

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES
Form 10-K
June 29, 2005
[Table of Contents](#)

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 10-K

FOR ANNUAL AND TRANSITION REPORTS
PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

(Mark One)

☒ ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 or 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2005

OR

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

For the transition period from to

Commission File Number 1-11263

Exide Technologies

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of

23-0552730
(I.R.S. Employer

Incorporation or Organization)

Identification No.)

13000 Deerfield Parkway, Building 200, Alpharetta, GA 30004 Telephone: (678) 566-9000

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)

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

None

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

Common Stock, \$.01 par value

Warrants to subscribe for Common Stock

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes ☒ No ☐

The aggregate market value of the Registrant's voting stock held by non-affiliates of the Registrant as of September 30, 2004, based on the average bid and asked prices of the Registrant's common stock on the NASDAQ market, was approximately \$396,250,000.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant has filed all documents and reports required to be filed by Section 12, 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 subsequent to distribution of securities confirmed by a Court. Yes ☒ No ☐

As of June 24, 2005, there were outstanding 24,510,013 shares of the Registrant's common stock.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Proxy Statement for Annual Meeting of Stockholders scheduled for August 11, 2005

Table of Contents**EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES****TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	<u>Page</u>
PART I	
Item 1 <u>BUSINESS</u>	4
Item 2 <u>PROPERTIES</u>	14
Item 3 <u>LEGAL PROCEEDINGS</u>	15
Item 4 <u>SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS</u>	19
PART II	
Item 5 <u>MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES</u>	20
Item 6 <u>SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA</u>	22
Item 7 <u>MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS</u>	23
Item 7A <u>QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISKS</u>	45
Item 8 <u>FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA</u>	46
Item 9 <u>CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE</u>	46
Item 9A <u>CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES</u>	46
Item 9B <u>OTHER INFORMATION</u>	48
PART III	
Item 10 <u>DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT</u>	49
Item 11 <u>EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION</u>	50
Item 12 <u>SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT</u>	50
Item 13 <u>CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS</u>	50
PART IV	
Item 14 <u>PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES</u>	50
Item 15 <u>EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES</u>	51
<u>SIGNATURES</u>	52
<u>INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SCHEDULE</u>	F-1

Table of Contents

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT FOR PURPOSES OF THE SAFE HARBOR

PROVISION OF THE PRIVATE SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT OF 1995

Except for historical information, this report may be deemed to contain forward-looking statements. The Company desires to avail itself of the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (the Act) and is including this cautionary statement for the express purpose of availing itself of the protection afforded by the Act.

Examples of forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to (a) projections of revenues, cost of raw materials, income or loss, earnings or loss per share, capital expenditures, growth prospects, dividends, the effect of currency translations, capital structure and other financial items, (b) statements of plans of and objectives of the Company or its management or Board of Directors, including the introduction of new products, or estimates or predictions of actions by customers, suppliers, competitors or regulating authorities, (c) statements of future economic performance, (d) statements of assumptions, such as the prevailing weather conditions in the Company's market areas, underlying other statements and statements about the Company or its business and (e) statements regarding the ability to obtain amendments under the Company's debt agreements.

Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from these forward looking statements include, but are not limited to, the following general factors such as: (i) the Company's inability to promptly obtain a waiver of the Credit Agreement default resulting from the going concern qualification in the Company's audit report and adverse reactions by creditors, vendors, customers, and others to the going-concern qualification and default, (ii) negative effects on the Company's liquidity resulting from the lack of borrowing availability due to the Credit Agreement default described above and potential contraction of vendor credit, (iii) the Company's ability to implement business strategies and restructuring plans, (iv) unseasonable weather (warm winters and cool summers) which adversely affects demand for automotive and some industrial batteries, (v) the Company's substantial debt and debt service requirements which may restrict the Company's operational and financial flexibility, as well as imposing significant interest and financing costs and the Company's ability to comply with the covenants in its debt agreements or obtain waivers of noncompliance, (vi) the litigation proceedings to which the Company is subject, the results of which could have a material adverse effect on the Company and its business, (vii) the realization of the tax benefits of the Company's net operating loss carry forwards, of which is dependent upon future taxable income, (viii) the fact that lead, a major constituent in most of the Company's products, experiences significant fluctuations in market price and is a hazardous material that may give rise to costly environmental and safety claims, (ix) competitiveness of the battery markets in North America and Europe, (x) the substantial management time and financial and other resources needed for the Company's consolidation and rationalization of acquired entities, (xi) risks involved in foreign operations such as disruption of markets, changes in import and export laws, currency restrictions, currency exchange rate fluctuations and possible terrorist attacks against U.S. interests, (xii) the Company's exposure to fluctuations in interest rates on its variable debt, (xiii) the Company's ability to maintain and generate liquidity to meet its operating needs, (xiv) general economic conditions, (xv) the ability to acquire goods and services and/or fulfill labor needs at budgeted costs, (xvi) the Company's reliance on a single supplier for its polyethylene battery separators, (xvii) our ability to attract and retain key personnel, and (xviii) the Company's ability to comply with the provisions of Section 404 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002.

Therefore, the Company cautions each reader of this Report carefully to consider those factors hereinabove set forth, because such factors have, in some instances, affected and in the future could affect, the ability of the Company to achieve its projected results and may cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed herein.

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES

PART I

Item 1. *Business*

For information regarding the Company's emergence from Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on May 5, 2004, see the discussion herein.

Overview and General Discussion of the Business

Exide Technologies is a Delaware corporation organized in 1966 to succeed to the business of a New Jersey corporation founded in 1888. Exide's principal executive offices are located at 13000 Deerfield Parkway, Building 200, Alpharetta, GA 30004.

The Company is one of the largest manufacturers of lead acid batteries in the world, with fiscal 2005 net sales of approximately \$2.7 billion. The Company's North American, European and Asia Pacific operations represented approximately 40%, 54% and 6%, respectively, of fiscal 2005 net sales. Exide manufactures and supplies lead acid batteries for transportation and industrial applications worldwide.

Unless otherwise indicated, references to any "fiscal year" means the year ended March 31 of that year (e.g., "fiscal 2005" refers to the period beginning April 1, 2004 and ending March 31, 2005, "fiscal 2004" refers to the period beginning April 1, 2003 and ending March 31, 2004, and "fiscal 2003" refers to the period beginning April 1, 2002 and ending March 31, 2003). Unless the context indicates otherwise, the "Company," "Exide," "we" or "us" refer to Exide Technologies and its subsidiaries.

Narrative Description of Business

The Company is a global leader in stored electrical energy solutions and one of the world's largest manufacturers of lead acid batteries used in transportation, motive power, network power and military applications. The Company reports its financial results through four principal business segments: Transportation North America, Transportation Europe and Rest of World ("Transportation Europe and ROW"), Industrial Energy North America and Industrial Energy Europe and Rest of World ("Industrial Energy Europe and ROW").

Transportation

Transportation batteries include starting, lighting and ignition batteries for cars, trucks, off-road vehicles, agricultural and construction vehicles, motorcycles, recreational vehicles, boats and other applications. The market for transportation batteries is divided between sales to aftermarket

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

customers and original equipment manufacturers (OEM s).

The Company is among the leading suppliers of transportation batteries to the aftermarket and to the OEM market for a variety of applications. Transportation batteries represented 62% of the Company s net sales in fiscal 2005. Aftermarket sales represented approximately 73% of net sales in the Company s Transportation segments, and OEM sales represented approximately 27% of net sales in the Company s Transportation segments.

The Company s principal batteries sold in the transportation market are primarily represented by the following brands: *Centra*, *Champion*, *Champion Trailblazer*, *DETA*, *Exide*, *Exide NASCAR Select*, *Exide Select Orbital*, *Fulmen*, *Tudor* and private labels. The Company also sells batteries for marine and recreational vehicles, including the following products:

Exide Select Orbital Marine

brings all the advantages of the Company s patented spiral wound technology to the marine market, and maintains nearly a full charge

Table of Contents

	during the off-season and can be quickly recharged. This battery is also sealed, making it ideal for closed environments (such as inside a boat hull);
<i>Nautilus Gold Dual Purpose Stowaway Dual Purpose</i>	a combination battery, replacing separate starting and deep cycle batteries in two-battery marine and recreational vehicle systems;
<i>Nautilus Mega Cycle Stowaway Deep Cycle</i>	a high performance, dual terminal battery;
<i>Stowaway Nautilus</i>	employs technology to satisfy the power requirements of large engines, sophisticated electronics and on-board accessories; and
<i>Stowaway Powercycler</i>	a completely sealed, valve regulated (VRLA) battery with absorptive glass mat (AGM) technology and prismatic plates that offers features and benefits similar to the <i>Exide Select Orbital</i> , and was the first sealed, AGM battery introduced into the marine battery market.

Most of the Company's transportation batteries are vented, maintenance-free lead acid batteries. However, the *Exide Select Orbital* and *Maxxima* batteries have a patented spiral wound technology and state-of-the-art recombinant design. The *STR/STE* batteries use recombination technology to allow a lead acid battery to be installed in the passenger compartment of a vehicle with substantially reduced fluid loss and acid fumes under normal operating conditions.

Aftermarket sales are driven by a number of factors including the number of vehicles in use, average battery life, average age of vehicles, average miles driven, weather conditions and population growth. Aftermarket demand historically has been less cyclical than OEM demand due to the three to five-year replacement cycle. Some of the Company's major aftermarket customers include Wal-Mart/Sam's Club, NAPA, CSK Inc., ADI and GAUI. In addition, the Company is also a supplier of authorized replacement batteries for major manufacturers, including DaimlerChrysler, John Deere, Renault/Nissan, Ford and PACCAR.

OEM sales are driven in large part by new vehicle build rates, which are driven by consumer demand for vehicles. The OEM market is characterized by an increasing preference by OEMs for suppliers with established global production capabilities that can meet their needs as they expand internationally and increase platform standardization across multiple markets. The Company supplies batteries for five of the 10 top-selling vehicles in the United States and three of the 10 top-selling vehicles in Europe. Select customers include Ford, Fiat, DaimlerChrysler, Renault/Nissan, the PSA group (Peugeot S.A./Citroën), Case/New Holland, BMW, John Deere, Volkswagen and Toyota

Transportation North America

In North America, the Company sells aftermarket transportation products through various distribution channels including mass merchandisers, auto parts outlets, wholesale distributors, battery specialists, and OEM transportation products through dealer networks. The Company's North American operations include a network of 82 owned branches that sell and distribute batteries and other products to the Company's distributor channel network, battery specialists, national account customers' retail stores and OEM dealers. In addition, these branches collect spent batteries for recycling at the Company's smelters.

The Company's North American transportation aftermarket battery products include the following:

<i>Champion</i>	enhanced power cold cranking amps and a 72 month warranty;
<i>Champion Trailblazer</i>	targeted at light trucks and sport utility vehicles;

Exide

enhanced power cold cranking amps and a 72 month warranty;

Table of Contents

Exide NASCAR Select

officially licensed by NASCAR; and

Exide Select Orbital

can be recharged in less time than needed for conventional batteries, and has high power output and superior vibration resistance compared with a conventional lead acid battery.

Transportation Europe and ROW

The Company sells aftermarket batteries primarily through battery wholesalers, OEM dealer networks, hypermarkets, service installers, purchasing groups in Europe and oil companies. Wholesalers and OEM dealers have traditionally represented the majority of this market, but supermarket chains, replacement-parts stores (represented by purchasing groups) and hypermarkets have become increasingly important. Battery wholesalers now sell and distribute batteries to a network of automotive parts retailers, service stations, independent retailers and supermarkets throughout Europe.

In Europe, the Company has five major Company-owned brands: *Exide* and *Tudor*, promoted as pan-European brands, and *DETA*, *Centra* and *Fulmen*, which have strong local awareness levels. In the European market, the Company generally offers transportation batteries in five basic categories:

Basic Model	marketed under private label brand names in France, Germany and Spain, under the <i>Basic</i> name in Italy and various names in other markets;
Upgrade Model	marketed under the <i>Classic</i> mark, which carries a 24-month warranty and marketed under the <i>Equipe</i> name in France, the <i>Classic</i> name in Germany, the <i>Leader</i> name in Italy, the <i>Tudor</i> name in Spain and various other names in other markets;
Premium Model	marketed under the Formula name in France, the <i>Millennium 3</i> name in Spain, the <i>Top Start Plus</i> name in Germany, the <i>Ultra</i> name in Italy, the <i>Ultra</i> brand in the United Kingdom and under various other names in other markets;
<i>STR/STE</i>	approved for use by BMW and was included in some models beginning with the 2000 model year; and
<i>Maxxima</i>	the equivalent of the <i>Exide Select Orbital</i> .

Industrial Energy

The Company's Industrial Energy segments supply both motive and network power applications. Industrial Energy batteries represented 38% of the Company's net sales in fiscal 2005. Motive power sales represented approximately 60% of Industrial Energy net sales, and Network Power sales represented approximately 40% of Industrial Energy net sales.

The motive power battery market is divided into the OEM market, comprised of the manufacturers of electric vehicles, and the replacement market, which includes large users of such electric vehicles as well as original equipment dealer networks. The Company's sales are split equally between OEMs and aftermarket.

Motive power batteries are used in the materials handling industry for forklifts and electric counter balance trucks, pedestrian pallet trucks, low level order pickers, turret trucks, tow tractors, reach trucks and very narrow aisle (VNA) trucks, as well as in other industries, including

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

machinery in the floor cleaning market, the golf cart market, the powered wheelchair market, mining locomotives, electric road vehicles, electric boats and non-military submersible vehicles. The Company also offers a complete range of battery chargers and associated equipment for the operation and maintenance of battery-powered vehicles. Motive power batteries have useful lives, lasting an average of five years.

Table of Contents

The Company's motive power batteries are composed of 2-volt cells assembled in numerous configurations and sizes to provide capacities ranging from 30 Ah to 1500 Ah. Battery construction for the motive power markets ranges from flooded flat plate and tubular to recombinant AGM and gel. The Company pioneered the development of recombinant valve regulated lead acid batteries in both AGM and gel constructions. These batteries provide major advantages to users by eliminating the need to add water or mix the electrolyte and physically maintain the batteries, as well as by providing flexibility in packaging and transport. The Company's motive power products also include systems solutions, such as intelligent chargers, automatic watering systems and fleet management devices, to meet a wide spectrum of customer application requirements.

Network power (also known as standby, stationary or reserve) batteries are used for back-up power applications to ensure continuous power supply in case of main (primary) power failure or outage. Network power batteries are used to provide back-up power for use with telecommunications systems, computers, hospitals, process control, air traffic control, security systems, utility, railway and military applications. Network power batteries also serve as uninterruptible power supplies (UPS) used in computer installations for banks, airlines and back-up servers for wireless networks. Telecommunications applications include central and local switching systems, satellite stations, wireless base stations and mobile switches, optical fiber repeating boxes, cable TV transmission boxes and radio transmission stations. In these applications, the batteries are usually packaged with a 48-volt DC power system.

The Company's network power battery products are generally sold to three principal types of end users, communications/data, industrial and military, and are used for back-up power applications. Network power batteries are designed to offer service lives ranging from five to 20 years depending on construction and application.

There are two primary network power lead acid battery technologies: valve-regulated (VRLA, or sealed) and vented (flooded). There are two types of VRLA technologies - AGM and gel. These technologies are described as follows:

Vented (Flooded):	This technology is used in applications requiring high reliability but with the ability to allow for regular maintenance. The basic construction involves positive flat or tubular positive plates. Transparent containers and accessible internal construction are features of these batteries that allow end users to check the battery's physical condition.
VRLA: AGM:	This technology utilizes an electrolyte immobilized in an absorbent glass mat separator. This technology, offering higher energy density than gel, is particularly well adapted to high rate applications and are designed to offer up to a 20-year service life, depending on environment and application.
VRLA: gel:	This technology utilizes a gel electrolyte. VRLA batteries have replaced other types of network power batteries because they can enhance safety and reduce maintenance compared to vented batteries and can be used in both vertical and horizontal positions. The <i>Sonnenschein</i> gel technology offers the advantages of high reliability and long life. The gel product range offers a wide range of capabilities including heat resistance, deep discharge resistance, long shelf life and high cyclic performance.

The Company's dominant network power battery brands, *Absolyte* and *Sonnenschein*, offer customers the choice of AGM and gel valve regulated battery technologies and deliver among the highest energy and power densities in their class. Service and technical assistance are important to the network power business. The Company often ships network power batteries directly to equipment manufacturers and systems integrators who include the Company's batteries in their original equipment and distribute products to end users.

Table of Contents

The Company offers a global product line which is marketed under the following five brands associated with product type and technology:

<i>Absolyte:</i>	Large 2-volt cells, incorporating AGM technology, for long duration (e.g. telecommunications) and short duration applications;
<i>Classic:</i>	Primarily 2-volt and some multi-cell vented (or flooded) products for a wide range of applications;
<i>Marathon:</i>	Single- and multi-cell AGM monobloc batteries for long duration applications;
<i>Sonnenschein:</i>	Multi-cell monoblocs and 2-volt cells, incorporating gel technology; and
<i>Sprinter:</i>	Multi-cell AGM monobloc batteries for short duration, high discharge rate applications.

The Company's major network power battery customers for telecommunications services include China Unicom, Cingular, Deutsche Telecom, Singapore Telecom, Telecom Italia, Telefonica of Spain, Verizon and Vodafone. Major telecommunications manufacturing customers include Alcatel, Emerson, Ericsson, Marconi, Motorola, Nokia, Nortel and Siemens. UPS manufacturing and end user customers include Liebert and Merlin Gerin. The Company is the sole supplier to the U.S. Navy for submarine batteries, as well as a number of major Naval fleets in Europe. In addition the business supplies batteries for military vehicles (i.e. tanks and personnel carriers) to the German and other armies. The Company promotes its products through technical seminars, trade shows and technical literature.

Industrial Energy North America

Motive Power

Motive power products are sold primarily to independent lift truck dealers or directly to national accounts or end users. The Company's primary motive power customers in North America include Nacco, Wal-Mart, Crown, Kroger and Target. Motive power products and services are distributed in North America by sales and service locations owned by the Company which are augmented by a network of independent manufacturers' representatives who provide local service on their own behalf.

Network Power

Network power products and services are distributed in North America by sales and service locations owned by the Company which are augmented by a network of independent manufacturers' representatives who provide local service on their own behalf.

Industrial Energy Europe and ROW

Motive Power

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

The Company distributes motive power products and services in Europe through sales and service organizations in each country owned by the Company and utilize distributors and agents for export of products from Europe to the rest of the world. Motive power products in Europe are also sold to a wide range of customers in the aftermarket, ranging from large industrial companies and retail distributors to small warehouse and manufacturing operations. Motive power batteries are also sold in complete packages, including batteries, chargers and, with a growing number of customers, on-site service. The Company's major OEM motive power customers include the Linde Group, the Jungheinrich Group and Toyota.

Table of Contents

Network Power

The Company distributes network power products and services in Europe through sales and service organizations in each country owned by the Company. In Australia and New Zealand, batteries and chargers are distributed through sales and service organizations owned by the Company. In Asia, products are distributed through independent distributors. The Company utilizes distributors, agents, and direct sales for export of products from Europe and North America to the rest of the world.

Quality

The Company recognizes that product performance and quality are critical to its success as well as the success of all key stakeholders. Both the EXCELL (Exide's Customer-focused Excellence Lean Leadership) initiative and the Company's Quality Management System are important drivers of operational excellence, which results in improved levels of quality, productivity, and delivery of goods and services to the global transportation and industrial energy markets.

EXCELL

In April 2001, the Company launched EXCELL to systematically reduce and ultimately eliminate waste and implement the concepts of continuous flow and customer pull throughout the entire Company's supply chain. The EXCELL framework, intended to implement lean production techniques and process improvements, is also designed to prioritize improvement initiatives that drive quality improvement and customer satisfaction while achieving all business objectives for the Company. The five plateaus of EXCELL achievement include Copper, Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum; the Platinum level indicates the threshold beyond world-class quality status where a manufacturing location generates virtually zero waste through its best practices.

Quality Management System (QMS)

The Company's QMS was developed to streamline and standardize the global quality systems so that key measurements could be evaluated to drive best practices as it continues to pursue improved EXCELL certifications across all facilities. The QMS plays a major role as the Company strives to achieve world-class product quality.

The Company's quality process begins in the design phase with an in-depth understanding of customer and application requirements. The Company's products are designed to the required performance and industry and customer quality standards using design processes, tools and materials to achieve reliability and durability. The Company's commitment to quality continues through the manufacturing process. The Company has quality audit processes and standards in each of its production and distribution facilities. The Company also has established Quality Continuous Improvement Teams. The Company's quality process extends throughout the entire product lifecycle and operation in service. In addition, the Company offers warranties on its products and in-service product evaluations, and conducts customer satisfaction surveys.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Most of the Company's major production facilities are approved under ISO 9000, QS 9000 or TS 16949 quality systems standards. The Company has obtained ISO 14001 EH&S certification at eight of its manufacturing plants and also has received quality certifications and awards from a number of OEM and aftermarket customers.

Research and Development

The Company is committed to developing new and technologically advanced products, services and systems that provide superior performance and value to customers. To support this commitment, the Company focuses on developing opportunities across its global markets.

The Company has focused its global research and development activities into one location in Europe. Scientists and engineers at this facility are currently focused on projects to enhance the lead acid battery technology for the benefit of the entire company.

Table of Contents

In addition, the Company also operates a number of product and process-development centers of excellence around the world. These centers work cooperatively to define and improve the Company's product design and production processes. By leveraging this network, the Company is able to transfer technologies, product and process knowledge among its various operating facilities, thereby adapting best practices from around the world for use throughout the company.

In addition to in-house efforts, the Company continues to pursue the formation of potential alliances and collaborative partnerships to pursue system technology development. One example of this strategy is a collaborative agreement with Siemens VDO Automotive AG to develop energy-management systems for 14- and 42-volt automotive electrical and electronic architectures for the global OEM market.

The Company has established arrangements with Lear Corporation and Valeo in the transportation markets. In addition, the Company has various development activities targeted at the industrial and military markets.

Patents, Trademarks and Licenses

The Company owns or has a license to use various trademarks that are valuable to its business. The Company believes these trademarks and licenses enhance the brand recognition of the Company's products. The Company currently owns approximately 320 trademarks and licenses from others the right to use fewer than 25 trademarks worldwide. For example, the Company licenses the *NASCAR* mark from NASCAR and the *Exide* mark in the United Kingdom and Ireland from Chloride Group Plc. The Company also acts as licensor under certain licenses. For example, Exide Electronics Group, Inc., an unaffiliated company, is licensed to use the *Exide* mark on certain devices and EnerSys, Inc. is licensed to use the *Exide* mark on industrial battery products in certain countries, subject to the outcome of the litigation discussed below. The Company's current license for *NASCAR* expires at the end of 2006.

The Company has generated a number of patents in the operation of its business and currently owns all or a partial interest in more than 400 patents worldwide. The Company also has more than 600 applications for patents pending. Although the Company believes its patents and patent applications collectively are important to the Company's business, and that technological innovation is important to the Company's market competitiveness, currently no patent individually is material to the operation of the business or the Company's financial condition.

In March 2003, the Company brought legal proceedings in the Bankruptcy Court to reject certain agreements relating to EnerSys, Inc.'s right to use the *Exide* trademark on certain industrial battery products in the United States and 80 foreign countries. For further information regarding this matter, see the information under Item 3 Legal Proceedings.

Manufacturing, Raw Materials and Suppliers

Lead is the primary material used in the manufacture of the Company's lead acid batteries, representing approximately one-third of the cost of goods produced. The Company obtains substantially all of its North American lead requirements through the operation of six secondary lead recycling plants, which reclaim lead by recycling spent lead acid batteries. In North America, spent batteries are obtained for recycling primarily from the Company's customers, through the company-owned branch networks and from outside spent-battery collectors. In Europe, lead requirements of battery manufacturers, including the Company, are principally obtained from third party suppliers.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

The Company uses both polyethylene and AGM battery separators. There are a number of suppliers from whom the Company purchases AGM separators. Polyethylene separators are purchased solely from one supplier, with supply agreements expiring in December 2009. The agreements restrict the Company's ability to source

Table of Contents

separators from other suppliers unless there is a technical benefit that the Company's sole supplier cannot provide. In addition, the agreements provide for substantial minimum annual purchase commitments. There is no real second source that could readily provide the volume of polyethylene separators used by the Company. As a result, any major disruption in supply from the Company's sole supplier would have a material adverse impact on the Company.

Other key raw materials and components in the production of batteries include lead oxide, acid, steel, plastics and chemicals, which are generally available from multiple sources. The Company has not experienced any material stoppage or disruption in production as a result of the unavailability, or delays in the availability, of raw materials.

Competition

Transportation Segments

The North American and European transportation markets are highly competitive. The manufacturers in these markets compete on price, quality, technical innovation, service and warranty. Well-recognized brand names are also important for aftermarket customers who do not purchase private label batteries. Most sales are made without long-term contracts.

In the North American transportation aftermarket, the Company believes it has the second largest market position. Other principal competitors in this market are Johnson Controls, Delphi Automotive Systems and East Penn. Price competition in this market has been severe in recent years. Competition is strongest in the auto parts retail and mass merchandiser channels where large customers use their buying power to negotiate lower prices.

The largest competitors in the North American OEM market are Johnson Controls and Delphi Automotive Systems. Due to technical and production qualification requirements, OEMs change battery suppliers less frequently than aftermarket customers but, because of their purchasing size, can influence market participants to compete on price and other terms.

The Company has the overall largest market position in Europe in automotive batteries, ranking first in aftermarket sales and second in sales to OEMs. The Company's next largest competitor in the automotive markets is Johnson Controls. The European battery markets, particularly in the automotive OEM market, have undergone severe price competition. In addition, the strength of the Euro in the Company's European markets has resulted in competitive pricing pressures from Asian imports, negatively impacting average selling prices.

Industrial Energy Segments

Motive Power

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

The Company has the largest market share for motive power products on a global basis. EnerSys, following its acquisition of Hawker Battery Group in 2001 and Fiamm in 2005, ranks second in Europe. Other competitors in Europe include Hoppecke, BAE and MIDAC. The Company believes it ranks second to EnerSys in market share in North America. In North America, the other major competitors are C&D Technologies and East Penn. In Asia, GS/Yuasa, Shinkobe and EnerSys are the major competitors, with GS/Yuasa being the market leader. In countries such as Brazil, China and India, the Company currently serves these markets on a limited basis through export sales.

Quality, product performance, in-service reliability, delivery and price are important differentiators in the motive power market. Well-known brands are also important and the Company's *Chloride Motive Power*, *DETA*, *GNB*, *Sonnenschein* and *Tudor* are among the leading brands in the world. In addition, the Company has developed a range of low maintenance batteries (the *Liberator* series) which are combined with a matched range of Exide-regulated or high frequency chargers and reduce customers' operating costs.

Table of Contents

Network Power

EnerSys, following its acquisition of Hawker Battery Group in 2001, has the largest market share for network power batteries on a global basis with the Company ranking second in the world.

The Company estimates it ranks third to C&D Technologies and EnerSys in North America and second to EnerSys in Europe. In Asia, Yuasa has a market leadership position, which has been further strengthened following the merger of Yuasa with Japan Storage Battery, another leading Japanese battery company. Further consolidation in Japan took place with the merger of National Panasonic and Shinkobe. Competition for network power batteries has intensified given the decline in industry demand and overcapacity resulting in aggressive competition in most industry segments. Emerging Chinese battery manufacturers are increasing market share.

Quality, reliability, delivery and price are important differentiators in the network power market, along with technical innovation and responsive service. Well-known brands are also important, and the Company's *Absolyte*, *Classic*, *Marathon*, *Sonnenschein* and *Sprinter* are among the leading brands in the world.

Environmental, Health and Safety Matters

As a result of its manufacturing, distribution and recycling operations, the Company is subject to numerous federal, state and local environmental, occupational safety and health laws and regulations, as well as similar laws and regulations in other countries in which the Company operates (collectively, "EH&S laws"). For a discussion of the legal proceedings relating to environmental, health and safety matters, see Item 3. Legal Proceedings.

Employees

Total worldwide employment was approximately 14,268 at March 31, 2005, compared to 15,300 at March 31, 2004, reflecting the impact of the Company's ongoing restructuring actions and cost reduction efforts.

North America

As of March 31, 2005, the Company employed approximately 1,373 salaried employees and approximately 3,969 hourly employees in North America, primarily in the United States. Approximately 46% of such salaried employees are engaged in sales, service, marketing and administration and approximately 54% in manufacturing and engineering. Approximately 32% of the Company's North American hourly employees are represented by unions. Relations with the unions are generally good. Contracts covering approximately 475 of the Company's domestic employees expire in fiscal 2006, and the remainder thereafter.

Europe and Rest of World

As of March 31, 2005, the Company employed approximately 3,238 salaried employees and approximately 5,688 hourly employees outside of North America, primarily in Europe. Approximately 63% of such salaried employees are engaged in sales, service, marketing and administration and approximately 37% in manufacturing and engineering. The Company's hourly employees are generally represented by unions. The Company meets regularly with the European Works Council. Relations with the unions are generally good. Contracts covering most of the Company's union employees expire on various dates through fiscal 2006.

Backlog

The Company's order backlog at March 31, 2005, was approximately \$42.6 million for Industrial Energy North America and \$81.4 million for Industrial Energy Europe and ROW. The Company expects to fill all of the March 31, 2005 backlog during fiscal 2006, except for \$2.6 million forward orders for military phased for delivery through 2007. The Transportation backlog at March 31, 2005 was not significant.

Table of Contents

Emergence from Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Protection

On April 15, 2002, Exide Technologies, together with certain of its U.S. subsidiaries, filed voluntary petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the federal bankruptcy laws (Bankruptcy Code or Chapter 11) in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (Bankruptcy Court). On November 21, 2002, two additional wholly owned, non-operating subsidiaries of Exide filed voluntary petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the Bankruptcy Court. All of the cases were jointly administered for procedural purposes before the Bankruptcy Court under case number 02-11125KJC.

Exide Technologies and such subsidiaries (the Debtors) continued to operate their businesses and manage their properties as debtors-in-possession throughout the course of the bankruptcy case. The Debtors, along with the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, filed a Joint Plan of Reorganization (the Plan) with the Bankruptcy Court on February 27, 2004 and, on April 21, 2004, the Bankruptcy Court confirmed the Plan. The Debtors declared May 5, 2004 as the effective date of the Plan, and substantially consummated the transactions provided for in the Plan on such date (the Effective Date).

The following is a summary of certain transactions which became effective on the Effective Date pursuant to consummation of the Plan. This summary is qualified in its entirety by the full text of the Plan, as well as technical amendments to the Plan, which were filed as Exhibits 2.1 and 2.2 to the Report on Form 8-K filed on May 6, 2004.

Except to the extent otherwise provided in the Plan, all notes, instruments, certificates, and other documents evidencing (i) the Company's 10% senior notes due 2005, (ii) the Company's 2.9% convertible notes due 2005, (iii) equity interests in the Debtors, including, but not limited to, all issued, unissued, authorized or outstanding shares or stock, together with any warrants, options or contract rights to purchase or acquire such interests at any time, were canceled, and the obligations of the Debtors thereunder or in any way related thereto were discharged.

The Company was authorized to issue (i) 25,000,000 shares of new common stock, par value \$0.01 per share for distribution in accordance with the Plan, and (ii) warrants initially exercisable for 6,250,000 shares of new common stock (the Warrants). Pursuant to the terms of the Plan, the common stock and Warrants are being distributed as follows:

holders of pre-petition Senior Secured Global Credit Facility claims received collectively 22,500,000 shares of new common stock; and

holders of general unsecured claims received collectively 2,500,000 shares of new common stock and Warrants to purchase 6,250,000 shares of new common stock at \$32.11 per share, with approximately 13.4% of such new common stock and Warrants to be reserved for distribution for disputed claims under the Plan's claim reconciliation and allowance procedures.

Under the claims reconciliation and allowance process set forth in the Plan, the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, in consultation with the Company, established the reserve to provide for a pro rata distribution to holders of disputed claims as they become allowed. Although predictions regarding the allowance and classification of claims are inherently difficult to make, based on the Company's review to date of the available information, the Company believes the reserve is reasonable and adequate. To the extent the reserved shares of new common stock and Warrants are insufficient to provide such payment, the Company may issue additional shares of new common stock and Warrants. In that event, the Company will also issue shares of new common stock to the holders of pre-petition credit facility claims sufficient to preserve the relative value of their recoveries under the terms of the Plan.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Holders of administrative claims, claims derived from the Company's \$500 million secured super priority debtor-in-possession credit agreement and priority tax claims are being paid in full in cash pursuant to the terms of the Plan.

Table of Contents

The Company adopted an Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws which were previously filed as Exhibits 3.1 and 3.2 to the Report on Form 8-K filed on May 6, 2004.

The Company entered into a Warrant Agreement which was previously filed as Exhibit 4.1 to the Report on Form 8-K filed on May 6, 2004.

The Company's Board of Directors was reconstituted to consist of seven members, as specified in the Plan. Information on the members of the Company's Board is contained in Part III herein.

Item 2. Properties

The chart below lists the location of the Company's principal facilities. All of the facilities are owned unless otherwise indicated. Most of the Company's significant U.S. properties and some of its European properties secure its financing arrangements. For a description of the financing arrangements, see "Liquidity and Capital Resources" in Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations. The leases for leased facilities expire at various dates through 2016.

Location	Approximate Square Footage	Use
North America:		
Alpharetta, GA	67,000 (leased)	Executive Offices
Aurora, IL	43,200 (leased)	Executive Offices
Baton Rouge, LA	176,000	Secondary Lead Smelting
Bristol, TN	631,000	Battery Manufacturing and Distribution Center
Cannon Hollow, MO	137,000	Secondary Lead Smelting
Columbus, GA	330,000	Industrial Battery Manufacturing and Distribution Center
Fort Erie, Canada	90,000	Distribution Center
Fort Smith, AR	224,000 (leased)	Industrial Battery Manufacturing and Distribution Center
Frisco, TX	132,000	Secondary Lead Smelting
Kankakee, IL	270,000	Industrial Battery Manufacturing
Kansas City, KS	140,000	Industrial Battery Manufacturing
Kansas City, KS	98,000 (leased)	Distribution Center
Lampeter, PA	82,000	Battery Plastics Manufacturing
Manchester, IA	286,000	Battery Manufacturing Distribution Center
Muncie, IN	174,000	Secondary Lead Smelting
Reading, PA	125,000	Secondary Lead Smelting and Polypropylene Reprocessing
Reading, PA	358,000	Distribution and Formation Center
Salina, KS	438,000	Battery Manufacturing and Distribution Center
Shreveport, LA	239,000 (leased)	Battery Manufacturing
Sumner, WA	85,000 (leased)	Distribution Center
Vernon, CA	220,000	Secondary Lead Smelting

Table of Contents

Location	Approximate Square Footage	Use
Europe and Rest of World:		
Adelaide, Australia	436,000	Automotive Battery Manufacturing
Sydney, Australia	700,000	Industrial Battery Manufacturing and Distribution Center
Florival, Belgium	1,485,000	Transportation Distribution Center and Offices
Bolton, England	1,400,000	Industrial Battery Manufacturing
Manchester, England	9,600 (leased)	Executive Offices
Trafford Park, England	86,000 (leased)	Charger Manufacturing
Auxerre, France	508,000	Automotive Battery Manufacturing
Gennevilliers, France	60,000 (leased)	Executive Offices
Lille, France	738,000	Industrial Battery Manufacturing
Nanterre, France	345,000	Automotive Battery Manufacturing
Peronne, France	430,000	Plastics Manufacturing
Bad Lauterberg, Germany	1,303,000	Manufacturing, Administrative and Warehouse
Budingen, Germany	928,000	Industrial Battery Manufacturing, Distribution and Administration
Vlaardingen, Holland	118,000	Industrial Distribution Center and Offices
Canonica d Adda, Italy	203,000	Plastics Manufacturing
Fumane di Valipolicella, Italy	65,000	Industrial Battery Manufacturing
Romano Di Lombardia, Italy	266,000 (leased)	Automotive Battery Manufacturing
Lower Hutt, New Zealand	213,000	Automotive Battery Manufacturing
Petone, New Zealand	41,100	Secondary Lead Smelting
Poznan, Poland (five)	1,464,000 (leased)	Automotive Battery Manufacturing
Castanheira do Riatejo, Portugal	471,000	Industrial Battery Manufacturing
Azambuja, Portugal	1,000,000	Secondary Lead Smelting and Plastics Manufacturing
Azuqueca de Henares, Spain	1,783,000	Automotive Battery Manufacturing
San Esteban de Gomez, Spain	3,300,000	Secondary Lead Smelting
La Cartuja, Spain	1,670,000	Industrial Battery Manufacturing
Manzanares, Spain	438,000	Automotive Battery Manufacturing

In addition, the Company also leases sales and distribution outlets in North America, Europe and Asia.

The Company believes that its facilities are in good operating condition, adequately maintained, and suitable to meet the Company's present needs.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

Claims Reconciliation

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Holders of general unsecured claims will receive collectively 2,500,000 shares of new common stock and Warrants to purchase 6,250,000 shares of new common stock at \$32.11 per share, and approximately 13.4% of such new common stock and Warrants were initially reserved for distribution for disputed claims under the

Table of Contents

Plan's claims reconciliation and allowance procedures. The Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, in consultation with the Company, established such reserve to provide for a pro rata distribution of new common stock and Warrants to holders of disputed claims as they become allowed. As claims are evaluated and processed, the Company will object to some claims or portions thereof, and upward adjustments (to the extent stock and Warrants not previously distributed remain) or downward adjustments to the reserve will be made pending or following adjudication of such objections.

On April 20, 2005, the Company made its fourth distribution of new common stock and Warrants. Although predictions regarding the allowance and classification of claims are inherently difficult to make, based on the Company's review to date of the available information, and except to the extent the items as noted below have greater than expected negative outcomes, the Company believes the remaining reserve is reasonable and adequate. To the extent the reserved shares of new common stock and Warrants are ultimately insufficient to provide payment for such outstanding claims, the Company may issue additional shares of new common stock and Warrants. In that event, the Company will also issue shares of new common stock to the holders of pre-petition credit facility claims sufficient to preserve the relative value of their recoveries under the terms of the Plan.

Historical Federal Plea Agreement

In 2001, the Company reached a plea agreement with the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois resolving an investigation into a scheme by former officers and certain corporate entities involving fraudulent representations and promises in connection with the distribution, sale and marketing of automotive batteries between 1994 and 1997. The Company agreed to pay a fine of \$27.5 million over five years, to five-years' probation and to cooperate with the U.S. Attorney in her prosecution of the former officers. Generally, failure to comply with the provisions of the plea agreement, including the obligation to pay the fine, would permit the U.S. Government to reopen the case against the Company. In 2002, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Illinois filed a claim as a general unsecured creditor for \$27.9 million. Also, if the U.S. Government were to assert that the obligation to pay the fine was not discharged under the Plan of Reorganization, the Company could be required to pay it. In January 2005, the U.S. Attorney's Office requested additional information regarding whether the Company adequately disclosed its financial condition at the time the plea agreement and the associated fine were approved by the U.S. District Court. The Company supplied correspondence and other materials responsive to this request.

Pre-Petition Litigation Settlements

The Company previously disclosed in its most recent Report on Form 10-K for fiscal year 2004 tentative settlements with various plaintiffs who alleged personal injury and/or property damage from the release of hazardous materials used in the battery manufacturing process prior to the Company's filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. The Company has finalized a settlement of these claims, as well as claims they could have asserted against third parties who may have had claims of indemnification against the Company on a pre-petition or post-petition basis. The claims will be paid in new common stock and Warrants to be paid out of the reserve established under the claims reconciliation process. The terms of the settlement are still subject to approval of appropriate state courts.

Private Party Lawsuits and other Legal Proceedings

On March 14, 2003, the Company served notices to reject certain executory contracts with EnerSys, including a 1991 Trademark and Trade Name License Agreement (the "Trademark License"), pursuant to which the Company had licensed to EnerSys use of the Exide trademark on certain industrial battery products in the United States and 37 foreign countries. EnerSys objected to the rejection of certain of the executory contracts, including the Trademark License, and the Bankruptcy Court conducted a hearing on the Company's rejection request. No ruling has yet

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

been issued. If the Bankruptcy Court permits the Company to reject the Trademark License, in the absence of a successful appeal, EnerSys will likely lose all rights to use the Exide trademark over time and the Company will have greater flexibility in its ability to use that mark for industrial battery

Table of Contents

products. In the event the Bankruptcy Court authorizes rejection of the Trademark License, as with other executory contracts at issue, EnerSys will have a pre-petition general unsecured claim relating to the damages arising therefrom.

In July 2001, Pacific Dunlop Holdings (US), Inc. (PDH) and several of its foreign affiliates under the various agreements through which Exide and its affiliates acquired GNB, filed a complaint in the Circuit Court for Cook County, Illinois alleging breach of contract, unjust enrichment and conversion against Exide and three of its foreign affiliates. The plaintiffs maintain they are entitled to approximately \$17 million in cash assets acquired by the defendants through their acquisition of GNB. In December 2001, the Court denied the defendants' motion to dismiss the complaint, without prejudice to re-filing the same motion after discovery proceeds. The defendants filed an answer and counterclaim. On July 8, 2002, the Court authorized discovery to proceed as to all parties except Exide. In August 2002, the case was removed to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois and in October 2002, the parties presented oral arguments, in the case of PDH, to remand the case to Illinois state court and, in the case of Exide, to transfer the case to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware. On February 4, 2003, the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois transferred the case to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Delaware. On November 19, 2003, the Bankruptcy Court denied PDH's motion to abstain or remand the case and issued an opinion holding that the Bankruptcy Court had jurisdiction over PDH's claims and that liability, if any, would lie solely against Exide Technologies and not against any of its foreign affiliates. PDH subsequently filed a motion to reconsider, and on June 16, 2005, the Bankruptcy Court denied PDH's motion to reconsider. In December 2001, PDH filed a separate action in the Circuit Court for Cook County, Illinois seeking recovery of approximately \$3.1 million for amounts allegedly owed by Exide under various agreements between the parties. The claim arises from letters of credit and other security allegedly provided by PDH for GNB's performance of certain of GNB's obligations to third parties that PDH claims Exide was obligated to replace. Exide's answer contested the amounts claimed by PDH and Exide filed a counterclaim. Although this action has been consolidated with the Cook County suit concerning GNB's cash assets, the claims relating to this action have been transferred to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware and are currently subject to a stay injunction by that court. The Company plans to vigorously defend itself and pursue its counterclaims.

From 1957 to 1982, CEAC, the Company's principal French subsidiary, operated a plant using crocidolite asbestos fibers in the formation of battery cases, which, once formed, encapsulated the fibers. Approximately 1,500 employees worked in the plant over the period. Since 1982, the French governmental agency responsible for worker illness claims received 45 employee claims alleging asbestos-related illnesses. For some of those claims, CEAC is obligated to and has indemnified the agency in accordance with French law for approximately \$260,000 and \$378,000 in calendar 2003 and 2004, respectively. In addition, CEAC has been adjudged liable to indemnify the agency for approximately \$200,000 and \$107,000 during the same periods to date for the dependents of four such claimants. The Company has not yet been required to indemnify or make any payments in 2005. Although the Company cannot predict the number or size of any future claims, the Company does not believe resolution of the current or any future claims, individually or in the aggregate, will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, cash flows or results of operations.

The Company's Shanghai, China subsidiary, Exide Technologies (Shanghai) Company Limited (Exide Shanghai), has been the subject of an investigation by the Anti-Smuggling Bureau of the Shanghai Customs Administration (Anti-Smuggling Bureau). A report was submitted by the Anti-Smuggling Bureau to the Shanghai Municipal People's Public Prosecutor's Office, First Division (Prosecutor's Office). The Prosecutor's Office rejected the report and requested further investigation by the Anti-Smuggling Bureau. The company has been advised recently that the supplemental investigation has been completed and new prosecution opinions have been submitted to the Public Prosecutor's Office, which contains the same findings, but also includes the names of additional dealers of the Company's products as witnesses.

In April 2003, the Company sold its Torrejon, Spain nickel-cadmium plant. The Torrejon courts are conducting an investigation of two petitions submitted to determine whether criminal charges should be filed for

Table of Contents

alleged endangerment of workers' health at the former Torrejon plant. The petitions contain criminal allegations against former employees but only allegations of civil liability against the Company. The investigations have been consolidated into one court. The Company has retained counsel in the event that any charges ultimately are filed.

Between 1996 and 2002, one of the Company's Spanish subsidiaries negotiated dual-scale salaries under collective bargaining agreements for workers at numerous facilities. Several claims challenging the dual-scale salary system have been brought in various Spanish courts covering multiple jurisdictions. To date, the Company has lost its challenges in only one jurisdiction, and prevailed in other jurisdictions. The Company continues to litigate these matters and does not currently anticipate any material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, cash flows or results of operations.

On June 15, 2005, Aviva Partners LLC filed a purported class action lawsuit against the Company, Gordon Ulsh, J. Timothy Gargaro and Craig Mulhauser alleging violations of certain federal securities laws. The case was filed in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey purportedly on behalf of purchasers of the Company's stock between November 16, 2004 and May 17, 2005. The complaint alleges that certain public statements made during this period by the Company and its officers constituted material misstatements in violation of Rule 10b-5 under the Securities Exchange Act. The complaint does not specify an amount of damages sought. The Company denies the allegations in the complaint and intends to vigorously pursue its defense.

The Company is involved in various other claims and litigation incidental to the conduct of its business. Based on consultation with legal counsel, the Company does not believe that any such claims or litigation to which the Company is a party, either individually or in the aggregate, will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, cash flows or results of operations.

Environmental Matters

As a result of its manufacturing, distribution and recycling operations, the Company is subject to numerous federal, state and local environmental, occupational safety and health laws and regulations, including limits on employee blood lead levels, as well as similar laws and regulations in other countries in which the Company operates (collectively, "EH&S laws").

The Company is exposed to liabilities under such EH&S laws arising from its past handling, release, storage and disposal of hazardous substances and hazardous wastes. The Company previously has been advised by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or state agencies that it is a "Potentially Responsible Party" under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA") or similar state laws at 96 federally defined Superfund or state equivalent sites. At 44 of these sites, the Company has paid its share of liability. While the Company believes it is probable its liability for most of the remaining sites will be treated as disputed unsecured claims under the Plan, there can be no assurance these matters will be discharged.

The Company is also involved in the assessment and remediation of various other properties, including certain Company owned or operated facilities. Such assessment and remedial work is being conducted pursuant to applicable EH&S laws with varying degrees of involvement by appropriate legal authorities. Where probable and reasonably estimable, the costs of such projects have been accrued by the Company, as discussed below. In addition, certain environmental matters concerning the Company are pending in various courts or with certain environmental regulatory agencies with respect to these currently or formerly owned or operating locations. While the ultimate outcome of the foregoing environmental matters is uncertain, after consultation with legal counsel, the Company does not believe the resolution of these matters, individually or in the aggregate, will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, cash flows or results of operations.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

In October 2004, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in the course of negotiating the government's pre-petition claim with the Company, notified the Company of the possibility of additional cleanup costs associated with the remediation of the Hamburg, Pennsylvania properties of approximately \$35 million. To date, the EPA has not made a formal claim for this amount or provided support for these estimates. Although the

Table of Contents

Company does not believe there is a basis for this claim, if the government proceeds with an action and prevails, the amounts of this claim, when added to all other reserved claims, could result in an inadequate reserve of new common stock and Warrants to resolve all such claims. The Company would still retain the right to perform and pay for such cleanup activities, which would preserve the existing reserved common stock and Warrants discussed in this Item 3. Legal Proceedings. Because the Company does not believe there is a basis for this claim and because of its pre-petition status, no provisions have been recorded in connection therewith.

The Company has established reserves for on-site and off-site environmental remediation costs where such costs are probable and reasonably estimable and believes that such reserves are adequate. As of March 31, 2005 (Successor Company) and March 31, 2004 (Predecessor Company), the amount of such reserves on the Company's consolidated balance sheet was approximately \$58.5 million and \$94.2 million, respectively. These reserves have been adjusted in Fresh Start reporting to the extent that the Company believes such obligations have been discharged under the Plan and to reflect the discounting of reserves, where appropriate under SOP 90-7. See Note 5. Because environmental liabilities are not accrued until a liability is determined to be probable and reasonably estimable, not all potential future environmental liabilities have been included in the Company's environmental reserves and, therefore, additional earnings charges are possible. Also, future findings or changes in estimates could have a material effect on the recorded reserves and cash flows.

The sites that may require larger expenses for remediation are as follows:

Tampa, Florida

The Tampa site is a former secondary lead smelter, lead oxide production facility, and sheet lead-rolling mill that operated from 1943 to 1989. Under a RCRA Part B Closure Permit and a Consent Decree with the State of Florida, Exide is required to investigate and remediate certain historic environmental impacts to the site. Cost estimates for remediation (closure and post-closure) range from \$12.5 million to \$20.5 million depending on final State of Florida requirements. The remediation activities are expected to occur over the course of several years.

Columbus, Georgia

The Columbus site is a former secondary lead smelter that was decommissioned in 1999, which is part of a larger facility that includes an operating lead acid battery manufacturing facility. Groundwater remediation activities began in 1988. Costs for supplemental investigations, remediation and site closure are currently estimated at \$13.5 million.

Sonalur, Portugal

The Sonalur facility is an active secondary lead smelter. Materials from past operations present at the site are stored in above-ground concrete containment vessels and in underground storage deposits. The Company is in the process of obtaining additional site characterization data to evaluate remediation alternatives agreeable to local authorities. Costs for remediation are currently estimated at \$3.5 million to \$7 million.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Legislation has recently been proposed in the European Union which would ban lead in batteries, but with broad categories of exemptions which apply to all or nearly all of the Company's products. It is possible that such legislation, if finalized, will impose further duties on the Company for the reclamation of lead from spent batteries.

The Company budgets for capital expenditures and operating costs related to requirements under EH&S laws. The Company believes that these expenditures will not have a material adverse effect on its financial condition, cash flows or results of operations, but cannot guarantee that additional expenditures will not be needed to ensure compliance with EH&S laws.

Item 4. *Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders*

None.

Table of Contents**PART II****Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities***Market Data*

Since May 6, 2004, the Company's new common stock and Warrants have traded on the NASDAQ National Market under the symbol **XIDE** and **XIDEW**, respectively. From May 6, 2004 to June 24, 2005, the high and low closing bid prices of the new common stock were \$21.75 and \$4.32, respectively, and the high and low closing bid prices of the Warrants were \$6.46 and \$0.40, respectively, as reported by the NASDAQ National Market.

	Fiscal Year Ended March 31	
	Prices	
	High	Low
New Common Stock		
2005:		
First Quarter	\$ 21.75	\$ 18.43
Second Quarter	19.73	14.80
Third Quarter	16.11	10.32
Fourth Quarter	16.15	12.80
	Fiscal Year Ended March 31	
	Prices	
	High	Low
Warrants		
2005:		
First Quarter	\$ 6.46	\$ 3.90
Second Quarter	4.65	2.50
Third Quarter	3.04	1.29
Fourth Quarter	2.50	1.70

Prior to May 6, 2004, the Company's old common stock was traded on the over-the-counter market and quoted on the OTC Bulletin Board under the symbol **EXDTQ**. The old common stock was cancelled, effective May 5, 2004, pursuant to the Plan. The following table presents the high and low bid prices (which may not represent actual transactions) for the old common stock.

**Fiscal Year Ended
March 31**
Prices

	High	Low
2004:		
First Quarter	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.28
Second Quarter	0.34	0.01
Third Quarter	0.24	0.01
Fourth Quarter	0.06	0.01

The Company did not pay dividends on its old common stock during fiscal year 2003, fiscal year 2004 or during the period from April 1, 2004 to May 5, 2004. Covenants in the Company's Credit Agreement restrict the Company's ability to pay cash dividends on capital stock and the Company presently does not intend to pay dividends on its new common stock.

As of June 24, 2005, the Company had 24,510,013 shares of its new common stock and 4,779,181 of its Warrants outstanding, with 3,419 and 4,663 holders of record, respectively.

Table of Contents

Sales of Unregistered Securities.

On March 18, 2005, the Company issued \$290 million aggregate principal amount of 10.5% senior secured notes due 2013. Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and Credit Suisse First Boston LLC acted as joint book-running managers for the sale, and Banc of America Securities LLC and UBS Securities LLC acted as co-managers. The notes were offered and sold only (i) to qualified institutional buyers in compliance with Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and (ii) outside the United States to persons other than U.S. persons in reliance upon Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The Company sold the notes to the initial purchasers at a 2.5% discount.

In addition, on March 18, 2005, the Company issued \$60 million aggregate principal amount of floating rate convertible senior subordinated notes due 2013. The initial purchasers were Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and Credit Suisse First Boston LLC. The convertible notes were sold only to qualified institutional buyers in compliance with Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The Company sold the convertible notes to the initial purchasers at a 3.0% discount. These notes are convertible, at the option of the holders, prior to the close of business on the maturity date of September 18, 2013, at a conversion price of \$17.37 per share, which is equal to a conversion rate of approximately 57.5705 shares per \$1,000 principal amount of notes, subject to adjustment. Upon a change of control, under certain circumstances, the Company will (i) decrease the conversion price for holders converting their notes in connection with such change of control or (ii) elect to adjust the conversion rate and the related conversion obligation so that the notes are convertible into shares of the acquiring or surviving company.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

As of March 31, 2005, the Company maintained stock option and incentive plans under which employees and non-employee directors could be granted options to purchase shares of the Company's old common stock or awarded shares of old common stock. On the Effective Date, all issued, unissued, authorized or outstanding shares of old common stock, together with any warrants, options or contract rights to purchase or acquire such interests at any time were cancelled. The following table contains information relating to such plans as of March 31, 2005.

Plan category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Number of securities remaining available for
			future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))
	(a)	(b)	(c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders		\$	
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	485,772	\$ 15.72	1,789,228
Total	485,772	\$ 15.72	1,789,228

Table of Contents**Item 6. Selected Financial Data (in thousands, except per share data):**

The following table sets forth selected financial data for the Company. The reader should read this information in conjunction with the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations that appear elsewhere in this report.

	Predecessor Company				Successor Company	
	Fiscal Year Ended				Period From	
	2001	2002	2003	2004	Period From April 1, 2004 to May 5, 2004	May 6, 2004 to March 31, 2005
Statement of Operations Data						
Net sales	\$ 2,432,102	\$ 2,428,550	\$ 2,361,101	\$ 2,500,493	\$ 214,607	\$ 2,476,259
Gross profit	534,479	463,919	516,541	509,325	35,470	377,502
Selling, marketing and advertising expenses	291,068	290,957	261,299	264,753	24,504	252,085
General and administrative expenses	157,459	178,842	175,177	161,271	17,940	149,871
Restructuring and impairment	97,400	33,122	25,658	52,708	602	42,479
Interest expense, net	117,652	136,241	105,788	99,027	8,870	42,636
Loss before reorganization items, income tax, minority interest and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle (2)	(154,330)	(304,797)	(77,346)	(27,710)	(22,668)	(441,195)
Reorganization items, net			36,370	67,042	18,434	11,527
Income taxes	8,632	(1,422)	26,969	3,271	(2,482)	14,219
Income (Loss) before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle	(164,585)	(303,586)	(140,885)	(98,490)	1,748,564	(466,923)
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle (1)		(496)		(15,593)		
Net income (loss) (5)	(164,585)	(304,082)	(140,885)	(114,083)	1,748,564	(466,923)
Basic and diluted net income (loss) per share	(7.02)	(11.35)	(5.14)	(4.17)	63.86	(18.68)
Balance Sheet Data (at period end)						
Working capital (deficit) (3)	\$ 183,618	\$ (951,866)	\$ (15,876)	\$ (270,394)	\$ 402,076	\$ (180,172)
Property, plant and equipment, net	632,935	530,220	533,375	543,124	826,900	799,763
Total assets	2,298,925	1,915,868	2,372,691	2,471,808	2,729,404	2,290,780
Total debt	1,347,046	1,413,272	1,804,903	1,847,656	547,549	653,758
Common stockholders' equity (deficit)	(256,639)	(555,742)	(695,369)	(769,769)	888,391	427,259
Other Financial Data						
Cash provided by (used in):						
Operating activities (4)	\$ 90,190	\$ (6,665)	\$ (239,858)	\$ 40,551	\$ (7,186)	\$ (9,691)
Investing activities	(355,920)	(58,462)	(39,095)	(38,411)	(4,352)	(44,013)
Financing activities	259,468	73,720	278,882	(9,667)	35,168	68,925
Capital expenditures	69,495	61,323	45,878	65,128	7,152	69,114
Cash dividends per share	0.08	0.04				

- (1) The cumulative effect of change in accounting principle in 2002 resulted from the adoption of SFAS 133 on April 1, 2001 and the cumulative effect of change in accounting principle in 2004 resulted from the adoption of SFAS 143 on April 1, 2003.

Table of Contents

- (2) Loss before reorganization items, income tax, minority interest and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle included goodwill impairment charges of \$105,000 in fiscal 2002, \$37,000 in fiscal 2003 and \$388,524 in fiscal 2005.
- (3) Working capital (deficit) is calculated as current assets less current liabilities, which at March 31, 2005 and March 31, 2002 reflects the reclassification of certain long-term debt as current. At March 31, 2003 and March 31, 2004, working capital (deficit) excludes liabilities of the Debtors classified as subject to compromise.
- (4) Cash used in operating activities in fiscal 2003 includes the repurchase of uncollected securitized accounts receivable under the terminated U.S. and European securitization programs of \$117,455 and \$124,793, respectively.
- (5) Net income in the period April 1, 2004 to May 5, 2004 (Predecessor Company) includes gain on discharge of liabilities subject to compromise of \$1,558,839 and Fresh Start accounting adjustments of \$228,371.

Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

(in thousands, except per share data)

Important Matters

On June 27, 2005, the Company was advised by its independent registered public accounting firm, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, that its report on the Company's consolidated financial statements as of and for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2005 will contain a going-concern qualification. The going-concern qualification in the Company's audit report results in a default under the Company's Credit Agreement. The Company is working with the agent for its bank group to obtain a waiver of this default, but there can be no assurance that it will be able to obtain such a waiver. The Company will not be able to make further borrowings under its Credit Agreement until such a waiver is obtained.

After April 15, 2002, the Debtors operated their businesses and managed their properties as debtors-in-possession throughout the course of the bankruptcy case. The Debtors, along with the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors filed the Plan with the Bankruptcy Court on February 27, 2004 and, on April 21, 2004, the Bankruptcy Court confirmed the Plan. As of the Effective Date, the Debtors substantially consummated the transactions provided for in the Plan. See Item 1. Business — Emergence from Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Protection, which contains a summary of certain transactions that became effective on the Effective Date.

The following discussion and analysis provides information which management believes is relevant to an assessment and understanding of the Company's consolidated results of operation and financial condition. The discussion should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto contained in this annual report on Form 10-K. In particular, this discussion should be read in conjunction with Note 1. Basis of Presentation and Note 2. Emergence From Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Protection and Recapitalization which describe the filing by Exide Technologies and certain of its domestic subsidiaries of voluntary petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code on April 15, 2002 and the financial restructuring associated with the Company's emergence from Chapter 11, effective May 5, 2004.

The Consolidated Financial Statements contained herein have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Position 90-7, Financial Reporting by Entities in Reorganization under the Bankruptcy Code (SOP 90-7). Financial statements for periods subsequent to the Company's emergence from Chapter 11 are not comparable with those of prior periods.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Generally accepted accounting principles would suggest that results of the Predecessor Company and Successor Company should not be combined. However, in order to provide a meaningful comparison for

Table of Contents

purposes of the following discussion of results of operations, the results of the Predecessor Company for the period April 1, 2004 through May 5, 2004 have been combined with the results of the Successor Company for the period subsequent to emergence.

Some of the statements contained in the following discussion of our financial condition and results of operations refer to future expectations or include other forward-looking information. Those statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause the actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by the statements. The forward-looking information is based on various factors and was derived from numerous assumptions. See Cautionary Statement for Purpose of the Safe Harbor Provision of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, included in this Report on Form 10-K for risk factors that should be considered when evaluating forward-looking information detailed below. These factors could cause our actual results to differ materially from the forward looking statements. For a discussion of legal contingencies, see Part I, Item 3. Legal Proceedings.

External Factors That Affect Our Financial Performance

Lead. Lead is the primary material by weight used in the manufacture of batteries, representing approximately one-third of the Company's cost of goods sold. The market price of lead fluctuates. Generally, when lead prices decrease, customers may seek disproportionate price reductions from the Company, and when lead prices increase, customers may resist price increases. Both of these situations may cause customer demand for the Company's products to be reduced and the Company's net sales and gross margins to decline. Since March 31, 2003, lead prices quoted on the London Metal Exchange (LME) have increased from \$457 per metric tonne to \$1,022 per metric tonne at March 31, 2005, a change of over 100%. To the extent the Company is unable to pass on these higher material costs to its customers, the Company's financial performance would be adversely impacted.

Competition. The global transportation and industrial energy battery markets, particularly in North America and Europe, are highly competitive. In recent years, competition has continued to intensify and the Company continues to come under increasing pressure for price reductions. This competition has been exacerbated by excess capacity and fluctuating lead prices as well as low-priced Asian imports impacting our markets.

Exchange Rates. The Company is exposed to foreign currency risk in most European countries, principally from fluctuations in the Euro and British Pound. The Company is also exposed, although to a lesser extent, to foreign currency risk in Australia and the Pacific Rim. Movements of exchange rates against the U.S. dollar can result in variations in the U.S. dollar value of non-U.S. sales. In some instances, gains in one currency may be offset by losses in another. Movements in European currencies impacted the Company's results for the periods presented herein. In fiscal 2005, approximately 54% of the Company's net sales were generated in Europe. Further, approximately 66% of the Company's aggregate accounts receivable and inventory as of March 31, 2005 are held by its European subsidiaries.

Markets. The Company is subject to concentrations of customers and sales in a few geographic locations and is dependent on customers in certain industries, including the automotive, telecommunications and material handling markets. Economic difficulties experienced in these markets and geographic locations have and continue to impact the Company's financial results.

Seasonality and weather. The Company sells most of its automotive aftermarket batteries during the fall and early winter (the Company's second and third fiscal quarters). Retailers buy automotive batteries during these periods so they will have enough inventory when cold weather strikes. In addition, many of the Company's industrial battery customers in Europe do not place their battery orders until the end of the calendar year. The seasonality of the Company's business increases its working capital requirements.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Demand for automotive aftermarket batteries is significantly affected by the weather. Unusually cold winters or hot summers accelerate battery failure and increase demand for automotive replacement batteries. Mild winters and cool summers have the opposite effect. As a result, if the Company's sales are reduced by an

Table of Contents

unusually warm winter or cool summer, it is not possible for the Company to recover these sales in later periods. Further, if the Company's sales are adversely affected by the weather, the Company cannot make offsetting cost reductions to protect its gross margins in the short-term because a large portion of the Company's manufacturing and distribution costs are fixed.

Interest rates. The Company is exposed to fluctuations in interest rates on its variable rate debt.

Fiscal 2005 Highlights and Outlook

The Company's reported results for fiscal 2005 were impacted by three principal considerations: (i) the impact of Fresh Start accounting and reporting on the reported basis of the Company's assets and liabilities, which were based upon enterprise values and reorganization values of approximately \$1.5 billion and \$2.7 billion, respectively, (ii) the goodwill impairment charge of \$388,524 and (iii) the impact of material increases in the price of lead, which is a primary component in the manufacture of batteries and makes up approximately one-third of the Company's cost of goods sold. Since March 31, 2003, lead prices quoted on the LME have increased from \$457 per metric tonne to over \$1,022 per metric tonne at March 31, 2005, a change of over 100%.

In the North American market, the Company obtains approximately 90% of its lead requirements from six Company-owned and operated secondary lead recycling plants. These facilities reclaim lead by recycling spent lead acid batteries, which are obtained for recycling from the Company's customers and outside spent-battery collectors. This helps the Company in North America control the cost of its principal raw material as compared to purchasing lead at prevailing market prices. Similar to the rise in lead prices, however, the cost of spent batteries has also increased. Therefore the Company expects that the higher market price of lead with respect to North American manufacturing will nevertheless continue to have some impact on results. The Company has and continues to take selective pricing actions and attempts to secure higher spent battery return rates to help mitigate these risks.

In Europe, the Company's lead requirements are mainly obtained from third-party suppliers. Because of higher world lead prices, the Company expects that lead in Europe will cost the Company significantly more than previously anticipated in fiscal 2005. Because of the Company's exposure to lead market prices in Europe, the Company has implemented several measures to offset higher lead prices including selective pricing actions, lead price escalators, lead hedging and entering into long-term lead supply contracts. In addition, the Company already has automatic price escalators with many original equipment manufacturers (OEM) customers. The Company currently recycles a small portion of its lead requirements in its European facilities.

The Company expects that these higher lead prices will continue to put pressure on the Company's financial performance. However, the selective pricing actions, lead price escalators, lead hedging and long-term lead supply contracts are intended to help mitigate this risk. The implementation of selective pricing actions and price escalators generally lags the rise in market prices of lead and are subject to the risk of customer acceptance.

In addition to management of the impact of higher lead prices on the Company's results, the key elements of the Company's underlying business plans and strategies for fiscal 2006 are

(i) Successful execution and completion of the Company's ongoing restructuring plans, including a plant closure in France and organizational realignment of divisional and corporate functions resulting in further headcount reductions, principally in selling, general and administrative

functions globally.

(ii) Actions to improve the Company's liquidity and operating cash flow through aggressive working capital reduction plans, the sales of non-strategic assets and businesses, streamlining cash management processes and implementing plans to minimize the cash costs of the Company's restructuring initiatives.

(iii) Continuing to reduce costs, improve customer service and satisfaction through enhanced quality and reduced lead times. The Company is continuing to drive these strategies through its EXCELL lean supply chain initiative, improved and focused supplier procurement initiatives across the Company and reductions in salaried headcount and discretionary spending.

Table of Contents

(iv) Moving to secure new business with new customers and developing new markets, including expansion into Russia, China and Mexico.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The Company's discussion and analysis of its financial condition and results of operations are based upon the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The preparation of these financial statements requires the Company to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and the related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an ongoing basis, the Company evaluates its estimates based on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

The Company believes the following critical accounting policies and estimates affect the preparation of its Consolidated Financial Statements.

Inventory Reserves. The Company writes down its inventory to estimated market value based upon assumptions of future demand and market conditions. If actual market conditions are less favorable than those projected by the Company, additional inventory write-downs may be required.

Valuation of Long-lived Assets. The Company's long-lived assets include property, plant and equipment, goodwill and identified intangible assets. Long-lived assets (other than goodwill and indefinite lived intangible assets) are depreciated over their estimated useful lives, and are reviewed for impairment whenever changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable. Goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets are reviewed for impairment on both an annual basis and whenever changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable. The fair value of goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets are based upon the Company's estimates of future cash flows and other factors including discount rates to determine the fair value of the respective assets. Based on the Company's annual impairment assessment effective December 31, 2004, the Company determined that goodwill was fully impaired and recorded a write-down of the entire goodwill balance in fiscal 2005. An erosion of future business results in any of the Company's business units could create impairment in other long-lived assets and require a significant write down in future periods.

Employee Benefit Plans. The Company's pension plans and postretirement benefit plans are accounted for using actuarial valuations required by SFAS No. 87, *Employers' Accounting for Pensions* (SFAS 87) and SFAS No. 106, *Employers' Accounting for Postretirement Benefits Other Than Pensions* (SFAS 106). The Company considers accounting for employee benefit plans critical because management is required to make significant subjective judgments about a number of actuarial assumptions, including discount rates, compensation growth, long-term return on plan assets, retirement, turnover, health care cost trend rates and mortality rates. Depending on the assumptions and estimates used, the pension and postretirement benefit expense could vary within a range of outcomes and have a material effect on reported results. In addition, the assumptions can materially affect accumulated benefit obligations and future cash funding. For a detailed discussion of the Company's retirement benefits, see Employee Benefit Plans herein and Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Deferred Taxes. The Company records valuation allowances to reduce its deferred tax assets to amounts that are more likely than not to be realized. While the Company has considered future taxable income and ongoing prudent and feasible tax planning strategies in assessing the need for valuation allowances, if the Company were to determine that it would be able to realize deferred tax assets in the future in excess of the Company's net recorded amount, an adjustment to the net deferred tax asset would increase income in the period such determination was made. Likewise, should the Company determine that it would not be able to realize all or part of its net deferred tax assets in the future, an adjustment

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

to the net deferred tax asset would decrease income in the period such determination was made. The Company has historically recorded full valuation allowances

Table of Contents

against deferred tax assets in the U.S. and the United Kingdom. During fiscal 2005, the Company recorded a charge to adjust valuation allowances against previously recognized deferred tax assets in France and Italy, based on the Company's updated five-year business plan.

Revenue recognition. The Company records sales when revenue is earned. Shipment terms are generally FOB shipping point and revenue is recognized when product is shipped to the customer. In limited cases, terms are FOB destination and in these cases, revenue is recognized when product is delivered to the customer's delivery site. The Company records sales net of estimated reserves for warranties, discounts, customer allowances and returns.

Warranty Reserves. The Company recognizes a provision for the estimated cost of product warranties in the period in which the related revenue is recognized. While the Company engages in product quality programs and processes, including independent testing of product performance and compliance to ratings, the Company's warranty obligations are affected by product failure rates and customers' in-store return policies and procedures. In addition, should actual product return rates or the lag between the date of sale and claim/return date differ from the Company's estimates, revisions to estimated warranty reserves would be required.

Environmental Reserves. The Company is subject to numerous environmental laws and regulations in all the countries in which it operates. In addition, the Company can be held liable for investigation and remediation of sites impacted by its past operating activities. In certain countries including the United States, the Company maintains reserves for the reasonable cost of addressing these liabilities. These estimates are determined through a combination of methods, including outside estimates of likely expense and the Company's historical experience in the management of these matters.

Because environmental liabilities are not accrued until a liability is determined to be probable and reasonably estimable and there is a constructive obligation to remediate, not all potential future environmental liabilities have been included in the Company's environmental reserves and, therefore, additional earnings charges are possible. Also, future findings or changes in estimates could result in either an increase or decrease in the reserves and have a significant impact on the Company's liquidity.

Purchase Commitments. The Company has three worldwide supply agreements expiring in December 2009 to purchase its polyethylene battery separators. The supply agreements were entered into in fiscal 2000 with Daramic, the party that purchased the Company's battery separators manufacturing operation, as a condition of the sale of those operations. At the time of the sale, the agreements contained minimum annual purchase commitments in excess of the Company's requirements. Accordingly, the Company established a reserve, and reduced the gain on sale of the manufacturing operations, for commitments in excess of the Company's requirements and for the contractual purchase prices in excess of market. The Company currently has a reserve for the incremental purchase requirements over the remaining life of the agreement in excess of the Company's projected requirements. Whenever there is a significant change in the Company's unit volume outlook based on changes to its business plan, this reserve will be adjusted.

Litigation. The Company has legal contingencies that have a high degree of uncertainty. When a contingency becomes probable and reasonably estimable, a reserve is established. Numerous lawsuits have been filed against the Company for which the liabilities are not considered probable and/or reasonably estimable. Consequently, no reserves have been established for these matters. If future litigation or other resolution of these matters result in liability to the Company, such liability could have a significant impact on the Company's future results and liquidity.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

On December 8, 2003, President Bush signed the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 (the Act) into law. In May 2004, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position No. FAS 106-2, Accounting and Disclosure Requirements Related to the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003, which provides guidance on accounting for the federal subsidy to sponsors of

Table of Contents

retiree health care benefit plans that provide a benefit that is at least actuarially equivalent to Medicare Part D. This guidance is effective for periods beginning after June 15, 2004. The Company expects that application of this guidance will not have a material impact on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

In March 2004, the EITF reached consensus on Issue No. 03-6. This Issue is intended to clarify what is a participating security for purposes of applying SFAS 128, Earnings Per Share. The Issue also provides further guidance on how to apply the two-class method of computing earnings per share (EPS) once it is determined that a security is participating, including how to allocate undistributed earnings to such a security. The guidance in this Issue is effective for reporting periods beginning after March 31, 2004 and, where applicable, requires the restatement of previously reported EPS.

In December 2004, the FASB issued SFAS No. 123 (revised 2004), Share-Based Payment (SFAS 123R). SFAS 123R requires that a public entity measure the cost of equity based service awards based on the grant date fair value of the award (with limited exceptions). That cost will be recognized over the period during which an employee is required to provide service in exchange for the award or the requisite service period. SFAS 123R is effective as of the beginning of the first annual reporting period that begins after June 15, 2005. The Company will adopt SFAS 123R effective April 1, 2006. The Company is currently assessing the impact SFAS 123R will have on its financial position and results of operations.

In November 2004, the FASB issued SFAS No. 151, Inventory Costs, an Amendment of ARB No. 43, Chapter 4 (SFAS 151). The standard requires that abnormal amounts of idle capacity and spoilage costs within inventory should be excluded from the cost of inventory and expensed when incurred. The provisions of SFAS 151 are applicable to inventory costs incurred during fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2005. The Company will adopt SFAS 151 effective April 1, 2006. The Company expects the adoption of SFAS 151 will not have a material impact on its financial position or results of operations.

In December 2004, the FASB issued Staff Position No. FAS 109-1, Application of FASB Statement No. 109, Accounting for Income Taxes, to the Tax Deduction on Qualified Production Activities Provided by the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 (FSP No. 109-1), and Staff Position No. FAS 109-2, Accounting and Disclosure Guidance for the Foreign Earnings Repatriation Provision within the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 (FSP No. 109-2). These staff positions provide accounting guidance on how companies should account for the effects of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 (AJCA) that was signed into law on October 22, 2004. FSP No. 109-1 states that the tax relief (special tax deduction for domestic manufacturing) from this legislation should be accounted for as a special deduction instead of a tax rate reduction. FSP No. 109-2 gives a company additional time to evaluate the effects of the legislation on any plan for reinvestment or repatriation of foreign earnings for purposes of applying SFAS No. 109. The Company is currently assessing the repatriation provision to determine whether it might repatriate extraordinary dividends, as defined in the AJCA. The Company expects to complete this evaluation within a reasonable amount of time after additional guidance from the United States Treasury is published.

In March 2005, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. (FIN) 47, Accounting for Conditional Asset Retirement Obligations—an Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 143. This Interpretation clarifies that the term *conditional asset retirement obligation* as used in SFAS 143, refers to a legal obligation to perform an asset retirement activity in which the timing and (or) method of settlement are conditional on a future event that may or may not be within the control of the entity. The obligation to perform the asset retirement activity is unconditional even though uncertainty exists about the timing and (or) method of settlement. Thus, the timing and (or) method of settlement may be conditional on a future event. Accordingly, an entity is required to recognize a liability for the fair value of a conditional asset retirement obligation if the fair value of the liability can be reasonably estimated. The fair value of a liability for the conditional asset retirement obligation should be recognized when incurred generally upon acquisition, construction, or development and (or) through the normal operation of the asset. Uncertainty about the timing and (or) method of settlement of a conditional asset retirement obligation should be factored into the measurement of the liability when sufficient information exists. SFAS 143 acknowledges that in some cases, sufficient information may not be available to reasonably estimate

Table of Contents

the fair value of an asset retirement obligation. This Interpretation also clarifies when an entity would have sufficient information to reasonably estimate the fair value of an asset retirement obligation. This Interpretation is effective no later than the end of fiscal years ending after December 15, 2005. The Company is currently assessing the impact FIN 47 may have on its financial position and results of operations.

Results of Operations

The Company previously reported its results for three global business segments, Transportation, Motive Power and Network Power. Effective April 1, 2004, the Company consolidated Motive Power and Network Power into one business unit, Industrial Energy, coincident with organizational changes the Company enacted. In light of ongoing organizational changes, effective October 1, 2004, the Company split its two then-existing business units into separate geographic regions. The Company now reports its results for four business segments, Transportation North America, Transportation Europe and Rest of World (ROW), Industrial Energy North America and Industrial Energy Europe and ROW. Segment results for fiscal years 2004 and 2003 have been reclassified to conform to the current presentation. The Company will continue to evaluate its reporting segments pending the current changes and such future organizational changes that may take place.

Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2005 compared with Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2004

Overview

Net income for fiscal 2005 was \$1,281,641 versus fiscal 2004 net loss of \$114,083. Included in fiscal 2005 consolidated net income were reorganization items of \$29,961, restructuring costs of \$43,081 (\$37,371 after tax), a non-cash charge of \$388,524 for goodwill impairment, an income tax charge of \$41,400 resulting from a change in valuation allowances, gain on discharge of liabilities subject to compromise of \$1,558,839, gain on Warrants of \$63,112 and gain on Fresh Start accounting adjustments of \$228,371. Included in fiscal 2004 consolidated net loss were reorganization items in connection with the bankruptcy of \$67,042, restructuring costs of \$52,708 (\$35,326 after tax) and a charge of \$15,593 for the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle. In addition, net currency remeasurement (losses) gains of (\$3,703) and \$43,846, primarily on U.S. dollar denominated debt in Europe, have been recognized in Other (income) expense, net in fiscal 2005 and 2004, respectively and a loss on revaluation of a foreign currency forward contract of \$13,165 was recognized in Other (income) expense, net in fiscal 2005.

Net Sales

Net sales were \$2,690,866 for fiscal 2005 versus \$2,500,493 in fiscal 2004. Currency positively impacted net sales in fiscal 2005 by approximately \$104,000. Net sales were higher by approximately \$64,900 as a result of lead related pricing actions.

Transportation North America net sales were \$847,571 for fiscal 2005 versus \$817,710 for fiscal 2004. Third party lead sales revenues for fiscal 2005 were \$19,415 higher than fiscal 2004 due to rising lead prices. Transportation North America net sales also increased due to slightly higher unit volumes, principally in the original equipment channel and higher average selling prices from lead related pricing actions.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Transportation Europe and ROW net sales were \$823,165 for fiscal 2005 versus \$760,512 for fiscal 2004. Currency positively impacted Transportation net sales in fiscal 2005 by approximately \$54,000. European selling prices for fiscal 2005 were higher than fiscal 2004, primarily from the effect of lead-related pricing adjustments, partially offset by the impact of lower sales volumes in both the original equipment and aftermarket channels.

Industrial Energy North America net sales were \$223,008 for fiscal 2005 versus \$210,572 for fiscal 2004. The increase was primarily due to higher material handling application volumes, lead related pricing actions and the recognition of \$2,950 previously deferred income on a customer agreement under which the Company fulfilled its obligations in fiscal 2005.

Industrial Energy Europe and ROW net sales were \$797,122 for fiscal 2005 versus \$711,699 for fiscal 2004. Currency positively impacted Industrial Energy Europe and ROW net sales in fiscal 2005 by approximately

Table of Contents

\$50,000. Higher material handling application volumes and higher average selling prices due to lead related pricing actions were partially offset by lower telecommunication market volumes and competitive pricing pressures within both the original equipment and aftermarket channels.

Gross Profit

Gross profit was \$412,972 in fiscal 2005 versus \$509,325 in fiscal 2004. Gross margin decreased to 15.3% in fiscal 2005 from 20.4% in fiscal 2004. Currency positively impacted gross profit in fiscal 2005 by approximately \$22,000. Gross profit in each of the Company's business segments was negatively impacted by higher lead costs (average LME prices were \$920 dollars per metric tonne in fiscal 2005 versus \$611 dollars per metric tonne in fiscal 2004), only partially being recovered by higher average selling prices. The estimated net impact on gross profit of higher lead costs not recovered through pricing actions was approximately \$57,800. The Company therefore estimates that it recovered approximately 50-55% of these higher lead costs through pricing and related actions.

Transportation North America gross profit was \$112,091 or 13.2% of net sales in fiscal 2005 versus \$146,790 or 18.0% of net sales in fiscal 2004. The effect of higher lead costs only partially being recovered by higher average selling prices, higher costs of goods sold and depreciation due to Fresh Start reporting, and the unfavorable effects of products sales mix were partially offset by the impact of slightly higher sales volumes and higher third party lead sales due to increased lead prices.

Transportation Europe and ROW gross profit was \$114,495 or 13.9% of net sales in fiscal 2005 versus \$159,062 or 20.9% of net sales in fiscal 2004. Currency positively impacted Transportation Europe and ROW gross profit in fiscal 2005 by approximately \$11,000. The decrease was primarily due to lower sales volumes, higher lead costs only partially recovered through higher selling prices and higher costs of goods sold and depreciation due to Fresh Start reporting.

Industrial Energy North America gross profit was \$49,039 or 22.0% of net sales in fiscal 2005 versus \$47,032 or 22.3% of net sales in fiscal 2004. Gross profit was higher primarily due to higher sales volumes, previously deferred income on a customer agreement under which the Company fulfilled its obligations in the third quarter of fiscal 2005 and the impact of headcount and cost reduction programs, partially offset by higher lead costs not being recovered through price increases and higher cost of goods sold and depreciation due to Fresh Start reporting.

Industrial Energy Europe and ROW gross profit was \$137,347 or 17.2% of net sales in fiscal 2005 versus \$156,441 or 22.0% of net sales in fiscal 2004. Currency positively impacted Industrial Energy Europe and ROW gross profit in fiscal 2005 by approximately \$11,000. Gross profit was negatively impacted by competitive pricing pressures, higher lead costs not being recovered through price increases and higher cost of goods sold and depreciation due to Fresh Start reporting offset partially by the impact of higher sales volume and headcount and cost reduction programs.

Expenses

Expenses were \$876,835 in fiscal 2005 versus \$537,035 in fiscal 2004. Included in expenses are restructuring charges of \$43,081 in fiscal 2005 and \$52,708 in fiscal 2004. Also included in fiscal 2005 expenses is a charge for goodwill impairment of \$388,524. Excluding these items, expenses were \$445,230 and \$484,327 in fiscal 2005 and 2004, respectively. Stronger foreign currencies unfavorably impacted expenses by approximately \$24,500 in fiscal 2005. The change in expenses was impacted by the following matters: (i) fiscal 2005 selling, marketing and advertising costs and general and administration costs were favorably impacted by the Company's cost-reduction programs, primarily through

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

headcount reductions; (ii) fiscal 2004 expenses include a \$3,175 gain on the sale of the Company's European non-lead battery assets and a \$9,309 loss on the sale of receivables under the Company's prior securitization facility, included in Other (income) expense, net; (iii) interest, net decreased by \$47,521 principally due to the debt discharged under the Company's Plan of

Table of Contents

Reorganization; (iv) fiscal 2005 and fiscal 2004 expenses included currency remeasurement (losses) gains of (\$3,703) and \$43,846, respectively, included in Other (income) expense, net; (v) fiscal 2005 expenses include a loss on revaluation of a foreign currency forward contract of \$13,165, included in Other (income) expense, net; (vi) fiscal 2005 expenses include a gain on revaluation of Warrants of \$63,112 included in Other (income) expense, net; and (vii) fiscal 2005 expenses include recognition of \$10,300 of insurance recoveries and the resulting gain from the involuntary conversion of assets related to the interruption of business due to a fire at an Industrial Energy Europe and ROW manufacturing facility, included in Other (income) expense, net.

Transportation North America expenses were \$216,863 in fiscal 2005 versus \$83,770 in fiscal 2004. The increase in expenses was primarily due to a goodwill impairment charge of \$122,061, increased fuel costs and higher branch operating costs.

Transportation Europe and ROW expenses were \$219,987 in fiscal 2005 versus \$83,422 in fiscal 2004. Currency unfavorably impacted expenses in fiscal 2005 by approximately \$6,000. The increase in expenses was primarily due to a goodwill impairment charge of \$112,248, increased restructuring costs associated with the announced closure of the Nanterre, France facility and headcount reduction programs and higher fuel and distribution costs.

Industrial Energy North America expenses were \$68,494 in fiscal 2005 versus \$32,635 in fiscal 2004. The increase in expenses was primarily due to a goodwill impairment charge of \$37,384, partially offset by the effects of cost-reduction programs, primarily through headcount reductions.

Industrial Energy Europe and ROW expenses were \$233,127 in fiscal 2005 versus \$152,002 in fiscal 2004. Currency unfavorably impacted expenses in fiscal 2005 by approximately \$10,700. The increase in expenses was primarily due to a goodwill impairment charge of \$116,831, partially offset by the effects of cost-reduction programs, primarily through headcount reductions, and lower restructuring costs and the recognition of \$10,300 insurance recoveries and the resulting gain from the involuntary conversion of assets related to the interruption of business due to a fire at one of the Company's manufacturing facilities, included in Other (income) expense, net. Fiscal 2004 expenses included a \$3,175 gain on the sale of the Company's European non-lead battery assets.

Unallocated expenses, net, which include shared service and corporate expenses, interest expense, currency remeasurement losses (gains), losses on sales of receivables and gain on revaluation of Warrants, were \$138,364 in fiscal 2005 versus \$185,206 in fiscal 2004. Fiscal 2005 expenses included a loss on revaluation of a foreign currency forward contract of \$13,165 and a gain on revaluation of Warrants of \$63,112. Expenses for fiscal 2005 and 2004 included currency remeasurement (losses) gains of (\$3,703) and \$43,846, respectively. Currency unfavorably impacted unallocated expenses in fiscal 2005 by approximately \$7,800. Corporate expenses in fiscal 2005 and fiscal 2004 were \$133,102 and \$118,765, respectively. The increase was primarily due to unfavorable currency impact, costs associated with Sarbanes Oxley implementation and corporate severance costs, partially offset by the favorable impact of the Company's cost reduction programs, primarily through headcount reductions. Interest expense, net was \$51,506 in fiscal 2005 versus \$99,027 in fiscal 2004. The decrease is principally due to the debt discharged under the Company's Plan of Reorganization.

Income (loss) before reorganization items, income taxes, minority interest and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle was (\$463,863) or (17.2)% of net sales in fiscal 2005 versus (\$27,710), or (1.1)% of net sales in fiscal 2004 due to the items discussed above.

Transportation North America income (loss) before reorganization items, income taxes, minority interest and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle was (\$104,772), or (12.4)% of net sales in fiscal 2005 versus \$63,020, or 7.7% of net sales in fiscal 2004, due to the items discussed above.

Transportation Europe and ROW income (loss) before reorganization items, income taxes, minority interest and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle was (\$105,492), or (12.8)% of net sales in fiscal 2005 versus \$75,640, or 9.9% of net sales in fiscal 2004, due to the items discussed above.

Table of Contents

Industrial Energy North America income (loss) before reorganization items, income taxes, minority interest and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle was (\$19,455), or (8.7)% of net sales in fiscal 2005 versus \$14,397, or 6.8% of net sales in fiscal 2004, due to the items discussed above.

Industrial Energy Europe and ROW income (loss) before reorganization items, income taxes, minority interest and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle was (\$95,780), or (12.0)% of net sales in fiscal 2005 versus \$4,439, or 0.6% of net sales in fiscal 2004, due to the items discussed above.

Reorganization Items

Reorganization items, net represent amounts the Company incurred as a result of the Chapter 11 filing and are presented separately in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. Reorganization items for fiscal 2005 and 2004 were \$29,961 and \$67,042, respectively. These items include professional fees including financial and legal services, success fees payable to the Company's advisors related to Chapter 11 bankruptcy emergence, employee retention costs for key members of management, income from refund of preference payments made to suppliers prior to the bankruptcy filing, income associated with rejection of certain executory contracts, costs associated with directors and officers liability insurance coverage for the Predecessor Company and interest income earned as a result of having assumed excess cash balances due to the Chapter 11 filing. See Note 9 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Gain on discharge of liabilities subject to compromise

On the Effective Date, the Company recognized a \$1,558,839 gain on discharge of liabilities subject to compromise and recapitalization as a result of transactions contemplated by the Plan.

Fresh Start accounting adjustments

As a result of our adoption of Fresh Start accounting, upon consummation of the Plan on the Effective Date, the Company recorded certain adjustments to assets and liabilities to reflect their fair values. The Fresh Start adjustments resulted in a gain of \$228,371.

Income Taxes

In fiscal 2005, an income tax provision of \$11,737 was recorded on pre-tax income of \$1,293,386. In fiscal 2004, an income tax provision of \$3,271 was recorded on a pre-tax loss of \$94,752. The effective tax rate was 0.9% and (3.5%) in fiscal 2005 and 2004, respectively. The effective tax rate for fiscal 2005 and fiscal 2004 was impacted by the generation of income in tax-paying jurisdictions, principally Europe, Australia and Canada, with limited or no offset on a consolidated basis as a result of recognition of valuation allowances on tax benefits generated from current period losses in the U.S., the United Kingdom and France. The effective tax rate for fiscal 2005 was impacted by the gain on discharge of liabilities subject to compromise of \$1,558,839, which is exempt from tax in the United States, the non-taxable gain on Fresh Start accounting adjustments of \$228,371 and the non-deductibility of the \$388,524 goodwill impairment charge. The effective tax rate fiscal

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

2005 was also impacted by the recognition of \$41,400 valuation allowances on tax benefits generated from prior year losses and certain deductible temporary differences in France and Italy based on the Company's assessment that it is more likely than not that the related tax benefits will now not be realized. The effective tax rate for fiscal 2004 was impacted by the \$3,175 gain on the sale of the Company's European non-lead battery assets, which was a non-taxable transaction.

Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2004 compared with Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2003

Overview

Net loss for fiscal 2004 was \$114,083, or \$4.17 per basic and diluted share versus fiscal 2003 net loss of \$140,885, or \$5.14 per basic and diluted share. Included in fiscal 2004 consolidated net loss were reorganization

Table of Contents

items in connection with the bankruptcy of \$67,042, restructuring costs of \$52,708 (\$35,326 after tax) and a charge of \$15,593 for the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle. Included in the consolidated net loss for fiscal 2003 were reorganization items of \$36,370, restructuring costs of \$25,658 and a non-cash charge of \$37,000 for goodwill impairment resulting from an evaluation of results and updated projections of the Industrial Energy Europe and ROW segment, following the deterioration of this segment's performance. In addition, currency remeasurement gains of \$43,846 and \$22,753, primarily on U.S. dollar denominated debt in Europe, have been recognized in Other (income) expense, net in fiscal 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Net Sales

Net sales were \$2,500,493 for fiscal 2004 versus \$2,361,101 in fiscal 2003. Currency positively impacted net sales for fiscal 2004 by approximately \$229,000. The strength of the Euro in the Company's European markets also resulted in competitive pricing pressures from Asian imports, negatively impacting average selling prices.

Transportation North America net sales were \$817,710 for fiscal 2004 versus \$833,493 for fiscal 2003. Revenues declined slightly due to reduced unit volumes in both the aftermarket and original equipment channels.

Transportation Europe and ROW net sales were \$760,512 for fiscal 2004 versus \$660,417 for fiscal 2003. Volumes declined in the original equipment channel following the loss of certain original equipment business. Selling prices were lower in fiscal 2004, principally because of competitive pricing pressures. Currency positively impacted Transportation Europe and ROW net sales in fiscal 2004 by approximately \$120,000.

Industrial Energy North America net sales were \$210,572 for fiscal 2004 versus \$199,856 for fiscal 2003. The increase was primarily due to higher material handling application volumes and higher telecommunications market volumes.

Industrial Energy Europe and ROW net sales were \$711,699 for fiscal 2004 versus \$667,335 for fiscal 2003. Sales volumes were lower due to lower European material handling application shipments, reductions from strong European military shipments in fiscal 2003 and weakness in the Asian market, including disruption of the Company's Chinese operations. Sales were also negatively impacted by competitive pricing pressures in Europe, including the impact of Asian imports. Currency positively impacted Industrial Energy Europe and ROW net sales in fiscal 2004 by approximately \$109,000.

Gross Profit

Gross profit was \$509,325 in fiscal 2004 versus \$516,541 in fiscal 2003. Gross profit margin decreased to 20.4% in fiscal 2004 from 21.9% in fiscal 2003. Gross profit was negatively impacted by lower sales volumes, competitive pricing pressures and higher benefit costs, including medical and pension expenses, offset partially by the Company's cost reduction programs. Currency positively impacted gross profit in fiscal 2004 by approximately \$47,300. The strength of the Euro in the Company's European markets also resulted in competitive pricing pressures from Asian imports, negatively impacting margins.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Transportation North America gross profit was \$146,790 or 18.0% of net sales in fiscal 2004 versus \$154,349 or 18.5% of net sales in fiscal 2003. The decrease was primarily due to the effects of lower sales volumes

Transportation Europe and ROW gross profit was \$159,062 or 20.9% of net sales in fiscal 2004 versus \$154,079 or 23.3% of net sales in fiscal 2003. The effects of lower sales volumes and lower pricing were partially offset by the benefits from plant rationalization and headcount reductions. Currency positively impacted Transportation Europe and ROW gross profit in fiscal 2004 by approximately \$24,500.

Table of Contents

Industrial Energy North America gross profit was \$47,032 or 22.3% of net sales in fiscal 2004 versus \$47,889 or 24.0% of net sales in fiscal 2003. Gross profit was negatively impacted by competitive pricing pressures, partially offset by higher sales volume.

Industrial Energy Europe and ROW gross profit was \$156,441 or 22.0% of net sales in fiscal 2004 versus \$160,224 or 24.0% of net sales in fiscal 2003. Gross profit was negatively impacted by lower sales volumes and competitive pricing pressures. Currency positively impacted Industrial Energy Europe and ROW gross profit in fiscal 2004 by approximately \$22,800.

Expenses

Expenses were \$537,035 in fiscal 2004 versus \$593,887 in fiscal 2003. Included in expenses are restructuring charges of \$52,708 in fiscal 2004 and \$25,658 in fiscal 2003. Also included in fiscal 2003 expenses is a charge for goodwill impairment of \$37,000. Excluding these items, expenses were \$484,327 and \$531,229 in fiscal 2004 and 2003, respectively. Currency unfavorably impacted expenses by approximately \$45,600 in fiscal 2004. The net decrease in expenses was impacted by the following matters: (i) fiscal 2004 selling, marketing and advertising costs in each of the Company's business segments were favorably impacted by the Company's cost-reduction programs, primarily through headcount reductions; (ii) expenses in each of the Company's business segments for fiscal 2004 were negatively impacted by an increase in benefit costs, including medical and pension expenses; (iii) expenses for fiscal 2004 include \$9,700 net gain on asset sales, included in Other (income) expense, net; and (iv) fiscal 2004 and 2003 expenses included currency remeasurement gains of \$43,846 and \$22,753, respectively, included in Other (income) expense, net.

Transportation North America expenses were \$83,770 in fiscal 2004 versus \$90,624 in fiscal 2003. The decrease in expenses was due primarily to the Company's cost reduction programs, offset partially by increased benefit costs, including medical and pension expenses.

Transportation Europe and ROW expenses were \$83,422 in fiscal 2004 versus \$71,440 in fiscal 2003. Currency unfavorably impacted Transportation Europe and ROW expenses in fiscal 2004 by approximately \$12,400. The resulting decrease in expenses was due primarily to the Company's cost reduction programs, offset partially by increased benefit costs, including pension expense.

Industrial Energy North America expenses were \$32,635 in fiscal 2004 versus \$43,263 in fiscal 2003. The decrease was due primarily to the Company's cost reduction programs and restructuring expenses in fiscal 2003 associated with the downsizing of a manufacturing facility, partially offset by higher selling expenses and increased benefit costs, including medical and pension expenses.

Industrial Energy Europe and ROW expenses were \$152,002 in fiscal 2004 versus \$165,593 in fiscal 2003. Fiscal 2004 expenses included a \$3,175 gain on the sale of the Company's European non-lead battery assets. Fiscal 2003 expenses included a goodwill impairment charge of \$37,000. Excluding these items, expenses were \$155,177 and \$128,593 in fiscal 2004 and 2003, respectively. The increase was due primarily to restructuring expenses associated with the Company's European consolidation efforts and increased benefit costs, including pension expense, partially offset by the Company's cost reduction programs. Currency unfavorably impacted Industrial Energy Europe and ROW expenses in fiscal 2004 by approximately \$20,500.

Unallocated expenses, net, which include corporate expenses, interest expense, currency remeasurement losses (gains) and losses on sales of accounts receivable, were \$185,206 in fiscal 2004 versus \$222,967 in fiscal 2003. Expenses for fiscal 2004 and 2003 included currency remeasurement gains of \$43,846 and \$22,753, respectively. Currency unfavorably impacted unallocated expenses in fiscal 2004 by

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

approximately \$12,700. Corporate expenses in fiscal 2004 and fiscal 2003 were \$118,765 and \$127,943, respectively. The decrease in corporate expenses was due to the favorable impact of the Company's cost-reduction programs, offset partially

Table of Contents

by increased benefit costs, including medical and pension expenses and higher restructuring costs. Interest expense, net was \$99,027 in fiscal 2004 versus \$105,788 in fiscal 2003. The decrease in interest expense is due to lower interest rates and lower amortization expense associated with deferred financing costs.

Loss before reorganization items, income taxes, minority interest and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle was \$27,710, or (1.1)% of net sales in fiscal 2004 versus \$77,346, or (3.3)% of net sales in fiscal 2003 due to the items discussed above.

Transportation North America income before reorganization items, income taxes, minority interest and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle was \$63,020, or 7.7% of net sales in fiscal 2004 versus \$63,725, or 7.6% of net sales in fiscal 2003, due to the items discussed above.

Transportation Europe and ROW income before reorganization items, income taxes, minority interest and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle was \$75,640, or 9.9% of net sales in fiscal 2004 versus \$82,639, or 12.5% of net sales in fiscal 2003, due to the items discussed above.

Industrial Energy North America income before reorganization items, income taxes, minority interest and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle was \$14,397, or 6.8% of net sales in fiscal 2004 versus \$4,626, or 2.3% of net sales in fiscal 2003, due to the items discussed above.

Industrial Energy Europe and ROW income (loss) before reorganization items, income taxes, minority interest and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle was \$4,439, or 0.6% of net sales in fiscal 2004 versus (\$5,369), or (0.8)% of net sales in fiscal 2003, due to the items discussed above.

Reorganization Items

Reorganization items represent amounts the Company incurred as a result of the Chapter 11 filing and are presented separately in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. Reorganization items for fiscal 2004 and 2003 were \$67,042 and \$36,370, respectively. These items include professional fees including financial and legal services, employee retention costs for key members of management, costs associated with rejection of certain executory contracts and interest income earned as a result of having assumed excess cash balances due to the Chapter 11 filing. The increase in reorganization expenses for fiscal 2004 reflects a significant increase in legal costs associated with development of the Company's Plan and preparation for Bankruptcy Court hearings. See Note 9 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Income Taxes

In fiscal 2004, an income tax provision of \$3,271 was recorded on a pre-tax loss of \$94,752. In fiscal 2003, an income tax provision of \$26,969 was recorded on a pre-tax loss of \$113,716. The effective tax rate was (3.5%) and (23.7%) in fiscal 2004 and 2003, respectively. The effective tax rate for fiscal 2004 and fiscal 2003 was impacted by the generation of income in tax-paying jurisdictions, principally Europe, with limited or

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

no offset on a consolidated basis as a result of recognition of valuation allowances on tax benefits generated from current period losses in both the U.S. and certain international regions. The effective tax rate for fiscal 2004 was also impacted by the adjustment of previously recognized valuation allowances in certain international jurisdictions based on updated financial projections. The effective tax rate for fiscal 2003 was also impacted by the non-deductibility of the \$37,000 Industrial Energy Europe and ROW goodwill impairment charge.

During fiscal 2003, the Company reorganized the ownership structure of certain of its foreign subsidiaries and recorded an impairment charge on certain intercompany investments for statutory purposes. These actions have no effect on reported pre-tax operating results but resulted in a net tax benefit.

Table of Contents

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Capital Structure and Liquidity

On the Effective Date, the Company entered into a \$600,000 Senior Secured Credit Agreement (the "Credit Agreement") which included a \$500,000 Multi-Currency Term Loan Facility and a \$100,000 Multi-Currency Revolving Loan Facility including a letter of credit sub-facility of up to \$40,000. The Credit Agreement is the Company's most important source of liquidity outside of its cash flows from operations. The Revolving Loan Facility matures on May 5, 2009, while the Term Loan Facility, which includes quarterly principal payments beginning in December 2005, matures on May 5, 2010. Until the June 2005 amendment discussed below, the Term Loan Facility bore interest at LIBOR plus 3.5% per annum and EURO-LIBOR plus 4.0% per annum for the U.S. Dollar and Euro components, respectively and the Revolving Loan Facility bore interest at LIBOR plus 4.0% per annum. As of the Effective Date, the Company had \$500,000 outstanding under the Term Loan Facility and had not drawn on the Revolving Loan Facility. Proceeds of the Term Loan Facility were used to finance the repayment of the Replacement DIP Credit Facility and to finance various costs and expenses associated with the exit financing and the Plan. From the proceeds of the Company's notes offerings in March 2005 described below, \$250 million of the Term Loans were permanently repaid and all Revolving Loans then outstanding were repaid. Credit Agreement borrowings are guaranteed by substantially all of the subsidiaries of the Company and are secured by substantially all of the assets of the Company and the subsidiary guarantors. Availability under the Revolving Loan Facility was \$68,643 as of June 24, 2005.

The Credit Agreement requires the Company to comply with financial covenants, including to maintain a consolidated interest coverage ratio of consolidated EBITDAR (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization and restructuring) for the relevant period to consolidated interest expense for the period, a leverage ratio of consolidated debt to consolidated EBITDAR for the relevant periods, and adjusted secured debt leverage ratio of adjusted consolidated debt to consolidated EBITDAR for the relevant period, a minimum consolidated EBITDAR and a minimum asset coverage ratio of adjusted consolidated total current assets to consolidated bank debt. The Credit Agreement provides for different required covenant amounts and ratios for different periods. The Credit Agreement also contains other customary covenants, including reporting covenants and covenants that restrict the Company's ability to incur indebtedness, create or incur liens, sell or dispose of assets, make investments, pay dividends, change the nature of the Company's business or enter into related party transactions.

In November, 2004, in order to cure breaches of such covenants as of September 30, 2004, the company was required to obtain amendments to the covenants with respect to minimum EBITDAR and the leverage ratios. In addition, the Credit Agreement was amended at that time with respect to the treatment of proceeds from insurance recoveries. Due to the fact that the Company failed to satisfy its leverage ratio covenant as of December 31, 2004, in February 2005 the Company obtained a waiver of such covenants, as well as amendments relating to the offering of the Company's notes. In June 2005, the Company obtained additional amendments to the Credit Agreement. The amendments provide, among other things, for waivers of defaults as of March 31, 2005 in the minimum EBITDAR and leverage ratio covenants, relaxed EBITDAR and leverage ratio covenants for fiscal 2006, increases in the interest rates under the Credit Agreement that result in a per annum rate of LIBOR plus 5.25% for the U.S. Dollar and Euro components of the Term Loan Facility, as well as for the Revolving Loan Facility, and an extension for three years of the Company's obligation to pay fees to the lenders upon a refinancing of the Credit Agreement debt, as well as an expansion of the circumstances in which such fees are payable upon asset sales.

Subject to the risk factors on page 3 of this Report, the Company currently believes, that it will comply with the Credit Agreement covenants for the foreseeable future. However, management has had difficulty in predicting the Company's performance and covenant compliance. Failure to comply with such covenants, without waiver, would result in further defaults under the Credit Agreement. When the Company is in default, it is not permitted to borrow under the Credit Agreement, which has a very negative effect on liquidity. Although the Company has been able to obtain waivers of prior defaults, there can be no assurance that it can do so in the future or, if it can, the cost and terms of obtaining such waivers. Future defaults would, if not waived, allow the

Table of Contents

Credit Agreement lenders to accelerate the loans and declare all amounts due and payable. Any such acceleration would also result in a default under the indenture for the notes and their potential acceleration.

The Company's failure to deliver unqualified audited financial statements constituted a default under its Credit Agreement, which default will mature into an Event of Default if the Company fails to deliver unqualified audited financial statements within 15 days after the Company is given notice of this default by the Administrative Agent or any Lender under the Credit Agreement. As of June 28, 2005, the Company had not received formal notice of default. Until the Company cures this default or any resulting Event of Default (or the default or Event of Default is waived by Lenders holding a majority of the aggregate outstanding term loans and revolving loan commitments under the Credit Agreement (the Required Lenders)) the Company cannot borrow additional amounts or obtain additional letters of credit under the Credit Agreement. As of June 28, 2005, the Company had cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$40,000. In addition, after the default has become an Event of Default and until it is cured (or waived by the Required Lenders), the Required Lenders may terminate the revolving loan commitments, accelerate the maturity of all outstanding term loans and revolving credit loans under the Credit Agreement and proceed to realize upon the collateral securing those loans. The default, Event of Default and, should it occur, acceleration described above may trigger cross-default and cross-acceleration provisions that exist or may exist in certain of the Company's or its subsidiaries' other contracts, leases, licenses or instruments (collectively, Other Agreements) (including cross-acceleration provisions in the 10.5% Senior Secured Notes and the Floating Rate Convertible Senior Subordinated Notes), resulting in defaults and events of default under those Other Agreements.

As a result of this default, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, the Company has reclassified the borrowings under the Credit Agreement, the 10.5% Senior Secured Notes and the Floating Rate Convertible Senior Subordinated Notes as current in the Consolidated Balance Sheet.

In March 2005, the Company issued \$290,000 in aggregate principal amount of 10.5% Senior Secured Notes due 2013. Interest is payable semi-annually. The 10.5% Senior Secured Notes are redeemable at the option of the Company, in whole or in part, on or after March 15, 2009, initially at 105.25% of the principal amount, plus accrued interest, declining to 100% of the principal amount, plus accrued interest on or after March 15, 2011. The 10.5% Senior Secured Notes are redeemable at the option of the Company, in whole or in part, subject to payment of a make whole premium, at any time prior to March 15, 2009. In addition, until May 15, 2008, up to 35% of the 10.5% Senior Secured Notes are redeemable at the option of the Company, using the net proceeds of one or more qualified equity offerings. In the event of a change of control or the sale of certain assets, the Company may be required to offer to purchase the 10.5% Senior Secured Notes from the note holders. Those notes are secured by a junior priority lien on the assets of the U.S. parent company, including the stock of its subsidiaries. In indenture for these notes contains financial covenants which limit the ability of the Company and its subsidiaries to among other things incur debt, grant liens, pay dividends, invest in non-subsidiaries, engage in related party transactions and sell assets.

Also, in March 2005, the Company issued Floating Rate Convertible Senior Subordinated Notes due September 18, 2013, with an aggregate principal amount of \$60,000. These notes bear interest at a per annum rate equal to the 3-month LIBOR, adjusted quarterly, minus a spread of 1.5%. Interest is payable quarterly. The notes are convertible into the Company's common stock at a conversion rate of 57.5705 shares per \$1 principal amount at maturity, subject to adjustments in certain events, and in the event of a change in control, the Company is required to offer to repurchase such notes.

At March 31, 2005, the Company had outstanding letters of credit with a face value of \$31,186 and surety bonds with a face value of \$39,564. The majority of the letters of credit and surety bonds have been issued as collateral or financial assurance with respect to certain liabilities the Company has recorded, including but not limited to environmental remediation obligations and self-insured workers compensation reserves. Failure of the Company to satisfy its obligations with respect to the primary obligations secured by the letters of credit or surety bonds could entitle the beneficiary of the related letter of credit or surety bond to demand payments pursuant to such instruments. The letters of credit generally have terms up to one year. The Company expects limited availability of new surety bonds from traditional sources, which could impact the Company's liquidity needs in future periods. Pursuant to authorization from the Bankruptcy Court, the Company reached agreement with the

Table of Contents

surety to maintain its current surety bonds through July 31, 2006. The agreement, as amended, requires the Company to increase the collateral held by the surety in several stages: forty percent collateralization of outstanding bonds within fifteen days of the Company closing its exit financing agreements; seventy percent collateralization of outstanding bonds by August 1, 2004; and full collateralization by August 1, 2005. Collateral held by the surety in the form of letters of credit at March 31, 2005, pursuant to the terms of the agreement, was \$29,185.

The Company has a cash management service through a bank for its European operations. The bank has told the Company that it will terminate such services unless it is given satisfactory collateral to secure the bank's advances to the Company as part of such service. The Company is negotiating the type and amount of such collateral. If such negotiations are unsuccessful and the Company is unable to replace this service, the Company may be required to use up to approximately \$10,000 of its available liquidity to cover such advances.

Sources of Cash

The Company's liquidity requirements have been met historically through operating cash flows, borrowed funds and the proceeds of sales of accounts receivable and sale-leaseback transactions. Additional cash has been generated in recent years from the sale of non-core businesses and assets.

The Company generated \$27,901 and \$26,717 in cash from the sale of non-core businesses and other assets in fiscal 2005 and fiscal 2004, respectively. On April 15, 2003, the Company sold its European non-lead battery assets for proceeds of \$16,300. Of this amount, \$12,600 was held in escrow pursuant to the Company's borrowing arrangements and is included in restricted cash in the consolidated balance sheet at March 31, 2004. See Note 22 to the Consolidated Financial Statements. Restrictions on these funds were removed following the Company's emergence from Chapter 11 and the cash was used to fund working capital requirements and reduce debt. Other asset sales in both fiscal 2005 and fiscal 2004 principally relate to the sale of surplus land and buildings. Remaining proceeds from asset sales in fiscal 2005 and 2004 were primarily used to reduce debt.

Cash flows provided by (used in) financing activities were \$104,093 and (\$9,667) in fiscal 2005 and fiscal 2004, respectively. Cash flows provided by financing activities in fiscal 2005 relate primarily to net borrowings from the Credit Agreement, the Senior Secured Notes, and the Convertible Notes, net of refinancing of the Predecessor Company's Replacement DIP Credit Facility and repayment of the 9.125% Senior Notes, offset by financing costs incurred in conjunction with the Credit Agreement and the issuance of the Senior Secured Notes and the Convertible Notes. Cash flows used in financing activities in fiscal 2004 relate primarily to financing costs incurred in conjunction with the Replacement DIP Credit Facility and net repayments of other debt obligations.

Total debt at March 31, 2005 was \$653,758, as compared to \$1,847,656 at March 31, 2004. See Note 14 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the composition of such debt. On the Effective Date, indebtedness of the Debtors classified as subject to compromise, amounting to approximately \$1,081,293 at March 31, 2004, was discharged or exchanged for new common stock and Warrants, in accordance with the Plan. In addition, the Company's European borrowings by non-debtor subsidiaries under the Predecessor Company's Senior Secured Global Credit Facility were settled pursuant to the Plan.

Going forward, the Company's principal sources of liquidity will be cash from operations, the Credit Agreement, and proceeds from any asset sales. The Credit Agreement requires that the proceeds from asset sales are mandatorily required to be applied to the pay down of Term Loans, except for specific exceptions contained in the Credit Agreement as amended. The Credit Agreement includes identified assets with an estimated value of approximately \$100,000, which if disposed, 50% of the net proceeds would be retained by the Company.

Uses of Cash

The Company's liquidity needs arise primarily from the funding of working capital needs, obligations on indebtedness and capital expenditures. Because of the seasonality of the Company's business, more cash has

Table of Contents

been typically generated in the third and fourth fiscal quarters than the first and second fiscal quarters. Greatest cash demands from operations have historically occurred during the months of June through October.

Cash flows provided by (used in) operating activities were \$(16,877) in fiscal 2005 and \$40,551 in fiscal 2004. Comparative cash flows were negatively impacted by the effect of higher lead costs and the resultant impact upon the Company's working capital requirements and higher payments of accrued expenses, including restructuring costs and professional fees associated with the Company's reorganization.

The Company expects that it will have ongoing liquidity needs to support its operational restructuring programs during fiscal 2006 and fiscal 2007, including payment of remaining accrued restructuring costs of approximately \$36,155 as of March 31, 2005. The Company's ability to successfully implement these restructuring strategies on a timely basis may be impacted by its access to sources of liquidity.

Cash contributions to the Company's pension plans are generally made in accordance with minimum regulatory requirements. Because of the downturn experienced in global equity markets and ongoing benefit payments, the Company's North American plans are currently significantly under-funded. Based on current assumptions and regulatory requirements, the Company's minimum future cash contribution requirements for its North American plans are expected to increase significantly in future fiscal years. On November 17, 2004, the Company received written notification of a tentative determination from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) granting a temporary waiver of its minimum funding requirements for its North American plans for calendar years 2003 and 2004, amounting to approximately \$50,000, net, under Section 412(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, subject to providing a lien satisfactory to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC). In accordance with the senior credit facility and upon the agreement of the administrative agent, on June 10, 2005, the Company reached agreement with the PBGC on a second priority lien on domestic personal property, including stock of its U.S. and direct foreign subsidiaries to secure the unfunded liability. The temporary waiver provides for deferral of the Company's minimum contributions for those years to be paid over a subsequent five-year period through 2010.

Based upon the temporary waiver, the Company expects its minimum future cash contributions to its U.S. pension plans will total approximately \$180,000 to \$200,000 from fiscal 2006 to fiscal 2010, including \$32,500 in fiscal 2006.

Prior to and during the Company's Chapter 11 proceeding, the Company experienced a tightening of trade credit availability and terms. The Company has not obtained any significant improvement in trade credit terms since its emergence.

Capital expenditures were \$76,266 and \$65,128 in fiscal 2005 and fiscal 2004, respectively.

As of March 31, 2005, the Company had an outstanding foreign currency forward contract with a maturity of May 9, 2005. As of March 31, 2005, the foreign currency forward contract had an unrealized loss of \$13,165. This contract was settled on May 9, 2005, requiring a cash payment of \$12,084.

Employee Benefit Plans

Description

The Company has noncontributory defined benefit pension plans covering substantially all hourly and salaried employees in North America. Plans covering hourly employees provide pension benefits of stated amounts for each year of credited service. Salaried employees in North America are covered by a cash balance plan providing benefits as a percentage of salary up to qualified limits.

European subsidiaries of the Company sponsor defined benefit plans that cover substantially all employees who are not covered by statutory plans. In most cases the defined benefit plans in Europe are not funded and the benefit formulas are similar to those used by the North American hourly plans.

Table of Contents

The Company provides certain health care and life insurance benefits for a limited number of retired employees.

Assets funded under both the North American and European defined benefit plans consist primarily of equity and fixed income securities. At March 31, 2005, the fair market value of assets for the Company's defined benefit plans was \$295,298, compared to \$283,967 at March 31, 2004.

Accounting and Significant Assumptions

The Company accounts for pension benefits using the accrual method set forth in SFAS 87, *Employers Accounting for Pensions*. The accrual method of accounting for pensions involves the use of actuarial assumptions concerning future events that impact estimates of the amount and timing of benefit obligations and future benefit payments.

The Company's adoption of Fresh Start reporting in accordance with SOP 90-7 upon emergence from bankruptcy on the Effective Date had a significant impact on the Company's net amount recognized for pension benefits. All previously unrecognized net actuarial losses, transition obligation and prior service cost were recognized as of the Effective Date.

Significant assumptions used in calculating the Company's pension benefit obligations and related expense are the discount rate, rate of compensation increase and the expected long-term rate of return on plan assets. The Company establishes these underlying assumptions in consultation with its actuaries. Depending on the assumptions used, pension obligations and related expense could vary within a range of outcomes and have a material effect on reported results, benefit obligations and cash funding requirements.

The discount rates used by the Company for determining benefit obligations are generally based on high quality corporate bonds. The assumed rates of compensation increases reflect estimates of the projected change in compensation levels based on future expectations, general price levels, productivity and historical experience, among other factors. In evaluating the expected long term rate of return on plan assets, the Company considers the allocation of assets and the expected return on various asset classes in the context of the long-term nature of pension obligations.

A one-percentage point change in the weighted average expected return on plan assets would change net periodic benefit cost by approximately \$2,900 in fiscal 2005. A one-percentage point change in the weighted average discount rate would change net periodic benefit cost by approximately \$6,300 in fiscal 2005.

At March 31, 2005, the Company has lowered the discount rates used to value its pension benefit obligations to reflect the decline in yields on high quality corporate bonds. As of March 31, 2005, the Company lowered the rate of compensation increase to reflect current inflationary expectations and lowered the expected long term return on plan assets in light of market conditions and recent equity market performance. The aggregate effect of these changes increased the present value of future benefit obligations as of March 31, 2005 and had the effect of increasing pension expense in fiscal 2005. The adoption of Fresh Start reporting resulted in the recognition of all previously unrecognized actuarial losses at the Effective Date and reduced the net periodic benefit cost from amortization of actuarial losses. Pension expense for its defined benefit pension plans was \$24,630 in fiscal 2005 compared to \$34,650 in fiscal 2004, reflecting the impact of these changes.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

As of March 31, 2005, unrecognized actuarial losses for the Company's defined benefit plans were \$24,290, compared to \$184,779 at March 31, 2004. As described above, all previously unrecognized actuarial losses were recognized on adoption of Fresh Start reporting. The unrecognized actuarial losses at March 31, 2005 principally reflect the reduction in discount rates since the Effective Date. SFAS 87 provides for delayed recognition of such actuarial losses, whereby these losses, to the extent they exceed 10% of the greater of the projected benefit obligation or the market related value of plan assets are amortized as a component of pension expense over a period that approximates the average remaining service period of active employees (for the Company a period of approximately 10 years), unless and to the extent they are not offset by actuarial gains in future years.

Table of Contents

Minimum Pension Obligations

To the extent that the fair market value of pension plan assets of an individual plan is less than the accumulated benefit obligation for such plan, SFAS 87 may require recognition of an additional minimum pension liability, and in such circumstances a reduction in stockholders' equity or establishment of an intangible asset. The Company has recognized additional minimum pension liabilities of \$25,909 and \$156,714 as of March 31, 2005 and March 31, 2004, respectively, resulting in charges in accumulated other comprehensive loss included in stockholders' equity (deficit) and as of March 31, 2004, establishment of intangible assets. As of the Effective Date, there was no additional minimum pension liability as the Company recognized all previously unrecognized actuarial losses, in accordance with Fresh Start reporting requirements.

Plan Funding Requirements

Cash contributions to the Company's pension plans are generally made in accordance with minimum regulatory requirements. Because of the downturn experienced in global equity markets and ongoing benefit payments, the Company's North American plans are currently significantly under-funded. Based on current assumptions and regulatory requirements, the Company's minimum future cash contribution requirements for its North American plans are expected to increase significantly in future fiscal years. On November 17, 2004, the Company received written notification of a tentative determination from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) granting a temporary waiver of its minimum funding requirements for its North American plans for calendar years 2003 and 2004, amounting to approximately \$50,000, net, under Section 412(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, subject to providing a lien satisfactory to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC). In accordance with the senior credit facility and upon the agreement of the administrative agent, on June 10, 2005, the Company reached agreement with the PBGC on a second priority lien on domestic personal property, including stock of its U.S. and direct foreign subsidiaries to secure the unfunded liability. The temporary waiver provides for deferral of the Company's minimum contributions for those years to be paid over a subsequent five-year period through 2010.

Based upon the temporary waiver, the Company expects its minimum future cash contributions to its U.S. pension plans will total approximately \$180,000 to \$200,000 from fiscal 2006 to fiscal 2010, including \$32,500 in fiscal 2006.

Restructuring Activities and Related Impairment Charges

Following the acquisition of GNB Technologies in September 2000, the Company initiated various restructuring programs involving facility, branch and corporate office closures and consolidation, principally in connection with overall integration plans to affect the combination of the two organizations. Such actions impacted both existing Exide and acquired GNB employees and facilities. The specific actions taken under the overall restructuring plan were designed to reduce costs and improve earnings and cash flows with an expected annual benefit of approximately \$90,000. The impact of the benefits of restructuring initiatives on operating results have been more than offset by lower volumes and ongoing fixed costs.

During fiscal 2003, 2004, and 2005, the Company continued to implement operational changes to streamline and rationalize its structure in an effort to simplify the organization and eliminate redundant and/or unnecessary costs. As part of these restructuring programs, the nature of the positions eliminated ranged from plant employees and clerical workers to operational and sales management.

Fiscal 2005

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

During fiscal 2005, the Company recognized restructuring and impairment charges of \$43,081, representing \$32,256 for severance, \$6,807 for related closure costs and \$4,018 for non-cash charges related to write down of property, plant and equipment.

Table of Contents

During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2005, the Company recognized restructuring and impairment charges of \$29,493, representing \$23,556 for severance, including net pension curtailment gains of \$1,646 associated with headcount reductions and plant closures, \$2,045 for related closure costs, and \$3,892 for a non-cash charge related to the write down of machinery and equipment. These charges primarily relate to the announced closure of the Company's Transportation Europe and ROW facility in Nanterre, France, write-off of equipment at the Company's Industrial Energy Europe and ROW facility in Weiden, Germany, corporate severance and costs associated with the relocation of the Company's global corporate headquarters and headcount reductions in Transportation Europe and ROW and Industrial Energy Europe and ROW. Approximately 180 positions have been eliminated in connection with the fourth quarter fiscal 2005 plans.

During the third quarter of fiscal 2005, the Company recognized restructuring and impairment charges of \$5,713, representing \$3,885 for severance costs, including a \$516 loss on settlement of pension obligations at the Maple, Ontario facility, and \$1,818 for related closure costs and \$10 for a non-cash charge related to the write-down of machinery and equipment. These charges principally resulted from actions related to Industrial Energy Europe consolidation efforts, the announced closure of the Company's Casalnuovo, Italy Industrial Energy Europe facility, corporate severance and headcount reductions in Transportation Europe. Approximately sixty positions have been eliminated in connection with the third quarter fiscal 2005 plans.

During the second quarter of fiscal 2005, the Company recognized restructuring and impairment charges of \$4,826, representing \$3,583 for severance, \$1,229 for related closure costs and \$14 for a non-cash charge related to the write-down of machinery and equipment. These charges principally resulted from actions related to corporate severance and headcount reductions in Transportation Europe. Approximately seventy positions have been eliminated in connection with the second quarter fiscal 2005 plans.

During the first quarter of fiscal 2005, the Company recognized restructuring and impairment charges of \$3,049, representing \$1,232 for severance, \$1,715 for related closure costs and \$102 for a non-cash charge related to the write down of machinery and equipment. These charges principally resulted from actions related to Industrial Energy Europe consolidation efforts, the announced closure of the Company's Casalnuovo, Italy Industrial Energy Europe facility, corporate severance and headcount reductions in Transportation Europe. Approximately thirty positions have been eliminated in connection with the first quarter fiscal 2005 plans.

In the aggregate, payments made during fiscal 2005 from operating cash flows to terminated employees and third parties for other closure costs totaled approximately \$49,100.

Fiscal 2004

During fiscal 2004, the Company recognized restructuring and impairment charges of \$52,708, representing \$43,519 for severance, \$8,972 for related closure costs and \$217 for non-cash charges related to write down of property, plant and equipment.

During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2004, the Company recognized restructuring and impairment charges of \$32,734, representing \$25,605 for severance, \$6,968 for related closure costs, and \$161 for a non-cash charge related to the write down of machinery and equipment.

During the third quarter of fiscal 2004, the Company recognized restructuring and impairment charges of \$12,662, representing \$11,857 for severance and \$805 for related closure costs.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

During the second quarter of fiscal 2004, the Company recognized restructuring and impairment charges of \$4,827, representing \$4,121 for severance and \$706 for related closure costs.

During the first quarter of fiscal 2004, the Company recognized restructuring and impairment charges of \$2,485, representing \$1,936 for severance, \$493 for related closure costs and \$56 for a non-cash charge related to the write down of machinery and equipment.

Table of Contents

These charges resulted from actions undertaken during fiscal 2004 related to Industrial Energy Europe and ROW consolidation efforts, the announced closure of the Company's Industrial Energy Europe and ROW facility in Weiden, Germany, the announced closure of the Company's Industrial Energy Europe and ROW facility in Casalnuovo, Italy, corporate severance, Transportation Europe and ROW headcount reductions and the closure of a Transportation North America facility. Approximately 275 positions have been eliminated in connection with fourth quarter fiscal 2004 plans, 330 positions have been eliminated in connection with the third quarter fiscal 2004 plans, 100 positions have been eliminated in connection with the second quarter fiscal 2004 plans and approximately 75 positions have been eliminated in connection with the first quarter fiscal 2004 plans. These actions provide annual savings through reduced wages and salaries, reductions in facility costs, lower depreciation and improved manufacturing plant absorption. In the aggregate, payments made during fiscal 2004 from operating cash flows to terminated employees and third parties for other closure costs totaled approximately \$33,000.

Fiscal 2003

During fiscal 2003, the Company recognized restructuring and impairment charges of \$25,658, representing \$18,519 for severance, \$2,754 for related closure costs and \$4,385 for non-cash charges related to the write-down of property, plant and equipment.

Of these total charges, \$9,142 for severance, \$1,841 for related closure costs and \$3,139 for non-cash charges related to the write-off of property, plant and equipment were recorded during the first three quarters of the year. The charges for the first quarter of fiscal 2003 related to the downsizing of an Industrial Energy North America facility in Kankakee, Illinois and the closure of a Transportation Europe and ROW facility in Cwmbran, UK. Approximately 300 positions, principally plant employees, were eliminated in connection with the first quarter fiscal 2003 plans. The charges for the second quarter of fiscal 2003 principally resulted from corporate severance and the closure of a Transportation North America facility in Florence, Mississippi. Approximately 120 positions were eliminated in connection with the second quarter fiscal 2003 plans. The charges for the third quarter of fiscal 2003 resulted from European headcount reductions, changes in prior estimates of fiscal 2002 pension curtailment obligations at the Maple, Ontario plant and ongoing costs associated with fiscal 2002 North American plastics and manufacturing facility closures. Approximately 15 positions were eliminated in connection with these third quarter actions.

During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2003, the Company recognized net restructuring and impairment charges of \$11,536, representing \$9,377 severance, \$913 related closure costs and \$1,246 of non-cash charges related to the write-down of machinery and equipment. Approximately 215 employees were terminated in connection with the fourth quarter plans. The fourth quarter fiscal 2003 charge includes a credit of \$3,100, following recently finalized changes to the Company's original plans for restructuring of its European shared services operations.

In the aggregate, payments made during fiscal 2003 from operating cash flows to terminated employees and third parties for other closure costs totaled approximately \$24,000.

Financial Instruments and Market Risk

The Company uses forward contracts to economically hedge certain currency exposures and certain lead purchasing requirements. The forward contracts are entered into for periods consistent with related underlying exposures and do not constitute positions independent of those exposures. The Company does not apply hedge accounting to such commodity contracts as prescribed by SFAS 133. The Company expects that it may increase the use of financial instruments, including fixed and variable rate debt as well as swap, forward and option contracts to finance its operations and to hedge interest rate, currency and certain lead purchasing requirements in the future. The swap, forward, and option contracts would be entered into for periods consistent with related underlying exposures and would not constitute positions independent of those exposures. The Company has not, and does not intend to enter into contracts for speculative purposes nor be a party to any leveraged

instruments.

face value of \$21,043 were outstanding.

The estimated fiscal 2006 pension plan contributions are \$46,900. See Employee Benefit Plans in this Item 7 regarding the Company's estimated future contributions to its U.S. pension plans. Funding information for the Company's non-U.S. pension plans is not available beyond fiscal 2006.

Trading Activities

The Company does not have any trading activity that involves non-exchange traded contracts accounted for at fair value.

Table of Contents

Related Parties

The services of Lisa J. Donahue, Chief Restructuring Officer until May 5, 2004, were provided to the Company pursuant to a services agreement, dated October 25, 2001, between the Company and AP Services, LLC (formerly JA&A Services LLC). Under the Services Agreement, the Company was charged an hourly fee for Ms. Donahue's and other temporary employees' services, and Ms. Donahue, a principal in AP Services, LLC, was compensated independently by AP Services, LLC. The agreement with AP Services, LLC also provided for payment of a one-time success fee upon the Company's emergence from bankruptcy. AP Services, LLC is an affiliate of AlixPartners, LLC, a financial advisory and consulting firm specializing in corporate restructuring, which was retained by the Company in connection with its financial restructuring. Ms. Donahue is also a principal in AlixPartners, LLC. Fees incurred by the Company during fiscal 2005, 2004, and 2003 under the Services Agreement were \$5,482, \$8,281, and \$10,749, respectively.

Effects of Inflation

Inflation has not had a material impact on the Company's operations during the past three years. The Company generally has been able to partially offset the effects of inflation with cost-reduction programs and operating efficiencies.

Future Environmental Developments

As a result of its multinational manufacturing, distribution and recycling operations, the Company is subject to numerous federal, state and local environmental, occupational safety and health laws and regulations, as well as similar laws and regulations in other countries in which the Company operates. For a discussion of the legal proceedings relating to environmental matters, see Item 3. Legal Proceedings.

Other

On September 24, 2004, the Company experienced a fire at one of its facilities in Europe. While damage to the facility was contained, the Company experienced disruption to certain of its business operations and activities as the Company restored production capacity and diverted production to alternative sites. During fiscal 2005, the Company recognized \$10,300 of insurance recoveries. This represents partial reimbursement for both business interruption and replacement of property damaged by the fire. The Company expects that any further financial impact of such business disruption will be substantially recovered through insurance coverage.

Item 7A. *Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risks*

The Company is exposed to market risks from changes in foreign currency exchange rates, certain commodity prices and interest rates. The Company does not enter into contracts without an intent to mitigate a particular risk, nor is it a party to any leveraged instruments. A discussion of the Company's accounting policies for derivative instruments is provided in Notes 3 and 8 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk

The Company is exposed to foreign currency risk related to uncertainty to which future earnings or assets and liability values are exposed due to operating cash flows and various financial instruments that are denominated in foreign currencies. More specifically, the Company is exposed to foreign currency risk in most European countries, principally Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Spain and Italy. It is also exposed, although to a lesser extent, to foreign currency risk in Australia and the Pacific Rim. Movements of exchange rates against the U.S. dollar can result in variations in the U.S. dollar value of non-U.S. sales. In some instances, gains in one currency may be offset by losses in another.

Table of Contents**Commodity Price Risk**

Lead is the primary material used in the manufacture of batteries, representing approximately one-third of the Company's cost of goods sold. The market price of lead fluctuates. Generally, when lead prices decrease, customers may seek disproportionate price reductions from the Company, and when lead prices increase, customers may resist price increases.

Interest Rate Risk

The Company is exposed to interest rate risk on its variable rate long-term debt. The Company has on occasion entered into certain interest rate swap agreements to hedge exposure to interest costs associated with long-term debt. Interest rate swaps involve the exchange of floating rate interest payments to effectively convert floating rate debt into fixed rate debt. No such swaps were outstanding at March 31, 2005.

The following table presents the expected debt maturities, excluding capital lease obligations and lines of credit, under the terms of the Company's borrowing arrangements at March 31, 2005.

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010 and thereafter</u>	<u>Total</u>
	(US\$ equivalents in millions)					
Fixed rate	\$ 11,442	\$ 392	\$ 395	\$ 454	\$ 290,862	\$ 303,544
Weighted average interest rate	5.0%	0.5%	0.5%	1.1%	10.5%	10.2%
Variable rate	\$ 9,992	\$ 23,318	\$ 26,650	\$ 36,641	\$ 229,868	\$ 326,469
Weighted average interest rate	6.2%	6.2%	6.2%	6.2%	4.9%	5.3%

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

See Index to Consolidated Financial Statements and Schedule at page F-1.

Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

Not applicable.

Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

The Company maintains disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act), that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

As of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of senior management, including the chief executive officer and the chief financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(b) and 15d-15(b). Based upon, and as of the date of this evaluation, the chief executive officer and the chief financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were not effective, because of the material weaknesses discussed below. In light of the material weaknesses described below, we performed additional analysis and other post-closing procedures to ensure our consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Accordingly, management believes that the financial statements included in this report fairly present in all material respects our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows for the periods presented.

Table of Contents

The certifications of our principal executive officer and principal financial officer required in accordance with Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 are attached as exhibits to this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The disclosures set forth in this Item 9A contain information concerning the evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures, internal control over financial reporting and changes in internal control over financial reporting referred to in those certifications. Those certifications should be read in conjunction with this Item 9A for a more complete understanding of the matters covered by the certifications.

Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f). Our internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Management has completed its evaluation of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of March 31, 2005 based on the framework in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

A material weakness is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected. We identified the following material weaknesses during our assessment of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of March 31, 2005:

Ineffective controls over period-end account reconciliations, reviews and analyses. At March 31, 2005, we did not maintain effective controls over period-end account reconciliations, reviews and analyses. Specifically, our account reconciliations, reviews and analyses procedures were ineffective as it relates to the following: (i) independent and timely review of certain account reconciliations and analyses, including those over cost of sales, inventories, accrued expenses and operating expenses; (ii) review and approval of journal entries; and (iii) timely business performance reviews of financial results. These control deficiencies resulted in audit adjustments to the aforementioned accounts in the Company's fiscal 2005 consolidated financial statements. Additionally, these control deficiencies could result in a misstatement in financial statement accounts and disclosures that would result in a material misstatement to the annual or interim financial statements that would not be prevented or detected. Accordingly, management has determined that these control deficiencies, in the aggregate, constitute a material weakness.

Ineffective controls over period-end accounting for income taxes. At March 31, 2005, we did not maintain effective controls over the period-end accounting for income taxes. Specifically, our processes, procedures and controls related to the preparation and review of the quarterly and annual tax provisions were not adequate to ensure that the deferred tax provision and deferred tax asset and liability balances were accurate and determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This control deficiency resulted in audit adjustments to the Company's fiscal 2005 consolidated financial statements. Additionally, this control deficiency could result in a misstatement of the tax provision and deferred tax asset and liability balances that would result in a material misstatement to the annual or interim consolidated financial statements that would not be prevented or detected. Accordingly, management has determined that this control deficiency constitutes a material weakness.

Because of the material weaknesses described above, management has concluded that the Company's internal control over financial reporting was not effective as of March 31, 2005, based on the criteria in the *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the COSO.

Table of Contents

Management's assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of March 31, 2005 has been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report which is included herein.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There have been no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting during the quarter ended March 31, 2005 that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect our internal control over financial reporting. Our management has discussed the material weaknesses described above and other deficiencies with our audit committee. In an effort to remediate the identified material weaknesses and other deficiencies, we continue to implement a number of changes to our internal control over financial reporting including the following:

We are enhancing established policies and procedures for accounting review of month-end close, account reconciliation processes, journal entries, write-offs, restructuring related entries, impairment reviews and tax related entries;

Taken steps to reduce the complexity of our consolidation processes, including push-down of responsibility for current consolidation activities to the appropriate levels in the organization.

Additionally, in response to the material weaknesses identified, we intend to implement additional remedial measures, including, but not limited to the following:

Improving our documentation and training related to policies and procedures for the controls related to our significant accounts and processes;

Hiring additional accounting personnel to focus on our ongoing remediation initiatives and compliance efforts;

Engaging expert resources to assist with worldwide tax planning and compliance;

Re-allocating and/or relocating duties of finance personnel to enhance review and monitoring procedures.

While the Company believes that the remedial actions will result in correcting the material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting, the exact timing of when the conditions will be corrected is dependent upon future events, which may or may not occur.

Item 9B. Other Information

None

Table of Contents

PART III

Item 10. Directors and Executive Officers of the Registrant

Information concerning the Board of Directors of the Company, the members of the Company's Audit Committee, the Company's Audit Committee financial expert and the Company's Code of Ethics is incorporated by reference to the Company's Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders currently scheduled to be held on August 11, 2005 (the "Proxy Statement").

Executive Officers of the Registrant

Gordon A. Ulsh (59) President, Chief Executive Officer and member of the Board of Directors. Mr. Ulsh was appointed in to his current position in April 2005. From 2001 until March 2005, Mr. Ulsh was Chairman, President and CEO of Texas-based FleetPride Inc., the nation's largest independent aftermarket distributor of heavy-duty truck parts. Prior to joining FleetPride in 2001, Mr. Ulsh worked with Ripplewood Equity Partners, providing analysis of automotive industry segments for investment opportunities. Earlier, he served as President and Chief Operating Officer of Federal-Mogul Corporation in 1999 and as head of its Worldwide Aftermarket Division in 1998. Prior to Federal-Mogul, he held a number of leadership positions with Cooper Industries, including Executive Vice President of its automotive products segment. Mr. Ulsh joined Cooper's Wagner Lighting business unit in 1984 as Vice President of Operations, following 16 years in manufacturing and engineering management at Ford Motor Company.

Mitchell S. Bregman (52) President, Industrial Energy Americas. Mr. Bregman joined Exide in September 2000 in connection with the Company's acquisition of GNB. He has served in his current role since March 2003 and prior to that was President Global Network Power. Mr. Bregman joined GNB in 1979. He served for 12 years as a Vice President with various responsibilities with GNB Industrial Power and nine years with GNB's Transportation Division.

Neil S. Bright (58) President, Industrial Energy Europe. Mr. Bright has served in his current capacity since April 2000 and prior to that beginning in April 1998 was Executive Vice President, Sales and Marketing for transportation and industrial batteries for Exide Europe. Prior to that he was Executive Vice President of Exide Holding Europe S.A. with responsibility for the industrial battery division in Europe.

J. Timothy Gargaro (51) Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Gargaro was appointed to his current position in October 2004. Prior to joining Exide, in 2003 and 2004, Mr. Gargaro was Managing Director of Axios Capital Partners, LLC. Prior to that, Mr. Gargaro was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at Oxford Automotive, Inc., from 2002 through 2003. Mr. Gargaro was Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President at Delco Remy International, Inc., from 2000 through 2001. Mr. Gargaro's experience also includes a series of increasingly more senior positions with Lear Corporation between 1993 and 2000, where he was Vice President Europe, Vice President DaimlerChrysler Division and Vice President Finance Ford Division. Mr. Gargaro serves on the Board of Directors of Health Alliance Plan of Michigan.

Ian J. Harvie (42) Vice President and Corporate Controller. Mr. Harvie served as Interim Chief Financial Officer from September 2003 until October 2004. He has served as Vice President and Controller since joining the Company in February 2002. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Harvie was a partner with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Janice M. Jones (57) Executive Vice President, Human Resources and communications. Ms. Jones joined Exide in June 2002. Prior to joining Exide, she was Senior Vice President of Human Resources at American Express from 1999 to 2002. She held various positions at Dial Corporation from 1989 to 1999 including Vice President of Human Resources at a Dial subsidiary from 1995 to 1999. Before becoming a human resources professional, Ms. Jones practiced law.

Table of Contents

Stuart Kupinsky (37) Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary. Mr. Kupinsky joined Exide in September 2002. Prior to joining Exide, Mr. Kupinsky served as Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary for Teligent, Inc. and was one of two senior officers of Teligent who facilitated its emergence from Chapter 11 bankruptcy. Prior to that, Mr. Kupinsky served in the United States Department of Justice in the Antitrust Division.

Edward J. O Leary (49) President, Transportation Americas since June 6, 2005. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. O Leary served as President The Americas at Oetiker Inc. From 2002 to 2004, Mr. O Leary served in a consulting capacity with Jag Management Consultants. Mr. O Leary served as Chief Executive Officer of iStarSystems from 2000 to 2002, and served as Vice President Sales and Distribution The Americas at Federal-Mogul Corp. from 1998 to 1999.

Rodolphe Reverchon (46) President, Transportation Europe. Mr. Reverchon joined the Company in 2003 as Vice President Operations Europe. From 1996 to 2003, Mr. Reverchon served in a number of capacities at Bosch Chassis & Systems as European Manufacturing Director, Plant Manager and Manufacturing Quality Manager Europe.

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Information concerning compliance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is incorporated by reference to the Proxy Statement.

Director Independence

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Proxy Statement.

Audit Committee Financial Expert

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Proxy Statement.

Code of Ethics

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Proxy Statement.

Item 11. *Executive Compensation*

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Proxy Statement.

Item 12. *Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management*

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Proxy Statement.

Item 13. *Certain Relationships and Related Transactions*

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Proxy Statement.

Item 14. *Principal Accountant Fees and Services*

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Proxy Statement.

Table of Contents

Item 15. *Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules*

- (a) Index to Financial Statements

See Index to Consolidated Financial Statements and Schedule at page F-1.

- (b) Exhibits Required by Item 601 of Regulation S-K

See Index to Exhibits.

- (c) Financial Statement Schedules

See Index to Consolidated Financial Statements and Schedule at page F-1.

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized on June 29, 2005.

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES

By: /s/ GORDON A. ULSH
Gordon A. Ulsh,

President and Chief Executive Officer

By: /s/ J. TIMOTHY GARGARO
J. Timothy Gargaro

**Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer**

By: /s/ IAN J. HARVIE
Ian J. Harvie

**Vice President and
Corporate Controller**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities stated, in each case, on June 29, 2005.

By: /s/ GORDON A. ULSH
Gordon A. Ulsh,

President and Chief Executive Officer

By: /s/ PHILIP M. MARTINEAU
Phillip M. Martineau,

Director

By: /s/ J. TIMOTHY GARGARO
J. Timothy Gargaro,

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

By: /s/ JOHN P. REILLY
John P. Reilly,

Chairman of the Board of Directors

By: /s/ MICHAEL R. D. APPOLONIA
Michael R. D. Appolonia,

Director

By: /s/ MICHAEL P. RESSNER
Michael P. Ressler,

Director

By: /s/ EUGENE I. DAVIS
Eugene I. Davis,

Director

By: /s/ JEROME B. YORK
Jerome B. York,

Director

By: /s/ MARK C. DEMETREE
Mark C. Demetree,

Director

Table of Contents

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

- 2.1 Joint Plan of Reorganization of the Official Committees of Unsecured Creditors and the Debtors, dated March 11, 2004, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 6, 2004.
- 2.2 Amended Technical Amendment to Joint Plan of Reorganization of the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors and the Debtors, dated April 21, 2004, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.2 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated May 6, 2004
- 2.3 Order confirming the Joint Plan of Reorganization of the official Committee of Unsecured Creditors and the Debtors entered April 21, 2004, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.3 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated May 6, 2004.
- 3.1 Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Company, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1 of the Company's Form 8-A dated May 6, 2004.
- *3.2 Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company, effective April 28, 2005.
- 4.1 Credit and Guarantee Agreement dated as of May 5, 2004 by and among the Company, Exide Global Holding Netherlands C.V., the Lenders from time to time partly thereto, Credit Suisse First Boston and Fleet Securities Inc., Syndication Agents, Deutsche Bank AG New York Branch, as Administration Agent, Credit Suisse First Boston, as Book Running Manager, and Deutsche Bank Securities Inc, as Sole Lead Arranger and Book Running Manager, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated May 7, 2004.
- 4.2 Warrant Agreement dated as of May 5, 2004 by and between the Company and American Stock Transfer Trust Company, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3 to the Company's on Form 8-A dated May 6, 2004.
- 4.3 First Amendment and Waiver to Credit Agreement, dated as of November 10, 2004, among Exide Technologies, a Delaware corporation, Exide Global Holding Netherlands C.V., a limited partnership organized under the laws of The Netherlands, the Lenders from time to time party hereto and Deutsche Bank AG New York Branch, as Administrative Agent, incorporated by reference to the Company's Report on Form 10-Q dated November 15, 2004.
- 4.4 Second Amendment and Waiver to Credit Agreement, dated as of February 14, 2005, among Exide Technologies, a Delaware corporation, Exide Global Holding Netherlands C.V., a limited partnership organized under the laws of the Netherlands, the Lenders from time to time party hereto and Deutsche Bank AG New York Branch, as Administrative Agent, incorporated by reference to the Company's Report on Form 10-Q dated February 14, 2005.
- 4.3 Third Amendment and Waiver to Credit Agreement, dated as of February 24, 2005, among Exide Technologies, a Delaware corporation, Exide Global Holding Netherlands C.V., a limited partnership organized under the laws of the Netherlands, the Lenders from time to time party hereto and Deutsche Bank AG New York Branch, as Administrative Agent, incorporated by reference to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated February 28, 2005.
- 4.4 Indenture dated as of March 18, 2005 by and between Exide Technologies and SunTrust Bank relating to the 101/2% Senior Secured Notes due 2013, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated March 24, 2005.
- 4.5 Indenture dated as of March 18, 2005 by and between Exide Technologies and SunTrust Bank relating to the Floating Rate Convertible Senior Subordinated Notes due 2013, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated March 24, 2005.

Table of Contents

- 4.6 Fourth Amendment and Waiver to Credit Agreement, dated as of June 13, 2005, among Exide Technologies, a Delaware corporation, Exide Global Holding Netherlands C.V., a limited partnership organized under the laws of the Netherlands, the Lenders from time to time party hereto and Deutsche Bank AG New York Branch, as Administrative Agent, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated June 15, 2005.
- 4.7 Registration Rights Agreement dated as of March 18, 2005 by and between Exide Technologies, on the one hand, and Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Credit Suisse First Boston LLC, Banc of America Securities LLC and UBS Securities LLC on the other hand relating to the 10¹/₂% Senior Secured Notes due 2013, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated March 24, 2005.
- 4.8 Registration Rights Agreement dated as of March 18, 2005 by and between Exide Technologies, on the one hand, and Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and Credit Suisse First Boston LLC on the other hand, relating to the Floating Rate Convertible Senior Subordinated Notes due 2013, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated March 24, 2005.
- 4.9 Copy of Intercreditor Agreement dated as of March 18, 2005 reflecting changes from First Amendment to Intercreditor Agreement dated as of June 10, 2005 among Exide Technologies, the administrative agent under the senior credit facility, the trustee for the Company's two series of notes and the PBGC, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.4 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated June 15, 2005.
- 10.9 Executive Employment Agreement with Craig H. Muhlhauser, as amended on June 14, 2002.
- 10.18 Restructuring Milestone Incentive Plan, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.19 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2002.
- 10.19 Corporate Incentive Plan, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.20 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2002.
- 10.20 Services Agreement, dated October 25, 2001, between JA&J Services LLC and the Company, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.21 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2002.
- 10.21 North American Supply Agreement dated December 15, 1999 between Daramic, Inc. and Exide Corporation (certain confidential portions have been omitted and filed separately with the SEC pursuant to a request for confidential treatment), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.22 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2002.
- 10.22 Automotive and Industrial Supply Contract dated July 31, 2001 between Daramic, Inc. and Exide Corporation (certain confidential portions have been omitted and filed separately with the SEC pursuant to a request for confidential treatment), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.23 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2002.
- 10.23 Golf Cart Separator Supply Contract dated July 31, 2001 between Daramic, Inc. and Exide Corporation (certain confidential portions have been omitted and filed separately with the SEC pursuant to a request for confidential treatment), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.24 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2002.
- 10.24 Amendment to Supply Contracts dated July 31, 2001 between Daramic, Inc. and Exide Corporation (certain confidential portions have been omitted and filed separately with the SEC pursuant to a request for confidential treatment), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.25 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2002.
- 10.25 Amendment No. 2 to Supply Contracts dated July 11, 2002 between Daramic, Inc. and Exide Technologies (certain confidential portions have been omitted and filed separately with the SEC pursuant to a request for confidential treatment), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.26 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2002.

Table of Contents

10.26	Exide Technologies et al. Debtors Income Protection Plan, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.27 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2002.
10.27	Separation Agreement, dated as of October 11, 2004, by and between the Company and Craig H. Muhlhauser, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated October 12, 2004.
10.28	Exide Technologies' 2004 Stock Incentive Plan, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated October 19, 2005.
10.29	Retention Letter between the Company and Ian J. Harvie, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated February 16, 2005.
10.30	Employment Agreement, dated as of March 2, 2005, by and between the Company and Gordon A. Ulsh, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated October 12, 2004.
10.31	Registration Rights Agreement dated as of March 18, 2005 by and between Exide Technologies, on the one hand, and Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Credit Suisse First Boston LLC, Banc of America Securities LLC and UBS Securities LLC on the other hand relating to the 101/2% Senior Secured Notes due 2013, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated March 24, 2005.
10.32	Purchase Agreement dated as of March 15, 2005 by and between Exide Technologies, on the one hand, and Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Credit Suisse First Boston LLC, Banc of America Securities LLC and UBS Securities LLC on the other hand relating to the 101/2% Senior Secured Notes due 2013, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated March 24, 2005.
10.33	Security Agreement between Exide Technologies and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation dated as of June 10, 2005, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.2 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated June 15, 2005.
10.34	Pledge Agreement between Exide Technologies and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation dated as of June 10, 2005, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.3 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated June 15, 2005.
*21	Subsidiaries of the Company.
*23.1	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
*31.1	Certification of Gordon A. Ulsh, President and Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
*31.2	Certification of J. Timothy Gargaro, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
*32.1	Certifications pursuant to Section 906 of Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

* Filed with this Report.
Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SCHEDULE

<u>REPORTS OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM</u>	F-2
<u>CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS</u>	F-6
<u>CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS</u>	F-7
<u>CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (DEFICIT)</u>	F-8
<u>CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS</u>	F-9
<u>NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u>	F-11
<u>FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULE:</u>	
<u>II VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS AND RESERVES</u>	F-60

All other schedules are omitted because they are not applicable, not required, or the information required to be set forth therein is included in the Consolidated Financial Statements or in the Notes thereto.

Table of Contents

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Shareholders and Board of Directors of

Exide Technologies

We have completed an integrated audit of Exide Technologies' 2005 consolidated financial statements and of its internal control over financial reporting as of March 31, 2005 in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Our opinions, based on our audit, are presented below.

Consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated balance sheet and the related consolidated statements of operations, shareholders' equity and cash flows present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Exide Technologies and its subsidiaries (Successor Company) at March 31, 2005, and the results of their operations and cash flows for the period from May 6, 2004 to March 31, 2005 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In addition, in our opinion, the financial statement schedule, at March 31, 2005 and for the period May 6, 2004 to March 31, 2005 listed in the accompanying index presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein when read in conjunction with the related consolidated financial statements. These financial statements and financial statement schedule are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial statement schedule based on our audit. We conducted our audit of these statements in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared assuming the Company will continue as a going concern. As more fully discussed in Note 1, for each of the last three quarters in fiscal 2005, the Company was not in compliance with one or more of its debt covenants of its Senior Secured Credit Facility (Credit Agreement). In each case, the Company was either able to obtain a waiver or negotiate an amendment to the Credit Agreement to achieve compliance. The Company's financial forecasts and plan for fiscal 2006 anticipate the Company being in compliance with its debt covenants throughout fiscal 2006. However, given the Company's past financial performance in comparison to its budgets and forecasts, there is no assurance the Company will be able to meet its plan and be in compliance with the Credit Agreement through March 31, 2006. Should the Company be unable to comply with any of its debt covenants during fiscal 2006, it would request a waiver and/or amendment from the lenders to be in compliance with its Credit Agreement. If the lenders were unwilling or unable to provide the Company with either a waiver or an amendment, the entire debt obligation could become due and payable immediately and the Company would be forced to refinance or repay its debt obligations or seek other alternatives. The uncertainty with respect to the Company's ability to maintain compliance with its financial covenants throughout fiscal 2006 raises substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. Furthermore, under the terms of the Credit Agreement, this going concern modification to our opinion on the financial statements is an event of default. Accordingly, certain debt obligations have been reflected in the accompanying balance sheet as current liabilities. The Company has fifteen days from formal notification to cure the default before the lenders could vote to accelerate the debt. The Company is attempting to obtain a waiver of this default with the lending institutions. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty, except that certain debt obligations have been reflected as current liabilities as of March 31, 2005.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

As discussed in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, on April 15, 2002, Exide Technologies, together with certain of its U.S. subsidiaries (Debtors), filed voluntary petitions for reorganization under Chapter

F-2

Table of Contents

11 of the federal bankruptcy laws in the United States Court for the District of Delaware. The Debtor's Joint Plan of Reorganization was confirmed by the Bankruptcy Court on April 21, 2004 and the Debtors declared May 5, 2004 as the effective date of the Plan as it had substantially consummated the transactions provided for in the Plan on such date. Confirmation of the plan resulted in the discharge of substantially all claims against the Company that arose before April 15, 2002 and substantially terminates all rights and interests of equity security holders as provided for in the plan. For accounting purposes the Company also recognized its emergence from bankruptcy as of May 5, 2004. In connection with its emergence from bankruptcy, the Company adopted fresh start accounting as of May 5, 2004.

Internal control over financial reporting

Also, we have audited management's assessment, included in Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting appearing under Item 9A, that Exide Technologies did not maintain effective internal control over financial reporting as of March 31, 2005, as the Company did not maintain effective controls over (i) period-end account reconciliations, reviews and analyses and (ii) period-end accounting for income taxes, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting. Our responsibility is to express opinions on management's assessment and on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of internal control over financial reporting in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. An audit of internal control over financial reporting includes obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, evaluating management's assessment, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control, and performing such other procedures as we consider necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

A material weakness is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected. The following material weaknesses have been identified and included in management's assessment.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

1. *Ineffective controls over period-end account reconciliations, reviews and analyses.* At March 31, 2005, the Company did not maintain effective controls over period-end account reconciliations, reviews and analyses.

F-3

Table of Contents

Specifically, the Company's account reconciliations, reviews and analyses procedures were ineffective as they relate to the following: (i) independent and timely review of certain account reconciliations and analyses, including those over cost of sales, inventories, accrued expenses and operating expenses; (ii) review and approval of journal entries; and (iii) timely business performance reviews of financial results. These control deficiencies resulted in audit adjustments to the aforementioned accounts in the Company's fiscal 2005 consolidated financial statements. Additionally, these control deficiencies could result in a misstatement in financial statement accounts and disclosures that would result in a material misstatement to the annual or interim financial statements that would not be prevented or detected. Accordingly, management has determined that these control deficiencies, in the aggregate, constitute a material weakness.

2. *Ineffective controls over period-end accounting for income taxes.* At March 31, 2005, the Company did not maintain effective controls over the period-end accounting for income taxes. Specifically, the Company's processes, procedures and controls related to the preparation and review of the quarterly and annual tax provisions were not adequate to ensure that the deferred tax provision and deferred tax asset and liability balances were accurate and determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This control deficiency resulted in audit adjustments to the Company's fiscal 2005 consolidated financial statements. Additionally, this control deficiency could result in a misstatement of the tax provision and deferred tax asset and liability balances that would result in a material misstatement to the annual or interim consolidated financial statements that would not be prevented or detected. Accordingly, management has determined that this control deficiency constitutes a material weakness.

These material weaknesses were considered in determining the nature, timing, and extent of audit tests applied in our audit of the 2005 consolidated financial statements, and our opinion regarding the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting does not affect our opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

In our opinion, management's assessment that Exide Technologies did not maintain effective internal control over financial reporting as of March 31, 2005, is fairly stated, in all material respects, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the COSO. Also, in our opinion, because of the effect of the material weaknesses described above on the achievement of the objectives of the control criteria, Exide Technologies has not maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of March 31, 2005, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the COSO.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

June 28, 2005

Table of Contents

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Shareholders and Board of Directors of

Exide Technologies

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated balance sheet and the related consolidated statements of operations, shareholders' equity (deficit) and cash flows present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Exide Technologies and its subsidiaries (Predecessor Company) at March 31, 2004 and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the period from April 1, 2004 to May 5, 2004 and for each of the two years in the period ended March 31, 2004 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In addition, in our opinion, the financial statement schedule listed in the accompanying index presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein when read in conjunction with the related consolidated financial statements. These financial statements and financial statement schedule are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial statement schedule based on our audits. We conducted our audits of these statements in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements, on April 1, 2003, Exide adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 143, Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations.

As discussed in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, on April 15, 2002, Exide Technologies, together with certain of its U.S. subsidiaries (Debtors), filed voluntary petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the federal bankruptcy laws in the United States Court for the District of Delaware. The Debtors' Joint Plan of Reorganization was confirmed by the Bankruptcy Court on April 21, 2004 and the Debtors declared May 5, 2004 as the effective date of the Plan as it had substantially consummated the transactions provided for in the Plan on such date. For accounting purposes the Company also recognized its emergence from bankruptcy as of May 5, 2004. In connection with its emergence from bankruptcy, the Company adopted fresh start accounting as of May 5, 2004.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

June 28, 2005

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE PERIOD MAY 6, 2004 TO MARCH 31, 2005 (SUCCESSOR COMPANY),

THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 2004 TO MAY 5, 2004 (PREDECESSOR COMPANY) AND

THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2004 (PREDECESSOR COMPANY) AND

2003 (PREDECESSOR COMPANY)

(In thousands, except per-share data)

	Successor Company	Predecessor Company		
	For the Period May 6, 2004 to March 31, 2005	For the Period April 1, 2004 to May 5, 2004	Fiscal Year Ended	
			2004	2003
NET SALES	\$ 2,476,259	\$ 214,607	\$ 2,500,493	\$ 2,361,101
COST OF SALES	2,098,757	179,137	1,991,168	1,844,560
Gross profit	377,502	35,470	509,325	516,541
EXPENSES:				
Selling, marketing and advertising	251,085	24,504	264,753	261,299
General and administrative	150,871	17,940	161,271	175,177
Restructuring and impairment (Note 20)	42,479	602	52,708	25,658
Goodwill impairment charge (Note 11)	388,524			37,000
Other (income) expense, net (Note 22)	(56,898)	6,222	(40,724)	(11,035)
Interest expense, net (Note 21)	42,636	8,870	99,027	105,788
	818,697	58,138	537,035	593,887
Loss before reorganization items, income taxes, minority interest and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle	(441,195)	(22,668)	(27,710)	(77,346)
REORGANIZATION ITEMS, NET (Note 9)	11,527	18,434	67,042	36,370
FRESH START ACCOUNTING ADJUSTMENTS, NET (Note 5)		(228,371)		
GAIN ON DISCHARGE OF LIABILITIES SUBJECT TO COMPROMISE (Note 5)		(1,558,839)		
INCOME TAX PROVISION (BENEFIT)	14,219	(2,482)	3,271	26,969
MINORITY INTEREST	(18)	26	467	200
Income (loss) before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle	(466,923)	1,748,564	(98,490)	(140,885)
CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLE (Note 7)			(15,593)	

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Net income (loss)	\$	(466,923)	\$	1,748,564	\$	(114,083)	\$	(140,885)
NET INCOME (LOSS) PER SHARE, BEFORE CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLE								
Basic and Diluted	\$	(18.68)	\$	63.86	\$	(3.60)	\$	(5.14)
CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLE PER SHARE								
Basic and Diluted	\$		\$		\$	(0.57)	\$	
NET INCOME (LOSS) PER SHARE (Note 3)								
Basic and Diluted	\$	(18.68)	\$	63.86	\$	(4.17)	\$	(5.14)
WEIGHTED AVERAGE SHARES								
Basic and Diluted		25,000		27,383		27,383		27,383

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

Table of Contents**EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS****(In thousands, except per-share data)**

	Successor Company March 31, 2005	Predecessor Company March 31, 2004
	2005	2004
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 76,696	\$ 37,413
Restricted cash	1,323	15,469
Receivables, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$22,471 and \$24,433, respectively	687,715	667,026
Inventories (Note 12)	397,689	414,516
Prepaid expenses and other	21,275	24,372
Deferred financing costs, net	1,725	3,498
Deferred income taxes	4,305	34,035
	1,190,728	1,196,329
Property, plant and equipment, net	799,763	543,124
Other assets:		
Goodwill, net (Note 11)		527,705
Other intangibles, net (Note 11)	192,854	46,440
Investments in affiliates	9,010	6,695
Deferred financing costs, net	12,784	1,645
Deferred income taxes (Note 17)	55,896	104,703
Other (Note 13)	29,745	45,167
	300,289	732,355
Total assets	\$ 2,290,780	\$ 2,471,808
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY (DEFICIT)		
Current liabilities:		
Short-term borrowings (Note 14)	\$ 1,595	\$ 8,624
Current maturities of long-term debt (Note 14)	632,116	736,165
Accounts payable	340,480	295,987
Accrued expenses	385,521	425,947
Warrants liability	11,188	
Total current liabilities	1,370,900	1,466,723
Long-term debt (Note 14)	20,047	21,574
Noncurrent retirement obligations	329,628	193,525
Deferred income tax liability	24,178	
Other noncurrent liabilities	106,004	53,726
Liabilities subject to compromise (Note 10)		1,481,120

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Total liabilities	1,850,757	3,216,668
Commitments and contingencies (Notes 18 and 19)		
Minority interest	12,764	24,909
STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY (DEFICIT)		
Predecessor Company common stock, \$0.01 par value 100,000 shares authorized; 27,383 shares issued and outstanding at March 31, 2004		274
Successor Company common stock, \$0.01 par value, 61,500 shares authorized, 24,407 shares issued and outstanding at March 31, 2005	234	
Successor Company preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, 1,000 shares authorized, 0 shares issued and outstanding at March 31, 2005		
Additional paid-in capital	888,157	570,589
Accumulated deficit	(466,923)	(1,046,087)
Notes receivable stock award plan		(665)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	5,791	(293,880)
Total stockholders equity (deficit)	427,259	(769,769)
Total liabilities and stockholders equity (deficit)	\$ 2,290,780	\$ 2,471,808

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (DEFICIT)
FOR THE PERIOD MAY 6, 2004 TO MARCH 31, 2005 (SUCCESSOR COMPANY),
THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 2004 TO MAY 5, 2004 (PREDECESSOR COMPANY) AND
THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2004 (PREDECESSOR COMPANY) AND
2003 (PREDECESSOR COMPANY)
(In thousands, except per-share data)

					Accumulated Other			
					Comprehensive Income (Loss)			
	Notes							
	Common Stock	Additional Paid-in Capital	Receivable- Stock Award Plan	Accumulated Deficit	Minimum Pension Liability, Net of Tax	Cumulative Translation Adjustment	Derivatives Qualifying as Hedges	Comprehensive Income (Loss)
Balance at March 31, 2002 (Predecessor Company)	\$ 274	\$ 570,589	\$ (665)	\$ (791,119)	\$ (59,857)	\$ (272,881)	\$ (2,083)	
Net loss for fiscal 2003				(140,885)				\$ (140,885)
Minimum pension liability adjustment, net of tax					(77,650)			(77,650)
Reclassification to earnings of cash flow hedges							2,083	2,083
Translation adjustment						76,825		76,825
Comprehensive loss								\$ (139,627)
Balance at March 31, 2003 (Predecessor Company)	\$ 274	\$ 570,589	\$ (665)	\$ (932,004)	\$ (137,507)	\$ (196,056)	\$	
Net loss for fiscal 2004				(114,083)				\$ (114,083)
Minimum pension liability adjustment, net of tax					(18,391)			(18,391)
Translation adjustment						58,074		58,074
Comprehensive loss								\$ (74,400)
Balance at March 31, 2004 (Predecessor Company)	\$ 274	\$ 570,589	\$ (665)	\$ (1,046,087)	\$ (155,898)	\$ (137,982)	\$	
Net income for the period April 1, 2004 to May 5, 2004 (Predecessor Company)				1,748,564				\$ 1,748,564

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Translation adjustment					(7,591)		(7,591)
Cancellation of Predecessor Company common stock	(274)	(570,589)					
Fresh Start elimination of equity account balances			665	(702,477)	155,898	145,573	
Comprehensive income							\$ 1,740,973
Balance at May 5, 2004 (Predecessor Company)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Issuance of Successor Company common stock	234	888,157					
Balance at May 5, 2004 (Successor Company)	\$ 234	\$ 888,157	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Net loss for the period May 6, 2004 to March 31, 2005 (Successor Company)				(466,923)			\$ (466,923)
Minimum pension liability adjustment, net of tax of \$1,559					(24,350)		(24,350)
Translation adjustment						30,141	30,141
Comprehensive loss							\$ (461,132)
Balance at March 31, 2005 (Successor Company)	\$ 234	\$ 888,157	\$	\$ (466,923)	\$ (24,350)	\$ 30,141	\$

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE PERIOD MAY 6, 2004 TO MARCH 31, 2005 (SUCCESSOR COMPANY),

THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 2004 TO MAY 5, 2004 (PREDECESSOR COMPANY) AND

THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2004 (PREDECESSOR COMPANY) AND

2003 (PREDECESSOR COMPANY)

(In thousands)

	Successor Company	Predecessor Company		
	For the Period	For the Period	Fiscal Year Ended	
	May 6, 2004 to March 31, 2005	April 1, 2004 to May 5, 2004	March 31, 2004	2003
Cash Flows From Operating Activities:				
Net income (loss)	\$ (466,923)	\$ 1,748,564	\$ (114,083)	\$ (140,885)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash (used in) provided by operating activities				
Depreciation and amortization	108,752	7,848	97,816	91,754
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle			15,593	
Gain on discharge of liabilities subject to compromise		(1,558,839)		
Fresh start accounting adjustments, net		(228,371)		
Unrealized gain on Warrants	(63,112)			
Net loss (gain) on asset sales	7,649		(9,700)	(956)
Deferred income taxes	6,551	(3,179)	(7,343)	15,811
Amortization of original issue discount on notes				428
Provision for doubtful accounts	1,973	473	5,140	8,062
Non-cash provision for restructuring	4,000	18	217	4,385
Reorganization items, net	11,527	18,434	67,042	36,370
Goodwill impairment charge	388,524			37,000
Insurance proceeds	7,290			
Minority interest	(18)	26	467	200
Amortization of deferred financing costs		1,251	18,537	20,043
Net change from sales of receivables				
European Securitization				(124,793)
U.S. Securitization				(117,455)
Other, net				(19,475)
Changes in assets and liabilities excluding effects of Fresh Start accounting and acquisitions and divestitures				
Receivables	(31,777)	45,924	32,486	(45,023)

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Inventories	38,826	(10,873)	12,451	41,188
Prepaid expenses and other	(108)	286	(13,151)	(2,031)
Payables	41,120	(20,967)	13,077	6,619
Accrued expenses	(32,932)	(20,564)	(3,250)	(20,911)
Noncurrent liabilities	(4,454)	(294)	(18,401)	267
Other, net	(26,579)	13,077	(56,347)	(30,456)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	(9,691)	(7,186)	40,551	(239,858)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Cash Flows From Investing Activities:				
Capital expenditures	(69,114)	(7,152)	(65,128)	(45,878)
Proceeds from sales of assets	25,101	2,800	26,717	6,783
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net cash used in investing activities	(44,013)	(4,352)	(38,411)	(39,095)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

F-9

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Continued)

FOR THE PERIOD MAY 6, 2004 TO MARCH 31, 2005 (SUCCESSOR COMPANY),

THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 2004 TO MAY 5, 2004 (PREDECESSOR COMPANY) AND

THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2004 (PREDECESSOR COMPANY) AND

2003 (PREDECESSOR COMPANY)

(In thousands)

	Successor Company	Predecessor Company		
	For the Period	Fiscal Year Ended March 31,		
	May 6, 2004 to March 31, 2005	For the Period April 1, 2004 to May 5, 2004	2004	2003
Cash Flows From Financing Activities:				
Increase (decrease) in short-term borrowings	(11,588)	2,425	(107)	(4,391)
Repayments under 9.125% Senior Notes (Deutschemark denominated)		(110,082)		
Borrowings under Senior Secured Global Credit Facilities Agreement				6,191
Repayments under Senior Secured Global Credit Facilities Agreement				(3,455)
Borrowings under DIP Credit Facility			836,834	859,916
Repayments under DIP Credit Facility			(1,005,598)	(691,152)
Borrowings under Replacement DIP Credit Facility		121,258	510,106	
Repayments under Replacement DIP Credit Facility		(452,875)	(178,488)	
Borrowings under Senior Secured Credit Facility		500,000		
Repayments under Senior Secured Credit Facility	(250,000)			
Borrowings under Senior Secured Notes	290,000			
Borrowings under Convertible Senior Subordinated Notes	60,000			
European asset securitization			(160,221)	135,882
Decrease in other debt	(5,967)	(2,412)	(6,152)	(781)
Financing costs and other	(13,520)	(23,146)	(6,041)	(23,328)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	68,925	35,168	(9,667)	278,882
Effect of Exchange Rate Changes on Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,879	(1,447)	5,174	8,134
Net Increase (Decrease) In Cash and Cash Equivalents	17,100	22,183	(2,353)	8,063
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Period	59,596	37,413	39,766	31,703
Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Period	\$ 76,696	\$ 59,596	\$ 37,413	\$ 39,766

Supplemental Disclosures Of Cash Flow Information:

Cash paid during the period for

Interest	\$	32,991	\$	13,765	\$	56,628	\$	56,401
Income taxes (net of refunds)	\$	10,580	\$	1,139	\$	14,355	\$	7,487

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

F-10

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2005

(In thousands, except per-share and headcount data)

(1) BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of Exide Technologies (referred together with its subsidiaries, unless the context requires otherwise, as Exide or the Company) and all of its majority-owned subsidiaries.

On April 15, 2002, Exide Technologies, together with certain of its U.S. subsidiaries, filed voluntary petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the federal bankruptcy laws (Bankruptcy Code or Chapter 11) in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (Bankruptcy Court). On November 21, 2002, two additional wholly owned, non-operating subsidiaries of Exide filed voluntary petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 in the Bankruptcy Court. All of the cases were jointly administered for procedural purposes before the Bankruptcy Court under case number 02-11125KJC.

Exide Technologies and such subsidiaries (the Debtors) continued to operate their businesses and manage their properties as debtors-in-possession throughout the course of the bankruptcy case. The Debtors, along with the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, filed a Joint Plan of Reorganization (the Plan) with the Bankruptcy Court on February 27, 2004 and, on April 21, 2004, the Bankruptcy Court confirmed the Plan. The Debtors declared May 5, 2004 as the effective date of the Plan, and substantially consummated the transactions provided for in the Plan on such date (the Effective Date). For accounting purposes the Company also recognized the emergence as of May 5, 2004, as this was the date upon which the material conditions related to emergence, most significantly the finalization of the Company's exit financing, were resolved.

The emergence from Chapter 11 resulted in a new reporting entity (the Successor Company) and adoption of Fresh Start accounting and reporting in accordance with Statement of Position 90-7 (SOP 90-7), Financial Reporting by Entities in Reorganization under the Bankruptcy Code. Fresh Start accounting required the Company to allocate the reorganization value to its assets based upon their estimated fair values in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 141, Business Combinations (SFAS 141). Each liability existing at the Plan confirmation date, other than deferred taxes, was stated at present values of amounts to be paid determined at appropriate current interest rates. Adoption of Fresh Start accounting has resulted in material adjustments to the historical carrying value of the Company's assets and liabilities. The Company engaged an independent appraiser to assist in allocation of the reorganization value, including determination of the fair value of property and equipment and intangible assets. The fair values of the assets as determined by Fresh Start reporting were based on estimates of future cash flows. The determination of fair values of assets and liabilities is subject to significant estimation and assumptions. The excess of the reorganization value over the fair value of specific tangible and identified intangible net assets was allocated to goodwill.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

These Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which assumes continuity of operations and realization of assets and satisfaction of liabilities in the ordinary course of business. The ability of the Company to continue as a going concern is predicated upon, among other things, compliance with the provisions of current borrowing arrangements, the ability to generate cash flows from operations and, where necessary, obtaining financing sources sufficient to satisfy the Company's future obligations, as well as certain contingencies described in Note 19. In November, 2004, in order to cure breaches of such covenants as of September 30, 2004, the company was required to obtain amendments to the covenants with respect to minimum EBITDAR and the leverage ratios. In addition, the Credit Agreement was amended at that time with respect to the treatment of proceeds from insurance recoveries. Due to the fact that the Company failed to satisfy its

F-11

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

leverage ratio covenant as of December 31, 2004, in February 2005 the Company obtained a waiver of such covenants, as well as amendments relating to the offering of the Company's notes. In June 2005, the Company obtained additional amendments to the Credit Agreement. The amendments provide, among other things, for waivers of defaults as of March 31, 2005 in the minimum EBITDAR and leverage ratio covenants, relaxed EBITDAR and leverage ratio covenants for fiscal 2006, increases in the interest rates under the Credit Agreement that result in a per annum rate of LIBOR plus 5.25% for the U.S. Dollar and Euro components of the Term Loan Facility, as well as for the Revolving Loan Facility and an extension for three years of the Company's obligation to pay fees to the lenders upon a refinancing of the Credit Agreement debt, as well as an expansion of the circumstances in which such fees are payable upon asset sales.

The Company currently believes, based upon its financial forecast and plans, and subject to the cure or waiver of the default discussed in Note 29, that it will comply with the Credit Agreement covenants for the foreseeable future. However, management has had difficulty in predicting the Company's performance and covenant compliance. Failure to comply with such covenants, without waiver, would result in further defaults under the Credit Agreement. Although the Company has been able to obtain waivers of prior defaults, there can be no assurance that it can do so in the future or, if it can, the cost and terms of obtaining such waivers. Future defaults would, if not waived, allow the Credit Agreement lenders to accelerate the loans and declare all amounts due and payable. Any such acceleration would also result in a default under the indenture for the notes and their potential acceleration.

The accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company prior to emergence from Chapter 11 (the Predecessor Company) have also been prepared in accordance with SOP 90-7. Accordingly, all pre-petition liabilities subject to compromise were segregated in the Predecessor Company's condensed consolidated balance sheet as of March 31, 2004 and classified as Liabilities Subject To Compromise. Liabilities not subject to compromise were separately classified. Revenues, expenses, realized gains and losses and provision for losses resulting from the reorganization are reported separately as Reorganization items, net, in the consolidated statements of operations.

Since the Company's emergence from bankruptcy resulted in a new reporting entity as of the Effective Date, the consolidated financial statements for periods subsequent to May 5, 2004 are not comparable with those of prior periods. All financial information as of and for periods prior to May 5, 2004 is presented as pertaining to the Predecessor Company, while all financial information after that date is presented as pertaining to the Successor Company. The consolidated statements of operations reflect the results of the reorganization and Fresh Start adjustments in accordance with SOP 90-7 in the period April 1, 2004 to May 5, 2004 as Predecessor Company information. See Note 5. Also, in accordance with SOP 90-7, changes in accounting principles required under GAAP within twelve months of emerging from bankruptcy have been adopted at the date of emergence. See Note 3.

The Company previously reported its fourth quarter 2005 results were impacted by inventory write-offs related to obsolescence and physical inventory adjustments, which were identified in connection with the year-end reporting process. The Company also recorded adjustments to correct a pricing error for one customer in North America. Excluding the goodwill adjustment described below, the net impact of these adjustments would have been a decrease of fourth quarter net loss by \$2,800 for items that should have been recorded in prior periods. In addition, the Company identified and recorded an adjustment to deferred taxes that resulted in the Company reducing the goodwill impairment charge recorded in the third quarter. After evaluating these adjustments, the Company concluded they did not have a material impact on any quarters in 2005 or prior periods.

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(2) EMERGENCE FROM CHAPTER 11 BANKRUPTCY PROTECTION AND RECAPITALIZATION

The following is a summary of certain transactions which became operative on the Effective Date pursuant to consummation of the Plan.

Except to the extent otherwise provided in the Plan, all notes, instruments, certificates, and other documents evidencing (i) the Company's 10% senior notes due 2005, (ii) the Company's 2.9% convertible notes due 2005, (iii) equity interests in the Debtors, including, but not limited to, all issued, unissued, authorized or outstanding shares of stock, together with any Warrants, options or contract rights to purchase or acquire such interests at any time, were cancelled, and the obligations of the Debtors thereunder or in any way related thereto were discharged.

The Company agreed to issue (i) 25,000,000 shares of new common stock, par value \$0.01 per share for distribution in accordance with the Plan, and (ii) warrants initially exercisable for 6,250,000 shares of new common stock (the Warrants). Pursuant to the terms of the Plan, the common stock and Warrants are to be distributed as follows:

holders of pre-petition Senior Secured Global Credit Facility claims received collectively 22,500,000 shares of new common stock; and

holders of general unsecured claims will receive collectively 2,500,000 shares of new common stock and Warrants to purchase 6,250,000 shares of new common stock at \$32.11 per share, and approximately 13.4% of such new common stock and Warrants were initially reserved for distribution for disputed claims under the Plan's claims reconciliation and allowance procedures.

Under the claims reconciliation and allowance process set forth in the Plan, the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, in consultation with the Company, established such reserve to provide for a pro rata distribution of new common stock and Warrants to holders of disputed claims as they become allowed. As claims are evaluated and processed, the Company will object to some claims or portions thereof, and upward adjustments (to the extent stock and Warrants not previously distributed remain) or downward adjustments to the reserve will be made pending or following adjudication of such objections.

Although predictions regarding the allowance and classification of claims are inherently difficult to make, based on the Company's review to date of the available information, the Company believes the remaining reserve is reasonable and adequate, except to the extent the items discussed in Note 19 have greater than expected negative outcomes. To the extent the reserved shares of new common stock and Warrants are ultimately insufficient to provide payment for such outstanding claims, the Company may issue additional shares of new common stock and Warrants. In that event, the Company will also issue shares of new common stock to the holders of pre-petition credit facility claims sufficient to preserve the relative value of their recoveries under the terms of the Plan.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Holders of administrative claims, claims derived from the Company's \$500,000 secured super priority debtor-in-possession credit agreement and priority tax claims are being paid in full in cash pursuant to the terms of the Plan.

The Company adopted an Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws.

The Company's Board of Directors was reconstituted to consist of seven members, as specified in the Plan.

The Company entered into a new \$600,000 Senior Secured Credit Facility. See Note 14.

F-13

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(3) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Principles of Consolidation

The Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of Exide Technologies and all of its majority owned subsidiaries in which the Company exercises control (collectively the Company). Investments in affiliates of less than a 20% interest are accounted for by the cost method. Investments in 20% to 50% owned companies are accounted for by the equity method. The Company's equity in the net income (loss) of these companies is not material. All significant intercompany transactions have been eliminated.

Nature of Operations

The Company is one of the largest manufacturers and marketers of lead acid batteries in the world. The Company manufactures industrial and automotive batteries in North America, Europe, the Middle East, India, Australia and New Zealand. The Company's industrial batteries consist of motive power batteries, such as those used in forklift trucks and other electronic vehicles, and network power batteries used for back-up power applications, such as those used for telecommunication systems. The Company markets its automotive batteries to a broad range of retailers and distributors of replacement batteries and automotive original equipment manufacturers.

The Company currently has four business segments, Transportation North America, Transportation Europe and Rest of World (ROW), Industrial Energy North America and Industrial Energy Europe and ROW. For a discussion of the Company's segments, see Note 27.

Major Customers and Concentration of Credit

The Company has a number of major end-user, retail and original equipment manufacturer customers, both in North America and Europe. No single customer accounted for more than 10% of consolidated net sales during any of the fiscal years presented. The Company does not believe a material part of its business is dependent upon a single customer, the loss of which would have a material long-term impact on the business of the Company. However, the loss of one or more of the Company's largest customers would most likely have a negative short-term impact on the Company's results of operations.

Foreign Currency Translation

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

The functional currencies of the Company's foreign subsidiaries are primarily the respective local currency. Assets and liabilities of the Company's foreign subsidiaries and affiliates are translated into U.S. dollars at the year-end exchange rate, and revenues and expenses are translated at average monthly exchange rates. Translation gains and losses are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) within stockholders' equity (deficit). Foreign currency gains and losses from certain intercompany transactions meeting the permanently advanced criteria of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 52 Foreign Currency Translation are also recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss). All other foreign currency gains and losses are included in other (income) expense, net. The Company recognized net foreign currency (gains) losses of \$(2,580), \$6,283, \$(43,846), and \$(22,753) in the period May 6, 2004 to March 31, 2005 (Successor Company), the period April 1, 2004 to May 5, 2004 (Predecessor Company), fiscal 2004, and 2003 (Predecessor Company), respectively.

Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents consist of highly liquid instruments with maturities at the time of acquisition of three months or less. Cash equivalents are stated at cost, which approximates fair value, because of the short-term maturity of these instruments.

Table of Contents**EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)***Allowance for Doubtful Accounts*

The Company maintains allowances for doubtful accounts for estimated probable losses resulting from the inability of the Company's customers to make required payments. The Company continues to assess the adequacy of the reserves for doubtful accounts based on the financial condition of the Company's customers and other external factors that may impact collectibility. The majority of the Company's accounts receivable are due from trade customers. Credit is extended based on an evaluation of the Company's customers' financial condition and generally, collateral is not required. Payment terms vary and accounts receivable are stated in the consolidated financial statements at amounts due from customers net of an allowance for doubtful accounts. Accounts outstanding longer than the payment terms are considered past due. The Company considers a number of factors in determining the allowance for doubtful accounts, including the length of time trade accounts receivable are past due, the customers' current ability to pay their obligations to the Company, the Company's previous loss history, and the condition of the general economy and the industry as a whole. The Company writes off accounts receivable when they become uncollectible.

Inventories

Inventories, which consist of material, labor and overhead, are stated at the lower of cost or market using the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method. The Company writes down its inventory to estimated market value based on assumptions of future demand and market conditions.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment at March 31 consists of:

	Successor Company 2005	Predecessor Company 2004
Land	\$ 85,283	\$ 43,847
Buildings and improvements	264,036	339,381
Machinery and equipment	514,109	776,563
Construction in progress	35,470	33,575
	898,898	1,193,366
Less Accumulated depreciation	99,135	650,242
Property, plant and equipment, net	\$ 799,763	\$ 543,124

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The range of original estimated useful lives is as follows: buildings and improvements, 25-40 years; machinery and equipment, 3-14 years.

Cost and accumulated depreciation for property retired or disposed of are removed from the accounts, and any gain or loss on disposal is credited or charged to earnings. Expenditures for maintenance and repairs are charged to expense as incurred. Additions, improvements and major renewals are capitalized. Depreciation expense was \$99,135, \$7,728, \$96,358, and \$89,945 for the period May 6, 2004 to March 31, 2005 (Successor Company), the period April 1, 2004 to May 5, 2004 (Predecessor Company), fiscal 2004 (Predecessor Company) and fiscal 2003 (Predecessor Company), respectively.

Capitalized Software Costs

The Company capitalizes the cost of computer software acquired or developed for internal use, in accordance with SOP 98-1 Accounting for the Costs of Computer Software Developed or Obtained for Internal

F-15

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Use. The capitalized costs are amortized over the estimated useful life of the software, ranging from 3 to 5 years, on a straight-line basis.

Deferred Financing Costs

Deferred financing costs are amortized to interest expense over the life of the related debt.

Valuation of Long-Lived Assets

The Company's long-lived assets include property, plant and equipment, goodwill and identified intangible assets. Long-lived assets (other than goodwill and indefinite lived intangible assets) are depreciated over their estimated useful lives, and are reviewed for impairment whenever changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable. Goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets are reviewed for impairment on both an annual basis and whenever changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable. The fair value of goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets are based upon the Company's estimates of future cash flows and other factors including discount rates to determine the fair value of the respective assets. If these assets or their related assumptions change in the future, the Company may be required to record impairment charges. See Note 11.

Hedging Activities

The Company's ability to utilize financial instruments as hedges was significantly restricted due to the Chapter 11 filing.

In accordance with SFAS 133, *Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities*, as amended and interpreted, the Company reports all derivative financial instruments on the balance sheet at their fair values. For derivative instruments designated as cash flow hedges, the effective portion of any hedge is reported in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) until it is cleared to earnings during the same period in which the hedged item affects earnings. The ineffective portion of all hedges is recognized in current period earnings. The Company uses no derivative instruments designated as fair value hedges. In the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows, the Company reports the cash flows resulting from its hedging activities in the same category as the related item that is being hedged.

The Company enters into foreign exchange rate agreements to hedge exposure to the currency fluctuation of certain transactions denominated in a currency other than the applicable local currency.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

The Company also enters into certain lead forward purchase and put option agreements to economically hedge the cost of externally purchased lead.

Counterparties to foreign exchange and commodity and option agreements are major financial institutions. The Company believes the risk of incurring losses related to credit risk is remote.

Warranty and Returns

The Company recognizes the estimated cost of warranty and returns as a reduction of sales in the period in which the related revenue is recognized. These estimates are based upon historical trends and claims experience, and include assessment of the anticipated lag between the date of sale and claim/return date.

Income Taxes

The Company accounts for income taxes under the provisions of SFAS 109 *Accounting for Income Taxes*, which requires the use of the liability method in accounting for deferred taxes. If it is more likely than not that some portion, or all, of a deferred tax asset will not be realized, a valuation allowance is recognized.

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Revenue Recognition

The Company records sales when revenue is earned. Shipment terms are generally FOB shipping point and revenue is recognized when product is shipped to the customer. In limited cases, terms are FOB destination and in these cases, revenue is recognized when product is delivered to the customer's delivery site.

Accounting for Shipping and Handling Costs

The Company records shipping and handling costs incurred in cost of sales and records shipping and handling costs billed to customers in net sales.

Advertising

The Company expenses advertising costs as incurred.

Stock Options

As provided for in SFAS No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation* (SFAS 123) the Company utilizes the intrinsic value method of expense recognition under APB Opinion No. 25. Accordingly, no compensation cost has been recognized for the stock option plans as the fair market value at date of grant was less than or equal to the exercise price. Had compensation expense for the stock option plans been determined consistently with the provisions of SFAS 123, the Company's net income (loss) and net income (loss) per share would have been the pro forma amounts indicated below:

Successor Company	Predecessor Company	
Period from	Period from	Fiscal Year Ended March 31,
May 6, 2004 to	April 1, 2004 to	2004
March 31, 2005	May 5, 2004	2003

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Net income (loss) as reported:	\$ (466,923)	\$ 1,748,564	\$ (114,083)	\$ (140,885)
Less: total stock-based employee compensation expense determined under fair value based method for all awards, net of related tax effects		(86)	(587)	(1,552)
Pro forma net income (loss)	\$ (466,923)	\$ 1,748,478	\$ (114,670)	\$ (142,437)
Basic and diluted net income (loss) per share:				
As reported	\$ (18.68)	\$ 63.86	\$ (4.17)	\$ (5.14)
Pro forma	\$ (18.68)	\$ 63.85	\$ (4.19)	\$ (5.20)

The fair value of each option grant was estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following range of assumptions used for the option grants which last occurred during fiscal 2002:

	2002
Volatility	119.8%
Risk-free interest rate	4.6%-4.9%
Expected life in years	5.0
Dividend yield	0.0%

Upon emergence from bankruptcy, all outstanding employee stock options were cancelled. The Company approved the 2004 Stock Incentive Plan, however, awards under this plan are subject to shareholder approval. For further discussion of the Company's stock option plans, see Note 16.

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Net Income (Loss) Per Share

Basic net income (loss) per share is computed using the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the period, while diluted net income (loss) per share is computed assuming conversion of all dilutive securities. Shares which are contingently issuable under the Plan have been included as outstanding common shares for purposes of calculating net income per share of the Successor Company for the period May 6, 2004 to March 31, 2005. Options to purchase 3,925,000 shares of common stock and warrants to purchase 1,286,000 shares of common stock were outstanding during the period April 1, 2004 to May 5, 2004. These common stock equivalents were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share of the Predecessor Company for the period April 1, 2004 to May 5, 2004 because the exercise prices of the options and warrants were greater than the average market price of the common shares and they would have an anti-dilutive effect. These options and warrants were cancelled upon emergence from bankruptcy. See Note 2. For fiscal years ended March 31, 2004 and 2003, the Predecessor Company incurred a net loss, therefore, dilutive common stock equivalents were not used in the calculation of loss per share as they would have an anti-dilutive effect.

Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Financial Statements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Reclassifications

Certain items have been reclassified to conform to the current period presentation. Prior years segment results have been reclassified to conform to the fiscal 2005 presentation.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards

On December 8, 2003, President Bush signed the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 (the Act) into law. In May 2004, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position No. FAS 106-2, Accounting and Disclosure Requirements Related to the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003, which provides guidance on accounting for the federal subsidy to sponsors of retiree health care benefit plans that provide a benefit that is at least actuarially equivalent to Medicare Part D. This guidance is effective for periods beginning after June 15, 2004. As required by SOP 90-7, the Company adopted this guidance upon application of Fresh Start reporting. The adoption did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

In March 2004, the EITF reached consensus on Issue No. 03-6. This Issue is intended to clarify what is a participating security for purposes of applying SFAS 128, Earnings Per Share. The Issue also provides further guidance on how to apply the two-class method of computing earnings per share (EPS) once it is determined that a security is participating, including how to allocate undistributed earnings to such a security. The guidance in this Issue is effective for reporting periods beginning after March 31, 2004 and, where applicable, requires the restatement of previously reported EPS.

In December 2004, the FASB issued SFAS No. 123 (revised 2004), Share-Based Payment (SFAS 123R). SFAS 123R requires that a public entity measure the cost of equity based service awards based on the grant date fair value of the award (with limited exceptions). That cost will be recognized over the period during which an employee is required to provide service in exchange for the award or the requisite service period.

SFAS

F-18

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

123R is effective as of the beginning of the first annual reporting period that begins after June 15, 2005. The Company will adopt SFAS 123R effective April 1, 2006. The Company is currently assessing the impact SFAS 123R will have on its financial position and results of operations.

In November 2004, the FASB issued SFAS No. 151, *Inventory Costs*, an Amendment of ARB No. 43, Chapter 4 (SFAS 151). The standard requires that abnormal amounts of idle capacity and spoilage costs within inventory should be excluded from the cost of inventory and expensed when incurred. The provisions of SFAS 151 are applicable to inventory costs incurred during fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2005. The Company will adopt SFAS 151 effective April 1, 2006. The Company expects the adoption of SFAS 151 will not have a material impact on its financial position or results of operations.

In December 2004, the FASB issued Staff Position No. FAS 109-1, *Application of FASB Statement No. 109, Accounting for Income Taxes, to the Tax Deduction on Qualified Production Activities Provided by the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004* (FSP No. 109-1), and Staff Position No. FAS 109-2, *Accounting and Disclosure Guidance for the Foreign Earnings Repatriation Provision within the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004* (FSP No. 109-2). These staff positions provide accounting guidance on how companies should account for the effects of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 (AJCA) that was signed into law on October 22, 2004. FSP No. 109-1 states that the tax relief (special tax deduction for domestic manufacturing) from this legislation should be accounted for as a special deduction instead of a tax rate reduction. FSP No. 109-2 gives a company additional time to evaluate the effects of the legislation on any plan for reinvestment or repatriation of foreign earnings for purposes of applying SFAS No. 109. The Company is currently assessing the repatriation provision to determine whether it might repatriate extraordinary dividends, as defined in the AJCA. The Company expects to complete this evaluation within a reasonable amount of time after additional guidance from the United States Treasury is published.

In March 2005, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. (FIN) 47, *Accounting for Conditional Asset Retirement Obligations* an Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 143. This Interpretation clarifies that the term *conditional asset retirement obligation* as used in SFAS 143, refers to a legal obligation to perform an asset retirement activity in which the timing and (or) method of settlement are conditional on a future event that may or may not be within the control of the entity. The obligation to perform the asset retirement activity is unconditional even though uncertainty exists about the timing and (or) method of settlement. Thus, the timing and (or) method of settlement may be conditional on a future event. Accordingly, an entity is required to recognize a liability for the fair value of a conditional asset retirement obligation if the fair value of the liability can be reasonably estimated. The fair value of a liability for the conditional asset retirement obligation should be recognized when incurred generally upon acquisition, construction, or development and (or) through the normal operation of the asset. Uncertainty about the timing and (or) method of settlement of a conditional asset retirement obligation should be factored into the measurement of the liability when sufficient information exists. SFAS 143 acknowledges that in some cases, sufficient information may not be available to reasonably estimate the fair value of an asset retirement obligation. This Interpretation also clarifies when an entity would have sufficient information to reasonably estimate the fair value of an asset retirement obligation. This Interpretation is effective no later than the end of fiscal years ending after December 15, 2005. The Company is currently assessing the impact FIN 47 may have on its financial position and results of operations.

(4) WARRANTS

In connection with the consummation of the Plan, the Company agreed to issue Warrants entitling the holders to purchase up to 6,250,000 shares of new common stock at an exercise price of \$32.11 per share (the number of Warrants issuable being subject to adjustments allowed for by the

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

claims reconciliation and allowance process set forth in the Plan.) The Warrants are exercisable through May 5, 2011. The exercise price, the number

F-19

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

of shares purchasable upon the exercise of each Warrant and the number of Warrants outstanding are subject to adjustment from time to time upon occurrence of certain events described in the Warrant Agreement. The Company has accounted for the Warrants in accordance with Emerging Issues Task Force (EITF) Issue No. 00-19 Accounting for Derivative Financial Instruments Indexed to and Potentially Settled in a Company's Own Stock and SFAS No. 150 Accounting for Certain Financial Instruments with Characteristics of Both Liabilities and Equity (SFAS 150). Because the Warrant Agreement provides for a cash settlement upon a change in control under certain specified conditions, the Warrants have been accounted for and classified as a liability in the consolidated balance sheet. Upon the adoption of Fresh Start reporting, on the Effective Date, May 5, 2004, the Warrants were valued using Black Scholes principles and ascribed a fair value of approximately \$74,300, reflecting the underlying enterprise value of the Company underlying the Plan. In accordance with EITF Issue No. 00-19 and SFAS 150, the Warrants have been marked-to-market at March 31, 2005 based upon quoted market prices. This mark-to-market resulted in recognition of unrealized gains of \$63,112 for the period May 6, 2004 to March 31, 2005, which is reported in Other (income) expense in the consolidated statement of operations. Future results of operations will be subject to volatility from changes in the market value of such Warrants.

(5) FRESH START REPORTING

The Company adopted Fresh Start reporting in accordance with SOP 90-7 upon emergence from bankruptcy on the Effective Date. Fresh Start accounting required the Company to allocate the reorganization value to its assets based upon their estimated fair values in accordance with SFAS 141. Each liability existing at the plan confirmation date, other than deferred taxes, was stated at present values of amounts to be paid determined at appropriate current interest rates. Adopting Fresh Start reporting resulted in material adjustments to the historical carrying values of the Company's assets and liabilities. The estimated enterprise value of the Company of \$1,500,000, which served as the basis for the Plan approved by the Bankruptcy Court, was used to determine the reorganization value, which was estimated at \$2,729,404. The portion of reorganization value which could not be attributed to specific tangible or identified intangible assets was \$399,388. As described in Note 11, this goodwill charge was reduced by \$10,864 in the fourth quarter. In accordance with SFAS No. 142 (SFAS 142), Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, this amount was reported as Goodwill in the consolidated balance sheet as of the Effective Date. Liabilities as of the Effective Date were stated at the present values of amounts to be paid. The determination of fair values of assets and liabilities is subject to significant estimation and assumptions.

The estimated fair values of the Company's assets and liabilities were based upon the work of independent appraisers and actuaries, as well as internal valuation estimates of future cash flows discounted at appropriate current rates.

Table of Contents**EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The following table below provides a reconciliation of the Predecessor Company's condensed consolidated balance sheet as of May 5, 2004 to that of the Successor Company on May 5, 2004, reflecting the reorganization and Fresh Start reporting adjustments:

	Predecessor Company	Debt Restructuring	Fresh Start Adjustments and Recapitalization	Successor Company
Current Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 35,617	\$ 23,979(5)	\$	\$ 59,596
Restricted cash	16,043			16,043
Receivables, net	605,697			605,697
Inventories	416,968		2,458(3)	419,426
Prepaid expenses and other	25,006		(2,517)(3)	22,489
Deferred financing costs, net		3,322(5)	(3,322)(3)	
Deferred income taxes	33,188			33,188
Total current assets	1,132,519	27,301	(3,381)	1,156,439
Property, plant and equipment, net	526,849		300,051(3)	826,900
Goodwill	513,335		(113,947)(4)	399,388
Other intangibles, net	46,347		152,546(3)	198,893
Investments in affiliates	6,701			6,701
Deferred financing costs, net		19,824(5)	(19,824)(3)	
Deferred income taxes	106,588		(11,609)(3)	94,979
Other	46,576		(472)(3)	46,104
Total assets	\$ 2,378,915	\$ 47,125	\$ 303,364	\$ 2,729,404
Current Liabilities:				
Short-term borrowings	\$ 10,805	\$	\$	\$ 10,805
Current maturities of long-term debt	730,940	(727,068)(1)		3,872
Accounts payable	268,149	(1,629)(1)		266,520
Accrued expenses	404,284	(7,711)(1)	2,293(3)	398,866
Warrants liability			74,300(2)	74,300
Total current liabilities	1,414,178	(736,408)	76,593	754,363
Long-term debt	32,872	500,000(5)		532,872
Noncurrent retirement obligations	189,582	128,293(1)	(487)(3)	317,388
Other noncurrent liabilities	53,080	77,246(1)	(17,405)(3)	112,921
Noncurrent deferred tax liability			111,650(3)	111,650
Liabilities subject to compromise	1,480,845	(1,480,845)(1)		
Total liabilities	3,170,557	(1,511,714)	170,351	1,829,194
Minority interest	24,363		(12,544)(3)	11,819
Total stockholders' equity (deficit)	(816,005)	1,558,839(2)	145,557(2)	888,391

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Total liabilities and stockholders equity (deficit)	\$ 2,378,915	\$ 47,125	\$ 303,364	\$ 2,729,404
---	--------------	-----------	------------	--------------

-
- (1) To record assumption or discharge of Liabilities subject to compromise and cancellation of Predecessor Company debt, compromised pursuant to the plan of reorganization.
 - (2) To record gain on discharge of Liabilities subject to compromise, gain on Fresh Start accounting adjustments, cancellation of debt, cancellation of Predecessor Company common stock, close-out of remaining equity balances of the Predecessor Company in accordance with the recapitalization provisions of Fresh Start accounting, and issuance of Successor Company common stock and Warrants.
 - (3) To adjust assets and liabilities to fair value.
 - (4) The unamortized balance of goodwill of the Predecessor Company has been eliminated and reorganization value in excess of amounts allocable to identified tangible and intangible net assets has been classified as goodwill.
 - (5) To record exit debt financing pursuant to the Senior Secured Credit Facility.

F-21

Table of Contents**EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The fair value of goodwill and intangible assets reported in the Successor Company's condensed consolidated balance sheet as of the Effective Date were based upon the Company's estimates of future cash flows and other factors including discount rates to determine the fair value of the respective assets.

Primarily as a result of a continuing gap between the market value of the Company's securities and the Company's enterprise value under the Plan and a sustained increase in lead costs and the resultant impact upon the Company's results and future projections, in the third quarter of fiscal 2005 the Company recognized a goodwill impairment charge in accordance with SFAS 142. This estimated charge was updated in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2005. See Note 11.

(6) DEBTORS' FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The unaudited combined financial statements of the Debtors are presented below. These statements reflect the financial position, results of operations and cash flows of the combined Debtor subsidiaries, including certain amounts and activities between Debtors and non-debtor subsidiaries of the Company which are eliminated in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements. The unaudited combined financial statements of the Debtors are presented as follows:

DEBTORS' COMBINED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**(Unaudited, in thousands)**

	Predecessor Company		
	Period from April 1, 2004 to May 5, 2004	Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2004	Period From April 15, 2002 Through March 31, 2003
NET SALES	\$ 81,291	\$ 967,891	\$ 939,076
COST OF SALES	67,578	792,364	753,144
Gross profit	13,713	175,527	185,932
EXPENSES:			
Selling, marketing and advertising	8,456	97,796	100,716
General and administrative	6,045	62,931	73,323
Restructuring	65	2,591	9,813

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Other income, net	1,306	(7,939)	(11,072)
Interest expense, net	6,238	57,045	52,079
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Loss before reorganization items, income taxes, and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle	(8,397)	(36,897)	(38,927)
REORGANIZATION ITEMS, net (Note 9)	18,434	63,876	36,370
INCOME TAX PROVISION			
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Loss before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle	(26,831)	(100,773)	(75,297)
CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLE		15,593	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET LOSS	<u>\$ (26,831)</u>	<u>\$ (116,366)</u>	<u>\$ (75,297)</u>

F-22

Table of Contents

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

DEBTORS COMBINED BALANCE SHEET

(Unaudited, in thousands)

	Predecessor Company
	March 31, 2004
ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,530
Receivables, net	147,783
Intercompany receivables	35,456
Inventories	129,802
Prepaid expenses and other	20,934
Total current assets	340,505
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, net	237,874
OTHER ASSETS:	
Goodwill and other intangibles, net	40,965
Investments in affiliates	2,048
Deferred financing costs, net	301
Intercompany notes receivable	432,279
Other	34,470
	510,063
Total assets	\$ 1,088,442
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS DEFICIT	
CURRENT LIABILITIES:	
Accounts payable	\$ 69,726
Accrued interest payable	60,276
Accrued expenses	121,642
Current maturities of long-term debt	331,617
Total current liabilities	583,261
NON-CURRENT RETIREMENT OBLIGATIONS	32,112
OTHER NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	15,593
LIABILITIES SUBJECT TO COMPROMISE	1,481,120

Edgar Filing: EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES - Form 10-K

Total liabilities	2,112,086
STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT	
Total stockholders' deficit	(1,023,644)