

SMITH A O CORP  
Form 10-Q  
November 09, 2015  
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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 10-Q**

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

**For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2015.**

**or**

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

**For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_**

**Commission File Number 1-475**

**A. O. Smith Corporation**

**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

**Delaware**  
**(State or other jurisdiction of**  
**incorporation or organization)**

**39-0619790**  
**(I.R.S. Employer**  
**Identification No.)**

**11270 West Park Place, Milwaukee, Wisconsin**  
**(Address of principal executive office)**

**53224-9508**  
**(Zip Code)**

**(414) 359-4000**

**(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)**

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated Filer

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

Smaller reporting company

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

Class A Common Stock Outstanding as of October 30, 2015 13,129,626 shares

Common Stock Outstanding as of October 30, 2015 74,890,632 shares

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**A. O. Smith Corporation**

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## A. O. SMITH CORPORATION

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS

(dollars in millions, except per share data)

(unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Net sales	\$ 625.1	\$ 581.6	\$ 1,897.1	\$ 1,729.2
Cost of products sold	368.4	366.3	1,147.9	1,101.8
Gross profit	256.7	215.3	749.2	627.4
Selling, general and administrative expenses	150.1	145.5	457.6	413.8
Interest expense	1.6	1.5	6.0	4.3
Other income	(2.2)	(1.0)	(7.6)	(3.5)
	107.2	69.3	293.2	212.8
Provision for income taxes	33.6	18.7	90.1	58.2
Net Earnings	\$ 73.6	\$ 50.6	\$ 203.1	\$ 154.6
Net Earnings Per Share of Common Stock	\$ 0.83	\$ 0.56	\$ 2.28	\$ 1.71
Diluted Net Earnings Per Share of Common Stock	\$ 0.82	\$ 0.56	\$ 2.26	\$ 1.69
Dividends Per Share of Common Stock	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.57	\$ 0.45

## A. O. SMITH CORPORATION

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE EARNINGS

(dollars in millions)

(unaudited)

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	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Net earnings	\$ 73.6	\$ 50.6	\$ 203.1	\$ 154.6
Other comprehensive (loss) earnings				
Foreign currency translation adjustments	(17.8)	(1.5)	(28.0)	(9.2)
Unrealized net gains on cash flow derivative instruments, less related income tax provision of \$(0.4) and \$(0.4) in 2015, \$(0.4) and \$ in 2014	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.1
Adjustment to pension liability, less related income tax provision of \$(1.8) and \$(5.7) in 2015 and \$(3.3) and \$(9.9) in 2014	2.7	5.2	8.9	13.7
Comprehensive Earnings	\$ 59.1	\$ 55.0	\$ 184.6	\$ 159.2

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

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## A. O. SMITH CORPORATION

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(dollars in millions, except share data)

	(unaudited)	
	September 30, 2015	December 31, 2014
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 282.9	\$ 319.4
Marketable securities	323.5	222.5
Receivables	479.0	475.4
Inventories	239.0	208.3
Deferred income taxes	43.1	40.5
Other current assets	46.3	52.9
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>1,413.8</b>	<b>1,319.0</b>
Property, plant and equipment	855.5	815.9
Less accumulated depreciation	416.7	388.2
Net property, plant and equipment	438.8	427.7
Goodwill	422.5	428.8
Other intangibles	295.1	308.5
Other assets	30.0	31.3
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,600.2</b>	<b>\$ 2,515.3</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Trade payables	\$ 395.8	\$ 393.8
Accrued payroll and benefits	71.5	70.3
Accrued liabilities	100.9	85.1
Product warranties	42.8	42.3
Long-term debt due within one year	13.1	13.7
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>624.1</b>	<b>605.2</b>
Long-term debt	247.7	210.1

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Pension liabilities	118.2	133.1
Other liabilities	187.8	185.6
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,177.8</b>	<b>1,134.0</b>
<b>Stockholders Equity</b>		
Class A Common Stock, \$5 par value: authorized 14,000,000 shares; issued 13,199,478 and 13,220,470	66.0	66.1
Common Stock, \$1 par value: authorized 120,000,000 shares; issued 82,154,318 and 82,133,326	82.2	82.1
Capital in excess of par value	613.8	600.1
Retained earnings	1,287.7	1,135.5
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(290.5)	(272.0)
Treasury stock at cost	(336.8)	(230.5)
<b>Total Stockholders Equity</b>	<b>1,422.4</b>	<b>1,381.3</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Stockholders Equity</b>	<b>\$ 2,600.2</b>	<b>\$ 2,515.3</b>

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

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## A. O. SMITH CORPORATION

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(dollars in millions)

(unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014
<b>Operating Activities</b>		
Net earnings	\$ 203.1	\$ 154.6
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	47.3	44.4
Pension expense	0.1	19.8
Loss on disposal of assets	0.3	0.2
Net changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of acquisitions:		
Current assets and liabilities	(14.8)	(53.8)
Noncurrent assets and liabilities	(3.7)	0.1
<b>Cash Provided by Operating Activities - continuing operations</b>	<b>232.3</b>	<b>165.3</b>
<b>Cash Used in Operating Activities - discontinued operations</b>	<b>(1.0)</b>	<b>(1.5)</b>
<b>Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>231.3</b>	<b>163.8</b>
<b>Investing Activities</b>		
Capital expenditures	(53.1)	(66.0)
Investments in marketable securities	(322.2)	(149.1)
Net proceeds from sale of marketable securities	213.8	129.7
<b>Cash Used in Investing Activities</b>	<b>(161.5)</b>	<b>(85.4)</b>
<b>Financing Activities</b>		
Long-term debt incurred	39.4	64.3
Common stock repurchases	(104.3)	(86.6)
Net proceeds from stock option activity	9.5	4.7
Dividends paid	(50.9)	(41.0)
<b>Cash Used in Financing Activities</b>	<b>(106.3)</b>	<b>(58.6)</b>



Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(36.5)	19.8
Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of period	319.4	380.7
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents - End of Period</b>	<b>\$ 282.9</b>	<b>\$ 400.5</b>

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

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**PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**ITEM 1 - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**A. O. SMITH CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**September 30, 2015**

**(unaudited)**

**1. Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP) for interim financial information and pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Operating results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 are not necessarily indicative of the results expected for the full year. It is suggested that the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included in the Company's latest Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on February 17, 2015.

*Recent Accounting Pronouncements*

In April 2015, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) amended Accounting Standard Codification (ASC) 835-30, *Interest - Imputation of Interest* (issued under Accounting Standards No. 2015-03). This amendment to ASC 835-30 requires that debt issuance costs related to a recognized debt liability be presented in the balance sheet as a direct deduction from the carrying amount of that debt liability, consistent with debt discounts. The recognition and measurement guidance for debt issuance costs is not affected by this amendment. The amendment is effective for periods beginning January 1, 2016 and requires using a retrospective approach. The Company does not expect the adoption of amended ASC 835-30 will have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASC 606-10, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (issued under Accounting Standards No. 2014-09). ASC 606-10 will replace all existing revenue recognition guidance when effective. On July 9, 2015, the FASB approved a one year deferral of the effective date, with application permitted as of the original effective date, or periods beginning January 1, 2017. Either full retrospective adoption or modified retrospective adoption is allowed under ASC 606-10. The Company is in the process of determining whether the adoption of ASC 606-10 will have an impact on the Company's consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

**2. Inventories**

The following table presents the components of the Company's inventory balances:

(dollars in millions)

	September 30, 2015	December 31, 2014
Finished products	\$ 106.8	\$ 100.2
Work in process	13.9	10.7
Raw materials	138.2	121.3
Inventories, at FIFO cost	258.9	232.2
LIFO reserve	(19.9)	(23.9)
Net inventory	\$ 239.0	\$ 208.3

**Table of Contents****3. Product Warranties**

The Company offers warranties on the sales of certain of its products and records an accrual for the estimated future claims. The following table presents the Company's warranty liability activity.

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014
Balance at July 1,	\$ 138.3	\$ 136.4
Expense	14.9	14.6
Claims settled	(14.4)	(14.8)
Balance at September 30,	\$ 138.8	\$ 136.2

  

(dollars in millions)	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014
Balance at January 1,	\$ 136.2	\$ 136.6
Expense	47.4	46.9
Claims settled	(44.8)	(47.3)
Balance at September 30,	\$ 138.8	\$ 136.2

**4. Long-Term Debt**

The Company has a \$400 million multi-currency revolving credit agreement with eight banks, which expires on December 12, 2017. The facility has an accordion provision which allows it to be increased up to \$500 million if certain conditions (including lender approval) are satisfied.

Borrowings under bank credit lines and commercial paper borrowings are supported by the \$400 million revolving credit agreement. As a result of the long-term nature of this facility, the Company's commercial paper and credit line borrowings are classified as long-term debt at September 30, 2015.

On January 15, 2015, the Company issued \$75 million in term notes to an insurance company. Principal payments commence in 2020 and the notes mature in 2030. The notes have an interest rate of 3.52 percent. The proceeds of the notes were used to pay down borrowings under the Company's revolving credit facility.

**Table of Contents****5. Earnings per Share of Common Stock**

The numerator for the calculation of basic and diluted earnings per share is net earnings. The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted weighted-average shares used in the earnings per share calculations:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Denominator for basic earnings per share weighted average shares	88,698,196	89,945,464	89,088,565	90,559,459
Effect of dilutive stock options and share units	671,378	660,286	695,857	680,671
Denominator for diluted earnings per share	89,369,574	90,605,750	89,784,422	91,240,130

**6. Stock Based Compensation**

The Company adopted the A. O. Smith Combined Incentive Compensation Plan (the Plan) effective January 1, 2007. Stockholders reapproved the Plan on April 16, 2012. The Plan is a continuation of the A. O. Smith Combined Executive Incentive Compensation Plan which was originally approved by stockholders in 2002. The number of shares available for granting of options, restricted stock or share units under the Plan at September 30, 2015 was 1,994,409. Upon stock option exercise or share unit vesting, shares are issued from treasury stock.

Total stock based compensation cost recognized in the three months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 was \$1.0 million and \$1.8 million, respectively. Total stock based compensation cost recognized in the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 was \$7.7 million and \$9.6 million, respectively.

*Stock Options*

The stock options granted in the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 have three year pro rata vesting from the date of grant. Stock options are issued at exercise prices equal to the fair value of Common Stock on the date of grant. For active employees, all options granted in 2015 and 2014 expire ten years after date of grant. The Company's stock options are expensed ratably over the three-year vesting period; however, included in the stock option expense for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 is expense associated with the accelerated vesting of stock option awards for certain employees who either are retirement eligible or become retirement eligible during the vesting period. Stock based compensation cost attributable to stock options in the three months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 was \$0.5 million and \$0.8 million, respectively. Stock based compensation expense attributable to stock options in the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 was \$3.5 million and \$4.5 million, respectively.

**Table of Contents****6. Stock Based Compensation (continued)**

Changes in option awards, all of which relate to Common Stock, were as follows for the nine months ended September 30, 2015:

	Weighted-Average Per Share Exercise Price	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015	Average Remaining Contractual Life	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (dollars in millions)
Outstanding at January 1, 2015	\$ 27.50	1,577,003		
Granted	61.53	242,495		
Exercised	21.89	(365,093)		
Forfeited	34.10	(2,265)		
Outstanding at September 30, 2015	34.54	1,452,140	7 years	\$ 44.5
Exercisable at September 30, 2015	\$ 24.65	905,136	6 years	\$ 36.7

The weighted-average fair value per option at the date of grant during the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model was \$17.17 and \$16.55, respectively. Assumptions were as follows:

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014
Expected life (years)	5.9	6.0
Risk-free interest rate	2.0%	2.7%
Dividend yield	1.0%	1.1%
Expected volatility	29.3%	36.6%

The expected life is based on historical exercise behavior and the projected exercise of unexercised stock options. The risk free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect on the date of grant for the expected life of the option. The actual dividend yield is based on the actual annual dividends divided by the grant date market value of the Company's Common Stock. The expected volatility is based on the historical volatility of the Company's Common Stock.

*Stock Appreciations Rights (SARs)*

Certain non-U.S.-based employees are granted SARs. Each SAR award grants the employee the right to receive cash equal to the excess of the share price of the Common Stock on the date that a participant exercises such right over the

grant date price of the stock. SARs granted in the nine months ended September 30, 2015 have three year pro rata vesting from the date of grant. SARs are issued at exercise prices equal to the fair value of Common Stock on the date of grant and expire ten years from the date of grant. Compensation expense for SARs is remeasured at each reporting period based on the estimated fair value on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model, using assumptions similar to stock option awards. SARs are subsequently remeasured at each interim reporting period based on a revised Black-Scholes value. In the first nine months of 2015, the Company granted 13,115 cash-settled SARs and no SARs were exercisable. Stock based compensation expense attributable to SARS was minimal in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015.

**Table of Contents****6. Stock Based Compensation (continued)***Restricted Stock and Share Units*

Participants may also be awarded shares of restricted stock or share units under the Plan. The Company granted 76,035 and 110,605 share units under the Plan in the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The share units were valued at \$4.7 million and \$5.1 million at the dates of issuance in 2015 and 2014, respectively, based on the Company's stock price at the dates of grant. The Company's share units are recognized as compensation expense ratably over the three year vesting period; however, included in share unit expense in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 is expense associated with accelerated vesting of share unit awards for certain employees who either are retirement eligible or will become retirement eligible during the vesting period. Share based compensation expense attributable to share units of \$0.5 million and \$1.0 million was recognized in the three months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Stock based compensation expense attributable to share units of \$4.2 million and \$5.1 million was recognized in the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Certain non-U.S.-based employees receive the cash value of vested shares at the vesting date in lieu of shares.

A summary of share unit activity under the plan for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 is as follows:

	Number of Units	Weighted-Average Grant Date Value
Issued and unvested at January 1, 2015	416,289	\$ 33.06
Granted	76,035	61.57
Vested	(154,748)	22.90
Forfeited	(1,060)	43.77
Issued and unvested at September 30, 2015	336,516	\$ 44.15

**7. Pensions**

The following table presents the components of the Company's net pension expense:

(dollars in millions)

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Service cost	\$ 0.5	\$ 2.0	\$ 1.5	\$ 5.9



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Interest cost	9.4	11.2	28.2	33.6
Expected return on plan assets	(14.3)	(15.1)	(43.1)	(45.3)
Amortization of unrecognized loss	4.8	8.8	14.3	26.4
Amortization of prior service cost	(0.3)	(0.3)	(0.8)	(0.8)
Defined benefit plan expense	\$ 0.1	\$ 6.6	\$ 0.1	\$ 19.8

The Company's pension plan sunset for the majority of its employees on December 31, 2014.

The Company did not make a contribution to its U.S. pension plan in 2014. The Company is not required to make a contribution and does not intend to make a voluntary contribution in 2015.

**Table of Contents****8. Operations by Segment**

The Company is comprised of two reporting segments: North America and Rest of World. The Rest of World segment is primarily comprised of China, Europe and India. Both segments manufacture and market comprehensive lines of residential and commercial gas, gas tankless and electric water heaters. Both segments primarily manufacture and market in their respective regions of the world. The North America segment also manufactures and globally markets specialty commercial water heating equipment, condensing and non-condensing boilers and water system tanks. The Rest of World segment also manufactures and markets water treatment products and markets air purifier products, primarily in Asia.

The Company's operations by segment are as follows:

(dollars in millions)

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Net sales				
North America	\$ 417.4	\$ 392.4	\$ 1,289.3	\$ 1,191.0
Rest of World	217.1	198.5	634.3	564.9
Inter-segment sales	(9.4)	(9.3)	(26.5)	(26.7)
	\$ 625.1	\$ 581.6	\$ 1,897.1	\$ 1,729.2
Operating earnings				
North America	\$ 90.5	\$ 53.0	\$ 247.7	\$ 171.5
Rest of World	27.4	30.0	84.5	84.3
	117.9	83.0	332.2	255.8
Corporate expense	9.1	12.2	33.0	38.7
Interest expense	1.6	1.5	6.0	4.3
Earnings before income taxes	107.2	69.3	293.2	212.8
Provision for income taxes	33.6	18.7	90.1	58.2
Net earnings	\$ 73.6	\$ 50.6	\$ 203.1	\$ 154.6

**9. Fair Value Measurements**

ASC 820, *Fair Value Measures and Disclosures*, among other things, defines fair value, establishes a consistent framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosure for each major asset and liability category measured at fair value on either a recurring basis or nonrecurring basis. ASC 820 clarifies that fair value is an exit price, representing the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. As such, fair value is a market-based measurement that should be determined based on assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability. As a basis for considering such

assumptions, ASC 820 establishes a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value as follows: (Level 1) observable inputs such as quoted prices in active markets; (Level 2) inputs, other than the quoted prices in active markets, that are observable either directly or indirectly; and (Level 3) unobservable inputs in which there is little or no market data, which require the reporting entity to develop its own assumptions. Assets and liabilities measured at fair value are based on the market approach which are prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets or liabilities.

**Table of Contents****9. Fair Value Measurements (continued)**

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis are as follows:

(dollars in millions)	September 30, 2015	December 31, 2014
Fair Value Measurement Using		
Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1)	\$ 326.2	\$ 224.1
Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	(0.3)	(0.2)
<b>Total assets measured at fair value</b>	<b>\$ 325.9</b>	<b>\$ 223.9</b>

There were no changes in the Company's valuation techniques used to measure fair values on a recurring basis during the nine months ended September 30, 2015.

**10. Derivative Instruments**

ASC 815 *Derivatives and Hedging* as amended, requires that all derivative instruments be recorded on the balance sheet at fair value and establishes criteria for designation and effectiveness of the hedging relationships. The accounting for changes in the fair value of a derivative instrument depends on whether it has been designated and qualifies as a part of a hedging relationship and, further, on the type of hedging relationship. For those derivative instruments that are designated and qualify as hedging instruments, the Company must designate the hedging instrument, based upon the exposure hedged, as a fair value hedge, cash flow hedge, or a hedge of a net investment in a foreign operation.

The Company designates that all of its hedging instruments are cash flow hedges. For derivative instruments that are designated and qualify as a cash flow hedge (i.e., hedging the exposure to variability in expected future cash flows that is attributable to a particular risk), the effective portion of the gain or loss on the derivative instrument is reported as a component of other comprehensive loss, net of tax, and is reclassified into earnings in the same line item associated with the forecasted transaction and in the same period or periods during which the hedged transaction affects earnings. The amount by which the cumulative change in the value of the hedge more than offsets the cumulative change in the value of the hedged item (i.e., the ineffective portion) is recorded in earnings, net of tax, in the period the ineffectiveness occurs.

The Company utilizes certain derivative instruments to enhance its ability to manage currency as well as raw materials price risk. Derivative instruments are entered into for periods consistent with the related underlying exposures and do not constitute positions independent of those exposures. The Company does not enter into contracts for speculative purposes. The contracts are executed with major financial institutions with no credit loss anticipated for failure of the counterparties to perform.

*Foreign Currency Forward Contracts*

The Company is exposed to foreign currency exchange risk as a result of transactions in currencies other than the functional currency of certain subsidiaries. The Company utilizes foreign currency forward purchase and sale contracts to manage the volatility associated with foreign currency purchases, sales and certain intercompany transactions in the normal course of business. Currencies for which the Company utilizes foreign currency forward contracts include the British pound, Canadian dollar, Euro and Mexican peso.

**Table of Contents****10. Derivative Instruments (continued)**

Gains and losses on these instruments are recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of tax, until the underlying transaction is recorded in earnings. When the hedged item is realized, gains or losses are reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss to the statement of earnings. The assessment of effectiveness for forward contracts is based on changes in the forward rates. These hedges have been determined to be effective.

The majority of the amounts in accumulated other comprehensive loss for cash flow hedges is expected to be reclassified into earnings within one year and all of the hedges will be reclassified into earnings no later than December 31, 2016.

The following table summarizes, by currency, the contractual amounts of the Company's foreign currency forward contracts:

(dollars in millions)

	September 30,			
	2015		2014	
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
British pound	\$	\$ 1.1	\$	\$ 1.3
Canadian dollar		64.9		85.9
Euro	9.2	1.9	17.0	1.4
Mexican peso	16.9		11.5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 26.1</b>	<b>\$ 67.9</b>	<b>\$ 28.5</b>	<b>\$ 88.6</b>

*Commodity Futures Contracts*

In addition to entering into supply arrangements in the normal course of business, the Company also enters into futures contracts to fix the cost of certain raw material purchases, principally copper, with the objective of minimizing changes in cost due to market price fluctuations. The hedging strategy for achieving this objective is to purchase commodity futures contracts on the open market of the London Metals Exchange (LME) or over the counter contracts based on the LME.

The minimal after-tax loss on the effective portion of the contracts as of September 30, 2015 was recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss and will be reclassified into cost of products sold in the period in which the underlying transaction is recorded in earnings. The effective portion of the contracts will be reclassified within one year. Commodity hedges outstanding at September 30, 2015 involve a total of approximately 1.4 million pounds of copper.

**Table of Contents****10. Derivative Instruments (continued)**

The impact of derivative contracts on the Company's financial statements is as follows:

Fair value of derivatives designated as hedging instruments under ASC 815:

(dollars in millions)

	Balance Sheet Location	September 30, 2015	December 31, 2014
Foreign currency contracts	Other current assets	\$ 5.8	\$ 4.6
	Accrued liabilities	(3.0)	(3.0)
Commodities contracts	Accrued liabilities	(0.3)	(0.2)
Total derivatives designated as hedging instruments		\$ 2.5	\$ 1.4

The effect of derivatives designated as hedging instruments on the statement of earnings is as follows:

Three Months Ended September 30 (dollars in millions):

	Amount of gain (loss) recognized in OCI on derivative (effective portion) 2015	Amount of gain (loss) recognized in OCI on derivative (effective portion) 2014	Location of gain (loss) reclassified from accumulated OCI into earnings (effective portion)	Amount of gain (loss) reclassified from accumulated OCI into earnings (effective portion) 2015	Amount of gain (loss) reclassified from accumulated OCI into earnings (effective portion) 2014	Location of gain (loss) recognized in earnings on derivative (ineffective portion)	Amount of gain (loss) recognized in earnings on a derivative (ineffective portion) 2015	Amount of gain (loss) recognized in earnings on a derivative (ineffective portion) 2014
Derivatives in ASC 815 cash flow hedging relationships								
Foreign currency contracts	\$ 3.0	\$ 1.8	Cost of products sold	\$ 1.9	\$ 0.7	N/A	\$	\$
Commodities contracts	(0.2)		Cost of products sold	(0.1)		Cost of products sold		
	\$ 2.8	\$ 1.8		\$ 1.8	\$ 0.7		\$	\$

Nine Months Ended September 30 (dollars in millions):

	Amount of gain (loss) recognized in OCI on derivative (effective portion)		Location of gain (loss) reclassified from accumulated OCI into earnings (effective portion)	Amount of gain (loss) reclassified from accumulated OCI into earnings (effective portion)		Location of gain (loss) recognized in earnings on derivative (ineffective portion)	Amount of gain (loss) recognized in earnings on a derivative (ineffective portion)	
	2015	2014		2015	2014		2015	2014
Derivatives in ASC 815 cash flow hedging relationships								
Foreign currency contracts	\$ 5.7	\$ 2.6	Cost of products sold		\$ 4.6	\$ 2.5	N/A	\$ \$
Commodities contracts		(0.5)	Cost of products sold		(0.3)		Cost of products sold	
	\$ 5.2	\$ 2.6			\$ 4.3	\$ 2.5		\$ \$

## 11. Income Taxes

The effective tax rate for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 was 31.3 percent and 30.7 percent, respectively. The Company estimates that its annual effective tax rate for the full year of 2015 will be approximately 30.5 percent. The full year effective tax rate in 2014 was 27.5 percent. The higher effective income tax rates in the third quarter and first nine months of 2015 as compared to the full year 2014 were primarily due to a change in geographic earnings mix.



**Table of Contents****11. Income Taxes (continued)**

The 2014 effective rate was also impacted by a one-time tax benefit associated with a revised domestic manufacturers deduction from a prior year resulting in an increased income tax benefit on an amended prior year tax return filed in 2014.

As of September 30, 2015, the Company had \$1.6 million of unrecognized tax benefits of which \$1.2 million would affect its effective tax rate if recognized. The Company recognizes potential interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits as a component of tax expense.

The U.S. federal tax returns for 2013-2014 are subject to audit. The Company is subject to state and local audits for tax years 2000-2014. The Company is also subject to non-U.S. income tax examinations for years 2006-2014.

**12. Changes in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss by Component**

Changes to accumulated other comprehensive loss by component are as follows:

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014
<b>Cumulative foreign currency translation</b>		
Balance at beginning of period	\$ (6.9)	\$ 12.2
Other comprehensive (loss) gain before reclassifications	(17.8)	(1.5)
Balance at end of period	(24.7)	10.7
<b>Unrealized net gain on cash flow derivatives</b>		
Balance at beginning of period	0.9	0.4
Other comprehensive loss before reclassifications	1.6	1.1
Realized gains on derivatives reclassified to cost of products sold (net of tax provision of \$0.7 and \$0.3 in 2015 and 2014, respectively)	(1.0)	(0.4)
Balance at end of period	1.5	1.1
<b>Pension liability</b>		
Balance at beginning of period	(270.0)	(271.5)
Other comprehensive loss before reclassifications		(0.1)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss: <sup>(1)</sup>	2.7	5.3
Balance at end of period	(267.3)	(266.3)

Accumulated other comprehensive loss, end of period	\$ (290.5)	\$ (254.5)
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(1) Amortization of pension items:

Actuarial losses	\$ 4.8 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 8.8 <sup>(2)</sup>
Prior year service cost	(0.3) <sup>(2)</sup>	(0.3) <sup>(2)</sup>
	4.5	8.5
Tax benefit	(1.8)	(3.2)
Reclassification net of tax	\$ 2.7	\$ 5.3

(2) These accumulated other comprehensive loss components are included in the computation of net periodic pension cost. See Note 7 - Pensions for additional details

**Table of Contents****12. Changes in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss by Component (continued)**

Changes to accumulated other comprehensive loss by component are as follows:

(dollars in millions)	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014
<b>Cumulative foreign currency translation</b>		
Balance at beginning of period	\$ 3.3	\$ 19.9
Other comprehensive loss before reclassifications	(28.0)	(9.2)
Balance at end of period	(24.7)	10.7
<b>Unrealized net gain on cash flow derivatives</b>		
Balance at beginning of period	0.9	1.0
Other comprehensive gain before reclassifications	3.2	1.6
Realized gains on derivatives reclassified to cost of products sold (net of tax provision of \$1.7 and \$0.7 in 2015 and 2014, respectively)	(2.6)	(1.5)
Balance at end of period	1.5	1.1
<b>Pension liability</b>		
Balance at beginning of period	(276.2)	(280.0)
Other comprehensive loss before reclassifications	0.7	(2.1)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss: <sup>(1)</sup>	8.2	15.8
Balance at end of period	(267.3)	(266.3)
<b>Accumulated other comprehensive loss, end of period</b>	<b>\$ (290.5)</b>	<b>\$ (254.5)</b>
<sup>(1)</sup> Amortization of pension items:		
Actuarial losses	\$ 14.3 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 26.4 <sup>(2)</sup>
Prior year service cost	(0.8) <sup>(2)</sup>	(0.8) <sup>(2)</sup>
	13.5	25.6
Tax benefit	(5.3)	(9.8)
<b>Reclassification net of tax</b>	<b>\$ 8.2</b>	<b>\$ 15.8</b>

(2) These accumulated other comprehensive loss components are included in the computation of net periodic pension cost. See Note 7 - Pensions for additional details

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**PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

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

**OVERVIEW**

Our Company is comprised of two reporting segments: North America and Rest of World. Our Rest of World segment is primarily comprised of China, Europe and India. Both segments manufacture and market comprehensive lines of residential and commercial gas, gas tankless and electric water heaters. Both segments primarily manufacture and market in their respective region of the world. Our North America segment also manufactures and globally markets specialty commercial water heating equipment, condensing and non-condensing boilers and water systems tanks. Our Rest of World segment also manufactures and markets water treatment products and markets air purifier products, primarily for Asia.

Sales in our North America segment grew approximately six percent in the third quarter of 2015 driven by price increases in the U.S. and Canada for residential and commercial water heaters and higher volumes of commercial water heaters and commercial boilers. Residential water heater volumes declined in the third quarter, as we believe channel inventory in the U.S. continues to adjust to the pre-buy in the first quarter in advance of the second quarter price increases, including the price increase on residential water heaters related to the regulatory change of the National Appliance Energy Conservation Act of 1987 update. We expect the residential water heater industry's unit shipments to be essentially flat in 2015 compared to 2014. We continue to see strength in U.S. commercial water heater volumes, and we expect the industry's unit shipments will be approximately six percent higher than last year. Driven by what we believe is a continued transition in the boiler industry from non-condensing boilers to condensing boilers as well as new product introductions, we expect sales of Lochinvar-branded products to grow approximately ten percent in 2015.

Sales in our Rest of World segment grew over nine percent in the third quarter of 2015, primarily as a result of an 11 percent growth in sales in China. China sales in local currency grew over 13 percent. We expect full year 2015 sales in China to grow at a rate of approximately 15 percent in local currency driven by expected continued overall water heater market growth, market share gains, improved product mix and water treatment product growth significantly higher than 15 percent.

**RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

**THIRD QUARTER AND FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 2015 COMPARED TO 2014**

Sales for the third quarter of 2015 were \$625.1 million or approximately seven percent higher than sales of \$581.6 million in the third quarter of 2014. Sales in the first nine months of 2015 increased to \$1,897.1 million from \$1,729.2 million in the same period last year. The increase in sales in both the third quarter and first nine months of 2015 is primarily due to higher prices in North America, higher sales of commercial water heaters and commercial boilers in the U.S. and higher sales of water heaters and water treatment products in China. Excluding the negative impact of currency translation, sales in China grew 13 percent and 15 percent in the third quarter and first nine months of 2015, respectively, compared to the same periods of 2014.

Gross profit margin in the third quarter of 2015 of 41.1 percent was higher than the gross profit margin of 37.0 percent in the third quarter of 2014. Gross profit margin in the first nine months of 2015 increased to 39.5 percent from 36.3

percent in the first nine months of 2014. Margins in the third quarter of 2015 and first nine months of 2015 benefitted from price increases in the U.S. and Canada, higher sales of commercial boilers and commercial water heaters which have higher margins, lower steel costs and a reduction in pension related costs.

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Selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses in the third quarter and first nine months of 2015 increased by \$4.6 million and \$43.8 million, respectively, as compared to the same periods last year. The increase in SG&A expenses in both periods in 2015 was primarily due to higher selling, advertising and engineering costs in support of increased volumes in China. The increase in SG&A expenses in the third quarter of 2015 was partially offset by lower enterprise resource planning (ERP) implementation costs compared to the third quarter of 2014.

Interest expense in the third quarter of 2015 was \$1.6 million compared to \$1.5 million in the same period last year. Interest expense in the first nine months of 2015 was \$6.0 million compared to \$4.3 million in the same period last year. The increase in interest expense in the first nine months of 2015 was primarily related to interest rates on term debt issued in January 2015 that are higher than the interest rate on the revolving credit facility that it replaced as well as higher overall debt levels primarily related to share repurchases.

Other income was \$2.2 million in the third quarter of 2015, up from \$1.0 million in the same period last year. Other income in the first nine months of 2015 was \$7.6 million, up from \$3.5 million in the first nine months of 2014. The increase in other income in the third quarter and first nine months of 2015 was primarily due to increased interest income as compared to the same periods last year.

Our pension costs and credits are developed from actuarial valuations. The valuations reflect key assumptions regarding, among other things, discount rates, expected return on assets, retirement ages, and years of service. We consider current market conditions including changes in interest rates in making these assumptions. Our assumption for the expected rate of return on plan assets is 7.75 percent in 2015, consistent with 2014. The discount rate used to determine net periodic pension costs decreased to 4.05 percent in 2015 from 4.90 percent in 2014. Pension expense for the first nine months of 2015 was \$0.1 million compared to \$19.8 million in the first nine months of 2014. The significant decrease in pension expense in the first nine months of 2015 compared to the same period last year was due to the sunset of the plan for the majority of our employees on December 31, 2014. Beginning in 2015, we are making additional Company contributions to a defined contribution plan in lieu of benefits earned in our pension plan. Our pension costs are reflected in cost of products sold and SG&A expense.

Our effective tax rates for the third quarter and first nine months of 2015 were 31.3 percent and 30.7 percent, respectively. Our effective tax rates for the third quarter and first nine months of 2014 were 27.0 percent and 27.3 percent, respectively. The higher effective tax rates in both periods of 2015 were primarily due to a change in geographic earnings mix as compared to the same periods in the prior year. The effective tax rate in the first nine months of 2014 was also impacted by a one-time tax benefit associated with a revised domestic manufacturers deduction from a prior year resulting in an increased income tax benefit on an amended prior year tax return filed in 2014.

*North America*

Sales in the North America segment were \$417.4 million in the third quarter of 2015 or \$25.0 million higher than sales of \$392.4 million in the third quarter of 2014. Sales for the first nine months of 2015 were \$1,289.3 million or \$98.3 million higher than sales of \$1,191.0 million in the same period last year. The increased sales in the third quarter and first nine months of 2015 were primarily due to higher prices in North America as well as higher sales of commercial water heaters and commercial boilers. The increase in sales in the third quarter of 2015 was partially offset by a decline in residential water heater sales volumes.

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North America operating earnings were \$90.5 million in the third quarter of 2015 or approximately 71 percent higher than operating earnings of \$53.0 million in the same period of 2014. Operating earnings in the first nine months of 2015 were \$247.7 million or approximately 44 percent higher than operating earnings of \$171.5 million in the first nine months of 2014. Operating margin of 21.7 percent in the third quarter of 2015 was higher than 13.5 percent in the same period last year. Operating margin of 19.2 percent in the first nine months of 2015 was higher than 14.4 percent in the same period in 2014. The higher operating earnings and operating margins in both periods of 2015 were primarily due to higher water heater prices, increased volumes of commercial boilers and commercial water heaters in the U.S., lower steel prices and lower pension related costs. In addition, third quarter 2015 operating earnings and operating margin benefitted from lower ERP implementation costs as compared to the same period last year.

*Rest of World*

Sales in the Rest of World segment were \$217.1 million in the third quarter of 2015 or \$18.6 million higher than sales of \$198.5 million in the third quarter of 2014. Sales in the first nine months of 2015 were \$634.3 million or \$69.4 million higher than sales of \$564.9 million in the first nine months of 2014. Excluding the negative impact of currency translation, sales of water heaters and water treatment products in China grew 13 percent and 15 percent in the third quarter and first nine months of 2015, respectively, compared to the same periods of 2014.

Rest of World operating earnings were \$27.4 million in the third quarter of 2015 or approximately nine percent lower than operating earnings of \$30.0 million in the third quarter of 2014. Operating earnings in the first nine months of 2015 were \$84.5 million, essentially equal to operating earnings of \$84.3 million in the first nine months of 2014. The 2015 third quarter operating margin of 12.6 percent was lower than the operating margin of 15.1 percent in the same period last year. Operating margin of 13.3 percent in the first nine months of 2015 was lower than the operating margin of 14.9 percent in the same period last year. Lower operating earnings in the third quarter of 2015 and lower operating margins in both the third quarter and first nine months of 2015 compared with the same periods last year were primarily due to higher sales and lower steel costs that were more than offset by lower sales of higher margin commercial water heaters in China, higher selling, advertising and engineering costs as a percentage of sales in China partially associated with the launch of air purification products and higher costs in India to support the launch of water treatment products. Operating earnings in both periods of 2015 were also negatively impacted by currency devaluation in China.

**Outlook**

We expect sales in China to grow approximately 15 percent in local currency in 2015 driven by continued strong consumer demand for water heater and water treatment products. We expect Lochinvar-branded sales to grow approximately ten percent in 2015 as we expect to continue to benefit from a transition from lower efficiency, non-condensing boilers to high efficiency, condensing boilers as well as new product introductions. We continue to see strength in U.S. commercial water heater volumes. We estimate our organic worldwide revenue growth will be approximately nine percent in 2015. Given these factors we increased our guidance for 2015. We believe A. O. Smith Corporation will achieve full year earnings of between \$3.08 and \$3.12 per share. These estimates do not include the potential impact from future acquisitions.



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**Liquidity & Capital Resources**

Working capital of \$789.7 million at September 30, 2015 was \$75.9 million higher than at December 31, 2014 primarily due to higher cash and marketable securities balances located in China and higher inventory balances. As of September 30, 2015, essentially all of the \$606.4 million of cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities was held by our foreign subsidiaries. We would incur a cost to repatriate these funds to the U.S. and have accrued \$50.7 million for the repatriation of a portion of these funds.

Cash provided by continuing operating activities in the first nine months of 2015 increased to \$232.3 million compared with \$165.3 million of cash provided by continuing operations during the same period last year. Higher earnings and lower outlays for working capital in the 2015 period explain the majority of the increase. For the full year 2015, we expect total cash provided by operating activities to be approximately \$300 million.

Capital expenditures totaled \$53.1 million in the first nine months of 2015, compared with \$66.0 million spent in the year ago period. We are projecting 2015 capital expenditures between \$85 million and \$90 million, including approximately \$17 million to support our ERP implementation and approximately \$30 million related to capacity expansion in China and in the U.S., with the U.S. portion in support of Lochinvar-branded sales. We expect full year depreciation and amortization to be approximately \$65 million.

In December 2012, we completed a \$400 million multi-currency credit facility with a group of eight banks which expires in December 2017. The facility has an accordion provision which allows it to be increased up to \$500 million if certain conditions (including lender approval) are satisfied. Borrowing rates under the facility are determined by our leverage ratio. The facility requires us to maintain two financial covenants, a leverage ratio test and an interest coverage test, and we were in compliance with the covenants as of September 30, 2015.

The facility backs up commercial paper and credit line borrowings. As a result of the long-term nature of this facility, our commercial paper and credit line borrowings, as well as drawings under the facility, are classified as long-term debt. At September 30, 2015, we had available borrowing capacity of \$241.8 million under this facility. We believe the combination of available borrowing capacity and operating cash flow will provide sufficient funds to finance our existing operations for the foreseeable future.

In January 2015, we issued \$75 million of fixed rate term notes to an insurance company. Principal payments commence in 2020 and the notes mature in 2030. The notes have an interest rate of 3.52 percent. We used proceeds of the notes to pay down borrowings under our revolving credit facility.

Our total debt increased \$37.0 million from \$223.8 million at December 31, 2014 to \$260.8 million at September 30, 2015. Our leverage, as measured by the ratio of total debt to total capitalization, was 15.5 percent at the end of the third quarter in 2015, compared with 13.9 percent at the end of last year.

Our pension plan continues to meet all funding requirements under ERISA regulations. We forecast that we will not be required to make a contribution to the plan in 2015, and we do not plan to make any voluntary contributions to the plan in 2015.

In 2014, our Board of Directors approved adding 3,500,000 shares of Common Stock to an existing discretionary share repurchase authority. Under the share repurchase program, our Common Stock



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may be purchased through a combination of Rule 10b5-1 automatic trading plan and discretionary purchases in accordance with applicable securities laws. The stock repurchase authorization remains effective until terminated by our Board of Directors which may occur at any time, subject to the parameters of any Rule 10b5-1 automatic trading plan that we may then have in effect. During the first nine months of 2015, we repurchased 1,579,227 shares of our stock at a total cost of \$104.3 million. A total of 918,766 shares remained of the existing repurchase authority at September 30, 2015. Depending on factors such as stock price, working capital requirements and alternative investment opportunities, we now anticipate spending approximately \$128 million on stock repurchase activity in 2015.

On October 12, 2015, our Board of Directors declared a regular cash dividend of \$0.19 per share on our Common Stock and Class A common stock. The dividend is payable on November 16, 2015 to shareholders of record on October 30, 2015.

## **Critical Accounting Policies**

The preparation of our consolidated financial statements is in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. which requires the use of estimates and assumptions about future events that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Future events and their effects cannot be determined with absolute certainty. Therefore, the determination of estimates requires the exercise of judgment. Actual results inevitably will differ from those estimates, and such differences may be material to the financial statements. The critical accounting policies that we believe could have the most significant effect on our reported results or require complex judgment by management are contained in Item 7, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014. We believe that as of September 30, 2015 there has been no material change to this information.

## **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In April 2015, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) amended Accounting Standard Codification (ASC) 835-30, *Interest - Imputation of Interest* (issued under Accounting Standards No. 2015-03). This amendment to ASC 835-30 requires that debt issuance costs related to a recognized debt liability be presented in the balance sheet as a direct deduction from the carrying amount of that debt liability, consistent with debt discounts. The recognition and measurement guidance for debt issuance costs is not affected by this amendment. The amendment is effective for periods beginning January 1, 2016 and requires using a retrospective approach. We do not expect the adoption of amended ASC 835-30 will have a material impact on our consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASC 606-10, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (issued under Accounting Standards No. 2014-09). ASC 606-10 will replace all existing revenue recognition guidance when effective. On July 9, 2015, the FASB approved a one year deferral of the effective date, with application permitted as of the original effective date, or periods beginning January 1, 2017. Either full retrospective adoption or modified retrospective adoption is allowed under ASC 606-10. We are in the process of determining whether the adoption of ASC 606-10 will have an impact on our consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

## **ITEM 3 - QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

As is more fully described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, we are exposed to various types of market risks, including currency and certain commodity risks. Our quantitative and qualitative disclosures about market risk have not materially changed since that report was filed. We monitor our

currency and commodity risks on a continuous

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basis and generally enter into forward and futures contracts to minimize these exposures. The majority of the contracts are for periods of less than one year. We do not engage in speculation in our derivative strategies. It is important to note that gains and losses from our forward and futures contract activities are offset by changes in the underlying costs of the transactions being hedged.

## **ITEM 4 CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

### **Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures**

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, we conducted an evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined under Rule 13a-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (Exchange Act). Based upon their evaluation of these disclosure controls and procedures, the principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that the disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of September 30, 2015 to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time period specified in the SEC rules and forms, and to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports we file or submit under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive and principal financial officers, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding disclosure.

### **Changes in internal control over financial reporting**

There have been no significant changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the quarter ended September 30, 2015 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

### **Forward Looking Statements**

This filing contains statements that we believe are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements generally can be identified by the use of words such as may, will, expect, intend, estimate, anticipate, believe, forecast, guidance or words of similar statements regarding 2015 outlook are forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated as of the date of this filing. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from these expectations include, among other things, the following: uncertain costs, savings and timeframes associated with the implementation of the new enterprise resource planning system; potential slower growth in the high efficiency boiler segment in the U.S.; the ability to execute our acquisition strategy; significant volatility in raw material prices; competitive pressures on our businesses; inability to implement and maintain pricing actions; instability in our replacement markets; strength or duration of any recoveries in U.S. residential or commercial construction; a further slowdown in the growth of the Chinese economy; foreign currency fluctuations; and adverse general economic conditions and capital market deterioration in the U.S., Canada or China.

Forward-looking statements included in this filing are made only as of the date of this filing, and we are under no obligation to update these statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributed to us, or persons acting on our behalf, are qualified entirely by these cautionary statements.



**Table of Contents****PART II - OTHER INFORMATION****ITEM 1 - LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

There have been no material changes in the legal and environmental matters discussed in Part 1, Item 3 and Note 15 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014.

**ITEM 2 - UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

In 2014, our Board of Directors approved adding 3,500,000 shares of Common Stock to an existing discretionary share repurchase authority. Under the share repurchase program, the Common Stock may be purchased through a combination of Rule 10b5-1 automatic trading plan and discretionary purchases in accordance with applicable securities laws. The number of shares purchased and the timing of the purchases will depend on a number of factors, including share price, trading volume and general market conditions, as well as working capital requirements, general business conditions and other factors, including alternative investment opportunities. The stock repurchase authorization remains effective until terminated by our Board of Directors which may occur at any time, subject to the parameters of any Rule 10b5-1 automatic trading plan that we may then have in effect. In the third quarter of 2015, we repurchased 850,440 shares at an average price of \$66.99 per share and at a total cost of \$57.0 million. As of September 30, 2015, there were 918,766 shares remaining on the existing repurchase authority.

**ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES**

Period	(a) Total Number of Shares Purchased	(b) Average Price Paid per Share	(c) Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	(d) Maximum Number of Shares that may yet be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
July 1 July 31, 2015	133,075	\$ 68.81	133,075	1,636,131
August 1 August 31, 2015	192,300	69.15	192,300	1,443,831
September 1 September 30, 2015	525,065	65.74	525,065	918,766

**ITEM 5 - OTHER INFORMATION**

None.

**ITEM 6 - EXHIBITS**

Refer to the Exhibit Index on page 25 of this report.

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SIGNATURES

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

**A. O. SMITH CORPORATION**

November 9, 2015

/s/ Daniel L. Kempken  
Daniel L. Kempken  
Vice President and Controller

November 9, 2015

/s/ John J. Kita  
John J. Kita  
Executive Vice President  
and Chief Financial Officer



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**INDEX TO EXHIBITS**

Exhibit	
Number	Description
31.1	Certification of Periodic Report by the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
31.2	Certification of Periodic Report by the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
32.1	Written Statement of the Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350
32.2	Written Statement of the Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350
101	The following materials from A. O. Smith Corporation's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 are filed herewith, formatted in XBRL (Extensive Business Reporting Language): (i) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Earnings for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, (ii) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Earnings for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, (iii) the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of September 30, 2015, and December 31, 2014, (iv) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 and (v) the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements