

Vera Bradley, Inc.  
Form 10-Q  
June 08, 2016  
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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FORM 10-Q

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

For the Quarterly Period Ended April 30, 2016  
OR

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

For the Transition Period From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
Commission File Number: 001-34918

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VERA BRADLEY, INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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Indiana 27-2935063  
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer  
incorporation or organization) Identification No.)

12420 Stonebridge Road, 46783  
Roanoke, Indiana  
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)  
(877) 708-8372  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

None  
(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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

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

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

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Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

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

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

The registrant had 37,004,561 shares of its common stock outstanding as of June 3, 2016.

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Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements (unaudited)

Consolidated Balance Sheets as of April 30, 2016, and January 30, 2016 4

Consolidated Statements of Income for the Thirteen Weeks Ended April 30, 2016, and May 2, 2015 5

Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the Thirteen Weeks Ended April 30, 2016, and May 2, 2015 6

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Thirteen Weeks Ended April 30, 2016, and May 2, 2015 7

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements 8

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations 15

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk 24

Item 4. Controls and Procedures 24

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1A. Risk Factors 25

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds 25

Item 6. Exhibits 26

Table of Contents

**FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This report contains forward-looking statements that are subject to risks and uncertainties. All statements other than statements of historical or current fact included in this report are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements refer to our current expectations and projections relating to our financial condition, results of operations, plans, objectives, strategies, future performance, and business. You can identify forward-looking statements by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts. These statements may include words such as “anticipate,” “estimate,” “expect,” “project,” “plan,” “intend,” “believe,” “may,” “might,” “will,” “should,” “can have,” and “li” words and terms of similar meaning in connection with any discussion of the timing or nature of future operating or financial performance or other events. For example, all statements we make relating to our estimated and projected earnings, revenues, costs, expenditures, cash flows, growth rates, and financial results, our plans and objectives for future operations, growth, initiatives, or strategies, or the expected outcome or impact of pending or threatened litigation are forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those that we expected, including:

- possible inability to successfully implement our long-term strategic plan;
- possible continued declines in our comparable sales;
- possible inability to maintain and enhance our brand;
- possible failure of our multi-channel distribution model;
- possible adverse changes in general economic conditions and their impact on consumer confidence and consumer spending;
- possible inability to predict and respond in a timely manner to changes in consumer demand;
- possible inability to successfully open new stores and/or operate current stores as planned;
- possible loss of key management or design associates or inability to attract and retain the talent required for our business; and
- possible data security or privacy breaches or disruptions in our computer systems or website.

We derive many of our forward-looking statements from our operating plans and forecasts, which are based upon detailed assumptions. While we believe that our assumptions are reasonable, we caution that it is difficult to predict the impact of known factors, and it is impossible for us to anticipate all factors that could affect our actual results. For a discussion of these risks and other risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in our forward-looking statements, please refer to “Risk Factors” in Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2016.

We caution you that the risks and uncertainties identified by us may not be all of the factors that are important to you. Furthermore, the forward-looking statements included in this report are made only as of the date hereof. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise, except as required by law.

Table of Contents

## PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Vera Bradley, Inc.  
 Consolidated Balance Sheets  
 (in thousands)  
 (unaudited)

	April 30, 2016	January 30, 2016
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$51,813	\$97,681
Short-term investments	30,013	—
Accounts receivable, net	27,691	31,294
Inventories	113,412	113,590
Income taxes receivable	2,766	785
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	11,947	10,292
Total current assets	237,642	253,642
Property, plant, and equipment, net	114,904	113,711
Deferred income taxes	11,142	11,363
Other assets	2,057	1,963
Total assets	\$365,745	\$380,679
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$26,378	\$24,606
Accrued employment costs	10,503	14,937
Other accrued liabilities	17,155	16,924
Income taxes payable	—	10,085
Total current liabilities	54,036	66,552
Long-term liabilities	29,445	28,872
Total liabilities	83,481	95,424
Commitments and contingencies		
Shareholders' equity:		
Preferred stock; 5,000 shares authorized, no shares issued or outstanding	—	—
Common stock, without par value; 200,000 shares authorized, 40,905 and 40,804 shares issued and 37,449 and 37,701 shares outstanding, respectively	—	—
Additional paid-in-capital	85,706	85,436
Retained earnings	246,427	244,009
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(38 )	(43 )
Treasury stock	(49,831 )	(44,147 )
Total shareholders' equity	282,264	285,255
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$365,745	\$380,679

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Table of Contents

Vera Bradley, Inc.  
 Consolidated Statements of Income  
 (in thousands, except per share data)  
 (unaudited)

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	April 30, 2016	May 2, 2015
Net revenues	\$105,181	\$101,104
Cost of sales	45,525	49,410
Gross profit	59,656	51,694
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	56,376	57,612
Other income	577	947
Operating income (loss)	3,857	(4,971 )
Interest expense, net	48	77
Income (loss) before income taxes	3,809	(5,048 )
Income tax expense (benefit)	1,391	(912 )
Net income (loss)	\$2,418	\$(4,136 )
Basic weighted-average shares outstanding	37,547	39,884
Diluted weighted-average shares outstanding	37,724	39,884
Basic net income (loss) per share	\$0.06	\$(0.10 )
Diluted net income (loss) per share	\$0.06	\$(0.10 )

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Table of Contents

Vera Bradley, Inc.  
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income  
(in thousands)  
(unaudited)

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	April 30,	May 2,
	2016	2015
Net income (loss)	\$ 2,418	\$ (4,136 )
Cumulative translation adjustment	5	10
Comprehensive income (loss)	\$ 2,423	\$ (4,126 )

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Table of Contents

Vera Bradley, Inc.  
 Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows  
 (in thousands)  
 (unaudited)

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	April 30, 2016	May 2, 2015
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income (loss)	\$2,418	\$(4,136)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash used in operating activities:		
Depreciation of property, plant, and equipment	4,702	5,174
Provision for doubtful accounts	23	(381)
Loss on disposal of property, plant, and equipment	—	52
Stock-based compensation	842	1,404
Deferred income taxes	221	348
Gain on short-term investment	(13)	—
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	3,580	5,514
Inventories	178	(3,391)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(1,749)	(320)
Accounts payable	1,262	(2,905)
Income taxes	(12,066)	(2,523)
Accrued and other liabilities	(3,395)	394
Net cash used in operating activities	(3,997)	(770)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchases of property, plant, and equipment	(5,594)	(7,530)
Purchase of short-term investments	(30,000)	—
Net cash used in investing activities	(35,594)	(7,530)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Tax withholdings for equity compensation	(572)	(478)
Repurchase of common stock	(5,694)	(6,921)
Other financing activities, net	(16)	(24)
Net cash used in financing activities	(6,282)	(7,423)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	5	10
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(45,868)	(15,713)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	97,681	112,292
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$51,813	\$96,579
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information		
Non-cash operating, investing, and financing activities		
Repurchase of common stock		
Expenditures incurred but not yet paid as of April 30, 2016 and May 2, 2015	\$426	\$374
Expenditures incurred but not yet paid as of January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015	\$436	\$116
Purchases of property, plant, and equipment		
Expenditures incurred but not yet paid as of April 30, 2016 and May 2, 2015	\$3,173	\$3,391
Expenditures incurred but not yet paid as of January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015	\$2,872	\$2,172
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.		



Table of Contents

Vera Bradley, Inc.  
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements  
(unaudited)

1. Description of the Company and Basis of Presentation

The terms “Company” and “Vera Bradley” refer to Vera Bradley, Inc. and its subsidiaries, except where the context requires otherwise or where otherwise indicated.

Vera Bradley is a leading designer of women’s handbags, luggage and travel items, fashion and home accessories, and unique gifts. Founded in 1982 by friends Barbara Bradley Baekgaard and Patricia R. Miller, the brand’s innovative designs, iconic patterns, and brilliant colors continue to inspire and connect women.

Vera Bradley offers a unique, multi-channel sales model, as well as a focus on service and a high level of customer engagement. The Company sells its products through two reportable segments: Direct and Indirect. The Direct business consists of sales of Vera Bradley products through the Company’s full-line and factory outlet stores in the United States, verabradley.com, direct-to-consumer eBay sales, and the Company’s annual outlet sale in Fort Wayne, Indiana. As of April 30, 2016, the Company operated 111 full-line stores and 41 factory outlet stores. The Indirect business consists of sales of Vera Bradley products to approximately 2,600 specialty retail locations, substantially all of which are located in the United States, as well as department stores, national accounts, third-party e-commerce sites, the Company’s wholesale customer in Japan, and third-party inventory liquidators.

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). Accordingly, certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (“GAAP”) have been omitted. These interim consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and notes included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2016, filed with the SEC.

The interim financial statements reflect all adjustments that are, in the opinion of management, necessary to present fairly the results for the interim periods presented. All such adjustments are of a normal, recurring nature. The results of operations for the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016, are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full fiscal year.

Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries. The Company has eliminated intercompany balances and transactions in consolidation.

Fiscal Periods

The Company’s fiscal year ends on the Saturday closest to January 31. References to the fiscal quarters ended April 30, 2016, and May 2, 2015, refer to the thirteen-week periods ended on those dates.

Operating Leases and Tenant-Improvement Allowances

The Company has leases that contain rent holidays and predetermined, fixed escalations of minimum rentals. For each of these leases, the Company recognizes the related rent expense on a straight-line basis commencing on the date of initial possession of the leased property. The Company records the difference between the recognized rent expense and the amount payable under the lease as a deferred rent liability. As of April 30, 2016 and January 30, 2016, deferred rent liability was \$11.8 million and \$11.5 million, respectively, and is included within long-term liabilities on the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

The Company receives tenant-improvement allowances from some of the landlords of its leased properties. These allowances generally are in the form of cash received by the Company from its landlords as part of the negotiated lease terms. The Company records each tenant-improvement allowance as a deferred credit and amortizes the allowance on a straight-line basis as a reduction to rent expense over the term of the lease, commencing on the possession date. As of April 30, 2016 and January 30, 2016, the deferred lease credit liability was \$16.5 million and

\$16.2 million, respectively. Of these amounts, \$2.3 million is included within other accrued liabilities as of April 30, 2016 and January 30, 2016; and \$14.2 million and \$13.9 million is included within long-term liabilities as of April 30, 2016 and January 30, 2016, respectively.

Table of Contents

Vera Bradley, Inc.  
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements  
(unaudited)

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements  
Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements

In March 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2016-09, Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting. The updated guidance changes how companies account for certain aspects of share-based payment awards to employees, including the accounting for income taxes, forfeitures, and statutory tax withholding requirements, as well as the classification of related matters in the statement of cash flows. The standard is effective for public entities for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016, and interim periods within those annual periods. Early adoption is permitted.

The Company early adopted this standard for the quarter ended April 30, 2016. The impact of the adoption of this standard was as follows:

- approximately \$55,000 of excess tax benefits was recorded through income tax expense as a discrete item, adopted on a prospective basis;

- excess tax benefits were combined with other income tax cash flows within operating cash flows adopted on a prospective basis; and

- cash paid by the Company when directly withholding shares to satisfy an employee's statutory tax obligations continued to be classified as a financing activity.

- The Company has elected to continue its current policy of estimating forfeitures rather than recognizing forfeitures when they occur.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Adopted

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers. This guidance requires companies to recognize revenue in a manner that depicts the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in amounts that reflect the consideration to which a company expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The new standard also will result in enhanced disclosures about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from contracts with customers. The standard allows for either a full retrospective or a modified retrospective transition method. In August 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-14 to defer the effective date of ASU 2014-09 for all entities by one year to annual periods beginning after December 15, 2017, including interim periods within that reporting period, which for the Company is fiscal 2019. Earlier application is permitted as of the original effective date, annual reporting periods beginning after December 2016, including interim periods within that reporting period. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this standard, including the transition method, on its consolidated results of operations, financial position and cash flows.

In July 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-11, Inventory, which requires entities to measure inventory at the lower of cost and net realizable value. This guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning on or after December 15, 2016. The Company is currently evaluating this guidance and does not expect the application of this standard to have a material impact on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements upon adoption.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, Leases, which increases transparency and comparability among organizations by requiring lessees to recognize assets and liabilities on the balance sheet for the rights and obligations created by leases and disclosing key information about leasing arrangements. This guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning on or after December 15, 2018. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of the standard on its Consolidated Financial Statements.



Table of Contents

Vera Bradley, Inc.  
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements  
(unaudited)

## 2. Earnings Per Share

Basic earnings per share is computed based on the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share is computed based on the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding, plus the effect of dilutive potential common shares outstanding during the period using the treasury stock method. Dilutive potential common shares represent outstanding restricted stock units. The components of basic and diluted earnings per share were as follows (in thousands, except per share data):

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	April 30, 2016	May 2, 2015
Numerator:		
Net income (loss)	\$2,418	\$(4,136)
Denominator:		
Weighted-average number of common shares (basic)	37,547	39,884
Dilutive effect of stock-based awards	177	—
Weighted-average number of common shares (diluted)	37,724	39,884
Earnings (loss) per share:		
Basic	\$0.06	\$(0.10 )
Diluted	\$0.06	\$(0.10 )

As of April 30, 2016 and May 2, 2015, there were an immaterial number of additional shares issuable upon the vesting of restricted stock units that were excluded from the diluted share calculations because they were anti-dilutive.

## 3. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Assets and liabilities measured at fair value are classified using the following hierarchy, which is based upon the transparency of inputs to the valuation as of the measurement date:

Level 1 – Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 – Inputs, other than the quoted prices in active markets, that are observable either directly or indirectly;

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs based on the Company's own assumptions.

The classification of fair value measurements within the hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the measurement.

The carrying amounts reflected on the Consolidated Balance Sheets for cash and cash equivalents, receivables, other current assets, and payables as of April 30, 2016, and January 30, 2016, approximated their fair values.

Short-term investments consist of a certificate of deposit with an original maturity of one year and a one-time option to accelerate maturity to 31 days without penalty. The initial investment was \$30.0 million and the Company has the positive intent and ability to hold the certificate of deposit to maturity. The accrued interest on the certificate of deposit is recognized in interest expense, net, in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements. Due to the observable inputs, the certificate of deposit approximated its fair value as of April 30, 2016, and is classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.



Table of Contents

Vera Bradley, Inc.  
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements  
(unaudited)

## 4. Inventories

The components of inventories were as follows (in thousands):

	April 30, 2016	January 30, 2016
Raw materials	\$—	\$ 151
Finished goods	113,412	113,439
Total inventories	\$ 113,412	\$ 113,590

## 5. Debt

On July 15, 2015, Vera Bradley Designs, Inc. (“VBD”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, entered into a Second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement among VBD, the lenders from time to time party thereto, JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, as administrative agent, Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as syndication agent, and KeyBank National Association, as documentation agent (the “Credit Agreement”), which amended and restated the Company's prior credit agreement. The Credit Agreement provides for certain credit facilities to VBD in an aggregate principal amount not to initially exceed \$125.0 million, the proceeds of which may be used for general corporate purposes of VBD and its subsidiaries, including but not limited to Vera Bradley International, LLC and Vera Bradley Sales, LLC (collectively, the “Named Subsidiaries”).

Amounts outstanding under the Credit Agreement bear interest, at VBD's option, at a per annum rate equal to either (A) the Alternate Base Rate (“ABR”) plus the Applicable Margin, where the ABR is the highest of (i) the prime rate, (ii) the federal funds rate plus 0.5%, and (iii) Adjusted LIBOR for a one-month interest period plus 1%, and the Applicable Margin is a percentage ranging from 0.00% to 0.70% depending upon the Company's leverage ratio or (B) Adjusted LIBOR plus the Applicable Margin, where Adjusted LIBOR means LIBOR, as adjusted for statutory reserve requirements for eurocurrency liabilities, and Applicable Margin is a percentage ranging from 1.00% to 1.70% depending upon the Company's leverage ratio. Any loans made, or letters of credit issued, pursuant to the Credit Agreement mature on July 15, 2020.

VBD's obligations under the Credit Agreement are guaranteed by the Company and the Named Subsidiaries. The obligations of VBD under the Credit Agreement are secured by first priority security interests in all of the respective assets of VBD, the Company, and the Named Subsidiaries and a pledge of the equity interests of VBD and the Named Subsidiaries.

The Credit Agreement contains various restrictive covenants, including restrictions on the Company's ability to dispose of assets, make acquisitions or investments, incur debt or liens, make distributions to stockholders or repurchase outstanding stock, enter into related party transactions and make capital expenditures, other than upon satisfaction of the conditions set forth in the Credit Agreement. The Company is also required to comply with certain financial and non-financial covenants, including maintaining a maximum leverage ratio, a minimum ratio of EBITDAR to the sum of interest expense plus rentals (as defined in the Credit Agreement), and a limit on capital expenditures. Upon an event of default, which includes certain customary events such as, among other things, a failure to make required payments when due, a failure to comply with covenants, certain bankruptcy and insolvency events, a material adverse change (as defined in the Credit Agreement), defaults under other material indebtedness, and a change in control, the lenders may accelerate amounts outstanding, terminate the agreement and foreclose on all collateral.

As of April 30, 2016 and January 30, 2016, the Company had borrowing availability of \$125.0 million under its second amended and restated credit agreement.

6. Income Taxes

The provision for income taxes for interim periods is based on an estimate of the annual effective tax rate adjusted to reflect the impact of discrete items. Management judgment is required in projecting ordinary income to estimate the Company's annual effective tax rate.

11

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Table of Contents

Vera Bradley, Inc.  
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements  
(unaudited)

The effective tax rate for the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016, was 36.5%, compared to 18.1% for the thirteen weeks ended May 2, 2015. The year-over year increase is primarily due to an increase in income before income taxes in the current year, partially offset by the relative impact of permanent items, as well as an income tax reserve for uncertain tax positions in the prior year and a discrete item related to an excess tax benefit from share-based payments as a result of the early adoption of ASU 2016-09, as further described in Note 1 herein.

### 7. Stock-Based Compensation

The Company recognizes stock-based compensation expense, for its awards of restricted stock units, in an amount equal to the fair market value of the underlying stock on the grant date of the respective award.

The Company reserved 6,076,001 shares of common stock for issuance or transfer under the 2010 Equity and Incentive Plan, which allows for grants of restricted stock units, as well as other equity awards.

#### Awards of Restricted Stock Units

During the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016, the Company granted 295,148 time-based and performance-based restricted stock units with an aggregate fair value of \$5.8 million to certain employees and non-employee directors under the 2010 Equity and Incentive Plan compared to a total of 562,630 time-based and performance-based restricted stock units with an aggregate fair value of \$9.1 million granted in the same period of the prior year. The Company determined the fair value of the awards based on the closing price of the Company's common stock on the grant date. The majority of the time-based restricted stock units vest and settle in shares of the Company's common stock, on a one-for-one basis, in equal installments on each of the first three anniversaries of the grant date. Restricted stock units issued to non-employee directors vest after a one-year period from the grant date. The Company recognizes the expense relating to these units, net of estimated forfeitures, on a straight-line basis over the vesting period.

Performance-based restricted stock units vest upon the completion of a three-year period of time (cliff vesting), subject to the employee's continuing employment throughout the three-year performance period and the Company's achievement of annual earnings per share targets during the three-year performance period. The Company recognizes the expense relating to these units, net of estimated forfeitures, based on the probable outcome of achievement of the financial targets, on a straight-line basis over three years.

The following table sets forth a summary of restricted stock unit activity for the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016 (units in thousands):

	Time-based Restricted Stock Units	Weighted- Average Grant Date Fair Value (per unit)	Performance-based Restricted Stock Units	Weighted- Average Grant Date Fair Value (per unit)
Nonvested units outstanding at January 30, 2016	463	\$ 18.05	303	\$ 20.95
Granted	169	19.73	126	19.76
Vested	(131)	18.58	—	—
Forfeited	—	—	(46)	23.63
Nonvested units outstanding at April 30, 2016	501	\$ 18.48	383	\$ 20.24

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As of April 30, 2016, there was \$9.5 million of total unrecognized compensation cost, net of estimated forfeitures, related to nonvested restricted stock units. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.0 years.

12

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Table of Contents

Vera Bradley, Inc.  
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements  
(unaudited)

8. Commitments and Contingencies

The Company is subject to various claims and contingencies arising in the normal course of business, including those relating to product liability, legal, employee benefit, environmental, and other matters. Management believes that it is not reasonably possible that any of these claims will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

9. Common Stock

On December 8, 2015, the Company's board of directors approved a share repurchase program (the "2015 Share Repurchase Program") authorizing up to \$50.0 million of repurchases of shares of the Company's common stock. The 2015 Share Repurchase Program expires in December 2017. The prior share repurchase program (the "2014 Share Repurchase Program") was approved by the board of directors on September 9, 2014, and authorized share repurchases up to \$40.0 million. The 2014 Share Repurchase Program was completed in fiscal 2016.

The Company purchased 354,052 shares at an average price of \$16.05 per share, excluding commissions, for an aggregate amount of \$5.7 million during the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016, under the 2015 Share Repurchase Program. As of April 30, 2016, there was \$40.2 million remaining available to repurchase shares of the Company's common stock under the 2015 Share Repurchase Program.

As of April 30, 2016, the Company held as treasury shares 3,456,404 shares of its common stock at an average price of \$14.42 per share, excluding commissions, for an aggregate carrying amount of \$49.8 million. The Company's treasury shares may be issued under the 2010 Equity and Incentive Plan or for other corporate purposes.

10. Restructuring and Other Charges

In the first quarter of fiscal 2016, the Company closed its manufacturing facility located in New Haven, Indiana. The Company incurred restructuring and other charges during the first quarter of fiscal 2016 of approximately \$3.4 million (\$2.1 million after the associated tax benefit), related to the facility closing. These charges include severance and benefit costs of approximately \$1.7 million, lease termination costs of approximately \$0.7 million, inventory-related charges of approximately \$0.6 million, and other associated net costs, which include accelerated depreciation related to fixed assets, of approximately \$0.4 million. These charges are reflected in cost of sales in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements. Management expects that the facility closure will reduce operating costs by approximately \$12.0 million annually. All production from the facility was absorbed by the Company's third party manufacturing suppliers. There are no remaining liabilities associated with the facility closure.

Additional charges affecting comparability of the financial results for the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016 and May 2, 2015 totaled approximately \$3.1 million (\$2.1 million after the associated tax benefit) consisting of charges in the first quarter of fiscal 2016 of \$1.3 million in employee severance (reflected in selling, general, and administrative expenses), \$1.2 million due to a retail store early lease termination agreement (reflected in selling, general, and administrative expenses), and \$0.6 million related to an increase in income tax reserves for uncertain federal and state tax positions related to research and development tax credits (reflected in income tax expense).

11. Short-Term Investments

Short-term investments consist of a certificate of deposit with an original maturity of one year and a one-time option to accelerate maturity to 31 days without penalty. Interest income from the investment is included in interest expense, net, in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements. The Company's objective with respect to this investment is to earn a higher rate of return on funds that are otherwise not anticipated to be required to meet liquidity needs in the near term while maintaining a low level of investment risk with the positive intent and ability to hold this investment to maturity. As of April 30, 2016, the Company held \$30.0 million in short-term investments. The Company did not

have short-term investments as of January 30, 2016.

12. Segment Reporting

The Company has two operating segments, which are also its reportable segments: Direct and Indirect. These operating segments are components of the Company for which separate financial information is available and for

13

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Table of Contents

Vera Bradley, Inc.  
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements  
(unaudited)

which operating results are evaluated on a regular basis by the chief operating decision maker in deciding how to allocate resources and in assessing the performance of the segments.

The Direct segment includes the Company's full-line and factory outlet stores, the Company's website, verabradley.com, direct-to-consumer eBay sales, and the annual outlet sale. Revenues generated through this segment are driven through the sale of Company-branded products from Vera Bradley to end consumers.

The Indirect segment represents revenues generated through the distribution of Company-branded products to specialty retailers representing approximately 2,600 locations, substantially all of which are located in the United States, as well as key accounts, which include department stores, national accounts, third-party e-commerce sites, the Company's wholesale customer in Japan, and third-party inventory liquidators.

Corporate costs represent the Company's administrative expenses, which include, but are not limited to: human resources, legal, finance, information technology, design, merchandising, and various other corporate-level-activity-related expenses. All intercompany-related activities are eliminated in consolidation and are excluded from the segment reporting.

Company management evaluates segment operating results based on several indicators. The primary or key performance indicators for each segment are net revenues and operating income. Net revenues and operating income information for the Company's reportable segments during the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016 and May 2, 2015, respectively, consisted of the following (in thousands):

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	April 30, 2016	May 2, 2015
Segment net revenues:		
Direct	\$72,946	\$70,433
Indirect	32,235	30,671
Total	\$105,181	\$101,104
Segment operating income:		
Direct	\$12,137	\$8,027
Indirect	12,598	9,904
Total	\$24,735	\$17,931
Reconciliation:		
Segment operating income	\$24,735	\$17,931
Less:		
Unallocated corporate expenses	(20,878 )	(22,902 )
Operating income (loss)	\$3,857	\$(4,971 )

Table of Contents

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

The following discussion summarizes the significant factors affecting the consolidated operating results, financial condition, liquidity, and cash flows of the Company as of and for the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016 and May 2, 2015. The following discussion should be read in conjunction with our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2016, and our unaudited consolidated financial statements and the related notes included in Item 1 of this Quarterly Report. The results of operations for the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016, are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full fiscal year.

Executive Summary

Below is a summary of our strategic progress and financial results for the first quarter of fiscal 2017:

Strategic Progress

We opened one new full-line store in metropolitan Chicago and one new factory outlet store in Foley, Alabama during the first quarter and relocated our full-line Park Meadows store in metropolitan Denver to a higher traffic location.

Both full-line stores feature our new, modern interior store design and updated logo and facade.

We are working with our store teams to drive traffic and sales through enhancing our sell-and-service culture, as well as nurturing more customer and community outreach.

We are continuing to reinvigorate and modernize our cotton assortment with new patterns, styles, silhouettes, hardware, and functionality. We are also continuing to innovate and drive sales with the addition of non-cotton offerings to our assortment.

We are continuing work on the redesign and conversion of verabradley.com to a new platform, creating a dynamic digital flagship which will be launched in September 2016. The new site will offer a number of enhancements including the ability to strategically segment and personalize messaging, express check-out, and "order on-line, pickup in-store," among many others.

We are positioning for additional department store growth not only by adding more distribution points but by

- building the productivity of our existing doors through editing and curating assortments by location, adding more floor space where appropriate, and delivering visual consistency across locations.

We opened a sourcing and procurement office in Hong Kong to lead our global supply chain in Asia.

Financial Summary (all comparisons are to the first quarter of fiscal 2016)

Net revenues increased 4.0% to \$105.2 million.

Direct segment sales increased 3.6% to \$72.9 million. Comparable sales (including e-commerce) decreased 6.7%.

Indirect segment sales increased 5.1% to \$32.2 million.

Gross profit was \$59.7 million, or 56.7% of net revenue.

Operating income was \$3.9 million.

Net income was \$2.4 million, or \$0.06 per diluted share.

Cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments were \$81.8 million at April 30, 2016.

Capital expenditures totaled \$5.6 million.

Repurchases of common stock totaled \$5.7 million.

Restructuring and Other Charges Affecting Comparability of the Periods ended April 30, 2016, and May 2, 2015

In the first quarter of fiscal 2016 (the comparable prior-year period), we closed our manufacturing facility located in New Haven, Indiana. We incurred restructuring and other charges during the first quarter of fiscal 2016 of approximately \$3.4 million (\$2.1 million after the associated tax benefit), related to the facility closing. These charges include severance and benefit costs of approximately \$1.7 million, lease termination costs of approximately \$0.7 million, inventory-related charges of approximately \$0.6 million, and other associated net costs, which include accelerated depreciation related to fixed assets, of approximately \$0.4 million. These charges are reflected in cost of sales in our Consolidated Financial Statements. We expect that the facility closure will reduce operating costs by approximately \$12.0 million annually. All production from the facility was absorbed by our third party manufacturing suppliers.



## Table of Contents

Additional charges affecting comparability of the financial results for the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016 and May 2, 2015, totaled approximately \$3.1 million (\$2.1 million after the associated tax benefit) consisting of charges in the first quarter of fiscal 2016 of \$1.3 million in employee severance (reflected in selling, general, and administrative expenses), \$1.2 million due to a retail store early lease termination agreement (reflected in selling, general, and administrative expenses), and \$0.6 million related to an increase in income tax reserves for uncertain federal and state tax positions related to research and development tax credits (reflected in income tax expense).

### How We Assess the Performance of Our Business

In assessing the performance of our business, we consider a variety of performance and financial measures.

#### Net Revenues

Net revenues reflect sales of our merchandise and revenue from distribution and shipping and handling fees, less returns and discounts. Revenues for the Direct segment reflect sales through our full-line and factory outlet stores, verabradley.com, direct-to-consumer eBay sales, and our annual outlet sale in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Revenues for the Indirect segment reflect sales to specialty retail partners, department stores, national accounts, third-party e-commerce sites, our wholesale customer in Japan, and third-party inventory liquidators.

#### Comparable Sales

Comparable sales (including e-commerce) are calculated based upon our stores that have been open for at least 12 full fiscal months and net revenues from our e-commerce operations. Comparable store sales are calculated based solely upon our stores that have been open for at least 12 full fiscal months. Remodeled stores are included in comparable sales and comparable store sales unless the store was closed for a portion of the current or comparable prior period or the remodel resulted in a significant change in square footage. Some of our competitors and other retailers calculate comparable or “same store” sales differently than we do. As a result, data in this report regarding our comparable sales and comparable store sales may not be comparable to similar data made available by other companies.

Non-comparable sales include sales from stores not included in comparable sales or comparable store sales.

Measuring the change in year-over-year comparable sales allows us to evaluate how our store base and e-commerce operations are performing. Various factors affect our comparable sales, including:

- Overall economic trends;
- Consumer preferences and fashion trends;
- Overall levels of mall and e-commerce traffic;
- Competition;
- The timing of our releases of new patterns and collections;
- Changes in our product mix;
- Pricing and level of promotions;
- The level of customer service that we provide in stores;
- Our ability to source and distribute products efficiently;
- The number of stores we open and close in any period; and
- The timing and success of promotional and advertising efforts.

#### Gross Profit

Gross profit is equal to our net revenues less our cost of sales. Cost of sales includes the direct cost of purchased merchandise, distribution center costs, operations overhead, duty, and all inbound freight costs incurred. The components of our reported cost of sales may not be comparable to those of other retail and wholesale companies. Gross profit can be impacted by changes in volume; fluctuations in sales price; operational efficiencies, such as leveraging of fixed costs; promotional activities, including free shipping; commodity prices, such as for cotton; and labor costs.

Table of Contents

Selling, General, and Administrative Expenses (SG&A)

SG&A expenses include selling; advertising, marketing, and product development; and administrative. Selling expenses include Direct business expenses, such as store expenses, employee compensation, and store occupancy and supply costs, as well as Indirect business expenses consisting primarily of employee compensation and other expenses associated with sales to Indirect retailers. Advertising, marketing, and product development expenses include employee compensation, media costs, creative production expenses, marketing agency fees, new product design costs, public relations expenses, and market research expenses. A portion of our advertising expenses may be reimbursed by Indirect retailers, and such amount is classified as other income. Administrative expenses include employee compensation for corporate functions, corporate headquarters occupancy costs, consulting and software expenses, and charitable donations.

Other Income

We support many of our Indirect retailers' marketing efforts by distributing certain catalogs and promotional mailers to current and prospective customers. Our Indirect retailers reimburse us for a portion of the cost to produce these materials. Reimbursement received is recorded as other income. The related cost to design, produce, and distribute the catalogs and mailers is recorded as SG&A expense. Other income also includes proceeds from the sales of tickets to our annual outlet sale.

Operating Income (Loss)

Operating income (loss) is equal to gross profit less SG&A expenses plus other income. Operating income (loss) excludes interest income, interest expense, and income taxes.

Net Income (Loss)

Net income (loss) is equal to operating income less net interest expense and income taxes.

Table of Contents

Results of Operations

The following tables summarize key components of our consolidated results of operations for the periods indicated, both in dollars and as a percentage of our net revenues (\$ in thousands):

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	April 30, 2016	May 2, 2015
Statement of Income Data:		
Net revenues	\$105,181	\$101,104
Cost of sales	45,525	49,410
Gross profit	59,656	51,694
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	56,376	