

C H ROBINSON WORLDWIDE INC

Form 10-Q

November 09, 2015

Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-Q

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

For the Quarterly Period Ended September 30, 2015

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: 000-23189

C.H. ROBINSON WORLDWIDE, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

41-1883630

(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

14701 Charlson Road, Eden Prairie, Minnesota

(Address of principal executive offices)

952-937-8500

55347-5088

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate website, 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 definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one)

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer 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

As of November 6, 2015, the number of shares outstanding of the registrant's Common Stock, par value \$.10 per share, was 143,624,857.

Table of Contents

C.H. ROBINSON WORLDWIDE, INC.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I. Financial Information

Item 1.	<u>Financial Statements (Unaudited)</u>	<u>3</u>
	Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of September 30, 2015, and December 31, 2014	<u>3</u>
	Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income for the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 and 2014	<u>4</u>
	Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 and 2014	<u>5</u>
	<u>Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	<u>6</u>
Item 2.	<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	<u>12</u>
Item 3.	<u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	<u>21</u>
Item 4.	<u>Controls and Procedures</u>	<u>21</u>

PART II. Other Information

Item 1.	<u>Legal Proceedings</u>	<u>22</u>
Item 1A.	<u>Risk Factors</u>	<u>22</u>
Item 2.	<u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	<u>22</u>
Item 3.	<u>Defaults on Senior Securities</u>	<u>22</u>
Item 4.	<u>Mine Safety Disclosures</u>	<u>22</u>
Item 5.	<u>Other Information</u>	<u>22</u>
Item 6.	<u>Exhibits</u>	<u>23</u>

Table of ContentsPART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION
ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTSC.H. ROBINSON WORLDWIDE, INC.
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets
(unaudited)

(In thousands, except per share data)	September 30, 2015	December 31, 2014
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 143,087	\$ 128,940
Restricted cash	—	359,388
Receivables, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$45,952 and \$41,051	1,651,794	1,571,591
Deferred tax asset	16,057	7,746
Prepaid expenses and other	45,273	37,794
Total current assets	1,856,211	2,105,459
Property and equipment, net	190,244	152,471
Goodwill	1,097,740	825,038
Other intangible assets, net	126,353	98,330
Other assets	42,017	33,040
Total assets	\$3,312,565	\$3,214,338
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' INVESTMENT		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 799,307	\$ 716,654
Outstanding checks	60,885	78,601
Accrued expenses:		
Compensation and profit-sharing contribution	124,011	125,624
Income taxes	21,215	4,616
Other accrued liabilities	45,841	45,365
Current portion of debt	530,000	605,000
Total current liabilities	1,581,259	1,575,860
Long-term debt	500,000	500,000
Noncurrent income taxes payable	23,588	24,279
Deferred tax liabilities	76,144	66,961
Other long term liabilities	211	223
Total liabilities	2,181,202	2,167,323
Stockholders' investment:		
Preferred stock, \$.10 par value, 20,000 shares authorized; no shares issued or outstanding	—	—
Common stock, \$.10 par value, 480,000 shares authorized; 178,510 and 178,621 shares issued, 144,108 and 146,458 outstanding	14,411	14,646
Additional paid-in capital	365,524	321,968
Retained earnings	2,860,204	2,648,539
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(44,073	) (28,610)
Treasury stock at cost (34,402 and 32,163 shares)	(2,064,703	) (1,909,528)
Total stockholders' investment	1,131,363	1,047,015

Total liabilities and stockholders' investment	\$3,312,565	\$3,214,338
--	-------------	-------------

See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

C.H. ROBINSON WORLDWIDE, INC.

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income

(unaudited)

(In thousands, except per share data)	Three Months Ended September		Nine Months Ended September	
	30, 2015	2014	30, 2015	2014
Revenues:				
Transportation	\$3,044,500	\$3,073,382	\$9,122,479	\$8,922,261
Sourcing	374,753	393,980	1,142,752	1,190,604
Total revenues	3,419,253	3,467,362	10,265,231	10,112,865
Costs and expenses:				
Purchased transportation and related services	2,484,409	2,575,619	7,518,895	7,507,966
Purchased products sourced for resale	346,269	364,179	1,048,633	1,099,063
Personnel expenses	264,077	244,621	783,220	703,904
Other selling, general, and administrative expenses	91,787	79,606	270,752	241,242
Total costs and expenses	3,186,542	3,264,025	9,621,500	9,552,175
Income from operations	232,711	203,337	643,731	560,690
Interest and other expense	(6,559)	) (6,204	) (22,058	) (18,587
Income before provision for income taxes	226,152	197,133	621,673	542,103
Provision for income taxes	86,720	72,152	238,557	205,339
Net income	139,432	124,981	383,116	336,764
Other comprehensive loss	(6,395)	) (8,924	) (15,463	) (10,003
Comprehensive income	\$133,037	\$116,057	\$367,653	\$326,761
Basic net income per share	\$0.96	\$0.85	\$2.63	\$2.28
Diluted net income per share	\$0.96	\$0.85	\$2.63	\$2.28
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	144,578	146,646	145,423	147,661
Dilutive effect of outstanding stock awards	204	210	178	158
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	144,782	146,856	145,601	147,819

See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

C.H. ROBINSON WORLDWIDE, INC.
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September	
	30,	
(In thousands)	2015	2014
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net income	\$383,116	\$336,764
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	49,513	43,442
Provision for doubtful accounts	11,975	15,917
Stock-based compensation	43,512	33,561
Deferred income taxes	(8,356	) 901
Gain on divestiture	—	(1,848
Loss on sale/disposal of assets	459	568
Changes in operating elements (net of acquisitions):		
Receivables	(39,051	) (206,970
Prepaid expenses and other	(6,347	) (4,081
Other non-current assets	124	270
Accounts payable and outstanding checks	23,037	67,125
Accrued compensation and profit-sharing contribution	(3,585	) 23,058
Accrued income taxes	17,774	2,690
Other accrued liabilities	(7,728	) (6,075
Net cash provided by operating activities	464,443	305,322
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchases of property and equipment	(19,317	) (19,291
Purchases and development of software	(13,494	) (5,845
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired	(367,108) —
Restricted cash	359,388	—
Other	535	428
Net cash used for investing activities	(39,996	) (24,708
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from stock issued for employee benefit plans	13,036	9,813
Stock tendered for payment of withholding taxes	(10,980	) (11,756
Repurchase of common stock	(161,115	) (125,163
Cash dividends	(171,448	) (157,590
Excess tax benefit on stock-based compensation	7,298	6,202
Proceeds from short-term borrowings	5,508,000	3,498,000
Payments on short-term borrowings	(5,583,000	) (3,528,000
Net cash used for financing activities	(398,209	) (308,494
Effect of exchange rates on cash	(12,091	) (6,451
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	14,147	(34,331
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	128,940	162,047
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$143,087	\$127,716
See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements.		

Table of Contents

C.H. ROBINSON WORLDWIDE, INC.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1. GENERAL

Basis of Presentation - C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc. and our subsidiaries (“the company,” “we,” “us,” or “our”) are a global provider of transportation services and logistics solutions operating through a network of offices located in North America, Europe, Asia, and South America. The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc. and our majority owned and controlled subsidiaries. Our minority interests in subsidiaries are not significant. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in the consolidated financial statements. Starting in 2015, we are reporting fees earned from our cash advance option provided to our contract carriers ("Payment Services") as a part of Truckload revenues. We had previously reported Payment Services revenues separately from Transportation revenues. The prior year amounts have been combined to conform with the current period presentation. This change in presentation had no effect on our prior year condensed consolidated results of operations, financial condition, or cash flows.

The condensed consolidated financial statements, which are unaudited, have been prepared pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). In our opinion, these financial statements include all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) necessary for a fair presentation of the financial statements for the interim periods presented. Interim results are not necessarily indicative of results for a full year. Consistent with SEC rules and regulations, we have condensed or omitted certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. You should read the condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014.

NOTE 2. GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS

The change in the carrying amount of goodwill is as follows (in thousands):

Balance, December 31, 2014	\$825,038
Acquisitions	274,526
Foreign currency translation	(1,824)
Balance, September 30, 2015	\$1,097,740

A summary of our other intangible assets, with finite lives, which include primarily customer relationships and non-competition agreements, is as follows (in thousands):

	September 30, 2015	December 31, 2014
Gross	\$ 171,172	\$133,372
Accumulated amortization	(55,294)	(36,917)
Net	\$ 115,878	\$96,455

Other intangible assets, with indefinite lives, are as follows (in thousands):

	September 30, 2015	December 31, 2014
Trademarks	\$ 10,475	\$ 1,875

Table of Contents

Amortization expense for other intangible assets is as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Amortization expense	\$6,093	\$4,690	\$18,282	\$14,529

Estimated future amortization expense for identifiable intangible assets at September 30, 2015, for the remainder of 2015 and the next five years is as follows:

Remainder of 2015	\$6,101
2016	24,482
2017	24,204
2018	23,785
2019	23,785
2020	13,521
Total	\$115,878

NOTE 3. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT

Accounting guidance on fair value measurements for certain financial assets and liabilities requires that assets and liabilities carried at fair value be classified and disclosed in one of the following three categories:

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

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

Level 3 — Unobservable inputs reflecting the reporting entity's own assumptions or external inputs from inactive markets.

A financial asset or liability's classification within the hierarchy is determined based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

We had no Level 3 liabilities as of and during the periods ended September 30, 2015, and September 30, 2014.

NOTE 4. FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS

On October 29, 2012, we entered into a senior unsecured revolving credit facility for up to \$500 million with a \$500 million accordion feature (the "Credit Agreement") with a syndicate of financial institutions led by U.S. Bank. The purpose of this facility was to partially fund the acquisition of Phoenix International Freight Services, Ltd. ("Phoenix") and to allow us to continue to fund working capital, capital expenditures, dividends, and share repurchases. In December 2014, we amended the credit facility to increase the amount available from \$500 million to \$900 million and to extend the expiration date from October 2017 to December 2019.

As of September 30, 2015, and December 31, 2014, we had \$530.0 million and \$605.0 million in borrowings outstanding under the Credit Agreement, which is classified as a current liability on the condensed consolidated balance sheets. The recorded amount of borrowings outstanding approximates fair value because of the short maturity period of the debt; therefore, we consider these borrowings to be a Level 2 financial liability.

Borrowings under the Credit Agreement generally bear interest at a variable rate determined by a pricing schedule or the base rate (which is the highest of (a) the administrative agent's prime rate, (b) the federal funds rate plus 0.50 percent, or (c) the sum of one-month LIBOR plus a specified margin). As of September 30, 2015, the variable rate equaled LIBOR plus 1.125 percent. In addition, there is a commitment fee on the average daily undrawn stated amount under each letter of credit issued under the facility. The weighted average interest rate incurred on borrowings during the quarter ended September 30, 2015, was approximately 1.4 percent and at September 30, 2015, was approximately 1.3 percent. The weighted average interest rate incurred on borrowings during the quarter ended September 30, 2014, was approximately 1.6 percent and at September 30, 2014, was approximately 1.7 percent.

Table of Contents

The Credit Agreement contains various restrictions and covenants. Among other requirements, we may not permit our leverage ratio, determined as of the end of each of our fiscal quarters, of (i) Consolidated Funded Indebtedness to (ii) EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization), to exceed 3.00 to 1.00. We were in compliance with all of the financial debt covenants as of September 30, 2015.

The Credit Agreement also contains customary events of default. If an event of default under the Credit Agreement occurs and is continuing, then the administrative agent may declare any outstanding obligations under the Credit Agreement to be immediately due and payable. In addition, if we become the subject of voluntary or involuntary proceedings under any bankruptcy, insolvency, or similar law, then any outstanding obligations under the Credit Agreement will automatically become immediately due and payable.

On August 23, 2013, we entered into a Note Purchase Agreement with certain institutional investors (the “Purchasers”) named therein (the “Note Purchase Agreement”). Pursuant to the Note Purchase Agreement, the Purchasers purchased, on August 27, 2013, (i) \$175,000,000 aggregate principal amount of the company’s 3.97 percent Senior Notes, Series A, due August 27, 2023 (the “Series A Notes”), (ii) \$150,000,000 aggregate principal amount of the company’s 4.26 percent Senior Notes, Series B, due August 27, 2028 (the “Series B Notes”), and (iii) \$175,000,000 aggregate principal amount of the company’s 4.60 percent Senior Notes, Series C, due August 27, 2033 (the “Series C Notes” and, together with the Series A Notes and the Series B Notes, the “Notes”). Interest on the Notes is payable semi-annually in arrears. We applied the proceeds of the sale of the Notes for share repurchases.

The Note Purchase Agreement contains customary provisions for transactions of this type, including representations and warranties regarding the company and its subsidiaries and various covenants, including covenants that require us to maintain specified financial ratios. The Note Purchase Agreement includes the following financial covenants: we will not permit our leverage ratio, determined as of the end of each of our fiscal quarters, of (i) Consolidated Funded Indebtedness to (ii) EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization), to exceed 3.00 to 1.00; we will not permit the interest coverage ratio, as of the end of each of our fiscal quarters and for the twelve-month period then ending, of (i) Consolidated EBIT (earnings before income taxes) to (ii) Consolidated Interest Expense to be less than 2.00 to 1.00; and we will not permit, as of the end of each of our fiscal quarters, Consolidated Priority Debt to exceed 15 percent of Consolidated Total Assets. We were in compliance with all of the financial debt covenants as of September 30, 2015.

The Note Purchase Agreement provides for customary events of default, generally with corresponding grace periods, including, without limitation, payment defaults with respect to the Notes, covenant defaults, cross-defaults to other agreements evidencing indebtedness of the company or its subsidiaries, certain judgments against the company or its subsidiaries, and events of bankruptcy involving the company or its material subsidiaries. The occurrence of an event of default would permit certain Purchasers to declare certain Notes then outstanding to be immediately due and payable.

Under the terms of the Note Purchase Agreement, the Notes are redeemable, in whole or in part, at 100 percent of the principal amount being redeemed together with a “make-whole amount” (as defined in the Note Purchase Agreement), and accrued and unpaid interest with respect to each Note. The obligations of the company under the Note Purchase Agreement and the Notes are guaranteed by C.H. Robinson Company, a Delaware corporation and a wholly-owned subsidiary of the company, and by C.H. Robinson Company, Inc., a Minnesota corporation and an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the company.

The Notes were issued by the company to the initial purchasers in a private placement in reliance on Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”). The Notes have not been registered under the Securities Act and may not be offered or sold in the United States absent registration or an applicable exemption from registration requirements.

The fair value of long-term debt approximated \$506.7 million at September 30, 2015, based on observable market-based inputs compared to a carrying value of \$500.0 million. If our long-term debt was recorded at fair value, it would be classified as a Level 2 liability.

Table of Contents

NOTE 5. INCOME TAXES

C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc. and its 80 percent (or more) owned U.S. subsidiaries file a consolidated federal income tax return. We file unitary or separate state returns based on state filing requirements. With few exceptions, we are no longer subject to audits of U.S. federal, state and local, or non-U.S. income tax returns before 2009.

Our effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 was 38.3 percent and 36.6 percent, respectively. The lower rate for the three months ended September 30, 2014, was primarily due to foreign tax credits.

In addition, the effective income tax rate for both periods is greater than the statutory federal income tax rate due to state income taxes, net of federal benefit.

NOTE 6. STOCK AWARD PLANS

Stock-based compensation cost is measured at the grant date based on the value of the award and is recognized as expense as it vests. A summary of our total compensation expense recognized in our condensed consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income for stock-based compensation is as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Stock options	\$3,100	\$3,466	\$10,973	\$6,227
Stock awards	8,919	13,249	30,655	25,602
Company expense on ESPP discount	474	423	1,884	1,732
Total stock-based compensation expense	\$12,493	\$17,138	\$43,512	\$33,561

On May 9, 2013, our shareholders approved our 2013 Equity Incentive Plan, which allows us to grant certain stock awards, including stock options at fair market value and performance shares and restricted stock units, to our key employees and outside directors. A maximum of 3,400,000 shares plus the shares remaining available for future grants under the 1997 Plan as of May 9, 2013, can be granted under this plan. Approximately 3,191,473 shares were available for stock awards as of September 30, 2015. Shares subject to awards that expire or are canceled without delivery of shares or that are settled in cash generally become available again for issuance under the plan.

Stock Options - We have awarded performance-based stock options to certain key employees. These options are subject to certain vesting requirements over a five-year period based on the company's earnings growth. Any options remaining unvested at the end of the five-year vesting period are forfeited to the company. Although participants can exercise options via a stock swap exercise, we do not issue reloads (restoration options).

The fair value of these options is established based on the market price on the date of grant, discounted for post-vesting holding restrictions, calculated using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. Changes in measured stock price volatility and interest rates are the primary reasons for changes in the discount. These grants are being expensed based on the terms of the awards. As of September 30, 2015, unrecognized compensation expense related to stock options was \$51.1 million. The amount of future expense to be recognized will be based on the company's earnings growth and certain other conditions.

Full Value Awards - We have awarded performance shares and restricted stock units to certain key employees and non-employee directors. These awards are subject to certain vesting requirements over a five-year period, based on the company's earnings growth. The awards also contain restrictions on the awardees' ability to sell or transfer vested awards for a specified period of time. The fair value of these awards is established based on the market price on the date of grant, discounted for post-vesting holding restrictions. The discounts on outstanding grants vary from 17 percent to 22 percent and are calculated using the Black-Scholes option pricing model-protective put method. Changes in measured stock price volatility and interest rates are the primary reasons for changes in the discount. These grants are being expensed based on the terms of the awards.

We have also awarded restricted shares and restricted stock units to certain key employees that vest primarily based on their continued employment. The value of these awards is established by the market price on the date of the grant and is being expensed over the vesting period of the award.

We have also issued to certain key employees and non-employee directors restricted stock units which are fully vested upon issuance. These units contain restrictions on the awardees' ability to sell or transfer vested units for a specified

period of time. The fair value of these units is established using the same method discussed above. These grants have been expensed during the year they were earned.

9

Table of Contents

As of September 30, 2015, there is unrecognized compensation expense of \$91.5 million related to previously granted full value awards. The amount of future expense to be recognized will be based on the company's earnings growth and certain other conditions.

Employee Stock Purchase Plan - Our 1997 Employee Stock Purchase Plan allows our employees to contribute up to \$10,000 of their annual cash compensation to purchase company stock. Purchase price is determined using the closing price on the last day of each quarter discounted by 15 percent. Shares vest immediately. The following is a summary of the employee stock purchase plan activity (dollar amounts in thousands):

Three Months Ended September 30, 2015

Shares purchased by employees	Aggregate cost to employees	Expense recognized by the company
46,667	\$2,689	\$474

NOTE 7. LITIGATION

We are not subject to any pending or threatened litigation other than routine litigation arising in the ordinary course of our business operations, including 26 contingent auto liability cases. For such legal proceedings, we have accrued an amount that reflects the aggregate liability deemed probable and estimable, but this amount is not material to our condensed consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows. Because of the preliminary nature of many of these proceedings, the difficulty in ascertaining the applicable facts relating to many of these proceedings, the inconsistent treatment of claims made in many of these proceedings, and the difficulty of predicting the settlement value of many of these proceedings, we are often unable to estimate an amount or range of any reasonably possible additional losses. However, based upon our historical experience, the resolution of these proceedings is not expected to have a material effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

NOTE 8. ACQUISITIONS

On January 1, 2015, we completed the acquisition of Freightquote.com, Inc. ("Freightquote") for the purpose of enhancing our less than truckload and truckload businesses and expanding our e-commerce capabilities. Total purchase consideration was \$398.6 million, which was paid in cash and is subject to post-closing cash and working capital adjustments, in accordance with the merger agreement. We used advances under the Credit Agreement to fund part of the cash consideration. The following is a summary of the allocation of purchase consideration to the estimated fair value of net assets for the acquisition of Freightquote (in thousands):

Cash and cash equivalents	\$29,302	
Receivables	56,228	
Other current assets	2,395	
Property and equipment	43,687	
Identifiable intangible assets	37,800	
Goodwill	274,526	
Trademarks	8,600	
Other noncurrent assets	3,421	
Total assets	455,959	
Accounts payable	(41,897))
Accrued expenses	(5,485))
Other liabilities	(9,970))
Estimated net assets acquired	\$398,607	

Table of Contents

Identifiable intangible assets and estimated useful lives are as follows (dollars in thousands):

	Estimated Life (years)	
Customer relationships	5	\$37,500
Noncompete agreements	5	300
Total identifiable intangible assets		\$37,800

We also acquired a trademark valued at \$8.6 million which has been determined to be indefinite-lived. The Freightquote goodwill is a result of acquiring and retaining the Freightquote existing workforce and expected synergies from integrating their business into C.H. Robinson. The measurement period adjustment during the quarter ended September 30, 2015, to the previously recorded goodwill related to the settlement of certain working capital adjustments with the former shareholders of Freightquote. The offset to this adjustment was a reduction in the estimated receivable amount from the former shareholders of Freightquote. Purchase accounting is considered final as of September 30, 2015. The goodwill will not be deductible for tax purposes.

On an unaudited pro forma basis, assuming the Freightquote acquisition had closed on January 1, 2014, the results of C.H. Robinson including Freightquote, for the three and nine month periods ending September 30, 2014, would have resulted in the following (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2014		
	C.H. Robinson	Freightquote Operations	Combined Pro Forma
Total revenues	\$3,467,362	\$165,201	\$3,632,563
Income from operations	203,337	7,716	211,053

	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014		
	C.H. Robinson	Freightquote Operations	Combined Pro Forma
Total revenues	\$10,112,865	\$468,907	\$10,581,772
Income from operations	560,690	16,593	577,283

For the three month and nine month period ending September 30, 2014, Freightquote pro forma financial information includes the following adjustments (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2014	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014
Additional amortization expense on identifiable intangible assets	\$(1,890	) \$(5,670
Other	1,009	2,948

The pro forma consolidated financial information was prepared for comparative purposes only and includes certain adjustments, as noted above. The adjustments are estimates based on currently available information, and actual amounts may have differed materially from these estimates. They do not reflect the effect of costs or synergies that would have been expected to result from the integration of the acquisition. The pro forma information does not purport to be indicative of the results of operations that actually would have resulted had the acquisition occurred at the beginning of each period presented or of future results of the consolidated entity. The results of operations and financial condition of Freightquote have been included in our condensed consolidated financial statements since the acquisition date of January 1, 2015.

NOTE 9. CHANGES IN ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS

Accumulated other comprehensive loss is included in Stockholders' investment on our condensed consolidated balance sheets. The recorded balance, net of taxes, at September 30, 2015, and December 31, 2014, was \$44.1 million and \$28.6 million, respectively. Accumulated other comprehensive loss is comprised solely of foreign currency translation adjustment at September 30, 2015, and December 31, 2014.

Table of Contents

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

You should read the following discussion of our financial condition and results of operations in conjunction with our condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes.

FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

Our quarterly report on Form 10-Q, including this discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations and our disclosures about market risk, contains certain "forward-looking statements." These statements represent our expectations, beliefs, intentions, or strategies concerning future events that, by their nature, involve risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking statements include, among others, statements about our future performance, the continuation of historical trends, the sufficiency of our sources of capital for future needs, the effects of acquisitions or dispositions, the expected impact of recently issued accounting pronouncements, and the outcome or effects of litigation. Risks that could cause actual results to differ materially from our current expectations include changes in economic conditions; changes in market demand and pressures on the pricing for our services; competition and growth rates within the third party logistics industry; freight levels and increasing costs and availability of truck capacity or alternative means of transporting freight; changes in relationships with existing contracted truck, rail, ocean, and air carriers; changes in our customer base due to possible consolidation among our customers, or for other reasons; our ability to successfully integrate the operations of acquired companies with our historic operations; risks associated with litigation, including contingent auto liability and insurance coverage; risks associated with operations outside of the U.S.; risks associated with the potential impacts of changes in government regulations; risks associated with the produce industry, including food safety and contamination issues; fuel price increases or decreases, or fuel shortages; the impact of war on the economy; changes to our capital structure; and other risks and uncertainties detailed in our Annual and Quarterly Reports. Therefore, actual results may differ materially from our expectations based on these and other risks and uncertainties, including those described in Item 1A. Risk Factors of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 2, 2015.

Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which such statement is made, and we undertake no obligation to update such statement to reflect events or circumstances arising after such date.

OVERVIEW

Our company. We are a global provider of transportation services and logistics solutions, operating through a network of branch offices in North America, Europe, Asia, and South America. As a third party logistics provider, we cultivate contractual relationships with a wide variety of transportation companies, and utilize those relationships to efficiently and cost effectively transport our customers' freight. We have contractual relationships with approximately 66,000 transportation companies, including motor carriers, railroads (primarily intermodal service providers), air freight, and ocean carriers. Depending on the needs of our customer and their supply chain requirements, we select and hire the appropriate transportation for each shipment. Our model enables us to be flexible, provide solutions that optimize service for our customers, and minimize our asset utilization risk.

In addition to transportation and logistics services, we also offer fresh produce sourcing services. Our Sourcing business is the buying, selling, and marketing of fresh produce. We purchase fresh produce through our network of produce suppliers and sell it to retail grocers and restaurant chains, produce wholesalers, and foodservice providers. In some cases, we also arrange the transportation of the produce we sell through our relationships with specialized transportation companies. Those revenues are reported as Transportation revenues.

Our business model. We are primarily a service company. We add value and expertise in the procurement and execution of transportation and logistics, including sourcing of produce products for our customers. Our total revenues represent the total dollar value of services and goods we sell to our customers. Our net revenues are our total revenues less purchased transportation and related services, including contracted motor carrier, rail, ocean, air, and other costs, and the purchase price and services related to the products we source. Our net revenues are the primary indicator of our ability to source, add value, and sell services and products that are provided by third parties, and we consider them

to be our primary performance measurement. Accordingly, the discussion of our results of operations below focuses on the changes in our net revenues.

12

Table of Contents

We keep our business model as variable as possible to allow us to be flexible and adapt to changing economic and industry conditions. We sell transportation services and produce to our customers with varied pricing arrangements. Some prices are committed to for a period of time, subject to certain terms and conditions, and some prices are set on a spot market basis. We buy most of our truckload transportation capacity and produce on a spot market basis. Because of this, our net revenue per transaction tends to increase in times when there is excess supply and decrease in times when demand is strong relative to supply.

We keep our personnel and other operating expenses as variable as possible. Compensation is performance-oriented and, for most employees in the office network, based on the profitability of their individual office.

Our personnel decisions are decentralized. Our branch managers determine the appropriate number of employees for their offices, within productivity guidelines, based on their volume of business. This helps keep our personnel expense as variable as possible with the business.

Our branch office network. Our office network is a competitive advantage. Building local customer and contract carrier relationships has been an important part of our success, and our worldwide network of offices supports our core strategy of serving customers locally, nationally, and globally. Our offices help us penetrate local markets, provide face-to-face service when needed, and recruit contract carriers. Our network also gives us knowledge of local market conditions, which is important in the transportation industry because it is market driven and very dynamic. In January 2015, we completed our acquisition of Freightquote.com, Inc. ("Freightquote"), a privately held freight broker based in Kansas City, Missouri. Freightquote provides services throughout North America. The acquisition enhances and brings synergies to our LTL and truckload businesses, and expands our e-commerce capabilities. Our offices work together to complete transactions and collectively meet the needs of our customers. For large multi-location customers, we often coordinate our efforts in one office and rely on multiple locations to deliver specific geographic or modal needs. As an example, during 2014, approximately 48 percent of our truckload shipments were shared transactions between offices. Our methodology of providing services is very similar across all locations. The majority of our global network operates on a common technology platform that is used to match customer needs with supplier capabilities, to collaborate with other offices, and to utilize centralized support resources to complete all facets of the transaction.

Our people. Because we are a service company, our continued success is dependent on our ability to continue to hire and retain talented, productive people, and to properly align our headcount and personnel expense with our business. Employees act as a team in their sales efforts, customer service, and operations. A significant portion of many of our employees' compensation is performance-oriented, based on individual performance and the profitability of their office. We believe this makes our employees more service-oriented and focused on driving growth and maximizing office productivity. All of our managers and certain other employees who have significant responsibilities are eligible to receive equity awards because we believe these awards are an effective tool for creating long-term ownership and alignment between employees and our shareholders.

Our customers. In 2014, we worked with more than 46,000 active customers. We work with a wide variety of companies, ranging in size from Fortune 100 companies to small family businesses, in many different industries. Our customer base is very diverse and unconcentrated. Our top 100 customers represented approximately 37 percent of our total revenues and approximately 26 percent of our net revenues in 2014. Our largest customer was approximately two percent of our total revenues and approximately one percent of our total net revenues in 2014.

Our contracted carriers. Our contracted carrier base includes motor carriers, railroads (primarily intermodal service providers), air freight, and ocean carriers. In 2014, our carrier base was approximately 66,000, up from approximately 63,000 in 2013. Motor carriers that had fewer than 100 tractors transported approximately 83 percent of our truckload shipments in 2014. In our Transportation business, no single contracted carrier represents more than approximately two percent of our contracted carrier capacity.

Table of Contents

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table summarizes our total revenues by service line (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,			Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2015	2014	% change	2015	2014	% change
Transportation	\$3,044,500	\$3,073,382	(0.9)%	\$9,122,479	\$8,922,261	2.2 %
Sourcing	374,753	393,980	(4.9)%	1,142,752	1,190,604	(4.0)%
Total	\$3,419,253	\$3,467,362	(1.4)%	\$10,265,231	\$10,112,865	1.5 %

The following table illustrates our net revenue margins by services and products:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Transportation	18.4 %	16.2 %	17.6 %	15.9 %
Sourcing	7.6 %	7.6 %	8.2 %	7.7 %
Total	17.2 %	15.2 %	16.5 %	14.9 %

The following table summarizes our net revenues by service line (dollars in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,			Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2015	2014	% change	2015	2014	% change
Transportation						
Truckload	\$344,715	\$311,152	10.8 %	\$977,641	\$891,651	9.6 %
LTL ⁽¹⁾	94,190	67,968	38.6 %	271,084	195,482	38.7 %
Intermodal	10,168	10,593	(4.0)%	32,219	30,396	6.0 %
Ocean	58,322	57,380	1.6 %	167,578	151,478	10.6 %
Air	20,248	20,520	(1.3)%	60,483	59,721	1.3 %
Customs	12,012	11,107	8.1 %	33,248	30,751	8.1 %
Other Logistics Services	20,436	19,043	7.3 %	61,331	54,816	11.9 %
Total Transportation	560,091	497,763	12.5 %	1,603,584	1,414,295	13.4 %
Sourcing	28,484	29,801	(4.4)%	94,119	91,541	2.8 %
Total	\$588,575	\$527,564	11.6 %	\$1,697,703	\$1,505,836	12.7 %

(1) Less than truckload ("LTL")

Table of Contents

The following table represents certain statements of operations data, shown as percentages of our net revenues:

	Three Months Ended		September 30,		Nine Months Ended		September 30,	
	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
Net revenues	100.0	%	100.0	%	100.0	%	100.0	%
Operating expenses:								
Personnel expenses	44.9	%	46.4	%	46.1	%	46.7	%
Other selling, general, and administrative expenses	15.6	%	15.1	%	15.9	%	16.0	%
Total operating expenses	60.5	%	61.5	%	62.1	%	62.8	%
Income from operations	39.5	%	38.5	%	37.9	%	37.2	%
Interest and other expense	(1.1)	)%	(1.2)	)%	(1.3)	)%	(1.2))%
Income before provision for income taxes	38.4	%	37.4	%	36.6	%	36.0	%
Provision for income taxes	14.7	%	13.7	%	14.1	%	13.6	%
Net income	23.7	%	23.7	%	22.6	%	22.4	%

We previously reported Payment Services revenues (the fees we earn from our cash advance option offered to our contract carriers) separately from Transportation revenues. Starting in the first quarter of 2015, we are reporting Payment Services revenues as a part of Transportation total and net revenues. The following tables provide the results of our Transportation total revenues and net revenues for 2014 and 2013 had we previously shown Payment Services revenues combined with Transportation revenues.

	2014				2013			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Total revenues								
Transportation	\$2,803,704	\$3,038,923	\$3,069,056	\$3,010,291	\$2,603,182	\$2,818,077	\$2,880,901	\$2,767,550
Payment Services	3,073	3,179	4,326	3,960	3,233	3,374	3,391	3,234
Transportation total revenues	\$2,806,777	\$3,042,102	\$3,073,382	\$3,014,251	\$2,606,415	\$2,821,451	\$2,884,292	\$2,770,784
Net revenues								
Transportation	\$427,879	\$483,552	\$493,987	\$474,306	\$421,252	\$431,145	\$429,978	\$416,020
Payment Services	2,510	2,591	3,776	3,505	2,624	2,705	2,775	2,646
Total net revenues	\$430,389	\$486,143	\$497,763	\$477,811	\$423,876	\$433,850	\$432,753	\$418,666

Three Months Ended September 30, 2015, Compared to Three Months Ended September 30, 2014

Total revenues and direct costs. Our consolidated total revenues decreased 1.4 percent in the third quarter of 2015 compared to the third quarter of 2014. Total Transportation revenues decreased 0.9 percent to \$3.0 billion in the third quarter of 2015 from \$3.1 billion in the third quarter of 2014. The decrease was driven by lower rates charged to our customers, primarily due to the lower cost of fuel, partially offset by our acquisition of Freightquote.com ("Freightquote") on January 1, 2015, and increased volumes in most of our transportation modes. Total purchased transportation and related services decreased 3.5 percent in the third quarter of 2015 to \$2.5 billion from \$2.6 billion in the third quarter of 2014. The decrease was due to decreased cost of capacity, primarily related to the lower cost of fuel, offset partially by our acquisition of Freightquote and higher volumes in most of our transportation modes. Our Sourcing revenue decreased 4.9 percent to \$374.8 million in the third quarter of 2015 from \$394.0 million in the third

quarter of 2014. Purchased products sourced for resale decreased 4.9 percent in the third quarter of 2015 to \$346.3 million from \$364.2 million in the third quarter of 2014. These decreases were primarily due lower market prices which reduced both our revenues and our costs in the third quarter of 2015, partially offset by an increase in case volume.

Table of Contents

Net revenues. Total Transportation net revenues increased 12.5 percent to \$560.1 million in the third quarter of 2015 from \$497.8 million in the third quarter of 2014. The acquisition of Freightquote contributed approximately seven percentage points to our Transportation net revenue growth in the third quarter of 2015. Our Transportation net revenue margin increased to 18.4 percent in the third quarter of 2015 from 16.2 percent in the third quarter of 2014 primarily due to lower transportation costs, including fuel.

Our truckload net revenues increased 10.8 percent to \$344.7 million in the third quarter of 2015 from \$311.2 million in the third quarter of 2014. Organic truckload net revenues increased approximately eight percent in the third quarter of 2015 compared to the third quarter of 2014. Freightquote contributed approximately three percentage points to our truckload net revenue growth. Approximately 96 percent of our total truckload net revenues are derived from North American operations. Our North American truckload volumes increased seven percent in the third quarter of 2015 compared to the third quarter of 2014. Approximately three percent of this increase was due to the acquisition of Freightquote. Truckload net revenue margin increased in the third quarter of 2015 compared to the third quarter of 2014, due primarily to lower transportation costs, including fuel. In North America, excluding the estimated impacts of the reduction in fuel costs, our average truckload rate per mile charged to our customers was flat in the third quarter of 2015 compared to the third quarter of 2014. In North America, our truckload transportation costs decreased approximately one percent, excluding the estimated reduction in fuel costs. In the North American truckload market, capacity was readily available and demand was modest in the third quarter of 2015.

Our LTL net revenues increased 38.6 percent to \$94.2 million in the third quarter of 2015 from \$68.0 million in the third quarter of 2014. Freightquote contributed approximately 33 percentage points to our LTL net revenue growth in the third quarter of 2015. LTL volumes increased approximately 32 percent in the third quarter of 2015 compared to the third quarter of 2014. Organic LTL volumes increased approximately 13 percent in the third quarter of 2015 compared to the third quarter of 2014. Net revenue margin increased in the third quarter of 2015 compared to the third quarter of 2014. This was primarily the result of a change in our freight mix with more small customers from Freightquote business, which typically have a higher net revenue margin.

Our intermodal net revenues decreased 4.0 percent to \$10.2 million in the third quarter of 2015 from \$10.6 million in the third quarter of 2014, notwithstanding the increase in intermodal net revenues attributed to Freightquote. Organic intermodal net revenues decreased approximately 13 percent in the third quarter of 2015 compared to the third quarter of 2014. Excluding Freightquote, intermodal transactional volume decreased in the third quarter of 2015 compared to the third quarter of 2014. Conversion to truckload from intermodal negatively impacted intermodal volumes and net revenues in the third quarter of 2015 due to lower truckload rates.

Our ocean transportation net revenues increased 1.6 percent to \$58.3 million in the third quarter of 2015 from \$57.4 million in the third quarter of 2014. The increase in net revenues was primarily due to increased net revenue margin and volumes.

Our air transportation net revenues decreased 1.3 percent to \$20.2 million in the third quarter of 2015 from \$20.5 million in the third quarter of 2014. The decrease was due to lower rates charged to our customers, partially offset by increased net revenue margin and an increase in volumes.

Our customs net revenues increased 8.1 percent to \$12.0 million in the third quarter of 2015 from \$11.1 million in 2014. The increase was primarily due to increased transaction volumes.

Other logistics services net revenues, which include managed services, warehousing, and small parcel, increased 7.3 percent to \$20.4 million in the third quarter of 2015 from \$19.0 million in the third quarter of 2014 primarily from growth in managed services. Freightquote contributed approximately two percentage points to our other logistics services net revenue growth in the third quarter of 2015.

Sourcing net revenues decreased 4.4 percent to \$28.5 million in the third quarter of 2015 from \$29.8 million in the third quarter of 2014. This decrease was primarily due to a decline in net revenue per case, offset partially by a case volume increase across a variety of commodities and services. Our net revenue margin for the third quarter of 2015 and the third quarter of 2014 remained consistent at 7.6 percent.

Operating expenses. Operating expenses increased 9.8 percent to \$355.9 million in the third quarter of 2015 from \$324.2 million in the third quarter of 2014. The acquisition of Freightquote added to our total operating expenses in the third quarter of 2015. Operating expenses as a percentage of net revenues decreased slightly to 60.5 percent in the

third quarter of 2015 from 61.5 percent in the third quarter of 2014.

For the third quarter, personnel expenses increased 8.0 percent to \$264.1 million in 2015 from \$244.6 million in 2014. This was primarily due to an average headcount increase of 13.1 percent in the third quarter of 2015 compared to the third quarter of 2014. Our acquisition of Freightquote contributed approximately nine percentage points of the growth in average headcount

Table of Contents

during the third quarter of 2015. Total personnel expenses did not grow as fast as average headcount in the third quarter of 2015, as the expenses related to variable compensation plans were relatively flat compared to the third quarter of 2014.

For the third quarter of 2015, other selling, general, and administrative expenses increased 15.3 percent to \$91.8 million in 2015 from \$79.6 million in the third quarter of 2014. This increase was primarily due to our acquisition of Freightquote, including amortization expense of approximately \$1.9 million, and an increase in claims and travel expenses.

Income from operations. Income from operations increased 14.4 percent to \$232.7 million in the third quarter of 2015 from \$203.3 million in the third quarter of 2014. Income from operations as a percentage of net revenues increased to 39.5 percent in the third quarter of 2015 from 38.5 percent in the third quarter of 2014.

Interest and other expense. Interest and other expense was \$6.6 million in the third quarter of 2015 compared to \$6.2 million in the third quarter of 2014. The change was due primarily to an increase in our average outstanding balances on our debt during the quarter ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same period ended September 30, 2014.

Provision for income taxes. Our effective income tax rate was 38.3 percent for the third quarter of 2015 and 36.6 percent for the third quarter of 2014. The lower rate for the third quarter of 2014 was primarily due to foreign tax credits. In addition, the effective income tax rate for both periods is greater than the statutory federal income tax rate primarily due to state income taxes, net of federal benefit.

Net income. Net income increased 11.6 percent to \$139.4 million in the third quarter of 2015 from \$125.0 million in the third quarter of 2014. Basic and diluted net income per share increased 12.9 percent to \$0.96 from \$0.85.

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 Compared to Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014

Total revenues and direct costs. Our consolidated total revenues increased 1.5 percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2014. Total Transportation revenues increased 2.2 percent to \$9.1 billion in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$8.9 billion in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. The increase was driven by our acquisition of Freightquote and increased volumes in most of our transportation modes, offset partially by lower rates charged to our customers, primarily due to the lower cost of fuel. Total purchased transportation and related services increased 0.1 percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, to \$7.52 billion from \$7.51 billion in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. The increase was due to our acquisition of Freightquote and higher volumes in most of our transportation modes, partially offset by decreased cost of capacity primarily related to lower cost of fuel. Our Sourcing revenue decreased 4.0 percent to \$1.1 billion in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$1.2 billion in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. Purchased products sourced for resale decreased 4.6 percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, to \$1.0 billion from \$1.1 billion in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. These decreases were primarily due lower market prices which reduced both our revenues and our costs during the period ended September 30, 2015, offset by an increase in case volume.

Net revenues. Total Transportation net revenues increased 13.4 percent to \$1.6 billion in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$1.4 billion in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. Our Transportation net revenue margin increased to 17.6 percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from 15.9 percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2014, primarily due to lower transportation costs, including fuel.

Our truckload net revenues increased 9.6 percent to \$977.6 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$891.7 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. Organic truckload net revenues increased approximately six percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same period of 2014.

Freightquote contributed approximately three percentage points to our truckload net revenue growth. Approximately 96 percent of our total truckload revenues are derived from North America. North American truckload volumes increased approximately seven percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2014. Organic North American truckload volumes increased approximately four percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same period in 2014. Truckload net revenue margin increased in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2014, due primarily to increased rate per mile charge to our customers. In North America, excluding the estimated impact of the reduction in fuel costs, our average truckload rate per mile charged to our customers increased approximately three

percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2014. In North America, our truckload transportation costs increased approximately two percent, excluding the estimated impacts of the reduction in fuel costs.

Our LTL net revenues increased 38.7 percent to \$271.1 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$195.5 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. Freightquote contributed approximately 33 percentage points to our LTL net revenue growth. LTL volumes increased approximately 31 percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2015,

Table of Contents

compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2014. Organic LTL volume increased approximately 12 percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2014. LTL net revenue margin increased in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2014. This was primarily the result of a change in our freight mix with more small customers from the Freightquote business, which typically have a higher net revenue margin.

Our intermodal net revenue increased 6.0 percent to \$32.2 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$30.4 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. Freightquote contributed approximately nine percentage points to our intermodal net revenue growth. Organic intermodal net revenues decreased approximately three percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same period in 2014. Conversion to truckload from intermodal negatively impacted intermodal volumes and net revenues in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, due to lower truckload rates.

Our ocean transportation net revenues increased 10.6 percent to \$167.6 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$151.5 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. The increase in revenues was due to increased net revenue margins and volumes.

Our air transportation net revenues increased 1.3 percent to \$60.5 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$59.7 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. The increase was due to increased net revenue margin and volumes.

Our customs net revenues increased 8.1 percent to \$33.2 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$30.8 million in September 30, 2014. The increase was due to increased transaction volumes.

Other logistics services net revenues, which include managed services, warehousing, and small parcel, increased 11.9 percent to \$61.3 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$54.8 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. The increase was driven primarily by managed services. Freightquote contributed approximately two percentage points to our other logistics services net revenue growth during the nine months ended September 30, 2015.

Sourcing net revenues increased 2.8 percent to \$94.1 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$91.5 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. This increase was primarily due to increased volumes across a variety of commodities and services. Our net revenue margin increased to 8.2 percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from 7.7 percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2014.

Operating expenses. Operating expenses increased 11.5 percent to \$1.1 billion in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$945.1 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. Operating expenses as a percentage of net revenues decreased to 62.1 percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from 62.8 percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2014.

Personnel expenses increased 11.3 percent to \$783.2 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$703.9 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. This was primarily due to additional headcount related to our acquisition of Freightquote and increases in expenses related to incentive plans that are designed to keep expenses variable with changes in net revenues and profitability. For the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, our average headcount grew 10.3 percent compared to the same period ended September 30, 2014.

Other selling, general, and administrative expenses increased 12.2 percent to \$270.8 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015 from \$241.2 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. This increase was primarily due to our acquisition of Freightquote, including amortization expense of approximately \$5.7 million, and an increase in claims and travel expenses.

Income from operations. Income from operations increased 14.8 percent to \$643.7 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$560.7 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. Income from operations as a percentage of net revenues increased to 37.9 percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from 37.2 percent in the nine months ended September 30, 2014.

Interest and other expense. Interest and other expense increased to \$22.1 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$18.6 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. The change was due primarily to an increase in our average outstanding balances on our debt during the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same period ended September 30, 2014.

Provision for income taxes. Our effective income tax rate was 38.4 percent percent for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, and 37.9 percent percent for the nine months ended September 30, 2014. The effective income tax rate for both periods is greater than the statutory federal income tax rate primarily due to state income taxes, net of federal benefit.

Table of Contents

Net income. Net income increased 13.8 percent to \$383.1 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$336.8 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. Basic and diluted net income per share increased 15.4 percent to \$2.63 from \$2.28.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

We have historically generated substantial cash from operations, which has enabled us to fund our organic growth while paying cash dividends and repurchasing stock. In 2012, we entered into a senior unsecured revolving credit facility to partially fund the acquisition of Phoenix. In December 2014, we amended the revolving credit facility to increase the amount available from \$500 million to \$900 million and to extend the expiration date from October 2017 to December 2019, primarily to fund the acquisition of Freightquote. In 2013, we entered into a Note Purchase Agreement to fund the repurchase of \$500.0 million worth of our common stock. The Note Purchase Agreement was amended in February 2015 to conform its financial covenants to be consistent with the amended revolving credit facility. We also expect to use the revolving credit facility and potentially other indebtedness incurred in the future to assist us in continuing to fund working capital, capital expenditures, possible acquisitions, dividends, and share repurchases. Cash and cash equivalents totaled \$143.1 million as of September 30, 2015, and \$128.9 million as of December 31, 2014. Cash and cash equivalents held outside the United States totaled \$91.3 million as of September 30, 2015, and \$80.6 million as of December 31, 2014. Working capital at September 30, 2015, was \$275.0 million and at December 31, 2014, was \$529.6 million.

We prioritize our investments to grow the business, as we require some working capital and a relatively small amount of capital expenditures to grow. We are continually looking for acquisitions, but those acquisitions must fit our culture and enhance our growth opportunities.

Cash flow from operating activities. We generated \$464.4 million and \$305.3 million of cash flow from operations during the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014, an increase of \$159.1 million compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2014. The decrease in fuel prices in the first nine months of 2015 compared to the first nine months of 2014 resulted in slower growth in working capital and allowed us to generate higher operating cash flow.

Cash used for investing activities. We used \$40.0 million and \$24.7 million of cash during the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014 for investing activities.

We used \$32.8 million and \$25.1 million for capital expenditures during the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014. This increase was primarily due to the purchase and development of software. Information technology investments are intended to improve efficiencies and help grow the business.

We used \$367.1 million, net of cash acquired, for the acquisition of Freightquote in January 2015. On January 1, 2015, the restrictions on \$359.4 million of restricted cash held in escrow were lifted and the funds were disbursed out of the escrow accounts, pursuant to the purchase agreement in connection with the acquisition.

Cash used for financing activities. We used \$398.2 million and \$308.5 million of cash flow for financing activities during the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014. The change was primarily due to a decrease in net borrowing and an increase in share repurchases during the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same period ended September 30, 2014.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014, we had net repayments on our short-term borrowings of \$75.0 million and \$30.0 million. The outstanding balance on the revolving credit facility was \$530.0 million as of September 30, 2015. We were in compliance with all of the credit facility's financial debt covenants as of September 30, 2015.

We used \$171.4 million and \$157.6 million to pay cash dividends during the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014. The increase was primarily due to a dividend rate increase in 2015 compared to 2014, partially offset by a decrease in weighted average shares outstanding during the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2014.

We used \$161.1 million and \$125.2 million on share repurchases during the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014. The change was due primarily to an increase of shares repurchased during the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same period of 2014. In August 2013, the Board of Directors increased

the number of shares authorized for repurchase by 15,000,000 shares. As of September 30, 2015, there were 7,863,932 shares remaining for

19

Table of Contents

future repurchases under the repurchase authorization. The number of shares we repurchase, if any, during future periods will vary based on our cash position, potential uses of our cash, and market conditions.

We used \$11.0 million and \$11.8 million to acquire shares from employees through their withholding taxes resulting from the delivery of restricted equity during the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014. Management believes that our available cash, together with expected future cash generated from operations, the amount available under our credit facility, and credit available in the market will be sufficient to satisfy our anticipated needs for working capital, capital expenditures, and cash dividends in the foreseeable future. We also believe we could obtain funds under lines of credit or other forms of indebtedness on short notice, if needed.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES

Our condensed consolidated financial statements include accounts of the company and all majority-owned subsidiaries. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions. In certain circumstances, those estimates and assumptions can affect amounts reported in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements and related footnotes. In preparing our financial statements, we have made our best estimates and judgments of certain amounts included in the financial statements, giving due consideration to materiality. We do not believe there is a great likelihood that materially different amounts would be reported related to the accounting policies described below. However, application of these accounting policies involves the exercise of judgment and use of assumptions as to future uncertainties and, as a result, actual results could differ from these estimates. Note 1 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, includes a summary of the significant accounting policies and methods used in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements. The following is a brief discussion of our critical accounting policies and estimates.

Revenue recognition. Total revenues consist of the total dollar value of goods and services purchased from us by customers. Net revenues are total revenues less the direct costs of transportation, products, and handling. We act principally as the service provider for these transactions and recognize revenue as these services are rendered or goods are delivered. At that time, our obligations to the transactions are completed and collection of receivables is reasonably assured. Most transactions in our Transportation and Sourcing businesses are recorded at the gross amount we charge our customers for the service we provide and goods we sell. In these transactions, we are the primary obligor, we have credit risk, we have discretion to select the supplier, and we have latitude in pricing decisions. Additionally, in our Sourcing business, we often take loss of inventory risk during shipment and have general inventory risk.

Certain transactions in customs brokerage, transportation management, and sourcing are recorded at the net amount we charge our customers for the service we provide because many of the factors stated above are not present.

Valuations for accounts receivable. Our allowance for doubtful accounts is calculated based upon the aging of our receivables, our historical experience of uncollectible accounts, and any specific customer collection issues that we have identified. The allowance of \$46.0 million as of September 30, 2015, increased compared to the allowance of \$41.1 million as of December 31, 2014. The increase was primarily the result of the growth in our total receivable portfolio and a slight deterioration in our aging. We believe that the recorded allowance is sufficient and appropriate based on our customer aging trends, the exposures we have identified, and our historical loss experience.

Goodwill. We manage and report our operations as one operating segment. Our branches represent a series of components that are aggregated for the purpose of evaluating goodwill for impairment on an enterprise-wide basis. The fair value of the enterprise-wide reporting unit substantially exceeds the book value; therefore, we have determined that there is no indication of goodwill impairment as of September 30, 2015.

Stock-based compensation. The fair value of each share-based payment award is established on the date of grant. For grants of restricted shares and restricted units, the fair value is established based on the market price on the date of the grant, discounted for post-vesting holding restrictions. The discounts on outstanding grants vary from 17 percent to 22 percent and are calculated using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. Changes in the measured stock price volatility and interest rates are the primary reason for changes in the discount. For grants of options, we use the Black-Scholes option pricing model to estimate the fair value of share-based payment awards. The determination of the fair value of share-based awards is affected by our stock price and a number of assumptions, including expected

volatility, expected life, risk-free interest rate, and expected dividends.

Table of Contents

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

We had \$143.1 million of cash and cash equivalents on September 30, 2015. Substantially all of the cash equivalents are in demand accounts with financial institutions. The primary market risks associated with these investments are liquidity risks.

We are a party to a credit agreement with various lenders consisting of a \$900 million revolving loan facility. Interest accrues on the revolving loan at variable rates based on LIBOR or "prime" plus the applicable add-on percentage as defined. At September 30, 2015, there was \$530.0 million outstanding on the revolving loan.

We are a party to the Note Purchase Agreement, as amended, with various institutional investors with fixed rates consisting of: (i) \$175,000,000 of the company's 3.97 percent Senior Notes, Series A, due August 27, 2023, (ii) \$150,000,000 of the company's 4.26 percent Senior Notes, Series B, due August 27, 2028, and (iii) \$175,000,000 of the company's 4.60 percent Senior Notes, Series C, due August 27, 2033. At September 30, 2015, there was \$500.0 million outstanding on the notes.

A hypothetical 100-basis-point change in the interest rate would not have a material effect on our earnings. We do not use derivative financial instruments to manage interest rate risk or to speculate on future changes in interest rates. A rise in interest rates could negatively affect the fair value of our investments. Market risk arising from changes in foreign currency exchange rates are not material due to the size of our international operations.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

(a) Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures.

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, we evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"). Based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of the end of the period covered by this report, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

(b) Changes in internal controls over financial reporting.

There were no changes that occurred during the most recent fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect the company's internal control over financial reporting.

As previously announced, we acquired Freightquote during the first quarter of 2015. We have not fully evaluated any changes in internal control over financial reporting associated with this acquisition, and therefore any material changes that may result from this acquisition have not been disclosed in this report. We intend to disclose all material changes resulting from the acquisition within or prior to the time of our first annual assessment of internal control over financial reporting that is required to include this entity.

The results in this quarterly report include those of Freightquote.

Table of Contents

PART II-OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We are not subject to any pending or threatened litigation other than routine litigation arising in the ordinary course of our business operations. For such legal proceedings, we have accrued an amount that reflects the aggregate liability deemed probable and estimable, but this amount is not material to our consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows. Because of the preliminary nature of many of these proceedings, the difficulty in ascertaining the applicable facts relating to many of these proceedings, the inconsistent treatment of claims made in many of these proceedings, and the difficulty of predicting the settlement value of many of these proceedings, we are often unable to estimate an amount or range of any reasonably possible additional losses. However, based upon our historical experience, the resolution of these proceedings is not expected to have a material effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

In addition to the other information set forth in this report, you should carefully consider the factors discussed in Part I, "Item 1A. Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, which could materially affect our business, financial condition, or future results. The risks described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K are not the only risks facing our company. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem to be immaterial also may materially adversely affect our business, financial condition, and/or operating results.

ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

The following table provides information about purchases by the company during the quarter ended September 30, 2015, of shares of the company's common stock.

	Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased ^(a)	Average Price Paid Per Share (or Unit)	Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs ^(b)	Maximum Number of Shares (or Units) That May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs ^(b)
July 1, 2015-July 31, 2015	349,497	\$64.49	340,872	8,606,595
August 1, 2015-August 31, 2015	283,098	68.32	281,045	8,325,550
September 1, 2015-September 30, 2015	463,208	68.24	461,618	7,863,932
Third quarter 2015	1,095,803	\$67.06	1,083,535	7,863,932

(a) The total number of shares purchased includes: (i) 1,083,535 shares of common stock purchased under the authorization described below; and (ii) 12,268 shares of common stock surrendered to satisfy minimum statutory tax obligations under our stock incentive plans.

(b) In August 2013, the Board of Directors increased the number of shares authorized for repurchase by 15,000,000 shares. As of September 30, 2015, there were 7,863,932 shares remaining for future repurchases. Purchases can be made in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions, including Rule 10b5-1 plans and accelerated repurchase programs.

ITEM 3. DEFAULTS ON SENIOR SECURITIES

None

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

None

22

Table of Contents

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

Exhibits filed with this report:

- 31.1 Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 31.2 Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.1 Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.2 Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 101 Financial statements from the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of the company for the period ended September 30, 2015, formatted in XBRL

23

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized on November 9, 2015.

C.H. ROBINSON WORLDWIDE, INC.

By: /s/ John P. Wiehoff
 John P. Wiehoff
 Chief Executive Officer

By: /s/ Andrew C. Clarke
 Andrew C. Clarke
 Chief Financial Officer (principal accounting officer)