

BRIDGFORD FOODS CORP
Form 10-K
January 12, 2018

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)

OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended November 3, 2017

Commission file number: 000-02396

BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

California 95-1778176
(State of (I.R.S. Employer
incorporation) Identification No.)

1308 North Patt Street

Anaheim, California 92801

(Address of principal executive offices)

(714) 526-5533

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: Common Stock, par value \$1.00 per share, the NASDAQ Stock Market LLC.

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether 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 (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 website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T 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 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

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incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. [X]

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See definition of “large accelerated filer,” “accelerated filer,” “smaller reporting company” and “emerging growth company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer []

Accelerated filer []

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

Smaller reporting company [X]

Emerging growth company []

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. []

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

The aggregate market value of voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant on April 14, 2017 was \$19,081,000.

As of January 12, 2018, there were 9,076,832 shares of common stock outstanding.

Portions of the registrant’s Proxy Statement for the registrant’s Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held March 14, 2018 (the “Proxy Statement”) are incorporated by reference into Part III, Items 10-14 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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PART I

Item 1. Business

This Annual Report on Form 10-K (“Report”) contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Bridgford Foods Corporation intends that such forward-looking statements be subject to the safe harbors created thereby. Readers are cautioned that such statements, which may be identified by words including “anticipates,” “believes,” “intends,” “estimates,” “expects,” and similar expressions, are only predictions or estimations and are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the following: general economic and business conditions; the impact of competitive product and pricing; success of operating initiatives; development and operating costs; advertising and promotional efforts; adverse publicity; acceptance of new product offerings; consumer trial and frequency; changes in business strategy or development plans; availability, terms and deployment of capital; availability of qualified personnel; commodity, labor, and employee benefit costs; changes in, or failure to comply with, government regulations; weather conditions; construction schedules; relationships with customers and suppliers; and other factors referenced in this Report.

The forward-looking statements included herein are based on current expectations that involve a number of risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements are based on assumptions regarding our business, which involve judgments with respect to, among other things, future economic and competitive conditions, and future business decisions, all of which are difficult or impossible to predict accurately and many of which are beyond our control. Although we believe that the assumptions underlying the forward-looking statements are reasonable, actual results may differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking statements. In light of the significant uncertainties inherent in the forward-looking information included herein, the inclusion of such information should not be regarded as representation by us or any other person that the objectives or plans of our company will be achieved. The forward-looking statements contained herein speak as of the date of this Report and we undertake no obligation to update such statements after the date hereof.

Background of Business

Bridgford Foods Corporation (collectively with its subsidiaries, “Bridgford”, the “Company”, “we”, “our”), a California corporation, was organized in 1952. We originally began operations in 1932 as a retail meat market in San Diego, California and evolved into a meat wholesaler for hotels and restaurants, a distributor of frozen food products, a processor and packer of meat, and a manufacturer and distributor of frozen food products for sale on a retail and wholesale basis. Currently, we and our subsidiaries are primarily engaged in the manufacturing, marketing and distribution of an extensive line of frozen and snack food products throughout the United States. We have not been involved in any bankruptcy, receivership, or similar proceedings since inception nor have we been party to any

merger, acquisition, etc. or acquired or disposed of any material amounts of assets during the past five years. Substantially all of our assets have been acquired in the ordinary course of business.

Description of Business

Bridgford Foods Corporation currently operates in two business segments - the processing and distribution of frozen products and the processing and distribution of snack food products. For information regarding the separate financial performance of the business segments refer to Note 7 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Report.

The following table shows sales, as a percentage of consolidated sales, for each business segment during the last two fiscal years:

	2017	2016
Frozen Food Products	29 %	33 %
Snack Food Products	71 %	67 %
	100 %	100 %

We manufacture nearly all of our food products and distribute an extensive line of biscuits, bread dough items, roll dough items, dry sausage products and beef jerky. Our direct store delivery network consists of non-refrigerated snack food products. Our frozen food products division serves both food service and retail customers.

Although we have recently introduced several new products, most of these products have not contributed significantly to our revenue growth for the fiscal year 2017. Our sales are not subject to material seasonal variations. Historically we have been able to respond quickly to the receipt of orders and, accordingly, do not maintain a significant sales backlog. Neither Bridgford Foods Corporation nor its industry generally has unusual demands or restrictions on working capital items. During the last fiscal year we did not enter into any new markets or any significant contractual or other material relationships.

Availability of SEC Filings and Code of Conduct on Internet Website

We maintain an Internet website at www.bridgford.com. Available on this website, free of charge, are annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, and reports filed under Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 which we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Our Code of Conduct is also available on the website.

Product Distribution Methods

Our products are delivered to customers using several distinct distribution channels. The distribution channel utilized is dependent upon the needs of our customers, the most efficient proximity to the delivery point, trade customs, and operating segment as well as product type, life and stability. Among our customers are many of the country's largest broadline and specialty food service distributors. These and other large end purchasers occasionally go through extensive qualification procedures and our manufacturing capabilities are subjected to thorough review by the end purchasers prior to our approval as a vendor. Large end purchasers typically select suppliers that can consistently meet increased volume requirements on a national basis during peak promotional periods. We believe that our manufacturing flexibility, national presence, and long-standing customer relationships should allow us to compete effectively with other manufacturers seeking to provide similar products to our current large food service end purchasers, although no assurances can be given.

The factors that contribute to higher or lower margins generated from each method of distribution depend upon the accepted selling price, level of involvement by our employees in setting up and maintaining displays, distance traveled and fuel consumed by our company-owned fleet as well as freight and shipping costs depending on the distance the product travels to the delivery point. Management is continually evaluating the profitability of product delivery methods, analyzing alternate methods and weighing economic inputs to determine the most efficient and cost effective method of delivery to fulfill the needs of our customers.

Major Product Classes

Frozen Food Products

Our frozen food products division serves both food service and retail customers. We sell approximately 130 unique frozen food products through approximately 1,175 wholesalers, cooperatives and distributors.

Frozen Food Products – Food Service Customers

The food service industry is composed of establishments that serve food outside the home and includes restaurants, the food operations of health care providers, schools, hotels, resorts, corporations, and other traditional and non-traditional food service outlets. Growth in this industry has been driven by the increase in away-from-home meal preparation, which has accompanied the expanding number of both dual income and single-parent households. Another trend within the food service industry is the growth in the number of non-traditional food service outlets such as convenience stores, retail stores and supermarkets. These non-traditional locations often lack extensive cooking, storage, or preparation facilities resulting in a need for pre-cooked and prepared foods similar to those we provide. The expansion in the food service industry has also been accompanied by the continued consolidation and growth of broadline and specialty food service distributors, many of which are long-standing customers.

Frozen Food Products – Retail Customers

The majority of our existing and targeted retail customers are involved in the resale of branded and private label packaged foods. The same trends which have contributed to the increase in away-from-home meal preparation have also fueled the growth in easy to prepare, microwaveable frozen and refrigerated convenience foods. Among the fastest growing segments is the frozen and refrigerated hand-held foods market. This growth has been driven by improved product quality and variety and the increasing need for inexpensive and healthy food items that require minimal preparation. Despite rapid growth, many categories of frozen and refrigerated hand-held foods have achieved minimal household penetration. We believe we have been successful in establishing and maintaining supply relationships with certain selected leading retailers in this market.

Frozen Food Products – Sales and Marketing

Our frozen food business covers the United States. Products produced by the Frozen Food Products segment are generally supplied to food service and retail distributors who take title to the product upon shipment receipt through company leased long-haul vehicles. In addition to regional sales managers, we maintain a network of independent food service and retail brokers covering most of the United States. Brokers are compensated on a commission basis. We believe that our broker relationships, in close cooperation with our regional sales managers, are a valuable asset providing significant new product and customer opportunities. Regional sales managers perform several significant functions for us, including identifying and developing new business opportunities and providing customer service and support to our distributors and end purchasers through the effective use of our broker network.

Our annual advertising expenditures are directed towards retail and institutional customers. These customers participate in various special promotional and marketing programs and direct advertising allowances we sponsor. We also invest in general consumer advertising in various newspapers and periodicals including free standing inserts and coupons to advertise in major markets. We direct advertising toward food service customers with campaigns in major industry publications and through our participation in trade shows throughout the United States. Our advertising strategy includes our presence on social media and online distribution of promotional material.

Snack Food Products

During fiscal year 2017, our snack food products division sold approximately 120 different items through customer-owned distribution centers and a direct store delivery network serving approximately 17,000 supermarkets, mass merchandise and convenience retail stores located in 49 states.

Products produced or distributed by the Snack Food Products segment are supplied to customers through either direct delivery to customer warehouses or direct-store-delivery to retail locations. We utilize customer managed warehouse distribution centers to lower distribution cost. Product delivered to the customer's warehouse is then distributed to the store where it is resold to the end consumer. Our direct-store-delivery system focus emphasizes high quality service of our premium branded product to our customers. We also provide the service of setting up and maintaining the display and restocking our products.

Snack Food Products — Customers

Our customers are comprised of large retail chains and smaller "independent" operators. This part of our business is highly competitive. Proper placement of our product lines is critical to selling success since most items could be considered "impulse" items which are often consumed shortly after purchase. Our ability to sell successfully to this distribution channel depends on aggressive marketing and maintaining relationships with key buyers.

Snack Food Products — Sales and Marketing

Snack food products are distributed across the United States. Regional sales managers perform several significant functions including identifying and developing new business opportunities and providing customer service and support to our customers. We also utilize the services of brokers, where appropriate, to support efficient product distribution and customer satisfaction.

Product Planning and Research and Development

We continually monitor the consumer acceptance of each product within our extensive product line. Individual products are regularly added to and deleted from our product line. Historically, the addition or deletion of any individual product has not had a material effect on our operations in the current fiscal year. We believe that a key factor in the success of our products is our system of carefully targeted research and testing of our products to ensure high quality and that each product matches an identified market opportunity. The emphasis in new product introductions in the past several years has been in single service items. We are constantly searching to develop new products to complement our existing product lines and improve processing techniques and formulas. We utilize an in-house test kitchen and consultants to research and experiment with unique food preparation methods, improve quality control and analyze new ingredient mixtures.

Competition

Our products are sold under highly competitive conditions. All food products can be considered competitive with other food products, but we consider our principal competitors to include national, regional and local producers and distributors of refrigerated, frozen and non-refrigerated snack food products. Several of our competitors include large companies with substantially greater financial and marketing resources than ours. Existing competitors may broaden their product lines and potential competitors may enter or increase their focus on our market, resulting in greater competition for us. We believe that our products compete favorably with those of our competitors. Such competitors' products compete against ours for retail shelf space, institutional distribution and customer preference.

Effect of Government Regulations

Our operations are subject to extensive inspection and regulation by the United States Department of Agriculture (the "USDA"), the Food and Drug Administration (the "FDA"), and by other federal, state, and local authorities regarding the processing, packaging, storage, transportation, distribution, and labeling of products that we manufacture, produce and process. Our processing facilities and products are subject to continuous inspection by the USDA and/or other federal, state, and local authorities. The USDA has issued strict regulations concerning the control of listeria monocytogenes in ready-to-eat meat and poultry products and contamination by food borne pathogens such as E. coli and salmonella, and implemented a system of regulation known as the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points ("HACCP") program. The HACCP program requires all meat and poultry processing plants to develop and implement sanitary operating procedures and other program requirements. The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA") oversees safety compliance and establishes certain employer responsibilities to help "assure safe and healthful working conditions" and keep the workplace free of recognized hazards or practices likely to cause death or serious injury. We believe that we are currently in compliance with governmental laws and regulations and that we maintain the necessary permits and licenses relating to our operations.

Analysis Critical Control Points (“HACCP”) program. The HACCP program requires all meat and poultry processing plants to develop and implement sanitary operating procedures and other program requirements. The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (“OSHA”) oversees safety compliance and establishes certain employer responsibilities to help “assure safe and healthful working conditions” and keep the workplace free of recognized hazards or practices likely to cause death or serious injury. We believe that we are currently in compliance with governmental laws and regulations and that we maintain the necessary permits and licenses relating to our operations.

To date, federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations, including those relating to the discharge of materials into the environment, have not had a material effect on our business.

Importance of Key Customers

Sales to Wal-Mart® comprised 37.7% of revenues in fiscal year 2017 and 36.9% of total accounts receivable was due from Wal-Mart® as of November 3, 2017. Sales to Wal-Mart® comprised 34.8% of revenues in fiscal year 2016 and 35.6% of total accounts receivable was due from Wal-Mart® as of October 28, 2016.

Sources and Availability of Raw Materials

We purchase large quantities of pork, beef, and flour. These ingredients are generally available from a number of different suppliers although the availability of these ingredients is subject to seasonal variation. We build ingredient inventories to take advantage of downward trends in seasonal prices or anticipated supply limitations.

Most flour purchases are made at market price without contracts. We also purchase bulk flour under short-term fixed price contracts at current market prices. The contracts are usually effective for a month or less and are not material to our operations. These contracts are settled within a month’s time and no significant contracts remain open at the close of the reporting period. We monitor and manage our ingredient costs to help negate volatile daily swings in market prices when possible. We do not participate in the commodity futures market or hedging to limit commodity exposure.

Employees

We had 544 employees as of November 3, 2017, approximately 39% of whose employment relationship is governed by collective bargaining agreements. These agreements currently expire between August 2017 (in negotiation) and March 2022. We believe that our relationship with all of our employees is favorable and contracts will be settled favorably.

Executive Officers of the Registrant

The names, ages, and positions of all our executive officers as of January 12, 2018 are listed below. Messrs. Hugh Wm. Bridgford and Allan L. Bridgford are brothers. William L. Bridgford is the son of Hugh Wm. Bridgford and the nephew of Allan L. Bridgford. Officers are normally appointed annually by the Board of Directors at their meeting immediately following the annual meeting of shareholders. Three executive officers are full-time employees of our company. Hugh Wm. Bridgford worked 40% of full time and Allan L. Bridgford worked 50% of full time during fiscal year 2017.

Name	Age	Position(s) with our company
Allan L. Bridgford	82	Vice President and member of the Executive Committee
Hugh Wm. Bridgford	86	Vice President and Chairman of the Executive Committee
William L. Bridgford	63	Chairman and member of the Executive Committee
John V. Simmons	62	President and member of the Executive Committee
Raymond F. Lancy	64	Chief Financial Officer, Executive Vice President, Treasurer and member of the Executive Committee

Item 1A. Risk Factors

In addition to the other matters set forth in this Report, the continuing operations and the price of our common stock are subject to the following risks, each of which could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations. The risks described below are only the risks that we currently believe are material to our business. However, additional risks not presently known, or risks that are currently believed to be immaterial, may also impair our business operations.

We are subject to general risks in the food industry, including, among other things, risk relating to changes in consumer preferences and product contamination as well as general economic conditions, any of which risks, if realized, could negatively impact our operating results and financial position.

The food industry, and the markets within the food industry in which we compete, are subject to various risks, including the following: evolving consumer preferences, nutritional and health-related concerns, federal, state and local food inspection and processing controls, consumer product liability claims, risks of product tampering, and the availability and expense of liability insurance. The meat and poultry industries are subject to scrutiny due to the association of meat and poultry products with recent outbreaks of illness, and on rare occasions even death, caused by food borne pathogens. Product recalls are sometimes required in the food industry to withdraw contaminated or mislabeled products from the market. Additionally, the failure to identify and react appropriately to changes in consumer trends, demands and preferences could lead to, among other things, reduced demand and price reduction for our products. Further, we may be adversely affected by changes in domestic or foreign economic conditions, including inflation or deflation, interest rates, availability of capital markets, consumer spending rates, and energy availability and costs (including fuel surcharges). These and other general risks related to the food industry, if realized by us, could have a significant adverse effect on demand for our products, as well as the costs and availability of raw materials, ingredients and packaging materials, thereby negatively affecting our operating results and financial position.

Fluctuations in the prices that we pay for raw materials could negatively impact our financial results.

We purchase large quantities of commodity pork, beef and flour. Historically, market prices for products we process have fluctuated in response to a number of factors, including changes in the United States government farm support programs, changes in international agricultural and trading policies, weather, and other conditions during the growing and harvesting seasons. Our operating results are heavily dependent upon the prices paid for raw materials. The marketing of our value-added products does not lend itself to instantaneous changes in selling prices. Changes in selling prices are relatively infrequent and do not compare with the volatility of commodity markets. While fluctuations in significant cost structure components, such as ingredient commodities and fuel prices, have had a significant impact on profitability over the last three years, the impact of general price inflation on our financial position and results of operations has not been significant. Future volatility of general price inflation or deflation and raw material cost and availability could adversely affect our financial results.

We are subject to extensive government regulations and a failure to comply with such regulations could negatively impact our financial results.

Our operations are subject to extensive inspection and regulation by the USDA, FDA and by other federal, state, and local authorities regarding the processing, packaging, storage, transportation, distribution, and labeling of products

that are manufactured, produced and processed by us. Our processing facilities and products are subject to continuous inspection by the USDA and/or other federal, state, and local authorities. The USDA has issued strict regulations concerning the control of listeria monocytogenes in ready-to-eat meat and poultry products and contamination by food borne pathogens such as E. coli and salmonella, and implemented a system of regulation known as the HACCP program. The HACCP program requires all meat and poultry processing plants to develop and implement sanitary operating procedures and other program requirements. OSHA oversees safety compliance and establishes certain employer responsibilities to help “assure safe and healthful working conditions” and keep the workplace free of recognized hazards or practices likely to cause death or serious injury. We believe that we are currently in compliance with governmental laws and regulations and that we maintain necessary permits and licenses relating to our operations.

A failure to obtain or a loss of necessary permits and licenses could delay or prevent us from meeting current product demand and could adversely affect our operating performance. Furthermore, we are routinely subject to new or modified laws, regulations and accounting standards. If found to be out of compliance with applicable laws and regulations in these or other areas, we could be subject to civil remedies, including fines, injunctions, recalls, or asset seizures, as well as potential criminal sanctions, any of which could have a significant adverse effect on our financial results.

We depend on our key management, the loss of which could negatively impact our operations.

Our executive officers and certain other key employees have been primarily responsible for the development and expansion of our business, and the loss of the services of one or more of these individuals could adversely affect us. Our success will be dependent in part upon our continued ability to recruit, motivate, and retain qualified personnel. We cannot assure that we will be successful in this regard. We have no employment or non-competition agreements with key personnel.

We depend on our major customers and any loss of such customers could have a negative impact on our profitability.

We could suffer significant reductions in revenues and operating income if we lost one or more of our largest customers, including Wal-Mart®, which accounted for 37.7% of sales in fiscal year 2017. Many of our customers, such as supermarkets, warehouse clubs, and food distributors have consolidated in recent years. Such consolidation has produced large, sophisticated customers with increased buying power who are more capable of operating with reduced inventories while demanding lower pricing and increased promotional programs. These customers also may use their shelf space for their own private label products. Failure to respond to these trends could reduce our volume and cause us to lower prices or increase promotional spending for our product lines which could adversely affect our profitability.

With more than 80% of our stock beneficially owned by the Bridgford family, there are risks that they can exert significant influence or control over our corporate matters.

Members of the Bridgford family beneficially own, in the aggregate, more than 80% of our outstanding stock. In addition, three members of the Bridgford family currently serve on the Board of Directors. As a result, members of the Bridgford family have the ability to exert substantial influence or actual control over our management and affairs and over substantially all matters requiring action by our shareholders, including amendments to by-laws, election and removal of directors, any proposed merger, consolidation or sale of all or substantially all of our assets and other corporate transactions. This concentration of ownership may also delay or prevent a change in control otherwise favored by our other shareholders and could depress our stock price. Additionally, as a result of the Bridgford family's significant ownership of the outstanding voting stock, we have relied on the "controlled company" exemption from certain corporate governance requirements of the NASDAQ stock market. Therefore, among other things, we have elected not to implement the rule that provides for a nominating committee to identify and recommend nominees to the Board of Directors and have instead elected to have the full Board of Directors perform such function. Additionally, pursuant to this exemption, our compensation committee, which is made up of independent directors, does not have sole authority to determine the compensation of our executive officers, including our Chairman of the Board.

We participate in Multiemployer Pension Plans which could negatively impact our operations and profitability.

We participate in "multiemployer" pension plans administered by labor unions on behalf of their employees. We make monthly contributions for healthcare and pension benefit obligations. The contribution amount may change depending upon the ability of participating companies to fund these pension liabilities as well as the actual and expected returns on pension plan assets. Should we withdraw from the union and cease participation in a union plan, federal law could impose a penalty for additional contributions to the plan. The penalty would be recorded as an expense in the consolidated statement of operations. The ultimate amount of the withdrawal liability is dependent upon several factors including the funded status of the plan and contributions made by other participating companies. We continue to participate in other multiemployer union plans. In the event of a full or partial withdrawal from these plans, the impact to our financial statements could be material.

Eminent domain and land risk regulations could negatively impact our financial results and financial position.

We own real property on which we operate our processing and/or our distribution operations. As is the case with any owner of real property, we may be subject to eminent domain proceedings that can impact the value of investments we have made in real property as well as potentially disrupt our business operations. If subject to eminent domain proceedings or other government takings, we may not be adequately compensated.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

Not applicable.

Item 2. Properties

We own the following properties:

Property Location	Building	
	Square Footage	Acreage
Anaheim, California *	100,000	5.0
Dallas, Texas *	94,000	4.0
Dallas, Texas *	30,000	2.0
Dallas, Texas *	16,000	1.0
Dallas, Texas *	3,200	1.5
Statesville, North Carolina *	42,000	8.0
Chicago, Illinois **	156,000	1.5
Chicago, Illinois **	177,000	8.0

* - property used by Frozen Food Products Segment

** - property used by Snack Food Products Segment

We utilize the foregoing properties for processing, warehousing, distributing and administrative purposes. We also lease warehouse and/or office facilities throughout the United States through month-to-month rental agreements. We believe that our properties are generally adequate to satisfy our foreseeable needs. Additional properties may be acquired and/or plants expanded if favorable opportunities and conditions arise.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

No material legal proceedings were pending against us as of November 3, 2017 or as of the date of filing of this Report. We are likely to be subject to claims arising from time to time in the ordinary course of our business. In certain of such actions, plaintiffs may request punitive or other damages that may not be covered by insurance and, accordingly, no assurance can be given with respect to the ultimate outcome of any such possible future claims or litigation or their effect on us. Any adverse litigation trends and outcomes could significantly and negatively affect our financial results.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

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

Our common stock is traded in the national over-the-counter market and is authorized for quotation on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol "BRID". The following table reflects the high and low closing sale prices reported by Nasdaq as well as cash dividends paid for each of the last eight fiscal quarters.

Fiscal Year 2017	High	Low	Cash Dividends Paid
First Quarter	\$ 13.11	\$ 10.50	\$ 0.00
Second Quarter	\$ 12.45	\$ 10.90	\$ 0.00
Third Quarter	\$ 16.50	\$ 11.40	\$ 0.00
Fourth Quarter	\$ 13.10	\$ 11.16	\$ 0.00

Fiscal Year 2016	High	Low	Cash Dividends Paid
First Quarter	\$ 10.75	\$ 8.55	\$ 0.00
Second Quarter	\$ 13.46	\$ 8.55	\$ 0.00
Third Quarter	\$ 13.71	\$ 12.02	\$ 0.00
Fourth Quarter	\$ 15.72	\$ 11.01	\$ 0.00

On January 11, 2018, the closing sale price for our common stock on the Nasdaq Global Market was \$12.78 per share. As of January 11, 2018, there were 810 shareholders of record in our common stock.

The payment of any future dividends will be at the discretion of our Board of Directors and will depend upon future earnings, financial requirements, and other factors.

Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities

During the period covered by this Report, we did not sell or issue any equity securities that were not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Repurchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer

During fiscal year 2017, we did not repurchase any shares of our common stock pursuant to our repurchase plan previously authorized by the Board of Directors. The following table provides information regarding our repurchases of common stock in each of the four periods comprising the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2017.

Period (1)	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid Per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased As Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs (2)	Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs (2)
July 7, 2017 – August 4, 2017	-	\$ -	-	120,113
August 5, 2017 – September 1, 2017	-	-	-	120,113
September 2, 2017 – September 29, 2017	-	-	-	120,113
September 30, 2017 – November 3, 2017	-	-	-	120,113
Total	-	\$ -	-	

(1) The periods shown are our fiscal periods during the seventeen-week quarter ended November 3, 2017.

All repurchases reflected in the foregoing table were made on the open market. Our stock repurchase program was approved by the Board of Directors in November 1999 (1,500,000 shares authorized, disclosed in a Form 10-K filed on January 26, 2000) and was expanded in June 2005 (500,000 additional shares authorized, disclosed in a press release and Form 8-K filed on June 17, 2005). Under the stock repurchase program, we are authorized, at the discretion of management and the Board of Directors, to purchase up to an aggregate of 2,000,000 shares of our common stock on the open market. Our Stock Purchase Plan (“the Purchase Plan”) is administered by Citigroup Global Markets Inc. (“CGM”) for purchase of shares of common stock (“Stock”) issued by us in compliance with the requirements of Rule 10b5-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”). Commencing on October 27, 2017 and continuing through and including October 14, 2018, CGM shall act as our exclusive agent to purchase Stock under the Purchase Plan. This Purchase Plan supplements any purchases of stock by us “outside” of the Purchase Plan, which may occur from time to time, in open market transactions pursuant to Rule 10b-18 of the Exchange Act. The daily purchase quantity is defined as a number of shares up to, but not to exceed, each day’s applicable Rule 10b-18 maximum volume limit (i.e. 25% of the prior four calendar weeks’ average daily trading volume); however, once per week a block of stock may be purchased that exceeds the Rule 10b-18 average daily trading volume condition, provided that no other Purchase Plan purchases are made on any day on which such a block is purchased. As of November 3, 2017, the total maximum number of shares that may be purchased under the Purchase Plan is 120,113 at a purchase price not to exceed \$10.00 per share for a total maximum aggregate price (exclusive of commission) of \$1,201,130.

Item 6. Selected Financial Data

Not applicable for a smaller reporting company.

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

For a complete understanding, this Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in this Report.

Certain statements under “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and elsewhere in this Report constitute “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of Bridgford Foods Corporation to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others, the following: general economic and business conditions; the impact of competitive products and pricing; success of operating initiatives; development and

operating costs; advertising and promotional efforts; adverse publicity; acceptance of new product offerings; consumer trial and frequency; changes in business strategy or development plans; availability, terms and deployment of capital; availability of qualified personnel; commodity, labor, and employee benefit costs; changes in, or failure to comply with, government regulations; weather conditions; construction schedules; and other factors referenced in this Report.

Results of Operations (in thousands except percentages)

Fiscal Year Ended November 3, 2017 (53 weeks) Compared to Fiscal Year Ended October 28, 2016 (52 weeks)

Net Sales-Consolidated

Net sales in fiscal year 2017 increased \$27,160 (19.4%) when compared to the prior fiscal year. The changes in net sales were comprised as follows:

Impact on Net Sales-Consolidated	%	\$
Selling price per pound	-4.7	(7,095)
Unit sales volume in pounds	23.1	34,975
Returns activity	0.3	(8)
Promotional activity	0.7	(712)
Increase in net sales	19.4	27,160

Net Sales-Frozen Food Products Segment

Net sales in the Frozen Food Products segment in fiscal year 2017 increased \$2,492 (5.3%) compared to the prior fiscal year. The changes in net sales were comprised as follows:

Impact on Net Sales-Frozen Food Products	%	\$
Selling price per pound	-1.4	(717)
Unit sales volume in pounds	5.8	3,053
Returns activity	0.2	83
Promotional activity	0.7	73
Increase in net sales	5.3	2,492

The increase in net sales in fiscal year 2017 was attributable to higher sales volumes due to changes in product mix including an increase in shelf-stable bread products. Selling prices per pound decreased compared to the prior fiscal year. Returns activity decreased and promotional activity was lower as a percent of sales due to decreased bid price and menu allowances offered compared to fiscal year 2016.

Net Sales-Snack Food Products Segment

Net sales in the Snack Food Products segment in fiscal year 2017 increased \$24,668 (26.4%) compared to the prior fiscal year. The changes in net sales were comprised as follows:

Impact on Net Sales-Snack Food Products	%	\$
Selling price per pound	-6.4	(6,378)
Unit sales volume in pounds	32.1	31,922
Returns activity	0.6	(91)
Promotional activity	0.1	(785)
Increase in net sales	26.4	24,668

The increase in net sales in fiscal year 2017 was attributable to higher unit sales volume in pounds compared to fiscal year 2016. Volume in the beef products category increased significantly with strong increases in pepperoni, jerky and shelf stable meat products also contributing to the volume increase. Offsetting the volume increases, sales prices per pound declined due primarily to changes in distribution channel mix, with higher product volumes being sold into more discounted channels. Promotional and returns activity were both lower as a percent of sales than the prior fiscal year due to more limited promotional offers on warehouse shipments compared to the prior fiscal year.

Cost of Products Sold and Gross Margin-Consolidated

Cost of products sold from continuing operations increased by \$20,787 (24.5%) compared to the prior fiscal year. Higher unit sales volume in the Snack Food Products segment was the primary contributing factor to the increase in

cost of products sold. Overhead spending increased due to significant increases in workers' compensation, retroactive pay under union contracts, utilities, property taxes and hourly wages. Decreases in meat commodity costs year to date partially offset the increase in cost of products sold as described in the segment analysis below. The gross margin decreased from 39.4% to 36.8% during fiscal year 2017 compared to the prior fiscal year.

Change in Cost of Products Sold by Segment	\$	%	Commodity	
			\$	(Decrease) Increase
Frozen Food Products Segment	906	1.1	(21)
Snack Food Products Segment	19,881	23.4	(266)
Total	20,787	24.5	(287)

Cost of Products Sold and Gross Margin—Frozen Food Products Segment

Cost of products sold in the Frozen Food Products segment increased by \$906 (3.1%) to \$30,177 in fiscal year 2017 compared to the prior fiscal year. Higher unit volume partially offset by lower flour commodity costs of approximately \$21 were the primary contributing factors to this increase. The gross margin percentage increased from 37.2% to 38.5% during fiscal year 2017 compared to the prior fiscal year.

Cost of Products Sold and Gross Margin—Snack Food Products Segment

Cost of products sold in the Snack Food Products segment increased by \$19,881 (35.8%) compared to the prior fiscal year due primarily to higher sales volume which was partially offset by lower meat commodity costs. The cost of meat commodities decreased approximately \$266 during fiscal year 2017 compared to the prior fiscal year. The gross margin earned in this segment decreased from 40.5% to 36.1% during fiscal year 2017 primarily as a result of lower per pound selling prices.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses-Consolidated

Selling, general and administrative expenses (“SG&A”) in fiscal year 2017 increased \$4,381 (9.9%) when compared to the prior fiscal year. The increase in this category did not directly correspond to the change in sales.

The table below summarizes the primary expense variances in this category:

	November 3, 2017 (53 Weeks)	October 28, 2016 (52 Weeks)	Expense Increase (Decrease)
Wages and bonus	\$ 22,248	\$ 18,617	\$ 3,631
Cash surrender value	(1,351)	(109)	(1,242)
Product advertising	5,165	4,318	847
Pension	1,969	1,668	301
Healthcare	1,706	1,919	(213)
Outside storage	671	884	(213)
Fuel	1,382	1,187	195
Reserve for doubtful accounts	26	(166)	192
Other SG&A	16,942	16,059	883
Total - SG&A	48,758	44,377	4,381

Higher profits and profit sharing accruals resulted in increased wages and bonus in fiscal year 2017 compared to the prior year. The cash surrender value of life insurance policies increased substantially due to stock market gains compared to fiscal 2016. Costs for product advertising increased mainly as a result of higher payments under brand licensing agreements in the Snack Food Products segment during fiscal 2017. The increase in pension costs was due to lower pension discount rates being used to compute future liability estimates. Healthcare benefit expense was more favorable compared to claim trends in fiscal 2016. Outside storage costs declined due to acquisition of a new facility currently being used to warehouse products prior to shipment. The increase in fuel expense was driven by per gallon fuel price increases compared to the prior fiscal year as a result of higher cost trends in petroleum markets. The reserve for doubtful accounts increased as a direct result of an increase in accounts receivable due to higher sales and extended terms to customers. The major components comprising the increase of “Other SG&A” expenses were higher workers’ compensation costs, vehicle and general repairs and maintenance.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses-Frozen Food Products Segment

SG&A expenses in the Frozen Food Products segment increased by \$229 (1.6%) to \$14,706 during fiscal year 2017 compared to the prior fiscal year. The overall increase in SG&A expenses was due to higher wages and bonuses, pension costs and product advertising expenses.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses-Refrigerated and Snack Food Products Segment

SG&A expenses in the Snack Food Products segment increased by \$4,152 (13.9%) to \$34,052 during fiscal year 2017 compared to the prior fiscal year. Most of the increase was due to higher sales, higher expense related to licensing agreements, and higher workers' compensation and pension costs partially offset by higher allocated gains on life insurance.

Income Taxes

The effective income tax rate was 31.6% and 28.3% in fiscal years 2017 and 2016, respectively. In fiscal year 2017, the effective income tax rate differed from the applicable mixed statutory rate of approximately 37.7% primarily due to the Domestic Production Activities Deduction and a change in the liability on unrecognized benefits related to research and development tax credits (refer to Note 4 of Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for more information).

Liquidity and Capital Resources (in thousands except share amounts)

The principal source of our operating cash flow is cash receipts from the sale of our products, net of costs to manufacture, store, market and deliver to customers. The Company did not borrow on the line of credit with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. during fiscal 2017. There were no borrowings outstanding under this line of credit as of November 3, 2017. The Company was in compliance with all loan covenants except the capital expenditure maximum which was subsequently waived in a letter dated December 22, 2017. We typically fund our operations from cash balances and cash flow generated from operations. We normally expect positive operating cash flows in the first quarter of our fiscal year from the liquidation of inventory and accounts receivable balances related to holiday season sales. We typically build inventories in the third quarter for anticipated promotional sales that occur in the fourth and first quarters. Anticipated commodity price trends may also affect cash balances. Certain commodities may be purchased in advance of our immediate needs to lower the ultimate cost of processing or to meet customer demand.

Cash flows from operating activities:

	November 3, 2017 (53 Weeks)	October 28, 2016 (52 Weeks)
Net income	\$ 8,829	\$ 7,770
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	3,366	3,043
Provision (recovery) for losses on accounts receivable	26	(166)
Provision for promotional allowances	(266)	790
Loss (gain) on sale of property, plant and equipment	(58)	3
Deferred income taxes, net	(490)	(1,034)
Changes in operating working capital	5,362	(5,879)
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 16,769	\$ 4,527

For the fifty-three weeks ended November 3, 2017, net cash provided by operating activities was \$16,769, an increase of \$12,242 compared to the fifty-two weeks ended October 28, 2016. The net increase in cash provided by operating activities primarily related to net income of \$8,829 and a reduction in inventory of \$1,065 partially offset by estimated income tax payments of \$4,365. During fiscal year 2017, we funded \$1,150 towards our defined benefit pension plan. Plan funding strategies may be adjusted depending upon economic conditions, investment options, tax deductibility, or legislative changes in funding requirements.

Our cash conversion cycle (defined as days of inventory and trade receivables less days of trade payables outstanding) was equal to 73 days for the fifty-three weeks ended November 3, 2017 and 89 days for the fifty-two weeks ended October 28, 2016. The Company increased payment terms to certain large customers during fiscal year 2016 which increased the prior fiscal year's cash conversion cycle.

For the fifty-two weeks ended October 28, 2016, net cash provided by operating activities was \$4,527. This result was primarily related to net income. During fiscal year 2016, we funded \$1,150 towards our defined benefit pension plan.

Cash used in investing activities:

	November 3, 2017	October 28, 2016
	(53 Weeks)	(52 Weeks)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	\$ 58	\$ 24
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(11,574)	(3,265)
Net cash used in investing activities	\$ (11,516)	\$ (3,241)

Expenditures for property, plant and equipment include the acquisition of equipment, upgrading of facilities to maintain operating efficiency and investments in cost effective technologies to lower costs. In general, we capitalize the cost of additions and improvements and expense the cost for repairs and maintenance. We may also capitalize costs related to improvements that extend the life, increase the capacity, or improve the efficiency of existing machinery and equipment. Specifically, capitalization of upgrades of facilities to maintain operating efficiency include acquisitions of machinery and equipment used on packaging lines and refrigeration equipment used to process food products.

The Company purchased an existing facility in the Chicago area for approximately \$5.6 million cash on March 23, 2017. The Company has spent approximately \$1.9 million on building improvements through the end of fiscal 2017. Initial product shipments were received at the new facility on July 27, 2017 as the facility commenced operations.

The table below highlights the additions to property, plant and equipment for the fifty-three and fifty-two weeks ended:

	November 3, 2017 (53 Weeks)	October 28, 2016 (52 Weeks)
Land	\$ 2,051	\$ -
Building	3,975	-
Building improvements	1,533	267
Leasehold improvements	42	-
Temperature control	786	-
Processing equipment	1,031	550
Packaging lines	1,020	270
Vehicles for sales and/or delivery	1,081	1,273
Quality control and communication systems	121	-
Computer software and hardware	352	254
Forklifts	47	39
Change in projects in process	(465)	612
Additions to property, plant and equipment	\$ 11,574	\$ 3,265

Cash used in financing activities:

	November 3, 2017 (53 Weeks)	October 28, 2016 (52 Weeks)
Shares repurchased	\$-	\$ (40)
Payments of capital lease obligations	(129)	(103)
Net cash used in financing activities	\$(129)	\$ (143)

Our stock repurchase program was approved by the Board of Directors in November 1999 and was expanded in June 2005. Under the stock repurchase program, we are authorized, at the discretion of management and the Board of Directors, to purchase up to an aggregate of 2,000,000 shares of our common stock on the open market. As of the end of fiscal year 2017, 120,113 shares were still authorized for repurchase under the program.

We invested in OTR (over-the-road) tractors during fiscal year 2012 financed by a capital lease obligation in the amount of \$1,848. The total capital lease obligation remaining as of November 3, 2017 is \$424. The capital lease arrangement replaced the long-standing month-to-month leases of transportation equipment.

We maintain a line of credit with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. that expires on March 1, 2018. The line of credit was expanded during the first quarter of fiscal 2017. Under the terms of this line of credit, we may borrow up to \$7,500 at an interest rate equal to the bank's prime rate or Libor plus 1.5%. The borrowing agreement contains various covenants, the more significant of which require us to maintain a minimum tangible net worth, a minimum quick ratio, a minimum net income after tax and total capital expenditures less than \$5,000. The Company was in violation of the capital expenditure covenant which was subsequently waived by letter dated December 22, 2017. The Company was in compliance with all other covenants as of November 3, 2017. There have been no borrowings under this line of credit during fiscal 2017.

Impact of Inflation

Our operating results are heavily dependent upon the prices paid for raw materials. The marketing of our value-added products does not lend itself to instantaneous changes in selling prices. Changes in selling prices are relatively infrequent and do not compare with the volatility of commodity markets. While fluctuations in significant cost structure components, such as ingredient commodities and fuel prices, have had a significant impact on profitability over the last two fiscal years, the impact of general price inflation on our financial position and results of operations has not been significant. However, future volatility of general price inflation or deflation and raw material cost and availability could adversely affect our financial results.

Management is of the opinion that our strong financial position and our capital resources are sufficient to provide for our operating needs and capital expenditures for fiscal year 2018.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not currently have any off balance sheet arrangements within the meaning of Item 303(a)(4) of Regulation S-K.

Contractual Obligations

We have remained free of interest bearing debt (excluding capital leases) for twenty-eight of the last twenty-nine years (with fiscal year 2014 being the only exception) and had no other debt or other contractual obligations within the meaning of Item 303(a)(5) of Regulation S-K, as of November 3, 2017.

Critical Accounting Policies

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported revenues and expenses during the respective reporting periods. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Amounts estimated related to liabilities for self-insured workers' compensation, employee healthcare and pension benefits are especially subject to inherent uncertainties and these estimated liabilities may ultimately settle at amounts not originally estimated. We record provisions, returns allowances, bad debt and inventory allowances based on recent and historical trends. Management believes its current estimates are reasonable and based on the best information available at the time.

Disclosure concerning our policies on credit risk, revenue recognition, cash surrender or contract value for life insurance policies, deferred income tax and the recoverability of our long-lived assets are provided in Notes 1 and 4 of Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements and Regulations

Various accounting standard-setting bodies have been active in soliciting comments and issuing statements, interpretations and exposure drafts. For information on new accounting pronouncements and the impact, if any, on our financial position or results of operations, see Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Not applicable a smaller reporting company.

Item 8. Consolidated Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

The consolidated financial statements required by this Item are set forth in Part IV Item 15 of this Report.

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

Not applicable.

Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures

Our management, with the participation and under the supervision of our Chairman and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e)) as of the end of the period covered by this Report. Based on this evaluation, the Chairman and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective as of the end of the period covered by this Report in their design and operation to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, and recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified by the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

Our management, including our Chairman and Chief Financial Officer, does not expect that our disclosure controls and internal controls will prevent all error and all fraud. A control system, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Because of inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within the Company have been detected. These inherent limitations include the realities that judgments in decision-making can be faulty, and that breakdowns can occur because of simple error or mistake. Additionally, controls can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion of two or more people, or by management override of the control.

The design of any system of controls is also based in part upon certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and there can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving our stated goals under all potential future conditions; over time, a control may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate. Because of inherent limitations in a cost-effective control system, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected.

We maintain and evaluate a system of internal accounting controls, and a program designed to provide reasonable assurance that our assets are protected and that transactions are performed in accordance with proper authorization, and are properly recorded. This system of internal accounting controls is continually reviewed and modified in response to evolving business conditions and operations and to recommendations made by our independent registered public accounting firm. We have established a code of conduct. Our management believes that the accounting and internal control systems provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded and financial information is reliable.

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors meets regularly with our financial management and counsel, and with the independent registered public accounting firm engaged by us. Internal accounting controls and the quality of financial reporting are discussed during these meetings. The Audit Committee has discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm matters required to be discussed by Statement of Auditing Standards No. 16 (Communication with Audit Committees). In addition, the Audit Committee and the independent registered public accounting firm have discussed the independent registered public accounting firm's independence from our Company and its management, including the matters in the written disclosures required by Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Rule 3526 "Communicating with Audit Committees Concerning Independence".

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reports

There has been no change in our internal control over financial reporting during the last fiscal quarter covered by this Report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

In order to comply with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, we have undertaken and continue a comprehensive effort, which includes the documentation and review of our internal controls. In order to comply with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, we centralized most accounting and many administrative functions at our corporate headquarters in an effort to control the cost of maintaining our control systems.

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, signed into law by the President on July 21, 2010, permanently exempts small public companies with less than \$75 million in market capitalization, such as the Company, from the requirement to obtain an external audit on the effectiveness of internal financial reporting controls provided in Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. As a result, an attestation report on internal controls over financial reporting by an independent registered public accounting firm has not been presented. Section 404(a) is still effective for smaller public companies and requires the disclosure of management attestations on internal controls over financial reporting.

Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Our internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal controls over financial reporting based on the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) Internal Control-Integrated Framework (2013) and related illustrative documents as an update to Internal Control-Integrated Framework (1992). Management has determined that the 17 principles are present and functioning during its assessment of the effectiveness of our internal controls. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Therefore, even those systems determined to be effective can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and presentation. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Management assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting for our fiscal year ended November 3, 2017. Based on management's assessment and the above-referenced criteria, management believes that the internal control over financial reporting for our fiscal year ended November 3, 2017 was effective.

Item 9B. Other Information

Not applicable.

PART III

Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance

The information required by this item will be included in the Proxy Statement, which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days after the end of our fiscal year ended November 3, 2017, and is incorporated herein by reference. Information concerning our executive officers is set forth in Part I, Item 1 of this Report under the heading “Executive Officers of the Registrant”.

Item 11. Executive Compensation

The information required by this item will be included in the Proxy Statement, which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days after the end of our fiscal year ended November 3, 2017, and is incorporated herein by reference.

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

The information required by this item will be included in the Proxy Statement, which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days after the end of our fiscal year ended November 3, 2017, and is incorporated herein by reference.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

Not applicable, as we do not have any compensation plans under which our equity securities are authorized for issuance.

Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence

The information required by this item will be included in the Proxy Statement, which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days after the end of our fiscal year ended November 3, 2017, and is incorporated herein by reference.

We are considered a “controlled company” within the meaning of Rule 5615(c)(1) of the NASDAQ Listing Rules based on the approximate 80% beneficial ownership of our outstanding common stock by Bridgford Industries Incorporated and are therefore exempted from various NASDAQ Listing Rules pertaining to certain “independence” requirements of our directors. Nevertheless, the Board of Directors has determined that Messrs. Andrews, Scott and Zippwald who together comprise the Audit Committee, are all “independent directors” within the meaning of Rule 5605 of the NASDAQ Listing Rules.

Our general legal counsel is the son of the former senior chairman of the Board of Directors. As legal counsel to the board, he currently is paid a fee of \$2,100 for each meeting attended. Total fees paid under this arrangement for fiscal year 2017 were approximately \$22,900. Legal services are performed on our behalf and billed by a firm in which he is a partner. Total fees billed under this arrangement for fiscal year 2016 were approximately \$131,000.

Director Allan Bridgford Jr., son of the former senior chairman of the Board of Directors, is providing consulting services to the Chicago plant and management. The contract on behalf of the Company with Allan Bridgford Jr. is for consulting services at \$1,200 per day. Total fees billed under this arrangement for fiscal year 2017 were approximately \$250,200. As a member of the Board of Directors, he was paid a fee of \$2,100 for each meeting attended during fiscal year 2017. Total fees paid under this arrangement for fiscal year 2017 were \$25,000. Under an arrangement with Allan Bridgford Jr., we accrued approximately \$1,033,000 of profit sharing based on fiscal year 2017 profitability to be paid out in three installments equally over the next three years.

Real estate consultant and Board member Keith Ross currently provides consulting services to the Board and management. He was paid a fee of \$2,100 for each Board meeting attended during fiscal year 2017 for a total of \$17,700 during fiscal year 2017. Total fees paid during fiscal year 2017 for consulting services were \$324,000.

Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services

The information required by this item will be included in the Proxy Statement, which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days after the end of our fiscal year ended November 3, 2017, and is incorporated herein by reference.

PART IV

Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules

(a)(1) *Financial Statements* . The following documents are filed as a part of this Report:

	Page
<u>Management’s Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting</u>	16
<u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	20
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets as of November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016</u>	21
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for years ended November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016</u>	22
<u>Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for years ended November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016</u>	23
<u>Consolidated Statements of Shareholders’ Equity for years ended November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016</u>	23
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for years ended November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016</u>	24
<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	25

(2) *Financial Statement Schedules*

Not applicable for a smaller reporting company.

(3) *Exhibits*

(a) *The exhibits below are filed or incorporated herein by reference.*

Exhibit Number	Description
3.5	Restated Articles of Incorporation, dated December 29, 1989 (filed as Exhibit 3.5 to Form 10-K on January 28, 1993 and incorporated herein by reference).
3.6	Amendment to Articles of Incorporation, dated July 27, 1990 (filed as Exhibit 3.6 to Form 10-K on January 28, 1993 and incorporated herein by reference).
3.7	

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By-laws, as amended (filed as Exhibit 2 to Form 10-K on January 28, 1993 and incorporated herein by reference).

- 3.8 Certificate of Amendment to By-laws (filed as Exhibit 99.1 to Form 8-K on October 10, 2007 and incorporated herein by reference).
- 10.1 Bridgford Foods Corporation Defined Benefit Pension Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to Form 10-K on January 28, 1993 and incorporated herein by reference).*
- 10.2 Bridgford Foods Corporation Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.2 to Form 10-K on January 28, 1993 and incorporated herein by reference).*
- 10.3 Bridgford Foods Corporation Deferred Compensation Savings Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.3 to Form 10-K on January 28, 1993 and incorporated herein by reference).*
- 21.1 Subsidiaries of the Registrant.
- 24.1 Power of Attorney (included as part of the signature page)
- 31.1 Certification of Principal Executive Officer, Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of Principal Financial Officer, Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1 Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (Principal Executive Officer).
- 32.2 Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (Principal Financial Officer).
- 101.INS XBRL Instance Document.
- 101.SCH XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.
- 101.CAL XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document.
- 101.DEF XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document.
- 101.LAB XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document.
- 101.PRE XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document.

* Each of these Exhibits constitutes a management contract, compensatory plan or arrangement.

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.

BRIDGFORD FOODS
CORPORATION

By: /s/ WILLIAM L. BRIDGFORD

William L. Bridgford

Chairman of the Board

Date: January 12, 2018

POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, the undersigned directors and officers of Bridgford Foods Corporation, do hereby constitute and appoint William L. Bridgford and Raymond F. Lancy, or either of them, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, our true and lawful attorneys and agents, to do any and all acts and things in our name and behalf in our capacities as directors and officers and to execute any and all instruments for us and in our names in the capacities indicated below, which said attorneys and agents, or either of them, or their substitutes, may deem necessary or advisable to enable said corporation to comply with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission in connection with this Annual Report on Form 10-K, including specifically, but without limitation, power and authority to sign for us or any of us in our names and in the capacities indicated below, any and all amendments; and we do hereby ratify and confirm all that the said attorneys and agents, or either of them, shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

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/ WILLIAM L.
BRIDGFORD

Chairman of the Board

January 12,
2018

William L. Bridgford	(Principal Executive Officer)	
<i>/s/ JOHN V. SIMMONS</i>	President & Director	January 12, 2018
John V. Simmons		
<i>/s/ RAYMOND F. LANCY</i>	Chief Financial Officer, Executive Vice President, Treasurer & Director	January 12, 2018
Raymond F. Lancy	(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	
<i>/s/ BRUCE H. BRIDGFORD</i>	Director	January 12, 2018
Bruce H. Bridgford		
<i>/s/ TODD C. ANDREWS</i>	Director	January 12, 2018
Todd C. Andrews		
<i>/s/ ALLAN BRIDGFORD JR.</i>	Director	January 12, 2018
Allan Bridgford Jr.		
<i>/s/ D. GREGORY SCOTT</i>	Director	January 12, 2018
D. Gregory Scott		
<i>/s/ KEITH A. ROSS</i>	Director	January 12, 2018
Keith A. Ross		
<i>/s/ PAUL R. ZIPPWALD</i>	Director	January 12, 2018
Paul R. Zippwald		

Report Of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders

Bridgford Foods Corporation

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Bridgford Foods Corporation (the “Company”) as of November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016 and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, shareholders’ equity and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements 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 audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Bridgford Foods Corporation as of November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

/s/ Squar Milner LLP
Newport Beach, California
January 12, 2018

BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS****November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016****(in thousands, except per share amounts)**

	2017	2016
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$12,109	\$6,985
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$30 and \$17, respectively and promotional allowances of \$2,537 and \$2,271, respectively	19,148	16,582
Inventories, less reserves of \$358, and \$308, respectively	23,016	24,081
Prepaid expenses	1,550	937
Total current assets	55,823	48,585
Property, plant and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$63,722 and \$62,330, respectively	18,571	10,362
Other non-current assets	13,111	13,775
Deferred income taxes	10,040	14,532
Total assets	\$97,545	\$87,254
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$5,365	\$4,085
Accrued payroll, advertising and other expenses	4,555	4,089
Income taxes payable	216	130
Current portion of non-current liabilities	6,108	3,918
Total current liabilities	16,244	12,222
Non-current liabilities	25,263	36,123
Total liabilities	41,507	48,345
Contingencies and commitments (Notes 3, 5 and 6)		
Shareholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, without par value; Authorized, - 1,000 shares; issued and outstanding – none	-	-
Common stock, \$1.00 par value; Authorized, - 20,000 shares; issued and outstanding – 9,076 and 9,076	9,134	9,134
Capital in excess of par value	8,298	8,298
Retained earnings	56,902	48,073
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(18,296)	(26,596)
Total shareholders' equity	56,038	38,909

Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$97,545	\$87,254
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See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS****For the fiscal years ended November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016****(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

	November 3, 2017	October 28, 2016
	(53 Weeks)	(52 Weeks)
Net sales	\$ 167,223	\$ 140,063
Cost of products sold	105,637	84,850
Gross margin	61,586	55,213
Selling, general and administrative expenses	48,758	44,377
Income before taxes	12,828	10,836
Provision for income taxes	3,999	3,066
Net income	\$ 8,829	\$ 7,770
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.97	\$ 0.86
Shares used to compute basic earnings per share	9,076,832	9,077,606

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements

BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

For the fiscal years ended November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016

(in thousands)

	November 3, 2017	October 28, 2016
	(53	(52
	Weeks)	Weeks)
Net income	\$ 8,829	\$ 7,770
Other comprehensive income (loss) from defined benefit plans	12,832	(7,419)
Other postretirement benefit plans:		
Actuarial gain (loss)	641	(103)
Prior service (benefit) cost	(190)	202
Other comprehensive income from other postretirement benefit plans, net	451	99
Other comprehensive income (loss), before taxes	13,283	(7,320)
Tax (expense) benefit on other comprehensive income/loss	(4,983)	2,854
Change in other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	8,300	(4,466)
Comprehensive income, net of tax	\$ 17,129	\$ 3,304

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

For the fiscal years ended November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016

(in thousands)

		Capital in excess of par value	Retained earnings	Accumulated other comprehensive loss	Total shareholders' equity
Shares	Amount				

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Balance, October 30, 2015	9,080	\$ 9,138	\$ 8,334	\$ 40,303	\$ (22,130)) \$ 35,645
Shares repurchased and retired	(4)	(4)	(36)			(40)
Net income				7,770		7,770
Net change in defined benefit plans and other benefit plans					(4,466)	(4,466)
Balance, October 28, 2016	9,076	\$ 9,134	\$ 8,298	\$ 48,073	\$ (26,596)) \$ 38,909
Shares repurchased and retired						
Net income				8,829		8,829
Net change in defined benefit plans and other benefit plans					8,300	8,300
Balance, November 3, 2017	9,076	\$ 9,134	\$ 8,298	\$ 56,902	\$ (18,296)) \$ 56,038

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS****For the fiscal years ended November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016****(in thousands)**

	November 3, 2017	October 28, 2016
	(53 Weeks)	(52 Weeks)
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 8,829	\$ 7,770
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	3,366	3,043
Provision (recovery) for losses on accounts receivable	26	(166)
Provision for promotional allowances	(266)	790
Loss (gain) on sale of property, plant and equipment	(58)	3
Deferred income taxes, net	(490)	(1,034)
Tax valuation allowance	(77)	-
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(2,326)	(2,587)
Inventories	1,065	(4,104)
Prepaid expenses	(613)	(556)
Refundable income taxes	(703)	(62)
Other non-current assets	1,443	(109)
Accounts payable	1,280	(2,002)
Accrued payroll, advertising and other expenses	466	(1,114)
Income taxes payable	85	34
Current portion of non-current liabilities	1,916	1,105
Non-current liabilities	2,826	3,516
Net cash provided by operating activities	16,769	4,527
Cash used in investing activities:		
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	58	24
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(11,574)	(3,265)
Net cash used in investing activities	(11,516)	(3,241)
Cash used in financing activities:		
Shares repurchased	-	(40)
Payment of capital lease obligations	(129)	(103)
Net cash used in financing activities	(129)	(143)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	5,124	1,143

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Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	6,985	5,842
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 12,109	\$ 6,985
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 4,365	\$ 4,267
Transportation equipment returned originally financed by capital lease obligation	\$ -	\$ (132)

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(in thousands except share and per share amounts, time periods and percentages)

NOTE 1 - *The Company and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:*

Bridgford Foods Corporation was organized in 1952. We originally began operations in 1932 as a retail meat market in San Diego, California and evolved into a meat wholesaler for hotels and restaurants, a distributor of frozen food products, a processor and packer of meat, and a manufacturer and distributor of frozen food products for sale on a retail and wholesale basis. For more than the past five years we and our subsidiaries have been primarily engaged in the manufacturing, marketing and distribution of an extensive line of frozen, refrigerated, and snack food products throughout the United States.

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries, all of which are wholly-owned. All inter-company transactions have been eliminated.

Use of estimates and assumptions

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, as well as the reported revenues and expenses during the respective reporting periods. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Amounts estimated related to liabilities for pension benefits, self-insured workers' compensation and employee healthcare benefits are subject to inherent uncertainties and these estimated liabilities may ultimately settle at amounts which may vary from current estimates. Other areas with underlying estimates include realization of deferred tax assets, cash surrender or contract value of life insurance policies, promotional allowances and the allowance for doubtful accounts and inventory reserves. Management believes its current estimates are reasonable and based on the best information available at the time.

We test long-lived assets for recoverability whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. If an impairment is indicated, we measure the fair value of assets to determine if and when adjustments are recorded.

Subsequent events

Management has evaluated events subsequent to November 3, 2017 through the date the accompanying consolidated financial statements were filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission for transactions and other events that may require adjustment of and/or disclosure in such financial statements. On December 22, 2017, the President of the United States signed into law the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act which reforms U.S. Tax legislation and related laws. One of the provisions of the new tax law reduces the company's U.S. federal corporate income tax rate from the current 34% to 21%. This legislation was enacted after the close of our 2017 fiscal year end. The Company's effective tax rate for the fifty-three weeks ended November 3, 2017 does not include the impact of the Tax Cut and Jobs Act. Our deferred tax assets will be revalued at the lower rate during the first quarter of fiscal 2018 ending January 26, 2018. The Company continues to evaluate the impact of the new tax law on its financial condition and results of operations. Based on management's review, no other material events were identified that require adjustment to the financial statements or additional disclosure.

Concentrations of credit risk

Our credit risk is diversified across a broad range of customers and geographic regions. Losses due to credit risk have recently been immaterial. The carrying amount of cash equivalents, accounts and other receivables, accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximate fair market value due to the short maturity of these instruments. We maintain cash balances at financial institutions, which may at times exceed the amounts insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Management does not believe there is significant credit risk associated with these financial institutions. The provision for doubtful accounts receivable is based on historical trends and current collectability risk.

We have significant accounts receivable with a few large, well known customers which, although historically secure, could be subject to material risk should these customers' operations suddenly deteriorate. Sales to Wal-Mart® comprised 37.7% of revenues in fiscal 2017 and 36.9% of total accounts receivable was due from Wal-Mart® as of November 3, 2017. Sales to Wal-Mart® comprised 34.8% of revenues in fiscal 2016 and 35.6% of total accounts receivable was due from Wal-Mart as of ® October 28, 2016.

Business segments

Our company and its subsidiaries operate in two business segments - the processing and distribution of frozen foods products, and the processing and distribution of snack food products. See Note 7 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

Fiscal year

We maintain our accounting records on a 52-53 week fiscal basis ending on the Friday closest to October 31. As part of the regular accounting cycle, fiscal year 2017 included 53 weeks and fiscal year 2016 included 52 weeks.

Revenues

Revenues are recognized upon passage of title to the customer, typically upon product pick-up, shipment or delivery to customers. Products are delivered to customers primarily through our own long-haul fleet or through a Company owned direct store delivery system. These delivery costs, \$3,556 and \$3,456 for fiscal years 2017 and 2016, respectively, are included in selling, general and administrative expenses in the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

We record promotional and returns allowances based on recent and historical trends. Revenue is recognized as the net amount estimated to be received after deducting estimated amounts for discounts, trade allowances and product returns. Promotional allowances, including customer incentive and trade promotion activities, are recorded as a reduction to sales based on amounts estimated being due to customers, based primarily on historical utilization and redemption rates. Promotional allowances deducted from sales for fiscal years 2017 and 2016 were \$9,123 and \$8,578, respectively.

Advertising expenses

Advertising and other promotional expenses are recorded as selling, general and administrative expenses. Advertising expenses for fiscal years 2017 and 2016 were \$2,403 and \$2,055, respectively.

Cash and cash equivalents

We consider all investments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents include money market funds and treasury bills. Cash equivalents totaled \$12,109 as of November 3, 2017 and \$6,985 as of October 28, 2016. All material cash and cash equivalents as of November 3, 2017 were held at Wells Fargo Bank N.A.

Fair value measurements

We classify levels of inputs to measure the fair value of financial assets as follows:

Level 1 inputs: Level 1 inputs are quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that are accessible at the measurement date.

Level 2 inputs: Level 2 inputs are from other than quoted market prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3 inputs: Level 3 inputs are unobservable and should be used to measure fair value to the extent that observable inputs are not available.

The hierarchy noted above requires us to minimize the use of unobservable inputs and to use observable market data, if available, when determining fair value.

The Company does not have any assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring or non-recurring basis for the fiscal years ended November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016.

Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost (which approximates actual cost on a first-in, first-out basis) or market. Costs related to warehousing, transportation and distribution to customers are considered when computing market value. Inventories include the cost of raw materials, labor and manufacturing overhead. We regularly review inventory quantities on hand and write down any excess or obsolete inventories to net realizable value. An inventory reserve is created when potentially slow-moving or obsolete inventories are identified in order to reflect the appropriate inventory value. Changes in economic conditions, production requirements, and lower than expected customer demand could result in additional obsolete or slow-moving inventory that cannot be sold or must be sold at reduced prices and could result in additional reserve provisions.

Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation. Major renewals and improvements are charged to the asset accounts while the cost of maintenance and repairs is charged to expense as incurred. When assets are sold or otherwise disposed of, the cost and accumulated depreciation are removed from the respective accounts and the resulting gain or loss is credited or charged to income. Depreciation is computed on a straight-line basis over 10 to 20 years for buildings and improvements, 5 to 10 years for machinery and equipment, and 3 to 5 years for transportation equipment.

Capital leases

Leased property and equipment that meet capital lease criteria are capitalized at the lower of the present value of the minimum payments required under the lease or the fair value of the asset at inception of the lease and are included within property, plant and equipment on the consolidated balance sheet. Obligations under capital leases are accounted for as current and noncurrent liabilities on the consolidated balance sheet. Amortization is calculated on a straight-line method based upon the shorter of the estimated useful life of the asset or the lease term.

Life insurance policies

We record the cash surrender value or contract value for life insurance policies as an adjustment of premiums paid in determining the expense or income to be recognized under the contract for the period. The cash surrender value is included in other non-current assets in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets.

Income taxes

Deferred taxes are provided for items whose financial and tax bases differ. A valuation allowance is provided against deferred tax assets when it is expected that it is more likely than not that the related asset will not be fully realized. The determination as to whether or not a deferred tax asset can be fully realized is subject to a significant degree of judgment, based at least partially upon a projection of future taxable income, which takes into consideration past and future trends in profitability, customer demand, supply costs, and multiple other factors, none of which are predictable.

We provide tax accruals for federal, state and local exposures relating to audit results, tax planning initiatives and compliance responsibilities. The development of these accruals requires judgments about tax issues, potential outcomes and timing. (See Note 4 to the Consolidated Financial Statements). Although the outcome of these tax audits is uncertain, in management's opinion adequate provisions for income taxes have been made for potential liabilities emanating from these reviews. If actual outcomes differ materially from these estimates, they could have a material impact on our results of operations.

Stock-based compensation

We measure and recognize compensation expense for all share-based payments to employees, including grants of employee stock options, in the financial statements based on the fair value at the date of the grant. We have not issued, awarded, granted or entered into any stock-based payment agreements since April 29, 1999.

Comprehensive income

Comprehensive income consists of net income and additional minimum pension liability adjustments.

Recently issued accounting pronouncements and regulations

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the “FASB”) issued ASU 2014-09 “Revenue from Contracts with Customers” to supersede previous revenue recognition guidance under current U.S. GAAP. The guidance presents a single five-step model for comprehensive revenue recognition that requires an entity to recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. Two options are available for implementation of the standard which are either the retrospective approach or cumulative effect adjustment approach. The guidance becomes effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017, including interim periods within that reporting period, with early adoption permitted. The Company anticipates using the modified retrospective transition method beginning with the first quarter of fiscal 2019. The Company is in the process of evaluating the full impact of adoption of this guidance and does not presently expect adoption to have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements aside from more detailed and improved disclosure requirements.

In July 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-11 “Simplifying the Measurement of Inventory”. The guidance is part of the “Simplification Initiative” to identify and re-evaluate areas where the generally accepted accounting principles may be complex and cumbersome to apply. The guidance will require that inventory be stated at the lower of cost and net realizable value as opposed to the lower of cost or market. Net realizable value is the estimated selling price for the inventory less completion, disposal and transportation costs. The guidance became effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016. Adoption of this guidance is not expected to have a material impact on the Company’s results of operations or financial position.

In November 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-17, “Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes”. The guidance requires that all deferred tax assets and liabilities, along with any related valuation allowance, be classified as noncurrent on the balance sheet. The guidance becomes effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 6, 2016 with early adoption permitted. The Company applied this guidance to its fiscal year ended November 3, 2017. Adoption of this guidance had no material impact on the results of operations or financial position.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, “Leases”. The guidance requires both operating and capital leases to be recognized on the balance sheet. The guidance becomes effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018 with early adoption permitted. The adoption of this guidance is not expected to have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

In October 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-16, “Income Taxes – Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments”. The guidance involves eight specific cash flow issues and aims to unify accounting for these transactions. The guidance becomes effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017 with early adoption permitted. The Company is currently evaluating this guidance and its impact on its results of operations or financial position.

In March 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-07, “Compensation – Retirement Benefits”. The guidance separates service cost from other pension cost components changing the presentation of net periodic benefit cost related to company sponsored defined benefit or other postretirement benefits. The guidance becomes effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017 with early adoption permitted. The Company is currently evaluating this guidance and its impact on its results of operations or financial position.

NOTE 2 - Composition of Certain Financial Statement Captions:

	2017	2016
Inventories, net:		
Meat, ingredients and supplies	\$5,409	\$5,401
Work in process	1,501	1,206
Finished goods	16,106	17,474
	\$23,016	\$24,081
Property, plant and equipment, net:		
Land	\$3,853	\$1,802
Buildings and improvements	19,944	14,394
Machinery and equipment	50,352	48,498
Capital leased trucks	1,060	1,060
Transportation equipment	6,436	5,860
Construction in process	648	1,078
	82,293	72,692
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(63,722)	(62,330)
	\$18,571	\$10,362
Other non-current assets:		
Cash surrender value benefits	\$13,105	\$13,769
Other	6	6
	\$13,111	\$13,775
Accrued payroll, advertising and other expenses:		
Payroll, vacation, payroll taxes and employee benefits	\$3,252	\$2,912
Accrued advertising and broker commissions	576	471
Property taxes	450	352
Other	277	354
	\$4,555	\$4,089

Current portion of non-current liabilities (Note 3 and 6):		
Defined benefit retirement plan	\$1,150	\$1,099
Executive retirement plans	10	75
Incentive compensation	4,502	2,574
Capital lease obligation	424	150
Customer deposits	9	9
Postretirement healthcare benefits	13	11
	\$6,108	\$3,918
Non-current liabilities (Note 3):		
Defined benefit retirement plan	\$13,122	\$25,317
Executive retirement plans	5,598	5,379
Capital lease obligation	-	404
Incentive compensation	6,028	4,524
Postretirement healthcare benefits	515	499
	\$25,263	\$36,123

NOTE 3 - Retirement and Other Benefit Plans:**Noncontributory-Trusteed Defined Benefit Retirement Plans for Sales, Administrative, Supervisory and Certain Other Employees**

We have noncontributory-trusteed defined benefit retirement plans for sales, administrative, supervisory and certain other employees. In the third quarter of fiscal year 2006, we froze future benefit accruals under this plan for employees classified within the administrative, sales or supervisory job classifications or within any non-bargaining class. The benefits under these plans are primarily based on years of service and compensation levels. The funding policy of the plan requires contributions which are at least equal to the minimum required contributions needed to avoid a funding deficiency. The measurement date for the plan is our fiscal year end.

Net pension cost consisted of the following:

	November 3, 2017	October 28, 2016
	(53	(52
	Weeks)	Weeks)
Service cost	\$ 131	\$ 130
Interest cost	2,196	2,448
Expected return on plan assets	(2,901)	(2,871)
Amortization of unrecognized loss	2,412	1,927
Net pension cost	\$ 1,838	\$ 1,634

Net pension costs and benefit obligations are determined using assumptions as of the beginning of each fiscal year.

Weighted average assumptions for each fiscal year are as follows:

	2017	2016
Discount rate	3.65%	3.40%
Rate of increase in salary levels	N/A	N/A
Expected return on plan assets	7.00%	7.00%

The benefit obligation, plan assets, and funded status of these plans as of the fiscal years ended are as follows:

	November 3, 2017 (53 Weeks)	October 28, 2016 (52 Weeks)
Change in plan assets:		
Fair value of plan assets - beginning of year	\$ 41,871	\$41,419
Employer contributions	1,150	1,150
Actual return on plan assets	6,853	790
Benefits paid	(1,666)	(1,488)
Fair value of plan assets - end of year	\$ 48,209	\$41,871
Change in benefit obligations:		
Benefit obligations - beginning of year	\$ 68,287	\$59,931
Service cost	131	130
Interest cost	2,196	2,448
Actuarial (gain) loss	(6,468)	7,266
Benefits paid	(1,666)	(1,488)
Benefit obligations - end of year	62,480	68,287
Funded status of the plans	(14,271)	(26,416)
Unrecognized prior service costs	-	-
Unrecognized net actuarial loss	20,431	33,264
Net amount recognized	\$ 6,160	\$6,848

We perform an internal rate of return analysis when making the discount rate selection. The discount rates were based on Citigroup Pension Liability Index as of October 31, 2017 and September 30, 2016, respectively.

Plan assets are primarily invested in marketable equity securities, corporate and government debt securities and are administered by an investment management company. The plans' long-term return on assets is based on the weighted-average of the plans' investment allocation as of the measurement date and the published historical returns for those types of asset categories, taking into consideration inflation rate forecasts. Our expected employer contribution to the plan in fiscal year 2018 is \$1,150.

During fiscal year 2015, our actuary updated mortality tables from the IRS 2014 Combined Static Mortality assumptions to the SOA RP 2014 Total Dataset Adjusted to 2006 with Scale MP-2015. The change in mortality table resulted in a significant liability increase in fiscal year 2015 as well as an increased net periodic pension cost (NPPC) projection for fiscal year 2016. The expected rate of return on plan assets remained the same at 7.00% effective for fiscal years 2017 and 2016, respectively.

The actual and target allocation for plan assets are as follows:

Asset Class	Target			Target		
	2017	Asset	2016	Asset	Allocation	Allocation
Large Cap Equities	29.7 %	30.0 %	32.0 %	32.0 %	29.7 %	30.0 %
Mid Cap Equities	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %
Small Cap Equities	13.2 %	12.0 %	12.1 %	12.0 %	13.2 %	12.0 %
International (equities only)	22.9 %	23.0 %	21.3 %	21.0 %	22.9 %	23.0 %
Fixed Income	32.2 %	33.0 %	30.7 %	31.0 %	32.2 %	33.0 %
Other (Government/Corporate, Bonds)	0.0 %	0.0 %	2.0 %	2.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %
Cash	2.0 %	2.0 %	1.9 %	2.0 %	2.0 %	2.0 %
Total	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %

The fair value of our pension plan assets as of November 3, 2017 and the level under which fair values were determined, using the hierarchy described in Note 1, is as follows:

	2017			Total
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
Total plan assets	\$48,209	-	-	\$48,209

Expected payments for the pension benefits are as follows:

Fiscal Years	Pension Benefits
2017	\$2,123
2018	\$2,254
2019	\$2,193
2020	\$2,554
2021	\$2,722
2022-2026	\$ 16,047

Executive Retirement Plans

Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation

Effective January 1, 1991, we adopted a deferred compensation savings plan for certain key employees. Under this arrangement, selected employees contribute a portion of their annual compensation to the plan. We contribute an amount to each participant's account by computing an investment return equal to Moody's Average Seasoned Bond Rate plus 2%. Employees receive vested amounts upon death, termination or attainment of retirement age. No benefit expense was recorded under these plans for fiscal years 2017 and 2016.

Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan

In fiscal year 1991, we adopted a non-qualified supplemental retirement plan for certain key employees. Benefits provided under the plan are equal to 60% of the employee's final average earnings, less amounts provided by our defined benefit pension plan and amounts available through Social Security.

Benefits payable related to these plans and included in the accompanying consolidated financial statements were \$5,607 and \$5,454 as of November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016, respectively. In connection with these arrangements we are the beneficiary of life insurance policies on the lives of certain key employees and retirees. The aggregate cash surrender value of these policies, included in non-current assets, was \$13,105 and \$13,769 as of November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016, respectively.

Expected payments for executive postretirement benefits are as follows:

Fiscal Years	Executive Postretirement Benefits
2018	\$ 126
2019	\$ 293
2020	\$ 526
2021	\$ 526
2022	\$ 526
2023-2027	\$ 2,631

Incentive Compensation Plan for Certain Key Executives

We provide an incentive compensation plan for certain key executives, which is based upon our pretax income. The payment of these amounts is generally deferred over three or five-year periods. The total amount payable related to this arrangement was \$10,530 and \$7,098 as of November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016, respectively. Future payments are approximately \$4,502, \$3,745, \$2,089, \$132 and \$63 for fiscal years 2018 through 2022, respectively.

Postretirement Healthcare Benefits for Selected Executive Employees

We provide postretirement health care benefits for selected executive employees. Net periodic postretirement healthcare (benefit) cost is determined using assumptions as of the beginning of each fiscal year, except for the total actual benefit payments and the discount rate used to develop the net periodic postretirement benefit expense, which is determined at the end of the fiscal year.

Net periodic postretirement healthcare (benefit) cost consisted of the following:

	November 3. 2017	October 28. 2016
	(53	(52
	Weeks)	Weeks)
Service cost	\$ 13	\$ 13
Interest cost	17	28
Amortization of prior service cost	(132)	(132)
Amortization of actuarial gain	(58)	(106)
Net periodic postretirement healthcare (benefit)	\$ (160)	\$ (197)

Weighted average assumptions for the fiscal years ended November 3, 2017 and October 28, 2016 are as follows:

	2017	2016
Discount rate	3.51 %	3.38 %
Medical trend rate next year	8.50 %	8.50 %
Ultimate trend rate	5.00 %	5.00 %
Year ultimate trend rate is achieved	2022	2021

The table below shows the estimated effect of a 1% increase in healthcare cost trend rate on the following:

	2017	2016
Interest cost plus service cost	\$ 4	\$ 6
Accumulated postretirement healthcare obligation	\$ 64	\$ 59

The table below shows the estimated effect of a 1% decrease in healthcare cost trend rate on the following:

	2017	2016
Interest cost plus service cost	\$(4)	\$(5)
Accumulated postretirement healthcare obligation	\$(53)	\$(49)

The healthcare obligation and funded status of this plan as of the fiscal years ended are as follows:

	2017	2016
Change in accumulated postretirement healthcare obligation:		
Healthcare obligation - beginning of year	\$511	\$1,003
Service cost	13	13