

NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC

Form 10-K

March 13, 2015

[Table of Contents](#)

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

x Annual report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014

OR

o Transition report under Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

for the transition period from to .

Commission file number 001-34483

NATURE S SUNSHINE PRODUCTS, INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Utah
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

87-0327982
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

2500 West Executive Parkway, Suite 100

Lehi, Utah 84043

(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

(801) 341-7900

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: **Common Stock, no par value.**

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: **None**

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes ☐ No ☒.

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes ☐ No ☒.

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

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

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

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

Large accelerated filer ☐

Accelerated filer ☒

Non-accelerated filer ☐
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company ☐

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

The aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant on June 30, 2014 was approximately \$274,960,000 based on the closing price of \$16.97 as quoted by Nasdaq Capital Market on June 30, 2014.

The number of shares of Common Stock, no par value, outstanding on February 13, 2015 is 18,560,936 shares.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Portions of the registrant's Definitive Proxy Statement to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than 120 days after the end of the Registrant's fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, are incorporated by reference in Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Table of Contents

NATURE'S SUNSHINE PRODUCTS, INC.

FORM 10-K

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2014

Table of Contents

Part I.

<u>Item 1.</u>	<u>Business</u>	4
<u>Item 1A.</u>	<u>Risk Factors</u>	15
<u>Item 1B.</u>	<u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	22
<u>Item 2.</u>	<u>Properties</u>	23
<u>Item 3.</u>	<u>Legal Proceedings</u>	23
<u>Item 4.</u>	<u>Mine Safety Disclosures</u>	23

Part II.

<u>Item 5.</u>	<u>Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Shareholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>	24
<u>Item 6.</u>	<u>Selected Financial Data</u>	26
<u>Item 7.</u>	<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	27
<u>Item 7A.</u>	<u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk</u>	45
<u>Item 8.</u>	<u>Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>	49
<u>Item 9.</u>	<u>Change in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>	83
<u>Item 9A.</u>	<u>Controls and Procedures</u>	83
<u>Item 9B.</u>	<u>Other Information</u>	85

Part III.

<u>Item 10.</u>	<u>Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	85
<u>Item 11.</u>	<u>Executive Compensation</u>	85
<u>Item 12.</u>	<u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Shareholder Matters</u>	85
<u>Item 13.</u>	<u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions and Director Independence</u>	85
<u>Item 14.</u>	<u>Principal Accounting Fees and Services</u>	85

Part IV.

<u>Item 15.</u>	<u>Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</u>	85
-----------------	---	----

<u>Signatures</u>	86
-------------------	----

Table of Contents

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain information included or incorporated herein by reference in this report may be deemed to be forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements may include, but are not limited to, statements relating to our objectives, plans and strategies. All statements (other than statements of historical fact) that address activities, events or developments that we intend, expect, project, believe or anticipate will or may occur in the future are forward-looking statements. These statements are often characterized by terminology such as believe, hope, may, anticipate, should, intend, plan, will, expect, estimate, positioned, strategy and similar expressions, and are based on assumptions and assessments made by management in light of their experience and their perception of historical trends, current conditions, expected future developments and other factors they believe to be appropriate. For example, information appearing under Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations includes forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks and uncertainties. Important factors that could cause actual results, developments and business decisions to differ materially from forward-looking statements are more fully described in this report, including the risks set forth under Risk Factors in Item 1A, but include the following:

- any negative consequences resulting from the economy, including the availability of liquidity to us, our independent Distributors and our suppliers or the willingness of our customers to purchase products;
- our relationship with, and our ability to influence the actions of, our independent Distributors, and other third parties with whom we do business;
- improper activity by our employees or independent Distributors;
- negative publicity related to our products, ingredients, and the nutritional supplement industry or direct selling organization;
- changing consumer preferences and demands;
- our reliance upon, or the loss or departure of any member of, our senior management team which could negatively impact our Distributor relations and operating results;
- the competitive nature of our business and the nutritional supplement industry;
- regulatory matters governing our products, ingredients, the nutritional supplement industry, our direct selling program, or the direct selling market in which we operate;
- legal challenges to our direct selling program or to the classification of our independent Distributors;
- risks associated with operating internationally and the effect of economic factors, including foreign exchange, inflation, disruptions or conflicts with our third party importers, governmental sanctions, ongoing Ukraine and Russia political conflict, pricing and currency devaluation risks, especially in countries such as Ukraine, Russia and Belarus;
- uncertainties relating to the application of transfer pricing, duties, value-added taxes, and other tax regulations, and changes thereto;
- our dependence on increased penetration of existing markets;
- our reliance on our information technology infrastructure;

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

- the sufficiency of trademarks and other intellectual property rights;
- changes in tax laws, treaties or regulations, or their interpretation;
- taxation relating to our independent Distributors;
- product liability claims;
- share price volatility related to, among other things, speculative trading; and
- the full implementation of our joint venture for operations in China with Fosun Industrial Co., Ltd., as well as the legal complexities, unique regulatory environment and challenges of doing business in China generally.

All forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this report and are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements included in or incorporated by reference into this report. Except as is required by law, we expressly disclaim any obligation to publicly release any revisions to forward-looking statements to reflect events after the date of this report. Throughout this report, we refer to Nature's Sunshine Products, Inc., together with its subsidiaries, as we, us, our Company or the Company.

Table of Contents

PART 1

Item 1. Business

The Company

Nature's Sunshine Products, Inc., together with its subsidiaries (hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Company"), is a natural health and wellness company primarily engaged in the manufacturing and direct selling of nutritional and personal care products. The Company is a Utah corporation with its principal place of business in Lehi, Utah, and sells its products to a sales force of independent Managers and Distributors who use the products themselves and resell them to other independent Distributors or consumers. The formulation, manufacturing, packaging, labeling, advertising, distribution and sale of each of the Company's major product groups are subject to regulation by one or more governmental agencies.

The Company markets its products in Australia, Austria, Belarus, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States and Vietnam. The Company also exports its products to Argentina, Australia, Chile, Israel, New Zealand, Norway, Peru and the United Kingdom.

Business Segments

The Company has four business segments. These business segments are components of the Company for which separate information is available that is evaluated regularly by the chief executive officer acting as the Company's chief operating decision maker, in deciding how to allocate resources and in assessing relative performance.

The Company has two business segments that operate under the Nature's Sunshine® Products brand and are divided based on the characteristics of their Distributor base, similarities in compensation plans, as well as the internal organization of NSP's officers and their responsibilities (NSP Americas and NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe). The Company's third business segment operates under the Synergy® WorldWide brand, which distributes its products through different selling and Distributor compensation plans and has products with formulations that are sufficiently different from those of NSP Americas and NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe to warrant accounting for these operations as a separate business segment. The Company's fourth business segment, China and New Markets, anticipates deploying a multi-brand, multi-channel go-to-market strategy that offers select Nature's Sunshine branded products through Shanghai Fosun Pharmaceutical (Group) Co., Ltd.'s or (Fosun Pharma) retail locations across China as well as ecommerce, and select Synergy branded products through a direct selling model. The time to market will be dependent upon regulatory processes including product registration and permit approvals. The China and New Markets segment also includes Company's export sales business, in which the Company sells our products to various locally managed entities independent of the Company that have distribution relevant rights for the market. All of the net sales revenue to date in the China and New Markets segment is through the Company's export business to foreign markets outside of China as set forth above. Previously, the export business was included as part of NSP Americas. Net sales revenues for each segment have been reduced by intercompany sales as they are not included in the measure of segment profit or loss reviewed by the chief operating decision maker. The Company evaluates performance based on

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

contribution margin (loss) by segment before consideration of certain inter-segment transfers and expenses.

Product Categories

Our line of over 700 products includes several different product classifications, such as immune, cardiovascular, digestive, personal care, weight management and other general health products. We purchase herbs and other raw materials in bulk and, after quality control testing, we formulate, encapsulate, tablet or concentrate them, label and package them for shipment. Most of our products are manufactured at our facility in Spanish Fork, Utah. Contract manufacturers produce some of our products in accordance with our specifications and standards. We have implemented stringent quality control procedures to verify that our contract manufacturers have complied with our specifications and standards.

Presented below are the U.S. dollar amounts and associated revenue percentages from the sale of general health, immune, cardiovascular, digestive, personal care and weight management products for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, by business segment. This table should be read in conjunction with the information presented in the section entitled Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, which discusses the factors impacting revenue trends and the costs associated with generating the aggregate revenue presented (in thousands).

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

Year Ended December 31,	2014			2013			2012		
NSP Americas:									
General health	\$	79,022	42.8%	\$	82,332	42.0%	\$	87,280	43.7%
Immune		23,881	12.9		24,013	12.2		24,410	12.2
Cardiovascular		12,665	6.9		13,268	6.8		13,483	6.8
Digestive		53,906	29.2		57,575	29.4		56,160	28.1
Personal care		4,025	2.2		5,214	2.7		5,792	2.9
Weight management		11,126	6.0		13,522	6.9		12,669	6.3
Total NSP Americas		184,625	100.0		195,924	100.0		199,794	100.0
NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe:									
General health	\$	18,841	37.5%	\$	22,690	36.2%	\$	20,540	35.5%
Immune		6,512	12.9		7,902	12.6		7,365	12.7
Cardiovascular		3,104	6.2		4,324	6.9		4,367	7.6
Digestive		13,171	26.2		15,693	25.0		14,501	25.1
Personal care		6,073	12.1		8,817	14.0		8,908	15.4
Weight management		2,573	5.1		3,321	5.3		2,172	3.7
Total NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe		50,274	100.0		62,747	100.0		57,853	100.0
Synergy WorldWide:									
General health	\$	46,546	36.3%	\$	36,723	33.9%	\$	33,969	33.7%
Immune		974	0.8		1,394	1.3		1,104	1.1
Cardiovascular		42,449	33.1		42,154	38.9		42,696	42.4
Digestive		20,839	16.3		16,897	15.6		14,904	14.8
Personal care		7,196	5.6		7,097	6.6		5,631	5.6
Weight management		10,097	7.9		4,025	3.7		2,366	2.4
Total Synergy WorldWide		128,101	100.0		108,290	100.0		100,670	100.0
China and New Markets:									
General health	\$	1,566	46.5%	\$	1,306	45.6%	\$	1,180	47.0%
Immune		445	13.2		367	12.8		319	12.7
Cardiovascular		235	7.0		211	7.4		188	7.5
Digestive		835	24.8		726	25.3		632	25.2
Personal care		83	2.5		74	2.6		70	2.8
Weight management		203	6.0		181	6.3		120	4.8
Total China and New Markets		3,367	100.0		2,865	100.0		2,509	100.0
Consolidated:									
General health	\$	145,975	39.8%	\$	143,051	38.7%	\$	142,969	39.6%
Immune		31,812	8.7		33,676	9.1		33,198	9.2
Cardiovascular		58,453	16.0		59,957	16.2		60,734	16.8
Digestive		88,751	24.2		90,891	24.6		86,197	23.9
Personal care		17,377	4.7		21,202	5.7		20,401	5.7
Weight management		23,999	6.6		21,049	5.7		17,327	4.8
Total Consolidated	\$	366,367	100.0	\$	369,826	100.0	\$	360,826	100.0

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

The following table summarizes our product lines by category:

Category	Description	Selected Representative Products
General health	We supply a wide selection of general health products. The general health line is a combination of assorted health products related to blood sugar support, bone health, cellular health, cognitive function, essential oils, joint health, mood, sexual health, sleep, sports and energy, and vision.	<i>NSP Americas; NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe; China and New Markets:</i> Adrenal Support, CurcuminBP, Everflex®, Ionic Minerals, Mind-Max, Nutri-Calm®, Perfect Eyes®, Skeletal Strength®, Super Supplemental Vitamin and Mineral, Super Trio, Tai-Go®, Tei-Fu®, Vitamin B-Complex, Vitamin D3 <i>Synergy WorldWide:</i> Core Greens®, Mistica®, Noni Plus, NutriBurst, Spirulina Vegi-Cap
Immune	We supply immune products. The immune line has been designed to offer products that support and strengthen the human immune system.	<i>NSP Americas; NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe; China and New Markets:</i> ALJ®, Elderberry D3fense, HistaBlock®, Immune Stimulator, Silver Shield, VS-C® <i>Synergy WorldWide:</i> BodyGuard, Colostrum
Cardiovascular	We supply cardiovascular products. The cardiovascular line has been designed to offer products that combine a variety of superior heart health ingredients to give the cardiovascular system optimum support.	<i>NSP Americas; NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe; China and New Markets:</i> Blood, Pressurex, Co-Q10, Flax Seed Oil, Mega-Chel®, Red Yeast Rice, Super Omega-3 EPA <i>Synergy WorldWide:</i> E-9, ProArgi-9 Plus®
Digestive	We supply digestive products. The digestive line has been designed to offer products that regulate intestinal and digestive functions in support of the human digestive system.	<i>NSP Americas; NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe; China and New Markets:</i> Bifidophilus Flora Force®, CleanStart®, Food Enzymes, LBS II®, Liquid Chlorophyll, Milk Thistle, Proactazyme®, Probiotic Eleven® <i>Synergy WorldWide:</i> Detox Plus, Liquid Chlorophyll
Personal care	We supply a variety of personal care products for external use, including oils and lotions, aloe vera	<i>NSP Americas; NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe; China and New Markets:</i> EverFlex® Cream , HSN-W®,

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

gel, herbal shampoo, herbal skin treatment, toothpaste and skin cleanser.

Pau-D Arco Lotion, Pro-G Yam® Cream, Tei-Fu® Lotion, Vari-Gone®

Synergy WorldWide:

Bright Renewal Serum, Hydrating Toner, 5 in 1

Shampoo, Repair Complex

Weight management

We supply a variety of weight management products. The weight management line has been designed to simplify the weight management process by providing healthy meal replacements and products that increase caloric burn rate.

NSP Americas; NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe; China and New Markets: Fat Grabbers®, Garcinia Combination, Love and Peas, MetaboMax, Nature's Harvest, Nutri-Burn®, SmartMeal, Stixated, Ultra Therm

Synergy WorldWide:

Double Burn, SLMSmart

Table of Contents

Distribution and Selling

Our independent Managers and Distributors market our products to customers through direct selling techniques, as well as sponsoring other independent Managers and Distributors. We seek to motivate and provide incentives to our independent Managers and Distributors by offering high quality products and providing our independent Managers and Distributors with product support, training seminars, sales conventions, travel programs and financial incentives.

Our products sold in the United States are shipped directly from our manufacturing and warehouse facilities located in Spanish Fork, Utah, as well as from our regional warehouses located in Georgia, Ohio and Texas. Many of our international operations maintain warehouse facilities with inventory to supply their independent Managers, Distributors and customers. However, in foreign markets that we do not maintain warehouse facilities, we have contracted with third-parties to distribute our products and provide support services to our independent sales force of independent Managers and Distributors.

As of December 31, 2014, we had approximately 292,600 active independent Distributors and customers (as defined below) worldwide who purchase our products directly from the Company. In addition, our products can be purchased directly from our independent Distributors. A person who joins our independent sales force begins as an independent Distributor. An individual can become an independent Distributor by signing up under the sponsorship of someone who is already an independent Distributor or by signing up through the Company, where they will then be randomly assigned an independent Distributor as a sponsor. Many independent Distributors sell our products on a part-time basis to friends or associates or use the products themselves. An independent Distributor may earn Manager status by committing more time and effort to selling our products, recruiting productive independent Distributors and attaining certain product sales levels. Independent managers resell our products to independent Distributors within their sales group or directly to customers, or use the products themselves. As of December 31, 2014, we had approximately 13,400 active independent Managers (as defined below) worldwide. In many of our markets, our independent Managers and Distributors are primarily retailers of our products, including practitioners, proprietors of retail stores and other health and wellness specialists.

In the United States, we generally sell our products on a cash or credit card basis. From time to time, our U.S. operations extend short-term credit associated with product promotions. For certain of our international operations, we use independent distribution centers and offer credit terms that are generally consistent with industry standards within each respective country.

We pay sales commissions, or volume incentives to our independent Managers and Distributors based upon the amount of their sales group product purchases. These volume incentives are recorded as an expense in the year earned. The amounts of volume incentives that we expensed during the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, are set forth in our Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report. In addition to the opportunity to receive volume incentives, independent Managers who attain certain levels of monthly product sales are eligible for additional incentive programs including automobile allowances, sales convention privileges and travel awards.

Distributor Information

Our revenue is highly dependent upon the number and productivity of our independent Managers, Distributors and customers. Growth in sales volume requires an increase in the productivity and/or growth in the total number of independent Managers, Distributors and customers.

Within the Company, we have a number of different distributor compensation plans and qualifications, which generate active independent Managers and Distributors with different sales values in our different business segments. Within our NSP Americas and NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe segments, the declines in active independent Managers and Distributors have resulted in declines in sales revenues. Within Synergy WorldWide, the sales qualifications required for active independent Managers and Distributors varies by market according to local economic factors. As sales grow in markets with higher qualification values, and decline in those with lower qualification values, the resultant mix change influences the active independent Manager and Distributor counts. As a result, from time-to-time, changes in overall active independent Manager and Distributor counts may not be indicative of actual sales trends for the segment. There are no Managers, Distributors, and customers in the China and New Markets segment as the export business accounts for all of the segment's sales to date.

Table of Contents

The following table provides information concerning the number of total independent Managers, Distributors and customers by segment, as of the dates indicated.

Total Managers, Distributors and Customers by Segment as of December 31,

	2014		2013		2012	
	Distributors & Customers	Managers	Distributors & Customers	Managers	Distributors & Customers	Managers
NSP Americas	296,900	6,600	322,200	7,400	343,900	7,500
NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe	231,400	3,700	260,200	6,000	252,700	5,600
Synergy WorldWide	122,300	3,100	118,500	3,000	118,200	2,900
China and New Markets						
Total	650,600	13,400	700,900	16,400	714,800	16,000

Total Managers includes independent Managers under our various compensation plans that have achieved and maintained specified and personal groups sale volumes as of the date indicated. To maintain Manager status, an individual must continue to meet certain product sales volume levels. As such, all Managers are considered to be active Managers.

Total Distributors and customers includes our independent Distributors and customers who have purchased products directly from the Company for resale and/or personal consumption during the previous twelve months ended as of the date indicated. This includes independent Manager, Distributor and customer accounts that may have become inactive since such respective dates.

The following table provides information concerning the number of active independent Distributors and customers by segment, as of the dates indicated.

Active Distributors and Customers by Segment as of December 31,

	2014		2013		2012	
	Distributors & Customers	Managers	Distributors & Customers	Managers	Distributors & Customers	Managers
NSP Americas	135,900	6,600	148,800	7,400	150,500	7,500
NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe	97,900	3,700	131,800	6,000	125,800	5,600
Synergy WorldWide	58,800	3,100	51,800	3,000	54,600	2,900
China and New Markets						
Total	292,600	13,400	332,400	16,400	330,900	16,000

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Active Distributors and customers includes our independent Distributors and customers who have purchased products directly from the Company for resale and/or personal consumption during the previous three months ended as of the date indicated.

The following tables provide information concerning the number of new independent Managers, Distributors and customers by segment, as of the dates indicated.

New Managers, Distributors and Customers by Segment for the year ended December 31,

	2014		2013		2012	
	Distributors & Customers	Managers	Distributors & Customers	Managers	Distributors & Customers	Managers
NSP Americas	131,900	3,200	143,900	3,200	161,800	3,800
NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe	66,400	1,200	89,300	1,600	78,000	1,500
Synergy WorldWide	73,500	2,200	71,800	1,900	73,700	1,700
China and New Markets						
Total	271,800	6,600	305,000	6,700	313,500	7,000

Table of Contents

New Managers includes independent Managers under our various compensation plans that first achieved the rank of Manager during the previous twelve months ended as of the date indicated.

New Distributors and Customers include our independent Distributors and customers who have made their initial product purchase directly from us for resale and/or personal consumption during the previous twelve months ended as of the date indicated.

Source and Availability of Raw Materials

Raw materials used in the manufacture of our products are generally available from a number of suppliers. To date, we have not experienced any major difficulty in obtaining and maintaining adequate sources of raw materials supply. We attempt to ensure the availability of many of our raw materials by contracting, in advance, for our annual requirements. In the past, we have been able to find alternative sources of raw materials when needed. Although there can be no assurance that we will be successful in locating such sources of supply in the future, we believe that we will be able to do so.

Trademarks and Trade Names

We have obtained trademark registrations for Nature's Sunshine®, and the landscape logo for all of our Nature's Sunshine Products product lines. We have also obtained trademark registrations for Synergy® for all of our Synergy WorldWide product lines. We hold trademark registrations in the United States and in many other countries. Our customers' recognition and association of our brands and trademarks with quality is an important element of our operating strategy.

Seasonality

We operate in many regions around the world and, as a result, are affected by seasonal factors and trends such as weather changes, holidays and cultural traditions and vacation patterns throughout the world. For instance, in North America and Europe we typically see a decrease in activity during the third quarter due to the summer vacation season, while we see a decrease in activity in many of our Asia Pacific markets during the first quarter due to cultural events such as the Lunar New Year. As a result, there is some seasonality to our revenues and expense reflected in our reported quarterly results. Generally, reductions in one region of the world due to seasonality are offset by increases in another, minimizing the impact on our reported consolidated revenues. Changes in the relative size of our revenues in one region of the world compared to another could cause seasonality to more significantly affect our reported quarterly results.

Inventories

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

In order to provide a high level of product availability to our independent Managers, Distributors, and customers, we maintain a considerable inventory of raw materials in the United States and of finished goods in most countries in which we sell our products. Due to different regulatory requirements across the countries in which we sell our products, our finished goods inventories have product labels and sometimes product formulations specific for each country. Our inventories are subject to obsolescence due to finite shelf lives.

Dependence upon Customers

As a result of our business model, we are not dependent upon a single Manager, Distributor or customer, the loss of which would not have a material adverse effect on our business.

Backlog

We typically ship orders for our products within 24 hours after receipt of payment. As a result, we have not historically experienced significant backlogs due to our high level of product availability as discussed above.

Competition

Our products are sold in competition with other companies, some of which have greater sales volumes and financial resources than we do, and sell brands that are, through advertising and promotions, better known to consumers. We compete in the nutritional and personal care industry against companies that sell through retail stores, as well as against other direct selling companies. For example, we compete against manufacturers and retailers of nutritional and personal care products, which are distributed through supermarkets, drug stores, health food stores, vitamin outlets, discount stores, and mass market retailers, among others. We compete for product sales and managers and distributors with many other direct selling companies, including Amway, Herbalife, Pharmanex (NuSkin), Shaklee and USANA, among others. We believe that the principal components of competition in the direct selling of

Table of Contents

nutritional and personal care products are distributor expertise and service, product quality and differentiation, price and brand recognition. In addition, we rely on our independent Managers and Distributors to compete effectively in the direct selling markets, and our ability to attract and retain independent Managers and Distributors depends on various factors, including the recruitment, training, travel and financial incentives for the independent Managers and Distributors.

Research and Development

We conduct research and development activities at our manufacturing facility located in Spanish Fork, Utah. In addition, we have recently completed the construction of a new state of the art research and development facility at our corporate offices in Lehi, Utah, which will further advance our research of innovative products. Our principal emphasis in our research and development activities is the development of new products and the enhancement of existing products. The amount, excluding capital expenditures, spent on research and development activities was approximately \$2.5 million in 2014, \$2.0 million in 2013 and \$1.5 million in 2012.

Compliance with Environmental Laws and Regulations

The nature of our business has not required any material capital expenditures to comply with federal, state or local provisions enacted or adopted regulating the discharge of materials into the environment. No material capital expenditures to meet such provisions are anticipated. Such regulatory provisions have not had any material effect upon our results of operations or competitive position.

Regulation

General

In both our United States and foreign markets, we are affected by extensive laws, governmental regulations, administrative determinations and guidance, court decisions and similar constraints (collectively Regulations). Such Regulations exist at the federal, state or local levels in the United States and at all levels of government in foreign jurisdictions, including Regulations pertaining to: (1) the formulation, manufacturing, packaging, labeling, distribution, importation, sale and storage of our products; (2) product claims and advertising, including direct claims and advertising by us, as well as claims and advertising by independent Distributors, for which we may be held responsible; (3) our direct selling program; (4) transfer pricing and similar regulations that affect the level of U.S. and foreign taxable income and customs duties; (5) taxation of our independent Distributors (which in some instances may impose an obligation on us to collect the taxes and maintain appropriate records); and (6) currency exchange and repatriation.

Products

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

The formulation, manufacturing, packaging, labeling, advertising, distribution and sale of each of our major product groups are subject to regulation by one or more governmental agencies in the United States and in other countries. The most active of these is the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which regulates our products under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, as amended and the regulations promulgated thereunder (FDCA). The FDCA defines the terms food and dietary supplement and sets forth various conditions that, unless complied with, may constitute adulteration or misbranding of such products. The FDCA has been adjusted several times with respect to dietary supplements, most recently by the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act of 1990 (NLEA) and the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994, as amended, and the regulations promulgated thereunder (DSHEA).

FDA regulations relating specifically to foods and dietary supplements for human use are set forth in Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These regulations include basic labeling requirements for both foods and dietary supplements. Additionally, FDA regulations require us to meet relevant good manufacturing practice regulations for the preparation, packaging and storage of our food and dietary supplements.

FDA rules impose requirements on the manufacture, packaging, labeling, holding, and distribution of dietary supplement products. For example, it requires that companies establish written procedures governing areas such as: (1) personnel, (2) plant and equipment cleanliness, (3) production controls, (4) laboratory operations, (5) packaging and labeling, (6) distribution, (7) product returns, and (8) complaint handling. The FDA also requires identity testing of all incoming dietary ingredients unless a company successfully petitions for an exemption from this testing requirement in accordance with the regulations. The current good manufacturing practices are designed to ensure that dietary supplements and dietary ingredients are not adulterated with contaminants or impurities, and are labeled to accurately reflect the active ingredients and other ingredients in the products.

Table of Contents

In some countries, regulations applicable to the activities of our independent Managers and Distributors also may affect our business because in some countries we are, or regulators may assert that we are, responsible for our independent Distributors' conduct. In these countries, regulators may request or require that we take steps to ensure that our independent Distributors comply with regulations. The types of regulated conduct include: (1) representations concerning our products; (2) income representations made by us and/or our independent Distributors; (3) public media advertisements, which in foreign markets may require prior approval by regulators; (4) sales of products in markets in which the products have not been approved, licensed or certified for sale; and (5) classification by government agencies of our independent Managers and Distributors as employees of the Company.

In some markets, it is possible that improper product claims by independent Managers and Distributors could result in our products being reviewed by regulatory authorities and, as a result, being classified or placed into another category as to which stricter regulations are applicable. In addition, we might be required to make labeling changes.

We are unable to predict the nature of any future regulations, nor can we predict what effect additional governmental regulations or administrative orders, when and if promulgated, would have on our business in the future. They could, however, require: (1) the reformulation of some products not capable of being reformulated; (2) imposition of additional record keeping requirements; (3) expanded documentation of the properties of some products; (4) expanded or different labeling; (5) additional scientific substantiation regarding product ingredients, safety or usefulness; and/or (6) additional distributor compliance surveillance and enforcement action by us. Any or all of these requirements could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

In foreign markets, prior to commencing operations and prior to making or permitting sales of our products in the market, we may be required to obtain an approval, license or certification from the country's ministry of health or comparable agency. Prior to entering a new market in which a formal approval, license or certificate is required, we work extensively with local authorities in order to obtain the requisite approvals. We must also comply with product labeling and packaging regulations that vary from country to country. Our failure to comply with these regulations can result in a product being removed from sale in a particular market, either temporarily or permanently.

In 2014, the Company passed 3 day audits performed by the United States National Sanitation Foundation and independent auditors; and the Australia Therapeutic Goods Administration, which is the Australian regulatory body for our industry. Both entities noted that the Company continues to be in the top tier of companies with regard to compliance against GMP (Good Manufacturing Standards) requirements.

Direct Selling

Our business practices and products are also regulated by the following United States governmental entities: the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Our activities, including our direct selling distribution activities, are also regulated by various agencies of the states, localities and foreign countries in which our products are sold.

The FTC, which exercises jurisdiction over the advertising of all of our products in the United States, has in the past several years instituted enforcement actions against several dietary supplement and food companies and against manufacturers of weight loss products generally for

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

false and misleading advertising of some of their products. In addition, the FTC has increased its scrutiny of the use of testimonials, which we also utilize, as well as the role of expert endorsers and product clinical studies. We cannot be sure that the FTC, or comparable foreign agencies, will not question our advertising or other operations in the future. It is unclear whether the FTC will subject our advertisements to increased surveillance to ensure compliance with the principles set forth in its published advertising guidance.

Transfer Pricing

In many countries, including the United States, we are subject to transfer pricing and other tax regulations designed to ensure that appropriate levels of income are reported as earned by our U.S. or local entities and are taxed accordingly. In addition, our operations are subject to regulations designed to ensure that appropriate levels of customs duties are assessed on the importation of our products.

Although we believe that we are in substantial compliance with all applicable regulations and restrictions, we are subject to the risk that governmental authorities could audit our transfer pricing and related practices and assert that additional taxes are owed.

In the event that the audits or assessments are concluded adversely to us, we may or may not be able to offset or mitigate the consolidated effect of foreign income tax assessments through the use of U.S. foreign tax credits. Because the laws and regulations

Table of Contents

governing U.S. foreign tax credits are complex and subject to periodic legislative amendment, we cannot be sure that we would in fact be able to take advantage of any foreign tax credits in the future.

Other Regulations

We also are subject to a variety of other regulations in various foreign markets, including regulations pertaining to social security assessments, employment and severance pay requirements, import/export regulations and antitrust issues. As an example, in many markets, we are substantially restricted in the amount and types of rules and termination criteria that we can impose on independent Distributors without having to pay social security assessments on behalf of the independent Distributors and without incurring severance obligations to terminated independent Distributors. In some countries, we may be subject to these obligations in any event.

Our failure to comply with these regulations could have a material adverse effect on our business in a particular market or in general. Assertions that we failed to comply with regulations or the effect of adverse regulations in one market could adversely affect us in other markets as well, by causing increased regulatory scrutiny in those other markets or as a result of the negative publicity generated in those other markets.

Compliance

In order to comply with regulations that apply to both us and our independent Distributors, we conduct considerable research into the applicable regulatory framework prior to entering any new market to identify all necessary licenses and approvals and applicable limitations on our operations in that market. Typically, we conduct this research with the assistance of local legal counsel and other representatives. We devote substantial resources to obtaining the necessary licenses and approvals and bringing our operations into compliance with the applicable limitations. We also research laws applicable to independent Distributor operations and revise or alter our Distributor manuals and other training materials and programs to provide independent Distributors with guidelines for operating a business, selling and distributing our products and similar matters, as required by applicable regulations in each market. We are unable to monitor our independent Distributors effectively, however, to ensure that they refrain from distributing our products in countries where we have not commenced operations, and we do not devote significant resources to this type of monitoring.

In addition, regulations in existing and new markets often are ambiguous and subject to considerable interpretive and enforcement discretion by the responsible regulators. Moreover, even when we believe that we and our independent Distributors are initially in compliance with all applicable regulations, new regulations regularly are being added and the interpretation of existing regulations is subject to change. Further, the content and impact of regulations to which we are subject may be influenced by public attention directed at us, our products or our direct selling program, so that extensive adverse publicity about us, our products or our direct selling program may result in increased regulatory scrutiny.

It is an ongoing part of our business to anticipate and respond to new and changing regulations and to make corresponding changes in our operations to the extent practicable. Although we devote considerable resources to maintaining our compliance with regulatory constraints in each of our markets, we cannot be sure that (1) we would be found to be in full compliance with applicable regulations in all of our markets at any given time or (2) the regulatory authorities in one or more markets will not assert, either retroactively or prospectively or both, that our operations are not in full compliance. These assertions or the effect of adverse regulations in one market could negatively affect us in other

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

markets as well by causing increased regulatory scrutiny in those other markets or as a result of the negative publicity generated in those other markets. These assertions could have a material adverse effect on us in a particular market or in general. Furthermore, depending upon the severity of regulatory changes in a particular market and the changes in our operations that would be necessitated to maintain compliance, these changes could result in our experiencing a material reduction in sales in the market or determining to exit the market altogether. In this event, we would attempt to devote the resources previously devoted to such market to a new market or markets or other existing markets. However, we cannot be sure that this transition would not have an adverse effect on our business and results of operations either in the short or long-term.

To further mitigate any compliance risk, a Compliance Committee of the Board of Directors was created in 2014. The purpose of the committee of the Board of Directors of the Company shall be to oversee the Company's efforts with respect to operational compliance. Operational Compliance shall be defined to include: distributor compliance and direct selling best practices; employee compliance, including code of conduct and other mandated trainings; product and product distribution regulatory compliance, including adherence to FTC, FDA and other similar regulatory bodies' mandates; and non-financial, whistleblower reports. For avoidance of doubt, it shall not include FCPA. The committee shall consist of at least three directors, one of whom shall be the Chair of the Company's Audit Committee. A majority of the members of the compliance committee shall meet the independence and experience requirements of the NASDAQ Stock Market, Section 10A(m)(3) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act) and the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), as affirmatively determined by the Company's Board. The Board may, at any time and in its complete discretion, replace a compliance committee member.

Table of Contents**International Operations**

A significant portion of our net sales are generated within the United States, which represented 40.5 percent, 41.2 percent and 42.9 percent of net sales in 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively. Outside of the United States and South Korea, no one country accounted for 10.0 percent or more of net sales revenue in any year in the last three years. As we continue to grow our international business, our operating results will likely become more sensitive to economic and political conditions in foreign markets, as well as to foreign currency fluctuations. A breakdown of net sales revenue by region in 2014, 2013, and 2012, is set forth below.

(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Year Ended December 31,	2014		2013		2012	
Net Sales Revenue:						
North America	\$	175,118	47.8%	\$ 179,919	48.6%	\$ 182,138 50.5%
EMEA		83,048	22.7	98,299	26.6	88,465 24.5
Asia Pacific		81,199	22.1	62,932	17.0	61,595 17.1
Central & South America		27,002	7.4	28,676	7.8	28,628 7.9
	\$	366,367	100.0%	\$ 369,826	100.0%	\$ 360,826 100.0%

We market our products in Australia, Austria, Belarus, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States and Vietnam. We export our products to Argentina, Australia, Chile, Israel, New Zealand, Norway, Peru and the United Kingdom.

Our international operations are conducted in a manner that we believe is comparable with our U.S. operations; however, in order to conform to local variations, economic realities, market customs, consumer habits and regulatory environments, differences often exist in the products that we sell and in our distribution and selling programs.

Our international operations are subject to many of the same risks faced by our U.S. operations, including competition and the strength of the local economy. In addition, our international operations are subject to certain risks inherent in doing business abroad, including foreign regulatory restrictions, fluctuations in monetary exchange rates, import-export controls, effective management and support services by contracted third-parties and the economic and political policies of foreign governments. The significance of these risks will increase as we grow our international operations.

We have international operations in Belarus, which is considered to be a highly inflationary economy. Also, in 2014, the Company ceased its operations in Venezuela due to the difficulties and uncertainties related to import controls, difficulties associated with repatriating cash and high inflation. See below for further discussion of the Company's exit of the Venezuela market in Item 7, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

Executive Officers

In 2014, Paul E. Noack joined the Company as President of China and New Markets and Susan M. Armstrong was appointed Chief Operations Officer. Ms. Armstrong had previously served in the role of Executive Vice President, Operations since joining the Company in March 2013. In addition to her previous responsibilities of manufacturing and worldwide distribution, Ms. Armstrong also assumed responsibility for the corporate IT function. The Company's executive officers, as of the date of this report, are as follows:

Name	Age	Position	Served in Position Since
Gregory L. Probert	58	Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors	2013
Stephen M. Bunker	56	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	2006
D. Wynne Roberts	60	Chief Executive Officer of Synergy WorldWide	2014
Richard D. Strulson	46	Executive Vice President, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer, and Secretary	2013
Matthew L. Tripp	63	Executive Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer	2013
Paul E. Noack	53	President of China and New Markets	2014
Susan M. Armstrong	50	Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer	2014

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

Gregory L. Probert. Mr. Probert has served as Chief Executive Officer since October 1, 2013. He had previously been appointed by our Board of Directors as the Interim Chief Executive Officer of the Company, effective April 1, 2013, following the resignation of our former Chief Executive Officer, and as Executive Chairman of the Board, effective January 1, 2013. He served as the Executive Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors from June 2011 to December 2012 and as an independent consultant to the Company from September 2010 to June 2011. Previously, he was Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Penta Water Company from 2008, President and Chief Operating Officer of Herbalife International of America, Inc. from 2003 to 2008, and Chief Executive Officer of DMX Music from 2001 to 2003. Prior to that, he held various senior positions at The Walt Disney Company from 1988. Mr. Probert received his B.A. from the University of Southern California in 1979. Mr. Probert brings to our Board significant direct selling experience as well as extensive leadership and operational management skills in global consumer-oriented businesses, which strengthens the Board's aptitude in these key areas.

Stephen M. Bunker. Mr. Bunker is the Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of our Company. Prior to his appointment in March 2006, he served as Vice President of Finance and Treasurer of Geneva Steel Holdings Corporation from 2001. Previously, he was Corporate Controller of Geneva Steel Corporation from 1990. Mr. Bunker is a Certified Public Accountant, and worked for Arthur Andersen for six years. Mr. Bunker received his B.A. in Accounting from Brigham Young University in 1983 and his Masters of Accountancy from Brigham Young University in 1984.

D. Wynne Roberts. Mr. Roberts is the Chief Executive Officer of Synegy WorldWide. Prior to his appointment in December 2014, Mr. Roberts had previously served in the role of President and Chief Operating Officer since joining the Company in February 2012. Prior to joining the Company, he served as Chairman of the Board for LifeCare Corporation, a Romanian direct selling company from May 2010. Previously, he was Senior Vice President, EMEA (Europe, Middle East and Africa) at Herbalife Europe Limited from 2005, President, International of DMX Music Corporation from 2002, and held senior international executive positions at XE Systems Incorporated (a subsidiary of Xerox Corp.) from 1998 and NCR Corporation from 1984. He is a citizen of the U.K., and received his L.L.B., with honors, from the University of Manchester in 1975.

Richard D. Strulson. Mr. Strulson is the Executive Vice President, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer and Secretary of our Company. Prior to his appointment in November 2013, he served as Senior Vice President, Chief Privacy Officer, and Counsel, of Herbalife International of America, Inc., one of the world's largest direct selling companies. From 1998 to 2004, he served in a variety of senior legal counsel positions for The Walt Disney Company and FOX Cable Networks, where he was responsible for negotiating media rights and licensing agreements. Prior to his internal legal counsel positions, Mr. Strulson was a corporate attorney in Los Angeles with Latham and Watkins from 1995 to 1998 and clerked for Chief Justice E. Norman Veasey of the Delaware Supreme Court from 1994 to 1995. Mr. Strulson received a Doctor of Jurisprudence and Masters of Business Administration from Duke University in 1994, and a B.A. in Foreign Affairs and Economics from the University of Virginia in 1990.

Matthew L. Tripp. Dr. Tripp is the Executive Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer of our Company. Prior to his appointment in May 2013, Dr. Tripp served as Vice President, Research and Development at Metagenics, a leading developer, manufacturer and distributor of dietary supplements and medical foods sold through health care practitioners in the U.S. and pharmacies abroad from 2000. He also concurrently served as Senior Vice President, Research and Development, at KinDex Therapeutics, a biotechnology company created by Metagenics. Dr. Tripp received his Ph.D. from Washington State University in Physiology/Microbial Genetics/Microbiology in 1981; a M.A. in Microbial Physiology/Bacterial Genetics in 1977; and a B.S. in Biology both from Western Michigan University in 1974.

Paul E. Noack. Mr. Noack is the President of China and New Markets of our Company. Prior to his appointment in October 2014, Mr. Noack served as President of ViSalus, Inc., a direct selling health and wellness company from January 2012 to October 2014. Prior to his appointment as President in 2012, Mr. Noack consulted with the ViSalus, Inc. board of directors and management team. From 2009 to 2010, Mr. Noack served in several director and senior executive roles at Penta Water Company, LLC. From 2004 to 2008, Mr. Noack served in a variety of

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

executive roles at Herbalife International of America, Inc., one of the world's largest direct selling companies. From 2007 to 2008, he served as Herbalife's Managing Director of the Asia Pacific Region and as Chief Strategic Officer from 2006 to 2007. From 2004 to 2005, he served as Senior Vice President, Corporate Planning and Strategy, and was responsible for overseeing entry into New Markets, the Company's strategy in China, M&A and longer-term financial planning. From 1983 to 2003, Mr. Noack served in a variety of strategic roles, including ten years at the Walt Disney Company, where he directed a wide range of financial and operating responsibilities. Mr. Noack received a B.A. in Accounting from St. Johns University in 1983.

Susan M. Armstrong. Ms. Armstrong is the Chief Operations Officer of our Company. Prior to her appointment in December 2014, Ms. Armstrong had previously served in the role of Executive Vice President, Operations since joining the Company in March 2013. Prior to joining Nature's Sunshine Products, Ms. Armstrong served as Senior Vice President, Value Chain at Metagenics, a leading manufacturer and distributor of high quality dietary supplements and medical foods sold through health care

Table of Contents

practitioners in the U.S. and pharmacies abroad. Prior to working at Metagenics, Ms. Armstrong was Vice President, Global Supply Chain at Carl Zeiss Vision, a global leader in ophthalmic lenses and eye care solutions. Ms. Armstrong is a native of the United Kingdom (UK) and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from the University of Sheffield in the UK in 1986 and began her professional career as a chemist with Ciba Geigy.

Employees

We employed 964 individuals as of December 31, 2014. We believe that our relations with our employees are satisfactory.

Available Information

Our principal executive office is located at 2500 West Executive Parkway, Suite 100, Lehi, Utah 84043. Our telephone number is (801) 341-7900 and our Internet website address is www.natr.com. We make available free of charge on our website our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, our Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports, filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") as soon as practicable after we electronically file these documents with, or furnish them to, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). The SEC also maintains an Internet website that contains reports, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC at www.sec.gov. We also make available free of charge on our website our Code of Conduct Policy and the charters of our Audit Committee, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and Compensation Committee.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

You should carefully consider the following risks in evaluating our Company and our business. The risks described below are the risks that we currently believe are material to our business. However, additional risks not presently known to us, or risks that we currently believe are not material, may also impair our business operations. You should also refer to the other information set forth in this report, including the information set forth in Business and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations as well as our consolidated financial statements and the related notes. Our business prospects, financial condition or results of operations could be adversely affected by any of the following risks. If we are adversely affected by such risks, then the market price of our common stock could decline.

Changes in laws and regulations regarding direct selling may prohibit or restrict our ability to sell our products in some markets.

Direct selling systems are frequently subject to laws and regulations by various government agencies throughout the world. These laws and regulations are generally intended to prevent fraudulent or deceptive practices and to ensure that sales are made to consumers of the products, and that compensation, recognition and advancement within the selling organization are based upon sales of the products. Failure to comply with these laws and regulations could result in significant penalties. Violations could result from misconduct by an associate, ambiguity in statutes, changes or new laws and regulations affecting our business and court-related decisions. Furthermore, we may be restricted or prohibited from

using direct selling plans in some foreign countries. In addition, changes in existing laws or additional regulations could make it difficult to register or sell our products in the countries in which we operate. For example, in Peru, changes in local regulations have restricted our ability to sell a majority of our key products in this market through our traditional direct selling business model. In response to this change in regulations, in 2014, we transitioned this market to an export market, in which we sell our products to a locally managed entity independent of the Company that has distribution rights for the market.

Our products, business practices and manufacturing activities are subject to extensive government regulations and could be subject to additional laws and regulations.

The formulation, manufacturing, packaging, labeling, advertising, distribution and sales of each of our major product groups are subject to regulation by numerous domestic and foreign governmental agencies and authorities. These include the FDA, the FTC, the CPSC, the EPA, the USDA and state regulatory agencies as well as regulatory agencies in the foreign markets in which we operate. These markets have varied regulations which often require us to reformulate products for specific markets, conform product labeling to market regulations and register or qualify products or obtain necessary approvals with the applicable governmental authorities in order to market our products in these markets. Failure to comply with the regulatory requirements of these various governmental agencies and authorities could result in enforcement actions including: cease and desist orders, injunctions, limits on advertising, consumer redress, divestitures of assets, rescission of contracts, or such other relief as may be deemed necessary. Violation of these regulations could result in substantial financial or other penalties. Any action against us could materially affect our ability to successfully market our products.

Table of Contents

In the future, we may be subject to additional laws or regulations administered by the FDA or other federal, state, local or foreign regulatory authorities, the repeal or amendment of laws or regulations which we consider favorable and/or more stringent interpretations of current laws or regulations. We can neither predict the nature of such future laws, regulations, interpretations or applications, nor what effect additional governmental regulations or administrative orders, when and if promulgated, would have on our business. They could, however, require reformulation of certain products to meet new standards, recall or discontinuance of certain products not able to be reformulated, imposition of additional record-keeping requirements, expanded documentation of the properties of certain products, expanded or altered labeling and/or scientific substantiation. Any or all such requirements could increase our costs of operating the business and have a material negative impact on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

The FTC, which exercises jurisdiction over the advertising of all of our products in the United States, has in the past several years instituted enforcement actions against several dietary supplement and food companies and against manufacturers of weight loss products generally for false and misleading advertising of some of their products. In addition, the FTC has increased its scrutiny of the use of testimonials, which we also utilize, as well as the role of expert endorsers and product clinical studies. We cannot be sure that the FTC, or comparable foreign agencies, will not question our advertising or other operations in the future. It is unclear whether the FTC will subject our advertisements to increased surveillance to ensure compliance with the principles set forth in its published advertising guidance

We are subject to the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (the "FCPA"), which prohibits U.S. companies and their intermediaries from making improper payments to foreign officials for the purpose of obtaining or retaining business, and the anti-bribery laws of other jurisdictions. The Company expends significant resources to monitor FCPA compliance by its employees and representatives. Nevertheless, a finding of FCPA noncompliance could subject the Company to, among other things, penalties and legal expenses, as well as reputational harm, which could have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our failure to comply with these regulations could have a material adverse effect on our business in a particular market or in general. Assertions that we failed to comply with regulations or the effect of adverse regulations in one market could adversely affect us in other markets as well, by causing increased regulatory scrutiny in those other markets or as a result of the negative publicity generated in those other markets.

If we are unable to attract and retain Distributors, our business could suffer.

We rely on our independent Distributors to market and sell our products through direct selling techniques, as well as sponsoring other independent Distributors. Many independent Distributors sell our products on a part-time basis to friends or associates or use the products for themselves. Our independent Distributors may terminate their service at any time, and, like most direct selling companies, we experience high turnover among independent Distributors from year to year. As a result, we need to continue to retain existing independent Distributors and recruit additional independent Distributors in order to maintain and/or increase sales in the future.

Several factors affect our ability to attract and retain independent Distributors, including:

- any adverse publicity regarding us, our products, our distribution channels or our competitors;

- on-going motivation of our independent Distributors;
- the public's perceptions about the value and efficacy of our products;
- the public's perceptions and acceptance of direct selling;
- general and economic business conditions;
- government regulations;
- changes to our compensation arrangements, training and support for our independent Distributors; and
- competition in recruiting and retaining independent Distributors and/or market saturation.

We cannot provide any assurance that our independent Distributors will continue to maintain their current levels of productivity, or that we will be able to continue to attract and retain independent Distributors in sufficient numbers to sustain future growth or to maintain present sales levels.

Table of Contents

Changes in the economies of the markets in which we do business may affect consumer demand for our products.

Consumer spending habits, including spending for our products, are affected by, among other things, prevailing economic conditions, levels of employment, fuel prices, salaries and wages, the availability of consumer credit, consumer confidence and consumer perception of economic conditions. Economic slowdowns in the markets in which we do business and an uncertain economic outlook may adversely affect consumer spending habits and customer traffic, which may result in lower net sales of our products in future periods. A prolonged global or regional economic downturn could have a material negative impact on our financial position, results of operation or cash flows.

Currency exchange rate fluctuations affect our net revenue and net income.

In 2014, we recognized approximately 59.5 percent of our revenue in markets outside the United States, the majority of which was recognized in each market's respective local currency. We purchase inventory primarily in the United States in U.S. dollars. In preparing our financial statements, we translate revenues and expenses in foreign countries from their local currencies into U.S. dollars using average exchange rates. Because a majority of our sales are in foreign countries, exchange rate fluctuations may have a significant effect on our sales and earnings. Our reported net earnings have in the past been, and are likely to continue to be, significantly affected by fluctuations in currency exchange rates, with net sales revenue and earnings generally increasing with a weaker U.S. dollar and decreasing with a strengthening U.S. dollar. These fluctuations had a generally negative effect on our revenue in 2014 and 2013, compared to 2012, when we experienced an increase in our global net sales as a result of the U.S. dollar weakening against most major currencies. As our operations grow in countries where foreign currency transactions are made, our operating results will increasingly be subject to the risks of exchange rate fluctuations, and we may not be able to accurately estimate the impact of these changes on our future results of operations or financial condition.

Some of the markets in which we operate may become highly inflationary.

Inflation is another risk associated with our international operations. For example, Belarus has been designated as highly inflationary economy under generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (" U.S. GAAP "). Accordingly, the U.S. dollar is the functional currency for our operations in Belarus. All gains and losses resulting from the re-measurement of its financial statements and other transactional foreign exchange gains and losses are reflected in its earnings, which could result in volatility within the Company's earnings, rather than as a component of comprehensive income within shareholders' equity.

Some of the markets in which we operate have currency controls in place which may restrict the repatriation of cash.

The possibility that foreign governments may impose currency remittance restrictions is another risk faced by our international operations. Due to the possibility of government restrictions on transfers of cash out of the country and control of exchange rates, we may not be able to repatriate cash at exchange rates beneficial to the Company, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows. For example, in 2014, the Company ceased its operations in Venezuela due to the difficulties and uncertainties related to import controls, difficulties associated with repatriating cash and high inflation.

Availability and integrity of raw materials could become compromised.

We depend on outside suppliers for raw materials. We acquire all of our raw materials for the manufacture of our products from third-party suppliers. We have many agreements for the supply of materials used in the manufacture of our products in order to hedge against shortages or potential spikes in material costs. We also contract with third-party manufacturers and suppliers for the production of some of our products. In the event we were to lose any significant suppliers and experience any difficulties in finding or transitioning to alternative suppliers, it could result in product shortages or product back orders, which could harm our business. There can be no assurance that suppliers will be able to provide us with the raw materials in the quantities and at the appropriate level of quality that we request or at a price that we are willing to pay. We are also subject to the delays caused by any interruption in the production of these materials including weather, crop conditions, climate change, transportation interruptions and natural disasters or other catastrophic events.

Occasionally, our suppliers have experienced production difficulties with respect to our products, including the delivery of materials or products that do not meet our quality control standards. These quality problems have in the past resulted in, and in the future could result in, stock outages or shortages of our products, and could harm our sales and create inventory write-offs for unusable product.

Table of Contents

Geopolitical issues and conflicts could adversely affect our business.

Because a substantial portion of our business is conducted outside of the United States, our business is subject to global political issues and conflicts. If these conflicts or issues escalate, it could harm our foreign operations. In addition, changes in and actions by governments in foreign markets could harm our business. For example, the Company has cautioned that sales in its NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe segment will undoubtedly continue to be affected by the political unrest in Ukraine and Russia, possible sanctions in Russia and the impact of currency devaluation.

Our business is subject to the effects of adverse publicity and negative public perception.

Our ability to attract and retain independent Distributors, as well as their ability to maintain or grow sales in the future, can be affected by either adverse publicity or negative public perception with regard to our industry, our competition, our direct selling model, the quality or efficacy of nutritional product supplements and ingredients, and our business generally. There can be no assurance that we will not be subject to adverse publicity or negative public perception in the future or that it would not have an adverse or material negative impact on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Taxation and transfer pricing affect our operations.

As a U.S. company doing business in many international markets, we are subject to foreign tax and intercompany pricing laws, including those relating to the flow of funds between our parent Company and our subsidiaries. These pricing laws are designed to ensure that appropriate levels of income and expense are reported by our U.S. and foreign entities, and that they are taxed appropriately. Regulators in the United States and in foreign markets closely monitor our corporate structures, intercompany transactions, and how we effectuate intercompany fund transfers. If regulators challenge our corporate structures, transfer pricing methodologies or intercompany transfers, our operations may be harmed, and our effective tax rate may increase. We are eligible to receive foreign tax credits in the United States for certain foreign taxes actually paid abroad. In the event any audits or assessments are concluded adversely to us, we may not be able to offset the consolidated effect of foreign income tax assessments through the use of U.S. foreign tax credits. Because the laws and regulations governing U.S. foreign tax credits are complex and subject to periodic legislative amendment, we cannot be sure that we would in fact be able to take advantage of any foreign tax credits in the future. The various customs, exchange control and transfer pricing laws are continually changing, and are subject to the interpretation of governmental agencies.

We collect and remit value-added taxes and sales taxes in jurisdictions and states in which we have determined that nexus exists. Other states may claim, from time to time, that we have state-related activities constituting a sufficient nexus to require such collection.

Despite our efforts to be aware of and to comply with such laws and changes to the interpretations thereof, there is a risk that we may not continue to operate in compliance with such laws. We may need to adjust our operating procedures in response to these interpretational changes, and such changes could have a material negative impact on our financial position, results of operation or cash flows.

Our business is subject to intellectual property risks.

Most of our products are not protected by patents. Restrictive regulations governing the precise labeling of ingredients and percentages for nutritional supplements, the large number of manufacturers that produce products with many active ingredients in common and the rapid change and frequent reformulation of products generally make patent protection impractical. As a result, we enter into confidentiality agreements with certain of our employees in our research and development activities, our independent associates, suppliers, directors, officers and consultants to help protect our intellectual property, investment in research and development activities and trade secrets. We have also obtained trademarks for the *Nature's Sunshine Products* name and logo as well as the *Synergy WorldWide* name. There can be no assurance that our efforts to protect our intellectual property and trademarks will be successful, nor can there be any assurance that third parties will not assert claims against us for infringement of intellectual property rights, which could result in our business being required to obtain licenses for such rights, to pay royalties or to terminate our manufacturing of infringing products, all of which could have a material negative impact on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Product liability claims could harm our business.

As a manufacturer and distributor of products that are ingested, we face an inherent risk of exposure to product liability claims in the event that, among other things, the use of our products results in alleged injury to consumers due to tampering by unauthorized third parties or product contamination and/or other causes. We have historically had a very limited number of product claims or

Table of Contents

reports from individuals who have asserted that they have suffered adverse consequences as a result of using our products. We have established a wholly-owned captive insurance company to provide us with product liability insurance coverage, and have accrued a reserve that we believe is sufficient to cover probable and reasonably estimable liabilities related to product liability claims based upon our history. There can be no assurance that these estimates will prove to be sufficient, nor can there be any assurance that the ultimate outcome of any litigation for product liability will not have a material negative impact on our business prospects, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Inventory obsolescence due to finite shelf lives could adversely affect our business.

In order to provide a high level of product availability to our independent Distributors and customers, we maintain a considerable inventory of raw materials in the United States and of finished goods in most countries in which we sell our products. Our inventories of both raw materials and finished goods have finite shelf lives. If we overestimate the demand for our products, we could experience significant write-downs of our inventory due to obsolescence. Such write-downs could have a material negative impact on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

System failures could harm our business.

Like many companies, our business is highly dependent upon our information technology infrastructure (websites, accounting and manufacturing applications, and product and customer information databases) to manage effectively and efficiently our operations, including order entry, customer billing, accurately tracking purchases and volume incentives and managing accounting, finance and manufacturing operations. The occurrences of natural disasters, security breaches or other unanticipated problems could result in interruptions in our day-to-day business that could adversely affect our business. We have a disaster recovery plan in place to mitigate such risk. Nevertheless, there can be no assurance that a long-term failure or impairment of any of our information systems would not adversely affect our ability to conduct our day-to-day business.

Beginning in 2013, we began to significantly reinvest in information technology systems. Included within this plan is an Oracle ERP implementation program to provide the Company with a single integrated software solution that will integrate the Company's business process on a worldwide basis. However, the unsuccessful implementation or failure of this ERP program could disrupt or adversely affect our business operations.

The Company could incur obligations relating to the activities of our independent Distributors and contracted third-parties.

We sell our products worldwide to a sales force of independent Distributors who use the products themselves or resell them to other independent Distributors or consumers. In addition, in certain foreign markets, we contract with third-parties to distribute our product and provide support services to our independent sales force of Managers and Distributors. Independent Distributors and contracted third-parties are not employees and operate their own business separate and apart from the Company, and we may not be able to control aspects of their activities that may impact our business. If local laws and regulations or the interpretation of local laws and regulations change and require us to treat our independent Distributors as employees, or if our independent Distributors are deemed by local regulatory authorities in one or more of the jurisdictions in which we operate to be our employees rather than independent contractors under existing laws and interpretations, we may be

held responsible for a variety of obligations that are imposed upon employers relating to their employees, including employment related taxes and penalties. Our independent Distributors also operate in jurisdictions where local legislation and governmental agencies require us to collect and remit taxes such as sales tax or value-added taxes. In addition, there is the possibility that some jurisdictions could seek to hold the Company responsible for false product claims or the negligent actions of an independent Distributor. To date, the Company has had no such occurrences. If the Company were found to be responsible for any of these issues related to our independent Distributors, it could have a material negative impact on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

If our independent Distributors fail to comply with labeling laws, then our financial condition and operating results would be harmed.

Although the physical labeling of our products is not within the control of our independent Distributors, our independent Distributors must nevertheless advertise our products in compliance with the extensive regulations that exist in certain jurisdictions, such as the United States, which considers product advertising to be labeling for regulatory purposes. Our products are sold principally as dietary supplements and cosmetics and are subject to rigorous FDA and related legal regimens limiting the types of therapeutic claims that can be made for our products. The treatment or cure of disease, for example, is not a permitted claim for these products. While we train our independent Distributors and attempt to monitor our independent Distributors' marketing materials, we cannot ensure that all such materials comply with applicable regulations, including bans on therapeutic claims. If our independent Distributors fail to comply with these restrictions, then we and our independent Distributors could be subjected to claims, financial penalties, mandatory product recalls or relabeling requirements, which could harm our financial condition and operating results.

Table of Contents

Although we expect that our responsibility for the actions of our independent Distributors in such an instance would be dependent on a determination that we either controlled or condoned a noncompliant advertising practice, there can be no assurance that we could not be held vicariously liable for the actions of our independent Distributors.

Changes in key management could materially adversely affect the Company.

We believe our success depends in part on our ability to retain our executive officers, and to continue to attract additional qualified individuals to our management team. We have entered into employment agreements with each of our named executive officers, which we believe achieves two important goals crucial to our long-term financial success: the long-term retention of our senior executives and their commitment to attain our strategic objectives. However, we cannot guarantee the continued service of our key officers. The loss or limitation of any of our executive officers or the inability to attract additional qualified management personnel could have a material negative impact on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows. We do not carry key man insurance on the lives of any of our executive officers.

Our business is involved in an industry with intense competition.

Our business operates in an industry with numerous manufacturers, distributors and retailers of nutritional products. The market for our products is intensely competitive. Many of our competitors are significantly larger, have greater financial resources, and have better name recognition than we do. We also rely on our independent Distributors to market and sell our products through direct selling techniques, as well as sponsoring other independent Distributors. Our ability to compete with other direct selling companies depends greatly on our ability to attract and retain our independent Distributors. In addition, we currently do not have significant patent or other proprietary protection, and our competitors may introduce products with the same or similar ingredients that we use in our products. As a result, we may have difficulty differentiating our products from our competitors' product and other competing products that enter the nutritional market. There can be no assurance that our future operations would not be harmed as a result of changing market conditions and future competition.

Our share price has been and may continue to be volatile.

The market price of our common shares is subject to significant fluctuations in response to variations in our quarterly operating results and the market price of our common stock may not remain at or exceed current levels. Factors other than our financial results that may affect our share price include, but are not limited to, market expectations of our performance, market perception or our industry, the activities of our independent Managers, Distributors and customers, the level of perceived growth in the industry in which we participate, general trends in the markets for our products, general economic, business and political conditions in the countries and regions in which we conduct our business, currency exchange issues in our foreign markets, changes in government regulation affecting our business, political issues and conflicts, many of which are not within our control.

We may experience Unintended negative effects from our independent Manager and Distributor promotions or compensation plans.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

The payment of volume incentives to our independent Managers and Distributors is our most significant expense. These incentives include commissions, bonuses and certain awards and prizes based on promotions and product levels. From time to time, we adjust our compensation plan to better manage these incentives as a percentage of net sales. We closely monitor the amount of volume incentives that are paid as a percentage of net sales, and may periodically adjust our compensation plan to prevent volume incentives from having a significant adverse effect on our earnings. In addition to the compensation plan, we frequently design and implement economic and non-economic incentives and promotions to motivate and reward our independent Distributors. There can be no assurance that changes to the compensation plan, product pricing, or promotions and incentives will be successful in achieving target levels of volume incentives as a percentage of net sales. Furthermore, such programs, promotions or incentives could result in unintended or unforeseen negative economic and non-economic consequences to our business, such as higher than anticipated costs.

Our manufacturing activity is subject to certain risks.

We manufacture approximately 80 percent of the products sold to our customers at our Spanish Fork, Utah location. As a result, we are dependent upon the uninterrupted and efficient operation of our manufacturing facility in Spanish Fork and our distribution facilities throughout the country. Our manufacturing facilities and distribution facilities are subject to the risk of catastrophic loss due to, among other things, earthquake, fire, flood, terrorism or other natural or man-made disasters, as well as occurrence of significant equipment failures. If any of these facilities were to experience a catastrophic loss, it would be expected to disrupt our operations and could result in personal injury or property damage, damage relationships with our customers or result in large expenses to repair or replace the facilities or systems, as well as result in other liabilities and adverse impacts.

In addition, we contract with third-party manufacturers to produce some of our vitamins, mineral and other nutritional supplements, personal care products and certain other miscellaneous products in accordance with our specifications and standards. These contract manufacturers are subject to the same risks as our manufacturing facility as noted above. In addition, while we have

Table of Contents

implemented stringent quality control procedures to verify that our contract manufacturers comply with our specifications and standards, we do not have full control over their manufacturing activities. Any difficulties, delays and defects in our products resulting from the activities of our contract manufacturers may have an adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

Failure of third party support could negatively impact our sales revenue and profitability.

We have contracted with third-parties in several of our key markets to distribute our product and provide support services to our independent sales force of Managers and Distributors. We rely on these third parties to perform various required administrative functions in support of our independent Managers and Distributors. Any failure of these third parties in this regard could result in the disruption of our business in these markets and adversely affect revenue and profitability.

Our failure to appropriately respond to changing consumer preferences and demand for new products or product enhancements could significantly harm our Distributor relationships and product sales and harm our financial condition and operating results.

Our business is subject to changing consumer trends and preferences. Our continued success depends in part on our ability to anticipate and react to these changes, and we may not react in a timely or commercially appropriate manner to such changes. Furthermore, the nutritional supplement industry is characterized by rapid and frequent changes in demand for products and new product introductions and enhancements. Our failure to accurately predict these trends could negatively impact consumer opinion of our products, which in turn could harm our Distributor relationships and cause the loss of sales. If we do not introduce new products or make enhancements to meet the changing needs of our customers in a timely manner, some of our products could be rendered obsolete, which could negatively impact our revenues, financial condition and operating results.

If we fail to further penetrate existing markets and expand our business into New Markets, then the growth in sales of our products, along with our operating results, could be negatively impacted.

The success of our business is to a large extent contingent on our ability to further penetrate existing markets and to enter into New Markets. Our ability to further penetrate existing markets or to expand our business into additional countries, to the extent we believe that we have identified attractive geographic expansion opportunities in the future, is subject to numerous factors, many of which are out of our control.

In addition, government regulations in both our domestic and international markets can delay or prevent the introduction, or require the reformulation or withdrawal, of some of our products, which could negatively impact our business, financial condition and results of operations. Also, our ability to increase market penetration in certain countries may be limited by the finite number of persons in a given country inclined to pursue a direct selling business opportunity or consumers willing to purchase our products. Moreover, our growth will depend upon improved training and other activities that enhance Distributor retention in our markets. While we have recently experienced significant growth in certain of our markets, we cannot make assurances that such growth levels will continue in the immediate or long term future. Furthermore, our efforts to support growth in such international markets could be hampered to the extent that our infrastructure in such markets is deficient when compared to our more developed markets, such as the U.S. Therefore, we cannot make assurances that our general efforts to increase our market penetration and Distributor retention in existing markets will be successful. If we are unable to continue to expand into New Markets or further penetrate existing markets, our operating results could suffer.

Our expansion in China is subject to risks associated with operating a joint venture, as well as general, industry-specific, economic, political and legal risks in China and requires that we utilize a different business model from that which we use elsewhere in the world.

Our expansion of operations into China is subject to risks and uncertainties related to operating a joint venture, as well as general economic, political and legal developments in China, among other things. The Chinese government exercises significant control over all aspects of the Chinese economy and the direct selling industry in particular. Accordingly, any adverse change in the Chinese economy, the Chinese legal system or Chinese governmental, economic or other policies could have a material adverse effect on our business in China and our prospects generally.

On August 25, 2014, Nature's Sunshine and Shanghai Fosun Pharmaceutical (Group) Co., Ltd. (Fosun Pharma), closed a transaction pursuant to which, the parties entered into a joint venture in the People's Republic of China (China) 80 percent is owned by Nature's Sunshine and 20 percent is owned by a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fosun Pharma. Smooth operation of the joint venture depends on good relations between the Company and Fosun Pharma, active synergies between the two companies and positive legal and regulatory recognition of the joint venture. Any disruption in relations, inability to work efficiently or disadvantageous treatment of the joint venture by the Chinese or other authorities could have a material adverse effect on our business in China.

In 2005, China published regulations governing direct selling and prohibiting pyramid promotional schemes, and a number of administrative methods and proclamations were issued in 2005 and in 2006. These regulations require us to use a business model

Table of Contents

different from that which we offer in other markets. To allow us to operate under these regulations, we are creating a model specifically for China.

The direct selling regulations require us to apply for various approvals to conduct a direct selling enterprise in China. The process for obtaining the necessary licenses to conduct a direct selling business is protracted and cumbersome and involves multiple layers of Chinese governmental authorities and numerous governmental employees at each layer. While direct selling licenses are centrally issued, such licenses are generally valid only in the jurisdictions within which related approvals have been obtained. Such approvals are generally awarded on local and provincial bases, and the approval process requires involvement with multiple ministries at each level. Our participation and conduct during the approval process is guided not only by distinct Chinese practices and customs, but is also subject to applicable laws of China and the other jurisdictions in which we operate our business, including the U.S., as well as our internal code of ethics. There is always a risk that in attempting to comply with local customs and practices in China during the application process or otherwise, we will fail to comply with requirements applicable to us in China itself or in other jurisdictions, and any such failure to comply with applicable requirements could prevent us from obtaining the direct selling licenses or related local or provincial approvals. Furthermore, we rely on certain key management, regulatory and legal personnel in China to assist us during the approval process, and the loss of any such key personnel could delay or hinder our ability to obtain licenses or related approvals. For all of the above reasons, there can be no assurance that we will obtain direct-selling licenses, or obtain related approvals to expand into any or all of the localities or provinces in China that are important to our business. Our inability to obtain, retain, or renew any or all of the licenses or related approvals that are required for us to operate in China could negatively impact our business.

Additionally, although certain regulations have been published with respect to obtaining and operating under such approvals and otherwise conducting business in China, other regulations are pending and there continues to be uncertainty regarding the interpretation and enforcement of Chinese regulations. The regulatory environment in China is evolving, and officials in the Chinese government exercise broad discretion in deciding how to interpret and apply regulations. We cannot be certain that our business model will continue to be deemed by national or local Chinese regulatory authorities to be compliant with any such regulations. The Chinese government rigorously monitors the direct selling market in China, and in the past has taken serious action against companies that the government believed were engaging in activities they regarded to be in violation of applicable law, including shutting down their businesses and imposing substantial fines. As a result, there can be no guarantee that the Chinese government's current or future interpretation and application of the existing and new regulations will not negatively impact our business in China, result in regulatory investigations or lead to fines or penalties against us.

Chinese regulations prevent persons who are not Chinese nationals from engaging in direct selling in China. We cannot guarantee that any of our Members living outside of China or any of our sales representatives or independent service providers in China have not engaged or will not engage in activities that violate our policies in this market, or that violate Chinese law or other applicable law, and therefore result in regulatory action and adverse publicity.

If we are not able to register products for sale in Mainland China, our business could be harmed.

Our registration of our products for sale in China is extremely time intensive. The requirements for obtaining product registrations and/or licenses involve extended periods of time that may delay us from offering products for sale or prevent us from launching new product initiatives in China on the same timelines as other markets around the world. For example, products marketed in China as "health foods" or for which certain claims are used are subject to "blue cap" or "blue hat" registrations, which involve extensive laboratory and clinical analysis by governmental authorities. This registration process can take anywhere from 18 months to 3 years, but may be substantially longer. We currently intend to market both "health foods" and "general foods" in China. There is risk associated with the common practice in China of marketing a product as a "general food" while seeking "health food" classification. If government officials feel the categorization of our products is inconsistent with product claims, ingredients or function, this could end or limit our ability to market such products in China.

If we are unable to effectively manage rapid growth in China, our operations could be harmed.

If our operations in China are successful, we may experience rapid growth in China, and there can be no assurances that we will be able to successfully manage rapid expansion of manufacturing operations and a rapidly growing and dynamic sales force. If we are unable to effectively manage such growth and expansion of our retail stores and manufacturing operations, our government relations may be compromised and our operations in China may be harmed.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

Table of Contents

Item 2. Properties

Our corporate offices are located in Lehi, Utah, and consist of approximately 66,000 square feet. These facilities are leased from an unaffiliated third party through a lease agreement which expires in 2017.

Our principal warehousing and manufacturing facilities are housed in a building consisting of approximately 270,000 square feet and located on approximately 10 acres in Spanish Fork, Utah. These facilities are owned by us and support all of our business segments.

We own approximately 60,000 square feet of office and warehouse space in Mexico.

We also own approximately 53 acres of undeveloped land in Springville, Utah, and approximately 8 acres of undeveloped land in Provo, Utah.

We lease properties used primarily as distribution warehouses located in Georgia, Ohio, Texas and Utah, as well as offices and distribution warehouses in the majority of the countries in which we do business. We believe these facilities are suitable for their respective uses and are, in general, adequate for our present and near-term future needs. During 2014, 2013 and 2012, we incurred approximately \$6.2 million, \$6.1 million and \$6.1 million, respectively, for all of our leased facilities in lease expense.

We believe that our current facilities are adequate for our business operation and that additional space, if required, will be available on commercially reasonable terms for the foreseeable future.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

The Company is party to various legal proceedings. Management cannot predict the ultimate outcome of these proceedings, individually or in the aggregate, or their resulting effect on the Company's business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows as litigation and related matters are subject to inherent uncertainties, and unfavorable rulings could occur. Were an unfavorable outcome to occur, there exists the possibility of a material adverse impact on the business, financial position, results of operations, or cash flows for the period in which the ruling occurs and/or future periods. The Company maintains product liability, general liability and excess liability insurance coverage. However, no assurances can be given that such insurance will continue to be available at an acceptable cost to the Company, that such coverage will be sufficient to cover one or more large claims, or that the insurers will not successfully disclaim coverage as to a pending or future claim.

Since late 2007, the Company has administered its sales in Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Russia and Ukraine (the Territories) through an International Reseller Agreement (Reseller Agreement) with a third party general dealer (the General Dealer) based in Russia. The General Dealer administers the marketing and distribution of the Company's products in the Territories. As a part of its services, the General Dealer provides certain discounts (the Discounts) to its network of dealers related to the costs associated with transporting the

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Company's products from the General Dealer to the dealers. In July 2013, the General Dealer began to withhold the amount of these Discounts from the funds remitted each month to the Company for the sale of the products, claiming that it is entitled to reimbursement for these costs under the Reseller Agreement. These withholdings averaged approximately \$0.3 million per month and totaled approximately \$3.0 million at March 31, 2014.

The parties negotiated a resolution to the dispute, whereby the General Dealer paid the Company the \$3.0 million of Discounts withheld and relinquished all claims to the reimbursement of Discounts with respect to periods prior to July 2013, and the parties agreed to a new three-year international reseller agreement, effective April 1, 2014.

Other Litigation

The Company is party to various other legal proceedings in several foreign jurisdictions related to value-added tax assessments and other civil litigation. While there is a reasonable possibility that a loss may be incurred, either the losses are not considered to be probable or the Company cannot at this time estimate the loss, if any; therefore, no provision for losses has been provided. The Company believes future payments related to these matters could range from \$0 to approximately \$0.4 million

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

Table of Contents

PART II

Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Shareholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Market and Share Prices

Our common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Market (symbol NATR).

The following table summarizes the quarterly high and low market prices of our common stock for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013:

2014	Market Prices			
		High		Low
First Quarter	\$	18.81	\$	18.34
Second Quarter	\$	18.37	\$	12.91
Third Quarter	\$	17.35	\$	14.12
Fourth Quarter	\$	15.76	\$	13.40

2013	Market Prices			
		High		Low
First Quarter	\$	15.96	\$	13.30
Second Quarter	\$	17.45	\$	13.60
Third Quarter	\$	20.15	\$	16.40
Fourth Quarter	\$	19.92	\$	16.41

The approximate number of shareholders of record of our common shares as of February 13, 2015, was 797. This number of holders of record does not represent the actual number of beneficial owners of our common shares because shares are frequently held in street name by securities dealers and others for the benefit of individual owners who have the right to vote their shares.

Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities

None.

Dividends

There were 809 shareholders of record as of December 31, 2014.

The declaration of future dividends is subject to the discretion of the Company's Board of Directors and will depend upon various factors, including the Company's earnings, financial condition, restrictions imposed by any indebtedness that may be outstanding, cash requirements, future prospects and other factors deemed relevant by its Board of Directors.

On March 17, 2014, the Company announced a cash dividend of \$0.10 per common share in an aggregate amount of \$1.6 million that was paid on April 7, 2014, to shareholders of record on March 28, 2014. On May 7, 2014, the Company announced a cash dividend of \$0.10 per common share in an aggregate amount of \$1.6 million that was paid on June 2, 2014, to shareholders of record on May 21, 2014. On August 6, 2014, the Company announced a cash dividend of \$0.10 per common share in an aggregate amount of \$1.6 million that was paid on August 29, 2014, to shareholders of record on August 18, 2014. On August 27, 2014, the Company announced a special non-recurring cash dividend of \$1.50 per common share in an aggregate amount of \$28.5 million that was paid on September 19, 2014, to shareholders of record on September 8, 2014. On November 5, 2014, the Company announced a cash dividend of \$0.10 per common share in an aggregate amount of \$1.9 million that was paid on December 1, 2014, to shareholders of record on November 20, 2014.

Table of Contents

Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans

The following table contains information regarding the Company's equity compensation plans as of December 31, 2014:

Plan category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise or vesting of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a)	Weighted average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (b)	Number of securities remaining available for issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a)) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders (1)	2,217,480	\$ 11.96	20,753

(1) Consists of two plans: The Nature's Sunshine Products, Inc. 2012 Stock Incentive Plan (the "2012 Incentive Plan") and the Nature's Sunshine Products, Inc. 2009 Stock Incentive Plan (the "2009 Incentive Plan"). The 2012 Incentive Plan was approved by shareholders on August 1, 2012. The 2009 Incentive Plan was approved by shareholders on November 6, 2009. The terms of these plans are summarized in Note 11, "Capital Transactions", of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8, Part 2 of this report.

Performance Graph

The graph below depicts our common stock as an index, assuming \$100.00 was invested on December 31, 2009, along with the composite prices of companies listed on the NASDAQ Stock Market and our peer group. Standard & Poor's Investment Services has provided us with this information. The comparisons in the graph are required by regulations of the SEC, and are not intended to forecast or be indicative of the possible future performance of our common stock. The publicly-traded companies in our peer group are Herbalife International, Ltd., NuSkin Enterprises, Inc. and USANA Health Sciences, Inc. We consider these companies to be our peer group as they have similar product lines and distribution techniques when compared to our business.

The material in this section captioned "Performance Graph" is being furnished and shall not be deemed "filed" with the SEC for purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act or otherwise subject to the liability of that section, nor shall the material in this section be deemed to be incorporated by reference in any registration statement or other document filed with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933, except to the extent we specifically and expressly incorporate it by reference into such filing.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

	12/31/2009	12/31/2010	12/31/2011	12/31/2012	12/31/2013	12/31/2014
Nature's Sunshine Products, Inc.	\$ 100.00	\$ 105.15	\$ 181.73	\$ 171.23	\$ 227.69	\$ 220.35
NASDAQ Index	100.00	118.02	117.04	137.47	192.62	221.02
Peer Group	100.00	147.16	216.70	154.45	449.26	206.44

Item 6. Selected Financial Data

The selected financial data presented below is summarized from our results of consolidated operations for each of the five years in the period ended December 31, 2014, as well as selected consolidated balance sheet data as of December 31, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010.

(Dollar and Share Amounts in Thousands, Except for Per Share Information and Other Information)

Consolidated Statement of Operations Data

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Net sales revenue	\$ 366,367	\$ 369,826	\$ 360,826	\$ 362,497	\$ 343,813
Cost of sales	(91,584)	(92,344)	(91,369)	(87,906)	(87,180)
Gross profit	274,783	277,482	269,457	274,591	256,633
Operating expenses:					
Volume incentives	135,808	135,516	130,875	131,840	128,178
Selling, general and administrative	119,927	118,383	104,716	107,752	116,810
Contract termination costs				14,750	
Operating income	19,048	23,583	33,866	20,249	11,645
Other income (loss), net	(34)	1,993	1,573	1,256	(579)
Income before income taxes	19,014	25,576	35,439	21,505	11,066
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	(743)	7,923	10,531	5,136	6,191
Net income from continuing operations	19,757	17,653	24,908	16,369	4,875
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	(9,957)	(44)	472	1,232	(6,108)
Net income (loss)	9,800	17,609	25,380	17,601	(1,233)
Loss attributable to noncontrolling interests	(219)				
Net income (loss) attributable to common shareholders	\$ 10,019	\$ 17,609	\$ 25,380	\$ 17,601	\$ (1,233)

Consolidated Balance Sheet Data

	2014	2013	December 31, 2012	2011	2010
--	------	------	----------------------	------	------

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	58,699	\$	77,247	\$	79,241	\$	58,969	\$	47,604
Working capital		63,340		80,025		83,943		57,305		41,370
Inventories		40,438		41,910		43,280		41,611		36,235
Property, plant and equipment, net		51,343		32,022		27,950		25,137		27,391
Total assets		196,799		199,612		193,919		175,811		159,415
Long-term liabilities		9,933		25,784		16,893		20,575		25,865
Total shareholders' equity		128,957		105,259		115,636		87,438		68,382

Summary Cash Flow Information

	2014	2013	December 31, 2012	2011	2010
Operating activities	\$ 14,182	\$ 29,378	\$ 26,651	\$ 3,908	\$ 16,150
Investing activities	(26,674)	(8,564)	(2,989)	(1,679)	(5,909)
Financing activities	(5,076)	(21,331)	(3,133)	9,588	132

Table of Contents**Common Share Summary**

	2014	2013	December 31, 2012	2011	2010
Cash dividend per share (1)	\$ 1.90	\$ 1.90	\$ 0.15	\$	\$
Basic and diluted earnings per share					
Basic weighted average number of shares	17,108	15,997	15,648	15,550	15,515
Diluted weighted average number of shares	17,641	16,390	15,987	15,695	15,605
Basic					
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 1.15	\$ 1.10	\$ 1.59	\$ 1.05	\$ 0.31
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ (0.57)	\$	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.08	\$ (0.39)
Net income (loss) attributable to common shareholders	\$ 0.58	\$ 1.10	\$ 1.62	\$ 1.13	\$ (0.08)
Diluted					
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 1.12	\$ 1.08	\$ 1.56	\$ 1.04	\$ 0.31
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ (0.56)	\$ (0.01)	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.08	\$ (0.39)
Net income (loss) attributable to common shareholders	\$ 0.56	\$ 1.07	\$ 1.59	\$ 1.12	\$ (0.08)

(1) 2014 and 2013 include a special cash dividend of \$1.50 per share paid on September 19, 2014 and August 29, 2013, respectively.

Other Information

	2014	2013	December 31, 2012	2011	2010
Square footage of property in use	754,548	771,439	768,513	763,389	750,390
Number of employees	964	1,010	995	1,003	1,073

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

The following discussion highlights the principal factors that have affected our financial condition, results of operations, liquidity and capital resources for the periods described. This discussion should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the related notes in Item 8 of this report. This discussion contains forward-looking statements. Please see Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements for the risks, uncertainties and assumptions associated with these forward-looking statements.

OVERVIEW

Our Business, Industry and Target Market

Nature's Sunshine Products, Inc., together with its subsidiaries, is a natural health and wellness company primarily engaged in the manufacturing and direct selling of nutritional and personal care products. The Company is a Utah corporation with its principal place of business in Lehi, Utah, and sells its products to a sales force of independent Managers and Distributors who use the products themselves or resell them to other independent Distributors or customers. The formulation, manufacturing, packaging, labeling, advertising, distribution and sale of each of our major product groups are subject to regulation by one or more governmental agencies.

The Company has four business segments that are divided based on the different characteristics of their Distributor bases, selling and Distributor compensation plans and product formulations, as well as the internal organization of our officers and their responsibilities and business operations. Two business segments operate under the Nature's Sunshine Products brand (NSP Americas and NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe), and one operates under the Synergy WorldWide brand. The Company's fourth business segment, China and New Markets, anticipates deploying a multi-brand, multi-channel go-to-market strategy that offers select Nature's Sunshine branded products through Fosun Pharma's existing retail locations across China, and select Synergy branded products through a direct selling model. The time to market will be dependent upon regulatory processes including product registration and permit approvals. The China and New Markets segment also includes Company's export sales business, in which the Company sells our products to various locally managed entities independent of the Company that have distribution rights for the relevant market. All of the net sales revenue to date in the China and New Markets segment is through the Company's export business to foreign markets outside of China detailed below that were previously part of NSP Americas.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

We market our products in Australia, Austria, Belarus, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States and Vietnam. We export our products to Argentina, Australia, Chile, Israel, New Zealand, Norway, Peru and the United Kingdom.

In November 2014, the Company ceased its operations in Venezuela due to the difficulties and uncertainties related to import controls, difficulties associated with repatriating cash and high inflation. This market was part of the Company's NSP Americas segment and all of the income (loss) from discontinued operations is related to the common shareholders of the Company.

In 2014, we experienced a decrease in our consolidated net sales of 0.9 percent (or 0.5 percent in local currencies). NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe net sales decreased approximately 19.9 percent compared to the same period in 2013. Synergy WorldWide net sales increased approximately 18.3 percent compared to the same period in 2013. NSP Americas net sales decreased approximately 5.8 percent compared to the same period in 2013 (or 4.8 percent in local currencies). China and New Markets net sales increased approximately 17.5 percent compared to the same period in 2013. Our most significant sales revenue growth was from our Synergy Japan and South Korea markets during 2014. Gains in this market were partially offset by the decrease in our NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe market. Excluding the NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe segment, net sales would have increased by approximately 2.9 percent (3.5 percent in local currencies).

The Company must caution that sales in NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe will undoubtedly continue to be affected by the significant impact of currency devaluation, as well as continuing political unrest in Ukraine and Russia, and sanctions against Russia. We do not expect this decline in net sales to reverse in the near term as currency devaluations have continued into 2015. We remain strongly supportive and engaged with our independent Distributors in the region, and are supporting their activity with additional promotions and training. However, at this time, the Company has cautioned that sales in its NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe segment will be significantly affected by the political unrest in Ukraine and Russia, possible sanctions in Russia and the impact of currency devaluation. We are continuing to evaluate various options to keep our distributor base engaged. Nevertheless, our strong and renewed partnership with our local partner should provide a solid foundation to reignite growth once the situation stabilizes.

Selling, general and administrative costs as a percentage of net sales revenue for 2014 increased to 32.7 percent from 32.0 percent in the prior year primarily as a result of the Company's due diligence performed prior to the strategic alliance with Fosun Pharma and the start-up costs incurred subsequently as part of the China joint venture. The Company also incurred costs associated with the evaluation of and negotiation with a company in an alternative distribution channel, which the Company ultimately declined to pursue.

We distribute our products to consumers through an independent sales force comprised of Managers and Distributors, some of whom also consume our products. Typically a person who joins our independent sales force begins as a Distributor. A Distributor may earn Manager status by committing more time and effort to selling our products, recruiting productive independent Distributors and attaining certain product sales levels. On a worldwide basis, active independent Managers were approximately 13,400 and 16,400 and active independent Distributors and customers were approximately 292,600 and 332,400 at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

As an international business, we have significant revenues and costs denominated in currencies other than the U. S. Dollar. Sales in international markets in foreign currencies are expected to continue to represent a substantial portion of our revenues. Likewise, we expect our foreign markets with functional currencies other than the U.S. Dollar will continue to represent a substantial portion of our overall sales and related

operating expenses. Accordingly, changes in foreign currency exchange rates could materially affect revenues and costs or the comparability of revenues and costs from period to period as a result of translating our financial statements into our reporting currency.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Our consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP and form the basis for the following discussion and analysis on critical accounting policies and estimates. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On a regular basis, we evaluate our estimates and assumptions. We base our estimates 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

Table of Contents

results could differ from these estimates and those differences could have a material effect on our financial position and results of operations. Management has discussed the development, selection and disclosure of these estimates with the Board of Directors and its Audit Committee.

A summary of our significant accounting policies is provided in Note 1 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report. We believe the critical accounting policies and estimates described below reflect our more significant estimates and assumptions used in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements. The impact and any associated risks on our business that are related to these policies are also discussed throughout this Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations where such policies affect reported and expected financial results.

Revenue Recognition

Net sales revenue and related volume incentive expenses are recorded when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, collectability is reasonably assured, the amount is fixed and determinable, and title and risk of loss have passed. The amount of the volume incentive is determined based upon the amount of qualifying purchases in a given month. It is necessary for the Company to make estimates about the timing of when merchandise has been delivered. These estimates are based upon the Company's historical experience related to time in transit, timing of when shipments occurred and shipping volumes. Amounts received for undelivered merchandise are recorded as deferred revenue.

From time to time, the Company's U.S. operations extend short-term credit associated with product promotions. In addition, for certain of the Company's international operations, the Company offers credit terms consistent with industry standards within the country of operation. Payments to independent Managers and Distributors for sales incentives or rebates are recorded as a reduction of revenue. Payments for sales incentives and rebates are calculated monthly based upon qualifying sales. Membership fees are deferred and amortized as revenue over the life of the membership, primarily one year. Prepaid event registration fees are deferred and recognized as revenues when the related event is held.

A reserve for product returns is recorded based upon historical experience. The Company allows independent Managers or Distributors to return the unused portion of products within ninety days of purchase if they are not satisfied with the product. In some of the Company's markets, the requirements to return product are more restrictive. Sales returns for the years 2014, 2013 and 2012, were \$1.5 million, \$1.5 million and \$2.2 million, respectively. The increase in sales returns for year ended December 31, 2012 was due to unusually high product returns during the first quarter of 2012, related to a specific promotion in the Synergy Japan market. Product returns were not related to product quality and have since returned to normally lower return rates.

Accounts Receivable Allowances

Accounts receivable have been reduced by an allowance for amounts that may be uncollectible in the future. This estimated allowance is based primarily on the aging category, historical trends and management's evaluation of the financial condition of the customer. This reserve is adjusted periodically as information about specific accounts becomes available.

Investments

The Company's available-for-sale investment portfolio is recorded at fair value and consists of various securities such as state and municipal obligations, U.S. government security funds, short-term deposits and various equity securities. These investments are valued using (a) quoted prices for identical assets in active markets or (b) from significant inputs that are observable or can be derived from or corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the asset. The Company's trading portfolio is recorded at fair value and consists of various marketable securities that are valued using quoted prices in active markets.

For available-for-sale debt securities with unrealized losses, the Company performs an analysis to assess whether it intends to sell or whether it would be more likely than not required to sell the security before the expected recovery of the amortized cost basis. Where the Company intends to sell a security, or may be required to do so, the security's decline in fair value is deemed to be other-than-temporary, and the full amount of the unrealized loss is recorded within earnings as an impairment loss.

For all other debt securities that experience a decline in fair value that is determined to be other-than-temporary and not related to credit loss, the Company records a loss, net of any tax, in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss). The credit loss is recorded within earnings as an impairment loss when sold. Management judgment is involved in evaluating whether a decline in an investment's fair value is other-than-temporary.

Regardless of the Company's intent to sell a security, the Company performs additional analysis on all securities with unrealized losses to evaluate losses associated with the creditworthiness of the security. Credit losses are identified where the Company does not expect to receive cash flows sufficient to recover the amortized cost basis of a security.

Table of Contents

For equity securities, when assessing whether a decline in fair value below the Company's cost basis is other-than-temporary, the Company considers the fair market value of the security, the length of time and extent to which market value has been less than cost, the financial condition and near-term prospects of the issuer as well as specific events or circumstances that may influence the operations of the issuer, and the Company's intent and ability to hold the investment for a sufficient time in order to enable recovery of the cost. New information and the passage of time can change these judgments. Where the Company has determined that it lacks the intent and ability to hold an equity security to its expected recovery, the security's decline in fair value is deemed to be other-than-temporary and is recorded within earnings as an impairment loss.

Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower-of-cost-or-market, using the first-in, first-out method. The components of inventory cost include raw materials, labor and overhead. To estimate any necessary obsolescence or lower-of-cost-or-market adjustments, various assumptions are made in regard to excess or slow-moving inventories, non-conforming inventories, expiration dates, current and future product demand, production planning and market conditions.

Self-Insurance Liabilities

Similar to other manufacturers and distributors of products that are ingested, the Company faces an inherent risk of exposure to product liability claims in the event that, among other things, the use of its products results in injury. The Company carries insurance in the types and amounts it considers reasonably adequate to cover the risks associated with its business. The Company has a wholly-owned captive insurance company to provide it with product liability insurance coverage. The Company has accrued an amount that it believes is sufficient to cover probable and reasonably estimable liabilities related to product liability claims based on the Company's history of such claims. However, there can be no assurance that these estimates will prove to be sufficient, nor can there be any assurance that the ultimate outcome of any litigation for product liability will not have a material negative impact on the Company's business prospects, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

The Company self-insures for certain employee medical benefits. The recorded liabilities for self-insured risks are calculated using actuarial methods and are not discounted. The liabilities include amounts for actual claims and claims incurred but not reported. Actual experience, including claim frequency and severity as well as health care inflation, could result in actual liabilities being more or less than the amounts currently recorded.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

We review our long-lived assets, such as property, plant and equipment and intangible assets for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable. We use an estimate of future undiscounted net cash flows of the related assets or groups of assets over their remaining lives in measuring whether the assets are recoverable. An impairment loss is calculated by determining the difference between the carrying values and the fair values of these assets. Due to the continual currency devaluation of the Venezuelan bolivar, as of September 30, 2014, the Company incurred a \$2,947 impairment charge to write down the value of its fixed assets in Venezuela to \$0, which is included in the results from discontinued operations.

Incentive Trip Accrual

We accrue for expenses associated with our direct sales program, which rewards independent Managers and Distributors with paid attendance for incentive trips, including Company conventions and meetings. Expenses associated with incentive trips are accrued over qualification periods as they are earned. We specifically analyze incentive trip accruals based on historical and current sales trends as well as contractual obligations when evaluating the adequacy of the incentive trip accrual. Actual results could generate liabilities more or less than the amounts recorded. We have accrued incentive trip costs of approximately \$4.2 million and \$5.8 million at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, which are included in accrued liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets.

Contingencies

We are involved in certain legal proceedings. When a loss is considered probable in connection with litigation or non-income tax contingencies and when such loss can be reasonably estimated with a range, we record our best estimate within the range related to the contingency. If there is no best estimate, we record the minimum of the range. As additional information becomes available, we assess the potential liability related to the contingency and revise the estimates. Revision in estimates of the potential liabilities could materially affect our results of operations in the period of adjustment. Our contingencies are discussed in further detail in Note 13, Commitment and Contingencies, of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, in Item 8, Part 2 of this report.

Table of Contents

Income Taxes

Our income tax expense, deferred tax assets and liabilities and contingent reserves reflect management's best assessment of estimated future taxes to be paid. We are subject to income taxes in both the United States and numerous foreign jurisdictions. Significant judgments and estimates are required in determining the Company's consolidated income tax expense.

Deferred income taxes arise from temporary differences between the tax and financial statement recognition of revenue and expense. In evaluating the Company's ability to recover its deferred tax assets, management considers all available positive and negative evidence, including scheduled reversals of deferred tax liabilities, projected future taxable income, tax planning strategies and recent financial operations. In projecting future taxable income, the Company develops assumptions including the amount of future state, federal and foreign pretax operating income, the reversal of temporary differences, and the implementation of feasible and prudent tax planning strategies. These assumptions require significant judgment about the forecasts of future taxable income, and are consistent with the plans and estimates that the Company is using to manage the underlying businesses. Valuation allowances are recorded as reserves against net deferred tax assets by the Company when it is determined that net deferred tax assets are not likely to be realized in the foreseeable future. As of December 31, 2014 and 2013, we had recorded valuation allowances of \$13.2 million and \$11.3 million, respectively, as offsets to our net deferred tax assets.

As of December 31, 2014, we had foreign income tax net operating loss carryforwards of \$5.8 million, which will expire at various dates from 2015 through 2024. As of December 31, 2014, the Company had approximately \$12.6 million of foreign tax and withholding credits, most of which expire in 2024.

Changes in tax laws and rates could also affect recorded deferred tax assets and liabilities in the future. Management is not aware of any such changes that would have a material effect on the Company's results of operations, cash flows or financial position.

The calculation of the Company's tax liabilities involves dealing with uncertainties in the application of complex tax laws and regulations in a multitude of jurisdictions across its global operations. Income tax positions must meet a more-likely-than-not recognition threshold to be recognized.

Share-Based Compensation

We recognize all share-based payments to Directors and employees, including grants of stock options and restricted stock units, to be recognized in the statement of operations based on their grant-date fair values. We record compensation expense, net of an estimated forfeiture rate, over the vesting period of the stock options based on the fair value of the stock options on the date of grant. Our estimated forfeiture rate is based upon historical experience.

PRESENTATION

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Net sales revenue represents net sales including shipping and handling revenues offset by volume rebates given to independent Managers, Distributors and customers. Volume rebates as a percentage of retail sales may vary by country depending upon regulatory restrictions that limit or otherwise restrict rebates. We also offer reduced volume rebates with respect to certain products and promotions worldwide.

Our gross profit consists of net sales less cost of sales, which represents our manufacturing costs, the price we pay to our raw material suppliers and manufacturers of our products, and duties and tariffs, as well as shipping and handling costs related to product shipments and distribution to our independent Managers, Distributors and customers.

Volume incentives are a significant part of our direct sales marketing program, and represent commission payments made to our independent Managers and Distributors. These payments are designed to provide incentives for reaching higher sales levels and for recruiting additional independent Distributors. Volume incentives vary slightly, on a percentage basis, by product due to our pricing policies and commission plans in place in our various operations.

Selling, general and administrative expenses represent our operating expenses, components of which include labor and benefits, sales events, professional fees, travel and entertainment, Distributor marketing, occupancy costs, communication costs, bank fees, depreciation and amortization, and other miscellaneous operating expenses.

Most of our sales to independent Distributors outside the United States are made in the respective local currencies. In preparing our financial statements, we translate revenues into U.S. dollars using average exchange rates. Additionally, the majority of our purchases from our suppliers generally are made in U.S. dollars. Consequently, a strengthening of the U.S. dollar versus a foreign currency can have a negative impact on our reported sales and contribution margins and can generate transaction losses on intercompany transactions.

Table of Contents**RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The following table summarizes our consolidated net income from continuing operations results as a percentage of net sales revenue for the periods indicated:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Net sales revenue	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of sales	(25.0)	(25.0)	(25.3)
Gross profit	75.0	75.0	74.7
Operating expenses:			
Volume incentives	37.1	36.6	36.3
Selling, general and administrative	32.7	32.0	29.0
Operating income	5.2	6.4	9.4
Other income (expense):			
Interest and other income, net		0.2	0.4
Interest expense	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)
Foreign exchange gains, net	0.1	0.4	0.1
		0.5	0.4
Income before provision for income taxes	5.2	6.9	9.8
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	(0.2)	2.1	2.9
Net income from continuing operations	5.4%	4.8%	6.9%

Net Sales Revenue

Our international operations have provided and are expected to continue to provide, a significant portion of our total net sales. As a result, total net sales will continue to be affected by fluctuations in the U.S. dollar against foreign currencies. In order to provide a framework for assessing how our underlying businesses performed excluding the effect of foreign currency fluctuations, in addition to comparing the percent change in net sales from one period to another in U.S. dollars, we compare the percentage change in net sales from one period to another period by excluding the effects of foreign currency exchange as shown below. Net sales excluding the impact of foreign exchange fluctuations is not a U.S. GAAP financial measure. Net sales in local currency removes from net sales in U.S. dollars the impact of changes in exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and the functional currencies of our foreign subsidiaries, by translating the current period net sales into U.S. dollars using the same foreign currency exchange rates that were used to translate the net sales for the previous comparable period. We believe presenting the impact of foreign currency fluctuations is useful to investors because it allows a more meaningful comparison of net sales of our foreign operations from period to period. However, net sales excluding the impact of foreign currency fluctuations should not be considered in isolation or as an alternative to net sales in U.S. dollar measures that reflect current period exchange rates, or to other financial measures calculated and presented in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Throughout the last five years, foreign currency exchange rates have fluctuated significantly.

[Table of Contents](#)

Year Ended December 31, 2014, as Compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2013

Net Sales Revenue

The following table summarizes the changes in our net sales revenue by operating segment for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

Net Sales Revenue by Operating Segment					
	2014	2013	Percent Change	Impact of Currency Exchange	Percent Change Excluding Impact of Currency
NSP Americas:					
NSP North America	\$ 145,650	\$ 148,397	(1.9)%	\$ (910)	(1.2)%
NSP Latin America	37,934	40,255	(5.8)	(1,067)	(3.1)
NSP Other	1,041	7,272	(85.7)	69	(86.6)
	184,625	195,924	(5.8)	(1,908)	(4.8)
NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe	\$ 50,274	\$ 62,747	(19.9)%	\$ 4	(19.9)%
Synergy WorldWide:					
Synergy North America	\$ 15,170	\$ 17,079	(11.2)%	\$	(11.2)%
Synergy Asia Pacific	81,199	59,605	36.2	130	36.0
Synergy Europe	31,732	31,606	0.4	28	0.3
	128,101	108,290	18.3	158	18.1
China and New Markets	\$ 3,367	\$ 2,865	17.5%	\$	17.5%
	\$ 366,367	\$ 369,826	(0.9)%	\$ (1,746)	(0.5)%

Consolidated net sales revenue for the year ended December 31, 2014, was \$366.4 million compared to \$369.8 million in 2013, a decrease of approximately 0.9 percent. We experienced a \$1.7 million unfavorable impact in foreign currency exchange rate fluctuation in 2014, and our consolidated net sales revenue would have decreased by 0.5 percent from 2013, but for such negative impact. The decrease in net sales revenue for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared to the same period in 2013 is primarily due to a decline of net sales in our NSP Americas and NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe segment, partially offset by an increase of net sales in our Synergy WorldWide and China and New Markets segments.

NSP Americas

Net sales revenue related to NSP Americas for the year ended December 31, 2014, was \$184.6 million compared to \$195.9 million for the same period in 2013, a decrease of 5.8 percent. Fluctuation in foreign exchange rates had a \$1.9 million unfavorable impact on net sales for the year ended December 31, 2014, and net sales revenue would have decreased by 4.8 percent excluding this negative impact. Active independent

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Managers within NSP Americas totaled approximately 6,600 and 7,400 at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Active independent Distributors and customers within NSP Americas totaled approximately 135,900 and 148,800 at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Segment net sales revenue and the number of independent Managers, Distributors and customers decreased primarily due to combining our NSP Japan business with our Synergy Japan business, the transition of the NSP United Kingdom business to an export market, and lower net sales in the United States. Excluding Japan and the United Kingdom, independent Managers were down 1.3 percent, and active independent Distributors and customers were down 4.7 percent, compared to the prior year. The active independent Managers category includes independent Managers under our various compensation plans that have achieved and maintained certain product sales levels. As such, all independent Managers are considered to be active independent Managers. The active independent Distributors and customers category includes our independent Distributors and customers who have purchased products directly from the Company for resale and/or personal consumption during the previous three months.

Notable activity in the following markets contributed to the results of NSP Americas:

In the United States, net sales revenues decreased approximately \$2.1 million, or 1.5 percent, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the same period in 2013. Despite the overall decline in net sales in 2014 that occurred in the first half of the year,

Table of Contents

we saw a growth in the third and fourth quarters in sales of 0.7 percent and 2.6 percent, respectively, as we continued to see our new sales programs gain traction. We have seen increased adoption of both the IN.FORM sales method, which is focused on weight management, and our retail sales tools. Our August Leaders Conference held in Salt Lake City focused on this program as well as on sharing our business opportunity more effectively. In addition, in time for the winter season, we re-launched our Silver immune product line, improving the formula to provide even greater efficacy, as well as rebranding our packaging, which has generated a positive uptake.

In Canada, net sales revenues decreased approximately \$0.7 million, or 5.0 percent, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the same period in 2013. In local currency, net sales increased 1.8 percent compared to the same period in 2013. Currency devaluation had a \$0.9 million unfavorable impact on net sales for the year ended December 31, 2014, respectively. In NSP Canada, we are following the same strategy as in our NSP United States market, and we saw a growth in the third and fourth quarters in local currency sales of 5.1 percent and 9.6 percent, (the first quarters of growth since the first quarter of 2012), as we saw the uptake from the launch of weight management product line, ahead of our IN.FORM program launch in October.

In Latin America, net sales revenues decreased approximately \$2.3 million, or 5.8 percent, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the same period in 2013. In local currency, net sales decreased 3.1 percent compared to the same period in 2013. Currency devaluation had a \$1.1 million unfavorable impact on net sales for the year ended December 31, 2014, respectively. In NSP Latin America, we faced continued headwinds due to changing regulations for product registration. To address this, we are taking steps to transition our sales motion to adopt the IN.FORM business method, and at the same time, ensuring that our resources are aligned with this initiative.

Due to the continued challenges in returning the NSP Japan business to growth, we made the decision to cease operating under the NSP brand and to merge our NSP Japan business with our Synergy Japan business to create one unified approach to the market with a common product offering and business opportunity model. As part of this transition, we allowed NSP Japan independent Distributors to transfer their businesses to our Synergy Japan brand. The combined businesses began operating as Synergy Japan in January 2014, and provide a greater opportunity for a return to profitable growth. We therefore had no net sales revenue from NSP Japan for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to approximately \$3.3 million of net sales revenue in 2013.

Due to the size of the NSP United Kingdom market, lack of net sales growth, and continuing operating losses, we made the decision to transition our NSP United Kingdom market to an export market, in which we sell our products to a locally managed entity independent of the Company that has distribution rights for the market, effective April 1, 2014. As a result of this change to a wholesale model, our net sales revenue declined by \$2.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, respectively, as compared to 2013.

NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe

Net sales revenue related to NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe markets (primarily Russia, the Ukraine, and Belarus) for the year ended December 31, 2014, was \$50.3 million, compared to \$62.7 million for the same period in 2013, a decrease of 19.9 percent. Active independent Managers within NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe totaled approximately 3,700 and 6,000 at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Active independent Distributors and customers within NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe totaled approximately 97,900 and 131,800 at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Net sales and the number of independent Managers, Distributors and customers buying and distributing our products decreased primarily as a result of the current political uncertainty in Ukraine and across the region, and the market decline in the value of the Ukrainian hryvnia and Russian ruble against the U.S. dollar. Although changes in exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and Ukrainian hryvnia do not result in currency fluctuations within our financial statements, the Company's products in Ukraine and

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Russia are priced local currencies pegged to current U.S. dollar exchange rates and therefore become more expensive when the local currency declines in value. We remain strongly supportive and engaged with our independent Distributors in the region, and are supporting their activity with additional promotions and training. However, at this time, the Company has cautioned that sales in its NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe segment will be significantly affected by the political unrest in Ukraine and Russia, possible sanctions in Russia and the impact of currency devaluation. We are continuing to evaluate various options to keep our distributor base engaged. Nevertheless, our strong and renewed partnership with our local partner should provide a solid foundation to reignite growth once the situation stabilizes.

Synergy WorldWide

Synergy WorldWide reported net sales revenue for the year ended December 31, 2014, of \$128.1 million, compared to \$108.3 million for the same period in 2013, an increase of 18.3 percent. Fluctuations in foreign exchange rates had a \$0.2 million favorable impact on net sales for the year ended December 31, 2014, and net sales revenue would have increased by 18.1 percent from 2013 excluding the positive impact. Active independent Managers within Synergy WorldWide totaled approximately 3,100 and 3,000 at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Active independent Distributors and customers within Synergy WorldWide totaled

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

approximately 58,800 and 51,800 at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Synergy WorldWide's business model is operating under a traditional direct selling approach. Synergy WorldWide reported a growth of net sales revenue due to improvements in South Korea and Japan, partially offset by lower net sales in North America.

Notable activity in the following markets contributed to the results of Synergy WorldWide:

In South Korea, net sales revenues increased approximately \$20.1 million, or 58.8 percent, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the same period in 2013. In local currency, net sales increased 52.6 percent for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the same period in 2013. Fluctuations in foreign exchange rates had a \$2.1 million favorable impact on net sales for the year ended December 31, 2014. Momentum has been sustained since September 2013 due to the Synergy WorldWide global summit held in South Korea and the launch of the SLMsmart weight-management program, which further contributed to sustained growth in combination with the continued strong Distributor leadership in this market. However, due to certain internet advertising restrictions, we must caution that we do not expect to maintain this level of growth subsequent to December 31, 2014.

In Japan, net sales revenues increased approximately \$3.0 million, or 34.8 percent, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the same period in 2013. In local currency, net sales increased 46.1 percent for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the same period in 2013. Fluctuations in foreign exchange rates had a \$1.0 million unfavorable impact on net sales for the year ended December 31, 2014. In the second half of 2013, we introduced new products and implemented programs to stimulate activity, which had a positive impact in this market that continued through 2014. In addition, as referenced above, in order to provide a more stable platform for growth, we made the decision to cease to operate under the NSP brand in Japan and to combine the NSP Japan and Synergy Japan businesses, and operate as a single entity from January 2014 forward. As part of this transition, we provided certain NSP products, a business opportunity and encouraged NSP Japan independent Distributors to transfer their businesses to our Synergy Japan brand. Net sales revenue of \$1.5 million attributable NSP Japan's historical sales force was included within these results for the year ended December 31, 2014.

In Europe, net sales revenues increased approximately \$0.1 million, or 0.4 percent, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the same period in 2013. We are seeing growth across several other markets, which led to our second consecutive quarterly net sales growth in local currencies in the third and fourth quarter of 2.3 percent and 23.3 percent, respectively. The growth has been driven by the investment in additional sales resources in the second half of 2013. In addition, momentum was created in the third quarter of 2014 as independent Distributors qualified for promotions ahead of our European Summit held in Barcelona at the end of September.

In North America, net sales revenues decreased approximately \$1.9 million, or 11.2 percent, for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to the same period in 2013. The decline in sales is primarily driven by lower Distributor recruiting. Growth initiatives have been developed and implemented to more effectively support recruiting and Distributor training and motivation.

China and New Markets

China and New Markets reported export related net sales revenue for the year ended December 31, 2014, of \$3.4 million, compared to \$2.9 million for the same period in 2013, an increase of 17.5 percent. There are no Managers, Distributors, and customers in the China and New Markets segment as the export business accounts for all of the segment's sales to date. As noted above, we made the decision to transition our

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

NSP United Kingdom market to an export market in 2014, in which we sell our products to a locally managed entity independent of the Company that has distribution rights for the market, and this has accounted for the increase in net sales for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Further information related to our business segments is set forth in Note 14 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report.

Cost of Sales

Cost of sales as a percent of net sales revenue remained flat at 25.0 percent in 2014, compared to 25.0 percent in 2013.

Volume Incentives

Volume incentives as a percent of net sales revenue increased to 37.1 percent in 2014, compared to 36.6 percent in 2013. The increase was primarily due to net sales increases in markets such as South Korea and Japan that pay a higher sales commission in our Synergy WorldWide segment.

Table of Contents

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased by approximately \$1.5 million to \$119.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2014. Selling, general and administrative expenses were 32.7 percent of net sales revenue for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to 32.0 percent for the same period in 2013.

Significant increases to selling, general and administrative expenses during 2014 compared to the same period in 2013 included:

- \$2.1 million in start-up costs for the China joint venture;
- \$1.1 million associated with the evaluation of and negotiation with a company with an alternative distribution channel that the Company ultimately declined to pursue; and

In addition, the increases in selling, general and administrative were partially offset by the following nonrecurring expenses incurred in 2013 but not in 2014:

- \$1.4 million of nonrecurring severance costs and the acceleration of stock option expense incurred in 2013 related to the resignation of our former Chief Executive Officer; and
- \$1.3 million of nonrecurring costs related to a five-year customs audit assessment in our Synergy South Korea market incurred in 2013.

Other Income, Net

There was minimal other income, net for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to \$2.0 million in 2013. The decrease in other income was primarily due to a decrease in foreign exchange gains in 2014.

Income Taxes

Our effective income tax rate was (3.9) percent for 2014, compared to 31.0 percent for 2013. The effective rate for 2014 differed from the federal statutory rate of 35.0 percent primarily due to the following:

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

- (i) Adjustments relating to the U.S. tax impact of foreign operations decreased the effective tax rate by 73.0 percentage points in 2014. Included were adjustments for dividends received from foreign subsidiaries and adjustments for foreign tax credits.
- (ii) Adjustments to valuation allowances increased the effective rate by 48.8 percent in 2014. Included were the effect of valuation allowances on U.S. foreign tax credits and the impact of current year losses that will not provide tax benefit.
- (iii) Changes in the unrecognized tax benefits decreased the effective tax rate by 8.6 percent in 2014. These net gains and losses were recorded for financial reporting purposes, but were excluded from the calculation of taxable income.

Adjustments relating to the U.S. impact of foreign operations decreased the effective tax rate by 73.0 percentage points in 2014, and decreased the effective tax rate by 16.2 percentage points in 2013. The components of this calculation were:

Components of U.S. tax impact of foreign operations	2014	2013
Dividends received from foreign subsidiaries	59.5%	29.4%
Foreign tax credits	(121.3)	(34.3)
Foreign tax rate differentials	(11.0)	(10.8)
Unremitted earnings	(0.2)	(0.5)
Total	(73.0)%	(16.2)%

From 2013 to 2014, the changes in components of the U.S. tax impact of foreign operations were significant. The primary reason the dividends received from foreign subsidiaries and the foreign tax credits changed by such a large amount was due to an increase in repatriation of foreign earnings to the U.S. from 2013 to 2014.

Changes to the effective rate due to dividends received from foreign subsidiaries, impact of foreign tax credits, foreign tax rate differentials and unremitted earnings calculation are expected to be recurring; however, depending on various factors, the changes may be favorable or unfavorable for a particular period. Given the large number of jurisdictions in which the Company does business and the number of factors that can impact effective tax rates in any given year, this rate is likely to reflect significant fluctuations from year-to-year.

Table of Contents

Year Ended December 31, 2013, as Compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2012

Net Sales Revenue

The following table summarizes the changes in our net sales revenue by operating segment for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012.

Net Sales Revenue by Operating Segment					
	2013	2012	Percent Change	Impact of Currency Exchange	Percent Change Excluding Impact of Currency
NSP Americas:					
NSP North America	\$ 148,397	\$ 150,599	(1.5)%	\$ (397)	(1.2)%
NSP Latin America	40,255	39,114	2.9	(94)	3.2
NSP Other	7,272	10,081	(27.9)	(789)	(20.0)
	195,924	199,794	(1.9)	(1,280)	(1.3)
NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe	\$ 62,747	\$ 57,853	8.5%	\$ 18	8.4%
Synergy WorldWide:					
Synergy North America	\$ 17,079	\$ 18,544	(7.9)%	\$	(7.9)%
Synergy Asia Pacific	59,605	55,548	7.3	(1,453)	9.9
Synergy Europe	31,606	26,578	18.9	1,002	15.2
	108,290	100,670	7.6	(451)	8.0
China and New Markets	\$ 2,865	\$ 2,509	14.2%	\$	14.2%
	\$ 369,826	\$ 360,826	2.5%	\$ (1,713)	3.0%

Consolidated net sales revenue for the year ended December 31, 2013, was \$369.8 million compared to \$360.8 million in 2012, an increase of approximately 2.5 percent. We experienced a \$1.7 million unfavorable impact in foreign currency exchange rate fluctuation in 2013, and our consolidated net sales revenue would have increased by 3.0 percent from 2012, but for such negative impact. The increase in net sales revenue for the year ended December 31, 2013 compared to the same period in 2012 is primarily due to an increase of net sales in our NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe, Synergy WorldWide, and China and New Markets segments and was partially offset by a decline of net sales in our NSP Americas segment.

NSP Americas

Net sales revenue related to NSP Americas for the year ended December 31, 2013, was \$195.9 million compared to \$199.8 million for the same period in 2012, a decrease of 1.9 percent. Fluctuation in foreign exchange rates had a \$1.3 million unfavorable impact on net sales for the year ended December 31, 2013, and net sales revenue would have decreased by 1.3 percent excluding this negative impact. Active independent

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Managers within NSP Americas totaled approximately 7,400 and 7,500 at December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively. Active independent Distributors and customers within NSP Americas totaled approximately 148,800 and 150,500 at December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively. Segment net sales revenue and the number of independent Distributors and customers decreased primarily due to lower sales in Japan and the United States and were partially offset by increased sales in Mexico. The active independent Managers category includes independent Managers under our various compensation plans that have achieved and maintained certain product sales levels. As such, all independent Managers are considered to be active independent Managers. The active independent Distributors and customers category includes our independent Distributors and customers who have purchased products directly from the Company for resale and/or personal consumption during the previous three months.

Notable activity in the following markets contributed to the results of NSP Americas:

In the United States, net sales revenues decreased approximately \$1.0 million, or 0.8 percent, for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. While we continue to see improvement in some key sequential business metrics, we have not yet returned to prior year levels. We continue efforts to stabilize the U.S. business through targeted investment in sales and marketing personnel, training, the launch of new products (including the strengthening of our weight management category), sales programs and incentive programs.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

In Mexico, net sales revenues increased approximately \$1.1 million, or 10.4 percent, for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. In local currency, net sales increased 7.1 percent, compared to the same period in 2012. Fluctuations in foreign exchange rates had a \$0.4 million favorable impact on net sales for the year ended December 31, 2013. Investment in local sales and marketing initiatives, including hiring a new General Manager for the market who started on April 1, 2013, resulted in a return to growth in net sales revenues in 2013. We opened a new sales center in Mexico City, launched a new energy drink and weight management program into the market in September and invested in sales incentives and promotions, all of which contributed to greater Manager and Distributor activity.

In Japan, net sales revenues decreased approximately \$2.7 million, or 45.0 percent, for the year ended December 31, 2013, respectively, compared to the same period in 2012. In local currency, net sales decreased 32.8 percent compared to the same period in 2012. Fluctuations in foreign exchange rates had a \$0.7 million unfavorable impact on net sales for the year ended December 31, 2013, respectively. Due to the continued challenges in returning the market to growth, we made the decision to merge the NSP business with the Synergy Japan business to create one unified approach with a common product offering and business opportunity model. The combined businesses began operating as Synergy Japan in January 2014, providing a greater opportunity for a return to profitable growth.

NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe

Net sales revenue related to NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe markets (primarily Russia, the Ukraine, and Belarus) for the year ended December 31, 2013, was \$62.7 million, compared to \$57.9 million for the same period in 2012, an increase of 8.5 percent. In local currency, net sales increased 8.4 percent compared to the same period in 2012. Fluctuations in foreign exchange rates had a nominally favorable impact on net sales for the year ended December 31, 2013. Active independent Managers within NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe totaled approximately 6,000 and 5,600 at December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively. Active independent Distributors and customers within NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe totaled approximately 131,800 and 125,800 at December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively. NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe's business model is more oriented to a direct selling approach than that of NSP Americas. Net sales increased year-over-year for the fifth consecutive quarter as a result of improved recruiting, Distributor leadership engagement, Distributor recognition, promotion and training and the enhanced focus afforded by the corporate organizational realignment during 2012. In addition, we launched a new weight management program at our annual regional convention in September 2013.

Synergy WorldWide

Synergy WorldWide reported net sales revenue for the year ended December 31, 2013, of \$108.3 million, compared to \$100.7 million for the same period in 2012, an increase of 7.6 percent. Fluctuations in foreign exchange rates had a \$0.5 million unfavorable impact on net sales for the year ended December 31, 2013, and net sales revenue would have increased by 8.0 percent from 2012 excluding the negative impact, respectively. Active independent Managers within Synergy WorldWide totaled approximately 3,000 and 2,900 at December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively. Active independent Distributors and customers within Synergy WorldWide totaled approximately 51,800 and 54,600 at December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively. Synergy WorldWide's business model is operating under a traditional direct selling approach. Synergy WorldWide reported a growth of net sales revenue with the increase primarily due to performance in Europe and South Korea, partially offset by lower net sales in Japan and North America.

Notable activity in the following markets contributed to the results of Synergy WorldWide:

In South Korea, net sales revenues increased approximately \$6.2 million, or 22.1 percent, for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. In local currency, net sales increased 18.8 percent for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. Fluctuations in foreign exchange rates had a \$0.9 million favorable impact on net sales for the year ended December 31, 2013. During the year, promotions and incentives programs were implemented to support and enhance Distributor activity ahead of the Synergy WorldWide global summit held in South Korea in late September. During that event, the SLMsmart weight-management program was launched, which further contributed to the sustained growth through the end of the year.

In Europe, net sales revenues increased approximately \$5.0 million, or 18.9 percent, for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. In local currency, net sales increased 15.2 percent compared to the same period in 2012. Fluctuations in foreign exchange rates had a \$1.0 million favorable impact on net sales for the year ended December 31, 2013. Strong Distributor leadership in recruiting and training efforts continues to effectively build our Distributor base thereby driving increased market penetration, supported by our investment in strengthening our sales and marketing organization across the region. In addition, the opening of the Poland market and the successful resolution of temporary shipping restrictions imposed by the Norwegian Food Authority, which had adversely impacted net sales in the fourth quarter of 2012, had a favorable impact on 2013 net sales.

Table of Contents

In Japan, net sales revenues decreased approximately \$2.1 million, or 19.6 percent, for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. In local currency, net sales decreased 1.8 percent for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. Fluctuations in foreign exchange rates had a \$1.9 million unfavorable impact on net sales for the year ended December 31, 2013. New products and programs introduced and implemented to stimulate activity had a positive impact in the second half of 2013. In addition, as referenced above, in order to provide a more stable platform for growth, we made the decision to combine the NSP Japan and Synergy Japan businesses, and operate as a single entity from January 2014 forward.

In North America, net sales revenues decreased approximately \$1.5 million, or 7.9 percent, for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. The lack of recruiting, retention and training efforts have been the primary drivers for this decrease. Upcoming growth initiatives are being developed to effectively support recruiting, retention and training activity.

China and New Markets

China and New Markets reported net sales revenue for the year ended December 31, 2013, of \$2.9 million, compared to \$2.5 million for the same period in 2012, an increase of 14.2 percent. There are no Managers, Distributors, and customers in the China and New Markets segment as the export business accounts for all of the segment's sales to date. The increase in sales in 2014 is related to the Australia export market increasing in sales by \$0.3 million.

Further information related to our business segments is set forth in Note 14 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report.

Cost of Sales

Cost of sales as a percent of net sales revenue improved to 25.0 percent in 2013, compared to 25.3 percent in 2012.

Volume Incentives

Volume incentives are a significant part of our direct selling program, and represent commission payments made to our independent Managers and Distributors. These payments are designed to provide incentives for reaching higher product sales levels. Volume incentives vary slightly, on a percentage basis, by product due to our pricing policies and commission plans in place and the sales mix in our various markets. Volume incentives as a percent of net sales revenue increased to 36.6 percent in 2013, compared to 36.3 percent in 2012. The increase was primarily due to net sales increases in markets that pay a higher sales commission in our NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe and Synergy WorldWide segments.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased by approximately \$13.7 million to \$118.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2013. Selling, general and administrative expenses were 32.0 percent of net sales revenue for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to 29.0 percent for the same period in 2012.

Significant increases to selling, general and administrative expenses during 2013 compared to the same period in 2012 included:

- \$6.0 million of increased compensation and other benefit costs as a result of the Company's incremental investment in sales, marketing, science and product development personnel and programs to stimulate sales growth and drive profitability globally; and
- \$2.2 million of increased investments in Distributor conventions, meetings and incentive trips.

In addition, the increases in selling, general and administrative included the following one-time expenses:

- \$1.4 million of one-time severance costs and the acceleration of stock option expense incurred related to the resignation of our former Chief Executive Officer;
- \$1.3 million of one-time costs related to a five-year customs audit assessment in our Synergy South Korea market; and
- \$1.1 million of one-time restructuring costs in certain markets.

Other Income, Net

Other income of \$2.0 million, net for the year ended December 31, 2013, remained relatively consistent compared to the same period in 2012.

Table of Contents*Income Taxes*

Our effective income tax rate was 31.0 percent for 2013, compared to 29.7 percent for 2012. The effective rate for 2013 differed from the federal statutory rate of 35.0 percent primarily due to the following:

- (i) Adjustments relating to the U.S. tax impact of foreign operations decreased the effective tax rate by 16.2 percentage points in 2013. Included were adjustments for dividends received from foreign subsidiaries, adjustments for foreign tax credits, foreign tax rate differentials and adjustments relating to outside basis calculations under applicable U.S. GAAP.
- (ii) Adjustments to valuation allowances increased the effective rate by 4.3 percent in 2013. Included were increases to domestic valuation allowances on capital loss carryforwards, as well as the effect of valuation allowances of foreign deferred tax assets.
- (iii) Changes in the unrecognized tax benefits increased the effective tax rate by 7.9 percent in 2013. These net gains and losses were recorded for financial reporting purposes, but were excluded from the calculation of taxable income.
- (iv) A 1.1 percent rate increase resulting from cumulative favorable adjustments related to foreign operations. These adjustments relate to items that are expensed for tax purposes but not for book purposes.

Adjustments relating to the U.S. impact of foreign operations decreased the effective tax rate by 16.2 percentage points in 2013, and decreased the effective tax rate by 2.3 percentage points in 2012. Included were adjustments for dividends received from foreign subsidiaries, adjustments for foreign tax credits and adjustments relating to the unremitted earnings calculations under applicable U.S. GAAP. The components of this calculation were:

Components of U.S. tax impact of foreign operations	2013	2012
Dividends received from foreign subsidiaries	29.4%	4.5%
Foreign tax credits	(34.3)	(4.1)
Foreign tax rate differentials	(10.8)	(2.4)
Unremitted earnings	(0.5)	(0.3)
Total	(16.2)%	(2.3)%

From 2012 to 2013, the changes in components of the U.S. tax impact of foreign operations were significant. The primary reason the dividends received from foreign subsidiaries and the foreign tax credits changed by such a large amount was due to an increase in repatriation of foreign earnings to the U.S. from 2012 to 2013.

Changes to the effective rate due to dividends received from foreign subsidiaries, impact of foreign tax credits, foreign tax rate differentials and unremitted earnings calculation are expected to be recurring; however, depending on various factors, the changes may be favorable or unfavorable for a particular period. Given the large number of jurisdictions in which the Company does business and the number of factors that can impact effective tax rates in any given year, this rate is likely to reflect significant fluctuations from year-to-year.

Table of Contents**SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY OPERATIONS UNAUDITED**

The following tables present the Company's unaudited summary of quarterly operations during 2014 and 2013 for each of three month periods ended March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31 (amounts in thousands).

	March 31, 2014	For the Quarter Ended June 30, 2014	September 30, 2014	December 31, 2014
Net sales revenue	\$ 93,467	\$ 92,831	\$ 93,406	\$ 86,663
Cost of sales	(22,581)	(22,793)	(22,742)	(23,468)
Gross profit	70,886	70,038	70,664	63,195
Volume incentives	34,893	34,270	34,918	31,727
Selling, general and administrative	29,152	29,941	30,200	30,634
Operating income	6,841	5,827	5,546	834
Other income (expense)	(262)	(79)	(42)	349
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	6,579	5,748	5,504	1,183
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	(3,657)	2,198	407	309
Net income from continuing operations	10,236	3,550	5,097	874
Loss from discontinued operations	(571)	(316)	(4,106)	(4,964)
Net income (loss)	9,665	3,234	991	(4,090)
Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests			(26)	(193)
Net income (loss) attributable to common shareholders	\$ 9,665	\$ 3,234	\$ 1,017	\$ (3,897)
Basic and diluted net income per common share				
Basic:				
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.05
Loss from discontinued operations	\$ (0.03)	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.24)	\$ (0.26)
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.06	\$ (0.21)
Diluted:				
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 0.61	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.05
Loss from discontinued operations	\$ (0.03)	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.23)	\$ (0.25)
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.06	\$ (0.20)
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	\$ 1.60	\$ 0.10

Table of Contents

	For the Quarter Ended			
	March 31, 2013	June 30, 2013	September 30, 2013	December 31, 2013
Net sales revenue	\$ 94,375	\$ 91,782	\$ 90,405	\$ 93,264
Cost of sales	(23,741)	(22,075)	(22,917)	(23,611)
Gross profit	70,634	69,707	67,488	69,653
Volume incentives	34,182	33,838	33,203	34,293
Selling, general and administrative	29,522	28,068	27,773	33,020
Operating income	6,930	7,801	6,512	2,340
Other income (expense)	438	1,522	(216)	249
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	7,368	9,323	6,296	2,589
Provision for income taxes	2,302	3,235	1,610	776
Net income from continuing operations	5,066	6,088	4,686	1,813
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	(202)	(36)	164	30
Net income	4,864	6,052	4,850	1,843
Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests				
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 4,864	\$ 6,052	\$ 4,850	\$ 1,843
Basic and diluted net income per common share				
Basic:				
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.11
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ (0.01)	\$	\$ 0.01	\$
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.11
Diluted:				
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.11
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ (0.01)	\$	\$ 0.01	\$
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.11
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	\$ 1.60	\$ 0.10

Basic and diluted income per share is computed independently for each of the quarters presented. Therefore, the sum of the quarterly net income per share may not equal the total computed for the year.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Our principal use of cash is to pay for operating expenses, including volume incentives, inventory and raw material purchases, capital assets and funding of international expansion. As of December 31, 2014, working capital was \$63.3 million, compared to \$80.0 million as of December 31, 2013. At December 31, 2014, we had \$58.7 million in cash and cash equivalents, of which \$49.2 million was held in our foreign markets and may be subject to various withholding taxes and other restrictions related to repatriation, and \$2.5 million in unrestricted short-term investments,

which were available to be used along with our normal cash flows from operations to fund any unanticipated shortfalls in future cash flows.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

Our net consolidated cash inflows (outflows) are as follows (*in thousands*):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Operating activities	\$ 14,182	\$ 29,378	\$ 26,651
Investing activities	(26,674)	(8,564)	(2,989)
Financing activities	(5,076)	(21,331)	(3,133)

In November 2014, the Company ceased its operations in Venezuela due to the difficulties and uncertainties related to import controls, difficulties associated with repatriating cash and high inflation. The loss from discontinued operations did not have a material impact on the Company's operating cash flows during 2014.

Operating Activities

For the year ended December 31, 2014, operating activities provided cash in the amount of \$14.2 million compared to \$29.4 million for the same period in 2013. Operating cash flows decreased due to the timing of payments and receipts for other assets, accrued volume incentives, accrued liabilities, income tax payable and the liability related to unrecognized tax benefits, and was partially offset by the timing of payments and receipts for accounts receivable, prepaid expenses, accounts payable, and deferred revenue as well as the decrease in our operating income.

For the year ended December 31, 2013, we generated cash from operating activities of \$29.4 million compared to \$26.7 million in 2012. Operating cash flows increased due to the timing of payments and receipts for inventories, accrued volume incentives, accrued liabilities, income tax payable and the liability related to unrecognized tax benefits, and was partially offset by the timing of payments and receipts for accounts receivable, prepaid expenses, accounts payable, and deferred revenue as well as the decrease in our operating income.

Investing Activities

Cash paid for capital expenditures related to the purchase of equipment, computer systems and software for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, were \$26.3 million, \$8.6 million, and \$6.6 million, respectively. In 2013, the Company began to significantly reinvest in its information technology systems. Included within this plan is an Oracle ERP implementation program to provide the Company with a single integrated software solution that will integrate the Company's business process on a worldwide basis. The Company anticipates completion of this project by early 2016. See below for further discussion of the Company's contractual obligations related to future capital expenditures.

During the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, we used cash to purchase available-for-sale investments of \$0.7 million, \$0.4 million, and \$0.2 million, respectively, and had cash proceeds of \$0.2 million, \$0.2 million and \$3.8 million for 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively, from the sale of such investments.

Financing Activities

During the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, we used cash to pay dividends in an aggregate amount of \$35.2 million, \$30.4 million, and \$2.3 million, respectively.

In December 2014, the Company completed share repurchases under its previously announced \$10 million share repurchase program. In November 2014, the Board of Directors authorized a \$20 million share repurchase program beginning January 1, 2015. Such purchases may be made in the open market, through block trades, in privately negotiated transactions or otherwise. The timing and amount of any shares repurchased will be determined based on the Company's evaluation of market conditions and other factors and the program may be discontinued or suspended at any time. The Company will fund future dividends and the share repurchase program through available cash on hand, future cash flows from operations and borrowings under its revolving credit facility. During the year ended December 31, 2014, the Company repurchased 495,570 shares of its common stock under the share repurchase program for \$7.5 million. At December 31, 2014, the remaining balance available for repurchases under the program was \$20.0 million.

On August 25, 2014, Nature's Sunshine and Shanghai Fosun Pharmaceutical (Group) Co., Ltd. (Fosun Pharma), closed a transaction pursuant to which, the parties entered into a joint venture in the People's Republic of China (China), of which 80 percent is owned by Nature's Sunshine and 20 percent is owned by a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fosun Pharma, and completed a concurrent investment by Fosun Pharma in Nature's Sunshine common stock issued pursuant to a private placement transaction with net proceeds of \$44.8 million. Nature's Sunshine used the net proceeds of the private placement transaction to fund its 80 percent share of the initial

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

\$20.0 million capitalization of the China joint venture, or \$16.0 million, and to pay its shareholders a cash dividend of \$1.50 per share, or \$28.5 million. The Company consolidated the joint venture in its consolidated financial statements, with the Fosun Pharma's interest presented as a noncontrolling interest.

The joint venture, known as Nature's Sunshine Hong Kong Limited, expects to market and distribute Nature's Sunshine-branded products in China. Nature's Sunshine Hong Kong Limited currently anticipates deploying a multi-brand, multi-channel go-to-market strategy, which will offer select Nature's Sunshine-branded products through certain of Fosun Pharma's existing retail locations across China, and select Synergy-branded products through a direct selling model. The time to market will be dependent upon regulatory processes including product registration, permit and license approvals.

Pursuant to a concurrent private placement transaction, Nature's Sunshine issued 2.9 million shares of unregistered common stock to Fosun Pharma at a price of \$16.19 per share, representing aggregate net proceeds to Nature's Sunshine of \$44.8 million. The purchase price represented a 10 percent premium to Nature's Sunshine's average stock price over the trailing 30 business day period as of June 26, 2014. As a result of the private placement transaction, Fosun Pharma owns approximately 15% of Nature's Sunshine outstanding common shares with respect to which the Company has granted Fosun Pharma certain registration rights. In addition, Nature's Sunshine appointed one director designated by Fosun Pharma to its board of directors.

During the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, we used cash to make principal payments of \$12.3 million, \$3.4 million, and \$3.6 million, on our revolving credit facility, respectively.

The Company has a revolving credit agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. with a borrowing limit of \$25.0 million that matures September 1, 2016. The Company pays interest at LIBOR plus 1.25 percent on any borrowings on the agreement (1.50 percent as of December 31, 2014). The Company must pay an annual commitment fee of 0.25 percent on the unused portion of the commitment. The Company retains ample capital capacity to continue making long-term investments in its sales, marketing, science and product development initiatives and overall operations, as well as pursue strategic opportunities as they may arise. As of December 31, 2014, the Company had no outstanding balance under the revolving credit agreement.

The revolving credit agreement contains restrictions on liquidity, leveraging, minimum net income and consecutive quarterly net losses. In addition, the agreement restricts capital expenditures, lease expenditures, other indebtedness, liens on assets, guaranties, loans and advances, and the merger, consolidation and the transfer of assets except in the ordinary course of business. As of December 31, 2014, the Company was in compliance with these debt covenants.

We believe that cash generated from operations, along with available cash and cash equivalents will be sufficient to fund our normal operating needs, including dividends, share repurchases, and capital expenditures, as well as potential business development activity. However, among other things, a prolonged economic downturn, a decrease in demand for our products, an unfavorable settlement of our unrecognized tax positions or non-income tax contingencies could adversely affect our long-term liquidity.

CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

The following table summarizes information about contractual obligations as of December 31, 2014 (*in thousands*):

	Total	Less than 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	After 5 years
Operating lease obligations	\$ 13,767	\$ 4,776	\$ 6,315	\$ 2,086	\$ 590
Self-insurance reserves(1)	658	658			
Other long-term liabilities reflected on the balance sheet(2)					
Unrecognized tax benefits(3)					
Revolving credit facility(4)					
ERP capital commitments(5)	3,845	3,586	259		
Other capital commitments(6)	2,002	2,002			
Total	\$ 20,272	\$ 11,022	\$ 6,574	\$ 2,086	\$ 590

(1) At December 31, 2014, there were \$2.6 million of liabilities. The Company retains a significant portion of the risks associated with certain employee medical benefits and product liability insurance. Recorded liabilities for self-insured risks are calculated using actuarial methods and are not discounted. Amounts for self-insurance obligations are included in accrued liabilities and long-term other liabilities on the Company's consolidated balance sheet. Because of the high degree of uncertainty regarding the timing of future cash outflows associated with the product liability obligations the Company is unable to estimate the years in which cash settlement may occur.

Table of Contents

(2) At December 31, 2014, there were \$1.0 million of liabilities. The Company provides a nonqualified deferred compensation plan for its officers and certain key employees. Under this plan, participants may defer up to 100 percent of their annual salary and bonus (less the participant's share of employment taxes). The deferrals become an obligation owed to the participant by the Company under the plan. Upon separation of the participant from the service of the Company, the obligation owed to the participant under the plan will be paid as a lump sum or over a period of either three or five years. As we cannot easily determine when our officers and key employees will separate from the Company, the Company is unable to estimate the years in which cash settlement may occur..

(3) At December 31, 2014, there were \$6.6 million of liabilities. Because of the high degree of uncertainty regarding the timing of future cash outflows associated with these liabilities, if any, the Company is unable to estimate the years in which cash settlement may occur with the respective tax authorities.

(4) The Company entered into a revolving credit agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, National Association that permits the Company to borrow up to \$25 million through September 1, 2015, bearing interest at LIBOR plus 1.25 percent. The Company must pay an annual commitment fee of 0.25 percent on the unused portion of the commitment. At December 31, 2013, the Company had \$25 million available under this facility.

(5) In 2013, the Company began to significantly reinvest in its information technology systems. Included within this plan is an Oracle ERP implementation program to provide the Company with a single integrated software solution that will integrate the Company's business process on a worldwide basis. The Company anticipates completion of this project by early 2016.

(6) In 2014, the Company made commitments to purchase manufacturing equipment of 2.0 million in 2015.

The Company has entered into long-term agreements with third-parties in the ordinary course of business, in which it has agreed to pay a percentage of net sales in certain regions in which it operates, or royalties on certain products. In 2014, 2013, and 2012, the aggregate amounts of these payments were \$0.2 million, \$1.5 million and \$1.3 million, respectively.

OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

We have no off-balance sheet arrangements other than operating leases. We do not believe that these operating leases are material to our current or future financial position, results of operations, revenues or expenses, cash flows, capital expenditures or capital resources.

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

We conduct business in several countries and intend to continue to grow our international operations. Net sales revenue, operating income and net income are affected by fluctuations in currency exchange rates, interest rates and other uncertainties inherent in doing business and selling product in more than one currency. In addition, our operations are exposed to risks associated with changes in social, political and economic conditions inherent in international operations, including changes in the laws and policies that govern international investment in countries where we have operations, as well as, to a lesser extent, changes in U.S. laws and regulations relating to international trade and investment.

Foreign Currency Risk

During the year ended December 31, 2014, approximately 59.5 percent of our net sales revenue and approximately 56.2 percent of our operating expenses were realized outside of the United States. Inventory purchases are transacted primarily in U.S. dollars from vendors located in the United States. The local currency of each international subsidiary is generally the functional currency. We conduct business in multiple currencies with exchange rates that are not on a one-to-one relationship with the U.S. dollar. All revenues and expenses are translated at average exchange rates for the periods reported. Therefore, our operating results will be positively or negatively affected by a weakening or strengthening of the U.S. dollar in relation to another fluctuating currency. Given the uncertainty and diversity of exchange rate fluctuations, we cannot estimate the effect of these fluctuations on our future business, product pricing, results of operations or financial condition, but we have provided consolidated sensitivity analyses below of functional currency/reporting currency exchange rate risks. Changes in various currency exchange rates affect the relative prices at which we sell our products. We regularly monitor our foreign currency risks and periodically take measures to reduce the risk of foreign exchange rate fluctuations on our operating results. We do not use derivative instruments for hedging, trading or speculating on foreign exchange rate fluctuations. Additional discussion of the impact on the effect of currency fluctuations has been included in our management's discussion and analysis included in Part II, Item 7 of this report.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

The following table sets forth a composite sensitivity analysis of our net sales revenue, costs and expenses and operating income in connection with the strengthening of the U.S. dollar (our reporting currency) by 10%, 15%, and 25% against every other fluctuating functional currency in which we conduct business. We note that our individual net sales revenue, cost and expense components and our operating income were equally sensitive to increases in the strength of the U.S. dollar against every other fluctuating currency in which we conduct business.

Exchange rate sensitivity for the year ended December 31, 2014 (dollar amounts in thousands)

		With Strengthening of U.S. Dollar by:					
		10%		15%		25%	
		(\$)	(%)	(\$)	(%)	(\$)	(%)
Net sales revenue	\$ 366,367	\$ (14,012)	(3.8)%	\$ (20,104)	(5.5)%	\$ (30,827)	(8.4)%
Cost and expenses							
Cost of sales	91,584	(4,151)	(4.5)%	(5,940)	(6.5)%	(9,088)	(9.9)%
Volume incentives	135,808	(5,640)	(4.2)%	(8,078)	(5.9)%	(12,368)	(9.1)%
Selling, general and administrative	119,927	(3,783)	(3.2)%	(5,428)	(4.5)%	(8,323)	(6.9)%
Operating income	\$ 19,048	\$ (438)	(2.3)%	\$ (658)	(3.5)%	\$ (1,048)	(5.5)%

Certain of our operations, including Russia and Ukraine, are served by a U.S. subsidiary through third-party entities, for which all business is conducted in U.S. dollars. Although changes in exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and the Russian ruble or the Ukrainian hryvnia do not result in currency fluctuations within our financial statements, a weakening or strengthening of the U.S. dollar in relation to these other currencies can significantly affect the prices of our products and the purchasing power of our independent Managers, Distributors and customers within these markets. As a result of the current tension between Russia and Ukraine and resultant sanctions, the Russian ruble and the Ukrainian hryvnia have weakened significantly against the U.S. dollar, impacting net sales in this market. Should the conflict continue to escalate, exchanges rates for Russian ruble, as well as the Ukrainian hryvnia could weaken further against the U.S. dollar, further impacting net sales in these markets.

The following table sets forth a composite sensitivity analysis of our assets and liabilities by those balance sheet line items that are subject to exchange rate risk, together with the total gain or loss from the strengthening of the U.S. dollar in relation to our various fluctuating functional currencies. The sensitivity of our assets and liabilities, taken by balance sheet line items, is somewhat less than the sensitivity of our operating income to increases in the strength of the U.S. dollar in relation to other fluctuating currencies in which we conduct business.

Exchange Rate Sensitivity of Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2014 (dollar amounts in thousands)

		With Strengthening of U.S. Dollar by:					
		10%		15%		25%	
		(Loss) (\$)	(Loss) (%)	(Loss) (\$)	(Loss) (%)	(Loss) (\$)	(Loss) (%)

**Financial
Instruments Included
in Current Assets**

**Subject to Exchange
Rate Risk**

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	58,699	\$	(1,919)	(3.3)%	\$	(2,772)	(4.7)%	\$	(4,273)	(7.3)%
Accounts receivable, net		6,732		(167)	(2.5)%		(239)	(3.6)%		(367)	(5.5)%

**Financial
Instruments Included
in Current Liabilities
Subject to Exchange
Rate Risk**

Accounts payable		5,237		(66)	(1.3)%		(95)	(1.8)%		(146)	(2.8)%
------------------	--	-------	--	------	--------	--	------	--------	--	-------	--------

**Net Financial
Instruments Subject
to Exchange Rate
Risk**

	\$	60,194	\$	(2,020)	(3.4)%	\$	(2,916)	(4.8)%	\$	(4,494)	(7.5)%
--	----	--------	----	---------	--------	----	---------	--------	----	---------	--------

The following table sets forth the local currencies other than the U.S. dollar in which our assets that are subject to exchange rate risk were denominated as of December 31, 2014, and exceeded \$1 million upon translation into U.S. dollars. None of our liabilities that are denominated in a local currency other than the U.S. dollar and that are subject to exchange rate risk exceeded \$1 million upon

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

translation into U.S. dollars. We use the spot exchange rate for translating balance sheet items from local currencies into our reporting currency. The respective spot exchange rate for each such local currency meeting the foregoing thresholds is provided in the table as well.

Translation of Balance Sheet Amounts Denominated in Local Currency as of December 31, 2014 (dollar amounts in thousands)

	Translated into U.S. Dollars	At Spot Exchange Rate per One U.S. Dollar as of December 31, 2014
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
South Korea (Won)	\$ 5,949	1,099.1
European Markets (Euro)	4,353	0.8
Japan (Yen)	2,646	119.9
Canada (Dollar)	1,482	1.2
Indonesia (Rupiah)	1,319	12,453.3
Other	7,482	Varies
Total foreign dominated cash and cash equivalents	\$ 23,231	
U.S. dollars held by foreign subsidiaries	\$ 25,924	
Total cash and cash equivalents held by foreign subsidiaries	\$ 49,155	

During the year ended December 31, 2014, the Company repatriated \$34.8 million of foreign cash through intercompany dividends.

Finally, the following table sets forth the annual weighted average of fluctuating currency exchange rates of each of the local currencies per one U.S. dollar for each of the local currencies in which sales revenue exceeded \$10.0 million during any of the three years presented. We use the annual average exchange rate for translating items from the statement of operations from local currencies into our reporting currency.

Year ended December 31,	2014	2013	2012
Canada (Dollar)	1.1	1.0	1.0
European Markets (Euro)	0.8	0.8	0.8
Japan (Yen)	105.6	97.4	79.8
South Korea (Won)	1,055.3	1,098.3	1,129.6
Mexico (Peso)	13.3	12.8	13.2

The local currency of the foreign subsidiaries is used as the functional currency, except for subsidiaries operating in highly inflationary economies or where the Company's operations are served by a U.S. based subsidiary (for example, Russia and Ukraine). The financial statements of foreign subsidiaries, where the local currency is the functional currency, are translated into U.S. dollars using exchange rates in effect at year-end for assets and liabilities and average exchange rates during each year for the results of operations. Adjustments resulting from translation of financial statements are reflected in accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of income taxes. Foreign currency transaction gains and losses are included in other income (expense) in the consolidated statements of operations.

The functional currency in highly inflationary economies is the U.S. dollar and transactions denominated in the local currency are re-measured as if the functional currency were the U.S. dollar. The re-measurement of local currencies into U.S. dollars creates translation adjustments, which are included in the consolidated statements of operations. A country is considered to have a highly inflationary economy if it has a

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

cumulative inflation rate of approximately 100 percent or more over a three-year period as well as other qualitative factors including historical inflation rate trends (increasing and decreasing), the capital intensiveness of the operation and other pertinent economic factors. During the year ended December 31, 2014, Belarus was considered to be highly inflationary. During the periods ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, the Company's Belarusian subsidiary's net sales revenue represented approximately 2.4 percent, 2.2 percent, and 1.8 percent, of consolidated net sales revenue, respectively. With the exception of Belarus, there were no other countries considered to have a highly inflationary economy during the periods ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012.

Interest Rate Risk

The primary objectives of our investment activities are to preserve principal while maximizing yields without significantly increasing risk. These objectives are accomplished by purchasing investment grade securities. On December 31, 2014, we had investments of \$2.5 million of which \$0.1 million were municipal obligations, which carry an average fixed interest rate of 5.0 percent

Table of Contents

and mature over a two-year period. A hypothetical 1.0 percent change in interest rates would not have had a material effect on our liquidity, financial position or results of operations.

Table of Contents

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

<u>REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM</u>	50
<u>CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013</u>	51
<u>CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014, 2013 AND 2012</u>	52
<u>CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014, 2013 AND 2012</u>	53
<u>CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014, 2013 AND 2012</u>	54
<u>CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014, 2013 AND 2012</u>	55
<u>NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u>	57

Table of Contents

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of Nature's Sunshine Products, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Nature's Sunshine Products, Inc. and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 31, 2014, and 2013, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, changes in shareholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2014. Our audits also included the consolidated financial statement schedule listed in the Index at Item 15. These consolidated financial statements and consolidated financial statement schedule are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements and consolidated financial statement schedule based on our audits.

We conducted our audits 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. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Nature's Sunshine Products, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2014, and 2013, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2014, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also, in our opinion, such financial statement schedule, when considered in relation to the basic consolidated financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014, based on the criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated March 12, 2015 expressed an unqualified opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

As discussed in Note 2, the Company discontinued its operations in Venezuela in November 2014, when it abandoned its operations. The results prior to the operations being abandoned are included in income (loss) from discontinued operations in the accompanying financial statements.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Salt Lake City, Utah
March 12, 2015

Table of Contents

NATURE'S SUNSHINE PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Amounts in thousands)

As of December 31,	2014	2013
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 58,699	\$ 77,247
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$849 and \$1,087, respectively	6,732	10,206
Investments available for sale	2,546	2,006
Inventories	40,438	41,910
Deferred income tax assets	4,950	5,711
Prepaid expenses and other	7,884	11,514
Total current assets	121,249	148,594
Property, plant and equipment, net	51,343	32,022
Investment securities - trading	1,038	971
Intangible assets, net	704	853
Deferred income tax assets	14,495	9,928
Other assets	7,970	7,244
	\$ 196,799	\$ 199,612
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 5,237	\$ 5,664
Accrued volume incentives	16,867	19,206
Accrued liabilities	28,957	34,893
Deferred revenue	4,717	4,173
Current installments of long-term debt and revolving credit facility		2,267
Income taxes payable	2,131	2,366
Total current liabilities	57,909	68,569
Liability related to unrecognized tax benefits	6,598	12,402
Long-term debt and revolving credit facility		10,000
Deferred compensation payable	1,038	971
Other liabilities	2,297	2,411
Total liabilities	67,842	94,353
Commitments and Contingencies		
Shareholders' equity:		
Common stock, no par value; 50,000 shares authorized, 18,662 and 16,179 shares issued and outstanding as of December 31, 2014, and 2013, respectively	125,489	83,122
Retained earnings	10,891	36,100
Noncontrolling interests	3,781	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(11,204)	(13,963)
Total shareholders' equity	128,957	105,259
	\$ 196,799	\$ 199,612

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

NATURE'S SUNSHINE PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(Amounts in thousands, except per share information)

Year Ended December 31,	2014	2013	2012
Net sales revenue	\$ 366,367	\$ 369,826	\$ 360,826
Cost of sales	(91,584)	(92,344)	(91,369)
Gross profit	274,783	277,482	269,457
Operating expenses:			
Volume incentives	135,808	135,516	130,875
Selling, general and administrative	119,927	118,383	104,716
Operating income	19,048	23,583	33,866
Other income (expense):			
Interest and other income (expense), net	(72)	836	1,461
Interest expense	(187)	(231)	(178)
Foreign exchange gains, net	225	1,388	290
	(34)	1,993	1,573
Income from continuing operations before provision for income taxes	19,014	25,576	35,439
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	(743)	7,923	10,531
Net income from continuing operations	19,757	17,653	24,908
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	(9,957)	(44)	472
Net income	9,800	17,609	25,380
Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interests	(219)		
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 10,019	\$ 17,609	\$ 25,380
Basic and diluted net income per common share			
Basic:			
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 1.15	\$ 1.10	\$ 1.59
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ (0.57)	\$	\$ 0.03
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 0.58	\$ 1.10	\$ 1.62
Diluted:			
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 1.12	\$ 1.08	\$ 1.56
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ (0.56)	\$ (0.01)	\$ 0.03
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 0.56	\$ 1.07	\$ 1.59
Weighted average basic common shares outstanding	17,108	15,997	15,648
Weighted average diluted common shares outstanding	17,641	16,390	15,987
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 1.90	\$ 1.90	\$ 0.15

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

(Amounts in thousands)

Year Ended December 31,	2014	2013	2012
Net income	\$ 9,800	\$ 17,609	\$ 25,380
Foreign currency translation loss (net of tax)	(1,406)	(3,480)	(522)
Net unrealized gains on investment securities (net of tax)	30	83	25
Write-off of Venezuela cumulative translation adjustments	4,135		
Total comprehensive income	\$ 12,559	\$ 14,212	\$ 24,883

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

NATURE'S SUNSHINE PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

(Amounts in thousands, except per share data)

	Shares	Common Stock Value	Retained Earnings	Noncontrolling Interests	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Total
Balance at January 1, 2012	15,569	\$ 71,628	\$ 25,879		\$ (10,069)	\$ 87,438
Share-based compensation expense		2,878				2,878
Tax benefit from exercise of stock options		378				378
Proceeds from the exercise of stock options	241	2,408				2,408
Cash dividends (0.15 per share)			(2,349)			(2,349)
Net income			25,380			25,380
Other comprehensive loss					(497)	(497)
Balance at December 31, 2012	15,810	77,292	48,910		(10,566)	115,636
Share-based compensation expense		3,389				3,389
Tax benefit from exercise of stock options		653				653
Proceeds from the exercise of stock options	509	4,334				4,334
Repurchase of common stock	(140)	(2,546)				(2,546)
Cash dividends (1.90 per share)			(30,419)			(30,419)
Net income			17,609			17,609
Other comprehensive loss					(3,397)	(3,397)
Balance at December 31, 2013	16,179	83,122	36,100		(13,963)	105,259
Share-based compensation expense		3,948				3,948
Net proceeds from the issuance of shares to noncontrolling interests	2,855	44,795				44,795
Tax benefit from exercise of stock options		307				307
Proceeds from the exercise of stock options	124	772				772
Repurchase of common stock	(496)	(7,455)				(7,455)
Cash dividends (1.90 per share)			(35,228)			(35,228)
Net income			10,019	(219)		9,800
Noncontrolling interests investment in Nature's Sunshine Hong Kong Limited				4,000		4,000
Other comprehensive income					2,759	2,759
Balance at December 31, 2014	18,662	\$ 125,489	\$ 10,891	\$ 3,781	\$ (11,204)	\$ 128,957

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

NATURE'S SUNSHINE PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(Amounts in Thousands)

Year Ended December 31,	2014	2013	2012
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Net income	\$ 9,800	\$ 17,609	\$ 25,380
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Write-off of cumulative translation adjustments	4,135		
Impairment of Venezuela property, plant and equipment, net	2,947		
Provision for doubtful accounts	(121)	535	45
Depreciation and amortization	4,409	4,466	4,078
Share-based compensation expense	3,948	3,389	2,878
Tax benefit from stock option exercise	(307)	(653)	(378)
(Gain) loss on sale of property and equipment	132	(128)	85
Deferred income taxes	(3,927)	1,092	4,270
Amortization of bond discount	3	1	9
Purchase of trading investment securities	(162)	(88)	(92)
Proceeds from sale of trading investment securities	151	510	354
Realized and unrealized gains on investments	(56)	(122)	(90)
Foreign exchange gains	(225)	(1,254)	(290)
Changes in assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	3,457	(1,358)	266
Inventories	748	838	(1,466)
Prepaid expenses and other	3,411	(5,728)	(1,155)
Other assets	(1,235)	(303)	(193)
Accounts payable	(359)	(552)	77
Accrued volume incentives	(1,905)	1,286	(1,279)
Accrued liabilities	(5,360)	7,379	(1,289)
Deferred revenue	544	(138)	1,708
Income taxes payable	25	1,071	(6,259)
Liability related to unrecognized tax positions	(5,804)	1,831	145
Deferred compensation payable	(67)	(305)	(153)
Net cash provided by operating activities	14,182	29,378	26,651
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(26,285)	(8,570)	(6,629)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	85	248	25
Purchases of investments available for sale	(721)	(442)	(174)
Proceeds from sale/maturities of investments available for sale	247	200	3,789
Net cash used in investing activities	(26,674)	(8,564)	(2,989)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:			
Payments of cash dividends	(35,228)	(30,419)	(2,349)
Borrowings on long-term debt and revolving credit facility		10,000	
Principal payments of long-term debt and revolving credit facility	(12,267)	(3,353)	(3,570)

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Net proceeds from the issuance of shares to noncontrolling interests	44,795		
Investment by noncontrolling interests	4,000		
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	772	4,334	2,408
Tax benefit from stock option exercise	307	653	378
Repurchase of common stock	(7,455)	(2,546)	
Net cash used in financing activities	(5,076)	(21,331)	(3,133)
Effect of exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents	(980)	(1,477)	(257)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(18,548)	(1,994)	20,272
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	77,247	79,241	58,969
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	\$ 58,699	\$ 77,247	\$ 79,241

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

Year Ended December 31,	2014	2013	2012
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:			
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 6,450	\$ 10,278	\$ 12,960
Cash paid for interest	171	128	128
Supplemental disclosure of noncash investing and financing activities:			
Purchases of property, plant and equipment included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 780	\$ 155	\$ 169

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

NATURE'S SUNSHINE PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Amounts in thousands, except per share information)

NOTE 1: NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Operations

Nature's Sunshine Products, Inc., together with its subsidiaries (hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Company"), is a natural health and wellness company primarily engaged in the manufacturing and direct selling of nutritional and personal care products. The Company is a Utah corporation with its principal place of business in Lehi, Utah, and sells its products to a sales force of independent Managers and Distributors who use the products themselves or resell them to other independent Distributors or consumers. The formulation, manufacturing, packaging, labeling, advertising, distribution and sale of each of the Company's major product groups are subject to regulation by one or more governmental agencies.

The Company markets its products in Australia, Austria, Belarus, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States and Vietnam. The Company also exports its products to Argentina, Australia, Chile, Israel, New Zealand, Norway, Peru and the United Kingdom.

Principles of Consolidation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts and transactions of the Company and its subsidiaries. At December 31, 2014 and 2013, substantially all of the Company's subsidiaries were wholly owned. The Company operates a limited number of markets in jurisdictions where local laws require the formation of a partnership with an entity domiciled in that market. These partners have no rights to participate in the sharing of revenues, profits, losses or distribution of assets upon liquidation of these partnerships.

Intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP) requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, in these financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from these estimates and those differences could have a material effect on the Company's financial position and results of operations.

The significant accounting estimates inherent in the preparation of the Company's financial statements include estimates associated with its evaluation of impairment of long-lived assets, the determination of liabilities related to Manager and Distributor incentives, the determination of income tax assets and liabilities, certain other non-income tax and value-added tax contingencies, legal contingencies, share-based compensation and the valuation of investments. In addition, significant estimates form the basis for allowances with respect to the collection of accounts receivable, inventory valuations and self-insurance liabilities associated with product liability and medical claims. Various assumptions and other factors enter into the determination of these significant estimates. The process of determining significant estimates takes into account historical experience and current and expected economic conditions.

Classification of Belarus as a Highly Inflationary Economy and Devaluation of Its Currency

Since June 30, 2012, Belarus has been designated as a highly inflationary economy. The U.S. dollar is the Company's functional currency for this market. As a result, there were no resulting gains or losses from a re-measurement of the financial statements using official rates of the Company's Belarusian subsidiary. However, as a result of the weakening of the Belarusian ruble, the purchasing power of the Company's independent Distributors in this market has diminished. During the periods ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, the Company's Belarusian subsidiary's net sales revenue represented approximately 2.4 percent, 2.2 percent and 1.8 percent of consolidated net sales revenue, respectively.

Table of Contents

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company considers all highly liquid short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Substantially all of the Company's cash deposits either exceed the United States federally insured limit or are located in countries that do not have government insured accounts or are subject to tax withholdings when repatriating earnings.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable consist principally of receivables from credit card companies, arising from the sale of products to the Company's independent Distributors, and receivables from independent Distributors in foreign markets. Accounts receivable have been reduced by an allowance for amounts that may be uncollectible in the future. However, due to the geographic dispersion of credit card and Distributor receivables, the collection risk is not considered to be significant. Substantially all of the receivables from credit card companies were current as of December 31, 2014, and 2013. Although receivables from independent Distributors can be significant, the Company performs ongoing credit evaluations of its importers and maintains an allowance for potential credit losses. This estimated allowance is based primarily on the aging category, historical trends and management's evaluation of the financial condition of the customer. This reserve is adjusted periodically as information about specific accounts becomes available.

Investment Securities

The Company's available-for-sale investment portfolio is recorded at fair value and consists of various securities such as state and municipal obligations, U.S. government security funds, short-term deposits and various equity securities. These investments are valued using (a) quoted prices for identical assets in active markets or (b) from significant inputs that are observable or can be derived from or corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the asset. The Company's trading portfolio is recorded at fair value and consists of various marketable securities that are valued using quoted prices in active markets.

For available-for-sale debt securities with unrealized losses, the Company performs an analysis to assess whether it intends to sell or whether it would be more likely than not required to sell the security before the expected recovery of the amortized cost basis. Where the Company intends to sell a security, or may be required to do so, the security's decline in fair value is deemed to be other-than-temporary, and the full amount of the unrealized loss is recorded within earnings as an impairment loss.

For all other debt securities that experience a decline in fair value that is determined to be other-than-temporary and not related to credit loss, the Company records a loss, net of any tax, in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss). The credit loss is recorded within earnings as an impairment loss when sold. Management judgment is involved in evaluating whether a decline in an investment's fair value is other-than-temporary.

Regardless of the Company's intent to sell a security, the Company performs additional analysis on all securities with unrealized losses to evaluate losses associated with the creditworthiness of the security. Credit losses are identified where the Company does not expect to receive cash flows sufficient to recover the amortized cost basis of a security.

For equity securities, when assessing whether a decline in fair value below the Company's cost basis is other-than-temporary, the Company considers the fair market value of the security, the length of time and extent to which market value has been less than cost, the financial condition and near-term prospects of the issuer as well as specific events or circumstances that may influence the operations of the issuer, and the Company's intent and ability to hold the investment for a sufficient time in order to enable recovery of the cost. New information and the passage of time can change these judgments. Where the Company has determined that it lacks the intent and ability to hold an equity security to its expected recovery, the security's decline in fair value is deemed to be other-than-temporary and is recorded within earnings as an impairment loss.

The Company also has certain investment securities classified as trading securities. The Company maintains its trading securities portfolio to generate returns that are offset by corresponding changes in certain liabilities related to the Company's deferred compensation plans (see Note 12). The trading securities portfolio consists of marketable securities, which are recorded at fair value and are included in long-term investment securities on the consolidated balance sheets because they remain assets of the Company until they are actually paid out to the participants. These investment securities are not available to the Company to fund its operations as they are restricted for the payment of the deferred compensation payable. The Company has established a rabbi trust to finance obligations under the plan. Both realized and unrealized gains and losses on trading securities are included in interest and other income.

Table of Contents

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company's financial instruments consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, investments, accounts payable and long-term debt. Other than investments, which are carried at fair value, and long-term debt, the carrying values of these financial instruments approximate their fair values due to their short-term nature. The carrying amount reflected in the consolidated balance sheet for long-term debt approximates fair value due to the interest rate on the debt being variable based on current market rates. During the year ended December 31, 2014, and 2013, the Company did not have any write-offs related to the re-measurement of non-financial assets at fair value on a nonrecurring basis subsequent to their initial recognition.

Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower-of-cost-or-market, using the first-in, first-out method. The components of inventory cost include raw materials, labor and overhead. To estimate any necessary obsolescence or lower-of-cost-or-market adjustments, various assumptions are made in regard to excess or slow-moving inventories, non-conforming inventories, expiration dates, current and future product demand, production planning and market conditions.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the related assets. Estimated useful lives for buildings range from 20 to 50 years; building improvements range from 7 to 10 years; machinery and equipment range from 2 to 10 years; computer software and hardware range from 3 to 10 years; and furniture and fixtures range from 2 to 5 years. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the shorter of the lease term or the estimated useful lives of the related assets. Maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred and major improvements are capitalized.

Intangible Assets

Intangible assets consist of purchased product formulations. Such intangible assets are amortized using the straight-line method over the estimated economic lives of the assets of 9 to 15 years. Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization, totaled \$704 and \$853, at December 31, 2014, and 2013, respectively.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

The Company reviews its long-lived assets, such as property, plant and equipment and intangible assets for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable. The Company uses an estimate of future undiscounted net

cash flows of the related assets or groups of assets over their remaining lives in measuring whether the assets are recoverable. An impairment loss is calculated by determining the difference between the carrying values and the fair values of these assets. Due to the continual currency devaluation of the Venezuelan bolivar, as of September 30, 2014, the Company incurred a \$2,947 impairment charge to write down the value of its fixed assets in Venezuela to \$0.

Incentive Trip Accrual

The Company accrues for expenses associated with its direct sales program, which rewards independent Managers and Distributors with paid attendance for incentive trips, including Company conventions and meetings. Expenses associated with incentive trips are accrued over qualification periods as they are earned. The Company specifically analyzes incentive trip accruals based on historical and current sales trends as well as contractual obligations when evaluating the adequacy of the incentive trip accrual. Actual results could generate liabilities more or less than the amounts recorded. The Company has accrued convention and meeting costs of \$4,243 and \$5,784 at December 31, 2014, and 2013, respectively, which are included in accrued liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets.

Foreign Currency Translation

The local currency of the foreign subsidiaries is used as the functional currency, except for subsidiaries operating in highly inflationary economies or where the Company's operations are served by a U.S. based subsidiary (for example Russia and Ukraine). The financial statements of foreign subsidiaries where the local currency is the functional currency are translated into U.S. dollars using exchange rates in effect at year end for assets and liabilities and average exchange rates during each year for the results of operations. Adjustments resulting from translation of financial statements are reflected in accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of income taxes. Foreign currency transaction gains and losses are included in other income (expense) in the consolidated statements of operations.

Table of Contents

The functional currency in highly inflationary economies is the U.S. dollar and transactions denominated in the local currency are re-measured as if the functional currency were the U.S. dollar. The re-measurement of local currencies into U.S. dollars creates translation adjustments, which are included in the consolidated statements of operations. A country is considered to have a highly inflationary economy if it has a cumulative inflation rate of approximately 100 percent or more over a three year period as well as other qualitative factors including historical inflation rate trends (increasing and decreasing), the capital intensiveness of the operation, and other pertinent economic factors. Belarus and was considered to be highly inflationary as noted above. With the exception of Belarus, there were no countries considered to have a highly inflationary economy during 2014, 2013, or 2012.

Revenue Recognition

Net sales revenue and related volume incentive expenses are recorded when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, collectability is reasonably assured, the amount is fixed and determinable, and title and risk of loss have passed. The amount of the volume incentive is determined based upon the amount of qualifying purchases in a given month. It is necessary for the Company to make estimates about the timing of when merchandise has been delivered. These estimates are based upon the Company's historical experience related to time in transit, timing of when shipments occurred and shipping volumes. Amounts received for undelivered merchandise are recorded as deferred revenue.

From time to time, the Company's U.S. operations extend short-term credit associated with product promotions. In addition, for certain of the Company's international operations, the Company offers credit terms consistent with industry standards within the country of operation. Payments to independent Managers and Distributors for sales incentives or rebates are recorded as a reduction of revenue. Payments for sales incentives and independent rebates are calculated monthly based upon qualifying sales. Membership fees are deferred and amortized as revenue over the life of the membership, primarily one year. Prepaid event registration fees are deferred and recognized as revenues when the related event is held.

A reserve for product returns is recorded based upon historical experience. The Company allows independent Managers or Distributors to return the unused portion of products within ninety days of purchase if they are not satisfied with the product. In some of the Company's markets, the requirements to return product are more restrictive. Sales returns for the years 2014, 2013 and 2012, were \$1,525, \$1,454, and \$2,249, respectively. The increase in sales returns for year ended December 31, 2012 was due to unusually high product returns during the first quarter of 2012 related to a specific promotion in the Synergy Japan market. Product returns were not related to product quality and have since returned to lower return rates.

Amounts billed to customers for shipping and handling are reported as a component of net sales revenue. Shipping and handling revenues of approximately \$9,795, \$10,868, and \$11,264 were reported as net sales revenue for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively.

Taxes that have been assessed by governmental authorities and that are directly imposed on revenue-producing transactions between the Company and its customers, including sales, use, value-added, and some excise taxes, are presented on a net basis (excluded from net sales).

Advertising Costs

Advertising costs are expensed as incurred and classified in selling, general and administrative expenses. Advertising expense incurred for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012 totaled approximately \$2,301, \$2,194 and \$1,418, respectively.

Research and Development

All research and development costs are expensed as incurred and classified in selling, general and administrative expense. Total research and development expenses were approximately \$2,457, \$2,039, and \$1,464 in 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively.

Contingencies

The Company is involved in certain legal proceedings. When a loss is considered probable in connection with litigation or non-income tax contingencies and when such loss can be reasonably estimated with a range, the Company records its best estimate within the range related to the contingency. If there is no best estimate, the Company records the minimum of the range. As additional information becomes available, the Company assesses the potential liability related to the contingency and revises the estimates. Revision in estimates of the potential liabilities could materially affect our results of operations in the period of adjustment. The Company's contingencies are discussed in further detail in Note 13.

Table of Contents

Income Taxes

The Company's income tax expense, deferred tax assets and liabilities and contingent reserves reflect management's best assessment of estimated future taxes to be paid. The Company is subject to income taxes in both the U.S. and numerous foreign jurisdictions. Significant judgments and estimates are required in determining the consolidated income tax expense.

Deferred income taxes arise from temporary differences between the tax and financial statement recognition of revenue and expense. In evaluating the Company's ability to recover its deferred tax assets, management considers all available positive and negative evidence, including scheduled reversals of deferred tax liabilities, projected future taxable income, tax planning strategies and recent financial operations. In projecting future taxable income, the Company develops assumptions including the amount of future state, federal and foreign pretax operating income, the reversal of temporary differences, and the implementation of feasible and prudent tax planning strategies. These assumptions require significant judgment about the forecasts of future taxable income, and are consistent with the plans and estimates that the Company is using to manage the underlying businesses.

Changes in tax laws and rates could also affect recorded deferred tax assets and liabilities in the future. Management is not aware of any such changes that would have a material effect on the Company's results of operations, cash flows or financial position.

The calculation of the Company's tax liabilities involves dealing with uncertainties in the application of complex tax laws and regulations in a multitude of jurisdictions across its global operations. Income tax positions must meet a more-likely-than-not recognition threshold to be recognized.

Net Income (Loss) Per Common Share

Basic net income per common share (Basic EPS) is computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted net income per common share (Diluted EPS) reflects the potential dilution that could occur if stock options or other contracts to issue common stock were exercised or converted into common stock. The computation of Diluted EPS does not assume exercise or conversion of securities that would have an anti-dilutive effect on net income per common share.

Table of Contents

Following is a reconciliation of the numerator and denominator of Basic EPS to the numerator and denominator of Diluted EPS for all years:

	2014	2013	2012
Net income:			
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 19,757	\$ 17,653	\$ 24,908
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ (9,957)	\$ (44)	\$ 472
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 10,019	\$ 17,609	\$ 25,380
Basic weighted-average shares outstanding	17,108	15,997	15,648
Basic net income per common share:			
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 1.15	\$ 1.10	\$ 1.59
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ (0.57)	\$	\$ 0.03
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 0.58	\$ 1.10	\$ 1.62
Diluted Shares Outstanding			
Basic weighted-average shares outstanding	17,108	15,997	15,648
Stock-based awards	533	393	339
Diluted weighted-average shares outstanding	17,641	16,390	15,987
Diluted net income per common share:			
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 1.12	\$ 1.08	\$ 1.56
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ (0.56)	\$ (0.01)	\$ 0.03
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 0.56	\$ 1.07	\$ 1.59
Potentially dilutive shares excluded from diluted-per-share amounts:			
Stock options	133	135	88
Potentially anti-dilutive shares excluded from diluted-per-share amounts:			
Stock options	210	210	254

Potentially dilutive shares excluded from diluted-per-share amounts include performance-based options to purchase shares of common stock for which certain earnings metrics have not been achieved. Potentially anti-dilutive shares excluded from diluted-per-share amounts include both non-qualified stock options and unearned performance-based options to purchase shares of common stock with exercise prices greater than the weighted-average share price during the period and shares that would be anti-dilutive to the computation of diluted net income per share for each of the years presented.

Share-Based Compensation

The Company's outstanding stock options include time-based stock options, which vest over differing periods ranging from the date of issuance up to 48 months from the option grant date; performance-based stock options, which have already vested upon achieving operating income margins of six, eight and ten percent as reported in four of five consecutive quarters over the term of the options; performance-based stock options, which vest upon achieving cumulative annual net sales revenue growth targets over a rolling two-year period, subject to the Company maintaining at least an eight percent operating income margin during the applicable period; and performance-based stock options, which vest upon achieving annual net sales targets over a rolling one-year period.

The Company recognizes all share-based payments to Directors and employees, including grants of stock options and restricted stock units, in the statement of operations based on their grant-date fair values. The Company records compensation expense, net of an estimated forfeiture rate, over the vesting period of the stock options based on the fair value of the stock options on the date of grant. The Company's estimated forfeiture rate is based upon historical experience.

Table of Contents

Comprehensive Income (Loss)

Comprehensive income (loss) includes all changes in shareholders' equity except those resulting from investments by, and distributions to, shareholders. Accordingly, the Company's comprehensive income (loss) includes net income (loss), net unrealized gains (losses) on investment securities, reclassifications of realized gains, and foreign currency adjustments that arise from the translation of the financial statements of the Company's foreign subsidiaries.

Strategic Alliance with Fosun Pharma

On August 25, 2014, Nature's Sunshine and Shanghai Fosun Pharmaceutical (Group) Co., Ltd. (Fosun Pharma), closed a transaction pursuant to which, the parties entered into a joint venture for operations in the People's Republic of China (China), of which 80 percent is owned by Nature's Sunshine and 20 percent is owned by a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fosun Pharma and completed a concurrent investment by Fosun Pharma in Nature's Sunshine common stock issued pursuant to a private placement transaction with net proceeds of \$44,795. Nature's Sunshine used the net proceeds of the private placement transaction to fund its 80 percent share of the initial \$20,000 capitalization of the China joint venture, or \$16,000, and to pay its shareholders a cash dividend of \$1.50 per share, or \$28,501. The Company consolidated the joint venture in its consolidated financial statements, with Fosun Pharma's interest presented as a noncontrolling interest.

The joint venture, known as Nature's Sunshine Hong Kong Limited, expects to market and distribute Nature's Sunshine products in China. Nature's Sunshine Hong Kong Limited currently anticipates deploying a multi-brand, multi-channel go-to-market strategy that will offer select Nature's Sunshine-branded products through certain of Fosun Pharma's existing retail locations across China, and select Synergy-branded products through a direct selling model. The time to market will be dependent upon regulatory processes, including product registration, permit and license approvals.

Pursuant to a concurrent private placement transaction, Nature's Sunshine issued 2,855 shares of unregistered common stock to Fosun Pharma at a price of \$16.19 per share, representing aggregate net proceeds to Nature's Sunshine of \$44,795. The purchase price represented a 10 percent premium to Nature's Sunshine's average stock price over the trailing 30 business day period as of June 26, 2014. As a result of the private placement transaction, Fosun Pharma owns approximately 15% of Nature's Sunshine outstanding common shares with respect to which the Company has granted Fosun Pharma certain registration rights. In addition, Nature's Sunshine appointed one director designated by Fosun Pharma to its board of directors.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In April 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2014-08 Presentation of Financial Statements (Topic 740) and Property, Plant, and Equipment (Topic 360): Reporting Discontinued Operations and Disclosures of Disposals of Components of an Entity. This update changes the criteria for reporting discontinued operations while enhancing disclosures in this area. Under the new guidance, only disposals representing a strategic shift in operations should be presented as discontinued operations. Those strategic shifts should have a major effect on the organization's operations and financial results. In addition, the new guidance requires expanded disclosures about discontinued operations that will provide financial statement users with more information about the assets, liabilities, income, and expenses of discontinued operations. The amendments in this update are effective for interim and annual periods beginning after

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

December 15, 2014. The adoption of this ASU is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2014-09 Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606). This update requires an entity to recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods and services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods and services. As such, this update affects an entity that either enters into contracts with customers or transfers goods and services or enters into contracts for the transfer of nonfinancial assets unless those contracts are within the scope of other standards. This update will supersede the revenue recognition requirements in Topic 605, Revenue Recognition, and most industry-specific guidance, and creates a Topic 606. The amendments in this update are effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2015. The adoption of this ASU is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In June 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2014-12 Compensation Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Accounting for Share-Based Payments When the Terms of an Award Provide That a Performance Target Could Be Achieved after the Requisite Service Period . This update requires that a performance target that affects vesting and that could be achieved after the requisite service period be treated as a performance condition. The performance target should not be reflected in estimating the grant-date fair value of the award. Compensation costs should be recognized in the period in which it becomes probable that the performance target will be achieved and should represent the compensation cost

Table of Contents

attributable to the period for which the requisite service has already been rendered. If the performance target becomes probable of being achieved before the end of the requisite service period, the remaining unrecognized compensation cost should be recognized prospectively over the remaining requisite service period. The requisite service period ends when the employee can cease rendering service and still be eligible to vest in the award if the performance target is achieved. The amendments in this update are effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2015. The adoption of this ASU is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

NOTE 2: DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

In November 2014, the Company ceased its operations in Venezuela due to the difficulties and uncertainties related to import controls, difficulties associated with repatriating cash and high inflation. This market was part of the Company's NSP Americas segment and all of the income (loss) from discontinued operations is related to the common shareholders of the Company.

The following table summarizes the operating results of the Company's discontinued operations:

	2014	2013	2012
Net sales revenue	\$ 7,559	\$ 8,270	\$ 6,642
Income (loss) before income tax provision	\$ (10,597)	\$ 77	\$ 57
Income tax provision (benefit)	(640)	121	(415)
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ (9,957)	\$ (44)	\$ 472

Due to the economic instability of the Venezuelan market, as of September 30, 2014, the Company incurred a \$2,947 impairment charge to write down the value of its fixed assets in Venezuela to \$0. The loss before income taxes for the year ended December 31, 2014, includes a charge of \$7,798 related to exiting Venezuela, of which \$4,135 is a non-cash write-off of accumulated translation adjustments that were previously included in shareholders' equity. The loss from discontinued operations did not have a material impact on the Company's operating cash flows during 2014.

NOTE 3: INVENTORIES

The composition of inventories is as follows:

As of December 31,	2014	2013
Raw materials	\$ 11,206	\$ 10,848
Work in process	534	740
Finished goods	28,698	30,322
Total inventory	\$ 40,438	\$ 41,910

NOTE 4: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

The composition of property, plant and equipment is as follows:

As of December 31,	2014	2013
Land and improvements	\$ 2,418	\$ 3,800
Buildings and improvements	31,245	33,655
Machinery and equipment	19,716	18,209
Furniture and fixtures	18,311	17,884
Computer software and hardware	27,294	8,255
	98,984	81,803
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(47,641)	(49,781)
Total property, plant and equipment	\$ 51,343	\$ 32,022

Depreciation expense was \$4,260, \$4,317, and \$3,929 for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

NOTE 5: INTANGIBLE ASSETS

At December 31, 2014, and 2013, intangibles for product formulations had a gross carrying amount of \$1,763, and \$1,763, accumulated amortization of \$1,059, and \$910, and a net amount of \$704, and \$853, respectively. The estimated useful lives of the product formulations range from 9 to 15 years.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

Amortization expense for intangible assets for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012 was \$149, \$149 and \$149, respectively. Estimated amortization expense for the five succeeding fiscal years and thereafter is as follows:

Year Ending December 31,	
2014	\$ 149
2015	91
2016	91
2017	91
2018	91
Thereafter	191
Total	\$ 704

NOTE 6: INVESTMENT SECURITIES

The amortized cost and estimated fair values of available-for-sale securities are as follows:

As of December 31, 2014	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Municipal obligations	\$ 100	\$ 1	\$	101
U.S. government securities funds	1,791		(15)	1,776
Equity securities	227	454	(12)	669
Total short-term investment securities	\$ 2,118	\$ 455	\$ (27)	\$ 2,546

As of December 31, 2013	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Municipal obligations	\$ 403	\$ 12	\$	415
U.S. government securities funds	997		(14)	983
Equity securities	227	386	(5)	608
Total short-term investment securities	\$ 1,627	\$ 398	\$ (19)	\$ 2,006

The municipal obligations held at fair value of \$101 at December 31, 2014, all mature in less than two years.

During 2014, 2013, and 2012, the proceeds from the sales of available-for-sale securities were \$247, \$200, and \$3,789, respectively. There were no gross realized gains (losses) on sales of available-for-sale securities (net of tax) for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively.

The Company's trading securities portfolio totaled \$1,038 and \$971 at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, and generated gains of \$56, \$122, and \$116, for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012, and 2011, respectively.

As of December 31, 2014, and 2013, the Company had unrealized losses of \$15, and \$14, respectively, in its U.S. government securities funds. These losses are due to the interest rate sensitivity of the municipal obligations and the performance of the overall stock market for the equity securities.

Table of Contents**NOTE 7: ACCRUED LIABILITIES**

The composition of accrued liabilities is as follows:

As of December 31,	2014	2013
Foreign non-income tax contingencies (See Note 14)	\$ 2,622	\$ 5,363
Sales, use and property tax (See Note 14)	3,575	4,498
Salaries and employee benefits	13,445	11,749
Convention and meeting costs	4,243	5,784
Other	5,072	7,499
Total	\$ 28,957	\$ 34,893

NOTE 8: LONG-TERM DEBT AND REVOLVING CREDIT FACILITY

The Company's revolving credit agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., permits the Company to borrow up to \$25,000 through September 1, 2016, bearing interest at LIBOR plus 1.25 percent (1.50 percent as of December 31, 2014, and 2013). The Company must pay an annual commitment fee of 0.25 percent on the unused portion of the commitment. Currently, the revolving credit agreement matures on September 1, 2016. At December 31, 2014, and 2013, the outstanding balance under the revolving credit agreement was \$0 and \$10,000, respectively.

The revolving credit agreement contains restrictions on liquidity, leverage, minimum net income and consecutive quarterly net losses. In addition, the agreement restricts capital expenditures, lease expenditures, other indebtedness, liens on assets, guaranties, loans and advances, and the merger, consolidation and the transfer of assets except in the ordinary course of business. The Company remains in compliance with these debt covenants as of December 31, 2014.

NOTE 9: ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

The components of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax, are as follows:

	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments	Net Unrealized Gains (Losses) On Available-For-Sale Securities	Total Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss
Balance as of January 1, 2012	\$ (10,191)	\$ 122	\$ (10,069)
Activity, net of tax	(522)	25	(497)
Balance as of December 31, 2012	(10,713)	147	(10,566)
Activity, net of tax	(3,480)	83	(3,397)
Balance as of December 31, 2013	(14,193)	230	(13,963)
Activity, net of tax	2,729	30	2,759

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Balance as of December 31, 2014	\$	(11,464)	260	\$	(11,204)
---------------------------------	----	----------	-----	----	----------

Table of Contents**NOTE 10: INCOME TAXES**

Income from continuing operations before provision (benefit) for income taxes are taxed under the following jurisdictions:

Year Ended December 31,	2014	2013	2012
Domestic	\$ 4,577	\$ 6,111	\$ 17,625
Foreign	14,437	19,465	17,814
Total	\$ 19,014	\$ 25,576	\$ 35,439

Components of the provision (benefit) for income taxes for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2014 are as follows:

Year Ended December 31,	2014	2013	2012
Current:			
Federal	\$ (2,713)	\$ (773)	\$ 1,901
State	514	399	248
Foreign	5,539	7,230	4,714
Subtotal	3,340	6,856	6,863
Deferred:			
Federal	(3,804)	1,654	2,303
State	(326)	186	1,207
Foreign	47	(773)	158
Subtotal	(4,083)	1,067	3,668
Total provision (benefit) for income taxes	\$ (743)	\$ 7,923	\$ 10,531

The provision (benefit) for income taxes, as a percentage of income from continuing operations before provision (benefit) for income taxes, differs from the statutory U.S. federal income tax rate due to the following:

Year Ended December 31,	2014	2013	2012
Statutory U.S. federal income tax rate	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%
State income taxes, net of U.S. federal income tax benefit	0.6	1.4	2.7
U.S. tax impact of foreign operations	(73.0)	(16.2)	(2.3)
Valuation allowance change	48.8	4.3	(6.6)
Unrecognized tax benefits	(8.6)	7.9	2.9
Domestic manufacturing deduction	(2.2)	(1.3)	(0.4)
Nondeductible foreign expenses	(1.8)	1.1	0.5
Other	(2.7)	(1.2)	(2.1)
Effective income tax rate	(3.9)%	31.0%	29.7%

Pretax earnings of a foreign subsidiary or affiliate are subject to U.S. taxation when effectively repatriated. The Company does not intend to reinvest undistributed earnings indefinitely in the Company's foreign subsidiaries.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Adjustments relating to the U.S. impact of foreign operations decreased the effective tax rate by 73.0, 16.2, and 2.3 percentage points in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The components of this calculation were:

Components of U.S. tax impact of foreign operations	2014	2013	2012
Dividends received from foreign subsidiaries	59.5%	29.4%	4.5%
Foreign tax credits	(121.3)	(34.3)	(4.1)
Foreign tax rate differentials	(11.0)	(10.8)	(2.4)
Unremitted earnings	(0.2)	(0.5)	(0.3)
Total	(73.0)%	(16.2)%	(2.3)%

Table of Contents

The significant components of the deferred tax assets (liabilities) are as follows:

As of December 31,	2014	2013
Inventory	\$ 1,766	\$ 1,502
Accrued liabilities	5,023	4,380
Deferred compensation	398	364
Equity-based compensation	4,293	2,993
Intangibles assets	442	389
Bad debts	64	225
Net operating losses	5,824	5,593
Foreign tax and withholding credits	12,591	4,066
Non-income tax accruals	53	397
Health insurance accruals	230	184
Undistributed foreign earnings	474	4,008
Other deferred tax assets	1,488	2,260
Capital loss carryforward	739	721
Valuation allowance	(13,169)	(11,340)
Total deferred tax assets	\$ 20,216	15,742
Other deferred tax liabilities	(778)	(231)
Total deferred tax liabilities	(778)	(231)
Total deferred taxes, net	\$ 19,438	\$ 15,511

The components of deferred tax assets (liabilities), net are as follows:

As of December 31,	2014	2013
Net current deferred tax assets	\$ 4,950	\$ 5,711
Net non-current deferred tax assets	14,495	9,928
Total net deferred tax assets	19,445	15,639
Net current deferred tax liabilities	(1)	(2)
Net non-current deferred tax liabilities	(6)	(126)
Total net deferred tax liabilities	(7)	(128)
Total deferred taxes, net	\$ 19,438	\$ 15,511

Net current deferred tax liabilities are included in accrued liabilities and net non-current deferred tax liabilities are included in other liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets.

Management has provided a valuation allowance of \$13,169 and \$11,340 as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, for certain deferred tax assets, including foreign net operating losses, for which management cannot conclude it is more likely than not that they will be realized. The Company reviewed its tax positions and increased its valuation allowance by approximately \$1,829 in 2014 primarily due to a domestic increase of \$2,736 and a foreign decrease of \$907.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

At December 31, 2014, foreign subsidiaries had unused operating loss carryovers for tax purposes of approximately \$5,824. The net operating losses will expire at various dates from 2015 through 2024. For financial reporting purposes, the release of these valuation allowances would reduce income tax expenses. At December 31, 2014, the Company had approximately \$12,590 of foreign tax and withholding credits, most of which expire in 2024.

The Company is subject to regular audits by federal, state and foreign tax authorities. These audits may result in additional tax liabilities. The Company believes it has appropriately provided for income taxes for all years. Several factors drive the calculation of its tax reserves. Some of these factors include: (i) the expiration of various statutes of limitations; (ii) changes in tax law and regulations; (iii) the issuance of tax rulings; and (iv) settlements with tax authorities. Changes in any of these factors may result in adjustments to the Company's reserves, which would impact its reported financial results.

The Company's U.S. federal income tax returns for 2009 through 2013 are open to examination for federal tax purposes. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is currently concluding an audit of the Company's U.S. federal income tax returns for the 2009 through 2011 tax years. The Company has several foreign tax jurisdictions that have open tax years from 2007 through 2014.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

The total outstanding balance for liabilities related to unrecognized tax benefits at December 31, 2014 and 2013 was \$6,598 and \$12,402, respectively, all of which would favorably impact the effective tax rate if recognized. Included in these amounts is approximately \$1,648 and \$1,352, respectively, of combined interest and penalties. The Company increased interest and penalties approximately \$297 and \$300 for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The Company accounts for interest expense and penalties for unrecognized tax benefits as part of its income tax provision.

During the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, the Company added approximately \$2,261, \$2,656 and \$3,471, respectively, to its liability for unrecognized tax benefits. Included in these amounts are approximately \$326, \$300 and \$339 for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively, related to interest expense and penalties. In addition, the Company recorded a benefit related to the lapse of applicable statute of limitations of approximately \$273, \$323 and \$2,815 for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively, all of which favorably impacted the Company's effective tax rate.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of liabilities associated with uncertain tax benefits, excluding interest and penalties, is as follows for the years:

Year Ended December 31,	2014	2013	2012
Unrecognized tax benefits, opening balance	\$ 11,050	\$ 9,519	\$ 8,966
Settlement of liability reclassified as income tax payable	(591)	(10)	
Payments on liability			(15)
Tax positions taken in a prior period			
Gross increases			1,120
Gross decreases	(6,614)	(184)	(504)
Tax positions taken in the current period			
Gross increases	1,934	2,356	2,011
Gross decreases			
Lapse of applicable statute of limitations	(244)	(323)	(2,068)
Currency translation adjustments	(585)	(308)	9
Unrecognized tax benefits, ending balance	\$ 4,950	\$ 11,050	\$ 9,519

The Company anticipates that liabilities related to unrecognized tax benefits will increase approximately \$800 to \$1,200 within the next twelve months due to additional transactions related to commissions and transfer pricing.

The Company believes that it is reasonably possible that unrecognized tax benefits will decrease approximately \$100 to \$300 within the next twelve months due to the expiration of statutes of limitations in various jurisdictions.

Although the Company believes its estimates are reasonable, the Company can make no assurance that the final tax outcome of these matters will not be different from that which it has reflected in its historical income tax provisions and accruals. Such differences could have a material impact on the Company's income tax provision and operating results in the period in which the Company makes such determination.

NOTE 11: CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS

Dividends

The declaration of future dividends is subject to the discretion of the Company's Board of Directors and will depend upon various factors, including the Company's earnings, financial condition, restrictions imposed by any indebtedness that may be outstanding, cash requirements, future prospects and other factors deemed relevant by its Board of Directors.

On March 17, 2014, the Company announced a cash dividend of \$0.10 per common share in an aggregate amount of \$1,618 that was paid on April 7, 2014, to shareholders of record on March 28, 2014. On May 7, 2014, the Company announced a cash dividend of \$0.10 per common share in an aggregate amount of \$1,619 that was paid on June 2, 2014, to shareholders of record on May 21, 2014. On August 6, 2014, the Company announced a cash dividend of \$0.10 per common share in an aggregate amount of \$1,619 that was paid on August 29, 2014, to shareholders of record on August 18, 2014. On August 27, 2014, the Company announced a special non-recurring cash dividend of \$1.50 per common share in an aggregate amount of \$28,501 that was paid on September 19, 2014, to shareholders of record on September 8, 2014. On November 5, 2014, the Company announced a cash dividend of \$0.10 per common share in an aggregate amount of \$1,871 that was paid on December 1, 2014, to shareholders of record on November 20, 2014.

Table of Contents**Share Repurchase Program**

In December 2014, the Company completed share repurchases under its previously announced \$10 million share repurchase program. In November 2014, the Board of Directors authorized a \$20 million share repurchase program beginning January 1, 2015. Such purchases may be made in the open market, through block trades, in privately negotiated transactions or otherwise. The timing and amount of any shares repurchased will be determined based on the Company's evaluation of market conditions and other factors and the program may be discontinued or suspended at any time. At December 31, 2014, the remaining balance available for repurchases under the program was \$20,000.

The following is a summary of the Company's repurchases of common shares during the year ended December 31, 2014:

Period	Number of Shares	Average Price Paid per Share	Program Balance Used for Repurchases
July 1 – September 30, 2014	177	\$ 15.49	\$ 2,731
October 1 – December 31, 2014	319	14.80	4,724
	496	\$ 15.03	\$ 7,455

Share-Based Compensation

During the year ended December 31, 2012, the Company's shareholders adopted and approved the Nature's Sunshine Products, Inc. 2012 Stock Incentive Plan (the "2012 Incentive Plan"). The 2012 Incentive Plan provides for the grant of incentive stock options, non-statutory stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units, dividend equivalent rights, performance awards, stock awards and other stock-based awards. The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors has authority and discretion to determine the type of award as well as the amount, terms and conditions of each award under the 2012 Incentive Plan, subject to the limitations of the 2012 Incentive Plan. A total of 1,500 shares of the Company's common stock were originally authorized for the granting of awards under the 2012 Stock Incentive Plan. Subsequent to December 31, 2014, the total number of shares authorized for the granting of awards under the 2012 Stock Incentive Plan was increased by 1,500 by the Company's shareholders. The number of shares available for awards, as well as the terms of outstanding awards, are subject to adjustment as provided in the 2012 Incentive Plan for stock splits, stock dividends, recapitalizations and other similar events.

The Company also maintains a stock incentive plan, which was approved by shareholders in 2009 (the "2009 Incentive Plan"). The 2009 Incentive Plan also provided for the grant of incentive stock options, non-statutory stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units, dividend equivalent rights, performance awards, stock awards and other stock-based awards. Under the 2012 Incentive Plan, any shares subject to award, or awards forfeited or reacquired by the Company issued under the 2009 Incentive Plan are available for award up to a maximum of 400 shares.

Stock Options

The Company's outstanding stock options include time-based stock options, which vest over differing periods ranging from the date of issuance up to 48 months from the option grant date; performance-based stock options, which have already vested upon achieving operating income

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

margins of six, eight and ten percent as reported in four of five consecutive quarters over the term of the options; performance-based stock options, which vest upon achieving cumulative annual net sales revenue growth targets over a rolling two-year period, subject to the Company maintaining at least an eight percent operating income margin during the applicable period; and performance-based stock options, which vest upon achieving annual net sales targets over a rolling one-year period.

Table of Contents

Stock option activity for 2014, 2013, and 2012 consisted of the following:

	Number of Shares (in thousands)	Weighted Average Exercise Price Per Share
Options outstanding at January 1, 2012	1,374	\$ 9.88
Granted	686	15.11
Forfeited or canceled	(35)	13.60
Exercised	(241)	9.95
Options outstanding at December 31, 2012	1,784	11.81
Granted	832	15.85
Forfeited or canceled	(184)	13.65
Exercised	(506)	8.56
Options outstanding at December 31, 2013	1,926	12.54
Granted	258	15.38
Forfeited or canceled	(23)	13.33
Exercised	(124)	6.42
Options outstanding at December 31, 2014	2,037	\$ 11.69

On September 19, 2014, and August 29, 2013, the Company paid special non-recurring cash dividends of \$1.50 per common share. In accordance with the provisions of the Company's stock incentive plans, the exercise price of all outstanding stock options on the ex-dividend dates were decreased by \$1.50 per share in order to prevent a dilution of benefits or potential benefits intended to be made available to the stock option holders. Because this modification was required by the provisions of the Company's stock incentive plans, no additional share-based compensation expense was recorded.

During the year ended December 31, 2014, the Company issued time-based stock options to purchase 258 shares of common stock under the 2012 Stock Incentive Plan to the Company's executive officers and other employees. These options were issued with a weighted-average exercise price of \$15.38 per share and a weighted-average grant date fair value of \$6.53 per share. All of the options issued have an option termination date of ten years from the option grant date.

During the year ended December 31, 2013, the Company issued options to purchase 832 shares of common stock under the 2012 Stock Incentive Plan to the Company's executive officers and other employees, which are composed of both time-based stock options and net sales revenue performance-based stock options. These options were issued with a weighted-average exercise price of \$15.85 per share and a weighted-average grant date fair value of \$6.55 per share. All of the options issued have an option termination date of ten years from the option grant date.

During the year ended December 31, 2012, the Company issued time-based options to purchase 217 shares of common stock under the 2009 Incentive Plan to the Company's new senior executives. These options were issued with a weighted average exercise price of \$15.65 per share and a weighted average grant date fair value of \$7.66 per share. All of the options issued have an option termination date of ten years from the option grant date.

Also, during the year ended December 31, 2012, the Company issued options to purchase 469 shares of common stock under the 2012 Incentive Plan to the Company's executive officers and other employees, which are composed of both time-based stock options and net sales revenue performance-based stock options. These options were issued with a weighted average exercise price of \$14.86 per share and a weighted average

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

grant date fair value of \$7.00 per share. All of the options issued have an option termination date of ten years from the option grant date.

For the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, the Company issued 124, 506, and 241 shares of common stock upon the exercise of stock options at an average exercise price of \$6.42, \$8.56, and \$9.95 per share, respectively. The aggregate intrinsic values of options exercised during the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 was \$1,093, \$4,576, and \$1,427, respectively. For the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, the Company recognized \$307, \$653, and \$378 of tax benefits from the exercise of stock options during the period, respectively.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

The fair value of each option grant was estimated on the date of the grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following weighted average assumptions for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012:

	2014		2013		2012	
Weighted average grant date fair value of grants	\$	6.53	\$	6.55	\$	7.21
Expected life (in years)		6.0		5.0 to 6.0		4.0 to 6.0
Risk-free interest rate		1.5		0.6 to 1.5		0.3 to 0.9
Expected volatility		56.7		55.9 to 58.2		58.5 to 66.0
Dividend yield		2.6		2.1 to 2.7		0.0 to 1.3

Expected option lives and volatilities are based on historical data of the Company. The risk-free interest rate is calculated as the average U.S. Treasury bill rate that corresponds with the option life. The dividend yield is based on the Company's historical and expected amount of dividend payouts, at the time of grant. On August 29, 2013, and September 19, 2014, the Company paid special non-recurring cash dividends of \$1.50 per common share. The Company has excluded these special non-recurring cash dividends from the dividend yield used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model calculations as it is not representative of future dividends to be declared by the Company.

Share-based compensation expense from time-based stock options for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012 was \$2,932, \$3,166 and \$2,101, respectively; the related tax benefit was approximately \$1,158, \$1,251, and \$850, respectively. As of December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, the unrecognized share-based compensation cost related to grants described above was \$2,018, \$3,294, and \$2,715, respectively. As of December 31, 2014, the remaining compensation cost is expected to be recognized over the weighted-average period of approximately 1.8 years.

Shared-based compensation expense from operating income performance-based stock options for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012 was \$0, \$0 and \$653, respectively; the related tax benefit of approximately \$0, \$0 and \$255, respectively. As of December 31, 2012, there was no remaining compensation expense to be recognized for the operating income performance-based stock options.

The Company has not recognized any share-based compensation expense related to the net sales revenue performance-based stock options for the year ended December 31, 2014. Should the Company attain all of the net sales revenue metrics related to the net sales revenue performance-based stock option grants, the Company would recognize up to \$800 of potential share-based compensation expense.

The following table summarizes information about options outstanding and exercisable at December 31, 2014.

Range of Option Prices Per Share	Options Outstanding	Options Outstanding		Options Exercisable	Options Exercisable	
		Weighted-Avg. Remaining Contractual Life	Weighted-Avg. Exercise Price Per Share		Weighted-Avg. Remaining Contractual Life	Weighted-Avg. Exercise Price Per Share
\$2.35 to \$9.99	340	5.5	\$ 5.33	340	5.5	\$ 5.33
\$10.00 to \$13.99	1,487	7.8	12.42	642	7.2	12.17
\$14.00 to \$17.70	210	8.8	16.83	87	8.8	16.73
	2,037	7.5	\$ 11.69	1,069	6.8	\$ 10.36

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

At December 31, 2014, the aggregate intrinsic value of outstanding options to purchase 2,037 shares of common stock, the exercisable options to purchase 1,069 shares of common stock, and options to purchase 794 shares of common stock expected to vest was \$6,801, \$4,928, and \$1,779, respectively. At December 31, 2013, the aggregate intrinsic value of outstanding options to purchase 1,926 shares of common stock, the exercisable options to purchase 838 shares of common stock, and options to purchase 905 shares of common stock expected to vest was \$9,415, \$6,069, and \$3,179, respectively.

Restricted Stock Units

The Company's outstanding restricted stock units (RSUs) are time-based RSUs, which vest over differing periods ranging from 12 months up to 48 months from the RSU grant date. RSUs given to the Board of Directors contain a restriction period in which the shares are not issued until two years after vesting. At December 31, 2014 and 2013, there were 32 and 20 vested RSUs given to the Board of Directors that had a restriction period.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

Restricted stock unit activity for the period ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012 is as follows:

	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Units outstanding at January 1, 2012		\$
Granted	18	12.07
Issued		
Forfeited		
Units outstanding at December 31, 2012	18	12.07
Granted	17	12.90
Issued	(3)	12.07
Forfeited		
Units outstanding at December 31, 2013	32	12.47
Granted	156	10.73
Issued		
Forfeited	(8)	15.37
Units outstanding at December 31, 2014	180	15.09

On September 19, 2014, and August 29, 2013, the Company paid special non-recurring cash dividends of \$1.50 per common share. In accordance with the provisions of the Company's stock incentive plans, additional RSUs were issued in order to prevent a dilution of benefits or potential benefits intended to be made available to the RSU holders. Because this RSU issuance was required by the provisions of the Company's stock incentive plans, no additional share-based compensation expense was recorded.

During the year ended December 31, 2014, the Company issued 156 restricted stock units (RSUs) of common stock under the 2012 Incentive Plan to the Company's Board of Directors, executive officers and other employees. The RSUs were issued with a weighted-average grant date fair value of \$10.73 per share and vest in annual installments over a four year period from the grant date.

During the period ended December 31, 2013, the Company issued 17 restricted stock units (RSUs) of common stock under the 2012 Incentive Plan to the Board of Directors. The RSUs were issued with a weighted average grant date fair value of \$12.90 per share and vest in 12 monthly installments over a one year period from the grant date.

During the period ended December 31, 2012, the Company issued 18 restricted stock units (RSUs) of common stock under the 2012 Incentive Plan to the Board of Directors. The RSUs were issued with a weighted average grant date fair value of \$12.07 per share and vest in 12 monthly installments over a one year period from the grant date.

RSUs are valued at the market value on the date of grant, which is the grant date share price discounted for expected dividend payments during the vesting period. For RSUs with post-vesting restrictions, a Finnerty Model was utilized to calculate a valuation discount from the market value of common shares reflecting the restriction embedded in the RSUs preventing the sale of the underlying shares over a certain period of time. The Finnerty Model proposes to estimate a discount for lack of marketability such as transfer restrictions by using an option pricing theory. This model has gained recognition through its ability to address the magnitude of the discount by considering the volatility of a company's stock price and the length of restriction. The concept underpinning the Finnerty Model is that restricted stock cannot be sold over a certain period of time. Using assumptions previously determined for the application of the option pricing model at the valuation date, the Finnerty Model discount

for lack of marketability is approximately 17.5 percent for a common share.

Share-based compensation expense from RSUs for the period ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, was approximately \$992, \$223, and \$124, respectively; and the related tax benefit was approximately \$392, \$88 and \$49, respectively. As of December 31, 2014, and 2013, the unrecognized share-based compensation expense related to the grants described above was \$849 and \$62, respectively. As of December 31, 2014, the remaining compensation expense is expected to be recognized over the weighted average period of approximately 2.0 years.

Stock Appreciations Rights

The Company's outstanding stock appreciation rights (SARs) are time-based SARs, which vest over differing periods ranging from 12 months up to 48 months from the SAR grant date. The SARs have a strike price equal to the fair market value of one share of common stock on the grant date. Subsequent to vesting, the employee has the option to exercise the SAR and will receive the intrinsic value of the SAR as income on the exercise date. SARs do not entitle a participant to receive or purchase shares and are settled in cash. SARs will not reduce the number of shares of common stock available for issuance under the Company's Stock Incentive Plans.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

Stock appreciation right activity for the period ended December 31, 2014, is as follows:

	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Units outstanding at January 1, 2014		\$
Granted	30	5.47
Forfeited or cancelled		
Exercised		
Units outstanding at December 31, 2014	30	5.47

During the year ended December 31, 2014, the Company issued 30 time-based stock appreciation rights under the 2012 Stock Incentive Plan to the Company's employees. These SARs were issued with a weighted-average exercise price of \$13.86 per share and a weighted-average grant date fair value of \$5.47 per share. All of the SARs issued have an option termination date of ten years from the option grant date.

The fair value of each SAR was estimated on the date of the grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following weighted average assumptions for the year ended December 31, 2014:

	2014
Weighted average grant date fair value of grants	\$ 5.47
Expected life (in years)	6.0
Risk-free interest rate	1.5
Expected volatility	53.8
Dividend yield	2.7 to 3.0

Expected SAR lives and volatilities are based on historical data of the Company. The risk-free interest rate is calculated as the average U.S. Treasury bill rate that corresponds with the option life. The dividend yield is based on the Company's historical and expected amount of dividend payouts, at the time of grant. On August 29, 2013, and September 19, 2014, the Company paid special non-recurring cash dividends of \$1.50 per common share. The Company has excluded these special non-recurring cash dividends from the dividend yield used in the Black-Scholes SAR-pricing model calculations as it is not representative of future dividends to be declared by the Company.

Share-based compensation expense from SARs for the period ended December 31, 2014, was approximately \$24; and the related tax benefit was approximately \$9. As of December 31, 2014, the unrecognized share-based compensation expense related to the grants described above was \$150. As of December 30, 2014, the remaining compensation expense is expected to be recognized over the weighted average period of approximately 2.4 years.

NOTE 12: EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

Deferred Compensation Plans

The Company sponsors a qualified deferred compensation plan which qualifies under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code. During 2014, the Company made matching contributions of 60 percent of employee contributions up to a maximum of five percent of the employee's compensation (the match was increased from 50 percent to 60 percent of employee contributions up to a maximum of five percent beginning in 2013). The Company's contributions to the plan vest after a period of three years. During 2014, 2013, and 2012, the Company contributed to the plan approximately \$838, \$832 and \$551, respectively.

The Company provides a nonqualified deferred compensation plan for its officers and certain key employees. Under this plan, participants may defer up to 100 percent of their annual salary and bonus. Although participants direct the investment of these funds, they are classified as trading securities and are included in long-term investment securities on the consolidated balance sheets because they remain assets of the Company until they are actually paid out to the participants. The Company has established a trust to finance obligations under the plan. At the end of each year and at other times provided under the plan, the Company adjusts its obligation to a participant by the investment return or loss on the funds selected by the participant under rules established in the plan. Upon separation of employment of the participant with the Company, the obligation owed to the participant under the plan will be paid as a lump sum or over a period of either three or five years (and will continue to be adjusted by the applicable investment return or loss during the period of pay-out). The Company had deferred compensation plan assets of approximately \$1,038 and \$971 as of December 31, 2014, and 2013, respectively. The change in the liability associated with the deferred compensation plan is recorded in the deferred compensation payable.

Table of Contents**NOTE 13: COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES****Contractual Obligations**

The Company leases certain facilities and equipment used in its operations and accounts for leases with escalating payments using the straight-line method. The Company incurred expenses of approximately \$6,159, \$6,125, and \$6,096 in connection with operating leases during 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively. The approximate aggregate commitments under non-cancelable operating leases in effect at December 31, 2014, were as follows:

Year Ending December 31,		
2015	\$	4,776
2016		3,455
2017		2,860
2018		1,701
2019		385
Thereafter		590
Total	\$	13,767

The Company has entered into long-term agreements with third-parties in the ordinary course of business, in which it has agreed to pay a percentage of net sales in certain regions in which it operates, or royalties on certain products. In 2014, 2013, and 2012, the aggregate amounts of these payments were \$239, \$1,468, and \$1,270, respectively.

In 2013, the Company began to significantly reinvest in its information technology systems. Included within this plan is an Oracle ERP implementation program to provide the Company with a single integrated software solution that will integrate the Company's business process on a worldwide basis. The Company has committed to invest an additional \$3,845 over the course of the project and anticipates completion of this project by mid-2016. This amount is expected to be paid in future years as follows: \$3,586 in 2015, and \$259 in 2016, respectively. Also, in 2014, the Company made commitments to purchase manufacturing equipment of \$2,002 in 2015.

Legal Proceedings

The Company is party to various legal proceedings. Management cannot predict the ultimate outcome of these proceedings, individually or in the aggregate, or their resulting effect on the Company's business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows as litigation and related matters are subject to inherent uncertainties, and unfavorable rulings could occur. Were an unfavorable outcome to occur, there exists the possibility of a material adverse impact on the business, financial position, results of operations, or cash flows for the period in which the ruling occurs and/or future periods. The Company maintains product liability, general liability and excess liability insurance coverage. However, no assurances can be given that such insurance will continue to be available at an acceptable cost to the Company, that such coverage will be sufficient to cover one or more large claims, or that the insurers will not successfully disclaim coverage as to a pending or future claim.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Since late 2007, the Company has administered its sales in Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Russia and Ukraine (the Territories) through an International Reseller Agreement (Reseller Agreement) with a third party general dealer (the General Dealer) based in Russia. The General Dealer administers the marketing and distribution of the Company s products in the Territories. As a part of its services, the General Dealer provides certain discounts (the Discounts) to its network of dealers related to the costs associated with transporting the Company s products from the General Dealer to the dealers. In July 2013, the General Dealer began to withhold the amount of these Discounts from the funds remitted each month to the Company for the sale of the products, claiming that it is entitled to reimbursement for these costs under the Reseller Agreement. These withholdings averaged approximately \$330 per month and totaled approximately \$3,000 at March 31, 2014.

The parties negotiated a resolution to the dispute, whereby the General Dealer paid the Company the \$3,000 of Discounts withheld and relinquished all claims to the reimbursement of Discounts with respect to periods prior to July 2013, and the parties agreed to a new three-year international reseller agreement, effective April 1, 2014.

Other Litigation

The Company is party to various other legal proceedings in several foreign jurisdictions related to value-added tax assessments and other civil litigation. While there is a reasonable possibility that a loss may be incurred, either the losses are not considered to be probable or the Company cannot at this time estimate the loss, if any; therefore, no provision for losses has been provided. The Company believes future payments related to these matters could range from \$0 to approximately \$400.

Table of Contents

Non-Income Tax Contingencies

The Company has reserved for certain state sales and use tax and foreign non-income tax contingencies based on the likelihood of an obligation in accordance with accounting guidance for probable loss contingencies. Loss contingency provisions are recorded for probable losses at management's best estimate of a loss, or when a best estimate cannot be made, a minimum loss contingency amount is recorded. The Company provides provisions for potential payments of tax to various tax authorities for contingencies related to non-income tax matters, including value-added taxes and sales tax. The Company provides provisions for U.S. state sales taxes in each of the states where the Company has nexus. As of December 31, 2014 and 2013, accrued liabilities include \$2,760 and \$6,312, respectively, related to non-income tax contingencies. While management believes that the assumptions and estimates used to determine this liability are reasonable, the ultimate outcome of those matters cannot presently be determined. The Company is not able at this time to predict the ultimate outcomes of those matters or to estimate the effect of the ultimate outcomes, if greater than the amounts accrued, would have on the financial condition, results of operations or cash flows of the Company.

Self-Insurance Liabilities

Similar to other manufacturers and distributors of products that are ingested, the Company faces an inherent risk of exposure to product liability claims in the event that, among other things, the use of its products results in injury. The Company carries insurance in the types and amounts it considers reasonably adequate to cover the risks associated with its business. The Company has a wholly owned captive insurance company to provide it with product liability insurance coverage. The Company has accrued an amount that it believes is sufficient to cover probable and reasonably estimable liabilities related to product liability claims based on the Company's history of such claims. However, there can be no assurance that these estimates will prove to be sufficient, nor can there be any assurance that the ultimate outcome of any litigation for product liability will not have a material negative impact on the Company's business prospects, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

The Company self-insures for certain employee medical benefits. The recorded liabilities for self-insured risks are calculated using actuarial methods and are not discounted. The liabilities include amounts for actual claims and claims incurred but not reported. Actual experience, including claim frequency and severity as well as health care inflation, could result in actual liabilities being more or less than the amounts currently recorded.

The Company reviews its self-insurance accruals on a quarterly basis and determines, based upon a review of its recent claims history and other factors, which portions of its self-insurance accruals should be considered short-term and long-term. The Company has accrued \$2,638 and \$2,811 for product liability and employee medical claims at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, of which \$658 and \$526 was classified as short-term. Such amounts are included in accrued liabilities and other long-term liabilities on the Company's consolidated balance sheets.

Government Regulations

The Company is subject to governmental regulations pertaining to product formulation, labeling and packaging, product claims and advertising, and to the Company's direct selling system. The Company is also subject to the jurisdiction of numerous foreign tax and customs authorities. Any assertions or determinations that either the Company or the Company's independent Distributors are not in compliance with existing statutes, laws, rules or regulations could potentially have a material adverse effect on the Company's operations. In addition, in any country or

jurisdiction, the adoption of new statutes, laws, rules or regulations, or changes in the interpretation of existing statutes, laws, rules or regulations could have a material adverse effect on the Company and its operations. Although management believes that the Company is in compliance, in all material respects, with the statutes, laws, rules and regulations of every jurisdiction in which it operates, no assurance can be given that the Company's compliance with applicable statutes, laws, rules and regulations will not be challenged by foreign authorities or that such challenges will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

NOTE 14: OPERATING BUSINESS SEGMENT AND INTERNATIONAL OPERATION INFORMATION

The Company has four business segments. These business segments are components of the Company for which separate information is available that is evaluated regularly by the chief executive officer in deciding how to allocate resources and in assessing relative performance.

The Company has two business segments that operate under the Nature's Sunshine® Products brand and are divided based on the characteristics of their Distributor base, similarities in compensation plans, as well as the internal organization of NSP's officers and their responsibilities (NSP Americas and NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe). The Company's third business segment operates under the Synergy® WorldWide brand, which distributes its products through different selling and Distributor compensation

Table of Contents

plans and has products with formulations that are sufficiently different from those of NSP Americas and NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe to warrant accounting for these operations as a separate business segment. The Company's fourth business segment, China and New Markets, anticipates deploying a multi-brand, multi-channel go-to-market strategy that offers select Nature's Sunshine branded products through Fosun Pharma's retail locations across China as well as ecommerce, and select Synergy branded products through a direct selling model. The time to market will be dependent upon regulatory processes including product registration and permit approvals. The China and New Markets segment also includes Company's export sales business, in which the Company sells our products to various locally managed entities independent of the Company that have distribution rights for the relevant market. All of the net sales revenue to date in the China and New Markets segment is through the Company's export business to foreign markets outside of China set forth above that were previously part of NSP Americas. Net sales revenues for each segment have been reduced by intercompany sales as they are not included in the measure of segment profit or loss reviewed by the chief executive officer. The Company evaluates performance based on contribution margin (loss) by segment before consideration of certain inter-segment transfers and expenses.

In the fourth quarter of 2014, the Company created the China and New Markets segment. The Company moved the reporting of its export business, in which the Company sells our products to a locally managed entity independent of the Company that has distribution rights for the market, from the NSP Americas segment to the China and New Markets segment during the year ended December 31, 2014, and has made conforming changes to the results presented above for the prior year periods. The net sales revenue and contribution margin of this business for the year ended December 31, 2014 were \$3,367 and 1,563, respectively. The net sales revenue and contribution margin of this business for the year ended December 31, 2013 were \$2,865 and \$1,318, respectively. The net sales revenue and contribution margin of this business for the year ended December 31, 2012 were \$2,509 and \$159, respectively.

Reportable business segment information for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 is as follows:

Year Ended December 31,	2014	2013	2012
Net sales revenue:			
NSP Americas	\$ 184,625	\$ 195,924	\$ 199,794
NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe	50,274	62,747	57,853
Synergy WorldWide	128,101	108,290	100,670
China and New Markets	3,367	2,865	2,509
Total net sales revenue	366,367	369,826	360,826
Contribution margin (1):			
NSP Americas	75,673	80,095	80,324
NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe	17,851	22,542	21,957
Synergy WorldWide	43,888	38,011	36,142
China and New Markets	1,563	1,318	159
Total contribution margin	138,975	141,966	138,582
Selling, general and administrative	119,927	118,383	104,716
Operating income	19,048	23,583	33,866
Other income (loss), net	(34)	1,993	1,573
Income from continuing operations before provision for income taxes	\$ 19,014	\$ 25,576	\$ 35,439

(1) Contribution margin consists of net sales revenue less cost of sales and volume incentives expense.

Table of Contents

Year Ended December 31,	2014	2013	2012
Capital expenditures:			
NSP Americas	\$ 25,581	\$ 8,018	\$ 5,684
NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe	8	4	44
Synergy WorldWide	1,321	534	1,051
China and New Markets			
Total capital expenditures	\$ 26,910	\$ 8,556	\$ 6,779
Depreciation and amortization:			
NSP Americas	\$ 3,438	\$ 3,568	\$ 3,339
NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe	25	27	36
Synergy WorldWide	946	871	703
China and New Markets			
Total depreciation and amortization	\$ 4,409	\$ 4,466	\$ 4,078

As of December 31,	2014	2013
Assets:		
NSP Americas	\$ 129,371	\$ 148,278
NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe	6,679	11,233
Synergy WorldWide	40,797	40,101
China and New Markets	19,952	
Total assets	\$ 196,799	\$ 199,612

From an individual country perspective, only the United States comprises approximately 10 percent or more of consolidated net sales revenue for any of the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 as follows:

Year Ended December 31,	2014	2013	2012
Net sales revenue:			
United States	\$ 148,219	\$ 152,209	\$ 154,716
South Korea	54,314	34,207	28,006
Other	163,834	183,410	178,104
Total net sales revenue	\$ 366,367	\$ 369,826	\$ 360,826

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

Revenue generated by each of the Company's product lines is set forth below (U.S. dollars in thousands):

Year Ended December 31,	2014	2013	2012
NSP Americas:			
General health	\$ 79,022	\$ 82,332	\$ 87,280
Immunity	23,881	24,013	24,410
Cardiovascular	12,665	13,268	13,483
Digestive	53,906	57,575	56,160
Personal care	4,025	5,214	5,792
Weight management	11,126	13,522	12,669
	184,625	195,924	199,794
NSP Russia, Central and Eastern Europe:			
General health	\$ 18,841	\$ 22,690	\$ 20,540
Immunity	6,512	7,902	7,365
Cardiovascular	3,104	4,324	4,367
Digestive	13,171	15,693	14,501
Personal care	6,073	8,817	8,908
Weight management	2,573	3,321	2,172
	50,274	62,747	57,853
Synergy WorldWide:			
General health	\$ 46,546	\$ 36,723	\$ 33,969
Immunity	974	1,394	1,104
Cardiovascular	42,449	42,154	42,696
Digestive	20,839	16,897	14,904
Personal care	7,196	7,097	5,631
Weight management	10,097	4,025	2,366
	128,101	108,290	100,670
China and New Markets:			
General health	\$ 1,566	\$ 1,306	\$ 1,180
Immunity	445	367	319
Cardiovascular	235	211	188
Digestive	835	726	632
Personal care	83	74	70
Weight management	203	181	120
	3,367	2,865	2,509
Total net sales revenue	\$ 366,367	\$ 369,826	\$ 360,826

From an individual country perspective, only the United States and Venezuela comprise 10 percent or more of consolidated property, plant and equipment as follows:

As of December 31	2014	2013
Property, plant and equipment		
United States	\$ 48,013	\$ 25,713
Venezuela		3,207
Other	3,330	3,102
Total property, plant and equipment	\$ 51,343	\$ 32,022

Due to the continual currency devaluation of the Venezuelan bolivar, as of September 30, 2014, the Company incurred a \$2,947 impairment charge to write down the value of its fixed assets in Venezuela to \$0.

NOTE 15: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company maintains split-dollar life insurance policies on certain executives. The cash surrender value of \$48 and \$48 related to such policies is recorded in other assets as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Mr. Eugene Hughes, a former member of the Company's Board of Directors and a shareholder, retired as an employee of the Company effective as of December 22, 2008. Prior to his retirement, the Company and Mr. Hughes entered into a Retirement and Consulting Agreement, dated as of December 9, 2008, pursuant to which Mr. Hughes provides consulting services to the Company for

Table of Contents

an initial term of eight years following his retirement. In exchange for such consulting services, Mr. Hughes will receive an annual compensation of \$215 for the first two years of service, and an annual compensation of \$100 for the remainder of the initial term.

NOTE 16: FAIR VALUE

The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount that could be received upon the sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Financial assets are marked to bid prices and financial liabilities are marked to offer prices. Fair value measurements do not include transaction costs. A fair value hierarchy is used to prioritize the quality and reliability of the information used to determine fair values of each financial instrument. Categorization within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The fair value hierarchy is defined into the following three categories:

Level 1: Quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2: Observable market based inputs or unobservable inputs that are corroborated by market data.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs that are not corroborated by market data.

The following table presents the Company's hierarchy for its asset measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2014:

	Level 1 Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets	Level 2 Significant Other Observable Inputs	Level 3 Significant Unobservable Inputs	Total
Investments available-for-sale				
Municipal obligations	\$	\$ 101	\$	101
U.S. government security funds	1,776			1,776
Equity securities	669			669
Investment securities	1,038			1,038
Total assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis	\$ 3,483	\$ 101	\$	3,584

The following table presents the Company's hierarchy for its asset measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2013:

	Level 1 Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets	Level 2 Significant Other Observable Inputs	Level 3 Significant Unobservable Inputs	Total
Investments available-for-sale				
Municipal obligations	\$	\$ 415	\$	415

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

U.S. government security funds	983	983
Equity securities	608	608
Investment securities	971	971
Total assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis	\$ 2,562 \$ 415 \$ 2,977	

Investments available-for-sale The majority of the Company's investment portfolio consist of various securities such as state and municipal obligations, U.S. government security funds, short-term deposits and various equity securities. The Level 1 securities are valued using quoted prices for identical assets in active markets including equity securities and U.S. government treasuries. The Level 2 securities include investments in state and municipal obligations whereby all significant inputs are observable or can be derived from or corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the asset.

Investment securities The majority of the Company's trading portfolio consists of various marketable securities that are valued using quoted prices in active markets.

For the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, there were no fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3).

Table of Contents**NOTE 17: SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY OPERATIONS UNAUDITED**

The following tables presents the Company's unaudited summary of quarterly operations during 2014 and 2013 for each of three month periods ended March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31.

	For the Quarter Ended			
	March 31, 2014	June 30, 2014	September 30, 2014	December 31, 2014
Net sales revenue	\$ 93,467	\$ 92,831	\$ 93,406	\$ 86,663
Cost of sales	(22,581)	(22,793)	(22,742)	(23,468)
Gross profit	70,886	70,038	70,664	63,195
Volume incentives	34,893	34,270	34,918	31,727
Selling, general and administrative	29,152	29,941	30,200	30,634
Operating income	6,841	5,827	5,546	834
Other income (expense)	(262)	(79)	(42)	349
Income from continuing operations				
before income taxes	6,579	5,748	5,504	1,183
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	(3,657)	2,198	407	309
Net income from continuing operations	10,236	3,550	5,097	874
Loss from discontinued operations	(571)	(316)	(4,106)	(4,964)
Net income (loss)	9,665	3,234	991	(4,090)
Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests			(26)	(193)
Net income (loss) attributable to common shareholders	\$ 9,665	\$ 3,234	\$ 1,017	\$ (3,897)
Basic and diluted net income per common share				
Basic:				
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.05
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ (0.03)	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.24)	\$ (0.26)
Net income (loss) attributable to common shareholders	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.06	\$ (0.21)
Diluted:				
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 0.61	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.05
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ (0.03)	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.23)	\$ (0.25)
Net income (loss) attributable to common shareholders	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.06	\$ (0.20)
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	\$ 1.60	\$ 0.10

Table of Contents

	For the Quarter Ended			
	March 31, 2013	June 30, 2013	September 30, 2013	December 31, 2013
Net sales revenue	\$ 94,375	\$ 91,782	\$ 90,405	\$ 93,264
Cost of sales	(23,741)	(22,075)	(22,917)	(23,611)
Gross profit	70,634	69,707	67,488	69,653
Volume incentives	34,182	33,838	33,203	34,293
Selling, general and administrative	29,522	28,068	27,773	33,020
Operating income	6,930	7,801	6,512	2,340
Other income (expense)	438	1,522	(216)	249
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	7,368	9,323	6,296	2,589
Provision for income taxes	2,302	3,235	1,610	776
Net income from continuing operations	5,066	6,088	4,686	1,813
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	(202)	(36)	164	30
Net income	4,864	6,052	4,850	1,843
Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests				
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 4,864	\$ 6,052	\$ 4,850	\$ 1,843
Basic and diluted net income per common share				
Basic:				
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.11
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ (0.01)	\$	\$ 0.01	\$
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.11
Diluted:				
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.11
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ (0.01)	\$	\$ 0.01	\$
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.11
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	\$ 1.60	\$ 0.10

Basic and diluted income per share is computed independently for each of the quarters presented. Therefore, the sum of the quarterly net loss per share may not equal the total computed for the year.

Table of Contents

Item 9. Change In and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

None.

Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

This report includes the certifications of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer required by Rule 13a-14 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act). See Exhibits 31.1 and 31.2. This Item 9A includes information concerning the controls and control evaluations referred to in those certifications.

Overview

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal controls over financial reporting for the Company.

The following discussion sets forth a summary of management's evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of December 31, 2014. In addition, this item provides a discussion of management's evaluation of internal control over financial reporting.

Our independent registered public accountants have also issued an audit report on our internal control over financial reporting. This report appears below.

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act) are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in rules and forms adopted by the SEC, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to management, including the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

In connection with the preparation of our Annual Report as of December 31, 2014, our management, under the supervision and with the participation of the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of December 31, 2014. Based on that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of December 31, 2014.

Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting based on the framework set forth in *Internal Control Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on management's assessment under this framework, management has concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2014. Our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014 has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report which is included herein.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act) that occurred during the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2014, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Table of Contents

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of Nature's Sunshine Products, Inc.:

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of Nature's Sunshine Products, Inc. and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 31, 2014, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. 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, included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit 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. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, the company's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, and effected by the company's board of directors, management, and other personnel 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 (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) 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 (3) 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 the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014, based on the criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated financial statements and consolidated financial statement schedule as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014 of the Company and our report dated March 12, 2015 expressed an unqualified (which included an explanatory paragraph relating to the Company's discontinued operations in Venezuela) opinion on those consolidated financial statements and consolidated financial statement schedule.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Salt Lake City, Utah
March 12, 2015

Table of Contents

Item 9B. Other Information

None.

PART III

Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to our definitive proxy statement to be filed with the SEC no later than 120 days after the close of our fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, except that the information required with respect to our executive officers is set forth under Item 1. Business, of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 11. Executive Compensation

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to our definitive proxy statement to be filed with the SEC no later than 120 days after the close of our fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters.

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to our definitive proxy statement to be filed with the SEC no later than 120 days after the close of our fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions and Director Independence

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to our definitive proxy statement to be filed with the SEC no later than 120 days after the close of our fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services.

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to our definitive proxy statement to be filed with the SEC no later than 120 days after the close of our fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

PART IV

Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules

(a)(1) List of Financial Statements

The following are filed as part of this report:

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2014 and 2013

Consolidated statements of operations for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012

Consolidated statements of comprehensive income for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012

Consolidated statements of changes in shareholders' equity for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012

Consolidated statements of cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012

Notes to consolidated financial statements

(a)(2) List of Financial Statement Schedules

Schedule II - Valuation and Qualifying Accounts.

Financial statement schedules other than the one listed are omitted for the reason that they are not required or are not applicable, or the required information is shown in the financial statements or notes thereto, or contained elsewhere in this report.

(a)(3) List of Exhibits

Exhibit Index as seen below

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.

Nature s Sunshine Products, Inc.

Date: **March 12, 2015**

By: /s/ Gregory L. Probert

Gregory L. Probert,
Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board

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 and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ Gregory L. Probert Gregory L. Probert	Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board (Principal Executive Officer)	March 12, 2015
/s/ Kristine F. Hughes Kristine F. Hughes	Vice Chair of the Board	March 12, 2015
/s/ Stephen M. Bunker Stephen M. Bunker	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	March 12, 2015
/s/ Albert R. Dowden Albert R. Dowden	Director	March 12, 2015
/s/ Robert B. Mercer Robert B. Mercer	Director	March 12, 2015
/s/ Willem Mesdag Willem Mesdag	Director	March 12, 2015
/s/ Jeffrey D. Watkins Jeffrey D. Watkins	Director	March 12, 2015
/s/ Mary Beth Springer Mary Beth Springer	Director	March 12, 2015
/s/ Li Dongjiu Li Dongjiu	Director	March 12, 2015

Edgar Filing: NATURES SUNSHINE PRODUCTS INC - Form 10-K

/s/ Rebecca Lee Steinfort
Rebecca Lee Steinfort

Director

March 12, 2015

Table of Contents**NATURE'S SUNSHINE PRODUCTS, INC.****SCHEDULE II VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS****FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014, 2013, AND 2012***(Amounts in thousands)*

Description	Balance at Beginning of Year	Provisions	Amounts Written Off	Amounts Recovered	Effect of Currency Translation	Balance at End of Year
Year ended December 31, 2014						
Allowance for doubtful accounts receivable	\$ 1,087	\$ (121)	\$ (75)	\$ 4	\$ (46)	\$ 849
Allowance for sales returns	135	1,527	(1,525)		(8)	129
Allowance for obsolete inventory	2,407	1,503	(1,666)	1	(57)	2,188
Tax valuation allowance	11,340	1,829				13,169
Year ended December 31, 2013						
Allowance for doubtful accounts receivable	\$ 631	\$ 535	\$ (18)	\$ 1	\$ (62)	\$ 1,087
Allowance for sales returns	154	1,435	(1,454)			135
Allowance for obsolete inventory	2,254	1,600	(1,577)	41	89	2,407
Tax valuation allowance	8,149	3,191				11,340
Year ended December 31, 2012						
Allowance for doubtful accounts receivable	\$ 647	\$ 45	\$ (86)	\$ (1)	\$ 26	\$ 631
Allowance for sales returns	109	2,296	(2,249)		(2)	154
Allowance for obsolete inventory	2,083	985	(809)		(5)	2,254
Tax valuation allowance	9,836	(1,687)				8,149

Table of Contents

LIST OF EXHIBITS

Item No.	Exhibit
3.1(1)	Adjusted and Adjusted Articles of Incorporation.
3.2(1)	Adjusted and Adjusted By-laws.
10.1(14)*	Nature s Sunshine Products, Inc. Tax Deferred Retirement Plan, Restated January 1, 2012.
10.2(1)*	Nature s Sunshine Products, Inc. Supplemental Elective Deferral Plan, as Adjusted effective as of January 1, 2008.
10.6(3)*	Employment Agreement, dated as of December 21, 2007, between Nature s Sunshine Products, Inc. and Stephen M. Bunker.
10.7(2)*	Amendment to Employment Agreement, dated as of December 30, 2008, by and between Nature s Sunshine Products, Inc. and Stephen M. Bunker.
10.11(4)*	Retirement and Consulting Agreement, dated as of December 9, 2008, by and between Nature s Sunshine Products, Inc. and Eugene Hughes.
10.14(5)	2009 Stock Incentive Plan
10.15(9)*	Form of Award Agreement (2009 Stock Incentive Plan)
10.19(13)*	Employment Agreement, dated February 11, 2014, by and between the Company and Gregory L. Probert
10.20(7)*	Stock Option Agreement, dated June 17, 2011, by and between the Company and Gregory L. Probert
10.21(8)*	Employment Agreement, dated January 25, 2012, by and between the Company and D. Wynne Roberts
10.22(8)*	Stock Option Agreement, dated February 6, 2012, by and between the Company and D. Wynne Roberts
10.23(11)	2012 Stock Incentive Plan and Amendment 1
10.24(11)*	Form of Award Agreement (2012 Stock Incentive Plan)
10.25(9)*	Amendment to Employment Agreement, dated March 4, 2013, by and between the Company and Gregory L. Probert
10.26(9)*	Consulting Agreement, dated March 4, 2013, by and between the Company and Michael D. Dean
10.27(9)*	Amendment to Employment Agreement, dated March 4, 2013, by and between the Company and Michael D. Dean
10.28(12)*	Amendment to Employment Agreement, dated October 1, 2013, by and between the Company and Gregory L. Probert
10.29(10)*	Employment Agreement, dated October 2, 2013, by and between the Company and Richard D. Strulson
10.30(10)*	Stock Option Agreement, dated November 4, 2013, by and between the Company and Richard D. Strulson
10.31(10)*	Employment Agreement, dated April 16, 2013, by and between the Company and Matthew L. Tripp
10.32(10)*	Stock Option Agreement, dated May 6, 2013, by and between the Company and Matthew L. Tripp
10.33(14)*	Employment Agreement, dated October 13, 2014, by and between the Company and Paul E. Noack
10.34(14)*	Stock Option Agreement, dated January 15, 2015, by and between the Company and Paul E. Noack
10.35(14)*	Employment Agreement, dated March 4, 2013, by and between the Company and Susan M. Armstrong
10.36(14)*	Stock Option Agreement, dated February 11, 2014, by and between the Company and Susan M. Armstrong
14(1)	Nature s Sunshine Products, Inc. Code of Conduct.
21(14)	List of Subsidiaries of Registrant.
23.1(14)	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.
31.1(14)	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Adjusted.
31.2(14)	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Adjusted.
32.1(14)	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350.
32.2(14)	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350.
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document

Table of Contents

-
- (1) Previously filed with the SEC on November 9, 2009, as an exhibit to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2010 and is incorporated herein by reference.
 - (2) Previously filed with the SEC on January 12, 2009, as an exhibit to the Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.
 - (3) Previously filed with the SEC on December 31, 2007, as an exhibit to the Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.
 - (4) Previously filed with the SEC on February 12, 2009, as an exhibit to the registration statement on Form 10 and is incorporated herein by reference.
 - (5) Previously filed with the SEC on October 19, 2009 as Appendix C, an exhibit to the Registrant's Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.
 - (6) Filed with the SEC on March 16, 2010, as an exhibit to the Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.
 - (7) Filed with the SEC on June 22, 2011, as an exhibit to the Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.
 - (8) Filed with the SEC on February 23, 2011, as an exhibit to the Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.
 - (9) Filed with the SEC on March 8, 2013, as an exhibit to the Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.
 - (10) Filed with the SEC on March 17, 2014, as an exhibit to the Current Report on Form 10-K and is incorporated herein by reference.
 - (11) Filed with the SEC on January 15, 2015, as an exhibit to the Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.
 - (12) Filed with the SEC on October 4, 2013, as an exhibit to the Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.
 - (13) Filed with the SEC on February 19, 2015, as an exhibit to the Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.
 - (14) Filed herewith.

* Management contract or compensatory plan.