for the good

and valuable consideration provided by the Released Parties; (2) a good faith settlement and compromise of the claims released by the Debtor Release; (3) in the best interests of the Debtors and all Holders of Claims and Equity Interests; (4) fair, equitable and reasonable; (5) given and made after reasonable investigation by the Debtors and after notice and opportunity for hearing; and (6) a bar to any of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors asserting any claim released by the Debtor Release against any of the Released Parties.

### (b) Third-Party Release

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, for good and valuable consideration, including the service of the Released Parties in facilitating the expeditious reorganization of the Debtors and the implementation of the restructuring contemplated by the Plan, effective as of the Effective Date, the Releasing Parties (regardless of whether a Releasing Party is a Released Party) shall be deemed to forever release, waive, and discharge the Released Parties of any and all claims, obligations, rights, suits, damages, Causes of Action, remedies, and liabilities whatsoever, including any derivative claims asserted on behalf of a Debtor, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, liquidated or unliquidated, contingent or fixed, existing or hereafter arising, in law, at equity, or otherwise, whether for tort, contract, violations of federal or state securities laws or otherwise, including, without limitation, those that any of the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, the Estates, or their Affiliates would have been legally entitled to assert in their own right (whether individually or collectively) or on behalf of the Holder of any Claim or Equity Interest, based on or relating to, or in any manner arising from, in whole or in part, the Debtors, the Estates, the conduct of the Debtors' businesses, the Chapter 11 Cases, the purchase, sale, or rescission or the purchase or sale of any security of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, the subject matter of, or the transactions or events giving rise to, any Claim or Equity Interest that is treated in the Plan, the business or contractual arrangements between any of the Debtors and any Released Party, the restructuring of Claims and Equity Interests prior to or in the Chapter 11 Cases, the negotiation, formulation, or preparation of the Plan, the Plan Supplement, the Disclosure Statement, or related agreements, instruments, or other documents, or upon any other act or omission, transaction, or occurrence relating to the foregoing taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan, other than claims or liabilities arising out of or relating to any act or omission of a Released Party that constitutes criminal conduct, willful misconduct, or gross negligence.

Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, the foregoing release does not release any post-Effective Date obligations of any party under the Plan or any document, instrument, or agreement (including those set forth in the Plan Supplement) executed to implement the Plan.

For the avoidance of doubt, and notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Third-Party Release includes a release of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders of any claim or Cause of Action whatsoever that was or could have been raised in the draft complaint attached to the Standing Motion, including without limitation any claims, Causes of Action or liabilities arising out of or related to the Sponsors' equity ownership of Payless Holdings LLC, the 2012 transaction in which the Sponsors became

the majority equity owners of Payless Holdings LLC, any dividends or fees paid to the Sponsor Entities or Prepetition Lenders, any loans incurred by the Debtors, and any role by any of the Sponsor Entities in managing the Debtors. The consideration provided by the Prepetition Lenders under the Plan and the Sponsor Payment being made by the Sponsors are in settlement of any and all potential claims, Causes of Action, or liabilities against any of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders arising out of or relating to any act or omission, transaction, or occurrence relating to the Debtors or the Debtors' Estates taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan.

Entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval, pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019, of the Third-Party Release, which includes by reference each of the related provisions and definitions contained herein, and further, shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's finding that the Third-Party Release is: (1) in exchange for the good and valuable consideration provided by the Released Parties; (2) a good faith settlement and compromise of the claims released by the Releasing Parties; (3) in the best interests of the Debtors and all Holders of Claims and Equity Interests; (4) fair, equitable and reasonable; (5) given and made after notice and opportunity for hearing; and (6) a bar to any of the Releasing Parties asserting any Claim released by the Third-Party Release against any of the Released Parties.

### (c) Exculpation

Upon and effective as of the Effective Date, the Debtors and their directors, officers, employees, attorneys, investment bankers, financial advisors, restructuring consultants, and other professional advisors and agents will be deemed to have solicited acceptances of this Plan in good faith and in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, including section 1125(e) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Except with respect to any acts or omissions expressly set forth in and preserved by the Plan, the Plan supplement, or related documents, the Exculpated Parties shall neither have nor incur any liability to any Entity for any prepetition or postpetition act taken or omitted to be taken in connection with, or arising from or relating in any way to, the Chapter 11 Cases, including, without limitation, the operation of the Debtors' businesses during the pendency of these Chapter 11 Cases; formulating, negotiating, preparing, disseminating, implementing, and/or effecting the Restructuring Support Agreement, the DIP Documents, the Disclosure Statement, and the Plan (including the Plan Supplement and any related contract, instrument, release, or other agreement or document created or entered into in connection therewith); the solicitation of votes for the Plan and the pursuit of Confirmation and Consummation of the Plan; the administration of the Plan and/or the property to be distributed under the Plan; the offer and issuance of any securities under the Plan; and/or any other prepetition or postpetition act taken or omitted to be taken in connection with or in contemplation of the restructuring of the Debtors. In all respects, each Exculpated Party shall be entitled to rely upon the advice of counsel concerning his, her, or its respective duties under, pursuant to, or in connection with the Plan.

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, nothing in the foregoing "Exculpation" shall exculpate any Person or Entity from any liability resulting from any

act or omission constituting fraud, willful misconduct, gross negligence, criminal conduct, malpractice, misuse of confidential information that causes damages, or ultra vires acts as determined by a Final Order.

### (d) Injunction

The satisfaction, release, and discharge pursuant to this Article IX of the Plan shall also act as an injunction against any Person commencing or continuing any action, employment of process or act to collect, offset, or recover any claim or Cause of Action satisfied, released, or discharged under the Plan or the Confirmation Order to the fullest extent authorized or provided by the Bankruptcy Code, including, without limitation, to the extent provided for or authorized by sections 524 and 1141 thereof.

### V. LatAm JV Partners Resolutions

105. The LatAm JV Partners hereby release the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders on the same terms as the Third-Party Release under the Plan. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Plan, the LatAm JV Partners shall not be included as "Releasing Parties" under the Plan, except with respect to the deemed release of the Sponsor Entities and the Prepetition Lenders in accordance with the preceding sentence. Notwithstanding anything in this Order, the Plan, or the Plan Supplement to the contrary, (i) all Executory Contracts between the Debtors and the LatAm JV Entities, whether identified or unidentified in the Plan Supplement, are hereby assumed, and (ii) the Debtors shall not cancel or compromise any Intercompany Claims involving any of the LatAm JV Entities without the consent of the affected LatAm JV Partners.

### W. Subordinated Claims

106. The allowance, classification, and treatment of all Allowed Claims and Equity Interests and the respective distributions and treatments under the Plan take into account and conform to the relative priority and rights of the Claims and Equity Interests in each Class in connection with any contractual, legal, and equitable subordination rights relating thereto, whether arising under general principles of equitable subordination, section 510(b) of the

Bankruptcy Code, or otherwise. Pursuant to section 510 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Reorganized Debtors reserve the right to re-classify any Allowed Claim or Interest in accordance with any contractual, legal or equitable subordination relating thereto.

### X. Release of Liens

107. Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, this Confirmation Order, or in any contract, instrument, release, or other agreement or document entered into or delivered in connection with the Plan, on the Effective Date and concurrently with the applicable distributions made pursuant to Articles II.E and III of the Plan and, in the case of (i) the ABL DIP Claims, indefeasible payment in full in Cash of such ABL DIP Claims, and (ii) a Secured Claim, satisfaction in full of the portion of the Secured Claim that is Allowed as of the Effective Date, all mortgages, deeds of trust, liens, pledges, or other security interests against any property of the Estates shall be fully released and discharged, and all of the right, title, and interest of any Holder of such mortgages, deeds of trust, liens, pledges, or other security interests shall revert to the Reorganized Debtors and their successors and assigns.

### Y. Preservation of Causes of Action

Article IX of the Plan, the Reorganized Debtors shall retain and may enforce all rights to commence and pursue, as appropriate, any and all Causes of Action, whether arising before or after the Petition Date, and the Reorganized Debtors' rights to commence, prosecute, or settle such Causes of Action shall be preserved notwithstanding the occurrence of the Effective Date, other than (i) Avoidance Actions released by the Debtors pursuant to Article IV.O of the Plan and (ii) the Causes of Action released by the Debtors pursuant to the releases and exculpations contained in the Plan, including Article IX thereof. The Reorganized Debtors may pursue such Causes of Action, as appropriate, in accordance with the best interests of the Reorganized

Debtors. No Entity may rely on the absence of a specific reference in the Plan, the Plan Supplement, or the Disclosure Statement to any Cause of Action against it as any indication that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, will not pursue any and all available Causes of Action against it. The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, expressly reserve all rights to prosecute any and all Causes of Action against any Entity, except as otherwise expressly provided in the Plan, including Article IV.O and Article IX thereof. Unless any Causes of Action against an Entity are expressly waived, relinquished, exculpated, released, compromised, or settled in the Plan or a Bankruptcy Court order, the Reorganized Debtors expressly reserve all Causes of Action, for later adjudication, and, therefore no preclusion doctrine, including the doctrines of *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim preclusion, estoppel (judicial, equitable, or otherwise) or laches, shall apply to such Causes of Action upon, after, or as a consequence of the Confirmation or the Effective Date.

109. The Reorganized Debtors reserve and shall retain the Causes of Action notwithstanding the rejection or repudiation of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease during the Chapter 11 Cases or pursuant to the Plan. In accordance with section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code, any Causes of Action that a Debtor may hold against any Entity shall vest in the applicable Reorganized Debtor, except as otherwise expressly provided in the Plan, including Article IV.O and Article IX thereof. The Reorganized Debtors, through their authorized agents or representatives, shall retain and may exclusively enforce any and all such Causes of Action. The Reorganized Debtors shall have the exclusive right, authority, and discretion to determine and to initiate, file, prosecute, enforce, abandon, settle, compromise, release, withdraw, or litigate to judgment any such Causes of Action and to decline to do any of

the foregoing without the consent or approval of any third party or further notice to or action, order or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

### Z. <u>Compensation and Benefits Programs</u>

- 110. Unless otherwise provided herein or in the Plan Supplement or any applicable agreements binding on the Debtors, all employee wages, compensation, and benefit programs in place as of the Effective Date with the Debtors shall be assumed by the Reorganized Debtors and shall remain in place as of the Effective Date, and the Reorganized Debtors will continue to honor such agreements, arrangements, programs, and plans. Notwithstanding the foregoing, pursuant to section 1129(a)(13) of the Bankruptcy Code, from and after the Effective Date, all retiree benefits (as such term is defined in section 1114 of the Bankruptcy Code), if any, shall continue to be paid in accordance with applicable law.
- 111. <u>Management Equity Incentive Plan</u>. Promptly on or as soon as practicable after the Effective Date, the New Board will adopt and implement the Management Equity Incentive Plan whereby equity awards for 6–10% of the New Equity (on a fully diluted basis) of Reorganized Holdings will be granted to continuing employees of the Debtors and members of the New Board with pricing, vesting, and exercise terms to be determined by the New Board upon consultation with the Chief Executive Officer of Reorganized Holdings.
- 112. <u>Cash Incentive Program</u>. Promptly on or as soon as practicable after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors will assume the Cash Incentive Program.
- 113. <u>Continuation of Retiree Benefits</u>. The Reorganized Debtors' obligations with respect to the payment of "retiree benefits" (as that term is defined in section 1114(a) of the Bankruptcy Code) shall continue for the duration of the periods the Debtors have obligated themselves to provide such benefits, if any, subject to any contractual rights to terminate or modify such benefits.

- 114. Workers' Compensation Programs. As of the Effective Date, the Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors shall continue to honor their obligations under: (i) all applicable workers' compensation laws in states in which the Reorganized Debtors operate; and (ii) the Debtors' written contracts, agreements, agreements of indemnity, self-insurer workers' compensation bonds, policies, programs, and plans for workers' compensation and workers' compensation insurance, including without limitation, any Insurance Policies providing workers' compensation insurance coverage to the Debtors.
- 115. All Proofs of Claims on account of workers' compensation shall be deemed withdrawn automatically and without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court; *provided*, *however*, that nothing in the Plan shall limit, diminish, or otherwise alter the Debtors' or Reorganized Debtors' defenses, Causes of Action, or other rights under applicable non-bankruptcy law with respect to any such contracts, agreements, policies, programs and plans; *provided*, *further*, that nothing herein shall be deemed to impose any obligations on the Debtors in addition to what is provided for under applicable state law.

### AA. Gift Card Programs

116. The Reorganized Debtors will honor and satisfy all of the Debtors' prepetition and postpetition obligations related to their Gift Card Program, as set forth and defined in the Final Order (I) Authorizing the Debtors to (A) Honor Certain Prepetition Obligations to Customers and Partners and (B) Otherwise Continue Certain Customer and Partner Programs in the Ordinary Course of Business and (II) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 638]. Nothing in the Confirmation Order shall alter the Debtors' or Reorganized Debtors' obligations with respect to the Gift Card Program.

### **BB.** Return of Deposits

117. All utilities, including any Person who received a deposit or other form of "adequate assurance" of performance pursuant to section 366 of the Bankruptcy Code during the Chapter 11 Cases (collectively, the "Deposits"), whether pursuant to the Final Order (I) Prohibiting Utility Providers From Altering, Refusing, or Discontinuing Utility Services, (II) Determining Adequate Assurance of Payment for Future Utility Service, (III) Establishing Procedures for Determining Adequate Assurance of Payment, and (IV) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 636] (the "Utilities Order") or otherwise, including, gas, electric, telephone, data, cable, trash, and sewer services, are directed to return such Deposits to the Reorganized Debtors, either by setoff against postpetition indebtedness or by Cash refund, within thirty (30) days following the Effective Date. Additionally, the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, are hereby authorized to close the Adequate Assurance Account (as defined in the Utilities Order) and utilize such funds in the operation of their businesses.

### CC. Allowance and Payment of Certain Administrative Expense Claims

### (a) Administrative Claims

118. Except with respect to Administrative Claims that are Professional Fee Claims and ABL DIP Claims, and except to the extent that an Administrative Claim has already been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or a Holder of an Allowed Administrative Claim and the applicable Debtor(s) agree to less favorable treatment, each Holder of an Allowed Administrative Claim shall be paid in full in Cash on the unpaid portion of its Allowed Administrative Claim on the latest of: (i) on or as soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date if such Administrative Claim is Allowed as of the Effective Date; (ii) on or as soon as reasonably practicable after the date such Administrative Claim is Allowed; and (iii) the date such Allowed Administrative Claim becomes due and payable, or as soon thereafter as is

reasonably practicable; provided that Allowed Administrative Claims that arise in the ordinary course of the Debtors' businesses shall be paid in the ordinary course of business in accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions of any agreements governing, instruments evidencing, or other documents relating to such transactions. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no request for payment of an Administrative Claim need be filed with respect to an Administrative Claim previously Allowed by Final Order or payable pursuant to the Final DIP Order or the Plan, including the fees and expenses of the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee (as defined in the Restructuring Support Agreement) party to the Restructuring Support Agreement (inclusive of advisors), which such fees and expenses of the Consenting First Lien Lenders shall be paid in full in Cash on the Effective Date. Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan to the contrary, (i) no Governmental Unit shall be required to file a request for the payment of an expense described in 11 U.S.C. § 503(b)(1)(B) or (C) as a condition of it being allowed as an administrative expense; and (ii) no Holder of a Cure Claim shall be required to file a request for the payment of an expense described in 11 U.S.C. § 503(b)(1)(A) so long as such Holder (A) filed a Cure objection pursuant to the Disclosure Statement Order, (B) submitted a Cure statement pursuant to the Bar Date Order, or (C) agreed with the Cure amount listed by the Debtors in the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases (as amended or modified) in the Plan Supplement.

### (b) Professional Compensation

119. <u>Final Fee Applications</u>. All final requests for Professional Fee Claims shall be filed no later than 30 days after the Effective Date. After notice and a hearing in accordance with the procedures established by the Bankruptcy Code and prior Bankruptcy Court orders, the Allowed amounts of such Professional Fee Claims shall be determined by the Bankruptcy Court.

- Debtors shall establish and fund the Professional Fee Escrow Account with Cash equal to the aggregate Professional Fee Reserve Amount for all Retained Professionals. The Professional Fee Escrow Account shall be maintained in trust solely for the Retained Professionals. Such funds shall not be considered property of the Estates of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors. The amount of Professional Fee Claims owing to the Retained Professionals shall be paid in Cash to such Retained Professionals by the Reorganized Debtors from the Professional Fee Escrow Account as soon as reasonably practicable after such Professional Fee Claims are Allowed by a Final Order. When all such Allowed amounts owing to Retained Professionals have been paid in full, any remaining amount in the Professional Fee Escrow Account shall promptly be paid to the Reorganized Debtors without any further action or order of the Bankruptcy Court.
- 121. <u>Professional Fee Reserve Amount</u>. To receive payment for unbilled fees and expenses incurred through the Effective Date, the Retained Professionals shall estimate their Accrued Professional Compensation prior to and as of the Effective Date and shall deliver such estimate to the Debtors on or before the Effective Date. If a Retained Professional does not provide such estimate, the Reorganized Debtors may estimate the unbilled fees and expenses of such Retained Professional; provided that such estimate shall not be considered an admission or limitation with respect to the fees and expenses of such Retained Professional. The total amount so estimated as of the Effective Date shall comprise the Professional Fee Reserve Amount.
- 122. <u>Post-Confirmation Date Fees and Expenses</u>. Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, from and after the Confirmation Date, each Debtor and Reorganized Debtor (as applicable) shall pay in Cash the reasonable legal fees and expenses incurred by such Debtor

or Reorganized Debtor (as applicable) after the Confirmation Date in the ordinary course of business and without any further notice to or action, order or approval of the Bankruptcy Court. The Debtors and Reorganized Debtors (as applicable) shall pay, within ten Business Days after submission of a detailed invoice to the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors (as applicable), such reasonable claims for compensation or reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Retained Professionals of the Debtors and Reorganized Debtors (as applicable). If the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors (as applicable), dispute the reasonableness of any such invoice, the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors (as applicable) or the affected professional may submit such dispute to the Bankruptcy Court for a determination of the reasonableness of any such invoice, and the disputed portion of such invoice shall not be paid until the dispute is resolved. The undisputed portion of such reasonable fees and expenses shall be paid as provided herein. Upon the Confirmation Date, any requirement that Retained Professionals comply with sections 327 through 331 and 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code in seeking retention or compensation for services rendered after such date shall terminate, and each Debtor or Reorganized Debtor (as applicable) may employ and pay any Retained Professional in the ordinary course of business without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

123. <u>Substantial Contribution Compensation and Expenses</u>. Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, any Entity that requests compensation or expense reimbursement for making a substantial contribution to these Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to sections 503(b)(3), (4), and (5) of the Bankruptcy Code must file an application and serve such application on counsel for the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, and as otherwise required by the Bankruptcy Court, the Bankruptcy Code, and the Bankruptcy Rules on or before the Administrative Claims Bar Date.

### **DD.** Priority Tax Claims

124. Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Priority Tax Claim agrees to a less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, compromise, settlement, release, and discharge of, and in exchange for, each Allowed Priority Tax Claim, each Holder of such Allowed Priority Tax Claim shall be treated in accordance with the terms set forth in section 1129(a)(9)(C) of the Bankruptcy Code.

125. Priority Tax Claims incurred by the Debtors but not yet due and owing to the Texas Ad Valorem Taxing Jurisdictions as of the Effective Date, will be Reinstated on the Effective Date and paid by the Debtors in the ordinary course of the Debtors' business or as otherwise ordered by the Court and the liens securing such taxes will not be affected by entry of the Confirmation Order. Any party's right to dispute or seek collection of such taxes is not affected by entry of the Confirmation Order.

### **EE.** ABL DIP Claims

126. On the Effective Date, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed ABL DIP Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each Allowed ABL DIP Claim, each Holder of an Allowed ABL DIP Claim shall indefeasibly receive payment in full, in Cash.

### FF. Term DIP Facility Claims

127. On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Term DIP Facility Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each Allowed Term DIP Facility Claim, each such Holder of an Allowed Term DIP Facility Claim shall receive, on a dollar-for-dollar-basis, its Pro Rata share of the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche.

### **GG.** United States Trustee Statutory Fees

128. The Debtors shall pay all United States Trustee quarterly fees under 28 U.S.C. § 1930(a)(6), plus interest due and payable under 31 U.S.C. § 3717 on all disbursements, including Plan payments and disbursements in and outside the ordinary course of the Debtors' businesses, until the entry of a Final Order, dismissal of the Chapter 11 Cases, or conversion of the Chapter 11 Cases to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code.

### HH. Exemption from Certain Transfer Taxes and Recording Fees

129. Pursuant to section 1146(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, any transfer from a Debtor to a Reorganized Debtor or to any Entity pursuant to, in contemplation of, or in connection with the Plan or pursuant to: (1) the issuance, distribution, transfer, or exchange of any debt, securities, or other interest in the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors; (2) the creation, modification, consolidation, termination, refinancing, or recording of any mortgage, deed of trust, or other security interest, or the securing of additional indebtedness by such or other means; (3) the making, assignment, or recording of any lease or sublease; or (4) the making, delivery, or recording of any deed or other instrument of transfer under, in furtherance of, or in connection with, the Plan, including any deeds, bills of sale, assignments, or other instrument of transfer executed in connection with any transaction arising out of, contemplated by, or in any way related to the Plan, shall not be subject to any document recording tax, stamp tax, conveyance fee, intangibles or similar tax, mortgage tax, real estate transfer tax, mortgage recording tax, Uniform Commercial Code filing or recording fee, regulatory filing or recording fee, or other similar tax or governmental assessment, and the appropriate state or local governmental officials or agents shall forego the collection of any such tax or governmental assessment and shall accept for filing and recordation any of the foregoing instruments or other documents without the payment of any such tax or governmental assessment. All filing or recording officers (or any

other Person with authority over any of the foregoing), wherever located and by whomever appointed, shall comply with the requirements of section 1146(c) of the Bankruptcy Code, shall forgo the collection of any such tax or governmental assessment, and shall accept for filing and recordation any of the foregoing instruments or other documents without the payment of any such tax or governmental assessment.

### II. Retention of Jurisdiction

130. The Court may properly, and upon the Effective Date shall, to the full extent set forth in the Plan, retain jurisdiction over all matters arising out of, and related to, the Chapter 11 Cases, including the matters set forth in Article X of the Plan and section 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Confirmation Order or the Plan, the Court's retention of jurisdiction shall not govern the enforcement of the New Credit Facilities or the documents executed in connection therewith or any liens, rights, or remedies related thereto except to the extent that this Confirmation Order has been vacated or reversed, but instead, such enforcement shall be governed as set forth in the New Credit Facilities Documents.

### JJ. Other Essential Documents and Agreements

131. The Shareholders Agreement, the New Organizational Documents the documents, and agreements necessary to implement the Cash Incentive Program, any other agreements, instruments, certificates, or documents related thereto and the transactions contemplated by each of the foregoing are approved and, upon execution and delivery of the agreements and documents relating thereto by the applicable parties, the Shareholders Agreement, the New Organizational Documents, the documents and agreements necessary to implement the Cash Incentive Program, and any other agreements, instruments, certificates, or documents related thereto shall be in full force and effect and valid, binding, and enforceable in accordance with their terms without the need for any further notice to or action, order, or approval of this Court or

other act or action under applicable law, regulation, order, or rule. The Debtors, and after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors, are authorized, without further approval of this Court or any other party, to execute and deliver all agreements, documents, instruments, securities, and certificates relating to such agreements and perform their obligations thereunder, including, without limitation, pay all fees due thereunder or in connection therewith.

132. On or upon the Effective Date, the Debtors may file with the Bankruptcy Court such agreements and other documents as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate and further evidence the terms and conditions of the Plan. The Debtors or Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, and upon request all Holders of Claims or Interests receiving distributions pursuant to the Plan and all other parties in interest, shall, from time to time, prepare, execute and deliver any agreements or documents and take any other actions as may be necessary or advisable to effectuate the provisions and intent of the Plan.

### **KK.** Governing Law

133. Unless a rule of law or procedure is supplied by federal law (including the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules) or unless otherwise specifically stated, the laws of the State of New York, without giving effect to the principles of conflict of laws, shall govern the rights, obligations, construction, and implementation of the Plan, any agreements, documents, instruments, or contracts executed or entered into in connection with the Plan (except as otherwise set forth in those agreements, in which case the governing law of such agreement shall control), and corporate governance matters; provided, however, that corporate governance matters relating to Debtors or Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, not incorporated or organized in New York shall be governed by the laws of the place of incorporation or organization of the applicable Debtor or Reorganized Debtor, as applicable.

### LL. Effectiveness of All Actions

134. Except as set forth in the Plan, all actions authorized to be taken pursuant to the Plan shall be effective on, prior to, or after the Effective Date pursuant to this Confirmation Order, without further application to, or order of this Court, or further action by the respective officers, directors, members or stockholders of the Reorganized Debtors and with the effect that such actions had been taken by unanimous action of such officers, directors, members, or stockholders.

### **MM.** Effectuating Documents and Further Transactions

- axis applicable, may take all actions to execute, deliver, file, or record such contracts, instruments, releases, and other agreements or documents and take such actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate and implement the provisions of the Plan, including, without limitation, the distribution of the securities to be issued pursuant hereto in the name of and on behalf of the Reorganized Debtors, without the need for any approvals, authorizations, actions, or consents except for those expressly required pursuant hereto. The secretary and any assistant secretary of each Debtor shall be authorized to certify or attest to any of the foregoing actions. Prior to, on or after the Effective Date (as appropriate), all matters provided for pursuant to the Plan that would otherwise require approval of the shareholders, directors, or members of the Debtors shall be deemed to have been so approved and shall be in effect prior to, on or after the Effective Date (as appropriate) pursuant to applicable law and without any requirement of further action by the shareholders, directors, managers, or partners of the Debtors, or the need for any approvals, authorizations, actions or consents.
- 136. This Confirmation Order shall constitute all approvals and consents required, if any, by the laws, rules and regulations of all states and any other governmental authority with

respect to the implementation or consummation of the Plan and any documents, instruments, agreements, any amendments or modifications thereto and any other acts and transactions referred to in or contemplated by the Plan, the Plan Supplement, the Disclosure Statement, and any documents, instruments, securities, and agreements and any amendments or modifications thereto.

### NN. Modifications, Amendments, Supplements, Restatements, or Other Agreements

137. Unless otherwise provided in the Plan, each Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that is assumed shall include all modifications, amendments, supplements, restatements, or other agreements that in any manner affect such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, and Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases related thereto, if any, including easements, licenses, permits, rights, privileges, immunities, options, rights of first refusal, and any other interests, unless any of the foregoing agreements has been previously rejected or repudiated or is rejected or repudiated under the Plan.

138. Modifications, amendments, supplements, and restatements to prepetition Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases that have been executed by the Debtors during the Chapter 11 Cases shall not be deemed to alter the prepetition nature of the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, or the validity, priority, or amount of any Claims that may arise in connection therewith.

### OO. Effect of Conflict Between Plan and Confirmation Order

139. If there is any direct conflict between the terms of the Plan and the terms of this Confirmation Order, the terms of this Confirmation Order shall control.

### PP. Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee

140. On the Effective Date, the Creditors' Committee shall appoint and establish the Post Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee pursuant to the Plan. The Post-Effective Date

Claims Oversight Committee may in their sole discretion retain professionals, including professionals previously retained by the Creditors' Committee, without any further notice to or action, order, or approval by the Bankruptcy Court.

- 141. On the Effective Date, funds of the Debtors in the amount of \$500,000 shall be set aside in a segregated account for exclusive use by the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee. All costs and expenses of the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee and its members, including reasonable professional fees will be paid exclusively from such funds without any further notice to or action, order, or approval by the Court. Any unused portion of the funds set aside for the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee at the time of the entry of a final decree closing these Chapter 11 Cases, or such earlier time as the Reorganized Debtors may be advised by the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee, will revert to the Reorganized Debtors.
- 142. From and after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors and the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee shall have the authority to prosecute and settle or compromise Claims in Class 5A or Class 5B. The Reorganized Debtors and the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee will work together in good faith to prosecute objections to Claims in Class 5A or Class 5B and compromise or settle Claims in Class 5A or Class 5B. The Reorganized Debtors shall make their employees and books and records reasonably available to the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee to assist them with respect to these matters.
- 143. If there is a dispute between the Reorganized Debtors and the Post-Effective Date Claims Oversight Committee regarding any proposed objection, settlement, or compromise of a Claim in Class 5A or Class 5B, the parties shall endeavor to resolve any such dispute informally,

and either party shall be entitled to seek a hearing before the Court on an expedited basis to resolve such dispute if it cannot be informally resolved before such proposed objection, settlement, or compromise becomes effective. The Court shall have jurisdiction to decide any such disputes.

### QQ. <u>Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow</u>

144. On the Effective Date, funds for the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool and the Worldwide GUC Claims Recovery Pool, in the aggregate amount of \$32.316 million, shall be deposited into the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow. The Reorganized Debtors shall not have a property interest in the Unsecured Claims Payments Escrow and such funds shall not be considered property of the Reorganized Debtors and any liens, charges, or other encumbrances granted under the Plan shall not extend to an interest in the funds held in the Unsecured Claims Payment Escrow.

### **RR.** Dissolution of Creditors' Committee

145. The Creditors' Committee shall dissolve, and the members thereof shall be released and discharged from all rights and duties arising from, or related to, the Chapter 11 Cases on the Effective Date; *provided*, that the Creditors' Committee shall be deemed to remain in existence solely with respect to, and shall not be heard on any issue except, applications filed by the Retained Professionals pursuant to sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Reorganized Debtors shall not be responsible for paying fees or expenses incurred by the members of or advisors to the Creditors' Committee after the Effective Date.

### SS. Reservation of Rights

146. Except as expressly set forth herein, the Plan shall have no force or effect unless and until the Bankruptcy Court enters the Confirmation Order. Neither the filing of the Plan, any statement or provision contained herein, nor the taking of any action by a Debtor or any other

Entity with respect to the Plan shall be or shall be deemed to be an admission or waiver of any rights of: (1) any Debtor with respect to the Holders of Claims or Equity Interests or other Entity; or (2) any Holder of a Claim or an Equity Interest or other Entity prior to the Effective Date.

### TT. Notice of Entry of the Confirmation Order

147. Within five (5) days after the Effective Date, the Debtors, with the assistance of the Debtors' Notice and Claims Agent, shall file and serve a notice of the Effective Date on the following parties: (i) all parties filing a notice of appearance and request for service pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002 in the Chapter 11 Cases, (ii) state and local taxing authorities in which the Debtors did business, (iii) the Internal Revenue Service, (iv) the Securities and Exchange Commission, (v) the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri, (vi) holders of Claims or Equity Interests, (vii) all counterparties to executory contracts and unexpired leases, (viii) the United States Trustee, and (ix) all persons or entities listed on the Debtors' creditor mailing matrix. The notice of Effective Date shall include notice of (i) the bar date for filing administrative claims arising under section 502(b) of the Bankruptcy Code or rejection damage claims (or other claims for damages) arising from the rejection under the Plan of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases, which is 11:59 p.m. prevailing Central Time, on the date that is thirty (30) days after the later of entry of this Confirmation Order or the deemed rejection date (or, if a governmental unit, October 2, 2017); and (ii) the last day for filing requests for Professional Fee Claims and expenses pursuant to Article II.C of the Plan, which is thirty (30) days after the Effective Date.

148. To supplement the notice described in the preceding sentence, within seven (7) days of the date of the Confirmation Order, the Debtors shall publish notice of entry of the Confirmation Order on one occasion in the national editions of *The Wall Street Journal* and *USA* 

*Today*. Mailing and publication of the notice of entry of the Confirmation Order in the time and manner set forth in the preceding paragraph and in this paragraph shall be good and sufficient notice under the particular circumstances and in accordance with the requirements of Bankruptcy Rules 2002 and 3020(c), and no further notice is necessary.

### **UU.** <u>Injunctions and Automatic Stay</u>

149. Unless otherwise provided in the Plan or in the Confirmation Order, all injunctions or stays in effect in the Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to sections 105 or 362 of the Bankruptcy Code or any order of the Bankruptcy Court, and extant on the Confirmation Date (excluding any injunctions or stays contained in the Plan or the Confirmation Order) shall remain in full force and effect until the Effective Date. All injunctions or stays contained in the Plan or the Confirmation Order shall remain in full force and effect in accordance with their terms.

150. This Confirmation Order will permanently enjoin the commencement or prosecution by any Person, whether directly, derivatively or otherwise, of any Claims, Interests, Causes of Action, obligations, suits, judgments, damages, demands, debts, rights, or liabilities released pursuant to the Plan.

### VV. Nonseverability of Plan Provisions Upon Confirmation

151. If, prior to Confirmation, any term or provision of the Plan is held by the Bankruptcy Court to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the Bankruptcy Court shall have the power to alter and interpret such term or provision to make it valid or enforceable to the maximum extent practicable, consistent with the original purpose of the term or provision held to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, and such term or provision shall then be applicable as altered or interpreted. Notwithstanding any such holding, alteration, or interpretation, the remainder of the terms and provisions of the Plan will remain in full force and effect and will in no way be affected, impaired, or invalidated by such holding, alteration, or interpretation. The

Confirmation Order shall constitute a judicial determination and shall provide that each term and provision of the Plan, as it may have been altered or interpreted in accordance with the foregoing, is: (1) valid and enforceable pursuant to its terms; (2) integral to the Plan and may not be deleted or modified without the consent of the Debtors; and (3) nonseverable and mutually dependent.

### WW. Standing Motion

152. Upon the occurrence of the Effective Date, the *Motion of the Official Committee* of Unsecured Creditors for Entry of an Order Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 107(b)(1) Authorizing Committee to File Motion and Exhibit Under Seal, including the Motion of the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors for Entry of an Order Authorizing the Committee to Prosecute Certain Claims on Behalf of the Bankruptcy Estates [Docket No. 1073] contemplated thereby, shall be deemed withdrawn with prejudice. For the avoidance of doubt, to the extent not previously terminated in accordance with the terms of the Final DIP Order, the right of any party (including the Creditors' Committee except to the extent provided in the previous sentence) to assert a Challenge (as defined in the Final DIP Order) under the Final DIP Order or any stipulation or agreement related thereto shall be terminated as of the Confirmation Date.

### **XX.** Waiver or Estoppel

153. Each Holder of a Claim or an Interest shall be deemed to have waived any right to assert any argument, including the right to argue that its Claim or Interest should be Allowed in a certain amount, in a certain priority, secured, or not subordinated by virtue of an agreement made with the Debtors or their counsel, or any other Entity, if such agreement was not disclosed in the Plan, the Disclosure Statement, or papers filed with the Bankruptcy Court prior to the Confirmation Date.

### YY. Authorization to Consummate

154. The Debtors are authorized to consummate the Plan on any business day selected by the Debtors after the entry of the Confirmation Order, but no later than August 31, 2017, subject to satisfaction or waiver (by the required parties) of the conditions to the Effective Date set forth in Article VII of the Plan.

### ZZ. Resolutions of Specific Objections and Concerns of Certain Parties

155. Notwithstanding any provision in the Plan or the Confirmation Order to the contrary, nothing in the Plan or the Confirmation Order shall modify, alter, or affect the terms, covenants, conditions, restrictions, and/or obligations contained in the Deed between CBL & Associates Management, Inc. and Payless ShoeSource, Inc., recorded at Book 7008, Page 0202, regarding the outparcel on which the store on Fischer Park Drive in Louisville, Kentucky is located.

156. Schneider National Carriers, Inc. ("Schneider") is the holder of a prepetition claim against Payless ShoeSource, Inc. in the amount of \$12,843.50 arising from open invoices for services provided pursuant to a Transportation Service Agreement between Schneider and Payless ShoeSource, Inc. (the "Transportation Service Agreement"). Schneider is also the holder of a prepetition credit payable to Payless ShoeSource, Inc. in the amount of \$29,653.19 arising from overpayments for services provided pursuant to the Transportation Service Agreement. Notwithstanding 11 U.S.C. § 362 and any other provisions in the Plan, Schneider is hereby authorized to exercise its right pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 553 and applicable law to offset the prepetition credit payable to Payless ShoeSource, Inc. by the amount of Schneider's prepetition claim and directed to return the remaining balance of Payless ShoeSource, Inc.'s prepetition credit in the amount of \$16,809.69 to Payless ShoeSource, Inc.

- 157. Class 2 Other Secured Claims attributable to the secured tax claims of the Local Texas Tax Authorities<sup>3</sup> shall retain their liens on their collateral, including \$150,000 held in a segregated account from the store closing sales, until their allowed tax claims are timely paid in full pursuant to applicable non-bankruptcy law on or before December 30, 2017.
- 158. The New Credit Facilities Documents shall not contain any provisions that:

  (a) provide for liens on the Debtors' leasehold interests or (b) grant lenders or their agents the right to access and use the store premises beyond the rights, if any, provided in the applicable lease, by applicable law, or by separate agreements entered into among the applicable landlord and the applicable lenders.
- 159. The Debtors and an applicable counterparty to an Unexpired Lease or Executory Contract may mutually agree to modify the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases or Schedule of Rejected Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases filed with the Plan Supplement with respect to such counterparty's Unexpired Lease or Executory Contract and such modifications agreed to by both parties are hereby approved.

### AAA. Substantial Consummation

160. On the Effective Date, the Plan shall be deemed to be substantially consummated under sections 1101 and 1127 of the Bankruptcy Code.

As used herein, "Local Texas Tax Authorities" shall mean Allen ISD, Angelina County, Atacosa County, Bee

County, Bexar County, Cameron County, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD, Dallas County, Del Rio, Eagle Pass, Eagle Pass ISD, Ector CAD, El Paso, Ellis County, Fort Bend County, Frisco, Galveston County, Grayson County, Gregg County, Harlingen, Harlingen CISD, Harris County, Hidalgo County, Hood CAD, Hunt County, Irving ISD, Jasper County, Jefferson County, Jim Wells CAD, Judson ISD, Kaufman County, Kleburg County, Lamar CAD, Lewisville ISD, Matagorda County, McAllen, McLennan County, Montgomery County, Navarro County, Northeast TX Community College District, Northwest ISD, Nueces County, Orange County, Parker CAD, Polk County, Rio Grande City CISD, Rockwall CAD, Roma, Roma ISD, San Benito CISD, San Marcos CISD, San

Patricio County, Smith County, Starr County, Stephenville, Stephenville ISD, Sulphur Springs, Sulphur Springs ISD, Tarrant County, Texas City ISD, Val Verde County, Victoria County, and Wharton Co. Jr. College District.

### BBB. Waiver of Bankruptcy Rule 3020(e)

161. The stay of this Confirmation Order provided by any Bankruptcy Rule (including, without limitation, Bankruptcy Rules 3020(e), 6004(h), and 6006(d)), whether for fourteen (14) days or otherwise, is hereby waived, and this Confirmation Order shall be effective and enforceable immediately upon its entry by the Bankruptcy Court.

### CCC. Headings

162. Headings utilized herein are for convenience and reference only, and do not constitute a part of the Plan or this Confirmation Order for any other purpose.

### DDD. Termination of Challenge Period

163. The stipulations, admissions, findings, and releases contained in the Final DIP Order are binding on the Debtors' estates and all parties in interest in accordance with the Final DIP Order and shall continue in full force and effect in accordance with the terms thereof.

### EEE. Final Order

164. This Confirmation Order is a Final Order and the period in which an appeal must be filed to commence upon the entry hereof.

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Date:, 2017			
St. Louis, Missouri	KATHY A. SURRATT-STATES		
	LINITED STATES BANKRUPTCY HIDGE		

### Order Prepared by:

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IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA INC., PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA GP INC. AND THOSE OTHER ENTITIES LISTED ON SCHEDULE "A" HERETO APPLICATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

Applicant

Court File No: CV-17-11758-00CL

### ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

# PROCEEDING COMMENCED AT TORONTO

## AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL S. SHAKRA (Sworn July 24, 2017)

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Lawyers for the Applicant

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Patrick Riesterer

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Tel: (416) 862-5947 Fax: (416) 862-6666

Case Name: In the matter of the CCAA proceedings of Payless Holdings LLC et al

Case Number: CV-17-011758-00CL

Court Name: Ontario Superior Court of Justice (ON)

Dept/Judge: 330 / Commercial Court Courtroom - 330 University (V)

Proceeding: Motion

Date/Time: Friday, July 28th, 2017 at 10:00 AM ET

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Patrick Riesterer

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP Tél: (416) 862-5947 Téléc: (416) 862-6666

Nom du dossier: In the matter of the CCAA proceedings of Payless Holdings LLC et al

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Nos représentants sont disponibles pour faire une présentation à l'intention de votre cabinet, de vos clients, de votre barreau ou d'autres groupes. Veuillez nous appeler pour arranger une présentation.

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Court File No: CV-17-11758-00CL

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA INC., PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA GP INC. AND THOSE OTHER ENTITIES LISTED ON SCHEDULE "A" HERETO

Applicant APPLICATION OF PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 AS **AMENDED** 

### ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE COMMERCIAL LIST

Proceeding commenced at Toronto

# MOTION RECORD OF THE APPLICANT

Returnable July 28, 2017

### OSLER, HOSKIN & HARCOURT LLP

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