

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
EASTERN DIVISION

In re: )
) Case No. 17-42267-659
) CHAPTER 11
PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, et al.,<sup>1</sup> )
) Jointly Administered
)
Debtors. )
)
)
)

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR THE JOINT PLAN OF REORGANIZATION OF
PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC AND SUBSIDIARY DEBTORS

THIS IS NOT A SOLICITATION OF ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF THE PLAN. ACCEPTANCES
OR REJECTIONS MAY NOT BE SOLICITED UNTIL A DISCLOSURE STATEMENT HAS BEEN
APPROVED BY THE BANKRUPTCY COURT. THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IS BEING
SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL BUT HAS NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE COURT.

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1 The Debtors (as defined herein) in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Payless Holdings LLC [5704]; Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC [5190]; WBG-PSS Holdings LLC [0673]; Payless Inc. [3160]; Payless Finance, Inc. [2101]; Collective Brands Services, Inc. [7266]; PSS Delaware Company 4, Inc. [1466]; Shoe Sourcing, Inc. [4075]; Payless ShoeSource, Inc. [4097]; Eastborough, Inc. [2803]; Payless Purchasing Services, Inc. [3043]; Payless ShoeSource Merchandising, Inc. [0946]; Payless Gold Value CO, Inc. [3581]; Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc. [0944]; Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. [6884]; Payless NYC, Inc. [4126]; Payless ShoeSource of Puerto Rico, Inc. [9017]; Payless Collective GP, LLC [2940]; Collective Licensing, LP [1256]; Collective Licensing International LLC [5451]; Clinch, LLC [9836]; Collective Brands Franchising Services, LLC [3636]; Payless International Franchising, LLC [6448]; Collective Brands Logistics, Limited [6466]; Dynamic Assets Limited [1978]; PSS Canada, Inc. [4969]; Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc. [4180]; Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. [4182]; and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP [4179]. The location of Debtor Payless Holdings LLC's corporate headquarters and the Debtors' service address is: c/o Payless ShoeSource Inc. 3231 SE 6th Avenue Topeka, KS 66607 United States.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOU TO READ**

**THE DEADLINE TO VOTE ON THE PLAN IS [July 10], 2017, AT 4:00 P.M. CENTRAL TIME.**

**FOR YOUR VOTE TO BE COUNTED, YOUR BALLOT MUST BE ACTUALLY RECEIVED BY THE NOTICING AND CLAIMS AGENT BEFORE THE VOTING DEADLINE AS DESCRIBED HEREIN.**

This Disclosure Statement provides information regarding the Debtors' Plan,<sup>2</sup> which the Debtors seek to have confirmed in the Bankruptcy Court. A copy of the Plan is attached hereto as Exhibit A. Unless otherwise noted, all capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meaning ascribed to them in the Plan.

The consummation and effectiveness of the Plan are subject to certain material conditions precedent described herein and set forth in Article VIII of the Plan. There is no assurance that the Bankruptcy Court will confirm the Plan or, if the Bankruptcy Court does confirm the Plan, that the conditions necessary for the Plan to go effective will be satisfied or otherwise waived.

You are encouraged to read this Disclosure Statement (including Article VIII hereof entitled "Plan-Related Risk Factors") and the Plan in their entirety before submitting your Ballot to vote on the Plan.

The Bankruptcy Court's approval of this Disclosure Statement does not constitute a guarantee by the Bankruptcy Court of the accuracy or completeness of the information contained herein or an endorsement by the Bankruptcy Court of the merits of the Plan.

Summaries of the Plan and statements made in this Disclosure Statement are qualified in their entirety by reference to the Plan. The summaries of the financial information and the documents annexed to this Disclosure Statement or otherwise incorporated herein by reference are qualified in their entirety by reference to those documents. The statements contained in this Disclosure Statement are made only as of the date of this Disclosure Statement, and there is no assurance that the statements contained herein will be correct at any time after such date. Except as otherwise provided in the Plan or in accordance with applicable law, the Debtors are under no duty to update or supplement this Disclosure Statement.

The Debtors are providing the information in this Disclosure Statement to Holders of Claims and Interests for purposes of soliciting votes to accept or reject the Debtors' Joint Plan of Reorganization Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. In the event of any inconsistency between the Disclosure Statement and the Plan, the relevant provisions of the Plan will govern. Nothing in this Disclosure Statement may be relied upon or used by any entity for any other purpose. Before deciding whether to vote for or against the Plan, each Holder entitled to vote should carefully consider all of the information in this Disclosure Statement, including the Plan-Related Risk Factors described in Article VIII.

The Debtors urge each Holder of a Claim or Interest to consult with its own advisors with respect to any legal, financial, securities, tax, or business advice in reviewing this Disclosure Statement, the Plan, and each proposed transaction contemplated by the Plan.

This Disclosure Statement contains, among other things, summaries of the Plan, certain statutory provisions, certain events in the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases, and certain documents related to the Plan, attached hereto and/or incorporated by reference herein. Although the Debtors believe that these summaries are fair and accurate, they are qualified in their entirety to the extent that they do not set forth the entire text of such documents or statutory provisions or every detail of such events. In the event of any inconsistency or discrepancy between a description in this Disclosure Statement and the terms and provisions of the Plan or any other documents incorporated herein by reference, the Plan or such other documents will govern for all purposes. Factual information contained in this Disclosure Statement has been provided by the Debtors'

<sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined in this Disclosure Statement shall have the meaning ascribed to such terms in the Plan.

management except where otherwise specifically noted. The Debtors do not represent or warrant that the information contained herein or attached hereto is without any material inaccuracy or omission.

The Debtors have prepared this Disclosure Statement in accordance with section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 3016(b), and Local Bankruptcy Rule 3017 and is not necessarily prepared in accordance with federal or state securities laws or other similar laws.

In preparing this Disclosure Statement, the Debtors relied on financial data derived from the Debtors' books and records and on various assumptions regarding the Debtors' businesses. Although the Debtors believe that such financial information fairly reflects the financial condition of the Debtors as of the date hereof and that the assumptions regarding future events reflect reasonable business judgments, the Debtors make no representations or warranties as to the accuracy of the financial information contained in this Disclosure Statement or assumptions regarding the Debtors' businesses and their future results and operations. The Debtors expressly caution readers not to place undue reliance on any forward looking statements contained herein.

This Disclosure Statement does not constitute, and should not be construed as, an admission of fact, liability, stipulation, or waiver. The Debtors may seek to investigate, file, and prosecute Claims and may object to Claims after the Confirmation or Effective Date of the Plan irrespective of whether this Disclosure Statement identifies such Claims or objections to Claims.

The Debtors are making the statements and providing the financial information contained in this Disclosure Statement as of the date hereof, unless otherwise specifically noted. Although the Debtors may subsequently update the information in this Disclosure Statement, the Debtors have no affirmative duty to do so, and expressly disclaim any duty to publicly update any forward looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise. Holders of Claims and Interests reviewing this Disclosure Statement should not infer that, at the time of their review, the facts set forth herein have not changed since this Disclosure Statement was filed. Information contained herein is subject to completion, modification, or amendment. The Debtors reserve the right to file an amended or modified Plan and related Disclosure Statement from time to time, subject to the terms of the Plan.

The Debtors have not authorized any Entity to give any information about or concerning the Plan other than that contained in this Disclosure Statement. The Debtors have not authorized any representations concerning the Debtors or the value of their property other than as set forth in this Disclosure Statement.

If the Bankruptcy Court confirms the Plan and the Effective Date occurs, the terms of the Plan and the restructuring transactions contemplated by the Plan will bind the Debtors, any Person acquiring property under the Plan, all Holders of Claims and Interests (including those Holders of Claims and Interests that do not submit Ballots to accept or reject the Plan or that are not entitled to vote on the Plan), and any other Person or Entity as may be ordered by the Bankruptcy Court in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.

<b>SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING FEDERAL AND STATE SECURITIES LAWS</b>
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Neither this Disclosure Statement nor the Plan have been filed with the United States Securities And Exchange Commission (the "SEC") or any state authority. The Plan has not been approved or disapproved by the SEC or any state securities commission and neither the SEC nor any state securities commission has passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Disclosure Statement or the merits of the Plan. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

This Disclosure Statement has been prepared pursuant to section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 3016(b) and is not necessarily in accordance with federal or state securities laws or other similar laws. The securities to be issued on or after the effective date will not have been the subject of a registration statement filed with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") or any securities regulatory authority of any state under any state securities law ("Blue Sky Laws"). The Debtors are relying on Section 4(2) of the Securities Act, Section 701 promulgated under the Securities Act,

and similar provisions of Blue Sky Laws, as well as, to the extent applicable, the exemption from the Securities Act and equivalent state law registration requirements provided by section 1145(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, to exempt the issuance of new securities in connection with the solicitation and the Plan from registration under the Securities Act and Blue Sky Laws.

This Disclosure Statement contains “forward looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements consist of any statement other than a recitation of historical fact and can be identified by the use of forward looking terminology such as “may,” “expect,” “anticipate,” “estimate,” or “continue” or the negative thereof or other variations thereon or comparable terminology. You are cautioned that all forward looking statements are necessarily speculative and there are certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual events or results to differ materially from those referred to in such forward looking statements. The Liquidation Analysis, distribution projections, and other information contained herein and attached hereto are estimates only, and the timing and amount of actual distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims may be affected by many factors that cannot be predicted. Any analyses, estimates, or recovery projections may or may not turn out to be accurate.

**Making investment decisions based on the information contained in this Disclosure Statement and/or the Plan is therefore highly speculative.** The Debtors recommend that potential recipients of any securities issued pursuant to the Plan consult their own legal counsel concerning the securities laws governing the transferability of any such securities.

<b>QUESTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>
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If you would like to obtain copies of this Disclosure Statement, the Plan, or any of the documents attached hereto or referenced herein, or have questions about the solicitation and voting process or these Chapter 11 Cases generally, please contact Prime Clerk LLC by (a) calling the Debtors’ restructuring hotline at (844) 648-5574; (b) emailing [paylessballots@primeclerk.com](mailto:paylessballots@primeclerk.com); (c) visiting the Debtors’ restructuring website at: <https://cases.primeclerk.com/payless>; and/or (d) writing to Prime Clerk LLC at Payless Balloting Center c/o Prime Clerk LLC, 830 Third Avenue, 3rd Floor, New York, New York 10022.

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**EXHIBITS**

- EXHIBIT A Plan of Reorganization
- EXHIBIT B Corporate Structure Chart
- EXHIBIT C Disclosure Statement Order
- EXHIBIT D Reorganized Debtors' Financial Projections
- EXHIBIT E Liquidation Analysis
- EXHIBIT F Valuation Analysis
- EXHIBIT G Restructuring Support Agreement (together with the Restructuring Term Sheet)
- EXHIBIT H Cash Incentive Plan Term Sheet
- EXHIBIT I New First Lien Term Loan Facility Term Sheet

THE DEBTORS HEREBY ADOPT AND INCORPORATE EACH EXHIBIT ATTACHED TO  
THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY REFERENCE AS THOUGH FULLY SET FORTH  
HEREIN.

**I.**  
**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**A. INTRODUCTION**

Payless ShoeSource Inc., a Missouri corporation, together with its affiliates identified on the title page above, as debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the “Debtors”), each filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri on April 4, 2017 (the “Petition Date”). The Debtors’ Chapter 11 Cases are jointly administered under lead case name Payless Holdings LLC and lead case number 17-42267-659.

Before soliciting acceptances of a proposed chapter 11 plan of reorganization, section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code requires a debtor to prepare a disclosure statement that contains information of a kind, and in sufficient detail, to permit a hypothetical reasonable investor to make an informed judgment regarding acceptance of the plan of reorganization.

Accordingly, the Debtors submit this disclosure statement (this “Disclosure Statement”), pursuant to section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code, to Holders of Claims against and Interests in the Debtors in connection with the solicitation of votes for acceptance of the *Joint Plan of Reorganization of Payless Holdings LLC and Its Debtor Affiliates Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code* (the “Plan”) [Docket No. 375], dated April 25, 2017, as amended, supplemented, or modified from time to time in accordance with its terms. A copy of the Plan is attached hereto as **Exhibit A** and incorporated herein by reference. The Plan constitutes a separate chapter 11 plan for each of the Debtors.

On [\_\_\_], 2017, the Bankruptcy Court entered an order [Docket No. [\_\_\_]] (the “Disclosure Statement Order”) (a) approving the Disclosure Statement as containing adequate information, (b) approving, among other things, the dates, procedures, and forms applicable to the process of soliciting votes on and providing notice of the Plan and certain vote tabulation procedures, (c) establishing the deadline for filing objections to the Plan, and (d) scheduling the Confirmation Hearing. The Disclosure Statement Order is attached hereto as **Exhibit C**.

A hearing to consider confirmation of the Plan is scheduled to be held before the Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States at [10]:00 a.m. prevailing Central Time on [July 24], 2017 at the Bankruptcy Court, Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse, 111 S. 10th Street, 4th Floor, Courtroom 7 North, St. Louis, MO 63102. Additional information with respect to Confirmation is provided in Article VII of this Disclosure Statement.

This Disclosure Statement includes information about, without limitation, (i) the Debtors’ business, prepetition operations, financial history, and events leading up to these Chapter 11 Cases, (ii) the significant events that occurred thus far in these Chapter 11 Cases, (iii) the anticipated recoveries of Creditors under the Plan, (iv) the procedures by which the Debtors intend to solicit and tabulate votes on the Plan, (v) the Plan Confirmation process, (vi) certain risk factors to be considered before voting on the Plan, and (vi) discussions relating to certain securities registration and tax consequences of the Plan. The descriptions and summaries of certain provisions of, and financial transactions contemplated by, the Plan being proposed by the Debtors relate to the Plan filed with the Bankruptcy Court on April 25, 2017. The Plan remains subject to ongoing negotiations between the Debtors and their stakeholders and may be modified.

***This Executive Summary is only a general overview of this Disclosure Statement and the material terms of, and transactions proposed by, the Plan. The Executive Summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the more detailed discussions appearing elsewhere in this Disclosure Statement and the exhibits attached to this Disclosure Statement, including the Plan and the Plan Supplement. The Debtors urge all parties to read this Executive Summary in conjunction with the entire Disclosure Statement, the Plan, and the Plan Supplement.***



**B. KEY CONSTITUENT SUPPORT FOR THE PLAN**

Prior to the Petition Date, the Debtors engaged in extensive, good-faith negotiations with a steering committee of their secured term loan lenders to develop a comprehensive financing, restructuring, and recapitalization plan to be implemented through these Chapter 11 Cases. That agreement was memorialized in the Restructuring Support Agreement attached hereto as **Exhibit G**, executed by parties that collectively hold or control approximately two-thirds of the Debtors' first and second lien term loans.

The Plan reflects the agreement reached among the Debtors and their prepetition secured lenders to reorganize the Debtors as a going-concern business and outlines a consensual deleveraging transaction that will leave the Debtors appropriately capitalized and with access to financing to support their emergence and go-forward business needs. The Debtors and plan support parties believe that the compromises and transactions reflected in the Plan and DIP Documents will provide the Debtors with liquidity to achieve the financial restructuring contemplated by the Plan, implement the Debtors' long-term business plan, and positively signal the market about the Debtors' post-emergence prospects.

The Debtors and the parties supporting the Plan have also agreed that a prolonged chapter 11 case would drain estate assets and is not in the best interest of creditors. Accordingly, the Restructuring Support Agreement and DIP Documents provide for certain milestones designed to ensure the Debtors move expeditiously towards confirmation of the Plan in the current distressed retail environment, as well as certain conditions and covenants requiring the Debtors to meet operational objectives associated with rent concessions, EBITDA targets, inventory receipts, and a renegotiation of existing joint venture agreements.

Consummation of the Plan and the financial restructurings contemplated thereby will both significantly de-lever the Debtors' capital structure and provide the Debtors with access to new money necessary for ongoing operations. With a sustainable capital structure aligned with the Debtors' revised business plan and adequate operating liquidity, the Reorganized Debtors will be positioned to compete more effectively in the evolving retail industry.

**THE DEBTORS AND THE PREPETITION SECURED LENDERS SUPPORT THE PLAN AND BELIEVE THAT THE COMPROMISES CONTEMPLATED UNDER THE PLAN ARE FAIR AND EQUITABLE, MAXIMIZE THE VALUE OF THE DEBTORS' ESTATES, AND PROVIDE THE BEST RECOVERY TO STAKEHOLDERS. FOR THESE REASONS AND OTHERS DESCRIBED HEREIN, THE DEBTORS STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU VOTE TO ACCEPT THE PLAN.**

**C. PLAN OVERVIEW**

**1. Purpose and Effect of the Plan**

The Debtors are reorganizing under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, which is the principal business reorganization chapter of the Bankruptcy Code. Under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, a debtor may reorganize its business for the benefit of its stakeholders. The consummation of a plan of reorganization is the principal objective of a chapter 11 case. A plan of reorganization sets forth how a debtor will treat claims and equity interests.

A bankruptcy court's confirmation of a plan of reorganization binds the debtor, any entity or person acquiring property under the plan, any creditor of or equity security holder in a debtor and any other entities and persons to the extent ordered by the bankruptcy court pursuant to the terms of the confirmed plan, whether or not such entity or person is impaired pursuant to the plan, has voted to accept the plan, or receives or retains any property under the plan.

Among other things (subject to certain limited exceptions and except as otherwise provided in the Plan or the Confirmation Order), the Confirmation Order will discharge the Debtors from any debt arising before the Effective Date, terminate all of the rights and interests of pre-bankruptcy equity security holders and substitute the obligations set forth in the Plan for those pre-bankruptcy Claims and Equity Interests. Under the Plan, Claims and Equity Interests are divided into Classes according to their relative priority and other criteria.

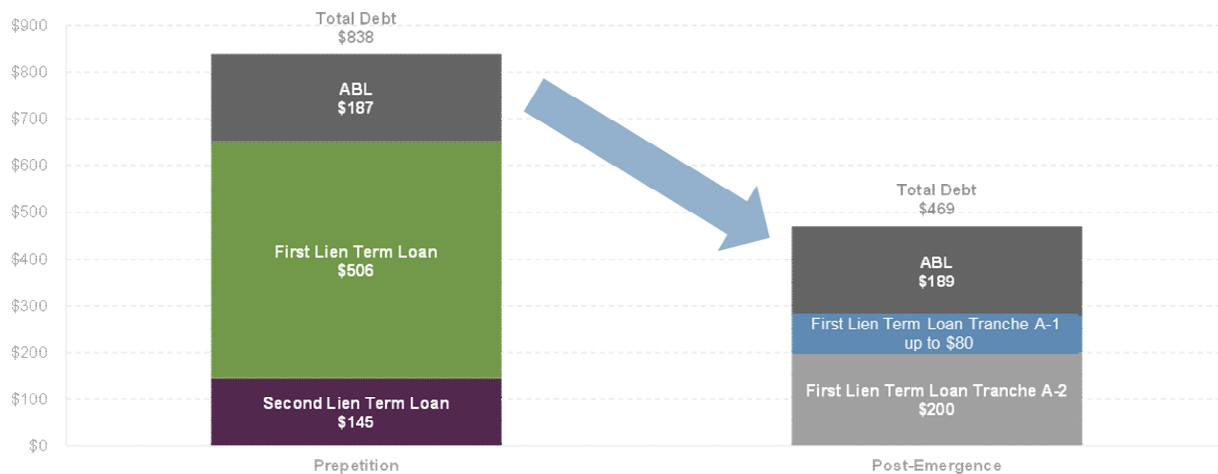
Each of the Debtors is a proponent of the Plan within the meaning of section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Plan does not contemplate the substantive consolidation of the Debtors' estates. Instead, the Plan, although proposed jointly, constitutes a separate plan for each of the Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases. Holders of Allowed Claims or Interests against each of the Debtors will receive the same recovery provided to other Holders of Allowed Claims or Interests in the applicable Class and will be entitled to their share of assets available for distribution to such Class.

The feasibility of the Plan is premised upon, among other things, the Debtors' ability to achieve the goals of its long-range business plan, make the distributions contemplated under the Plan and pay certain continuing obligations in the ordinary course of the Reorganized Debtors' business. The Reorganized Debtors' financial projections are set forth on **Exhibit D**.<sup>3</sup> Although the Debtors believe the projections are reasonable and appropriate, they include a number of assumptions and are subject to a number of risk factors and to significant uncertainty. Actual results may differ from the projections, and the differences may be material.

## 2. Financial Restructurings Under the Plan

As of the Petition Date, the Debtors had outstanding funded debt obligations in the aggregate principal amount of approximately \$838,000,000, consisting primarily of approximately (a) \$187,000,000 outstanding under their ABL Credit Facility (inclusive of Letters of Credit of approximately \$30.5 million); (b) \$506,000,000 outstanding under their First Lien Term Loan; and (c) \$145,000,000 outstanding under their Second Lien Term Loan. Additionally, based on invoices in their accounts payable systems and estimated accruals, the Debtors estimate that an aggregate of approximately \$240 million was owing and outstanding to the Debtors' trade creditors, including vendors, suppliers, service providers, and contract counterparties, as of the Petition Date.

If the Plan is confirmed, the Debtors will emerge from these Chapter 11 Cases with approximately 40% less funded debt. The Debtors' pro forma exit capital structure will consist of a New ABL Facility, a New First Lien Term Loan Facility, and New Equity in Reorganized Holdings, as set forth below (in millions):



Specifically, the Plan contemplates the following restructuring transactions:

- The Debtors' Prepetition ABL Facility Lenders have agreed to roll up the Prepetition ABL Credit Facility into the ABL DIP Facility, a \$305 million asset-based lending facility consisting of an up to \$245 million Tranche A Credit Facility and an up to \$60 million Tranche A-1 Credit Facility. The

<sup>3</sup> The Debtors' business plan and projections also incorporate forecasts of operating performance for the foreign franchise and joint venture businesses that relate to entities that are not Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases.

Plan provides that the ABL DIP Facility will be indefeasibly paid in full, in Cash from the proceeds of the New ABL Facility.<sup>4</sup>

- Certain of the Debtors' Prepetition First Lien Lenders have agreed to provide the Debtors with a Term DIP Facility of up to \$80 million to finance these Chapter 11 Cases and the Debtors' emergence. The Term DIP Facility will roll into the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche under the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, which New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche will be in an amount equal to the outstanding balance of the Term DIP Facility on the Effective Date (each Holder of a Term DIP Facility Claim shall convert its Term DIP Facility Claim into a claim under the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche, on a dollar-for-dollar basis).
- The Prepetition First Lien Lenders (on account of their Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, including the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims that are Secured and their Prepetition First Lien Deficiency Claims) will receive their Pro Rata share of (a) 91% of the common equity of Reorganized Holdings (subject to reduction on account of the Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery, and subject to dilution from the Management Equity Incentive Plan and the Exit Commitment Fee) and (b) the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche under the New First Lien Term Loan Facility in the amount of \$280 million less the amount of the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche.
- The Debtors' obligations under the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement will be discharged, and in exchange each Holder of a Claim under the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement will receive their Pro Rata share of 9.0% of the common equity of Reorganized Holdings (subject to dilution from the Management Equity Incentive Plan and the Exit Commitment Fee).
- The General Unsecured Claims held by certain trade creditors with whom the Debtors intend to conduct business post-emergence will receive a Cash payment equal to [ ]% of their Claim (after taking into account any payments made to such Holders on account of such Claims during the Chapter 11 Cases).
- Holders of General Unsecured Claims against Debtor Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. will receive: (i) if such Holder has not made the Worldwide GUC Cash-Out Election, such Holder's Pro Rata share of the Worldwide New Equity Recovery; or (ii) if such Holder has made the Worldwide GUC Cash-Out Election, such Holder's Worldwide GUC Cash-Out Option Payment
- Other General Unsecured Claims will receive their Pro Rata share of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool.
- Canadian General Unsecured Claims against the Canadian Debtors shall be Reinstated.
- All Equity Interests in Payless Holdings LLC will be extinguished.

As a result of the restructuring transactions contemplated by the Plan, the New Equity in Reorganized Holdings will be allocated among (i) the Prepetition First Lien Lenders, (ii) the Prepetition Second Lien Lenders, and (iii) such Holders of Worldwide General Unsecured Claims who do not elect to receive the Worldwide GUC Cash-Out Option Payment, in each case based on each such parties' relative rights and priorities, and in each instance, subject to dilution by equity issued under the Management Equity Incentive Plan or to satisfy the Exit Commitment Fee as set forth in the Plan.

### **3. Recovery Analysis**

The Plan, which provides for a comprehensive restructuring of the Debtors' prepetition obligations, preserves the going-concern value of the Debtors' businesses, maximizes creditor recoveries, provides for an

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<sup>4</sup> The Debtors do not currently have a commitment for the New ABL Facility, but anticipate they will have such a commitment either from the ABL DIP Lenders or a third party prior to the Confirmation Hearing.

equitable distribution to the Debtors' stakeholders and protects the jobs of employees. In developing the Plan, the Debtors gave due consideration to various alternatives and engaged in significant discussions with representatives and/or professionals of the senior secured lenders under their prepetition first lien term loan, whom the Debtors believe will be the primary economic stakeholders in the Reorganized Debtors. With the assistance of their professional advisors, the Debtors also conducted a careful review of their current operations, prospects as an ongoing business, financial projections, and the go-forward business plan developed by management. Based on this analysis and a review of estimated recoveries in a liquidation scenario, the Debtors concluded that recoveries to the Debtors' stakeholders will be maximized by the Debtors' continued operation as a going concern. Indeed, the Debtors believe that their business and assets have significant value that would not be realized in a liquidation scenario.

Substantially all of the Debtors' assets are subject to valid and perfected liens held by the DIP Lenders and the Prepetition Lenders, which obligations require payment in full prior to distributions to Holders of unsecured claims against the Debtors.<sup>5</sup> The Debtors do, however, have certain assets that were unencumbered as of the Petition Date, the primary value of which relates to minority interests in certain first-tier foreign subsidiaries. Specifically, certain of the Debtors' direct and indirect subsidiaries are subject to only 65% equity interest pledges for the benefit of the Prepetition Lenders.<sup>6</sup> The value of the 35% of the equity interests in these direct and indirect subsidiaries that is not pledged for the benefit of the Prepetition Lenders was unencumbered as of the Petition Date. These subsidiaries include entities that operate the Debtors' business in Latin America, Puerto Rico, Saipan, and Mexico.

Prior to commencing these Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors and a steering committee of the Debtors' senior lenders recognized the critical need for the Debtors to consummate the Plan in an efficient manner to avoid significant harm to the Debtors' businesses and operations. The parties also recognized the real risk that the complexities surrounding the unencumbered value, if litigated, could result in value-destructive liquidation. Absent a global deal among stakeholders, the Debtors believe the cost and delay of litigating (i) the value of unencumbered assets and (ii) the amount of such value that would be available for distribution to unsecured creditors after taking into account (a) the costs of these Chapter 11 Cases; (b) the significant deficiency claims of the prepetition secured lenders; and (c) any potential adequate protection claims of the Prepetition First Lien Lenders would exceed the recovery proposed to be paid to unsecured creditors under the Plan. Moreover, such distractions would divert the Debtors from their operational restructuring initiatives—a key component of the success of these Chapter 11 Cases for the Reorganized Debtors.

In an effort to minimize potential litigation during the Chapter 11 Cases, the steering committee of senior lenders and certain Prepetition Second Lien Lenders engaged in substantial, good-faith negotiations regarding recoveries to Holders of Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims. The Debtors believe that the negotiated treatment of such Claims provides at least as much value to such Holders as such Holders may realize were the issues surrounding unencumbered value litigated to a decision.

Likewise, and as described herein, the Plan contemplates significant recoveries to Holders of General Unsecured Claims, each of whom stand to greatly benefit from the Debtors' ability to consummate the Plan and continue as a going concern. More specifically, the Plan contemplates a significant amount of value distribution to Holders of Worldwide General Unsecured Claims (in the form of either New Equity or Cash, at each such Holder's election) as part of an overall settlement on terms economically consistent with the settlement reached among the steering committee and the Prepetition Second Lien Lenders. Furthermore, the Plan also provides for a Cash recovery to holders of Other General Unsecured Claims, who otherwise have no claim to any material unencumbered property of the Debtors and thus would be entitled to no recovery. **Accordingly, the Debtors believe that the Plan provides all Holders of General Unsecured Claims a recovery at a material premium over what such Holders otherwise would receive under a priority waterfall recovery analysis.**

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<sup>5</sup> Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims are secured by valid, perfected liens on, among other things, all of the Debtors' Cash, accounts receivable, intellectual property, contract rights, general intangibles, equipment and fixtures, and proceeds of collateral.

<sup>6</sup> For tax purposes, the Debtors pledged only 65% of the equity interests of certain of their foreign subsidiaries to secure obligations under the Prepetition Credit Agreements.

The Debtors also believe that any alternative to Confirmation of the Plan, such as an attempt by another party to file a competing plan, would result in significant delays, litigation, and additional costs, could negatively affect value by causing unnecessary uncertainty with the Debtors' key customer and supplier constituencies, and could potentially lead to a liquidation by the Debtors, in which case substantially all Holders of Claims would do substantially worse or receive no recovery at all.

**ACCORDINGLY, FOR ALL OF THESE AND THE OTHER REASONS DESCRIBED HEREIN, THE DEBTORS URGE YOU TO TIMELY RETURN YOUR BALLOT ACCEPTING THE PLAN.**

**D. TREATMENT OF CLAIMS AND INTERESTS UNDER THE PLAN**

The table below summarizes the classification and treatment of Claims and Interests under the Plan. These summaries are qualified in their entirety by reference to the provisions of the Plan. For a more detailed description of the treatment of Claims and Interests under the Plan, see Section IV.B hereof.

The table below also sets forth the estimated percentage recovery for Holders of Claims and Interests in each Class and the Debtors' estimates of the amount of Claims that will ultimately become Allowed in each Class based upon (a) review by the Debtors of their books and records, (b) all Claims scheduled by the Debtors (as modified by the Bankruptcy Court through certain hearings), and (c) consideration of the provisions of the Plan that affect the allowance of certain Claims.

Because each Debtor's Plan contemplates distributions to Holders of Claims in the amount of the estimated percentage recoveries set forth below, the estimated aggregate Claim amounts in each Class and the estimated percentage recoveries in the table below are set forth for the Debtors on a consolidated basis.

**THE ESTIMATED PROJECTED RECOVERIES SET FORTH IN THE TABLE BELOW ARE ESTIMATES ONLY AND ARE THEREFORE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

**SUMMARY OF CLAIMS AND INTERESTS AND ESTIMATED RECOVERIES**

<u>Class</u>	<u>Claim/Equity Interest</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Estimated Amount of Allowed Claims<sup>7</sup></u>	<u>Estimated Percent Recovery Under the Plan</u>
1	Other Priority Claims	Unimpaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
2	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
3	Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
4	Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
5	Qualified Unsecured Trade Claims	Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
6A	Other General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
6B	Worldwide General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%

<sup>7</sup> All dollar amounts in millions.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Claim/Equity Interest</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Estimated Amount of Allowed Claims<sup>7</sup></u>	<u>Estimated Percent Recovery Under the Plan</u>
6C	Canadian General Unsecured Claims	Unimpaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
7	Intercompany Claims	Unimpaired / Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
8	Existing Equity Interests <sup>8</sup>	Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
9	Intercompany Interests	Unimpaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
10	Section 510(b) Claims	Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%

**E. PLAN TIMELINE AND RELATED CONTINGENCIES**

Although, the Debtors believe that the restructuring proposed in the Plan is the best alternative for maximizing stakeholder recoveries, the Plan is subject to a number of conditions and there are certain material risks to the Debtors' ability to implement the Plan and consummate near-term creditor distributions. The Plan will be consummated on the Effective Date so long as certain conditions precedent are satisfied or waived in accordance with Article VIII.B of the Plan, including:

- The Bankruptcy Court shall have approved the Disclosure Statement as containing adequate information with respect to the Plan within the meaning of section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- The Definitive Documents shall satisfy the Definitive Document Restructuring Support Agreement Requirements;
- The Plan and all Plan Supplement documents, including any amendments, modifications or supplements thereto, shall be reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders.
- The Confirmation Order shall have been entered and become a Final Order. The Confirmation Order shall provide that, among other things, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as appropriate, are authorized and directed to take all actions necessary or appropriate to consummate the Plan, including, without limitation, entering into, implementing, and consummating the contracts, instruments, releases, leases, indentures, and other agreements or documents created in connection with or described in the Plan.
- All documents and agreements necessary to implement the Plan, including, without limitation, the New Credit Facilities Documents, shall have (a) been tendered for delivery and (b) been effected or executed. All conditions precedent to such documents and agreements shall have been satisfied or waived pursuant to the terms of such documents or agreements, and the commitment fees described in Article IV.H of the Plan shall have been paid.

<sup>8</sup> Following the Petition Date, the Debtors received a letter from certain Holders of Existing Equity Interests in Payless Holdings LLC asserting entitlement to certain assets of Payless Holdings LLC with an approximate value of \$5 million. These Holders have requested that such value be preserved for distributions to Holders of Existing Equity Interests. The Debtors are evaluating the assets and liabilities at each Debtor and reserve all rights related thereto, including the right to modify the proposed treatment of Claims in Class 8 under the Plan, as a result of such evaluation.

- All actions, documents, certificates, and agreements necessary to implement this Plan shall have been effected or executed and delivered to the required parties and, to the extent required, filed with the applicable Governmental Units in accordance with applicable laws.
- The Professional Fee Escrow Account shall have been established and funded.

In addition, the Plan is subject to certain contingencies and risk factors, which are set forth in Article VIII hereof, and include, among others:

- **Case Milestones.** The Debtors' Restructuring Support Agreement and the DIP Documents set forth a series of case milestones (the "Milestones") that the Debtors must meet. Pursuant to the Milestones, the Debtors must, among other Milestones, (a) obtain entry of the Final DIP Order by May 9, 2017; (b) obtain Bankruptcy Court approval of the Disclosure Statement by June 5, 2017; (c) file motions relating to the remaining lease rejection and going-out-of-business sales by July 3, 2017; (d) renegotiate the terms of the joint venture agreements with Latin American partners by July 13, 2017; (e) obtain entry of the Confirmation Order by July 27, 2017; and (f) reach the Effective Date by August 10, 2017.

The importance of meeting these Milestones cannot be overstated. If the Debtors fail to satisfy the Milestones set out in the Restructuring Support Agreement or the DIP Documents, or otherwise fail to obtain waivers in accordance with the terms of such documents, the Debtors may lose support from their current stakeholders for the Plan and may lose access to the DIP Facilities. Fundamentally, this means that the DIP Lenders may declare a default under the DIP Facilities and exercise remedies to foreclose on their collateral, or that counterparties to the Restructuring Support Agreement may declare a default thereunder and terminate the Restructuring Support Agreement. In either case, the likely outcome for the Debtors is a liquidation of their Estates. As set forth in the Liquidation Analysis, recoveries to creditors in a liquidation scenario are vastly inferior to the recoveries contemplated by the Plan. Accordingly, the Debtors believe that failure to meet the case Milestones may jeopardize the Plan recoveries for all creditors.

- **Lease Renegotiation Efforts.** The Plan contemplates a substantial reduction of annual expenditures on account of agreements with existing landlords to modify the terms of existing leases. Further, the Restructuring Support Agreement contemplates that the Debtors will realize 85% of their projected rent savings from landlord concessions. If such reductions cannot be realized, the Debtors may not be able to implement the Plan.
- **Latin America Joint Venture Renegotiation.** The Debtors' Latin America operations are run through a non-Debtor affiliate that is party to certain joint venture arrangements with local partners, but heavily dependent upon management services, sourcing services, and intellectual property licensing from the Debtors. The Debtors and certain stakeholders believe that the payment terms for such services and licensing arrangements are on below-market terms. Accordingly, the Restructuring Support Agreement requires that the Debtors renegotiate these partnership agreements during the Chapter 11 Cases in order to obtain joint venture agreements on current market terms. If the Debtors cannot reach renegotiated partnership agreements on current market terms with their joint venture partners, they will be in default of their obligations under the Restructuring Support Agreement and there is a substantial risk that the Debtors will be forced to liquidate.
- **Exit ABL Financing.** Because the Plan contemplates that the ABL DIP Claims will be paid in full, in Cash, the Debtors must procure a New ABL Facility to ensure they have sufficient liquidity to pay the ABL DIP Claims and to maintain their business operations after the Effective Date. The Debtors intend to engage the ABL DIP Lenders regarding rolling the ABL DIP Facility into a New ABL Facility as part of their pursuit of a New ABL Facility. If the Debtors cannot procure a New ABL Facility on market terms, they will not be able to consummate the Plan.

## **II.** **BACKGROUND TO THESE CHAPTER 11 CASES**

### **A. CORPORATE HISTORY AND CURRENT STRUCTURE**

Founded in 1956, Payless Holdings LLC is the parent company for each of the Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases and certain direct and indirect Affiliates which are not debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases (collectively, the “Company” or “Payless”). Headquartered in Topeka, Kansas, Payless is an iconic American footwear retailer selling quality shoes at affordable prices in a self-select environment. With nearly 4,300 stores in more than 30 countries across the world, nearly 22,000 employees, a brand that is globally recognized and a business that generates significant unlevered free cash flow, Payless is the largest specialty footwear retailer in the Western hemisphere. In fiscal year 2016, Payless generated approximately \$2.3 billion of sales and \$95 million of EBITDA.

Payless was founded as an everyday footwear retailer with a strategy of selling low-cost, high-quality, fashion-forward family footwear. Today, Payless is the second largest footwear retailer by unit sales in the United States, with North American sales of approximately \$1.9 billion in 2016 and \$2.0 billion in 2015. Payless operates in more than 30 countries through its three business segments (North America, Latin America, and franchised stores), producing approximately 110 million pairs of shoes per year across the world. Worldwide, Payless had approximately \$2.3 billion in net sales in 2016.

Payless is able to offer its budget-conscious customers outstanding value on basics, on-trend and special occasion footwear through a national assisted-service store footprint, localized assortment, and a low-cost integrated-sourcing business model, including a growing online presence. Through this unique product development strategy, which ensures popular, quality, and on-trend merchandise in stores for the right price, Payless retains its customers’ loyalty. This business model depends upon (a) identifying and developing on-trend merchandise, (b) developing strong relationships with branding partners, and (c) maintaining an overseas sourcing network that can develop and produce products at a scale and cost necessary to serve Payless’ customers.

Payless has a strong seasonal cadence, as evidenced by its four key selling seasons: Easter, sandals, back-to-school, and boots. Because these periods fall relatively evenly throughout the course of the year, Payless’ selling periods create a broad, even flow of business throughout the year, even though the composition of the business varies widely depending on the time of the year. This has served over many years to create a largely continuous overall flow of product from overseas suppliers through Payless’ supply chain to customers in North America and abroad. These peak seasons are very important to the Debtors’ business, bringing in approximately 47% of total revenue on an annual basis.

### **B. CURRENT BUSINESSES AND OPERATIONS**

The Debtors are headquartered in Topeka, Kansas, but their operations are extensive and span across Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, Europe, and the United States.

#### **1. North America**

Payless’ North American business represents a majority of the Debtors’ store base, with more than 3,500 wholly-owned stores in the United States, Puerto Rico, and Canada. In the United States, 76% of household disposable income and 3 out of 4 children under age 10 live within five miles of a Payless store.

Despite the industry-wide shift away from brick-and-mortar stores, North American wholly-owned stores generated nearly \$1.9 billion in sales in fiscal year 2016 and nearly \$2 billion in fiscal year 2015, representing approximately 63% and 56% of Payless’ overall EBITDA, respectively. Payless North America provides an extensive range of operational and corporate services to the Latin American and franchised segments, including product development and sourcing, retail operations, marketing, IT, finance, tax, and legal assistance.



## **2. Latin America**

Seventeen years after opening its first store in Latin America, Payless has become the largest specialty footwear retailer in the region. Payless Latin America has provided stable growth since its inception, opening 15 to 35 new stores per year and averaging 8% annual revenue growth since 2013. It is also highly profitable, generating approximately 39% of Payless' overall EBITDA despite accounting for less than 10% of Payless' store footprint. Payless Latin America is expected to continue to grow through new stores and increased e-commerce. Payless currently operates nearly 400 stores across 22 countries in Latin America and enjoys leadership positions in the relevant markets.

Many of Payless' Latin American operations are governed by joint venture agreements and related ancillary agreements, pursuant to which Payless receives certain sourcing and other corporate fees, as well as dividends, on a periodic basis, in exchange for use of Payless' intellectual property, sourcing, operational management, and information technology. In exchange, the joint venture agreements have allowed Payless to utilize their partners' significant local market knowledge to buy, plan, and distribute their products

## **3. Franchised Store Segment**

Finally, Payless' franchised segment consists of stores operated by franchisees in several countries in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. Since opening their first franchised stores in 2009, the Debtors' franchise business has grown to nearly 400 stores across 17 countries. The franchised stores are held to the same high standards as the Debtors' wholly-owned and joint venture stores and provide a similar customer experience. The Debtors receive favorable royalty fees, which typically range from 6 to 8 percent of the franchisee's net revenue, pursuant to the franchise agreements. The Debtors' franchise business requires minimal upfront risk, capital requirements, and overhead expenses, as they successfully leverage their existing North American operations and sourcing capabilities to support the business segment. Looking forward, Payless intends to further develop new markets through its franchised segment in the next three years.

## **4. Merchandising strategy**

Core to the Debtors' business model is the customer loyalty generated by their core demographic. Payless is particularly popular in the women's and children's shoes market, serving as the second largest retailer of women's and children's shoes in the under \$30 footwear category. Payless' women's and children's segments account for 50% and 25% of sales, respectively. 45% of women in the United States shop at Payless annually, driven in part by the fact that Payless is able to sell its goods at approximately 50% of the industry average price. To maintain their loyal consumer base, Payless' merchandising strategy necessitates having a wide selection of core products alongside the latest fashion styles at prices significantly below that of most competitors. This is particularly important to Payless' customers, who typically have less than \$75,000 of household income.

Payless' business model is highly dependent on identifying on-trend merchandise through its branding and merchandising partners. Payless is able to keep its products on-trend by utilizing a design team, agent partners, and third-party consultants—each of whom monitor marketplace trends and provide input on each style of shoe. The Debtors also maintain a number of branding relationships to assist them in bringing to market popular brands and designs to follow the trends of their core customer groups.

The Debtors are parties to certain license agreements that grant them rights to use a number of popular, broadly-recognized brands, including Champion, Christian Siriano, Disney, DreamWorks, Star Wars, and Marvel, each of which helps the Debtors maintain their strength in various niche target markets. The Debtors also utilize design partnerships, through which popular labels provide the Debtors with existing product designs in exchange for a fee. These partnerships allow the Debtors to offer their partners' designs under the Payless name at much cheaper prices for the consumer. Finally, the Debtors market certain high-volume proprietary brands, such as American Eagle and Brash, which they own outright. These brands make up over 40 percent of the Debtors' sales.

## **5. Procurement and Global Supply Chain**

Also key to serving the Debtors' customer base is the Debtors' well-established and seamless global supply chain. Payless focuses on developing core products internally, rather than retailing shoes developed by third parties,

which dramatically reduces product costs and allows Payless to sell products at value-positioned price points. Direct sourcing, as a percentage of Payless’ product lines, has increased from 59% in 2011 to 70% in 2016. Payless has unique relationships with its vendors, primarily based out of China and Vietnam.

Because the Debtors’ business model depends heavily on their supply chain, the Debtors have developed long-standing relationships (in some cases extending over 15 years) and highly streamlined processes with key supplier factories. These factories provide shoes made to the Debtors’ specification at the right volume and at the right price. Given the significant volume of made-to-order shoes, the Debtors cannot replace the volume provided by their key critical vendors, so they depend heavily on regularly receiving product from their existing vendors. The Debtors’ ability to deliver their products in a timely manner is also critically important to their financial performance and depends on a seamless interaction with various third-party service providers who ship and store the Debtors’ products. The coordination across factories, distributors, shippers, carriers, warehousemen, and customer-facing stores is vital to ensuring Payless’ shoes reach customers in the right season and at the right price.

**C. PREPETITION ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, CAPITALIZATION, AND INDEBTEDNESS**

Payless was first traded publicly in 1962, and was taken private in May 2012. As set forth in the structure chart attached hereto as **Exhibit B**, Payless Holdings LLC currently owns, directly or indirectly, each of Payless’ Debtor subsidiaries. Of the wholly-owned entities, 20 entities are obligors on all of the Debtors’ approximately \$838 million of prepetition funded debt.

**1. Prepetition Capital Structure and Indebtedness**

The Debtors’ prepetition capital structure includes approximately \$838 million in outstanding debt as of the Petition Date, consisting of: (a) approximately \$187 million in secured debt under their asset-backed revolving credit facility (the “ABL Credit Facility”); (b) approximately \$506 million in secured debt under their first lien credit facility (the “First Lien Term Loan”); and (c) approximately \$145 million in secured debt outstanding under their second lien credit facility (the “Second Lien Term Loan”).

The chart below summarizes the Debtors’ prepetition indebtedness, including approximate current outstanding amounts as of the Petition Date.

<b>Debt Obligation</b>	<b>Debt Facility Size</b>	<b>Approximate Amount Outstanding as of the Petition Date</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>Collateral</b>
ABL Credit Facility	\$300 million	\$187 million	March 14, 2019	Substantially all tangible and intangible assets; first priority over ABL Priority Collateral
First Lien Term Loan	\$520 million	\$506 million	March 11, 2021	Substantially all tangible and intangible assets; first priority over Term Priority Collateral
Second Lien Term Loan	\$145 million	\$145 million	March 11, 2022	Substantially all tangible and intangible assets; second priority over Term Priority Collateral

Debt Obligation	Debt Facility Size	Approximate Amount Outstanding as of the Petition Date	Maturity Date	Collateral
Trade Claims	N/A	Approximately \$240 million	Past Due	N/A (not including potential liens held by carriers, shippers, or warehouse vendors)

(a) The ABL Credit Facility

Payless, Inc., as the lead borrower, the other Debtors party thereto as borrowers and guarantors, and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association (“Wells Fargo”), as administrative agent, entered into a revolving credit facility documented by the Credit Agreement dated as of October 9, 2012. Under the ABL Credit Facility, which has two tranches bearing interest at different rates, the Debtors may draw up to \$300 million for general corporate purposes. The ABL Credit Facility is secured by a first-priority lien over substantially all tangible and intangible assets of the Debtors including, among other things and subject to certain limitations, thresholds, and exclusions, accounts, cash, inventory, and real property (such collateral package, the “ABL Priority Collateral”). The ABL Credit Facility is also secured by a third-priority lien on the remaining assets of the Debtors including, among other things and subject to certain limitations, thresholds, and exclusions, equipment, intellectual property, and stock pledges (such collateral package, the “Term Loan Priority Collateral”). An aggregate amount of approximately \$187 million was outstanding as of the Petition Date under the ABL Credit Facility.

Due to the Debtors’ diminishing liquidity and decreasing borrowing base, and in an effort to prepare for these Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors agreed to enter into “cash dominion” with Wells Fargo, pursuant to which the Debtors agreed to cause all funds in certain of their deposit accounts, subject to any nominal minimum balances required, to be swept daily into an account owned by Wells Fargo (the “Concentration Account”), and cause the proceeds of all collections and balances of all other deposit accounts, subject to any nominal minimum balances required, to also be swept daily into the Concentration Account.

(b) The First Lien Term Loan

Payless, Inc., Payless Finance, Inc., Payless ShoeSource, Inc., and Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc., as borrowers, the other Debtors party thereto as guarantors, Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc.,<sup>9</sup> as administrative and collateral agent, and the lenders party thereto are parties to that certain First Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014<sup>10</sup> (as amended, restated, modified, and/or supplemented and in effect immediately prior to the Petition Date, the “First Lien Term Loan Agreement”). The First Lien Term Loan Agreement, which matures on March 11, 2021, provides a \$520 million first lien term loan secured by a first priority lien in the Term Loan Priority Collateral and a second priority lien in the ABL Priority Collateral (in each case, subject to certain limitations, thresholds, and exclusions). An aggregate amount of approximately \$506 million was outstanding as of the Petition Date under the First Lien Term Loan.

(c) The Second Lien Term Loan

Payless, Inc., Payless Finance, Inc., Payless ShoeSource, Inc., and Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc., as borrowers, the other Debtors party thereto as guarantors, Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc.,<sup>11</sup> as administrative and collateral agent, and the lenders party thereto are parties to that certain Second Lien Term Loan and Guarantee

<sup>9</sup> Cortland Products Corporation has since replaced Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. as the administrative and security agent for the First Lien Term Loan.

<sup>10</sup> The First Lien Term Loan was originally dated October 9, 2012, but was refinanced in March 2014.

<sup>11</sup> Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB has since replaced Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. as the administrative and security agent for the Second Lien Term Loan

Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014<sup>12</sup> (as amended, restated, modified, and/or supplemented and in effect immediately prior to the Petition Date, the “Second Lien Term Loan Agreement” and together with the First Lien Term Loan Agreement, the “Term Loan Agreements”). The Second Lien Term Loan Agreement, which matures on March 11, 2022, provides a \$145 million second lien term loan secured by a second priority lien in the Term Loan Priority Collateral and a third priority lien in the ABL Priority Collateral (in each case, subject to certain limitations, thresholds, and exclusions). An aggregate amount of \$145 million was outstanding as of the Petition Date under the Second Lien Term Loan.

(d) Swap Transactions

Pursuant to the Term Loan Agreements, Payless is permitted to enter into interest rate swap transactions to mitigate certain risks, including in connection with hedging the variable interest rates contemplated thereunder. Presently, Payless is party to three such transactions (the “Swap Transactions”), one with respect to the First Lien Term Loan Agreement and two with respect to the Second Lien Term Loan Agreement, each with Morgan Stanley Capital Services LLC as counterparty. The Swap Transactions are governed by an ISDA 2002 Master Agreement dated as of October 2, 2013.

(e) Intercreditor Agreements

The Debtors’ prepetition indebtedness is also subject to two different intercreditor agreements, generally referred to as the ABL/Term Loan Intercreditor Agreement<sup>13</sup> and the Term Loan Intercreditor Agreement.<sup>14</sup> The ABL/Term Loan Intercreditor Agreement governs the relative contractual rights of lenders under the ABL Credit Facility, the First Lien Term Loan, and the Second Lien Term Loan. The Term Loan Intercreditor Agreement, in turn, governs the relative contractual rights of lenders under the First Lien Term Loan, on the one hand, and the lenders under the Second Lien Term Loan, on the other hand.

## **D. EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE CHAPTER 11 FILING**

### **1. Difficult Market Conditions and Adverse Non-Recurring Events**

Since early 2015, the Debtors have experienced a top-line sales decline driven primarily by (a) a set of significant and detrimental non-recurring events, (b) foreign exchange rate volatility, and (c) challenging retail market conditions. These pressures led to the Debtors’ inability to both service their prepetition secured indebtedness and remain current with their trade obligations.

Specifically, a confluence of events in 2015 lowered Payless’ EBITDA by 34 percent—a level from which it has not fully recovered. In early 2015, the Debtors meaningfully over purchased inventory due to antiquated systems and processes (that have since undergone significant enhancement). Then, in February 2015, West Coast port strikes delayed the arrival of the Debtors’ products by several months, causing a major inventory flow disruption just before the important Easter selling period, leading to diminished sales. When delayed inventory arrived after that important selling period, the Debtors were saddled with a significant oversupply of spring seasonal inventory after the relevant seasonal peak, and were forced to sell merchandise at steep markdowns, which depressed margins and drained liquidity. Customers filled their closets with these deeply discounted products, which served to reduce demand; the reset of customer price expectations away from unsustainably high markdowns further depressed traffic in late 2015 and 2016. In total, millions of pairs of shoes were sold below cost in order to realign inventory and product mix.

<sup>12</sup> The Second Lien Term Loan was originally dated October 9, 2012, but was refinanced in March 2014.

<sup>13</sup> The “ABL/Term Loan Intercreditor Agreement” means that certain Intercreditor Agreement dated as of March 11, 2014 (as amended, restated, modified, and/or supplemented from time to time) by and among Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as administrative agent for the lenders under the ABL Credit Agreement, the Prepetition First Lien Agent, and the Prepetition Second Lien Agent, and acknowledged by the Debtors.

<sup>14</sup> The “Term Loan Intercreditor Agreement” means that certain Intercreditor Agreement dated as of March 11, 2014 (as amended, restated, modified, and/or supplemented from time to time) between the Prepetition First Lien Agent and the Prepetition Second Lien Agent, and acknowledged by the Debtors.

Industry-wide declines in sales and traffic during 2015 and 2016 compounded the aforementioned challenges, as did sharp and unexpected declines in foreign exchange rates in 2015, primarily in Canada, Colombia, and Australia. Although Payless implemented many measures to improve liquidity as well as decrease operating expenses, the port strike and the inventory management issues meaningfully reduced profitability and liquidity.

This weaker-than-anticipated financial performance forced management to curtail capital and marketing investments required to combat the broader challenges facing the retail industry. For example, liquidity constraints prevented the Debtors from purchasing normal television advertising throughout the second half of 2016, which further compounded traffic declines. Reduced capital availability also delayed Payless' plans for omni-channel development and implementation, *i.e.*, the integration of physical store presence with online digital presence to offer a unified customer experience. Payless' ability to invest in omni-channel development is essential if Payless is to maintain relevancy with its customer base as the retail industry transitions away from a focus on brick-and-mortar stores.

Notwithstanding these pressures, the Debtors' core business remains strong and operates in an underserved market. In the Debtors' strongest customer segment, domestic women's footwear, they maintain strong brand awareness and high customer penetration and market share relative to the Debtors' competitive set. The Debtors' international expansion has also proven successful with continued growth in its higher margin, lower risk franchise business and through its Latin American joint ventures, as further discussed above.

## 2. Prepetition Restructuring Efforts

To address their financial difficulties, the Debtors took significant steps to evaluate and implement cost reduction initiatives in the months leading up to the Petition Date. These initiatives have included (a) closing 128 brick-and-mortar stores, which closures are expected to result in an additional \$9 million in annual cost savings, (b) terminating approximately 145 employees from their corporate offices and support organization, which is expected to generate \$15 million in annual cost savings, and (c) pursuing rent concessions across remaining stores.

At the same time, the Debtors managed liquidity constraints by stretching payments to the merchandise vendors and suppliers that are essential to the Debtors' operations. Given the significant product volume concentrated among Payless' small group of merchandise vendors abroad, the suppliers withstood delayed payments for up to 100 days, and some of them continued to ship products to the Debtors in January and February 2017. But, the suppliers were stretched to the brink of their own survival and required immediate liquidity to procure the raw materials necessary to meet the Debtors' product needs for the important back-to-school selling season. Accordingly, to maintain stability during the opening days of these chapter 11 cases and to avoid jeopardizing the Debtors' ability to service their customers and reorganize their business, the Debtors sought and [obtained] interim and final authority to pay certain prepetition obligations owed to critical vendors.<sup>15</sup>

Beginning in February 2017, the Debtors commenced discussions with a steering committee of their senior term loan lenders regarding a potential transaction structure that would enable the Debtors to obtain capital, manage their vendor issues, right size their balance sheet, and invest in their omni-channel presence and relevance. As these discussions progressed, and given the Debtors' objectives, it became apparent that an in-court reorganization was the best path to reorganizing the Debtors' business and improving their overall financial condition.

For several months before the Petition Date, the Debtors worked closely with the term lender steering committee and their existing ABL lenders to develop a comprehensive financing and recapitalization plan, and commenced these Chapter 11 Cases to access that financing and the tools necessary to effectuate their business objectives. Through these Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors continued to prioritize the vendors they need to meet their consumer demands and obtained the liquidity to pay their key vendors while rejecting contracts with non-critical prepetition creditors. The Debtors also used these cases to consummate a comprehensive evaluation of their North American store footprint. Through the bankruptcy process, the Debtors intend to close some stores (389 of which have already been identified for immediate closure) and negotiate significant rent concessions with the landlords of

<sup>15</sup> See *Interim Order (A) Authorizing the Debtors to Pay Certain Prepetition Claims of (I) Critical Vendors and (II) Carrier, Warehousemen, and Section 503(b)(9) Claimants and (B) Granting Related Relief* [Docket No. 94] [and *Final Order (A) Authorizing the Debtors to Pay Certain Prepetition Claims of (I) Critical Vendors and (II) Carrier, Warehousemen, and Section 503(b)(9) Claimants and (B) Granting Related Relief* [Docket No. [ ]].

others. Finally, the Debtors will be able to increase marketing spend in the North American business segment (including significant omni-channel expansion) and further expansion in North America and Asia through an agreement with their lenders to significantly reduce their outstanding debt.

### **3. Restructuring Support Agreement**

On April 4, 2017, the Debtors entered into the Restructuring Support Agreement attached hereto as **Exhibit G**. The Restructuring Support Agreement has the support of parties who hold or control, in the aggregate, approximately two-thirds in amount of each of the Debtors' first and second lien term loans. The Debtors have also secured the DIP Facilities from their Prepetition ABL Facility Lenders and certain of the consenting lenders under the Restructuring Support Agreement. Collectively, the Restructuring Support Agreement and DIP Facilities enable the Debtors to (a) obtain immediate and long-term financial support to address a distressed supply chain and otherwise execute on their strategic plan, (b) right-size their balance sheet by significantly reducing annual debt service and total outstanding debt from \$838 million to approximately \$469 million (inclusive of assumed revolving loans), and (c) rationalize their store fleet to eliminate unprofitable locations and renegotiate above-market leases.

Importantly, the Restructuring Support Agreement provides for certain Milestones designed to ensure the Debtors move expeditiously towards confirmation of the Plan in the current distressed retail environment. Specifically, the Milestones contemplate emergence from the Chapter 11 Cases within 128 days of the Petition Date.

The Debtors believe that the terms of the Restructuring Support Agreement, which are built into the Plan, are fair, equitable, and maximize the value of the Debtors' estates, providing the best available recovery for the Debtors stakeholders.

**III.**  
**CHAPTER 11 CASES**

**A. FIRST AND SECOND DAY RELIEF**

On or around the Petition Date, in addition to filing voluntary petitions for relief, the Debtors also filed a number of motions (the “First Day Motions”) with the Bankruptcy Court seeking relief designed to, among other things, prevent interruptions to the Debtors’ business, ease the strain on the Debtors’ relationships with certain essential constituents, including employees, vendors, customers and utility providers, provide access to much needed working capital and allow the Debtors to retain certain advisors to assist them with the administration of the Chapter 11 Cases. At the first day hearing conducted on April 5, 2017 and in the days that followed, the Bankruptcy Court entered several orders approving the First Day Motions. A second day hearing is scheduled for May 9, 2017, at which the Bankruptcy Court will consider approval of the First Day Motions on a final basis and certain additional relief requested by the Debtors.

**1. Procedural Motions**

To facilitate a smooth and efficient administration of these Chapter 11 Cases, the Bankruptcy Court entered certain “procedural” orders, by which the Bankruptcy Court (a) approved the joint administration of the Debtors’ Chapter 11 Cases, (b) scheduled an expedited first day hearing; (c) granted leave to exceed the page limitation in the Debtors’ First Day Motions; (d) authorized the Debtors to prepare a list of creditors and file a consolidated list of their 50 largest unsecured creditors; and (e) approved an extension of time to file their Schedules.

**2. Stabilizing Operations**

Recognizing that any interruption of the Debtors’ business, even for a brief period of time, would negatively impact their operations, customer relationships, revenue and profits, and facilitate a stabilization of their businesses and effectuate a smooth transition into operating as debtors in possession, the Debtors sought and obtained orders authorizing them to:

- maintain and administer customer programs and honor their obligations arising under or relating to those customer programs;
- pay prepetition wages, salaries and other compensation, reimbursable employee expenses and employee medical and similar benefits;
- determine adequate assurance for future utility service and establish procedures for utility providers to object to such assurance;
- continue insurance coverage, including performance under their self-insurance programs, and enter into new insurance policies, if necessary;
- continue and renew their surety bond program;
- establish certain procedures for certain transfers and declarations of worthlessness with respect to common stock;
- begin the orderly liquidation of approximately 400 stores and set forth procedures for ongoing liquidation efforts;
- maintain their existing cash management systems; and
- remit and pay certain taxes and fees.

In addition to the foregoing relief, to prevent the imposition of the automatic stay from disrupting their business and to ensure continued deliveries on favorable credit terms, the Debtors sought and obtained Bankruptcy Court approval to pay the prepetition claims of certain vendors and third-party service providers who the Debtors believed were essential to the ongoing operation of their business. Importantly, the Debtors were able to condition payments of these prepetition claims on the vendor's execution of a Qualified Trade Agreement, which, among other things, ensures that the Debtors would receive customary trade terms throughout the pendency of these Chapter 11 Cases. The Debtors' ability to pay the Claims of these vendors and service providers was critical to maintaining their ongoing business operations at the early stages of their Chapter 11 Cases.

### **3. Postpetition Financing and Use of Cash Collateral**

At the First Day Hearing, the Court authorized the Debtors pursuant to the Interim DIP Order to (a) enter into the ABL DIP Facility comprised of a revolving loan facility in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$305 million, (b) enter into the Term DIP Credit Facility comprised of a term loan facility in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$80 million, and (c) use Cash Collateral on the terms set forth in the Interim DIP Order. [On [ ], 2017, the Court entered the Final DIP Order authorizing the Debtors to, among other things, access the full amount of the DIP Facilities and use Cash Collateral on a final basis pursuant to the terms of the Final DIP Order.]

The ABL DIP Facility is an up to \$305 million (aggregate amount) asset-based lending facility consisting of an up to \$245 million Tranche A Credit Facility and an up to \$60 million Tranche A-1 Credit Facility, which facility will roll up certain amounts of the tranche A prepetition asset-based lending facility with the net proceeds of the DIP ABL Collateral pursuant to the Interim DIP Order and will roll up the remaining amount of the prepetition asset-based lending facility in full pursuant the Final DIP Order.

The Term DIP Facility is a term loan facility in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$80 million of principal loaned (subject to original issue discount) consisting of (a) a \$30 million initial draw that will only be authorized to be drawn pursuant to the Final DIP Order and (b) up to an aggregate of \$50 million in additional draws that would be available to be drawn following entry of an order by the Bankruptcy Court approving the Disclosure Statement through the Effective Date (subject to the consent of the Required Lenders), including a final draw of remaining availability, if any, under the Term DIP Facility[ in an amount sufficient to provide the Debtors with no more than \$25 million of liquidity upon emergence (including Cash on hand and availability under the New ABL Facility)].

The proceeds of the DIP Facilities, access to letters of credit, and the use of Cash Collateral, have allowed the Debtors to, among other things, continue their businesses in an orderly manner; maintain valuable relationships with vendors, suppliers, customers, and employees; pay certain interest, fees, and expenses owing under the DIP Credit Facilities; satisfy their adequate protection obligations; and support working capital, general corporate, and overall operational needs—all of which were necessary to preserve and maintain the going-concern value of the Debtors' business and, ultimately, help ensure a successful reorganization.

### **4. Employment and Compensation of Professionals**

With authorization from the Bankruptcy Court, the Debtors retained the following professional advisors to assist the Debtors in carrying out their duties as debtors in possession and to represent their interests in the Chapter 11 Cases: (a) Kirkland & Ellis LLP and Kirkland & Ellis International LLP, as restructuring counsel; (b) Armstrong Teasdale LLP, as local counsel; (c) Guggenheim Securities, LLC ("Guggenheim Partners"), as investment banker and financial advisor; and (d) Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP ("MTO"), as conflicts counsel.<sup>16</sup> The Debtors plan to file an application to retain Alvarez & Marsal North America, LLC ("A&M"), as restructuring advisor, providing the Debtors with a Chief Restructuring Officer (Robert Campagna of A&M) and certain additional personnel.

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<sup>16</sup> In January 2017, Charles Cremens was appointed to serve as an independent director of the Board of Directors of Payless Holdings LLC, to, among other things, assist the Debtors' restructuring efforts. In that capacity, Mr. Cremens retained MTO to advise and assist him with respect to conflicts matters. Mr. Cremens, with the assistance of MTO, is currently undertaking an investigation into any estate claims and estate causes of action the Debtors may have with respect to conflicts matters, particularly with respect to transactions between the Debtors and the equity holders of Payless Holdings LLC. The release of any claims or causes of actions is subject to the conclusion of this investigation. The Debtors may modify the Plan, including the release provisions of the Plan, and the Debtors reserve all rights and claims with respect thereto.



The Debtors also sought and received approval of Prime Clerk LLC as the Noticing and Claims Agent.

**B. OTHER MATERIAL EVENTS IN THESE CHAPTER 11 CASES**

**1. Claims Bar Date**

On April 18, 2017, the Debtors filed a motion<sup>17</sup> seeking to establish June 8, 2017, as the deadline by which all persons and entities must file and serve proofs of claim asserting claims that arose on or prior to the Petition Date, including claims asserted pursuant to section 503(b)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code against the Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases (the “Claims Bar Date”). Additionally, the Debtors’ requested that the Court establish October 2, 2017, as the deadline by which all governmental units must file and serve proofs of claim asserting prepetition claims against any of the Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases (the “Government Bar Date”). The Bankruptcy Court is scheduled to hear the Bar Date Motion at the hearing on May 9, 2017.

**2. Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases**

As set forth in the *Debtors’ Motion For Entry of an Order (I) Extending the Time Within Which the Debtors Must Assume or Reject Unexpired Leases of Nonresidential Real Property and (II) Granting Related Relief* [Docket No. 280] (the “Lease Rejection Extension Motion”), the Debtors are party to approximately 3,500 unexpired non-residential real property leases in North America alone. Further, the Debtors are party to a substantial number of executory contracts. In connection with their restructuring efforts, the Debtors are attempting to enhance the competitiveness of their global operations, which, among other things, involves a careful and comprehensive evaluation of all aspects of the Debtors’ leases and supply chain. The Debtors intend to utilize the tools afforded a chapter 11 debtor to achieve the necessary cost savings and operational effectiveness envisioned in their revised strategic business plan, including modifying or, in some cases eliminating, burdensome or underutilized agreements and leases.

As such, the Debtors are conducting a comprehensive analysis of their executory contracts and unexpired leases and have, and intend to continue to, engage in extensive discussions with contract and lease counterparties regarding the contributions such parties are making to the restructuring process and can make to the post-emergence businesses. While the Debtors intend to efficiently work through these leases, given the number of leases and contracts, they will likely need more than the 120 days afforded by section 365(d)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code. To that end, the Debtors filed the Lease Rejection Extension Motion on April 18, 2017, seeking an extension of the applicable deadline for an additional 90 days until October 31, 2017. The motion is set to be heard on May 9, 2017.

**3. Lease Renegotiation and Store Closing Process**

On the Petition Date, the Debtors filed the *Debtors’ Motion for Entry of Interim and Final Orders (I) Authorizing the Debtors to Assume the Consulting Agreement, (II) Approving Procedures for Store Closing Sales, and (III) Granting Related Relief* [Docket No. 15] (the “Store Closing Motion”) seeking to implement a key component of their restructuring strategy and right-size their operations by closing underperforming or geographically undesirable stores. The Bankruptcy Court approved the Store Closing Motion on an interim basis and the closing of the initial stores on April 7, 2017 [Docket No. 129] and on a final basis on [\_\_\_], 2017 [Docket No. [\_\_\_]]. Through the Bankruptcy Court’s interim approval of the Store Closing Motion, the Debtors obtained permission to begin the liquidation of 389 unprofitable stores. These efforts, which are ongoing, are part of the first phase of the Debtors’ efforts to rationalize their store fleet.

As set forth above, the Debtors continue to evaluate approximately 3,000 additional leases to determine whether or not to reject or assume such unexpired leases. Further, based on this analysis, the Debtors intend to negotiate with certain landlords regarding the terms of certain of such unexpired leases in an effort to procure more favorable lease terms such that these stores can continue to operate. If the Debtors are unable to renegotiate certain leases, they are prepared to seek authority to expand their liquidation efforts pursuant to the process set forth in the Store Closing Motion.

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<sup>17</sup> *Debtors’ Motion for an Order Establishing Bar Dates for Filing Proofs of Claim and Approving Form and Manner of Notice Thereof*, [Docket No. 287], (the “Bar Date Motion”).

Any savings projected by the Debtors on account of the lease renegotiation process are merely projections, and the actual realized savings may be greater than or less than such projections.

#### **4. Canadian Recognition Proceeding**

On April 7, 2017, the Debtors sought and were granted a Recognition Order by R.S.J. Morawetz of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice (Commercial List) (the "Canadian Court") pursuant to which the Chapter 11 Cases were recognized in Canada under Part IV of the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 (the "CCAA Recognition Proceedings"). On April 12, 2017, R.S.J. Morawetz granted the Debtors a Supplemental Order. Among other things, the Recognition Order and the Supplemental Order: (i) recognized the Chapter 11 Cases as a foreign main proceeding; (ii) recognized Payless Holdings LLC as the Foreign Representative of the Debtors in Canada; (iii) recognized certain first-day orders granted by the Bankruptcy Court; (iv) granted a stay of proceedings in Canada in respect of the Debtors, their property and business, and their directors and officers; (v) prohibited the commencement of any proceedings against the Debtors in Canada absent further order of the Canadian Court; and (iv) appointed Alvarez & Marsal Canada Inc. as the Information Officer in respect of the CCAA Recognition Proceedings.

As of the date hereof, the Interim DIP Order has not yet been recognized by the Canadian Court.

#### **5. Appointment of the Creditors' Committee**

On April 14, 2017, the United States Trustee appointed the Creditors' Committee pursuant to section 1102 of the Bankruptcy Code. As of the date hereof, the Creditors' Committee consists of (a) Moda Shoe, Ltd.; (b) GGP Limited Partnership; (c) Qingdao Doublestar Mingren Imp. & Exp. Co.; (d) C and C Accord, LTD.; (e) Simon Property Group, Inc.; (f) The Asean Corporation, Ltd.; and (g) Brixmore Property Group, Inc.

The Debtors are in the process of retaining the following professional advisors to assist the Creditors' Committee in carrying out their duties and to represent their interests in the Chapter 11 Cases: (a) Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, as lead counsel; (b) Polsinelli P.C. as local counsel; and (c) Province, Inc., as financial advisor.

#### **6. Meeting of Creditors**

The meeting of creditors pursuant to section 341 of the Bankruptcy Code will be held on May 15, 2017. In accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 9001(5) (which requires, at a minimum, that one representative of the Debtors appear at such meeting of creditors for the purpose of being examined by the United States Trustee and other attending parties in interest), one representative of the Debtors as well as counsel to the Debtors will attend the meeting and answer questions posed by the United States Trustee and other parties in interest present at the meeting.

**IV.**  
**SUMMARY OF THE PLAN**

**THIS SECTION IV IS INTENDED ONLY TO PROVIDE A SUMMARY OF THE KEY TERMS, STRUCTURE, CLASSIFICATION, TREATMENT, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN, AND IS QUALIFIED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY REFERENCE TO THE ENTIRE PLAN AND EXHIBITS THERETO. ALTHOUGH THE STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT INCLUDE SUMMARIES OF THE PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE PLAN AND IN DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO THEREIN, THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT DOES NOT PURPORT TO BE A PRECISE OR COMPLETE STATEMENT OF ALL SUCH TERMS AND PROVISIONS, AND SHOULD NOT BE RELIED ON FOR A COMPREHENSIVE DISCUSSION OF THE PLAN. INSTEAD, REFERENCE IS MADE TO THE PLAN AND ALL SUCH DOCUMENTS FOR THE FULL AND COMPLETE STATEMENTS OF SUCH TERMS AND PROVISIONS. THE PLAN ITSELF (INCLUDING ATTACHMENTS) WILL CONTROL THE TREATMENT OF CREDITORS AND EQUITY SECURITY HOLDERS UNDER THE PLAN. TO THE EXTENT THERE ARE ANY INCONSISTENCIES BETWEEN THIS SECTION IV AND THE PLAN (INCLUDING ATTACHMENTS) THE LATTER SHALL GOVERN.**

**A. GENERAL BASIS FOR THE PLAN**

Each of the Debtors is a proponent of the Plan within the meaning of section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Plan, though proposed jointly, constitutes a separate chapter 11 plan of reorganization proposed by each Debtor. Therefore, the classifications set forth in Article IV of the Plan shall be deemed to apply separately with respect to each plan proposed by each Debtor.

The terms of the Debtors' Plans are based upon, among other things, the Debtors' assessment of their ability to achieve the goals of their business plan, make the distributions contemplated under the Plan, and pay their continuing obligations in the ordinary course of business. Under the Plan, Claims against and Interests in the Debtors are divided into separate Classes according to their relative seniority, legal nature and other criteria, and the Plan proposes recoveries for Holders of Claims against and Interests in the Debtors in such Classes, if any. The Debtors believe that the Plan maximizes value for all stakeholders

**B. PROPOSED TREATMENT OF EACH CLASS OF CLAIMS AND INTERESTS**

As set forth in Article III of the Plan and in accordance with sections 1122 and 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, all Claims and Interests (other than Administrative Claims, Priority Tax Claims, and Professional Fee Claims, which are unclassified Claims under the Plan) are classified into Classes for all purposes, including voting, Confirmation, and distributions pursuant to the Plan. A Claim or Interest is classified in a particular Class only to the extent that the Claim or Interest qualifies within the description of that Class. A Claim or Interest is also classified in a particular Class for the purpose of receiving distributions pursuant to the Plan only to the extent that such Claim or Interest is an Allowed Claim or Allowed Interest in that Class and has not been paid, released, or otherwise satisfied prior to the Effective Date.

**1. Unclassified Claims**

In accordance with section 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Plan does not classify Administrative Claims, ABL DIP Claims, Term DIP Facility Claims, Priority Tax Claims, or Professional Fee Claims and, thus, Article III of the Plan does not include such Claims in the Classes of Claims set forth therein. Instead, Article II of the Plan provides for the satisfaction of these unclassified Claims. The treatment and the projected recoveries under the Plan of these unclassified Claims, which are not entitled to vote on the Plan, are described in summary form below for illustrative purposes only.

Unclassified Claim	Plan Treatment	Estimated Percent Recovery Under the Plan
Administrative Claims	Unimpaired	100%
ABL DIP Claims	Unimpaired	100%
Term DIP Facility Claims	Unimpaired	100%
Priority Tax Claims	Unimpaired	100%
Professional Fee Claims <sup>18</sup>	Unimpaired	100%

(a) Administrative Claims

Except with respect to Administrative Claims that are Professional Fee Claims and ABL DIP Claims, and except to the extent that an Administrative Claim has already been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or a Holder of an Allowed Administrative Claim and the applicable Debtor(s) agree to less favorable treatment, each Holder of an Allowed Administrative Claim shall be paid in full in Cash on the unpaid portion of its Allowed Administrative Claim on the latest of: (a) on or as soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date if such Administrative Claim is Allowed as of the Effective Date; (b) on or as soon as reasonably practicable after the date such Administrative Claim is Allowed; and (c) the date such Allowed Administrative Claim becomes due and payable, or as soon thereafter as is reasonably practicable; *provided* that Allowed Administrative Claims that arise in the ordinary course of the Debtors' businesses shall be paid in the ordinary course of business in accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions of any agreements governing, instruments evidencing, or other documents relating to such transactions. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no request for payment of an Administrative Claim need be filed with respect to an Administrative Claim previously Allowed by Final Order. Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan to the contrary, no Governmental Unit shall be required to file a request for the payment of an expense described in 11 U.S.C. § 503(b)(1)(B) or (C) as a condition of it being allowed as an administrative expense.

(b) Administrative Claims Bar Date

All requests for payment of an Administrative Claim (other than Prepetition Credit Agreement Claims or Professional Fee Claims) that accrued on or before the Effective Date that were not accrued in the ordinary course of business must be filed with the Bankruptcy Court and served on the Debtors no later than the Administrative Claims Bar Date. Holders of Administrative Claims that are, based on the preceding sentence, required to, but do not, file and serve a request for payment of such Administrative Claims by such date shall be forever barred, estopped, and enjoined from asserting such Administrative Claims against the Debtors or their property and such Administrative Claims shall be deemed discharged as of the Effective Date.

The Reorganized Debtors, in their sole and absolute discretion, may settle Administrative Claims in the ordinary course of business without further Bankruptcy Court approval. The Debtors may also choose to object to any Administrative Claim no later than 60 days from the Administrative Claims Bar Date, subject to extensions by the Bankruptcy Court, agreement in writing of the parties, or on motion of a party in interest approved by the Bankruptcy Court. Unless the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors (or other party with standing) object to a timely-filed and properly served Administrative Claim, such Administrative Claim will be deemed allowed in the amount requested. In the event that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors object to an Administrative Claim, the parties may confer to try to reach a settlement and, failing that, the Bankruptcy Court will determine whether such Administrative Claim should be allowed and, if so, in what amount.

<sup>18</sup> The Professional Fee Claims set forth herein and in the Plan constitute the estimated unpaid Professional Fee Claims as of a hypothetical Effective Date of August 10, 2017, and this estimate is nonbinding and is subject to material revision.

(c) Professional Compensation

(i) *Final Fee Applications*

All final requests for Professional Fee Claims shall be filed no later than 30 days after the Effective Date. After notice and a hearing in accordance with the procedures established by the Bankruptcy Code and prior Bankruptcy Court orders, the Allowed amounts of such Professional Fee Claims shall be determined by the Bankruptcy Court.

(ii) *Professional Fee Escrow Account*

On the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall establish and fund the Professional Fee Escrow Account with Cash equal to the aggregate Professional Fee Reserve Amount for all Retained Professionals. The Professional Fee Escrow Account shall be maintained in trust solely for the Retained Professionals. Such funds shall not be considered property of the Estates of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors. The amount of Professional Fee Claims owing to the Retained Professionals shall be paid in Cash to such Retained Professionals by the Reorganized Debtors from the Professional Fee Escrow Account as soon as reasonably practicable after such Professional Fee Claims are Allowed by a Final Order. When all such Allowed amounts owing to Retained Professionals have been paid in full, any remaining amount in the Professional Fee Escrow Account shall promptly be paid to the Reorganized Debtors without any further action or order of the Bankruptcy Court.

(iii) *Professional Fee Reserve Amount*

To receive payment for unbilled fees and expenses incurred through the Effective Date, the Retained Professionals shall estimate their Accrued Professional Compensation prior to and as of the Effective Date and shall deliver such estimate to the Debtors on or before the Effective Date. If a Retained Professional does not provide such estimate, the Reorganized Debtors may estimate the unbilled fees and expenses of such Retained Professional; provided that such estimate shall not be considered an admission or limitation with respect to the fees and expenses of such Retained Professional. The total amount so estimated as of the Effective Date shall comprise the Professional Fee Reserve Amount.

(iv) *Post-Confirmation Date Fees and Expenses*

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, from and after the Confirmation Date, each Debtor and Reorganized Debtor (as applicable) shall pay in Cash the reasonable legal fees and expenses incurred by such Debtor or Reorganized Debtor (as applicable) after the Confirmation Date in the ordinary course of business and without any further notice to or action, order or approval of the Bankruptcy Court. The Debtors and Reorganized Debtors (as applicable) shall pay, within ten Business Days after submission of a detailed invoice to the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors (as applicable), such reasonable claims for compensation or reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Retained Professionals of the Debtors and Reorganized Debtors (as applicable). If the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors (as applicable), dispute the reasonableness of any such invoice, the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors (as applicable) or the affected professional may submit such dispute to the Bankruptcy Court for a determination of the reasonableness of any such invoice, and the disputed portion of such invoice shall not be paid until the dispute is resolved. The undisputed portion of such reasonable fees and expenses shall be paid as provided herein. Upon the Confirmation Date, any requirement that Retained Professionals comply with sections 327 through 331 and 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code in seeking retention or compensation for services rendered after such date shall terminate, and each Debtor or Reorganized Debtor (as applicable) may employ and pay any Retained Professional in the ordinary course of business without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

(v) *Substantial Contribution Compensation and Expenses*

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, any Entity that requests compensation or expense reimbursement for making a substantial contribution in the Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to sections 503(b)(3), (4), and (5) of the Bankruptcy Code must file an application and serve such application on counsel for the Debtors or

Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, and as otherwise required by the Bankruptcy Court, the Bankruptcy Code, and the Bankruptcy Rules on or before the Administrative Claims Bar Date.

(d) Priority Tax Claims

Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Priority Tax Claim agrees to a less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, compromise, settlement, release, and discharge of, and in exchange for, each Allowed Priority Tax Claim, each Holder of such Allowed Priority Tax Claim shall be treated in accordance with the terms set forth in section 1129(a)(9)(C) of the Bankruptcy Code.

(e) ABL DIP Claims

On the Effective Date, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed ABL DIP Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each Allowed ABL DIP Claim, each Holder of an Allowed ABL DIP Claim shall indefeasibly receive payment in full, in Cash, from the proceeds of the New ABL Facility.

(f) Term DIP Facility Claims

On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Term DIP Facility Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each Allowed Term DIP Facility Claim, each such Holder of an Allowed Term DIP Facility Claim shall receive, on a dollar-for-dollar-basis, its Pro Rata share of the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche.

(g) United States Trustee Statutory Fees

The Debtors shall pay all United States Trustee quarterly fees under 28 U.S.C. § 1930(a)(6), plus interest due and payable under 31 U.S.C. § 3717 on all disbursements, including Plan payments and disbursements in and outside the ordinary course of the Debtors' businesses, until the entry of a Final Order, dismissal of the Chapter 11 Cases or conversion of the Chapter 11 Cases to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code.

**2. Classified Claims and Interests**

(a) Estimated Recoveries

The table below summarizes the classification and treatment of all classified Claims against and Interests in each Debtor (as applicable) under the Plan. The ability of a Holder of Claims or Interests to vote on, and such Holder's distribution under, the Plan, if any, depends on the type of Claim or Interest held by such Holder (if any) and the treatment afforded any such Claim or Interest. The classification, treatment, voting rights, and projected recoveries of classified Claims are described in summary form below for illustrative purposes only, and are subject to material change.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Claim/Equity Interest</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Estimated Amount of Allowed Claims<sup>19</sup></b>	<b>Estimated Percent Recovery Under the Plan</b>
1	Other Priority Claims	Unimpaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
2	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
3	Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%

<sup>19</sup> All dollar amounts in millions.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Claim/Equity Interest</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Estimated Amount of Allowed Claims<sup>19</sup></u>	<u>Estimated Percent Recovery Under the Plan</u>
4	Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
5	Qualified Unsecured Trade Claims	Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
6A	Other General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
6B	Worldwide General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
6C	Canadian General Unsecured Claims	Unimpaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
7	Intercompany Claims	Impaired / Unimpaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
8	Equity Interests	Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
9	Intercompany Interests	Unimpaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%
10	Section 510(b) Claims	Impaired	\$[ ]	[ ]%

(b) Proposed Distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims and Interests

The Plan contemplates the following distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims and Interests, among other recoveries:

<p><b>Class 1 – Other Priority Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent a Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim has already been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Other Priority Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim shall receive payment in full, in Cash, of the unpaid portion of its Allowed Other Priority Claim.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claims will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 2 – Other Secured Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim has already been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such Holder, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Other Secured Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim shall receive: (i) payment in full, in Cash, of the unpaid portion of its Allowed Other Secured Claim; (ii) delivery of the collateral</p>

	<p>securing such Allowed Other Secured Claim; or (iii) other treatment, as decided by the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders to their mutual satisfaction, such that the Other Secured Claim shall be rendered unimpaired.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 3 – Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Allowance.</b> The Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be allowed in the aggregate amount of \$505.7 million.</p> <p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its Pro Rata share of: (i) the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche; and (ii) 91.0% of the New Equity, subject to reduction on account of the Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery, and subject to dilution from the Management Equity Incentive Plan and the Exit Commitment Fee.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 4 – Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Allowance.</b> The Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be allowed in the aggregate amount of \$[145] million.</p> <p><b>Treatment.</b> Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim (including the unsecured deficiency claim of its Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim), each Holder of an Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement shall receive its Pro Rata share of 9.0% of the New Equity, subject to dilution from the Management Equity Incentive Plan and the Exit Commitment Fee.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 5 – Qualified Unsecured Trade Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim shall receive a Cash payment equal to [__]% of such Holder’s remaining Allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim, after taking into account payments made by the Debtors to such Holder during the Chapter 11 Cases on account of General Unsecured Claims or under other Classes as provided for herein.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 6A – Other General Unsecured Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed General Unsecured Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction,</p>



	<p>settlement, release, and discharge of an in exchange for its Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim shall receive its pro rata share of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 6B – Worldwide General Unsecured Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall receive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• if such Holder has not made the Worldwide GUC Cash-Out Election, such Holder’s Pro Rata share of the Worldwide New Equity Recovery; or</li> <li>• if such Holder has made the Worldwide GUC Cash Out Election, such Holder’s Worldwide GUC Cash Out Option Payment (in which case the Holder’s Pro Rata share of the Worldwide New Equity Recovery to which it would have been entitled shall be removed from the Worldwide New Equity Recovery and not issued).</li> </ul> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 6C – Canadian General Unsecured Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent a Holder of an Allowed Canadian General Unsecured Claim has already been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or a Holder of an Allowed Canadian General Unsecured Claim, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for its Allowed Canadian General Unsecured Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Canadian General Unsecured Claim shall have its Claim Reinstated.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Each Holder of a Canadian General Unsecured Claim will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of a Canadian General Unsecured Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.</p>

<p><b>Class 7 – Intercompany Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> To preserve the Debtors’ corporate structure, as of the Effective Date, Intercompany Claims shall be reinstated, cancelled, or compromised as determined by the Debtors, with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired or Unimpaired. Each Holder of an Intercompany Claim will be conclusively deemed to have (a) rejected the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan or (b) accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 8 – Existing Equity Interests</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date, all Existing Equity Interests shall be discharged, cancelled, released, and extinguished.<sup>20</sup></p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each Holder of an Existing Equity Interest will be conclusively deemed to have rejected the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of an Existing Equity Interest will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 9 – Intercompany Interests</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> To preserve the Debtors’ corporate structure, on the Effective Date, all Intercompany Interests shall be cancelled or Reinstated, as determined by the Debtors, with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Each Holder of an Intercompany Interest will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 10 – Section 510(b) Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date, all Section 510(b) Claims shall be cancelled without any distribution.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each Holder of a Section 510(b) Claim will be conclusively deemed to have rejected the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each Holder of a Section 510(b) Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.</p>

**C. POST-EMERGENCE CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

The Debtors capital structure at emergence will consist of:

- **New ABL Facility.** An up to \$305 million senior secured asset-based revolving credit facility, on terms at least as favorable to the Debtors and the lenders under the New First Lien Term Loan Facility as the Prepetition ABL Facility, as determined by the Requisite Consenting Lenders (as defined herein) in their reasonable discretion.
- **New First Lien Term Loan Facility.** A \$280 million first lien senior secured term loan (the “New First Lien Term Loan Facility”) consisting of (i) the New First Lien Term Loan A-1 Tranche, a first-out amortizing term loan which shall be in an amount equal to the outstanding balance of the Tern Dip Facility on the Effective Date and (ii) the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche, a last-out

<sup>20</sup> Following the Petition Date, the Debtors received a letter from certain Holders of Existing Equity Interests in Payless Holdings LLC asserting entitlement to certain assets of Payless Holdings LLC with an approximate value of \$5 million. These Holders have requested that such value be preserved for distributions to Holders of Existing Equity Interests. The Debtors are evaluating the assets and liabilities at each Debtor and reserve all rights related thereto, including the right to modify the proposed treatment of Claims in Class 8 under the Plan as a result of such evaluation.

amortizing term loan, which shall be in an amount of \$280 million less the amount of the outstanding balance of the Term DIP Facility on the Effective Date.

- **New Equity.** Payless Holdings LLC, as reorganized pursuant to and under the Plan, or a new corporation or limited liability company that may be formed to directly or indirectly acquire all of the assets and/or stock of the Debtors shall issue equity (the "New Equity") on the Effective Date on the terms set forth in the Plan.

#### **D. CERTAIN MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN**

##### **1. General Settlement of Claims**

Pursuant to section 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019, and in consideration for the classification, Distributions, releases, and other benefits provided under the Plan, upon the Effective Date, the provisions of the Plan shall constitute a good-faith compromise and settlement of all Claims, Equity Interests, Causes of Action, and controversies released, settled, compromised, discharged, or otherwise resolved pursuant to the Plan. The Plan shall be deemed a motion to approve the good-faith compromise and settlement of all such Claims, Interests, Causes of Action, and controversies pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019, and the entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval of such compromise and settlement under section 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019, as well as a finding by the Bankruptcy Court that such settlement and compromise is fair, equitable, reasonable, and in the best interests of the Debtors and their Estates. Distributions made to Holders of Allowed Claims in any Class are intended to be final.

##### **2. Restructuring Transactions**

The Plan provides that, on the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, the Reorganized Debtors may take all actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effect any transaction described in, approved by, contemplated by, or necessary to effectuate the Plan, including: (a) the execution and delivery of appropriate agreements or other documents of merger, consolidation, or reorganization containing terms that are consistent with the terms of the Plan and that satisfy the requirements of applicable law; (b) the execution and delivery of appropriate instruments of transfer, assignment, assumption, or delegation of any property, right, liability, duty, or obligation on terms consistent with the terms of the Plan; (c) the filing of appropriate certificates of incorporation, merger or consolidation with the appropriate governmental authorities pursuant to applicable law; and (d) all other actions that the Reorganized Debtors determine are necessary or appropriate.

##### **3. The New Credit Facilities and Approval of the New Credit Facilities**

Confirmation of the Plan shall be deemed to constitute approval of the New Credit Facilities and the New Credit Facilities Documents (including all transactions contemplated thereby and all actions to be taken, undertakings to be made, and obligations to be incurred by the Reorganized Debtors in connection therewith, including the payment of all fees, indemnities, and expenses provided for therein) and, subject to the occurrence of the Effective Date, authorization for the Reorganized Debtors to enter into and perform their obligations under the New Credit Facilities Documents and such other documents as may be reasonably required or appropriate, in each case, in accordance with the New Credit Facilities Documents.

On the Effective Date, the New Credit Facilities Documents shall constitute legal, valid, binding, and authorized obligations of the Reorganized Debtors, enforceable in accordance with their terms. The financial accommodations to be extended pursuant to the New Credit Facilities Documents are being extended, and shall be deemed to have been extended, in good faith, for legitimate business purposes, are reasonable, shall not be subject to avoidance, recharacterization, or subordination (including equitable subordination) for any purposes whatsoever, and shall not constitute preferential transfers, fraudulent conveyances, or other voidable transfers under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable non-bankruptcy law. On the Effective Date, all of the liens and security interests to be granted in accordance with the New Credit Facilities Documents (a) shall be legal, binding, and enforceable liens on, and security interests in, the collateral granted thereunder in accordance with the terms of the New Credit Facilities Documents, (b) shall be deemed automatically attached and perfected on the Effective Date, subject only to such liens and security interests as may be permitted under the New Credit Facilities Documents, and (c) shall not be subject to avoidance, recharacterization, or subordination (including equitable subordination) for any

purposes whatsoever and shall not constitute preferential transfers, fraudulent conveyances, or other voidable transfers under the Bankruptcy Code or any applicable non bankruptcy law. The Reorganized Debtors and the Entities granted such liens and security interests are authorized to make all filings and recordings, and to obtain all governmental approvals and consents necessary to establish, attach, and perfect such liens and security interests under the provisions of the applicable state, provincial, federal, or other law (whether domestic or foreign) that would be applicable in the absence of the Plan and the Confirmation Order (it being understood that perfection shall occur automatically by virtue of the entry of the Confirmation Order, and any such filings, recordings, approvals, and consents shall not be required), and will thereafter cooperate to make all other filings and recordings that otherwise would be necessary under applicable law to give notice of such liens and security interests to third parties. To the extent that any Holder of a Secured Claim that has been satisfied or discharged in full pursuant to the Plan, or any agent for such Holder, has filed or recorded publicly any liens and/or security interests to secure such Holder's Secured Claim, then as soon as practicable on or after the Effective Date, such Holder (or the agent for such Holder) shall take any and all steps requested by the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, or any administrative agent under the New Credit Facilities Documents that are necessary to cancel and/or extinguish such liens and/or security interests.

#### **4. Corporate Existence**

Subject to any restructuring transactions as permitted under Article IV.B, each Debtor shall continue to exist after the Effective Date as a separate corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other form of entity, as the case may be, with all the powers of a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other form of entity, as the case may be, pursuant to the applicable law in the jurisdiction in which each applicable Debtor is incorporated or formed and pursuant to the respective certificate of incorporation and bylaws (or other similar formation and governance documents) in effect prior to the Effective Date, except to the extent such certificate of incorporation or bylaws (or other similar formation and governance documents) are amended by or in connection with the Plan or otherwise, and, to the extent such documents are amended, such documents are deemed to be amended pursuant to the Plan and require no further action or approval (other than any requisite filings required under applicable state, provincial, or federal law).

#### **5. Vesting of Assets in the Reorganized Debtors**

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan or in any agreement, instrument, or other document incorporated in the Plan, on the Effective Date, all property in each Estate, all Causes of Action, and any property acquired by any of the Debtors pursuant to the Plan shall vest in each respective Reorganized Debtor, free and clear of all liens, Claims, charges, or other encumbrances. On and after the Effective Date, except as otherwise provided in the Plan, each Reorganized Debtor may operate its business and may use, acquire, or dispose of property and compromise or settle any Claims, Interests, or Causes of Action without supervision or approval by the Bankruptcy Court and free of any restrictions of the Bankruptcy Code or Bankruptcy Rules.

#### **6. Cancellation of Prepetition Credit Agreements and Equity Interests**

On the Effective Date, except as otherwise specifically provided for in the Plan: (1) the obligations of the Debtors under the Prepetition Credit Agreements and any other certificate, equity security, share, note, bond, indenture, purchase right, option, warrant, or other instrument or document directly or indirectly evidencing or creating any indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors giving rise to any Claim or Equity Interest (except such certificates, notes, or other instruments or documents evidencing indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors that are Reinstated pursuant to the Plan), shall be cancelled solely as to the Debtors and their Affiliates, and the Reorganized Debtors shall not have any continuing obligations thereunder; and (2) the obligations of the Debtors and their Affiliates pursuant, relating, or pertaining to any agreements, indentures, certificates of designation, bylaws, or certificate or articles of incorporation or similar documents governing the shares, certificates, notes, bonds, indentures, purchase rights, options, warrants, or other instruments or documents evidencing or creating any indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors (except such agreements, certificates, notes, or other instruments evidencing indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors that are specifically Reinstated pursuant to the Plan) shall be released and discharged. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no executory contract or unexpired lease that (i) has been, or will be, assumed pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code or (ii) relating to a Claim that was paid in full prior to the Effective Date, shall be terminated or cancelled on the Effective Date, except that:

- the Prepetition Credit Agreements shall continue in effect solely for the purpose of: (i) allowing Holders of the ABL DIP Claims, Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, and Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable, to receive the distributions provided for under the Plan; (ii) allowing the Prepetition Agents to receive distributions from the Debtors and to make further distributions to the Holders of such Claims on account of such Claims, as set forth in Article VI.A of the Plan; and (iii) preserving the Prepetition Agents' right to indemnification from the Debtors pursuant and subject to the terms of the Prepetition Credit Agreements in respect of any Claim or Cause of Action asserted against the Prepetition Agents; provided that any Claim or right to payment on account of such indemnification shall be an unsecured Claim and shall not be secured in any of the assets of the Debtors, Reorganized Debtors, or their Affiliates; and
- the foregoing shall not effect the cancellation of shares issued pursuant to the Plan nor any other shares held by one Debtor in the capital of another Debtor.

#### **7. Sources of Cash for Plan Distributions and Transfers of Funds Among Debtors**

All Cash necessary for the Reorganized Debtors to make payments required pursuant to the Plan will be funded with proceeds from the New ABL Facility and Cash on hand as of the Effective Date. Specifically, the Debtors expect that the New ABL Facility will provide sufficient Cash to satisfy all of the DIP ABL Claims. Additionally, prior to the Effective Date, the Debtors may draw under the Term DIP Facility (subject to and in accordance with the Final DIP Order). The Debtors will rely on this draw under the Term DIP Facility and Cash on hand to fund other payments required in connection with emergence.

In making such Cash payments, the Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors will be entitled to transfer funds between and among themselves as they determine to be necessary or appropriate to enable the Reorganized Debtors to satisfy their obligations under the Plan. Except as set forth in the Plan, any changes in intercompany account balances resulting from such transfers will be accounted for and settled in accordance with the Debtors' historical intercompany account settlement practices and will not violate the terms of the Plan.

From and after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors, subject to any applicable limitations set forth in any post-Effective Date financing, shall have the right and authority without further order of the Bankruptcy Court, to raise additional capital and obtain additional financing as the boards of directors of the applicable Reorganized Debtors deem appropriate.

#### **8. Payment of Commitment Fees**

On the Effective Date, to the extent any portion of the commitments under the Term DIP Facility are not borrowed, the Reorganized Debtors shall pay a Cash fee equal to 3% of the commitments under the Term DIP Facility that are not borrowed to each Backstop Lender in accordance with the DIP Documents.

On the Effective Date, to the extent any portion of the commitments under the Term DIP Facility are not borrowed, the Reorganized Debtors shall pay a Cash fee equal to 2% of the commitments under the Term DIP Facility that are not borrowed to each lender under the Term DIP Facility in accordance with the DIP Documents.

On the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall pay the Exit Commitment Fee to lenders under the Term DIP Facility in accordance with the DIP Documents.

#### **9. Worldwide GUC Cash-Out Option**

Each Holder of a Class 6B Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall have the option to elect on its Ballot to receive a Worldwide GUC Cash-Out Option Payment instead of its Pro Rata share of Worldwide New Equity Recovery. The GUC Cash-Out Option will be funded by Cash on the Debtors' balance sheet or proceeds of the Term DIP Facility.

## **10. Effectuating Documents and Further Transactions**

The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, may take all actions to execute, deliver, file, or record such contracts, instruments, releases, and other agreements or documents and take such actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate and implement the provisions of the Plan, including, without limitation, the distribution of the securities to be issued pursuant hereto in the name of and on behalf of the Reorganized Debtors, without the need for any approvals, authorizations, actions or consents except for those expressly required pursuant hereto. The secretary and any assistant secretary of each Debtor shall be authorized to certify or attest to any of the foregoing actions. Prior to, on or after the Effective Date (as appropriate), all matters provided for pursuant to the Plan that would otherwise require approval of the shareholders, directors or members of the Debtors shall be deemed to have been so approved and shall be in effect prior to, on or after the Effective Date (as appropriate) pursuant to applicable law and without any requirement of further action by the shareholders, directors, managers or partners of the Debtors, or the need for any approvals, authorizations, actions or consents.

## **11. Issuance of New Equity**

### **1. New Equity**

On the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall issue all securities, notes, instruments, certificates, and other documents required to be issued pursuant to the Plan. The issuance of such documents is authorized without the need for any further corporate action or without any further action by the Holders of Claims or Interests. Distributions of New Equity will only be made through broker accounts via electronic issuance and Reorganized Holdings will not issue separate stock certificates.

### **2. Shareholders Agreements**

On the Effective Date, Holders of New Equity shall be parties to a Shareholders Agreement, in substantially the form included in the Plan Supplement, and which shall otherwise be satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders. On the Effective Date, Reorganized Holdings and the Requisite Consenting Lenders shall enter into and deliver the Shareholders Agreement to each Entity that is intended to be a party thereto and such Shareholders Agreement shall be deemed to be valid, binding, and enforceable in accordance with its terms, and each Holder of New Equity shall be bound thereby, in each case without the need for execution by any party thereto other than Reorganized Holdings.

### **3. Private Companies**

On the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall be private, non-SEC reporting companies.

## **12. Section 1145 Exemption**

Pursuant to section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code and, to the extent that section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code is inapplicable, section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act, and/or the safe harbor of Regulation D promulgated thereunder, or such other exemption as may be available from any applicable registration requirements, the offering, issuance, and distribution of any securities pursuant to the Plan and any and all settlement agreements incorporated herein shall be exempt from, among other things, the registration requirements of section 5 of the Securities Act to the maximum extent permitted thereunder and any other applicable law requiring registration by virtue of section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, prior to the offering, issuance, distribution, or sale of securities. In addition, to the maximum extent provided under section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, any and all New Equity contemplated by the Plan and any and all settlement agreements incorporated therein will be freely tradable and transferable by any initial recipient thereof that (x) is not an "affiliate" of the Reorganized Debtors (as defined in rule 144(a)(1) under the Securities Act), (y) has not been such an "affiliate" within 90 days of such transfer, and (z) is not an entity that is an "underwriter" as defined in section 1145(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

## **13. New Organizational Documents**

On or immediately prior to the Effective Date, the organizational documents of each of the Debtors shall be amended and restated, as may be necessary to effectuate the transactions contemplated by the Plan, in a manner

consistent with section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code and shall otherwise be satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders. Each of the Reorganized Debtors will file its New Organizational Documents with the applicable Secretaries of State and/or other applicable authorities in its respective state, province, or country of incorporation in accordance with the corporate laws of the respective state, province, or country of incorporation. The New Organizational Documents will prohibit the issuance of non-voting equity securities, to the extent required under section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### **14. Exemption from Certain Transfer Taxes and Recording Fees**

Pursuant to section 1146(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, any transfer from a Debtor to a Reorganized Debtor or to any Entity pursuant to, in contemplation of, or in connection with the Plan or pursuant to: (1) the issuance, distribution, transfer, or exchange of any debt, securities, or other interest in the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors; (2) the creation, modification, consolidation, or recording of any mortgage, deed of trust or other security interest, or the securing of additional indebtedness by such or other means; (3) the making, assignment, or recording of any lease or sublease; or (4) the making, delivery, or recording of any deed or other instrument of transfer under, in furtherance of, or in connection with, the Plan, including any deeds, bills of sale, assignments, or other instrument of transfer executed in connection with any transaction arising out of, contemplated by, or in any way related to the Plan, shall not be subject to any document recording tax, stamp tax, conveyance fee, intangibles or similar tax, mortgage tax, real estate transfer tax, mortgage recording tax, Uniform Commercial Code filing or recording fee, regulatory filing or recording fee, or other similar tax or governmental assessment, and the appropriate state or local governmental officials or agents shall forego the collection of any such tax or governmental assessment and to accept for filing and recordation any of the foregoing instruments or other documents without the payment of any such tax or governmental assessment. All filing or recording officers (or any other Person with authority over any of the foregoing), wherever located and by whomever appointed, shall comply with the requirements of section 1146(c) of the Bankruptcy Code, shall forego the collection of any such tax or governmental assessment, and shall accept for filing and recordation any of the foregoing instruments or other documents without the payment of any such tax or governmental assessment.

#### **15. Directors and Officers of Reorganized Holdings and Other Reorganized Debtors**

The initial directors and officers of the Reorganized Holdings shall be selected by the Requisite Consenting Lenders. Unless otherwise set forth in the Plan Supplement, the existing directors of each of the subsidiary Debtors shall remain in their current capacities as directors of the applicable Reorganized Debtor until replaced or removed in accordance with the organizational documents of the applicable Reorganized Debtors. The identity of each of the members of the New Board will be disclosed prior to the Confirmation Hearing and any directors elected pursuant to this section shall be subject to approval of the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to and to the extent necessary to satisfy section 1129(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### **16. Avoidance Actions**

The Reorganized Debtors will retain all rights to commence and pursue any and all Avoidance Actions.

#### **17. Preservation of Causes of Action**

In accordance with section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, but subject to Article IX of the Plan, the Reorganized Debtors shall retain and may enforce all rights to commence and pursue, as appropriate, any and all Causes of Action, whether arising before or after the Petition Date, and the Reorganized Debtors' rights to commence, prosecute, or settle such Causes of Action shall be preserved notwithstanding the occurrence of the Effective Date, other than the Causes of Action released by the Debtors pursuant to the releases and exculpations contained in the Plan, including Article IX. The Reorganized Debtors may pursue such Causes of Action, as appropriate, in accordance with the best interests of the Reorganized Debtors. **No Entity may rely on the absence of a specific reference in the Plan, the Plan Supplement, or the Disclosure Statement to any Cause of Action against it as any indication that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, will not pursue any and all available Causes of Action against it. The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, expressly reserve all rights to prosecute any and all Causes of Action against any Entity, except as otherwise expressly provided in the Plan, including Article IX of the Plan.** Unless any Causes of Action against an Entity are expressly waived, relinquished, exculpated, released, compromised, or settled in the Plan or a Bankruptcy Court

order, the Reorganized Debtors expressly reserve all Causes of Action, for later adjudication, and, therefore no preclusion doctrine, including the doctrines of *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim preclusion, estoppel (judicial, equitable, or otherwise) or laches, shall apply to such Causes of Action upon, after, or as a consequence of the Confirmation or the Effective Date.

The Reorganized Debtors reserve and shall retain the Causes of Action notwithstanding the rejection or repudiation of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease during the Chapter 11 Cases or pursuant to the Plan. In accordance with section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code, any Causes of Action that a Debtor may hold against any Entity shall vest in the applicable Reorganized Debtor, except as otherwise expressly provided in the Plan, including Article IX of the Plan. The applicable Reorganized Debtors, through their authorized agents or representatives, shall retain and may exclusively enforce any and all such Causes of Action. The Reorganized Debtors shall have the exclusive right, authority, and discretion to determine and to initiate, file, prosecute, enforce, abandon, settle, compromise, release, withdraw, or litigate to judgment any such Causes of Action and to decline to do any of the foregoing without the consent or approval of any third party or further notice to or action, order or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

#### **18. Directors and Officers Insurance Policies and Agreements**

To the extent that the D&O Liability Insurance Policies are considered to be Executory Contracts, notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, effective as of the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall be deemed to have assumed all unexpired D&O Liability Insurance Policies with respect to the Debtors' directors, managers, officers, and employees serving on or prior to the Petition Date pursuant to section 365(a) of the Bankruptcy Code. Entry of the Confirmation Order will constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval of the Reorganized Debtors' assumption of each of the unexpired D&O Liability Insurance Policies. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Plan, Confirmation of the Plan shall not discharge, impair, or otherwise modify any indemnity obligations assumed by the foregoing assumption of the D&O Liability Insurance Policies, and each such indemnity obligation will be deemed and treated as an Executory Contract that has been assumed by the Reorganized Debtors under the Plan as to which no Proof of Claim need be filed.

After the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall not terminate or otherwise reduce the coverage under any D&O Liability Insurance Policy (including such tail coverage liability insurance) in effect and all members, managers, directors, and officers of the Debtors who served in such capacity at any time prior to the Effective Date of the Plan shall be entitled to the full benefits of any such policy for the full term of such policy regardless of whether such members, managers, directors, and/or officers remain in such positions after the Effective Date of the Plan.

#### **19. Compensation and Benefits Programs**

Unless otherwise provided herein or in the Plan Supplement, the Confirmation Order, or any applicable agreements binding on the Debtors, all employee wages, compensation, and benefit programs in place as of the Effective Date with the Debtors shall be assumed by the Reorganized Debtors and shall remain in place as of the Effective Date, and the Reorganized Debtors will continue to honor such agreements, arrangements, programs, and plans. Notwithstanding the foregoing, pursuant to section 1129(a)(13) of the Bankruptcy Code, from and after the Effective Date, all retiree benefits (as such term is defined in section 1114 of the Bankruptcy Code), if any, shall continue to be paid in accordance with applicable law.

##### **(a) Management Equity Incentive Plan**

Promptly on or as soon as practicable after the Effective Date, the New Board will adopt and implement the Management Equity Incentive Plan whereby equity awards for 6–10% of the New Equity (on a fully diluted basis) of Reorganized Holdings will be granted to continuing employees of the Debtors and members of the New Board with pricing, vesting and exercise terms to be determined by the New Board upon consultation with the Chief Executive Officer of Reorganized Holdings.



(b) Cash Incentive Program

Promptly on or as soon as practicable after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors will assume the Cash Incentive Program.

(c) Continuation of Retiree Benefits

The Reorganized Debtors' obligations with respect to the payment of "retiree benefits" (as that term is defined in section 1114(a) of the Bankruptcy Code) shall continue for the duration of the periods the Debtors have obligated themselves to provide such benefits, if any, subject to any contractual rights to terminate or modify such benefits.

(d) Workers' Compensation Programs

As of the Effective Date, except as set forth in the Plan Supplement, the Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors shall continue to honor their obligations under: (i) all applicable workers' compensation laws in states in which the Reorganized Debtors operate; and (ii) the Debtors' written contracts, agreements, agreements of indemnity, self-insurer workers' compensation bonds, policies, programs, and plans for workers' compensation and workers' compensation insurance.

All Proofs of Claims on account of workers' compensation shall be deemed withdrawn automatically and without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court; *provided, however*, that nothing in the Plan shall limit, diminish, or otherwise alter the Debtors' or Reorganized Debtors' defenses, Causes of Action, or other rights under applicable non-bankruptcy law with respect to any such contracts, agreements, policies, programs and plans; *provided, further*, that nothing herein shall be deemed to impose any obligations on the Debtors in addition to what is provided for under applicable state law.

**E. PLAN SUPPLEMENT**

The Debtors will file the Plan Supplement with the Bankruptcy Court on or before the date that is seven (7) calendar days prior to the Voting Deadline. The Noticing and Claims Agent will serve the 2002 List and Master List with a courtesy notice that will inform parties that the Plan Supplement was filed, list the information included therein and explain how copies of the Plan Supplement may be obtained. The Plan Supplement will include, without limitation, the forms of:

- the Shareholders Agreement;
- the New First Lien Credit Agreement;
- the New ABL Credit Agreement;
- the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases;
- the Schedule of Rejected Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases;
- a list of retained Causes of Action;
- the New Organizational Documents; and
- the documents and agreements necessary to implement the Cash Incentive Program.

**F. TREATMENT OF EXECUTORY CONTRACTS AND UNEXPIRED LEASES**

**1. Assumption and Rejection of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases, Generally**

On the Effective Date, except as otherwise provided in the Plan, each Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, not previously assumed, assumed and assigned, or rejected shall be deemed automatically rejected, pursuant

to sections 365 and 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code, unless such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease: (1) is identified on the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases; (2) is the subject of a motion to assume such Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases that is pending on the Confirmation Date; or (3) is a contract, release, or other agreement or document entered into in connection with the Plan.

Entry of the Confirmation Order by the Bankruptcy Court shall, subject to and upon the occurrence of the Effective Date, constitute a Bankruptcy Order approving the assumptions or rejections of the Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases assumed or rejected pursuant to the Plan. Any motions to assume Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases pending on the Effective Date shall be subject to approval by the Bankruptcy Court on or after the Effective Date by a Final Order. Each Executory Contract and Unexpired Lease assumed pursuant to Article V.A of the Plan or by any order of the Bankruptcy Court, which has not been assigned to a third party prior to the Confirmation Date, shall revert in and be fully enforceable by the Reorganized Debtors in accordance with its terms, except as such terms are modified by the provisions of the Plan or any order of the Bankruptcy Court authorizing and providing for its assumption under applicable federal law. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Plan, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, reserve the right (subject to the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders) to alter, amend, modify, or supplement the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases (i) to add or remove any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease to the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases at any time prior to the Confirmation Date, and (ii) to remove any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease from the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases at any time through and including the Confirmation Date. The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors shall provide notice of any amendments to the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases to the parties to the Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases affected thereby. In any case, if the Bankruptcy Court determines that the Allowed Cure Claim with respect to any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease is greater than the amount set forth in the applicable Cure Notice, the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, will have the right to remove such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease from the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases in which case such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease will be deemed to have been rejected as of the Effective Date.

## **2. Indemnification Provisions**

On the Effective Date, except as otherwise provided by the Plan, all indemnification provisions, consistent with applicable law, in place as of the date of the Restructuring Support Agreement (whether in the bylaws, certificates of incorporation or formation, limited liability company agreements, other organizational documents, board resolutions, indemnification agreements, employment contracts, or otherwise) for the current directors, officers, managers, employees, attorneys, accountants, investment bankers, and other professionals of the Debtors, as applicable, shall be assumed, which assumption shall be irrevocable, and shall survive the Effective Date.

## **3. Directors and Officers Insurance Policies and Agreements**

Pursuant to Article IV.R of the Plan, to the extent that the D&O Liability Insurance Policies are considered to be Executory Contracts, notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, effective as of the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall be deemed to have assumed all unexpired D&O Liability Insurance Policies.

## **4. Cure of Defaults for Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases**

Any monetary defaults under each Executory Contract and Unexpired Lease to be assumed pursuant to the Plan shall be satisfied, pursuant to section 365(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, by payment of the default amount in Cash on the Effective Date, subject to the limitation described below, or on such other terms as the parties to such Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases may otherwise agree. In the event of a dispute regarding (1) the amount of any payments to cure such a default, (2) the ability of the Reorganized Debtors or any assignee to provide "adequate assurance of future performance" (within the meaning of section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code) under the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease to be assumed, or (3) any other matter pertaining to assumption, the cure payments required by section 365(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code shall be made following the entry of a Final Order or orders resolving the dispute and approving the assumption. At least ten days prior to the Confirmation Hearing, the Debtors shall provide for notices of proposed assumption and proposed cure amounts to be sent to applicable third parties and for procedures for objecting thereto and resolution of disputes by the Bankruptcy Court. Any objection by a counterparty to an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease to a proposed assumption or related cure

amount must be filed, served, and actually received by the Debtors at least three days prior to the Confirmation Hearing. Any counterparty to an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that fails to object timely to the proposed assumption or cure amount will be deemed to have assented to such assumption or cure amount.

Assumption of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease pursuant to the Plan or otherwise shall result in the full release and satisfaction of any Claims or defaults, whether monetary or nonmonetary, including defaults of provisions restricting the change in control or ownership interest composition or other bankruptcy-related defaults, arising under any assumed Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease at any time prior to the effective date of assumption.

**Any Proofs of Claim filed with respect to an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that has been assumed shall be deemed disallowed and expunged, without further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.**

#### **5. Claims Based on Rejection of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases**

Unless otherwise provided by a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court, all Proofs of Claim with respect to Claims arising from the rejection of Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases, pursuant to the Plan or the Confirmation Order, if any, must be Filed with the Bankruptcy Court within 30 days after the later of (1) the date of entry of an order of the Bankruptcy Court (including the Confirmation Order) approving such rejection, (2) the effective date of such rejection, or (3) the Effective Date. **Any Claims arising from the rejection of an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease not filed with the Bankruptcy Court within such time will be automatically disallowed, forever barred from assertion, and shall not be enforceable against the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, the Estates, or their property without the need for any objection by the Reorganized Debtors or further notice to, or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court or any other Entity, and any Claim arising out of the rejection of the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease shall be deemed fully satisfied, released, and discharged, notwithstanding anything in the Schedules or a Proof of Claim to the contrary.** All Allowed Claims arising from the rejection of the Debtors' Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases shall be classified as General Unsecured Claims.

#### **6. Preexisting Obligations to the Debtors under Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases**

Rejection of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease pursuant to the Plan or otherwise shall not constitute a termination of preexisting obligations owed to the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, under such Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases. In particular, notwithstanding any non-bankruptcy law to the contrary, the Reorganized Debtors expressly reserve and do not waive any right to receive, or any continuing obligation of a counterparty to provide, warranties or continued maintenance obligations on goods previously purchased by the Debtors contracting from non-Debtor counterparties to rejected Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases.

#### **7. Modifications, Amendments, Supplements, Restatements, or Other Agreements**

Unless otherwise provided in the Plan, each Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that is assumed shall include all modifications, amendments, supplements, restatements, or other agreements that in any manner affect such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, and Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases related thereto, if any, including easements, licenses, permits, rights, privileges, immunities, options, rights of first refusal and any other interests, unless any of the foregoing agreements has been previously rejected or repudiated or is rejected or repudiated under the Plan.

Modifications, amendments, supplements, and restatements to prepetition Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases that have been executed by the Debtors during the Chapter 11 Cases shall not be deemed to alter the prepetition nature of the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, or the validity, priority, or amount of any Claims that may arise in connection therewith.

**8. Contracts and Leases Entered Into After the Petition Date**

Contracts and leases entered into after the Petition Date by any Debtor, including any Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases assumed by such Debtor, will be performed by the applicable Debtor or the Reorganized Debtor liable thereunder in the ordinary course of their business. Accordingly, such contracts and leases (including any assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases) will survive and remain unaffected by entry of the Confirmation Order.

**9. Reservation of Rights**

Neither the exclusion nor inclusion of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease on the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contract and Unexpired Leases, nor anything contained in the Plan, shall constitute an admission by the Debtors that any such contract or lease is in fact an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease or that any of the Reorganized Debtors has any liability thereunder. If there is a dispute regarding whether a contract or lease is or was executory or unexpired at the time of assumption or rejection, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall have 30 days following entry of a Final Order resolving such dispute to alter their treatment of such contract or lease under the Plan.

**10. Nonoccurrence of Effective Date**

In the event that the Effective Date does not occur, the Bankruptcy Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to any request to extend the deadline for assuming or rejecting Unexpired Leases pursuant to section 365(d)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code.

**G. DISTRIBUTIONS ON ACCOUNT OF CLAIMS**

**1. Claims Allowed as of the Effective Date**

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, a Final Order, or as agreed to by the relevant parties, the Reorganized Debtors shall make initial distributions under the Plan on account of Claims Allowed before the Effective Date on or as soon as practicable after the Initial Distribution Date; *provided, however*, that payments on account of Other General Unsecured Claims that become Allowed Claims on or before the Effective Date shall commence on the Effective Date.

**2. Disputed Unsecured Claims Reserves**

(a) Other General Unsecured Claims Reserve

From and after the Effective Date, and until such time as all Disputed Other General Unsecured Claims have been compromised and settled or determined by order of the Bankruptcy Court, for the benefit of each Holder of such claims, an amount of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool shall be reserved in Cash, in an amount equal to lesser of (a) the amount of the Disputed Other General Unsecured Claims; (b) the amount in which the Other General Unsecured Claims shall be estimated by the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code for purposes of allowance, which amount, unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court, shall constitute and represent the maximum amount in which such Claim may ultimately become an Allowed Claim; and (c) such other amount as may be agreed upon by the Holder of such Other General Unsecured Claims and the Reorganized Debtors. Any amount of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool reserved and held for the benefit of a Holder of a Disputed Other General Unsecured Claim shall be treated as a payment and reduction on account of such Other General Unsecured Claim for purposes of computing any additional amounts to be paid to such Holder if the Other General Unsecured Claim ultimately becomes an Allowed Claim. Such amount of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool shall be reserved for the benefit of Holders pending determination of their entitlement thereto under the terms of the Plan. No payments or distributions shall be made with respect to all or any portion of any Disputed Other General Unsecured Claim pending the entire resolution thereof by Final Order.

Any amount remaining in the reserve being held for the benefit of Disputed Other General Unsecured Claims after reconciliation of all Other General Unsecured Claims asserted against the Debtors shall be distributed to Holders of Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims in accordance with the provisions of the Plan.

(b) Worldwide General Unsecured Claims Reserve

From and after the Effective Date, and until such time as all Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims have been compromised and settled or determined by order of the Bankruptcy Court, for the benefit of each Holder of such claims, an amount of the Worldwide New Equity Recovery shall be reserved in an amount equal to the distributions of New Equity which would have been made to the Holder of any Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims if such Claim were an Allowed Claim in an amount equal to the lesser of (a) the amount of the Worldwide General Unsecured Claims; (b) the amount in which the Worldwide General Unsecured Claims shall be estimated by the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code for purposes of allowance, which amount, unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court, shall constitute and represent the maximum amount in which such Claim may ultimately become an Allowed Claim; and (c) such other amount as may be agreed upon by the Holder of such Worldwide General Unsecured Claims and the Reorganized Debtors. Any amount of Worldwide New Equity Recovery reserved and held for the benefit of a Holder of a Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall be treated as a payment and reduction on account of such Worldwide General Unsecured Claim for purposes of computing any additional amounts to be paid to such Holder if the Worldwide General Unsecured Claim ultimately becomes an Allowed Claim. Such amount of the Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery shall be reserved for the benefit of Holders pending determination of their entitlement thereto under the terms of the Plan. No payments or distributions shall be made with respect to all or any portion of any Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim pending the entire resolution thereof by Final Order.

Any amount remaining in the Worldwide General Unsecured Claims Reserve being held for the benefit of Disputed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims after reconciliation of all Worldwide General Unsecured Claims asserted against the Debtors shall be distributed to Holders of Allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claims in accordance with the provisions of the Plan, subject to any New Equity being retained by the Reorganized Debtors pursuant to the terms of the Worldwide GUC Cash-Out Option Payment.

**3. Distributions on Account of Claims Allowed After the Effective Date**

(a) Payments and Distributions on Disputed Claims

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, a Final Order, or as agreed to by the relevant parties, distributions under the Plan on account of a Disputed Claim that becomes an Allowed Claim after the Effective Date shall be made on the first Periodic Distribution Date after the Disputed Claim becomes an Allowed Claim. Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, Holders of Claims shall not be entitled to interest, dividends, or accruals on the distributions provided for in the Plan, regardless of whether such distributions are delivered on or at any time after the Effective Date.

(b) Special Rules for Distributions to Holders of Disputed Claims

Notwithstanding any provision otherwise in the Plan and except as otherwise agreed to by the relevant parties no partial payments and no partial distributions shall be made with respect to a Disputed Claim until all such disputes in connection with such Disputed Claim have been resolved by settlement or Final Order. In the event that there are Disputed Claims requiring adjudication and resolution, the Reorganized Debtors shall establish appropriate reserves for potential payment of such Claims.

**4. Timing and Calculation of Amounts to Be Distributed**

Except as otherwise herein, on the Initial Distribution Date (or if a Claim is not an Allowed Claim on the Effective Date, on or as soon as reasonably after the date that such a Claim becomes an Allowed Claim), each Holder of an Allowed Claim against the Debtors shall receive the full amount of the distributions that the Plan provides for Allowed Claims in the applicable Class. Distributions on account of Other General Unsecured Claims that become Allowed Claims before the Effective Date shall be paid on the Effective Date.

If and to the extent that there are Disputed Claims, distributions on account of any such Disputed Claims shall be made pursuant to the provisions set forth in the applicable class treatment or in Article VI of the Plan. Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, Holders of Claims shall not be entitled to interest, dividends or accruals on the distributions provided for in the Plan, regardless of whether such distributions are delivered on or at any time after the Effective Date.

**5. Delivery and Distributions and Undeliverable or Unclaimed Distributions**

(a) Record Date for Distributions

On the Distribution Record Date, the Claims Register shall be closed and any party responsible for making distributions shall instead be authorized and entitled to recognize only those Holders of Claims listed on the Claims Register as of the close of business on the Distribution Record Date. If a Claim, other than one based on a publicly-traded security is transferred twenty (20) or fewer days before the Distribution Record Date, the Distribution Agent shall make distributions to the transferee only to the extent practical and, in any event, only if the relevant transfer form contains an unconditional and explicit certification and waiver of any objection to the transfer by the transferor.

(b) Delivery of Distributions in General

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable shall make distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims at the address for each such Holder as indicated on the Debtors' records as of the date of any such distribution; provided, however, that the manner of such distributions shall be determined at the discretion of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable; and provided further, that the address for each Holder of an Allowed Claim shall be the address set forth in any Proof of Claim filed by that Holder.

(c) Delivery of Distributions to Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims

The Prepetition First Lien Agent shall be deemed to be the Holder of all Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable, for purposes of distributions to be made hereunder, and all distributions on account of such Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be made to or on behalf of the Prepetition First Lien Agent. The Prepetition First Lien Agent shall hold or direct such distributions for the benefit of the Holders of Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable. As soon as practicable following compliance with the requirements set forth in this Article VI of the Plan, the Prepetition First Lien Agent shall arrange to deliver or direct the delivery of such distributions to or on behalf of such Holders of Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims. Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, and without limiting the exculpation and release provisions of the Plan, the Prepetition First Lien Agent shall not have any liability to any person with respect to distributions made or directed to be made by the Prepetition First Lien Agent.

(d) Delivery of Distributions to Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims

The Prepetition Second Lien Agent shall be deemed to be the Holder of all Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable, for purposes of distributions to be made hereunder, and all distributions on account of such Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be made to or on behalf of the Prepetition Second Lien Agent. The Prepetition Second Lien Agent shall hold or direct such distributions for the benefit of the Holders of Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims, as applicable. As soon as practicable following compliance with the requirements set forth in this Article VI of the Plan, the Prepetition Second Lien Agent shall arrange to deliver or direct the delivery of such distributions to or on behalf of such Holders of Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims. Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, and without limiting the exculpation and release provisions of the Plan, the Prepetition Second Lien Agent shall not have any liability to any person with respect to distributions made or directed to be made by the Prepetition Second Lien Agent.

(e) Distributions by Distribution Agents (if any)

The Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall have the authority, in their sole discretion, to enter into agreements with one or more Distribution Agents to facilitate the distributions required hereunder. To the extent the Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, do determine to utilize a Distribution Agent to facilitate the distributions under the Plan to Holders of Allowed Claims, any such Distribution Agent would first be required to: (a) affirm its obligation to facilitate the prompt distribution of any documents; (b) affirm its obligation to facilitate the prompt distribution of any recoveries or distributions required under the Plan; (c) waive any right or ability to setoff, deduct from or assert any lien or encumbrance against the distributions required under the Plan to be distributed by such Distribution Agent; and (d) post a bond, obtain or surety or provide some other form of security for the performance of its duties, the costs and expenses of procuring which shall be borne by the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable.

The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall pay to the Distribution Agents all reasonable and documented fees and expenses of the Distribution Agents without the need for any approvals, authorizations, actions or consents. The Distribution Agents shall submit detailed invoices to the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, for all fees and expenses for which the Distribution Agent seeks reimbursement and the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall pay those amounts that they, in their sole discretion, deem reasonable, and shall object in writing to those fees and expenses, if any, that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, deem to be unreasonable. In the event that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, object to all or any portion of the amounts requested to be reimbursed in a Distribution Agent's invoice, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, and such Distribution Agent shall endeavor, in good faith, to reach mutual agreement on the amount of the appropriate payment of such disputed fees and/or expenses. In the event that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, and a Distribution Agent are unable to resolve any differences regarding disputed fees or expenses, either party shall be authorized to move to have such dispute heard by the Bankruptcy Court.

(f) Minimum Distributions

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Reorganized Debtors shall not be required to make distributions or payments of less than \$10 (whether Cash or otherwise) and shall not be required to make partial distributions or payments of fractions of dollars. Whenever any payment or distribution of a fraction of a dollar or fractional share of New Equity under the Plan would otherwise be called for, the actual payment or distribution will reflect a rounding of such fraction to the nearest whole dollar or share of New Equity (up or down), with half dollars and half shares of New Equity or less being rounded down.

No Distribution Agent shall have any obligation to make a distribution on account of an Allowed Claim if: (a) the aggregate amount of all distributions authorized to be made from on the Periodic Distribution Date in question is or has an economic value less than \$25,000, unless such distribution is a final distribution; or (b) the amount to be distributed to the specific Holder of an Allowed Claim on such Periodic Distribution Date does not constitute a final distribution to such Holder and is or has an economic value less than \$10, which shall be treated as an undeliverable distribution under Article VI.E.7 of the Plan.

(g) Undeliverable Distributions

(i) *Holding of Certain Undeliverable Distributions*

If any distribution to a Holder of an Allowed Claim made in accordance herewith is returned to the Reorganized Debtors (or their Distribution Agent) as undeliverable, no further distributions shall be made to such Holder unless and until the Reorganized Debtors (or their Distribution Agent) are notified in writing of such Holder's then current address, at which time all currently due missed distributions shall be made to such Holder on the next Periodic Distribution Date. Undeliverable distributions shall remain in the possession of the Reorganized Debtors, subject to Article VI.E.7(b) of the Plan, until such time as any such distributions become deliverable. Undeliverable distributions shall not be entitled to any additional interest, dividends or other accruals of any kind on account of their distribution being undeliverable.

(ii) *Failure to Claim Undeliverable Distributions*

No later than 120 days after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall file with the Bankruptcy Court a list of the Holders of undeliverable distributions. This list shall be maintained and updated periodically in the sole discretion of the Reorganized Debtors for as long as the Chapter 11 Cases stay open. Any Holder of an Allowed Claim, irrespective of when a Claim becomes an Allowed Claim, that does not notify the Reorganized Debtors of such Holder's then current address in accordance herewith within 180 days of the Effective Date, shall have its Claim for such undeliverable distribution discharged and shall be forever barred, estopped and enjoined from asserting any such Claim against the Reorganized Debtors or their property.

In such cases, (i) any Cash or New Equity held for distribution on account of Allowed Claims shall be redistributed to Holders of Allowed Claims in the applicable Class on the next Periodic Distribution Date and (ii) any Cash held for distribution to other creditors shall be deemed unclaimed property under section 347(b) of the Bankruptcy Code and become property of the Reorganized Debtors, free of any Claims of such Holder with respect thereto. Nothing contained herein shall require the Reorganized Debtors to attempt to locate any Holder of an Allowed Claim.

(iii) *Failure to Present Checks*

Checks issued by the Distribution Agent on account of Allowed Claims shall be null and void if not negotiated within 180 days after the issuance of such check. In an effort to ensure that all Holders of Allowed Claims receive their allocated distributions, the Reorganized Debtors shall file with the Bankruptcy Court a list of the Holders of any un-negotiated checks no later than 160 days after the issuance of such checks. This list shall be maintained and updated periodically in the sole discretion of the Reorganized Debtors for as long as the Chapter 11 Cases stay open. Requests for reissuance of any check shall be made directly to the Distribution Agent by the Holder of the relevant Allowed Claim with respect to which such check originally was issued.

Any Holder of an Allowed Claim holding an un-negotiated check that does not request reissuance of such un-negotiated check within 120 days after the date of mailing or other delivery of such check shall have its Claim for such un-negotiated check discharged and be discharged and forever barred, estopped and enjoined from asserting any such Claim against the Reorganized Debtors or their property. In such cases, any Cash held for payment on account of such Claims shall be property of the Reorganized Debtors, free of any Claims of such Holder with respect thereto. Nothing contained herein shall require the Reorganized Debtors to attempt to locate any Holder of an Allowed Claim.

**6. Compliance with Tax Requirements/Allocations**

In connection with the Plan, to the extent applicable, the Reorganized Debtors shall comply with all tax withholding and reporting requirements imposed on them by any governmental unit, and all distributions pursuant hereto shall be subject to such withholding and reporting requirements. Notwithstanding any provision in the Plan to the contrary, the Reorganized Debtors and the Distribution Agent shall be authorized to take all actions necessary or appropriate to comply with such withholding and reporting requirements, including liquidating a portion of the distribution to be made under the Plan to generate sufficient funds to pay applicable withholding taxes, withholding distributions pending receipt of information necessary to facilitate such distributions or establishing any other mechanisms they believe are reasonable and appropriate. The Reorganized Debtors reserve the right to allocate all distributions made under the Plan in compliance with all applicable wage garnishments, alimony, child support and other spousal awards, liens and encumbrances. For tax purposes, distributions in full or partial satisfaction of Allowed Claims shall be allocated first to the principal amount of Allowed Claims, with any excess allocated to unpaid interest that accrued on such Claims.

**7. Setoffs**

The Debtors and the Reorganized Debtors may withhold (but not setoff except as set forth below) from the distributions called for hereunder on account of any Allowed Claim an amount equal to any Claims, Equity Interests, rights, and Causes of Action of any nature that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors may hold against the Holder of any such Allowed Claim. In the event that any such Claims, Equity Interests, rights, and Causes of Action of any nature that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors may hold against the Holder of any such Allowed Claim are



adjudicated by Final Order or otherwise resolved, the Debtors may, pursuant to section 553 of the Bankruptcy Code or applicable non-bankruptcy law, set off against any Allowed Claim and the distributions to be made pursuant hereto on account of such Allowed Claim (before any distribution is made on account of such Allowed Claim), the amount of any adjudicated or resolved Claims, Equity Interests, rights, and Causes of Action of any nature that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors may hold against the Holder of any such Allowed Claim, but only to the extent of such adjudicated or resolved amount. Neither the failure to effect such a setoff nor the allowance of any Claim hereunder shall constitute a waiver or release by the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors of any such Claims, Equity Interests, rights, and Causes of Action that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors may possess against any such Holder, except as specifically provided herein.

**8. Foreign Currency Exchange Rate**

Except as otherwise provided in a Bankruptcy Court order, as of the Effective Date, any Claim asserted in currency other than U.S. dollars shall be automatically deemed converted to the equivalent U.S. dollar value using the exchange rate for the applicable currency as published in The Wall Street Journal, National Edition, on the Effective Date.

**9. Claims Paid or Payable by Third Parties.**

(a) Claims Paid by Third Parties.

The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, shall reduce in full a Claim, and such Claim shall be disallowed without a Claims objection having to be filed and without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court, to the extent that the Holder of such Claim receives payment in full on account of such Claim from a party that is not a Debtor or Reorganized Debtor. Subject to the last sentence of this paragraph, to the extent a Holder of a Claim receives a distribution on account of such Claim and receives payment from a party that is not a Debtor or a Reorganized Debtor on account of such Claim, such Holder shall, within two weeks of receipt thereof, repay or return the distribution to the applicable Reorganized Debtor, to the extent the Holder's total recovery on account of such Claim from the third party and under the Plan exceeds the amount of such Claim as of the date of any such distribution under the Plan.

If the Debtors become aware of the payment by a third party, the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, will send a notice of wrongful payment to such party requesting return of any excess payments and advising the recipient of the provisions of the Plan requiring turnover of excess estate funds. The failure of such Holder to timely repay or return such distribution shall result in the Holder owing the applicable Reorganized Debtor annualized interest at the Federal Judgment Rate on such amount owed for each Business Day after the two-week grace period specified above until the amount is repaid.

(b) Claims Payable by Third Parties.

No distributions under the Plan shall be made on account of an Allowed Claim that is payable pursuant to one of the Debtors' insurance policies until the Holder of such Allowed Claim has exhausted all remedies with respect to such insurance policy. To the extent that one or more of the Debtors' insurers agrees to satisfy in full or in part a Claim (if and to the extent adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction), then immediately upon such insurers' agreement, the applicable portion of such Claim may be expunged without a Claims objection having to be filed and without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

(c) Applicability of Insurance Policies.

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims shall be in accordance with the provisions of any applicable insurance policy. Nothing contained in the Plan shall constitute or be deemed a waiver of any Cause of Action that the Debtors or any Entity may hold against any other Entity, including insurers under any policies of insurance, nor shall anything contained herein constitute or be deemed a waiver by such insurers of any defenses, including coverage defenses, held by such insurers.

## **H. RESOLUTION OF CONTINGENT, UNLIQUIDATED, OR DISPUTED CLAIMS**

### **1. Allowance of Claims**

After the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall have and retain any and all rights and defenses such Debtor had with respect to any Claim or Interest immediately before the Effective Date.

### **2. Claims Administration Responsibilities**

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors shall have the sole authority: (1) to file, withdraw, or litigate to judgment objections to Claims or Interests; (2) to settle or compromise any Disputed Claim without any further notice to or action, order, or approval by the Bankruptcy Court; and (3) to administer and adjust the Claims Register to reflect any such settlements or compromises without any further notice to or action, order, or approval by the Bankruptcy Court.

### **3. Estimation of Claims**

Before or after the Effective Date, the Debtors or Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, may (but are not required to) at any time request that the Bankruptcy Court estimate any Claim that is contingent or unliquidated pursuant to section 502(c) of the Bankruptcy Code for any reason, regardless of whether any party previously has objected to such Claim or Interest or whether the Bankruptcy Court has ruled on any such objection, and the Bankruptcy Court shall retain jurisdiction to estimate any such Claim or Interest, including during the litigation of any objection to any Claim or Interest or during the appeal relating to such objection. Notwithstanding any provision otherwise in the Plan, a Claim that has been expunged from the Claims Register, but that either is subject to appeal or has not been the subject of a Final Order, shall be deemed to be estimated at zero dollars, unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court. In the event that the Bankruptcy Court estimates any contingent or unliquidated Claim or Interest, that estimated amount shall constitute a maximum limitation on such Claim or Interest for all purposes under the Plan (including for purposes of distributions), and the relevant Reorganized Debtor may elect to pursue any supplemental proceedings to object to any ultimate distribution on such Claim or Interest.

### **4. Adjustment to Claims Without Objection**

Any Claim or Interest that has been paid or satisfied, or any Claim or Interest that has been amended or superseded, cancelled or otherwise expunged (including pursuant to the Plan), may be adjusted or expunged (including on the Claims Register, to the extent applicable) by the Reorganized Debtors without a Claims objection having to be filed and without any further notice to or action, order or approval of the Bankruptcy Court

### **5. Time to File Objections to Claims**

Any objections to Claims shall be filed on or before the later of (1) 180 days after the Effective Date and (2) such other period of limitation as may be specifically fixed by the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as applicable, or by a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court for objecting to such claims.

### **6. Disallowance of Claims**

Any Claims or Interests held by Entities from which property is recoverable under section 542, 543, 550, or 553 of the Bankruptcy Code, or that is a transferee of a transfer avoidable under section 522(f), 522(h), 544, 545, 547, 548, 549, or 724(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, shall be deemed disallowed pursuant to section 502(d) of the Bankruptcy Code, and Holders of such Claims or Interests may not receive any distributions on account of such Claims until such time as such Causes of Action against that Entity have been settled or a Bankruptcy Court order with respect thereto has been entered and all sums due, if any, to the Debtors by that Entity have been turned over or paid to the Reorganized Debtors. All Claims filed on account of an indemnification obligation to a director, officer, or employee shall be deemed satisfied and expunged from the Claims Register as of the Effective Date to the extent such indemnification obligation is assumed (or honored or reaffirmed, as the case may be) pursuant to the Plan, without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

**Except as provided in the Plan or otherwise agreed, any and all Proofs of Claim filed after the Bar Date shall be deemed disallowed and expunged as of the Effective Date without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court, and Holders of such Claims may not receive any distributions on account of such Claims, unless on or before the Confirmation Hearing such late Claim has been deemed timely filed by a Final Order.**

**7. Amendments to Claims**

On or after the applicable bar date, a Claim may not be filed or amended without the prior authorization of the Bankruptcy Court or the Reorganized Debtors. Absent such authorization, any new or amended Claim filed shall be deemed disallowed in full and expunged without any further action.

**8. No Distribution Pending Allowance**

If an objection to a Claim or portion thereof is filed as set forth in Article VIII.B, no payment or distribution provided under the Plan shall be made on account of such Claim or portion thereof unless and until such Disputed Claim becomes an Allowed Claim.

**9. Distribution After Allowance**

To the extent that a Disputed Claim ultimately becomes an Allowed Claim or Allowed Interest, distributions (if any) shall be made to the Holder of such Allowed Claim or Allowed Interest (as applicable) in accordance with the provisions of the Plan. As soon as practicable after the date that the order or judgment of the Bankruptcy Court allowing any Disputed Claim or Disputed Interest becomes a Final Order, the [Disbursing Agent] shall provide to the Holder of such Claim or Interest the distribution (if any) to which such Holder is entitled under the Plan as of the Effective Date, without any interest, dividends, or accruals to be paid on account of such Claim or Interest unless required under applicable bankruptcy law.

**I. THE DEBTOR RELEASE, THIRD-PARTY RELEASE, INJUNCTION, AND EXCULPATION**

**1. Compromise and Settlement**

Pursuant to section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019 and in consideration for the distributions and other benefits provided pursuant to the Plan, the provisions of the Plan shall constitute a good faith compromise of all Claims, Interests and controversies relating to the contractual, legal, and subordination rights that a Holder of a Claim may have with respect to any Allowed Claim or Interest, or any distribution to be made on account of such Allowed Claim or Interest. The entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval of the compromise or settlement of all such Claims, Interests and controversies, as well as a finding by the Bankruptcy Court that such compromise or settlement is in the best interests of the Debtors, their Estates, and Holders of Claims and Interests and is fair, equitable and reasonable. In accordance with the provisions of the Plan, pursuant to section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019(a), without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court, after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtors may compromise and settle Claims against them and Causes of Action against other Entities.

**2. Subordinated Claims**

The allowance, classification, and treatment of all Allowed Claims and Equity Interests and the respective distributions and treatments under the Plan take into account and conform to the relative priority and rights of the Claims and Equity Interests in each Class in connection with any contractual, legal, and equitable subordination rights relating thereto, whether arising under general principles of equitable subordination, section 510(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, or otherwise. Pursuant to section 510 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Reorganized Debtors reserve the right to re-classify any Allowed Claim or Interest in accordance with any contractual, legal or equitable subordination relating thereto.

**3. Discharge of Claims and Termination of Equity Interests**

Pursuant to and to the fullest extent permitted by section 1141(d) of the Bankruptcy Code, and except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, the distributions, rights and treatment that are provided in the Plan shall

be in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release and discharge, effective as of the Effective Date, of all Claims (including any Intercompany Claims resolved or compromised after the Effective Date by the Reorganized Debtors), Equity Interests and Causes of Action of any nature whatsoever, including any interest accrued on Claims or Equity Interests from and after the Petition Date, whether known or unknown, against, liabilities of, Liens on, obligations of, rights against, and Equity Interests in, the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors or any of their assets or properties, regardless of whether any property shall have been distributed or retained pursuant to the Plan on account of such Claims and Equity Interests, including demands, liabilities, and Causes of Action that arose before the Effective Date, any liability (including withdrawal liability) to the extent such Claims or Equity Interests relate to services performed by current or former employees of the Debtors prior to the Effective Date and arise from a termination of employment or a termination of any employee or retiree benefit program regardless of whether such termination occurred prior to or after the Effective Date, any contingent or non-contingent liability on account of representations or warranties issued on or before the Effective Date, and all debts of the kind specified in sections 502(g), 502(h), or 502(i) of the Bankruptcy Code, in each case whether or not: (1) a Proof of Claim or Interest based upon such Claim, debt, right, or Interest is filed or deemed filed pursuant to section 501 of the Bankruptcy Code; (2) a Claim or Interest based upon such Claim, debt, right, or Interest is Allowed pursuant to section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code; or (3) the Holder of such a Claim or Interest has accepted the Plan. Except as otherwise provided herein, any default by the Debtors or their Affiliates with respect to any Claim or Interest that existed immediately prior to or on account of the filing of the Chapter 11 Cases shall be deemed cured on the Effective Date. The Confirmation Order shall be a judicial determination of the discharge of all Claims and Equity Interests subject to the occurrence of the Effective Date.

#### **4. Release of Liens**

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan or in any contract, instrument, release or other agreement or document entered into or delivered in connection with the Plan, on the Effective Date and concurrently with the applicable distributions made pursuant to Article III of the Plan and, in the case of a Secured Claim, satisfaction in full of the portion of the Secured Claim that is Allowed as of the Effective Date, all mortgages, deeds of trust, Liens, pledges or other security interests against any property of the Estates shall be fully released and discharged, and all of the right, title and interest of any Holder of such mortgages, deeds of trust, Liens, pledges or other security interests shall revert to the Reorganized Debtors and their successors and assigns.

#### **5. Debtor Release**

**Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the “Debtor Release” shall not operate to waive or release any Causes of Action of any Debtor that the Boards of Directors of the Debtors determines, after investigation, should be excluded from this “Debtor Release.” All rights of the Debtors and the Board of Directors to make changes to the terms of the Debtor Release hereby are reserved as of the date of the filing of this Plan.<sup>21</sup>**

**Pursuant to section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, and except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, for good and valuable consideration, including the service of the Released Parties in facilitating the expeditious reorganization of the Debtors and the implementation of the restructuring contemplated by the Plan, effective as of the Effective Date, the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, and any Person seeking to exercise the rights of the Estates, including, without limitation, any successor to the Debtors or any estate representative appointed or selected pursuant to section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code shall be deemed to forever release, waive, and discharge the Released Parties of any and all claims, obligations, rights, suits, damages, Causes of Action, remedies, and liabilities whatsoever, including any derivative claims asserted on behalf of the Debtors, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, liquidated or unliquidated, contingent or fixed, existing or hereafter arising, in law, at equity or otherwise, whether for tort, contract,**

<sup>21</sup> In January 2017, Charles Cremens was appointed to serve as an independent director of the Board of Directors of Payless Holdings LLC, to, among other things, assist the Debtors’ restructuring efforts. In that capacity, Mr. Cremens retained MTO to advise and assist him with respect to conflicts matters. Mr. Cremens, with the assistance of MTO, is currently undertaking an investigation into any estate claims and estate causes of action the Debtors may have with respect to conflicts matters, particularly with respect to transactions between the Debtors and the equity holders of Payless Holdings LLC. The release of any claims or causes of actions is subject to the conclusion of this investigation. The Debtors may modify the Plan, including the release provisions of the Plan, and the Debtors reserve all rights and claims with respect thereto.

violations of federal or state securities laws or otherwise, including, without limitation, those that any of the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, the Estates, or their Affiliates would have been legally entitled to assert in their own right (whether individually or collectively) or on behalf of the Holder of any claim or Equity Interest, based on or relating to, or in any manner arising from, in whole or in part, the Debtors, the Estates, the conduct of the Debtors' businesses, the Chapter 11 Cases, the purchase, sale, or rescission or the purchase or sale of any security of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, the subject matter of, or the transactions or events giving rise to, any Claim or Equity Interest that is treated in the Plan, the business or contractual arrangements between any of the Debtors and any Released Party, the restructuring of claims and Equity Interests prior to or in the Chapter 11 Cases, the negotiation, formulation, or preparation of the Plan, the Plan Supplement, the Disclosure Statement, or related agreements, instruments, or other documents, or upon any other act or omission, transaction, or occurrence taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan, other than claims or liabilities arising out of or relating to any act or omission of a Released Party that constitutes criminal conduct, willful misconduct, or gross negligence.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the "Debtor Release" shall not operate to waive or release any Causes of Action of any Debtor: (1) arising under any contract, instrument, agreement, release, or document delivered pursuant to the Plan, including, without limitation, the New ABL Facility Documents, the New First Lien Term Loan Facility Documents, or the Shareholders Agreement or documents, agreements, or instruments executed in connection therewith, or (2) expressly set forth in and preserved by the Plan, the Plan Supplement, or related documents.

Entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval, pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019, of the Debtor Release, which includes by reference each of the related provisions and definitions contained herein, and further, shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's finding that the Debtor Release is: (1) in exchange for the good and valuable consideration provided by the Released Parties; (2) a good faith settlement and compromise of the claims released by the Debtor Release; (3) in the best interests of the Debtors and all Holders of Claims and Equity Interests; (4) fair, equitable and reasonable; (5) given and made after reasonable investigation by the Debtors and after notice and opportunity for hearing; and (6) a bar to any of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors asserting any claim released by the Debtor Release against any of the Released Parties.

#### 6. Third-Party Release

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, for good and valuable consideration, including the service of the Released Parties in facilitating the expeditious reorganization of the Debtors and the implementation of the restructuring contemplated by the Plan, effective as of the Effective Date, the Releasing Parties (regardless of whether a Releasing Party is a Released Party) shall be deemed to forever release, waive and discharge the Released Parties of any and all claims, obligations, rights, suits, damages, Causes of Action, remedies, and liabilities whatsoever, including any derivative claims asserted on behalf of a Debtor, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, liquidated or unliquidated, contingent or fixed, existing or hereafter arising, in law, at equity, or otherwise, whether for tort, contract, violations of federal or state securities laws or otherwise, including, without limitation, those that any of the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, the Estates, or their Affiliates would have been legally entitled to assert in their own right (whether individually or collectively) or on behalf of the Holder of any Claim or Equity Interest, based on or relating to, or in any manner arising from, in whole or in part, the Debtors, the Estates, the conduct of the Debtors' businesses, the Chapter 11 Cases, the purchase, sale, or rescission or the purchase or sale of any security of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, the subject matter of, or the transactions or events giving rise to, any Claim or Equity Interest that is treated in the Plan, the business or contractual arrangements between any of the Debtors and any Released Party, the restructuring of Claims and Equity Interests prior to or in the Chapter 11 Cases, the negotiation, formulation, or preparation of the Plan, the Plan Supplement, the Disclosure Statement, or related agreements, instruments or other documents, or upon any other act or omission, transaction, or occurrence taking place on or before the Effective Date of the Plan, other than claims or liabilities arising out of or relating to any act or omission of a Released Party that constitutes criminal conduct, willful misconduct, or gross negligence.

Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, the foregoing release does not release any post-Effective Date obligations of any party under the Plan or any document, instrument, or agreement (including those set forth in the Plan Supplement) executed to implement the Plan.

Entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval, pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019, of the Third-Party Release, which includes by reference each of the related provisions and definitions contained herein, and further, shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's finding that the Third-Party Release is: (1) in exchange for the good and valuable consideration provided by the Released Parties; (2) a good faith settlement and compromise of the claims released by the Releasing Parties; (3) in the best interests of the Debtors and all Holders of Claims and Equity Interests; (4) fair, equitable and reasonable; (5) given and made after notice and opportunity for hearing; and (6) a bar to any of the Releasing Parties asserting any Claim released by the Third-Party Release against any of the Released Parties.

#### **7. Exculpation**

Upon and effective as of the Effective Date, the Debtors and their directors, officers, employees, attorneys, investment bankers, financial advisors, restructuring consultants, and other professional advisors and agents will be deemed to have solicited acceptances of this Plan in good faith and in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, including section 1125(e) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Except with respect to any acts or omissions expressly set forth in and preserved by the Plan, the Plan supplement, or related documents, the Exculpated Parties shall neither have nor incur any liability to any Entity for any prepetition or postpetition act taken or omitted to be taken in connection with, or arising from or relating in any way to, the Chapter 11 Cases, including, without limitation, the operation of the Debtors' businesses during the pendency of these Chapter 11 Cases; formulating, negotiating, preparing, disseminating, implementing, and/or effecting the Restructuring Support Agreement, the DIP Documents, the Disclosure Statement, and the Plan (including the Plan Supplement and any related contract, instrument, release, or other agreement or document created or entered into in connection therewith); the solicitation of votes for the Plan and the pursuit of Confirmation and Consummation of the Plan; the administration of the Plan and/or the property to be distributed under the Plan; the offer and issuance of any securities under the Plan; and/or any other prepetition or postpetition act taken or omitted to be taken in connection with or in contemplation of the restructuring of the Debtors. In all respects, each Exculpated Party shall be entitled to rely upon the advice of counsel concerning his, her or its respective duties under, pursuant to or in connection with, the Plan.

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, nothing in the foregoing "Exculpation" shall exculpate any Person or Entity from any liability resulting from any act or omission constituting fraud, willful misconduct, gross negligence, criminal conduct, malpractice, misuse of confidential information that causes damages or ultra vires acts as determined by a Final Order.

#### **8. Injunction**

The satisfaction, release, and discharge pursuant to this Article IX of the Plan shall also act as an injunction against any Person commencing or continuing any action, employment of process or act to collect, offset, or recover any claim or Cause of Action satisfied, released, or discharged under the Plan or the Confirmation Order to the fullest extent authorized or provided by the Bankruptcy Code, including, without limitation, to the extent provided for or authorized by sections 524 and 1141 thereof.

#### **9. No Release of Any Claims Held by the United States**

Nothing in the Confirmation Order or the Plan shall effect a release of any Claim by the United States Government or any of its agencies or any state and local authority whatsoever, including, without limitation, any Claim arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental laws, or any criminal laws of the United States or any state and local authority against the Released Parties, nor shall anything in the Confirmation Order or the Plan enjoin the United States or any state or local authority from bringing any Claim, suit, action, or other proceedings against the Released Parties for any liability whatever, including, without limitation, any Claim, suit, or action arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental

laws, or any criminal laws of the United States or any state or local authority, nor shall anything in the Confirmation Order or the Plan exculpate any party from any liability to the United States Government or any of its agencies or any state and local authority whatsoever, including any liabilities arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental laws, or any criminal laws of the United States or any state and local authority against the Released Parties.

## **J. MODIFICATION, REVOCATION, OR WITHDRAWAL OF THE PLAN**

### **1. Modification of Plan**

Subject to the limitations contained in the Plan, the Restructuring Support Agreement, the ABL DIP Facility, and the Term DIP Facility, and in accordance with the Restructuring Support Agreement: (1) the Debtors reserve the right, in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code and the Bankruptcy Rules, to amend or modify the Plan prior to the entry of the Confirmation Order, including amendments or modifications to satisfy section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code; and (2) after the entry of the Confirmation Order, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as the case may be, may, upon order of the Bankruptcy Court, amend or modify the Plan, in accordance with section 1127(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, or remedy any defect or omission or reconcile any inconsistency in the Plan in such manner as may be necessary to carry out the purpose and intent of the Plan.

### **2. Effect of Confirmation on Modifications**

Entry of a Confirmation Order shall mean that all modifications or amendments to the Plan since the solicitation thereof are approved pursuant to section 1127(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and do not require additional disclosure or resolicitation under Bankruptcy Rule 3019.

### **3. Revocation of Plan**

Subject to the Restructuring Support Agreement and conditions to the Effective Date, the Debtors reserve the right to revoke or withdraw the Plan prior to the entry of the Confirmation Order and to file subsequent plans of reorganization. If the Debtors revoke or withdraw the Plan, or if entry of the Confirmation Order or the Effective Date does not occur, then: (1) the Plan shall be null and void in all respects; (2) any settlement or compromise embodied in the Plan, assumption or rejection of executory contracts or leases effected by the Plan, and any document or agreement executed pursuant hereto shall be deemed null and void; and (3) nothing contained in the Plan shall: (a) constitute a waiver or release of any claims by or against, or any Equity Interests in, such Debtor or any other Entity; (b) prejudice in any manner the rights of the Debtors or any other Entity; or (c) constitute an admission of any sort by the Debtors or any other Entity.

## **K. IMPORTANT SECURITIES LAW DISCLOSURE**

### **1. General Disclosure**

Section 1145(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code exempts the offer and sale of securities under a plan of reorganization from registration under section 5 of the Securities Act and state laws if three principal requirements are satisfied: (a) the securities must be issued “under a plan” of reorganization by the debtor or its successor under a plan or by an affiliate participating in a joint plan of reorganization with the debtor; (b) the recipients of the securities must hold a claim against, an interest in, or a claim for administrative expenses in the case concerning the debtor or such affiliate; and (c) the securities must be issued in exchange for the recipient’s claim against or interest in the debtor, or such affiliate, or “principally” in such exchange and “partly” for cash or property. In reliance upon this exemption, the Debtors believe that the offer and sale, under the Plan of the New Equity will be exempt from registration under the Securities Act and Blue Sky Laws with respect to any such Holder who is not deemed to be an “underwriter” as defined in section 1145(b) of the Bankruptcy Code. Accordingly, such New Equity may be resold without registration under the Securities Act, unless the holder is an “underwriter” (as discussed below) with respect to such securities, as that term is defined in 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code. In addition, such New Equity governed by section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code generally may be able to be resold without registration under applicable Blue Sky Laws pursuant to various exemptions provided by the respective securities laws of those states; however, the availability of such exemptions cannot be known unless individual Blue Sky Laws are examined.

Section 1145(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code defines an “underwriter” as one who, except with respect to “ordinary trading transactions” of an entity that is not an “issuer”:

- purchases a claim against, an interest in, or a claim for an administrative expense against the debtor, if that purchase is with a view to distributing any security received in exchange for such a claim or interest;
- offers to sell securities offered under a plan of reorganization for the Holders of those securities;
- offers to buy those securities from the Holders of the securities, if the offer to buy is (i) with a view to distributing those securities; and (ii) under an agreement made in connection with the plan of reorganization, the completion of the plan of reorganization, or with the offer or sale of securities under the plan of reorganization; or
- is an issuer with respect to the securities, as the term “issuer” is defined in section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act.

In addition, a Person who receives a fee in exchange for purchasing an issuer’s securities could also be considered an underwriter within the meaning of section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act. You should confer with your own legal advisors to help determine whether or not you are an “underwriter.”

The definition of an “issuer” for purposes of whether a Person is an underwriter under section 1145(b)(1)(D) of the Bankruptcy Code, by reference to section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act, includes as “statutory underwriters” all persons who, directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, control, are controlled by, or are under common control with, an issuer of securities. The reference to “issuer,” as used in the definition of “underwriter” contained in section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act, is intended to cover “Controlling Persons” of the issuer of the securities. “Control,” as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act, means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract, or otherwise. Accordingly, an officer or director of a reorganized debtor or its successor under a plan of reorganization may be deemed to be a “Controlling Person” of the debtor or successor, particularly if the management position or directorship is coupled with ownership of a significant percentage of the reorganized debtor’s or its successor’s voting securities. In addition, the legislative history of section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code suggests that a creditor who owns ten percent (10%) or more of a class of securities of a reorganized debtor may be presumed to be a “Controlling Person” and, therefore, an underwriter.

Resales of the New Equity issued to holders deemed to be “underwriters” (which definition includes “Controlling Persons”) are not exempted by section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code from registration under the Securities Act or other applicable law. Under certain circumstances, holders of such New Equity who are deemed to be “underwriters” may be entitled to resell their New Equity pursuant to the limited safe harbor resale provisions of Rule 144 of the Securities Act. Generally, Rule 144 of the Securities Act would permit the public sale of securities received by such Person if the required holding period has been met and, under certain circumstances, current information regarding the issuer is publicly available and volume limitations, manner of sale requirements and certain other conditions are met. Whether any particular Person would be deemed to be an “underwriter” (including whether the Person is a “Controlling Person”) with respect to such New Equity would depend upon various facts and circumstances applicable to that Person. Accordingly, the Debtors express no view as to whether any Person would be deemed an “underwriter” with respect to the New Equity issued to holders and, in turn, whether any Person may freely resell such New Equity.

## **2. Management Equity Incentive Plan**

The Plan contemplates the implementation of the Management Equity Incentive Plan, which will reserve up to 6–10% of the New Equity (on a fully diluted basis) for issuance. The Management Equity Incentive Plan will be established and implemented by the New Board as soon as reasonably practicable following the Effective Date. Such New Equity will be exempt from registration under the Securities Act by virtue of Rule 701 promulgated under the Securities Act, Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act, or a “no sale” under the Securities Act.



PERSONS WHO RECEIVE SECURITIES UNDER THE PLAN ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR OWN LEGAL ADVISOR WITH RESPECT TO THE RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE UNDER THE FEDERAL OR STATE SECURITIES LAWS AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH SECURITIES MAY BE SOLD IN RELIANCE ON SUCH LAWS.

THE FOREGOING SUMMARY DISCUSSION IS GENERAL IN NATURE AND HAS BEEN INCLUDED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT SOLELY FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES. WE MAKE NO REPRESENTATIONS CONCERNING, AND DO NOT PROVIDE, ANY OPINIONS OR ADVICE WITH RESPECT TO THE SECURITIES OR THE BANKRUPTCY MATTERS DESCRIBED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT. IN LIGHT OF THE UNCERTAINTY CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF EXEMPTIONS FROM THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF FEDERAL AND STATE SECURITIES LAWS, WE ENCOURAGE EACH HOLDER AND PARTY-IN-INTEREST TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY AND CONSULT WITH ITS OWN LEGAL ADVISORS WITH RESPECT TO ALL SUCH MATTERS. BECAUSE OF THE COMPLEX, SUBJECTIVE NATURE OF THE QUESTION OF WHETHER A SECURITY IS EXEMPT FROM THE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE FEDERAL OR STATE SECURITIES LAWS OR WHETHER A PARTICULAR HOLDER MAY BE AN UNDERWRITER, WE MAKE NO REPRESENTATION CONCERNING THE ABILITY OF A PERSON TO DISPOSE OF THE SECURITIES ISSUED UNDER THE PLAN.

V.  
**VALUATION AND FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS**

THE VALUATIONS SET FORTH HEREIN REPRESENT ESTIMATED DISTRIBUTABLE VALUE AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT VALUES THAT COULD BE ATTAINABLE IN THE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MARKETS. THE VALUE OF THE NEW EQUITY DOES NOT PURPORT TO BE AN ESTIMATE OF THE POST-REORGANIZATION MARKET VALUE.

**A. VALUATION OF THE REORGANIZED DEBTORS**

In connection with developing the Plan, the Debtors directed Guggenheim Partners to estimate the Reorganized Debtors' going-concern value. The result of Guggenheim Partners' valuation analysis is attached hereto as **Exhibit [F]** (the "Valuation Analysis").

The Valuation Analysis is subject to various important qualifiers and assumptions that are set forth in the Valuation Analysis.

**B. FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS**

As discussed more fully in Article VI.A herein, the Debtors believe the Plan meets the feasibility requirement set forth in section 1129(a)(11) of the Bankruptcy Code, as Confirmation is not likely to be followed by liquidation or the need for further financial reorganization of the Reorganized Debtors. In connection with developing the Plan, and for purposes of determining whether the Plan satisfies the "feasibility" standard, the Debtors, with the assistance of A&M, prepared the financial projections for the years of 2017 through [2021] set forth on **Exhibit [D]** (the "Financial Projections"). In general, as illustrated by the Financial Projections, the Debtors believe that with a significantly de-leveraged capital structure, the Reorganized Debtors will operate a successful business with sufficient liquidity to fund obligations as they arise, thereby maintaining value. Accordingly, the Debtors believe the Plan satisfies the feasibility requirement of section 1129(a)(11) of the Bankruptcy Code.

The Financial Projections are subject to various important qualifiers and assumptions that are set forth in the Financial Projections.

**No representations can be made as to the accuracy of the Financial Projections or the Reorganized Debtors' ability to achieve the projected results. Therefore, the Financial Projections may not be relied upon as a guaranty or other assurance of the actual results that will occur. The inclusion of the Financial Projections herein should not be regarded as an indication that the Debtors considered or consider the Financial Projections to reliably predict future performance.**

**The Financial Projections are subjective in many respects, and thus are susceptible to interpretations and periodic revisions based on actual experience and recent developments. The Debtors do not intend to update or otherwise revise the Financial Projections to reflect the occurrence of future events, even in the event that assumptions underlying the Financial Projections are not borne out. The Financial Projections should be read in conjunction with the assumptions and qualifications set forth herein.**

**C. LIQUIDATION ANALYSIS**

As discussed more fully in Article VII.A.4, hereof, the Debtors believe that the Plan satisfies the "best interests" test of section 1129(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code. In connection with developing the Plan, and for purposes of determining whether the Plan satisfies the "best interest" test, the Debtors, with the assistance of A&M, prepared the Liquidation Analysis attached here to as **Exhibit E** (the "Liquidation Analysis"). In general, as illustrated by the Liquidation Analysis, the Debtors believe that the Plan provides all Holders of a claim or interest property of a value that is equal to or greater than such Holder would receive in a liquidation.

The Liquidation Analysis is subject to various important qualifiers and assumptions that are set forth in the Liquidation Analysis.

**VI.**  
**SOLICITATION AND VOTING PROCEDURES**

On [ ], 2017, the Bankruptcy Court entered the Disclosure Statement Order by which the Bankruptcy Court approved, among other things, procedures and documents for the solicitation of acceptances on the Plan, certain key dates and deadlines relating to the voting and Confirmation and procedures for tabulating votes. For purposes of this Article VI, capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to such terms in the Disclosure Statement Order. The procedures and instructions for voting on the Plan are set forth in the exhibits annexed to the Disclosure Statement Order. The Disclosure Statement Order is incorporated herein by reference and should be read in conjunction with this Disclosure Statement and in formulating a decision to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

**THIS DISCUSSION OF THE SOLICITATION AND VOTING PROCESS IS A SUMMARY.**  
**PLEASE REFER TO THE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT ORDER ATTACHED AS EXHIBIT C**  
**FOR A MORE COMPREHENSIVE DISCUSSION OF THE SOLICITATION AND VOTING PROCESS.**

**1. Solicitation Packages**

Pursuant to the Disclosure Statement Order, Holders of Claims who are eligible to vote to accept or reject the Plan will receive appropriate solicitation materials (the "General Solicitation Package"), including:

- a copy of the Solicitation Procedures;
- the Confirmation Hearing Notice;
- a cover letter, describing the contents of the General Solicitation Package and urging the Holders of Claims in each of the Voting Classes to vote to accept the Plan;
- an appropriate form of Ballot for Holders of Claims; and
- the approved Disclosure Statement (with all exhibits attached thereto, including the Plan and the exhibits attached thereto).

The Solicitation Packages will provide the Disclosure Statement and Plan in electronic format (i.e., CD ROM or flash drive) and all other contents of the Solicitation Packages, including Ballots, in paper format. Any Holder of a Claim or Interest may obtain, at no charge, a paper copy of the documents otherwise provided by (a) accessing Prime Clerk's website at [ Prime Clerk contact block].

**2. Voting Rights**

**Classes Entitled to Vote.** Under the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, not all Holders of claims against and equity interests in a debtor are entitled to vote on a chapter 11 plan. As shown in the table below, the Debtors are soliciting votes to accept the Plan only from Holders of Claims in Classes 3, 4, 5, 6A, and 6B (the "Voting Classes") because Holders of Claims in the Voting Classes are Impaired under the Plan and, may, in certain circumstances, receive a distribution under the Plan. Accordingly, Holders of Claims in the Voting Classes have the right to vote to accept or reject the Plan. If your Claim or Interest is not included in one of these Classes, you are not entitled to vote and you will not receive a Solicitation Package.

Each of the Voting Classes will have accepted the Plan if: (1) the Holders of at least two thirds in dollar amount of the Allowed Claims actually voting in each Class for each Debtor, as applicable, have voted to accept the Plan; and (2) the Holders of more than one half in number of the Allowed Claims actually voting in each Class for each Debtor, as applicable, have voted to accept the Plan. Additionally, if Prime Clerk receives no votes to accept or reject the Plan with respect to any particular Class of Claims, the Debtors may seek to deem such class as having accepted the Plan.

The following table provides a summary of the status and voting rights of each Class (and, therefore, of each Holder within such Class) under the Plan:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Claim/Equity Interest</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Voting Rights</u>
3	Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
4	Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
5	Qualified Unsecured Trade Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
6A	Other General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
6B	Worldwide General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote

**Classes not Entitled to Vote.** Under the Bankruptcy Code, Holders of Claims or Interests are not entitled to vote if such Claims or Interests are Unimpaired under the Plan or if they will receive no distribution of property under the Plan. Based on this standard, the following Classes of Claims and Interest for each Debtor, as applicable, will not be entitled to vote on the Plan and the Holders of such Claims will not be solicited to vote on the Plan.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Claim/Equity Interest</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Voting Rights</u>
1	Other Priority Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
2	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
6C	Canadian General Unsecured Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
7	Intercompany Claims	Impaired	Deemed to Reject
8	Equity Interests	Impaired	Deemed to Reject
9	Intercompany Interests	Impaired	Deemed to Reject
10	Section 510(b) Claims	Impaired	Deemed to Reject

### 3. Record Date

**The Record Date [May 31], 2017.** This means that it will be determined (a) which Holders of Claims in Classes 3, 4, 5, 6A, and 6B are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan and (b) whether Claims have been properly assigned or transferred under Bankruptcy Rule 3001(e) such that an assignee can vote as the Holder of a Claim by the Record Date.

### 4. Voting Deadline

**The Voting Deadline is 4:00 p.m. prevailing Central Time on [July 10], 2017.** In order to be counted as votes to accept or reject the Plan, all Ballots must be properly executed, completed and delivered (either by using the return envelope provided, by first class mail, overnight courier or personal delivery) so that each Ballot is *actually received* on or before the Voting Deadline by either the Noticing and Claims Agent or the Solicitation and Subscription Agent at the applicable address:

**Payless Balloting Center  
c/o Prime Clerk LLC  
830 Third Avenue, 3rd Floor  
New York, New York, 10022**

### 5. Ballots Not Counted

**The following Ballots will not be counted toward Confirmation of the Plan:** (a) any Ballot that is illegible or contains insufficient information to permit the identification of the Holder of the Claim or transmitted by facsimile or other electronic means; (b) any Ballot cast by an entity that is not entitled to vote on the Plan; (c) any Ballot cast for a Claim listed in the Schedules as contingent, unliquidated or disputed for which the applicable bar date has passed and no proof of claim was timely filed; (d) any Ballot cast for a Claim that is subject to an objection pending as of the Record Date (unless temporarily allowed in accordance with the Disclosure Statement Order); (e) any Ballot sent to the Debtors, the Debtors' agents/representatives (other than the Noticing and Claims Agent),

the Indenture Trustee or the Debtors' financial or legal advisors; (e) any unsigned Ballot; or (f) any Ballot not marked to accept or reject the Plan or marked both to accept and reject the Plan.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SOLICITATION OR VOTING PROCESS, PLEASE CONTACT THE NOTICING AND CLAIMS AGENT OR THE SOLICITATION AND SUBSCRIPTION AGENT, AS APPLICABLE. ANY BALLOT RECEIVED AFTER THE VOTING DEADLINE WILL NOT BE COUNTED UNLESS THE DEADLINE IS EXTENDED BY THE DEBTORS.**

**VII.**  
**CONFIRMATION AND CONSUMMATION OF THE PLAN**

**A. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFIRMATION OF THE PLAN**

**1. Confirmation Hearing**

**The Confirmation Hearing is scheduled to commence on [July 24], 2017, at 10:00 a.m. prevailing Central Time.** The Confirmation Hearing will be held before the Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States, United States Bankruptcy Judge, at the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse, 111 S. 10th Street, 4th Floor, Courtroom 7 North, St. Louis, MO 63102). The Bankruptcy Court may adjourn the Confirmation Hearing from time to time without further notice. Objections to Confirmation of the Plan must be filed and served on the Debtors, and certain other parties, by no later than [July 10], 2017, at 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Central Time) in accordance with the notice of the Confirmation Hearing, attached to the Disclosure Statement Order as Exhibit 2 and incorporated herein by reference. Unless an objection to the Plan is timely served and filed, it may not be considered by the Bankruptcy Court.

**The “Plan Objection Deadline” is 4:00 p.m. prevailing Central Time on [July 10], 2017.** This means that written objections to Confirmation of the Plan, if any, which conform to the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules and the Local Bankruptcy Rules, must be filed, together with a proof of service, with the Bankruptcy Court and served, in accordance with the Case Management Order, so as to be *actually received* on or before the Plan Objection Deadline by the following parties:

**2. Effect of Confirmation**

Following Confirmation, subject to Article IX of the Plan, the Plan will be consummated on the Effective Date. Among other things, on the Effective Date, certain release, injunction, exculpation and discharge provisions set forth in Article X will become effective. As such, it is important to read the provisions contained in Article X of the Plan very carefully so that you understand how Confirmation and Consummation of the Plan – which effectuates such provisions – will affect you and any Claim you may hold against the Debtors so that you cast your vote accordingly. **Additionally, for a more detailed description of the provisions set forth in Article X of the Plan, please refer to Section IV.I herein**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, the “Third-Party Release” set forth in Article X.F of the Plan is a consensual release which provides that only Holders of Claims in Classes 3, 4, 5, 6A, or 6B who affirmatively vote to accept the Plan are bound by the “Third-Party Release” pursuant to Article X.F of the Plan. Holders of Claims who vote to reject the Plan are not bound by the Third-Party Release if they elect on their ballot to opt-out of the release.**

**THE PLAN WILL BIND ALL HOLDERS OF CLAIMS AGAINST AND INTERESTS IN THE DEBTORS  
TO THE FULLEST EXTENT AUTHORIZED OR PROVIDED UNDER THE BANKRUPTCY CODE,  
INCLUDING SECTIONS 524 AND 1141 THEREOF, AND BY ALL OTHER APPLICABLE LAW.**

### 3. Confirmation Requirements

At the Confirmation Hearing, the Bankruptcy Court will determine whether the Plan satisfies the requirements of section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors believe that the Plan will satisfy all of the statutory requirements of chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code and that they have complied or will have complied with all of the requirements of chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Specifically, the Debtors believe that the Plan will satisfy the applicable confirmation requirements of section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code, including those set forth below.

- The Plan complies with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.
- The Debtors, as the Plan proponents, have complied with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.
- The Plan has been proposed in good faith and not by any means forbidden by law.
- Any payment made or to be made under the Plan for services or for costs and expenses in, or in connection with, the Chapter 11 Cases, or in connection with the Plan and incident to the Chapter 11 Cases, has been or will be disclosed to the Bankruptcy Court, and any such payment: (1) made before the confirmation of the Plan is reasonable; or (2) is subject to the approval of the Bankruptcy Court as reasonable, if it is to be fixed after confirmation of the Plan.
- With respect to each Class of Claims, each Holder of an Impaired Claim has accepted the Plan or will receive or retain under the Plan on account of such Claim property of a value as of the Effective Date of the Plan that is not less than the amount that such Holder would receive or retain if the Debtors were liquidated on that date under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. With respect to each Class of Interests, each Holder of an Impaired Interest has accepted the Plan or will receive or retain under the Plan on account of such Interest property of a value as of the Effective Date of the Plan that is not less than the amount that such Holder would receive or retain if the Debtors were liquidated on that date under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- Each Class of Claims or Interests that is entitled to vote on the Plan has either accepted the Plan or is not Impaired under the Plan, or the Plan can be confirmed without the approval of such voting Class of Claims or Interests pursuant to section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- Except to the extent that the Holder of a particular Claim will agree to a different treatment of its Claim, the Plan provides that: (1) Holders of Claims specified in sections 507(a)(2) and 507(a)(3) will receive, under different circumstances, Cash equal to the amount of such Claim either on the Effective Date (or as soon as practicable thereafter), no later than 30 days after the Claim becomes Allowed, or pursuant to the terms and conditions of the transaction giving rise to the Claim; (2) Holders of Claims specified in sections 507(a)(1), 507(a)(4), 507(a)(5), 507(a)(6), or 507(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code will receive on account of such Claims Cash equal to the Allowed amount of such Claim on the Effective Date of the Plan (or as soon thereafter as is reasonably practicable) or Cash payable over no more than six months after the Petition Date; and (3) Holders of Claims specified in section 507(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code will receive on account of such Claim regular installment payments of Cash of a total value, as of the Effective Date of the Plan, equal to the Allowed amount of such Claim over a period ending not later than five years after the Petition Date.
- At least one Class of Impaired Claims has accepted the Plan, determined without including any acceptance of the Plan by any “insider,” as that term is defined by section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code, holding a Claim in that Class.
- With respect to each class, each Holder of a claim or an equity interest in the class either (i) has accepted the plan or (ii) will receive or retain under the plan property of a value that is not less than the amount that the Holder would receive or retain if the debtors liquidated under chapter 7.



- Confirmation of the Plan is not likely to be followed by the liquidation or the need for further financial reorganization of the Debtors or any successors thereto under the Plan, unless the Plan contemplates such liquidation or reorganization.
- The Debtors have paid or the Plan provides for the payment of the required filing fees pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1930 to the clerk of the Bankruptcy Court.

#### **4. Best Interests of Creditors Test/Liquidation Analysis**

Often called the “best interests” test, section 1129(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that a bankruptcy court find as a condition to confirmation, that a chapter 11 plan provides, with respect to each class, that each Holder of a claim or an equity interest in the class either (i) has accepted the plan or (ii) will receive or retain under the plan property of a value that is not less than the amount that the Holder would receive or retain if the debtors liquidated under chapter 7.

If no plan can be Confirmed, the Debtors’ Chapter 11 Cases may be converted to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code, pursuant to which a trustee would be elected or appointed to liquidate the assets of the Debtors for distribution in accordance with the priorities established by the Bankruptcy Code. A discussion of the effects that a chapter 7 liquidation would have on the recoveries of Holders of Claims and the Debtors’ Liquidation Analysis is described herein and attached hereto as **[Exhibit D]**.

Thus, the Plan satisfies the requirements of section 1129(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code with respect to such Classes.

#### **5. Feasibility Requirements**

Section 1129(a)(11) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that confirmation of a plan of reorganization is not likely to be followed by the liquidation, or the need for further financial reorganization of the debtor, or any successor to the debtor (unless such liquidation or reorganization is proposed in the plan of reorganization). To determine whether the Plan meets this feasibility requirement, the Debtors have analyzed their ability to meet their respective obligations under the Plan. As part of this analysis, the Debtors have prepared certain Financial Projections, which projections and the assumptions upon which they are based are attached hereto as **Exhibit E**. These Financial Projections relate to the expected performance of the Reorganized Debtors under the Plan. Based on these Financial Projections and the fact that the Debtors will have sufficient funds upon Confirmation to make all payments required under the Plan, the Debtors believe that the deleveraging contemplated by the Plan meets the feasibility requirement of section 1129(a)(11) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### **6. Acceptance by Impaired Classes**

The Bankruptcy Code requires, as a condition to confirmation, that, except as described in the following section, each class of claims or equity interests that is impaired under a plan, accept the plan. A class that is not “impaired” under a plan is deemed to have accepted the plan and, therefore, solicitation of acceptances with respect to such class is not required. Pursuant to section 1124 of the Bankruptcy Code, a class is “impaired” unless the plan: (a) leaves unaltered the legal, equitable, and contractual rights to which the claim or the equity interest entitles the Holder of such claim or equity interest; (b) cures any default and reinstates the original terms of such obligation; or (c) provides that, on the consummation date, the Holder of such claim or equity interest receives Cash equal to the allowed amount of that claim or, with respect to any equity interest, any fixed liquidation preference to which the Holder of such equity interest is entitled to any fixed price at which the debtor may redeem the security.

Section 1126(c) of the Bankruptcy Code defines acceptance of a plan by a class of impaired claims as acceptance by Holders of at least two-thirds in dollar amount and more than one-half in number of claims in that class, but for that purpose counts only those who actually vote to accept or to reject the plan. Thus, a class of claims will have voted to accept the plan only if two-thirds in amount and a majority in number actually voting cast their Ballots in favor of acceptance.

Claims in Classes 1, 2, 6C, 7, and 9 are Unimpaired under the Plan, and, as a result, the Holders of such Claims are deemed to have accepted the Plan. Holders of Claims and Interests in Classes 8 and 10 will receive no distribution under the Plan and are, therefore, presumed deemed to have rejected the Plan.

Claims in Classes 3, 4, 5, 6A, and 6B are Impaired under the Plan, and as a result, the Holders of Claims in such Classes are entitled to vote on the Plan. Pursuant to section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Holders of Claims in the Voting Classes must accept the Plan for the Plan to be confirmed without application of the “fair and equitable test” to such Classes, and without considering whether the Plan “discriminates unfairly” with respect to such Classes, as both standards are described directly below. As stated above, Classes of Claims will have accepted the Plan if the Plan is accepted by at least two-thirds in amount and a majority in number of the Claims of each such Class (other than any Claims of creditors designated under section 1126(e) of the Bankruptcy Code) that have voted to accept or reject the Plan.

#### **7. Confirmation Without Acceptance by All Impaired Classes**

Section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code allows a bankruptcy court to confirm a plan even if all impaired classes have not accepted it; *provided, however*, that the plan has been accepted by at least one impaired class. Pursuant to section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, notwithstanding an impaired class’s rejection or deemed rejection of the plan, the plan will be confirmed, at the plan proponent’s request, in a procedure commonly known as a “cramdown” so long as the plan does not “discriminate unfairly” and is “fair and equitable” with respect to each class of claims or equity interests that is impaired under, and has not accepted, the plan.

If any Impaired Class rejects the Plan, the Debtors reserve the right to seek to confirm the Plan utilizing the “cramdown” provision of section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code. To the extent that any Impaired Class rejects the Plan or is deemed to have rejected the Plan, the Debtors will request Confirmation of the Plan, as it may be modified from time to time, under section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

##### **(a) No Unfair Discrimination**

The “unfair discrimination” test applies to classes of claims or interests that are of equal priority and are receiving different treatment under a plan. The test does not require that the treatment be the same or equivalent, but that treatment be “fair.” In general, bankruptcy courts consider whether a plan discriminates unfairly in its treatment of classes of claims of equal rank (e.g., classes of the same legal character). Bankruptcy courts will take into account a number of factors in determining whether a plan discriminates unfairly. A plan could treat two classes of unsecured creditors differently without unfairly discriminating against either class.

##### **(b) Fair and Equitable**

The “fair and equitable” test applies to classes of different priority and status (e.g., secured versus unsecured) and includes the general requirement that no class of claims receive more than 100 percent of the amount of the allowed claims in the class. As to the dissenting class, the test sets different standards depending upon the type of claims or equity interests in the class.

The Debtors submit that if the Debtors “cramdown” the Plan pursuant to section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Plan will be structured so that it does not “discriminate unfairly” and satisfies the “fair and equitable” requirement. With respect to the unfair discrimination requirement, all Classes under the Plan are provided treatment that is substantially equivalent to the treatment that is provided to other Classes that have equal rank. The Debtors believe that the Plan and the treatment of all Classes of Claims and Interests under the Plan satisfy the foregoing requirements for nonconsensual Confirmation of the Plan:

- **Secured Claims.** The condition that a plan be “fair and equitable” to a non-accepting class of secured claims may be satisfied, among other things, if a debtor demonstrates that: (i) the Holders of such secured claims retain the liens securing such claims to the extent of the allowed amount of the claims, whether the property subject to the liens is retained by the debtor or transferred to another entity under the plan; and (ii) each Holder of a secured claim in the class receives deferred cash payments totaling at least the allowed amount of such claim with a present value, as of the effective date of the plan, at

least equivalent to the value of the secured claimant's interest in the debtor's property subject to the liens.

- Unsecured Claims. The condition that a plan be "fair and equitable" to a non-accepting class of unsecured claims includes the requirement that either: (i) the plan provides that each Holder of a claim of such class receive or retain on account of such claim property of a value, as of the effective date of the plan, equal to the allowed amount of such claim; or (ii) the Holder of any claim or any interest that is junior to the claims of such class will not receive or retain under the plan on account of such junior claim or junior interest any property.
- Equity Interests. The condition that a plan be "fair and equitable" to a non-accepting class of unsecured claims includes the requirement that either: (i) the plan provides that each Holder of a claim of such class receive or retain on account of such claim property of a value, as of the effective date of the plan, equal to the allowed amount of such claim; or (ii) the Holder of any claim or any interest that is junior to the claims of such class will not receive or retain under the plan on account of such junior claim or junior interest any property:

## **B. CONDITIONS FOR CONSUMMATION OF THE PLAN**

The Plan will be consummated on the Effective Date so long as certain conditions precedent are satisfied or waived in accordance with the Article IX.B of the Plan, including:

- The Bankruptcy Court shall have approved the Disclosure Statement as containing adequate information with respect to the Plan within the meaning of section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- The Definitive Documents shall satisfy the Definitive Document Restructuring Support Agreement Requirements;
- The Plan and all Plan Supplement documents, including any amendments, modifications or supplements thereto, shall be reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders.
- The Confirmation Order shall have been entered and become a Final Order in form and in substance reasonably satisfactory to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders. The Confirmation Order shall provide that, among other things, the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors, as appropriate, are authorized and directed to take all actions necessary or appropriate to consummate the Plan, including, without limitation, entering into, implementing and consummating the contracts, instruments, releases, leases, indentures and other agreements or documents created in connection with or described in the Plan.
- All documents and agreements necessary to implement the Plan, including, without limitation, the New Credit Facilities Documents, shall have (a) been tendered for delivery and (b) been effected or executed. All conditions precedent to the effectiveness of such documents and agreements shall have been satisfied or waived pursuant to the terms of such documents or agreements, and the commitment fees described in Article IV.H of the Plan shall have been paid.
- All actions, documents, certificates and agreements necessary to implement this Plan shall have been effected or executed and delivered to the required parties and, to the extent required, filed with the applicable governmental units in accordance with applicable laws.
- The Professional Fee Escrow Account shall have been established and funded.

**C. ALTERNATIVES TO CONFIRMATION AND CONSUMMATION OF THE PLAN**

**1. Liquidation Under Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code**

If no chapter 11 plan can be confirmed, the Chapter 11 Cases may be converted to a case under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code in which case, a trustee would be elected or appointed to liquidate the Debtors' assets. A discussion of the effect that a chapter 7 liquidation would have on the recovery of Holders of Claims is set forth in Section VI.A herein, titled "Statutory Requirements for Confirmation of the Plan." In performing the liquidation analysis, the Debtors have assumed that all Holders of Claims will be determined to have "claims" that are entitled to share in the proceeds from any such liquidation. The Debtors believes that liquidation under chapter 7 would result in (i) smaller distributions being made to creditors than those provided for in the Plan because of the additional administrative expenses involved in the appointment of a trustee and attorneys and other professionals to assist such trustee, (ii) additional expenses and claims, some of which would be entitled to priority, which would be generated during the liquidation and from the rejection of unexpired leases and executory contracts in connection with the cessation of the Debtors' operations, and (iii) the failure to realize the greater, going-concern value of all of the Debtors' assets.

**2. Filing of an Alternative Plan of Reorganization**

If the Plan is not confirmed, the Debtors or any other party in interest could attempt to formulate a different plan of reorganization. Such a plan might involve either a reorganization and continuation of the Debtors' business or an orderly liquidation of their assets. During the negotiations prior to the filing of the Plan, the Debtors explored various alternatives to the Plan.

The Debtors believe that the Plan enables the Debtors to emerge from chapter 11 successfully and expeditiously, preserves their business and allows creditors to realize the highest recoveries under the circumstances. In a liquidation under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, the assets of the Debtors would be sold in an orderly fashion over a more extended period of time than in a liquidation under chapter 7, and a trustee need not be appointed. Accordingly, creditors would receive greater recoveries than in a chapter 7 liquidation. Although a chapter 11 liquidation is preferable to a chapter 7 liquidation, the Debtors believe that a liquidation under chapter 11 is a much less attractive alternative to creditors than the Plan because the Plan provides for a greater return to creditors. In any liquidation, creditors would be paid their distribution in Cash, whereas, under the Plan, some creditors will receive a part of their distribution in New Equity (if issued).

**VIII.**  
**PLAN-RELATED RISK FACTORS**

PRIOR TO VOTING TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN, ALL HOLDERS OF CLAIMS ENTITLED TO VOTE ON THE PLAN SHOULD READ AND CONSIDER CAREFULLY EACH OF THE FACTORS SET FORTH HEREIN, AS WELL AS ALL OTHER INFORMATION SET FORTH OR OTHERWISE REFERENCED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT. WHILE NUMEROUS, THESE RISK FACTORS SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS THE ONLY RISKS RELATING TO THE DEBTORS' BUSINESSES AND/OR THE PLAN.

The following provides a summary of various important considerations and risk factors associated with the Plan. However, it is not exhaustive. In considering whether to vote for or against the Plan, Holders of Claims in Voting Classes should read and carefully consider the factors set forth below and all other information set forth or otherwise referenced or incorporated by reference in this Disclosure Statement.

**A. RISKS RELATING TO CONFIRMATION OF THE PLAN**

**1. Parties in Interest May Object to the Plan's Classification of Claims and Interests**

Section 1122 of the Bankruptcy Code provides that a plan may place a claim or an equity interest in a particular class only if such claim or equity interest is substantially similar to the other claims or equity interests in such class. The Debtors believe that the classification of the Claims and Interests under the Plan complies with the requirements set forth in the Bankruptcy Code because the Debtors created Classes of Claims and Interests, each encompassing Claims and Interests that are substantially similar to the other Claims and Interests in each such Class. Nevertheless, there can be no assurance that the Bankruptcy Court will reach the same conclusion.

**2. Failure to Satisfy Vote Requirements**

If votes are received in number and amount sufficient to enable the Bankruptcy Court to confirm the Plan, the Debtors intend to seek, as promptly as practicable thereafter, Confirmation of the Plan. In the event that sufficient votes are not received, the Debtors may seek to confirm an alternative chapter 11 plan. There can be no assurance that the terms of any such alternative chapter 11 plan would be similar or as favorable to the Holders of Allowed Claims as those proposed in the Plan.

**3. The Debtors May Not Be Able to Secure Confirmation of the Plan.**

Section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code sets forth the requirements for confirmation of a chapter 11 plan, and requires, among other things, a finding by the Bankruptcy Court that: (a) such plan "does not unfairly discriminate" and is "fair and equitable" with respect to any non-accepting classes; (b) confirmation of such plan is not likely to be followed by a liquidation or a need for further financial reorganization unless such liquidation or reorganization is contemplated by the plan; and (c) the value of distributions to non-accepting Holders of claims and equity interests within a particular class under such plan will not be less than the value of distributions such Holders would receive if the debtors were liquidated under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code.

There can be no assurance that the requisite acceptances to confirm the Plan will be received. Even if the requisite acceptances are received, there can be no assurance that the Bankruptcy Court will confirm the Plan. A non-accepting Holder of an Allowed Claim or an Allowed Interest might challenge either the adequacy of this Disclosure Statement or whether the balloting procedures and voting results satisfy the requirements of the Bankruptcy Code or Bankruptcy Rules. Even if the Bankruptcy Court determined that this Disclosure Statement, the balloting procedures and voting results were appropriate, the Bankruptcy Court could still decline to confirm the Plan if it found that any of the statutory requirements for Confirmation had not been met. If the Plan is not confirmed, it is unclear what distributions, if any, Holders of Allowed Claims and Allowed Interests would receive with respect to their Allowed Claims and Allowed Interests.

The Debtors, subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan, reserve the right to modify the terms and conditions of the Plan as necessary for Confirmation. Any such modifications could result in a less favorable

treatment of any Class than the treatment currently provided in the Plan. Such less favorable treatment could include a distribution of property to the Class affected by the modification of a lesser value than currently provided in the Plan or no distribution of property whatsoever under the Plan. Changes to the Plan may also delay the confirmation of the Plan and the Debtors' emergence from bankruptcy.

**4. The Debtors May Object to the Amount or Classification of a Claim**

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, the Debtors reserve the right to object to the amount or classification of any Claim under the Plan. The estimates set forth in this Disclosure Statement cannot be relied upon by any Holder of a Claim where such Claim is or may be subject to an objection. Any Holder of a Claim that is or may be subject to an objection thus may not receive its expected share of the estimated distributions described in this Disclosure Statement.

**5. Contingencies Could Affect Votes of Impaired Classes to Accept or Reject the Plan**

The distributions available to Holders of Allowed Claims under the Plan can be affected by a variety of contingencies, including, without limitation, whether the Bankruptcy Court orders certain Allowed Claims and Allowed Interests to be subordinated to other Allowed Claims and Allowed Interests. The occurrence of any and all such contingencies, which could affect distributions available to Holders of Allowed Claims and Allowed Interests under the Plan, will not affect the validity of the vote taken by the Impaired Classes to accept or reject the Plan or require any sort of revote by the Impaired Classes.

**6. Failure to Obtain Exit ABL Financing**

The Debtors will not be able to operate or pay the ABL DIP Claims as contemplated under the Plan without a New ABL Facility. If the Debtors cannot procure a New ABL Facility on market terms prior to the Confirmation Hearing, they will likely be unable to meet the feasibility requirement for confirmation of the Plan.

**7. Failure to Obtain Recognition of the Interim DIP Order in the Canadian Proceedings**

The Debtors' access to the full amount of the borrowing base contemplated by the ABL DIP Facility requires that the Canadian Court recognize the Bankruptcy Court's orders regarding the DIP Facilities. As of the date hereof, the Canadian Court has not granted such recognition. If the Debtors do not obtain recognition of such orders in the Canadian Court, or otherwise negotiate an alternative solution to obtain access to the necessary liquidity, the Debtors may be unable to sufficiently finance operations to reach the Confirmation Hearing.

**8. The Restructuring Support Agreement May Terminate**

The parties to the Restructuring Support Agreement have agreed to support the Plan provided certain conditions are met. To the extent that the terms or conditions of the Restructuring Support Agreement are not satisfied, or to the extent events of termination arise under the Restructuring Support Agreement, the Restructuring Support Agreement may terminate prior to the Confirmation or Consummation of the Plan, which could result in the loss of support for the Plan by important creditor constituents. Any such loss of support could adversely affect the Debtors' ability to Confirm and Consummate the Plan.

**9. Release, Injunction, and Exculpation Provisions May Not Be Approved**

Article VIII of the Plan provides for certain releases, injunctions, and exculpations. All of the releases, injunctions, and exculpations provided in the Plan are subject to objection by parties in interest and may not be approved. If they are not approved, the Plan likely cannot be confirmed and likely cannot go effective.

**B. RISKS RELATING TO RECOVERIES UNDER THE PLAN**

**1. The Recovery to Holders of Allowed Claims Can Not be Stated With Absolute Certainty.**

This Disclosure Statement contains various projections concerning the Reorganized Debtors' operations, including the Financial Projections, that are, by their nature, forward looking, and which projections are necessarily based on certain assumptions and estimates regarding the anticipated future performance of the Reorganized

Debtors, including, without limitation, their ability to maintain or increase revenue and gross margins, control future operating expenses, or make necessary capital, as well as assumptions concerning general business and economic conditions and overall industry performance and trends, which the Debtors are unable to control. Should any or all of these assumptions or estimates ultimately prove to be incorrect or not materialize, the actual future experiences of the Reorganized Debtors may turn out to be different from the Financial Projections. Also, because the Liquidation Analysis, distribution projections, and other information contained herein and attached hereto are estimates only, the timing and amount of actual distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims may be affected by many factors that cannot be predicted.

Further, the Claims estimates set forth herein are based on various assumptions and are estimates. The actual amounts of Allowed Claims may differ significantly from those estimates should one or more underlying assumption prove to be incorrect. Such differences may adversely affect the percentage recovery to Holders of such Allowed Claims under the Plan. Moreover, the estimated recoveries set forth herein are necessarily based on numerous assumptions, the realization of many of which are beyond the Debtors' control, including, without limitation, (a) the successful reorganization of the Debtors, (b) an assumed date for the occurrence of the Effective Date, (c) the Debtors' ability to achieve the operating and financial results included in the Financial Projections, (d) the Debtors' ability to maintain adequate liquidity to fund operations, and (e) the assumption that capital and equity markets remain consistent with current conditions.

The actual amounts of Allowed Claims may differ significantly from those estimates should one or more underlying assumption prove to be incorrect, which could affect the percentage recovery to Holders of such Allowed Claims under the Plan, in some instances adversely. Also, the estimated recoveries to Holders of Allowed Claims are not intended to represent the private sale values of the Reorganized Debtors' securities.

## **2. The Value of New Equity Can Not Be Stated With Absolute Certainty.**

On the Effective Date, 100% of the New Equity will be issued to various creditors on account of their Claims, but will be subject to dilution by (a) 6–10% of the New Equity (on a fully-diluted basis) that will be reserved for issuance in connection with the Management Equity Incentive Plan to be granted at the discretion of the New Board and (b) the New Equity that will be used to pay the Exit Commitment Fee. Despite the Debtors' best efforts to value the New Equity, various uncertainties, including market conditions, the Debtors' inability to implement their business plan, and lack of a market for the New Equity may cause fluctuations or variations in value of the New Equity not fully accounted for herein.

In addition, the value of the New Equity may be impacted by changes to the Reorganized Debtors' post-emergence capital structure.

## **3. Risk of Non-Occurrence of the Effective Date**

The Debtors can provide no assurance as to the timing or as to whether the Effective Date will, in fact, occur. The occurrence of the Effective Date is subject to certain conditions precedent as described in Article IX.B of the Plan, including, among others, those relating to consummation of the Plan, as well as the receipt of certain regulatory approvals. Failure to meet any of these conditions could result in the Plan not being consummated or the Confirmation Order being vacated.

# **C. RISKS RELATING TO THE DEBTORS' BUSINESSES**

## **1. Prolonged Continuation of the Chapter 11 Cases Is Likely To Harm the Debtors' Business.**

The prolonged continuation of these Chapter 11 Cases is likely to adversely affect the Debtors' business and operations. So long as the Chapter 11 Cases continue, senior management of the Debtors will be required to spend a significant amount of time and effort dealing with the Debtors' reorganization instead of focusing exclusively on business operations. Prolonged continuation of the Chapter 11 Cases will also make it more difficult to attract and retain management and other key personnel necessary to the success and growth of the Debtors' business. In addition, so long as the Chapter 11 Cases continue, the Debtors will be required to incur substantial costs for professional fees and other expenses associated with the proceedings. The prolonged continuation of the Chapter 11 Cases may also require the Debtors to seek additional financing, either under the DIP Facilities or

otherwise, in order to service their debt and other obligations. It may not be possible for the Debtors to obtain additional financing during the pendency of the Chapter 11 Cases on commercially favorable terms or at all. If the Debtors were to require additional financing during the Chapter 11 Cases and were unable to obtain the financing on favorable terms or at all, it is unlikely the Debtors could successfully reorganize.

**2. The Debtors Are Subject to Restrictive Covenants That Impair Their Business Operations.**

The DIP Facilities and Restructuring Support Agreement include financial covenants that, among other things, require the Debtors to perform within a budget and meet certain milestones. If the Debtors are unable to achieve the results that are contemplated in their business plan, they may fail to comply with these covenants. Furthermore, the DIP Facilities and Restructuring Support Agreement contain limitations on the Debtors' ability, among other things, to incur additional indebtedness, make capital expenditures, pay dividends, make investments (including acquisitions) or sell assets. If the Debtors fail to comply with the covenants in the DIP Facilities and Restructuring Support Agreement and are unable to obtain a waiver or amendment of such covenants, an event of default will occur thereunder. The DIP Facilities and Restructuring Support Agreement contain other events of defaults customary for debtor-in-possession financings.

**3. The Debtors May Fail in Their Lease Rationalization Efforts**

The Debtors efforts to renegotiate leases and close stores depends during the Chapter 11 Cases is an effort to cut costs and maintain profitability. The Debtors forward-looking financial projections are based on a certain amount of savings and number of operating stores, which amounts anticipates substantial concessions from various landlords. If the Debtors are unable to reach satisfactory terms with the quantity of landlords they anticipate, the Debtors may be forced to close additional stores, decreasing revenue. Further, the actual savings may be substantially greater than or less than the projected savings ranges.

**4. The Debtors May Fail to Negotiate Qualified Trade Agreements with Core Vendors**

The Debtors efforts to negotiate Qualified Trade Agreements may fall short of the Debtors stated needs, potentially damaging the Debtors' supply chain and limiting access to products or prices that allow the Debtors to operate their businesses in a cost-effective manner.

**5. The Debtors May Fail in Their Latin America Joint Venture Renegotiation Efforts**

The Debtors efforts to renegotiate their joint venture partnership agreements with their Latin American partners may not yield the market terms contemplated by the Debtors and the Restructuring Support Agreement counterparties. Failure to achieve the goals set in the Restructuring Support Agreement could result in termination of the Restructuring Support Agreement. If this covenant is waived, failure to modify terms will likely negatively effect the Debtors actual performance as compared to current projections, negatively impacting business performance.

**6. The Chapter 11 Cases May Affect the Tax Liability of Reorganized Debtors.**

In connection with the Debtors' emergence from these Chapter 11 Cases, it is likely that the Debtors' tax attributes will be significantly reduced due to the cancellation of indebtedness income, with any remaining tax attributes subject to limitation under Sections 382 and 383 of the IRC.

**Holders of Claims should carefully review Article IX hereof, to determine how the tax implications of the Chapter 11 Cases and treatment of Allowed Claims under the Plan could adversely affect the Reorganized Debtors and such Holders.**

**D. DISCLOSURE STATEMENT DISCLAIMER**

**1. No Representations Made Outside this Disclosure Statement Are Authorized.**

The information contained in this Disclosure Statement is for purposes of soliciting acceptances of the Plan and may not be relied upon for any other purposes. Except as otherwise provided herein or in the Plan, no representations relating to the Debtors, the Chapter 11 Cases or the Plan are authorized by the Bankruptcy Court or



the Bankruptcy Code. Any representations or inducements made to secure your acceptance or rejection of the Plan that are other than as contained in, or included with, this Disclosure Statement, should not be relied upon by you in arriving at your decision. You should promptly report unauthorized representations or inducements to the counsel to the Debtors, the counsel to the Creditors' Committee and the United States Trustee.

**2. The Debtors Relied on Certain Exemptions from Registration Under the Securities Act.**

This Disclosure Statement has not been filed with the Commission or any state regulatory authority. Neither the Commission nor any state regulatory authority has passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Disclosure Statement, or the exhibits or the statements contained herein, and any representation to the contrary is unlawful. This Disclosure Statement has been prepared pursuant to section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 3016(b) and is not necessarily in accordance with the requirements of federal or state securities laws or other similar laws.

The offer of New Equity under the Plan has not been registered under the Securities Act or similar state securities or "blue sky" laws. To the maximum extent permitted by section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Securities Act and other applicable non-bankruptcy law, the issuance of the New Equity or any shares reserved for issuance under the Management Equity Incentive Plan, will be exempt from registration under the Securities Act by virtue of section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act, Rule 701 promulgated under the Securities Act, or a "no sale" under the Securities Act as described herein.

**3. The Information Herein Was Provided by the Debtors and Relied Upon by Their Advisors.**

The Debtors have used their reasonable business judgment to ensure the accuracy of the information, including financial information, provided in this Disclosure Statement, the Plan and related documents. Nonetheless, the Debtors cannot, and do not, confirm the current accuracy of every statement appearing in this Disclosure Statement.

Statements contained in this Disclosure Statement are made by the Debtors as of the date hereof, unless otherwise specified herein, and the delivery of this Disclosure Statement after that date does not imply that there has not been a change in the information set forth herein since that date. **Although the Debtors may subsequently update the information in this Disclosure Statement, the Debtors have no affirmative duty to do so unless ordered to do so by the Bankruptcy Court.**

The financial information contained in this Disclosure Statement has not been audited. In preparing this Disclosure Statement, the Debtors relied on financial data derived from their books and records that was available at the time of such preparation. While the Debtors believe that such financial information fairly reflects the financial condition of the Debtors, the Debtors are unable to warrant or represent that the financial information contained herein and attached hereto is without inaccuracies.

Counsel to and other advisors retained by the Debtors have relied upon information provided by the Debtors in connection with the preparation of this Disclosure Statement. Although counsel to and other advisors retained by the Debtors have performed certain limited due diligence in connection with the preparation of this Disclosure Statement, they have not verified independently the information contained herein.

**4. No Legal or Tax Advice Is Provided to You by this Disclosure Statement.**

This Disclosure Statement is not legal advice to you. The contents of this Disclosure Statement should not be construed as legal, business or tax advice. Each Holder of a Claim or an Equity Interest should consult his or her own legal counsel and accountant with regard to any legal, tax and other matters concerning his or her Claim or Equity Interest. This Disclosure Statement may not be relied upon for any purpose other than to determine how to vote on the Plan or object to Confirmation of the Plan.

**5. No Admissions Are Made by This Disclosure Statement.**

The information and statements contained in this Disclosure Statement will neither constitute an admission of any fact or liability by any Entity (including, without limitation, the Debtors) nor be deemed evidence of the tax

or other legal effects of the Plan on the Debtors, the Reorganized Debtors, Holders of Allowed Claims or Equity Interest or any other parties in interest. The vote by a Holder of an Allowed Claim for or against the Plan does not constitute a waiver or release of any Claims or rights of the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors (or any party in interest, as the case may be) to object to that Holder's Allowed Claim, or recover any preferential, fraudulent or other voidable transfer or assets, regardless of whether any Claims or Causes of Action of the Debtors or their respective Estates are specifically or generally identified herein.

In addition, no reliance should be placed on the fact that a particular litigation claim or projected objection to a particular Claim or Equity Interest is, or is not, identified in this Disclosure Statement. The Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors may seek to investigate, file and prosecute Claims and Equity Interest and may object to Claims after the Confirmation or Effective Date of the Plan irrespective of whether this Disclosure Statement identifies such Claims or Objections to Claims.

**IX.**  
**CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME**  
**TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE PLAN**

**A. BRIEF OVERVIEW AND DISCLOSURE**

The following discussion is a summary of certain U.S. federal income tax consequences of the consummation of the Plan to the Debtors and to certain U.S. Holders and Non-U.S. Holders (each as defined below) of Claims. The following summary does not address the U.S. federal income tax consequences to Holders of Claims who are Unimpaired or otherwise entitled to payment in full in Cash under the Plan. This summary is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “IRC”), the U.S. Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder, judicial authorities, published administrative positions of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”) and other applicable authorities, all as in effect on the date of this Disclosure Statement and all of which are subject to change or differing interpretations, possibly with retroactive effect. Due to the lack of definitive judicial and administrative authority in a number of areas, substantial uncertainty may exist with respect to some of the tax consequences described below. No opinion of counsel has been obtained and the Debtors do not intend to seek a ruling from the IRS as to any of the tax consequences of the Plan discussed below. The discussion below is not binding upon the IRS or the courts. No assurance can be given that the IRS would not assert, or that a court would not sustain, a different position than any position discussed herein.

For purposes of this discussion, the term “U.S. Holder” means a Holder of a Claim, the New Equity, or the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, (i) an individual citizen or resident of the United States, (ii) a corporation, or entity treated as a corporation, organized in or under the laws of the United States or any state thereof or the District of Columbia, (iii) a trust if (a) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (b) such trust has made a valid election to be treated as a U.S. person for U.S. federal income tax purposes or (iv) an estate, the income of which is includible in gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes regardless of its source.

For purposes of this discussion, a “Non-U.S. Holder” means a Holder of a Claim, the New Equity, or the New First Lien Term Loan Facility that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, (i) a nonresident alien individual, (ii) a non-U.S. corporation or (iii) a non-U.S. estate or non-U.S. trust. This summary does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income taxes that may be relevant to Non-U.S. Holders in light of their personal circumstances, and does not deal with federal taxes other than the federal income tax or with non-U.S., state, local or other tax considerations. Special rules, not discussed here, may apply to certain Non-U.S. Holders, including U.S. expatriates, controlled foreign corporations, passive foreign investment companies and corporations that accumulate earnings to avoid U.S. federal income tax. Such Non-U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors to determine the U.S. federal, state, local and other tax consequences that may be relevant to them. In the case of a Holder that is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the tax treatment of a partner generally will depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partner or the partnership. If you are a partner of a partnership that is, or will be, a Holder of a Claim, the New Equity, or the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, then you should consult your own tax advisors.

This discussion does not purport to address all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be relevant to the Debtors or to certain Holders in light of their individual circumstances. This discussion does not address tax issues with respect to such Holders subject to special treatment under the U.S. federal income tax laws (including, for example, banks, governmental authorities or agencies, pass-through entities, dealers and traders in securities, insurance companies, financial institutions, tax-exempt organizations, small business investment companies and regulated investment companies and those holding, or who will hold, a Claim, the New Equity, or the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, as part of a hedge, straddle, conversion, or constructive sale transaction). No aspect of state, local, estate, gift, or non-U.S. taxation is addressed.

The following discussion assumes that each Holder of a Claim holds its New Equity or New First Lien Term Loan Facility, as applicable, as a “capital asset” within the meaning of Section 1221 of the IRC.

ACCORDINGLY, THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR CAREFUL TAX PLANNING AND ADVICE BASED UPON THE INDIVIDUAL CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO YOU. ALL HOLDERS ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS AS TO THE U.S. FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND NON-U.S. TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE PLAN.

## **B. CONSEQUENCES TO THE DEBTORS**

### **1. Cancellation of Indebtedness and Reduction of Tax Attributes**

In general, absent an exception, a debtor will realize and recognize cancellation of debt income (“COD Income”) upon satisfaction of its outstanding indebtedness for total consideration less than the amount of such indebtedness. The amount of COD Income, in general, is the excess of (a) the adjusted issue price of the indebtedness satisfied over (b) the sum of (x) the amount of Cash paid, (y) the issue price of any new indebtedness of the taxpayer issued and (z) the fair market value of any new consideration given in satisfaction of such indebtedness at the time of the exchange.

A debtor will not, however, be required to include any amount of COD Income in gross income if the debtor is under the jurisdiction of a court in a case under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code and the discharge of debt occurs pursuant to that proceeding. Instead, as a consequence of such exclusion, a debtor must reduce its tax attributes by the amount of COD Income that it excluded from gross income pursuant to Section 108 of the IRC. In general, tax attributes will be reduced in the following order: (a) net operating losses (“NOLs”); (b) most tax credits; (c) capital loss carryovers; (d) tax basis in assets (but not below the amount of liabilities to which the debtor remains subject); (e) passive activity loss and credit carryovers; and (f) foreign tax credits. A debtor with COD Income may elect first to reduce the basis of its depreciable assets pursuant to Section 108(b)(5) of the IRC, though it has not been determined whether the Debtors would make this election. In the context of a consolidated group of corporations, the tax rules provide for a complex ordering mechanism in determining how the tax attributes of one member can be reduced by the COD Income of another member.

Because the Plan provides that Holders of certain Claims will receive shares of the New Equity, the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, and/or the New ABL Facility, the amount of COD Income, and accordingly the amount of tax attributes required to be reduced, will depend on the fair market value of the New Equity, and the issue price of the New First Lien Term Loan Facility, and the New ABL Facility. This value cannot be known with certainty until after the Effective Date. Following this reduction, the Debtors expect that, subject to the limitations discussed herein and subject to whether the Debtors decide to reduce first the basis in their depreciable assets, they may not have NOL carryforwards remaining after emergence from chapter 11, but will have other significant tax attributes remaining.

### **2. Limitation of NOL Carryforwards and Other Tax Attributes**

Under Section 382 of the IRC, if a corporation undergoes an “ownership change,” the amount of its NOLs and built-in losses (collectively, “Pre-Change Losses”) that may be utilized to offset future taxable income generally is subject to an annual limitation. As discussed in greater detail herein, the Debtors anticipate that the issuance of the New Equity pursuant to the Plan will result in an “ownership change” of the Reorganized Debtors for these purposes, and that the Debtors’ use of their Pre-Change Losses will be subject to limitation unless an exception to the general rules of Section 382 of the IRC applies.

#### **(a) General Section 382 Annual Limitation**

This discussion refers to the limitation determined under Section 382 of the IRC in the case of an “ownership change” as the “Section 382 Limitation.” In general, the annual Section 382 Limitation on the use of Pre-Change Losses in any “post-change year” is equal to the product of (a) the fair market value of the stock of the corporation immediately before the “ownership change” (with certain adjustments) multiplied by (b) the “long-term tax-exempt rate” in effect for the month in which the “ownership change” occurs (approximately 2.09% for the month of May 2017). If the Debtors are in a net unrealized built in gain position, the Section 382 Limitation may be increased to the extent that the Debtors recognize certain built-in gains in their assets during the five-year period following the ownership change, or are treated as recognizing built-in gains pursuant to the safe harbors provided in

IRS Notice 2003-65. Section 383 of the IRC applies a similar limitation to capital loss carryforwards and tax credits. Any unused limitation may be carried forward, thereby increasing the annual limitation in the subsequent taxable year. As discussed below, however, special rules may apply in the case of a corporation which experiences an ownership change as the result of a bankruptcy proceeding.

The issuance under the Plan of the New Equity, along with the cancellation of Existing Equity Interests through the Plan, is expected to cause an ownership change with respect to the Debtors on the Effective Date. As a result, unless an exception applies, Section 382 of the IRC will apply to limit the Debtors' use of any remaining Pre-Change Losses after the Effective Date. This limitation is independent of, and in addition to, the reduction of tax attributes described in the preceding section resulting from the exclusion of COD Income.

(b) Special Bankruptcy Exceptions

An exception to the foregoing annual limitation rules generally applies when so-called "qualified creditors" of a debtor company in chapter 11 receive, in respect of their claims, at least 50% of the vote and value of the stock of a reorganized debtor (or a controlling corporation if also in chapter 11) pursuant to a confirmed chapter 11 plan (the "382(1)(5) Exception"). Under the 382(1)(5) Exception, a debtor's Pre-Change Losses are not limited on an annual basis but, instead, the debtor's NOLs are required to be reduced by the amount of any interest deductions claimed during any taxable year ending during the three-year period preceding the taxable year that includes the effective date of the plan of reorganization, and during the part of the taxable year prior to and including the effective date of the plan of reorganization, in respect of all debt converted into stock in the reorganization. If the 382(1)(5) Exception applies and the debtor undergoes another ownership change within two years after consummation, then the debtor's Pre-Change Losses effectively would be eliminated in their entirety.

Where the 382(1)(5) Exception is not applicable (either because a debtor does not qualify for it or a debtor otherwise elects not to utilize the 382(1)(5) Exception), a second special rule will generally apply (the "382(1)(6) Exception"). When the 382(1)(6) Exception applies, a debtor corporation that undergoes an ownership change generally is permitted to determine the fair market value of its stock after taking into account the increase in value resulting from any surrender or cancellation of creditors' claims in the bankruptcy. This differs from the ordinary rule that requires the fair market value of a debtor corporation that undergoes an ownership change to be determined before the events giving rise to the change. The 382(1)(6) Exception also differs from the 382(1)(5) Exception in that the debtor corporation is not required to reduce its NOLs by interest deductions in the manner described above, and the debtor may undergo a change of ownership within two years without triggering the elimination of its Pre-Change Losses.

Regardless of whether the Reorganized Debtors take advantage of the 382(1)(6) Exception or the 382(1)(5) Exception, the Reorganized Debtors' use of any Pre-Change Losses after the Effective Date may be adversely affected if an "ownership change" within the meaning of Section 382 of the IRC were to occur after the Effective Date.

**3. Alternative Minimum Tax**

In general, an alternative minimum tax ("AMT") is imposed on a corporation's alternative minimum taxable income ("AMTI") at a 20% rate to the extent such tax exceeds the corporation's regular federal income tax for the year. AMTI is generally equal to regular taxable income with certain adjustments. For purposes of computing AMTI, certain tax deductions and other beneficial allowances are modified or eliminated. For example, generally, only 90% of a corporation's AMTI may be offset by available alternative tax NOL carryforwards.

Additionally, under Section 56(g)(4)(G) of the IRC, an ownership change (as discussed above) that occurs with respect to a corporation having a net unrealized built-in loss in its assets will cause, for AMT purposes, the adjusted basis of each asset of the corporation immediately after the ownership change to be equal to its proportionate share (determined on the basis of respective fair market values) of the fair market value of the assets of the corporation, as determined under Section 382(h) of the IRC, immediately before the ownership change.

## C. CONSEQUENCES TO U.S. HOLDERS OF ALLOWED CLAIMS

### 1. Holders of Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims

The following discussion assumes that each U.S. Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim holds such Claim as a “capital asset” within the meaning of Section 1221 of the IRC. Pursuant to the Plan, each U.S. Holder of such Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its Pro Rata share of the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche and the New Equity, as further described above.

(a) Exchange of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim for New Equity and New First Lien Term A-2 Tranche

Whether a U.S. Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim recognizes gain or loss as a result of the exchange of its Claim for New Equity and its Pro Rata share of the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche depends on whether (i) both the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche qualify as securities for U.S. federal income tax purposes, (ii) the U.S. Holder has previously included in income any accrued but unpaid interest with respect to the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim, (iii) the U.S. Holder has claimed a bad debt deduction or worthless security deduction with respect to such Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim and (iv) the U.S. Holder uses the accrual or cash method of accounting for tax purposes.

(i) *Treatment of a Debt Instrument as a “Security”*

Neither the Tax Code nor the Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder defines the term “security.” Whether a debt instrument constitutes a “security” for U.S. federal income tax purposes is determined based on all the relevant facts and circumstances, but most authorities have held that the length of the term of a debt instrument is an important factor in determining whether such instrument is a security for U. S. federal income tax purposes. These authorities have indicated that a term of less than five years is evidence that the instrument is not a security, whereas a term of ten years or more is evidence that it is a security. There are numerous other factors that could be taken into account in determining whether a debt instrument is a security, including the security for payment, the creditworthiness of the obligor, the subordination or lack thereof to other creditors, the right to vote or otherwise participate in the management of the obligor, convertibility of the instrument into an equity interest of the obligor, whether payments of interest are fixed, variable or contingent, and whether such payments are made on a current basis or accrued. Each U.S. Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim should consult with its own tax advisor to determine whether or not the debt underlying its Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim is a “security” for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

(ii) *Treatment of a U.S. Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim if such U.S. Holder receives New Equity and New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche, and the debt underlying the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche are Both Treated as “Securities” for U.S. Federal Income Tax Purposes*

If the debt underlying both the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche are treated as “securities” for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the exchange of the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim for the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche and New Equity should constitute a “recapitalization” for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

If the exchange is treated as a recapitalization for U.S. federal income tax purposes, a U.S. Holder exchanging an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim would not recognize loss on the exchange and would generally recognize gain equal to the lesser of:

- a. the fair market value of the New Equity received, (other than to the extent attributable to accrued but untaxed interest on the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim that will be treated as discussed below under “—Accrued Interest”); and

- b. the gain realized by the U.S. Holder (i.e., the excess of the “issue price” (as described below) of the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche received plus the fair market value of the New Equity received, (in each case, other than to the extent attributable to accrued but untaxed interest on the debt underlying the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim that will be treated as discussed below under “—Accrued Interest”) over the U.S. Holder’s adjusted tax basis in the debt underlying the Claim surrendered in the exchange).

The adjusted tax basis of the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim generally will equal a U.S. Holder’s purchase price for the debt as reduced in the event that the U.S. Holder claimed a bad debt deduction with respect thereto, increased by any original issue discount previously accrued and any market discount previously included in income, and reduced by any amortizable bond premium previously amortized and any payments previously received that do not constitute “qualified stated interest.” Except as provided below under “—Market Discount” with respect to accrued market discount, any such gain generally will be long-term capital gain if the U.S. Holder held the debt underlying the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim for more than one year at the time of the exchange. Long-term capital gains of a non-corporate taxpayer may be taxed at a preferential rate. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations as described in more detail below under “—Limitations on Use of Capital Losses.”

Except to the extent the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche received is attributable to accrued interest on the debt underlying the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim, a U.S. Holder’s holding period for the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche received will include the period of time during which the U.S. Holder held the corresponding debt underlying such Claim, and a U.S. Holder’s initial tax basis in the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche will equal the adjusted tax basis in the debt underlying the Claim immediately prior to the exchange, decreased by the fair market value of New Equity received and increased by the amount of gain, if any, recognized by the U.S. Holder in respect of the exchange. Any portion of the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche received that is attributable to accrued but untaxed interest will have an initial tax basis in a U.S. Holder’s hands equal to such accrued interest and a holding period that begins the day following the Effective Date. A U.S. Holder’s initial basis in the New Equity will be equal to fair market value and its holding period for the New Equity will generally begin the day following the Effective Date.

- (iii) *Treatment of a U.S. Holder of an Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim if such U.S. Holder receives New Equity and New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche, and the debt underlying the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche are not Both Treated as “Securities” for U.S. Federal Income Tax Purposes*

If either the debt underlying the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim or the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche is not treated as a “security” for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the exchange of the Allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim for a Pro Rata Share of New Equity, a New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche, and Cash (if any) will, in each case, constitute a fully taxable exchange under Section 1001 of the IRC. Accordingly, each U.S. Holder generally should recognize gain or loss in the exchange equal to the difference between (1) the sum of the fair market value of the New Equity received, plus the “issue price” (as discussed below) of the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche received, (in each case, to the extent such consideration is not allocable to accrued but untaxed interest on the debt underlying the Claim, as discussed below under “—Accrued Interest”) and (2) such U.S. Holder’s adjusted tax basis, if any, in the debt underlying the Claim. The character of such gain or loss as capital gain or loss or as ordinary income or loss will be determined by a number of factors, including the tax status of the U.S. Holder, the nature of the debt underlying the Claim in such U.S. Holder’s hands, whether that debt constitutes a capital asset in the hands of the U.S. Holder, whether the debt underlying the Claim was purchased at a discount, and whether and to what extent the U.S. Holder has previously claimed a bad debt deduction with respect thereto. If recognized gain is capital gain, it generally would be long-term capital gain if the holder held the debt underlying the Claim for more than one year at the time of the exchange. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to certain limitations as discussed below. In addition, see the discussions of accrued interest and market discount below. A U.S. Holder’s tax basis in any New Equity received should equal the fair market value of such New Equity as of the date such New Equity is distributed to the U.S. Holder and a U.S. Holder’s tax basis in the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche received should equal its “issue

price” (as discussed below). A U.S. Holder’s holding period for the New Equity received and the New First Lien Term Loan A-2 Tranche should each begin on the day following the Effective Date.

**2. Exchange of an Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim or Worldwide General Unsecured Claim for New Equity**

An exchange of an Allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim or Worldwide General Unsecured Claim for New Equity should constitute a fully taxable exchange under section 1001 of the IRC. Accordingly, each U.S. Holder of such Claim should generally recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between (i) the fair market value of the New Equity to the extent such consideration is not allocable to accrued but untaxed interest (which will be treated as discussed below under —Accrued Interest) that is received in exchange for the Claim; and (ii) such U.S. Holder’s adjusted tax basis, if any, in the debt underlying such Claim. The character of such gain or loss as capital gain or loss or as ordinary income or loss will be determined by a number of factors, including the tax status of the U.S. Holder, the nature of the Claim in such U.S. Holder’s hands, whether the Claim constitutes a capital asset in the hands of the U.S. Holder, whether the Claim was purchased at a discount, and whether and to what extent the U.S. Holder has previously claimed a bad debt deduction with respect to its Claim. If recognized gain is capital gain, it generally would be long-term capital gain if the holder held its Claim for more than one year at the time of the exchange. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to certain limitations as discussed above. In addition, see the discussions of accrued interest and market discount below. A U.S. Holder’s tax basis in any New Equity received should equal the fair market value of such New Equity. A U.S. Holder’s holding period for the New Equity should begin on the day following the Effective Date.

**3. Holders of Allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claims or Allowed Other General Unsecured Claims**

Pursuant to the Plan, each U.S. Holder of an Allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim or Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim shall receive Cash, as further described above. Such exchange should be treated as a taxable exchange under Section 1001 of the IRC. The U.S. Holder should recognize capital gain or loss equal to the difference between (i) the Cash received and (ii) the U.S. Holder’s adjusted tax basis in its claim. Such gain or loss should be capital in nature (subject to the “market discount” rules described below) and should be long-term capital gain or loss if the debts constituting the surrendered Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim were held for more than one year. To the extent that a portion of the Allowed Other General Unsecured Claim is allocable to accrued but untaxed interest, the U.S. Holder may recognize ordinary interest income. See “Accrued Interest” below.

**4. Issue Price**

The determination of “issue price” for purposes of this analysis will depend, in part, on whether the debt instruments issued to a U.S. Holder or the property surrendered under the Plan are traded on an “established securities market” at any time during the 60-day period ending thirty (30) days after the Effective Date. In general, a debt instrument (or the stock or securities exchanged therefor) will be treated as traded on an established market if (a) it is listed on (i) a qualifying national securities exchange, (ii) certain qualifying interdealer quotation systems, or (iii) certain qualifying non-U.S. securities exchanges; (b) it appears on a system of general circulation that provides a reasonable basis to determine fair market value; or (c) in certain situations the price quotations are readily available from dealers, brokers or traders. The issue price of a debt instrument that is traded on an established market (or that is issued for stock or securities so traded) would be the fair market value of such debt instrument (or such stock or securities so traded) on the issue date as determined by such trading. The issue price of a debt instrument that is neither so traded nor issued for stock or securities so traded would be its stated principal amount (provided that the interest rate on the debt instrument exceeds the applicable federal rate published by the IRS).

**5. Accrued Interest**

To the extent that any amount received by a U.S. Holder of a surrendered Allowed Claim under the Plan is attributable to accrued but unpaid interest and such amount has not previously been included in the U.S. Holder’s gross income, such amount should be taxable to the U.S. Holder as ordinary interest income. Conversely, a U.S. Holder of a surrendered Allowed Claim may be able to recognize a deductible loss to the extent that any accrued interest on the debt instruments constituting such Claim was previously included in the U.S. Holder’s gross income but was not paid in full by the Debtors. Such loss may be ordinary, but the tax law is unclear on this point.



The extent to which the consideration received by a U.S. Holder of a surrendered Allowed Claim will be attributable to accrued interest on the debts constituting the surrendered Allowed Claim is unclear. Certain Treasury Regulations generally treat a payment under a debt instrument first as a payment of accrued and untaxed interest and then as a payment of principal. Application of this rule to a final payment on a debt instrument being discharged at a discount in bankruptcy is unclear.

Pursuant to the Plan, distributions in respect of Allowed Claims shall be allocated first to the principal amount of such Claims (as determined for federal income tax purposes) and then, to the extent the consideration exceeds the principal amount of the Claims, to any portion of such Claims for accrued but unpaid interest. However, the provisions of the Plan are not binding on the IRS or a court with respect to the appropriate tax treatment for creditors.

## **6. Market Discount**

Under the “market discount” provisions of Sections 1276 through 1278 of the IRC, some or all of any gain realized by a U.S. Holder exchanging the debt instruments constituting its Allowed Claim may be treated as ordinary income (instead of capital gain), to the extent of the amount of “market discount” on the debt constituting the surrendered Allowed Claim.

In general, a debt instrument is considered to have been acquired with “market discount” if its Holder’s adjusted tax basis in the debt instrument is less than (a) the sum of all remaining payments to be made on the debt instrument, excluding “qualified stated interest” or (b) in the case of a debt instrument issued with OID, its adjusted issue price, by at least a de minimis amount (equal to 0.25% of the sum of all remaining payments to be made on the debt instrument, excluding qualified stated interest, multiplied by the number of remaining whole years to maturity).

Any gain recognized by a U.S. Holder on the taxable disposition (determined as described above) of debts that it acquired with market discount should be treated as ordinary income to the extent of the market discount that accrued thereon while such debts were considered to be held by the U.S. Holder (unless the U.S. Holder elected to include market discount in income as it accrued). To the extent that the surrendered debts that had been acquired with market discount are exchanged in a tax-free or other reorganization transaction for other property (as may occur here), any market discount that accrued on such debts but was not recognized by the U.S. Holder may be required to be carried over to the property received therefor and any gain recognized on the subsequent sale, exchange, redemption or other disposition of such property may be treated as ordinary income to the extent of the accrued but unrecognized market discount with respect to the exchanged debt instrument.

## **7. Limitations on Use of Capital Losses**

U.S. Holders of Claims who recognize capital losses as a result of the distributions under the Plan will be subject to limits on their use of capital losses. For non-corporate U.S. Holders, capital losses may be used to offset any capital gains (without regard to holding periods) plus ordinary income to the extent of the lesser of (1) \$3,000 (\$1,500 for married individuals filing separate returns) or (2) the excess of the capital losses over the capital gains. U.S. Holders, other than corporations, may carry over unused capital losses and apply them to capital gains and a portion of their ordinary income for an unlimited number of years. For corporate U.S. Holders, losses from the sale or exchange of capital assets may only be used to offset capital gains. Corporate U.S. Holders generally may only carry over unused capital losses for the five years following the capital loss year, but are generally allowed to carry back unused capital losses to the three years preceding the capital loss year.

## **D. CONSEQUENCES TO NON-U.S. HOLDERS OF ALLOWED CLAIMS**

Any gain or interest income realized by a Non-U.S. Holder on the exchange of its claim generally will be exempt from U.S. federal income or withholding tax, provided that:

- such Non-U.S. Holder does not own, actually or constructively, 10 percent or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of the voting stock of Payless Holding LLC, is not a controlled foreign corporation related, directly or indirectly, to Payless Holding LLC through stock ownership, and is not a bank receiving interest described in Section 881(c)(3)(A) of the IRC;

- the statement requirement set forth in Section 871(h) or Section 881(c) of the IRC has been fulfilled with respect to the beneficial owner, as discussed below;
- such Non-U.S. Holder is not an individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of disposition or who is subject to special rules applicable to former citizens and residents of the United States; and
- such gain or interest income is not effectively connected with the conduct by such Non-U.S. Holder of a trade or business in the United States.

The statement requirement referred to in the preceding paragraph will generally be fulfilled if the beneficial owner of the property or Cash received on the exchange certifies on IRS Form W-8BEN (or such successor form as the IRS designates) under penalties of perjury that it is not a U.S. person and provides its name and address. The Non-U.S. Holder must provide the form to the Debtors or their paying agent, or in the case of a note held through a securities clearing organization, bank or other financial institution holding customers' securities in the ordinary course of its trade or business, to such organization, bank or other financial institution, which must in turn provide to the Debtors or their paying agent a statement that it has received the form and furnish a copy thereof; *provided*, that a non-U.S. financial institution will fulfill this requirement by filing IRS Form W-8IMY if it has entered into an agreement with the IRS to be treated as a qualified intermediary. These forms must be periodically updated.

If a Non-U.S. Holder is engaged in a trade or business in the United States, and if any gain or interest income realized on the exchange of its claim is effectively connected with the conduct of such trade or business, the Non-U.S. Holder, although exempt from the withholding tax discussed in the preceding paragraphs, will generally be subject to regular U.S. federal income tax on such gain or interest income in the same manner as if it were a U.S. Holder. In lieu of the certificate described in the preceding paragraph, such a Non-U.S. Holder will be required to provide a properly executed IRS Form W-8ECI (or such successor form as the IRS designates), in the manner described above, in order to claim an exemption from withholding tax. In addition, if such a Non-U.S. Holder is a corporation, it may be subject to a branch profits tax equal to 30% (or such lower rate provided by an applicable treaty) of its effectively connected earnings and profits for the taxable year, subject to certain adjustments.

#### **E. WITHHOLDING AND REPORTING**

The Debtors will withhold all amounts required by law to be withheld from payments of interest and dividends. The Debtors will comply with all applicable reporting requirements of the IRC. In general, information reporting requirements may apply to distributions or payments made to a Holder of a claim. The IRS may make the information returns reporting such interest and dividends and withholding available to the tax authorities in the country in which a Non-U.S. Holder is resident. Additionally, backup withholding of taxes, currently at a rate of 28%, will apply to such payments if a U.S. Holder fails to provide an accurate taxpayer identification number or otherwise fails to comply with the applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules. Any amounts withheld under the withholding rules will be allowed as a credit against such Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle such Holder to a refund from the IRS, provided that the required information is provided to the IRS.

In addition, from an information reporting perspective, U.S. Treasury Regulations generally require disclosure by a taxpayer on its U.S. federal income tax return of certain types of transactions in which the taxpayer participated, including, among other types of transactions, certain transactions that result in the taxpayer's claiming a loss in excess of specified thresholds. Holders are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding these regulations and whether the transactions contemplated by the Plan would be subject to these regulations and require disclosure on the Holders' tax returns.

**THE FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE PLAN ARE COMPLEX. THE FOREGOING SUMMARY DOES NOT DISCUSS ALL ASPECTS OF FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION THAT MAY BE RELEVANT TO A PARTICULAR HOLDER IN LIGHT OF SUCH HOLDER'S CIRCUMSTANCES AND INCOME TAX SITUATION. ALL HOLDERS OF CLAIMS AND EQUITY INTERESTS SHOULD CONSULT WITH THEIR TAX ADVISORS AS TO THE PARTICULAR TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED BY THE PLAN,**

**INCLUDING THE APPLICABILITY AND EFFECT OF ANY STATE, LOCAL OR NON-U.S. TAX LAWS,  
AND OF ANY CHANGE IN APPLICABLE TAX LAWS.**

**X.**  
**RECOMMENDATION**

In the opinion of the Debtors, the Plan is preferable to the alternatives described in this Disclosure Statement because it provides for a larger distribution to the Debtors' creditors than would otherwise result in a liquidation under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. In addition, any alternative other than Confirmation of the Plan could result in extensive delays and increased administrative expenses resulting in smaller distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims than that which is proposed under the Plan. Accordingly, the Debtors recommend that Holders of Claims entitled to vote on the Plan support Confirmation of the Plan and vote to accept the Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

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Payless Holdings LLC  
(for itself and on behalf of each of the Debtors)

By:

Title:

Dated: , 2017

**EXHIBIT A**

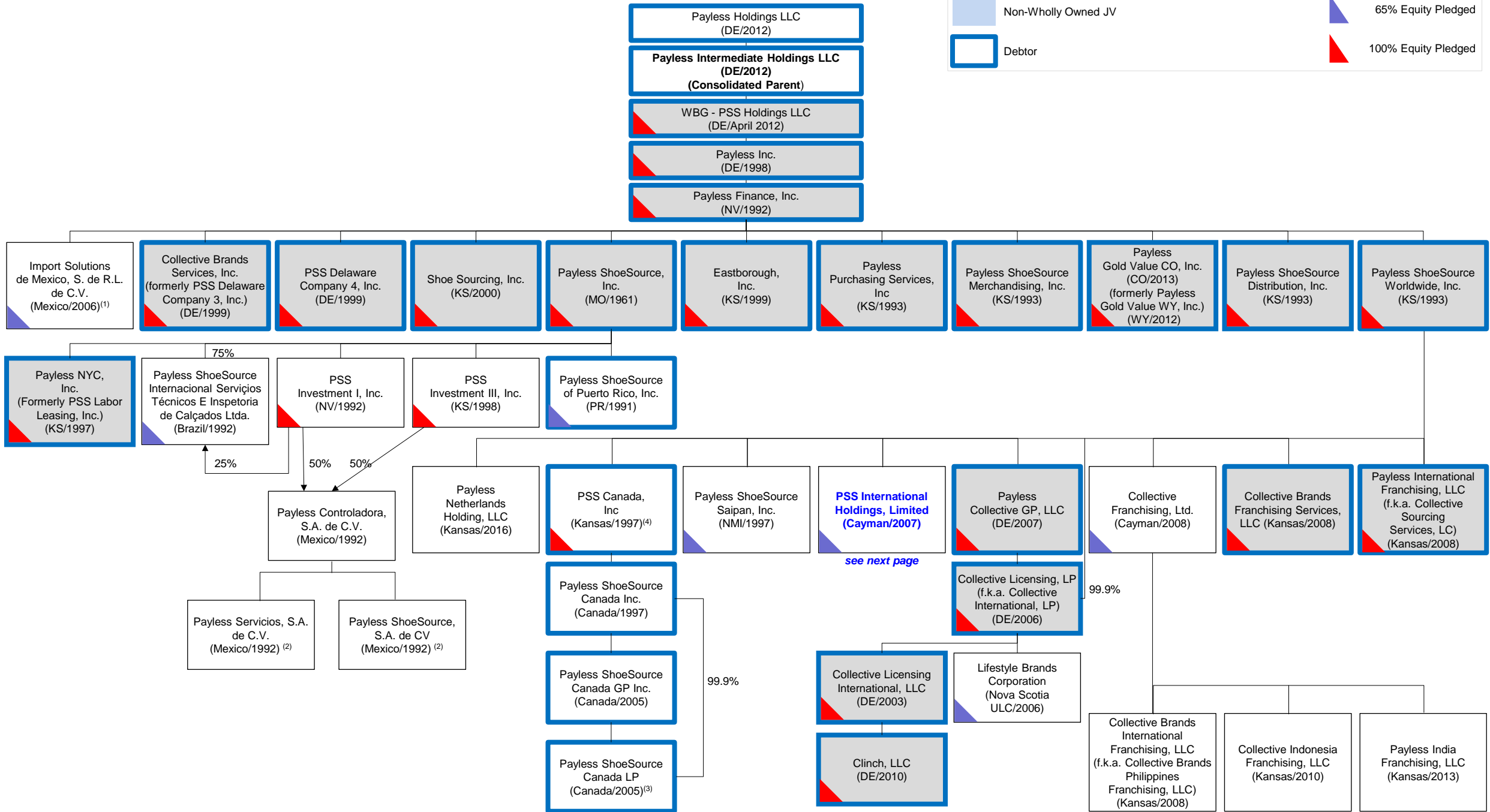
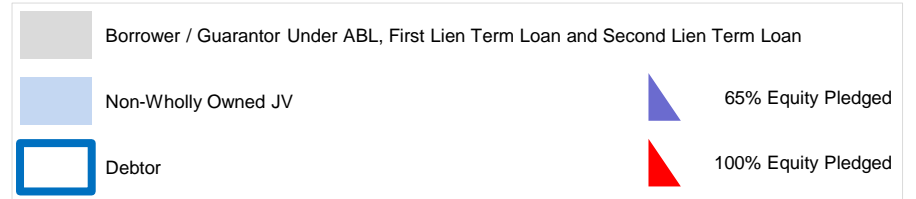
Plan of Reorganization

[Filed at Docket No. 375]

**EXHIBIT B**

Corporate Structure Chart

### Payless Holdings LLC Corporate Structure

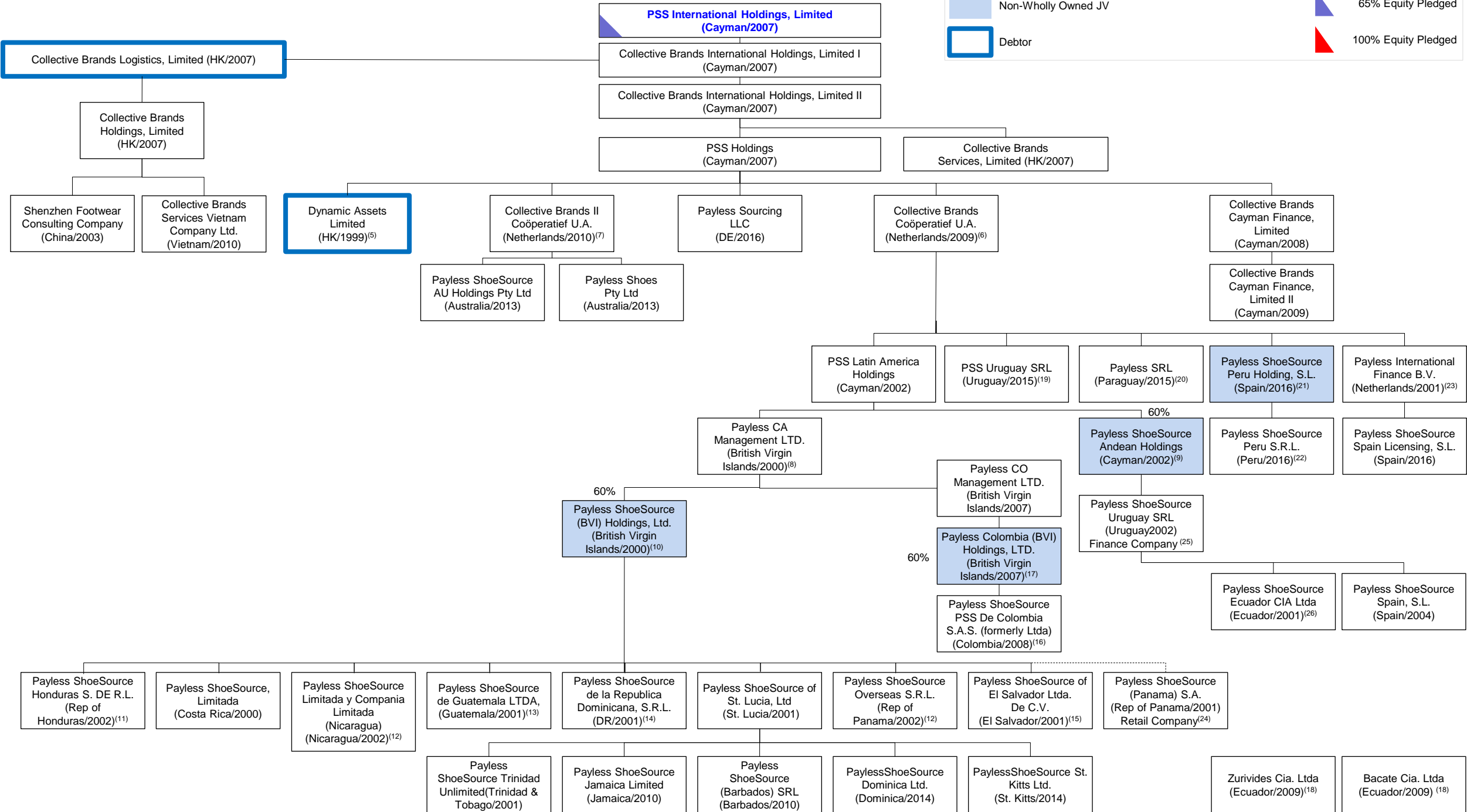


(1) One share owned by Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc.  
 (2) PSS Investment I, Inc. owns one share in Payless Servicios, S.A. de C.V. and in Payless ShoeSource, S.A. de C.V.  
 (3) Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. General Partner – 0.1% Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc. Limited Partner – 99.9%  
 (4) 2 shares owned by Payless Finance, Inc.  
 (5) One Share owned by Collective Brands Savier Services Limited  
 (6) 0.0001726892% owned by Collective Brands Logistics, Limited  
 (7) 0.1% owned by Collective Brands Cayman Finance, Limited  
 (8) One share owned by Payless ShoeSource, Inc.  
 (9) South America Local Partners S.A. – 40% PSS Latin America Holdings – 60%  
 (10) PLP S.A. – 40% Payless CA Management Ltd. – 60%  
 (11) Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 98% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – 2%  
 (12) Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 99% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – 1%  
 (13) Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 99.98% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – .02%

(14) Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 999 shares Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – 1 share  
 (15) Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 99.99% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – 0.1%  
 (16) Payless Colombia (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 60,524,009 quotas Payless CA Management Limited – 1 quota  
 (17) Payless CO Management Ltd. – 60% Patagonia Capital Limited – 30% Pataya Inc., – 10%  
 (18) This entity is owned by Xavier Rosales of our law firm Corral & Rosales  
 (19) Collective Brands Coöperatief U.A. – 99% and Collective Brands II Coöperatief U.A. – 1%  
 (20) Collective Brands Coöperatief U.A. – 99% and is Oscar Brelles Mariño Dicen– 1%  
 (21) Payless ShoeSource Peru Holding, S.L. is a JV entity which is owned 60% by Collective Brands Coöperatief U.A. and 40% by Bluestone Financial Inc  
 (22) Payless ShoeSource Peru Holding, S.L. owns 9,999 quotas and Collective Brands II Coöperatief U.A. owns 1 quota  
 (23) Payless international Finance B.V. and its subsidiary, Payless ShoeSource Spain Licensing, S.L. moved under Collective Brands II Coöperatief U.A.  
 (24) 500 shares are owned (250 & 250) by our law firm in trust on behalf of Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd.  
 (25) Payless ShoeSource Andean Holdings (99.93333%) and PSS Latin America Holdings (0.066670%)  
 (26) One share owned by PSS Latin America Holdings

**Payless Holdings LLC**  
**Corporate Structure (cont'd)**

Borrower / Guarantor Under ABL, First Lien Term Loan and Second Lien Term Loan  
 Non-Wholly Owned JV  
 Debtor  
 65% Equity Pledged  
 100% Equity Pledged



(1) One share owned by Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc.  
 (2) PSS Investment I, Inc. owns one share in Payless Servicios, S.A. de C.V. and in Payless ShoeSource, S.A. de C.V.  
 (3) Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc. General Partner – 0.1% Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc. Limited Partner – 99.9%  
 (4) 2 shares owned by Payless Finance, Inc.  
 (5) One Share owned by Collective Brands Services Limited  
 (6) 0.0001726892% owned by Collective Brands Logistics, Limited  
 (7) 0.1% owned by Collective Brands Cayman Finance, Limited  
 (8) One share owned by Payless ShoeSource, Inc.  
 (9) South America Local Partners S.A. – 40% PSS Latin America Holdings – 60%  
 (10) PLP S.A. – 40% Payless CA Management Ltd. – 60%  
 (11) Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 98% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – 2%  
 (12) Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 99% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – 1%  
 (13) Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 99.98% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – .02%  
 (14) Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 999 shares Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – 1 share  
 (15) Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 99.99% Payless ShoeSource, Limitada – 0.1%  
 (16) Payless Colombia (BVI) Holdings, Ltd. – 60,524,009 quotas Payless CA Management Limited – 1 quota  
 (17) Payless CO Management Ltd. – 60% Patagonia Capital Limited – 30% Pataya Inc., – 10%  
 (18) This entity is owned by Xavier Rosales of our law firm Corral & Rosales  
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 (20) Collective Brands Coöperatief U.A. – 99% and is Oscar Brelles Mariño Dicen– 1%  
 (21) Payless ShoeSource Peru Holding, S.L. is a JV entity which is owned 60% by Collective Brands Coöperatief U.A. and 40% by Bluestone Financial Inc  
 (22) Payless ShoeSource Peru Holding, S.L. owns 9,999 quotas and Collective Brands II Coöperatief U.A. owns 1 quota  
 (23) Payless international Finance B.V. and its subsidiary, Payless ShoeSource Spain Licensing, S.L. moved under Collective Brands II Coöperatief U.A.  
 (24) 500 shares are owned (250 & 250) by our law firm in trust on behalf of Payless ShoeSource (BVI) Holdings, Ltd.  
 (25) Payless ShoeSource Andean Holdings (99.93333%) and PSS Latin America Holdings (0.066670%)  
 (26) One share owned by PSS Latin America Holdings



**EXHIBIT C**

Disclosure Statement Order

[TO COME]

**EXHIBIT D**

Reorganized Debtors' Financial Projections

[TO COME]

**EXHIBIT E**

Liquidation Analysis

[TO COME]

**EXHIBIT F**

Valuation Analysis

[TO COME]

**EXHIBIT G**

Restructuring Support Agreement (together with the Restructuring Term Sheet)

## RESTRUCTURING SUPPORT AGREEMENT

This RESTRUCTURING SUPPORT AGREEMENT (as amended, supplemented, or otherwise modified from time to time in accordance with the terms hereof, this “Agreement”<sup>1</sup>), dated as of April 4, 2017, is entered into by and among the following parties:

- i. the Company;<sup>2</sup> and
- ii. the undersigned Holders of First Lien Claims (as defined below) in their capacity as holders of First Lien Claims and, if applicable, their capacity as Holders of Second Lien Claims (as defined below), collectively with their respective successors and permitted assigns and any subsequent holder of First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims that becomes party hereto in accordance with the terms hereof, the “Consenting Lenders”).

The Company and each Consenting Lender, and any subsequent person or entity that becomes a party hereto in accordance with the terms hereof, are referred to herein as the “Parties” and individually as a “Party.” Each Consenting Party intends to be and is bound under this Agreement with respect to any and all claims against, or interests in, the Company whether currently held or hereafter acquired, by such Consenting Party.

**WHEREAS**, the Parties and their respective professionals have negotiated a restructuring and recapitalization transaction (the “Restructuring,” and the transactions contemplated thereby, the “Restructuring Transactions”) that will be implemented and consummated pursuant to a chapter 11 plan of reorganization (as may be modified in accordance with Section 10 hereof, the “Plan”), the terms of which shall be consistent in all respects with those set forth in this Agreement, the term sheet attached hereto as **Exhibit A** (the “Term Sheet”<sup>3</sup>), the DIP Documents (as defined below), and the Definitive Documents (as defined below) to be filed in cases (the “Chapter 11 Cases”) commenced under chapter 11 of title 11 of

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<sup>1</sup> Each of the exhibits attached hereto and any schedules to such exhibits (collectively, the “Exhibits and Schedules”) is expressly incorporated herein and made a part of this Agreement, and all references to this Agreement shall include the Exhibits and Schedules. In the event of any inconsistency between this Agreement (without reference to the Exhibits and Schedules) and the Exhibits and Schedules, this Agreement (without reference to the Exhibits and Schedules) shall govern; provided, however, that to the extent there is a conflict among the Exhibits and Schedules, the conflicting term of the Term Sheet shall control and govern.

<sup>2</sup> The “Company” shall mean, collectively, Payless Holdings LLC; Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC; WBG-PSS Holdings LLC; Payless Inc.; Payless Finance, Inc.; Collective Brands Services, Inc.; PSS Delaware Company 4, Inc.; Shoe Sourcing, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource, Inc.; Eastborough, Inc.; Payless Purchasing Services, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Merchandising, Inc.; Payless Gold Value CO, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc.; Payless NYC Inc.; Payless ShoeSource of Puerto Rico, Inc.; Payless Collective GP, LLC; Collective Licensing, L.P.; Collective Licensing International, LLC; Clinch, LLC; Collective Brands Franchising Services, LLC; and Payless International Franchising, LLC.

<sup>3</sup> Capitalized terms used and not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Term Sheet. The Term Sheet is expressly incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this Agreement as if fully set forth herein. The Term Sheet sets forth the material terms and conditions of the Restructuring Transactions; provided, however, that the Term Sheet is supplemented by the terms and conditions of this Agreement. In the event of any inconsistency between the Term Sheet and this Agreement, this Agreement shall control.

the United States Code (the “Bankruptcy Code”) in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri (the “Bankruptcy Court”);

**WHEREAS**, as of the date hereof, the Debtors have debt outstanding under that certain First Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014, by and among (i) WBG – PSS Holdings LLC, as Holdings, and Payless Inc., Payless Finance, Inc., Payless ShoeSource, Inc., and Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc., as Borrowers, (collectively, the “Company Credit Agreement Parties”), (ii) the banks and other financial institutions named therein as lenders (the “First Lien Lenders”), (iii) Cortland Products Corp. (“Cortland”), as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent (as successor to Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. (“Morgan Stanley”) in such capacity, the “First Lien Agent”), and (iv) Morgan Stanley, Jefferies Finance LLC, and MCS Capital Markets LLC, as Joint Lead Arrangers and Joint Bookrunners (as amended, modified, or otherwise supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the “First Lien Term Loan Agreement,” and the claims and other obligations arising thereunder, the “First Lien Claims”), as further set forth in the Term Sheet;

**WHEREAS**, as of the date hereof, the Debtors have debt outstanding under that certain Second Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014, by and among (i) the Company Credit Agreement Parties, (ii) the banks and other financial institutions named therein as lenders (the “Second Lien Lenders”), (iii) Morgan Stanley, as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent, and (iv) Morgan Stanley, Jefferies Finance LLC, and MCS Capital Markets LLC, as Joint Lead Arrangers and Joint Bookrunners (as amended, modified, or otherwise supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the “Second Lien Term Loan Agreement,” and the claims and other obligations arising thereunder, the “Second Lien Claims”), as further set forth in the Term Sheet;

**WHEREAS**, as of the date hereof, the Consenting Lenders beneficially own or control (with sole investment or voting discretion), in the aggregate, approximately 65.6% of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the First Lien Claims and 64.8% of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Second Lien Claims;

**WHEREAS**, as of the date hereof, the Debtors have debt outstanding under that certain asset-based credit agreement dated as of October 9, 2012, by and among (i) the Company Credit Agreement Parties, (ii) the banks and other financial institutions named therein as lenders (the “ABL Lenders”), (iii) Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, in its capacity as Agent and Co-Collateral Agent (the “ABL Agent”), (iv) General Electric Capital Corporation, as Co-Collateral Agent, Bank of America, N.A., as Syndication Agent, and Wells Fargo Capital Finance, LLC, and (v) Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, as Joint Lead Arrangers and Joint Bookrunners (as amended, modified, or otherwise supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the “ABL Credit Agreement”), as further set forth in the Term Sheet;

**WHEREAS**, the Debtors have requested and (i) certain of the ABL Lenders or their affiliates (in their capacities as such, the “DIP ABL Lenders”) have agreed to provide a \$305 million debtor-in-possession revolving financing facility (the “DIP ABL Facility”); (ii) certain of the Consenting Lenders or their affiliates (in their capacities as such, the “DIP Term Lenders,” and collectively with the DIP ABL Lenders, the “DIP Lenders”) have agreed to provide an up to \$80 million debtor-in-possession term loan financing facility (the “DIP Term Facility,” and with

the DIP ABL Facility, the “DIP Financing”), with the ABL Agent acting as the agent for the DIP ABL Facility and the First Lien Agent acting as the agent under the DIP Term Facility (in their capacity as such, the “DIP Agents”); and (iii) the Consenting Lenders and the ABL Agent have agreed to the Company’s use of cash collateral, which DIP Financing and use of cash collateral will be in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the credit agreement governing the ABL Facility (the “DIP ABL Credit Agreement”) and the credit agreement governing the DIP Term Facility (the “DIP Term Credit Agreement”; together with the DIP ABL Credit Agreement, the “DIP Credit Agreements”) and a proposed order approving the DIP Financing, attached hereto as **Exhibit B** (the “Interim DIP Order,” and collectively with the DIP Credit Agreements and any documents related thereto, the “DIP Documents”);

**WHEREAS**, prior to the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases, the Company and the Consenting Lenders engaged in arm’s-length, good-faith negotiations, culminating in the Parties’ agreement on the terms of the Plan, as more particularly detailed and described herein, in the Term Sheet, and in the DIP Documents, that will be implemented through the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases and the filing by the Company of voluntary petitions with the Bankruptcy Court (the date of such filing, the “Petition Date”), which date shall be no later than one calendar day after the Agreement Effective Date; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parties are prepared to perform their obligations hereunder, subject to the terms and conditions hereof.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the premises and the mutual covenants and agreements set forth herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties, intending to be legally bound hereunder, do agree as follows:

**1. Effectiveness.**

This Agreement shall be effective and binding with respect to each of the Parties at the time at which (i) the Company shall have executed and delivered counterpart signature pages of this Agreement to counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee and (ii) Consenting Lenders holding more than 50.0% in principal amount of the First Lien Claims and more than 50.0% in principal amount of the Second Lien Claims shall have executed and delivered counterpart signature pages of this Agreement to counsel to the Company (the “Agreement Effective Date”); provided, however, that signature pages executed by the Consenting Parties shall be delivered to (a) counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee in an unredacted form and (b) the Company and its counsel in an unredacted form (to be held on a confidential basis by such counsel in accordance with Section 9 hereof).

**2. Certain Definitions.**

As used in this Agreement, the following terms have the following meanings:

- (a) “**Confirmation Order**” means the order confirming the Plan.
- (b) “**Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee**” means the undersigned Consenting Lenders represented by King & Spalding LLP and Houlihan Lokey Capital Inc.



(c) “**Definitive Documents**” means all documents (including any related orders, agreements, instruments, schedules, or exhibits) that are contemplated by the Plan and that are otherwise necessary or desirable to implement, effectuate, or otherwise relate to the Restructuring, including, without limitation: (i) the Plan; (ii) the documents to be filed in the supplement to the Plan; (iii) the Disclosure Statement; (iv) Disclosure Statement Motion and the Disclosure Statement Order; (v) the Confirmation Order; (vi) any documentation relating to the use of cash collateral and the DIP Financing, including motions seeking authority to use cash collateral and obtain the DIP Financing, any Financing Orders, and the DIP Documents; (vii) any organizational documents, shareholder and member related agreements, or other governance documents for the reorganized Company; and (viii) such other documents or agreements as may be reasonably necessary to implement the Restructuring contemplated by this Agreement and the Term Sheet.

(d) “**Disclosure Statement**” means the disclosure statement for the Plan that is prepared and distributed in accordance with sections 1125, 1126(b), and 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code.

(e) “**Disclosure Statement Motion**” means the motion seeking approval of the Disclosure Statement.

(f) “**Disclosure Statement Order**” means the order approving the Disclosure Statement.

(g) “**Final Financing Order**” means one or more final orders entered by the Bankruptcy Court authorizing the Debtors to enter into the DIP Financing.

(h) “**Financing Orders**” means the Final Financing Order and Interim Financing Order, collectively.

(i) “**Holder**” means any individual, partnership, joint venture, firm, or corporation that beneficially owns or controls (with sole investment or voting discretion) First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims, as applicable.

(j) “**Interim Financing Order**” means one or more interim orders entered by the Bankruptcy Court authorizing the Debtors to enter into the DIP Financing on an interim basis.

(k) “**Plan Effective Date**” means the effective date of the Plan.

(l) “**Plan Support Period**” means the period commencing on the Agreement Effective Date and ending on the earlier of the (i) date on which this Agreement is terminated in accordance with Section 6 hereof and (ii) the Plan Effective Date.

(m) “**Requisite Consenting Lenders**” means, as of the relevant date, Consenting Lenders that collectively hold at least a majority of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the First Lien Claims held by all of the Consenting Lenders as of such date.

**3. Definitive Documents**

Each of the Definitive Documents shall (A) contain terms and conditions consistent in all material respects with this Agreement, the Term Sheet, and the DIP Documents and (B) shall otherwise be reasonably satisfactory in all respects to the Company and the Consenting Lenders, including with respect to any modifications, amendments, deletions, or supplements to such Definitive Documents at any time during the Plan Support Period.

**4. Agreements of the Consenting Parties.**

(a) During the Plan Support Period, subject to the terms and conditions hereof, each Consenting Party agrees, solely with respect to itself, that:

(i) it will use its commercially reasonable efforts to support the Restructuring and the transactions contemplated by the Term Sheet, as applicable, and to act in good faith and take all commercially reasonable actions necessary to consummate the Restructuring and the Restructuring Transactions in a manner consistent with this Agreement, including the timelines set forth herein;

(ii) it shall not (A) direct any administrative agent or collateral agent to take any action inconsistent with such Consenting Party's obligations under this Agreement, and, if any applicable administrative agent or collateral agent takes any action inconsistent with such Consenting Party's obligations under this Agreement, such Consenting Party shall use its commercially reasonable efforts to request that such administrative agent or collateral agent cease and refrain from taking any such action (but shall not be required to incur any indemnification obligations in respect of such request or otherwise), or (B) directly or indirectly encourage any other person or entity to directly or indirectly, (x) object to, delay, impede, or take any other action or any inaction to interfere with the acceptance, approval, implementation, consummation, or amendment of the Plan (whether before or after confirmation, provided that such amendment is consistent with this Agreement); (y) propose, file, support, vote for, or take any other action in furtherance of any restructuring, workout, plan of arrangement, or plan of reorganization for the Company that is inconsistent with this Agreement, the DIP Documents, the Term Sheet, or the Plan, as applicable; or (z) exercise any right or remedy for the enforcement, collection, or recovery of any claim against the Company except in a manner consistent with this Agreement, the Financing Orders, and the Plan, as applicable;

(iii) subject to the receipt of the Disclosure Statement pursuant to the Disclosure Statement Order, it shall (A) timely vote or cause to be voted any First Lien Claims and Second Lien Claims (as applicable) it holds to accept the Plan by timely delivering its duly executed and completed ballot or ballots, as applicable, accepting the Plan on a timely basis following commencement of the solicitation of acceptances of the Plan in accordance with sections 1125(g) and 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code; (B) not change or withdraw such vote or the elections described above (or cause or direct such vote or elections to be changed or withdrawn); provided, however, that such vote or elections shall be immediately revoked (and deemed void *ab initio*) by all Consenting Parties upon the expiration of the Plan Support Period or the termination of this Agreement; and (C) to the extent it is permitted to elect whether to opt out of

the releases set forth in the Plan, not elect to opt out of the releases set forth in the Plan by timely delivering its duly executed and completed ballot or ballots indicating such election; and

(iv) use commercially reasonable efforts to support, and take all commercially reasonable actions necessary to facilitate, the approval of the Disclosure Statement, solicitation of votes on the Plan, and confirmation and consummation of the Plan.

(b) Transfers. During the Plan Support Period, subject to the terms and conditions hereof, each Consenting Party agrees, solely with respect to itself, that it shall not sell, use, assign, convey, grant, transfer, permit the participation in, or otherwise dispose of, in whole or in part (each, a “Transfer”), any ownership (including any beneficial ownership)<sup>4</sup> in the First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims, as applicable, that it holds (collectively, for purposes of this Section 4, the “Consenting Party Claims”), as applicable, or any option thereon or any right or interest therein (including, but not limited to, accomplishing the same, by granting any proxies or depositing any interests in the Consenting Party Claims into a voting trust or by entering into a voting agreement with respect to the Consenting Party Claims), unless (i) the intended transferee is a Consenting Party or (ii) if the intended transferee is not a Consenting Party, such intended transferee executes and delivers to counsel to the Company on the terms set forth below an executed transfer agreement in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C (a “Transfer Agreement”) before such Transfer is effective (it being understood and agreed by the Parties that any such Transfer shall not be effective as against the Company until notification of such Transfer and a copy of the executed, unaltered, and unredacted Transfer Agreement is received by counsel to the Company, in each case, on the terms set forth herein) (such transfer, a “Permitted Transfer” and such party to such Permitted Transfer, a “Permitted Transferee”), in which event (I) the transferee (including the Consenting Party transferee, if applicable) shall be deemed to be a Consenting Party hereunder to the extent of such transferred rights and obligations, and (II) the transferor shall be deemed to relinquish its rights (and be released from its obligations) under this Agreement to the extent of such transferred rights and obligations. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, during the Plan Support Period, each Consenting Party may offer, sell, or otherwise transfer any or all of its holdings of First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims to any entity that, as of the date of transfer, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with such Consenting Party; provided, however, that such entity shall automatically be subject to the terms of this Agreement and deemed a Consenting Party hereunder, and shall execute a Transfer Agreement.

(i) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, (A) the foregoing provisions shall not preclude any Consenting Party from settling or delivering any Consenting Party Claims to settle any confirmed transaction pending as of the date of such Consenting Party’s entry into this Agreement (subject to compliance with applicable securities laws and it being understood that such Consenting Party Claims so acquired and held (i.e., not as a part of a short transaction) shall be subject to the terms of this Agreement), (B) a Qualified Marketmaker<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> As used herein, the term “beneficial ownership” means the direct or indirect economic ownership of, and/or the power, whether by contract or otherwise, to direct the exercise of the voting rights and the disposition of, all or any portion of the Consenting Party Claims or the right to acquire any such Consenting Party Claims.

<sup>5</sup> As used herein, the term “Qualified Marketmaker” means an entity that (a) holds itself out to the public or the applicable private markets as standing ready in the ordinary course of business to purchase from customers and

that acquires any Consenting Party Claims with the purpose and intent of acting as a Qualified Marketmaker for such Consenting Party Claims, shall not be required to execute and deliver to counsel a Transfer Agreement or otherwise agree to be bound by the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement if the transfer otherwise is a Permitted Transfer; provided, however, that if any of the conditions in this clause (B) is not satisfied, the Qualified Marketmaker will be required to execute and deliver a Transfer Agreement, and (C) to the extent any Party is acting solely in its capacity as a Qualified Marketmaker, it may Transfer any ownership interests in the Consenting Party Claims (as applicable) that it acquires from a holder of the Consenting Party Claims that is not a Consenting Party to a transferee that is not a Consenting Party at the time of such Transfer without the requirement that the transferee be or become a signatory to this Agreement or execute a Transfer Agreement; provided, however, that in the event such Party fails to act solely in its capacity as a Qualified Marketmaker in compliance with this clause (C), any transferee that is not a Consenting Party must execute and deliver a Transfer Agreement.

(ii) This Agreement shall in no way be construed to preclude any Consenting Party from acquiring additional Consenting Party Claims; provided, however, that (A) any Consenting Party that acquires additional Consenting Party Claims during the Plan Support period shall promptly notify counsel to the Company and counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee of such acquisition, including the amount of such acquisition, and (B) such acquired Consenting Party Claims shall automatically and immediately upon acquisition by a Consenting Party be deemed subject to the terms of this Agreement (regardless of when or whether notice of such acquisition is given to the Company), in the case of each of clauses (A) and (B), other than with respect to any Consenting Party Claims acquired by such Consenting Party in its capacity as a Qualified Marketmaker, in accordance with Section 4(b)(i).

(iii) This Section 4 shall not impose any obligation on the Company to issue any “cleansing letter” or otherwise publicly disclose information for the purpose of enabling a Consenting Party to Transfer any Consenting Party Claims. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, to the extent the Company and another Party have entered into a separate agreement with respect to the issuance of a “cleansing letter” or other public disclosure of information (each such executed agreement, a “Confidentiality Agreement”), the terms of such Confidentiality Agreement shall continue to apply and remain in full force and effect according to its terms.

(iv) Any Transfer made in violation of this Section 4(b) shall be void *ab initio*.

(c) DIP Term Facility Backstop. Each Consenting Lender holding a First Lien Claim that has executed this Agreement prior to the Petition Date (each, an “Initial Consenting Lender” and collectively, the “Initial Consenting Lenders”), may, at its option, directly or through one more affiliated funds or financing vehicles (or funds or accounts advised or sub-advised by such person) commit to backstop the aggregate Term DIP Commitments (as

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sell to customers claims against the Company (or enter with customers into long and short positions in claims against the Company), in its capacity as a dealer or market maker in claims against the Company and (b) is, in fact, regularly in the business of making a market in claims against issuers or borrowers (including debt securities or other debt).

such term is defined in the Term DIP Credit Agreement) on a pro rata basis, determined based on the outstanding aggregate principal amount of First Lien Claims held by the Initial Consenting Lenders or their affiliated funds as of the Petition Date (each such Initial Consenting Lender backstopping the Term DIP Commitments, a “Backstop Lender”; collectively, the “Backstop Lenders”; each Backstop Lender’s commitment, a “Backstop DIP Commitment”; and collectively, the “Backstop DIP Commitments”). To the extent one or more of the Initial Consenting Lenders elects to not backstop its pro rata share of the Term DIP Commitments, the remaining Backstop Lenders shall cover such Initial Consenting Lender’s funding obligation on a pro rata basis. In exchange for each Backstop Lender’s Backstop DIP Commitment, each such Backstop Lender shall be entitled to a backstop fee equal to 3.00% on the entire Backstop DIP Commitments as set forth in the DIP Fee Letter (as such term is defined in the Term DIP Credit Agreement).

**5. Agreements of the Company.**

(a) Subject to the terms and conditions hereof, including Section 6(c)(iii), prior to and during the Plan Support Period, the Company agrees that it shall, without limitation:

(i) (A)(1) complete and file, within the timeframes contemplated herein, the Plan, the Disclosure Statement, and the other Definitive Documents and (2) use commercially reasonable efforts to obtain entry by the Bankruptcy Court of the Financing Orders, the Disclosure Statement Order, and the Confirmation Order within the timeframes contemplated by this Agreement; and (B) use commercially reasonable efforts to obtain any and all required regulatory and/or third-party approvals for the Restructuring embodied in the Plan, if any, and solely to the extent necessary to effectuate the Restructuring;

(ii) continue to operate its businesses without material change in such operations or disposition of material assets (in each case, unless the Requisite Consenting Lenders have expressly consented thereto in writing) in accordance with its business judgment, and confer with the Consenting Parties and their respective representatives, as reasonably requested, to report on operational matters and the general status of ongoing operations; provided, however, notwithstanding the forgoing, the Debtors shall be permitted to continue the liquidation of certain business assets as contemplated by the “going-out-of-business” motion to be filed with the Bankruptcy Court or any disposition of assets contemplated by a budget prepared in connection with the Final Financing Orders.

(iii) (A) support and take all reasonable actions necessary or reasonably requested by the Requisite Consenting Lenders to facilitate the solicitation, confirmation, and consummation of the Restructuring, the Plan, and the transactions contemplated thereby, (B) not take any action directly or indirectly that is inconsistent with, or that would reasonably be expected to prevent, interfere with, delay, or impede the approval of the Disclosure Statement, the solicitation of votes on the Plan, and the confirmation and consummation of the Plan and the Restructuring, including soliciting, causing, or allowing any of its agents or representatives to solicit any agreements relating to any chapter 11 plan or restructuring transaction (including, for the avoidance of doubt, a transaction premised on an asset sale of substantially all of the Company’s assets under section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code) other than the Restructuring (an “Alternative Transaction”), and (C) (x) not, nor encourage any other person to, take any action

which would, or would reasonably be expected to, breach or be inconsistent with this Agreement or delay, impede, appeal, or take any other negative action, directly or indirectly, or encourage any other entity to interfere with the acceptance or implementation of the Restructuring, and (y) in the event any other person takes any action described in the preceding clause (x), take all steps reasonably necessary to affirmatively contest such action and/or object thereto, including, without limitation, timely filing a formal written response in opposition thereto with the Bankruptcy Court;

(iv) (A) provide (x) draft copies of all first day motions or applications and other documents that the Company intends to file with the Bankruptcy Court on the Petition Date, and (y) draft copies of all other material motions and applications that the Company intends to file with the Bankruptcy Court after the Petition Date, in each case, to counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee at least three (3) calendar days prior to the date on which the Company intends to file such documents; provided, that final filing versions of such documents shall be reasonably acceptable, in form and substance, to the Requisite Consenting Lenders or otherwise amended to be reasonably acceptable, in form and substance, to the Requisite Consenting Lenders upon the Company receiving notice that any final filing versions were not reasonably acceptable to the Requisite Consenting Lenders;

(B) file on the Petition Date such first day motions and pleadings that are reasonably acceptable in form and substance, to the Requisite Consenting Lenders;

(C) (i) file the Plan, the Disclosure Statement (other than any exhibits attached thereto), and the Disclosure Statement Motion with the Bankruptcy Court within 21 calendar days of the Petition Date (the "Plan Filing Date"); (ii) obtain approval of the Disclosure Statement Motion within 35 calendar days of the Plan Filing Date, and (iii) obtain entry of the Confirmation Order within 91 calendar days of the Plan Filing Date (such date that the Confirmation Order is entered, the "Confirmation Date");

(D) seek a Confirmation Order that becomes effective and enforceable immediately upon its entry and seek to have the period in which an appeal thereto must be filed commence immediately upon its entry;

(v) obtain authority, pursuant to the Financing Orders, to pay all pre- and postpetition reasonable and documented (in summary form) fees and expenses of (A) King & Spalding LLP, as counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee, (B) Houlihan Lokey Capital, Inc., as financial advisor to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee, (C) Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP, as counsel to the First Lien Agent; and (D) counsel retained by any Initial Consenting Lender prior to the Petition Date (and acknowledged on or prior to such date by counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee); provided that, and so long as, such Initial Consenting Lender (i) remains a party to and fulfills its obligations under this Agreement (unless such Initial Consenting Lender terminates this Agreement pursuant to Section 6(e), in which case the fees and expenses of such terminating Initial Consenting Lender's counsel shall be paid by the Company through and including the termination date); and (ii) becomes a lender under the Term DIP Facility and fulfills its obligations under the Term DIP Credit Agreement;

(vi) maintain their good standing under the laws of the states in which they are incorporated or organized;

(vii) timely file with the Bankruptcy Court or any other applicable United States court a formal written objection to any motion filed with the Bankruptcy Court or any other United States court by any party seeking the entry of an order (A) directing the appointment of an examiner with expanded powers or a trustee in any of the Chapter 11 Cases, (B) converting any of the Chapter 11 Cases to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code, (C) dismissing any of the Chapter 11 Cases, (D) modifying or terminating the Company's exclusive right to file and/or solicit acceptances of a plan of reorganization, or (E) granting any relief inconsistent with this Agreement and the Definitive Documents;

(viii) provide to the Consenting Parties and/or their respective professionals, upon reasonable advance notice to the Company, (A) reasonable access to the respective management and advisors of the Company for the purposes of evaluating the Company's finances and operations and participating in the planning process with respect to the Restructuring; (B) prompt access to any information provided to any existing or prospective financing sources (including lenders under any exit financing facility); and (C) timely and reasonable responses to all diligence requests;

(ix) use their commercially reasonable efforts to preserve intact in all material respects their current business organizations, keep available the services of their current officers and material employees (in each case, other than voluntary resignations, terminations for cause, or terminations consistent with applicable fiduciary duties), and preserve in all material respects their relationships with customers, sales representatives, suppliers, distributors, and others, in each case, having material business dealings with the Company (other than terminations for cause or consistent with applicable fiduciary duties);

(x) provide prompt written notice to the Consenting Parties between the date hereof and the Plan Effective Date of (A) the occurrence, or failure to occur, of any event of which the Company knows (or, upon reasonable inquiry, should have known), which occurrence or failure would be likely to cause (1) any covenant of the Company contained in this Agreement not to be satisfied in any material respect or (2) any condition precedent contained in the Plan or this Agreement not to timely occur or become impossible to satisfy, (B) receipt of any notice from any third-party alleging that the consent of such party is or may be required in connection with the transactions contemplated by the Restructuring, (C) receipt of any notice from any governmental unit with jurisdiction in connection with this Agreement or the transactions contemplated by the Restructuring, (D) receipt of any notice of any proceeding commenced, or, to the actual knowledge of the Company, threatened against the Company, relating to or involving or otherwise affecting in any material respect the transactions contemplated by the Restructuring, and (E) any failure of the Company to comply, in any material respect, with or satisfy any covenant, condition, or agreement to be complied with or satisfied by it hereunder;

(xi) to the extent permitted under applicable law and confidentiality obligations, promptly notify the other Parties in writing following the receipt, in writing, of notice of any material governmental, regulatory, or third-party complaints, litigations,

investigations, or hearings (or communications indicating that the same may be contemplated or threatened);

(xii) provide notice of any written or oral offer or proposal for an Alternative Transaction received by the Company or its advisors, together with copies of any and all documents relating thereto, to the advisors to counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee, within one business day of the Company's or their advisors' receipt thereof; and

(xiii) comply with all covenants set forth in the Term Sheet.

(b) Negative Covenants. The Company agrees that, for the duration of the Plan Support Period, the Company shall not take any action inconsistent with, or omit to take any action required by, this Agreement, the Plan, or any of the other Definitive Documents. The Company further agrees that prior to and during the Plan Support Period, the Company shall not: (i) take any action that impairs or removes any interest or right the Consenting Parties have in and to any collateral held or owned by the Company without the consent of the First Lien Lenders or bankruptcy court order authorizing such action; (ii) make any transfers from and after the Agreement Effective Date and through the Plan Support Period to or for the account of insiders or affiliates in respect of antecedent debt without a Bankruptcy Court order; and (iii) other than voluntary departure or termination for cause, change any of its management team without immediate replacement with another qualified individual.

(c) Automatic Stay. The Company acknowledges and agrees and shall not dispute that after the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases, the giving of notice of termination by any Party pursuant to this Agreement shall not be a violation of the automatic stay of section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code (and the Company hereby waives, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the applicability of the automatic stay as it relates to any such notice being provided). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, following the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases and unless and until there is an unstayed order of the Bankruptcy Court providing that the giving of notice under and/or termination of this Agreement in accordance with its terms is not prohibited by the automatic stay imposed by section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code, the occurrence of any of the termination events in Section 6(b), 6(d), or 6(e) shall result in an automatic termination of this Agreement, to the extent any of the Terminating Consenting Parties (as defined below) would otherwise have the ability to terminate this Agreement in accordance with Section 6(b), 6(d), or 6(e), five (5) calendar days following such occurrence unless waived in writing by all of the Terminating Consenting Parties.

(d) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, nothing in this Agreement shall require the Company or any directors, officers, or members of the Company, each in its capacity as a director, officer, or member of the Company, to take any action, or to refrain from taking any action, to the extent inconsistent with its or their fiduciary obligations under applicable law (as reasonably determined by them in good faith after consultation with legal counsel).



**6. Termination of Agreement.**

(a) Automatic Termination. This Agreement shall terminate automatically, without any further action required by any Party, upon the occurrence of any of the following events: (i) entry of an order denying confirmation of the Plan, (ii) the occurrence of the Plan Effective Date, (iii) an order confirming the Plan is reversed or vacated, or (iv) any court of competent jurisdiction has entered a final, non-appealable judgment or order declaring this Agreement to be unenforceable.

(b) Consenting Party Termination Events. This Agreement may be terminated by the Requisite Consenting Lenders (or the First Lien Agent acting at the direction of the Requisite Consenting Lenders) by the delivery to the Company, and counsel to the Consenting Parties other than the Consenting Parties seeking to terminate this Agreement pursuant to this Section 6(b) (such Consenting Parties seeking to terminate, the “Terminating Consenting Parties”) of a written notice in accordance with Section 19 hereof, upon the occurrence of any of the following events (each, a “Consenting Party Termination Event”):

(i) the Company fails to meet any of the Milestones as set forth in the Term sheet;

(ii) the breach by any Party other than the Terminating Consenting Parties, of (A) any affirmative or negative covenant contained in this Agreement or (B) any other obligations of such breaching Party set forth in this Agreement, in each case, in any material respect (without giving effect to any “materiality” qualifiers set forth therein), and, in either respect, to the extent such breach would have a material adverse effect on the consummation of the Restructuring in accordance with the Term Sheet or the DIP Documents and which breach remains uncured for a period of 5 calendar days following such breaching Party’s receipt of notice pursuant to Section 19 hereof (as applicable);

(iii) any representation or warranty in this Agreement made by the Company shall have been untrue in any material respect when made or shall have become untrue in any material respect, or the Company violates any of the covenants herein, and such breach remains uncured for a period of 10 calendar days following the Company’s receipt of notice pursuant to Section 19 hereof (as applicable);

(iv) the Company files any motion, pleading, or related document with the Bankruptcy Court in a manner that is materially inconsistent with this Agreement, the DIP Credit Agreements, the Term Sheet, or the Plan, and such motion, pleading, or related document has not been withdrawn after 3 business days of the Company receiving written notice in accordance with Section 19 that such motion, pleading, or related document is materially inconsistent with this Agreement, the Term Sheet, the DIP Documents, or the Plan;

(v) the issuance by any governmental authority, including any regulatory authority or court of competent jurisdiction, of any ruling, judgment, or order enjoining the consummation of or rendering illegal the Plan or the Restructuring or any material portion thereof, and either (A) such ruling, judgment, or order has been issued at the request of or

with the acquiescence of the Company, or (B) in all other circumstances, such ruling, judgment, or order has not been reversed or vacated within 30 calendar days after such issuance;

(vi) the Bankruptcy Court (or other court of competent jurisdiction) enters an order (A) directing the appointment of an examiner with expanded powers or a trustee in any of the Chapter 11 Cases, (B) converting any of the Chapter 11 Cases to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code, (C) dismissing any of the Chapter 11 Cases, or (D) the effect of which would render the Plan incapable of consummation on the terms set forth in this Agreement or the Term Sheet;

(vii) the Company's consensual use of cash collateral has been terminated in accordance with the terms of the Financing Orders;

(viii) other than pursuant to any relief sought by the Company that is not materially inconsistent with its obligations under this Agreement or the Plan, the Bankruptcy Court grants relief terminating, annulling, or modifying the automatic stay (as set forth in section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code) with respect to any assets of the Company having an aggregate fair market value in excess of \$5.0 million without the prior written consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders;

(ix) the Company files or supports (or fails to timely object to) another party in filing (A) a motion or pleading challenging the amount, validity, or priority of any First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims or (B) any plan of reorganization, liquidation, or sale of all or substantially all of the Company's assets, other than the Restructuring set forth herein;

(x) the Company (A) withdraws the Plan, (B) publicly announces or otherwise informs any of the Consenting Parties of its intention not to support the Plan or the Restructuring, (C) files a motion with the Bankruptcy Court seeking the approval of an Alternative Transaction, or (D) agrees to pursue (including, for the avoidance of doubt, as may be evidenced by a term sheet, letter of intent, or similar document) or publicly announces its intent to pursue an Alternative Transaction;

(xi) if the Definitive Documents and any amendments, modifications, deletions, or supplements thereto do not comply with Section 3 or Section 10 of this Agreement, as applicable; provided that such Definitive Documents or amendments, modifications, deletions, or supplements thereto were not modified to be consistent with Section 3 or Section 10, as applicable, or withdrawn within five (5) business days following such breaching Party's receipt of notice pursuant to Section 19 hereof;

(xii) the Bankruptcy Court enters an order modifying or terminating the Company's exclusive right to file and/or solicit acceptances of a plan of reorganization (including the Plan);

(xiii) the occurrence of any Event of Default under (and as defined in) the Definitive Documentation governing the DIP Financing;

(xiv) the Company has determined to exercise its rights under Section 6(c)(iii) of this Agreement;

(xv) the Company files a motion seeking entry of an order approving any key employee incentive plan, employee retention plan, or comparable plan, except as provided in the Plan, without the prior written consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders; or

(xvi) Holders of First Lien Claims do not receive under the Plan on account of such First Lien Claims their pro rata share of at least 86.5% of the New Equity (but subject to dilution from the MEIP and Exit Commitment Fee) after taking into account distributions to all other holders of claims and interests under the Plan.

(c) Company Termination Events. This Agreement may be terminated by the Company pursuant to this Section 6(c) five (5) calendar days following the delivery to counsel to the Consenting Parties of a written notice in accordance with Section 19 hereof, which notice may be delivered upon the occurrence of any of the following events (each, a “Company Termination Event”):

(i) the breach by one or more of the Consenting Lenders representing in excess of 50.01% of the aggregate principal amount of the First Lien Claims each with respect to any of the representations, warranties, or covenants of such Consenting Party, as set forth in this Agreement, to the extent such breach would have a material adverse effect on the consummation of the Restructuring, and which breach remains uncured for a period of five (5) calendar days after the receipt by the applicable Consenting Lenders from the Company of written notice of such breach;

(ii) the issuance by any governmental authority, including any regulatory authority or court of competent jurisdiction, of any ruling, judgment, or order enjoining the consummation of or rendering illegal the Plan or the Restructuring or any material portion thereof, and either (A) such ruling, judgment, or order has been issued at the request of or with the acquiescence of the Company, or (B) in all other circumstances, such ruling, judgment, or order has not been reversed or vacated within thirty (30) calendar days after such issuance; or

(iii) the board of directors, managers, or similar governing body, as applicable, of any Company entity determines that taking any action, refraining from taking any action, or continued performance under this Agreement would be inconsistent to any extent with its (or their respective officers or directors’) fiduciary obligations under applicable law (as reasonably determined by the Company in good faith after consultation with legal counsel).

(d) Mutual Termination. This Agreement may be terminated by mutual agreement of the Company and the Requisite Consenting Lenders upon the receipt of written notice delivered in accordance with Section 19 hereof.

(e) Consenting Party Individual Termination Right. Any individual Consenting Party shall have the right to terminate this Agreement, as to itself only, if (i) the Plan Effective Date shall not have occurred by 11:59 p.m. (New York time) on the date that is 210 calendar days after the Petition Date (the “Outside Date”) or (ii) (x) the Company or any other Consenting Party takes any action that is inconsistent with this Agreement or the Term Sheet or (y) this Agreement or the Term Sheet or any provision therein is waived, modified, amended or changed without the consent of the affected Consenting Party that, in either case, in the

reasonable determination of the affected Consenting Party, disproportionately and adversely affects the rights of such Consenting Party (including with respect to its Second Lien Claims) and its affiliates (taken as a whole) related to or under this Agreement, the Term Sheet or the Plan. In the event a Consenting Party terminates pursuant to this Section 6(e), such termination shall be effective as to such Consenting Party only and shall not affect any of the rights or obligations of any other party to this Agreement.

(f) Effect of Termination. Upon the termination of this Agreement in accordance with this Section 6, and except as provided in Section 13 hereof, this Agreement shall forthwith become null and void and of no further force or effect as to all Parties and each Party shall, except as provided otherwise in this Agreement, be immediately released from its liabilities, obligations, commitments, undertakings, and agreements under or related to this Agreement and shall have all the rights and remedies that it would have had and shall be entitled to take all actions, whether with respect to the Restructuring or otherwise, that it would have been entitled to take had (notwithstanding the passage of any applicable deadlines) it not entered into this Agreement; provided, however, that in no event shall any such termination relieve a Party from liability for its breach or non-performance of its obligations hereunder prior to the date of such termination. Upon any such termination of this Agreement, any vote or consent given by the Consenting Parties prior to termination shall automatically be deemed, for all purposes, to be null and void *ab initio* and shall not be considered or otherwise used in any manner by the Parties in connection with the Restructuring and this Agreement and such consents or ballots may be changed or resubmitted regardless of whether the applicable voting deadline has passed (without the need to seek a court order or consent from the Company allowing such change or resubmission).

**7. Definitive Documents; Good Faith Cooperation; Further Assurances.**

Subject to the terms and conditions described herein, during the Plan Support Period, each Party, severally and not jointly, hereby covenants and agrees to reasonably cooperate with each other in good faith in connection with the negotiation, drafting, execution, and delivery of the Definitive Documents. Furthermore, subject to the terms and conditions hereof, each of the Parties shall take such action as may be reasonably necessary or reasonably requested by the other Parties to carry out the purposes and intent of this Agreement, including making and filing any required regulatory filings (provided, however, that no Consenting Party shall be required to incur any out of pocket cost or expense, or any liability in connection therewith).

**8. Representations and Warranties.**

(a) Each Party, severally and not jointly, represents and warrants to the other Parties that the following statements are true, correct, and complete as of the date hereof (or as of the date a Consenting Party becomes a party hereto):

(i) such Party is validly existing and in good standing under the laws of its jurisdiction of incorporation or organization, and has all requisite corporate, partnership, limited liability company, or similar authority to enter into this Agreement and carry out the transactions contemplated hereby and perform its obligations contemplated hereunder; and the

execution and delivery of this Agreement and the performance of such Party's obligations hereunder have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate, limited liability company, partnership, or other similar action on its part;

(ii) the execution, delivery, and performance by such Party of this Agreement does not and will not (A) violate any provision of law, rule, or regulation applicable to it, its charter, or its bylaws (or other similar governing documents), or (B) conflict with, result in a breach of or constitute (with due notice or lapse of time or both) a default under any material contractual obligation to which it is a party (except to the extent such conduct is consented to by the counterparty thereto or the Requisite Consenting Lenders relevant thereto);

(iii) the execution, delivery, and performance by such Party of this Agreement does not and will not require any registration or filing with, consent or approval of, or notice to, or other action, with or by, any federal, state, or governmental authority or regulatory body, except such filings as may be necessary and/or required by the SEC; and

(iv) this Agreement is the legally valid and binding obligation of such Party, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, except as enforcement may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, or other similar laws relating to or limiting creditors' rights generally or by equitable principles relating to enforceability or a ruling of the Bankruptcy Court.

(b) Each Consenting Party severally (and not jointly) represents and warrants to the Company that, as of the date hereof (or as of the date such Consenting Party becomes a party hereto), such Consenting Party (i) is the beneficial owner of the aggregate principal amount of First Lien Claims, and/or Second Lien Claims (as applicable) set forth below its name on the signature page hereof (or below its name on the signature page of a Transfer Agreement for any Consenting Party that becomes a party hereto after the date hereof), and/or (ii) has, with respect to the beneficial owners of such First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims (as applicable), (A) sole investment or voting discretion with respect to such First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims (as applicable), (B) full power and authority to vote on and consent to matters concerning such First Lien Claims, and/or Second Lien Claims, (as applicable), or to exchange, assign, and transfer such First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims (as applicable), and (C) full power and authority to bind or act on the behalf of, such beneficial owners.

**9. Disclosure; Publicity.**

(a) On or before the Petition Date, the Company shall disseminate a press release disclosing the existence of this Agreement and the terms hereof and of the Plan (including any schedules and exhibits thereto that are filed with the Bankruptcy Court on the Petition Date) with such redactions as may be reasonably requested by counsel to any Consenting Party to maintain the confidentiality of the parties provided in Section 9(b), except as otherwise required by law.

(b) The Company shall submit drafts to counsel to the Consenting Parties of any press releases and public documents, that constitute disclosure of the existence or terms of this Agreement or any amendment to the terms of this Agreement at least three (3) calendar days

prior to making any such disclosure, and shall afford them a reasonable opportunity under the circumstances to comment on such documents and disclosures, final versions of which shall be reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders. Except as required by law or otherwise permitted under the terms of any other agreement between the Company on the one hand, and any Consenting Party, on the other hand, no Party or its advisors (including counsel to any Party) shall disclose to any person or entity (including, for the avoidance of doubt, any other Consenting Party), other than advisors to the Company, the principal amount or percentage of any First Lien Claims, Second Lien Claims, or any other securities of the Company held by any Party, in each case, without such Party's prior written consent; provided, however, that (i) if such disclosure is required by law, subpoena, or other legal process or regulation, the disclosing Party shall afford the relevant Party a reasonable opportunity to review and comment in advance of such disclosure and shall take all reasonable measures to limit such disclosure (the expense of which, if any, shall be borne by the relevant disclosing Party) and (ii) the foregoing shall not prohibit the disclosure of the aggregate percentage or aggregate principal amount of First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims held by all Consenting Parties. Notwithstanding the provisions in this Section 9, any Party may disclose, to the extent consented to in writing by a duly authorized officer or representative of the affected Consenting Party, such Consenting Party's individual holdings.

**10. Amendments and Waivers.**

During the Plan Support Period, this Agreement, including any exhibits or schedules hereto, may not be waived, modified, amended, or supplemented except in a writing signed by the Company and the Requisite Consenting Lenders; provided, however, that (i) any modification, amendment, deletion, or change to the definition of Requisite Consenting Lenders shall, in each case, require the prior written consent of each Consenting First Lien Lender, (ii) any extension of the Outside Date with respect to any Consenting First Lien Lender shall require the prior written consent of such Consenting First Lien Lender, (iii) any modification, amendment, deletion, or change to this Section 10 or the definition of Requisite Consenting Lenders shall require the prior written consent of each Requisite Creditor and (iv) any modification, amendment, or change to Section 6(e) shall require the prior written consent of each Consenting Party; provided further, however, that any waiver, modification, amendment, deletion, or supplement that disproportionately and adversely affects the economic recoveries or treatment of any Consenting Party under the Plan may not be made without the prior written consent of each such adversely affected Consenting Party.

**11. Governing Law; Jurisdiction; Waiver of Jury Trial.**

(a) This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and the rights of the Parties shall be governed by, the law of the State of New York, without giving effect to the conflicts of law principles thereof.

(b) Each of the Parties irrevocably agrees that any legal action, suit, or proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement brought by any party or its successors or assigns shall be brought and determined in any federal or state court in the Borough of Manhattan, the City of New York, and each of the Parties hereby irrevocably submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of the aforesaid courts for itself and with respect to its property, generally

and unconditionally, with regard to any such proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the Restructuring Transactions. Each of the Parties agrees not to commence any proceeding relating hereto or thereto except in the courts described above in New York or in the Bankruptcy Court, other than proceedings in any court of competent jurisdiction to enforce any judgment, decree, or award rendered by any such court in New York as described herein. Each of the Parties further agrees that notice as provided herein shall constitute sufficient service of process and the Parties further waive any argument that such service is insufficient. Subject to the foregoing, each of the Parties hereby irrevocably and unconditionally waives, and agrees not to assert, by way of motion or as a defense, counterclaim, or otherwise, in any proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the Restructuring Transactions, (i) any claim that it is not personally subject to the jurisdiction of the courts in New York as described herein for any reason, (ii) that it or its property is exempt or immune from jurisdiction of any such court or from any legal process commenced in such courts (whether through service of notice, attachment prior to judgment, attachment in aid of execution of judgment, execution of judgment, or otherwise) and (iii) that (A) the proceeding in any such court is brought in an inconvenient forum, (B) the venue of such proceeding is improper, or (C) this Agreement, or the subject matter hereof, may not be enforced in or by such courts. Notwithstanding the foregoing, during the pendency of the Chapter 11 Cases, all proceedings contemplated by this Section 11(b) shall be brought in the Bankruptcy Court.

(c) EACH PARTY HEREBY WAIVES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY RIGHT IT MAY HAVE TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY LEGAL PROCEEDING DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED HEREBY (WHETHER BASED ON CONTRACT, TORT, OR ANY OTHER THEORY). EACH PARTY (I) CERTIFIES THAT NO REPRESENTATIVE, AGENT, OR ATTORNEY OF ANY OTHER PARTY HAS REPRESENTED, EXPRESSLY OR OTHERWISE, THAT SUCH OTHER PARTY WOULD NOT, IN THE EVENT OF LITIGATION, SEEK TO ENFORCE THE FOREGOING WAIVER AND (II) ACKNOWLEDGES THAT IT AND THE OTHER PARTIES HAVE BEEN INDUCED TO ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMENT BY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE MUTUAL WAIVERS AND CERTIFICATIONS IN THIS SECTION.

**12. Specific Performance/Remedies.**

It is understood and agreed by the Parties that money damages would not be a sufficient remedy for any breach of this Agreement by any Party and each non-breaching Party shall be entitled to specific performance and injunctive or other equitable relief (including attorneys' fees and costs) as a remedy of any such breach, without the necessity of proving the inadequacy of money damages as a remedy, including an order of the Bankruptcy Court requiring any Party to comply promptly with any of its obligations hereunder.

**13. Survival.**

Notwithstanding the termination of this Agreement pursuant to Section 6 hereof, the agreements and obligations of the Parties set forth in this Section 13 and the following Sections: 1, 6(f), 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20 and 21 hereof (and any defined terms

used in any such Sections) shall survive such termination and shall continue in full force and effect for the benefit of the Consenting Parties in accordance with the terms hereof; provided, however, that any liability of a Party for failure to comply with the terms of this Agreement shall survive such termination.

**14. Headings.**

The headings of the sections, paragraphs, and subsections of this Agreement are inserted for convenience only and shall not affect the interpretation hereof or, for any purpose, be deemed a part of this Agreement.

**15. Successors and Assigns; Severability; Several Obligations.**

This Agreement is intended to bind and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective successors, permitted assigns, heirs, executors, administrators, and representatives; provided, however, that nothing contained in this Section 15 shall be deemed to permit Transfers of interests in the First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims other than in accordance with the express terms of this Agreement. If any provision of this Agreement, or the application of any such provision to any person or entity or circumstance, shall be held invalid or unenforceable in whole or in part, such invalidity or unenforceability shall attach only to such provision or part thereof and the remaining part of such provision hereof and this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect so long as the economic or legal substance of the transactions contemplated hereby is not affected in any manner materially adverse to any Party. Upon any such determination of invalidity, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith to modify this Agreement so as to effect the original intent of the Parties as closely as possible in a reasonably acceptable manner in order that the transactions contemplated hereby are consummated as originally contemplated to the greatest extent possible. The agreements, representations, and obligations of the Parties are, in all respects, several and neither joint nor joint and several.

**16. No Third-Party Beneficiaries.**

Unless expressly stated otherwise herein, this Agreement shall be solely for the benefit of the Parties and no other person or entity shall be a third-party beneficiary hereof.

**17. Prior Negotiations; Entire Agreement.**

This Agreement, including the exhibits and schedules hereto, constitutes the entire agreement of the Parties, and supersedes all other prior negotiations (whether written, verbal or otherwise), with respect to the subject matter hereof and thereof, except that the Parties acknowledge that any confidentiality agreement and/or non-disclosure agreement (if any) heretofore executed between the Company and any Consenting Party shall continue in full force and effect in accordance with its terms.

**18. Counterparts.**

This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, and all of which together shall be deemed to be one and the same agreement.



Execution copies of this Agreement may be delivered by facsimile, electronic mail, or otherwise, which shall be deemed to be an original for the purposes of this paragraph.

**19. Notices.**

All notices hereunder shall be deemed given if in writing and delivered, if contemporaneously sent by electronic mail, facsimile, courier, or by registered or certified mail (return receipt requested) to the following addresses and facsimile numbers:

(1) If to the Company, to:

Payless, Inc.  
3231 SE Sixth Avenue  
Topeka, Kansas 66607  
Attention: Michael Schwindle, Senior Vice President and CFO

With a copy to:

Kirkland & Ellis LLP  
601 Lexington Avenue  
New York, New York 10022  
Attention: Nicole L. Greenblatt, P.C.  
(nicole.greenblatt@kirkland.com)

- and -

Kirkland & Ellis LLP  
300 North LaSalle  
Chicago, Illinois 60654  
Attention: William A. Guerrieri  
(will.guerrieri@kirkland.com)

(2) If to counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee, to:

King & Spalding LLP  
1185 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10036  
Attention: Michael Rupe  
(mrupe@kslaw.com)  
Jeffrey Pawlitz  
(jpawlitz@kslaw.com)  
Christopher G. Boies  
(cboies@kslaw.com)

Any notice given by electronic mail, facsimile, delivery, mail, or courier shall be effective when received.

**20. Reservation of Rights; No Admission.**

(a) Nothing contained herein shall (i) limit (A) the ability of any Party to consult with other parties or entities, or (B) the rights of any Party under any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, foreclosure, or similar proceeding, including, without limitation, the right to appear as a party in interest in any matter to be adjudicated in order to be heard concerning any matter arising in the Chapter 11 Cases, in each case, so long as such consultation or appearance is consistent with such Party's obligations hereunder, or under the terms of the Plan; (ii) limit the ability of any Consenting Party to sell or enter into any transactions in connection with the First Lien Claims, Second Lien Claims, or any other interests in the Company, subject to the terms of Section 4(b) hereof; (iii) limit the rights of any Consenting Party under the First Lien Credit Agreement, the Second Lien Credit Agreement, or any agreements executed in connection with the foregoing; or (iv) constitute a waiver or amendment of any provision of the First Lien Credit Agreement, the Second Lien Credit Agreement, or any agreements executed in connection with the foregoing.

(b) Except as expressly provided in this Agreement, nothing herein is intended to, or does, in any manner waive, limit, impair, or restrict the ability of each of the Parties to protect and preserve its rights, remedies, and interests, including, without limitation, its claims against any of the other Parties (or their respective affiliates or subsidiaries) or its full participation in the Chapter 11 Cases. This Agreement and the Plan are part of a proposed settlement of matters that could otherwise be the subject of litigation among the Parties. Pursuant to Rule 408 of the Federal Rule of Evidence, any applicable state rules of evidence and any other applicable law, foreign or domestic, this Agreement and all negotiations relating thereto shall not be admissible into evidence in any proceeding other than a proceeding to enforce its terms. This Agreement shall in no event be construed as or be deemed to be evidence of an admission or concession on the part of any Party of any claim or fault or liability or damages whatsoever. Each of the Parties denies any and all wrongdoing or liability of any kind and does not concede any infirmity in the claims or defenses which it has asserted or could assert.

(c) Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, nothing in this Agreement and neither a vote to accept the Plan by any Consenting Party nor the acceptance of the Plan by any Consenting Party shall (a) be construed to prohibit any Consenting Party from contesting whether any matter, fact, or thing is a breach of, or is inconsistent with, this Agreement or the Definitive Documents, or exercising rights or remedies specifically reserved herein, or (b) impair or waive the rights of any Consenting Party to assert or raise any objection permitted under this Agreement in connection with any hearing on confirmation of the Plan or in the Bankruptcy Court.

**21. Relationship Among Consenting Parties.**

(a) It is understood and agreed that no Consenting Party has any duty of trust or confidence in any kind or form with any other Consenting Party, and, except as expressly

provided in this Agreement, there are no commitments among or between them. In this regard, it is understood and agreed that any Consenting Party may trade in the First Lien Claims, and/or the Second Lien Claims, or other equity securities of the Company without the consent of the Company or any other Consenting Party, subject to applicable securities laws, the terms of this Agreement, and any confidentiality agreement and/or non-disclosure agreement entered into with the Company; provided, however, that no Consenting Party shall have any responsibility for any such trading to any other person or entity by virtue of this Agreement. No prior history, pattern, or practice of sharing confidences among or between the Consenting Parties shall in any way affect or negate this understanding and agreement.

**22. No Solicitation; Representation by Counsel; Adequate Information.**

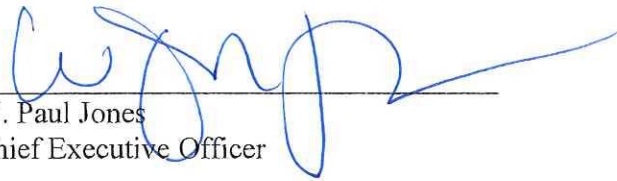
(a) This Agreement is not and shall not be deemed to be a solicitation for votes in favor of the Plan in the Chapter 11 Cases. The acceptances of the Consenting Parties with respect to the Plan will not be solicited until such Consenting Party has received the Disclosure Statement and related ballots and solicitation materials, each as approved by the Bankruptcy Court.

(b) Each Party acknowledges that it has had an opportunity to receive information from the Company and that it has been represented by counsel in connection with this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby. Accordingly, any rule of law or any legal decision that would provide any Party with a defense to the enforcement of the terms of this Agreement against such Party based upon lack of legal counsel shall have no application and is expressly waived.

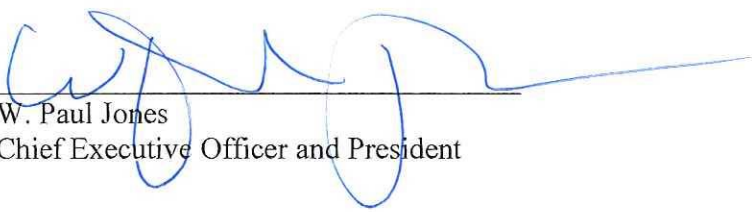
(c) Although none of the Parties intends that this Agreement should constitute, and they each believe it does not constitute, a solicitation or acceptance of a chapter 11 plan of reorganization or an offering of securities, each Consenting Party acknowledges, agrees, and represents to the other Parties that it (i) is an “accredited investor” as such term is defined in Rule 501(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 (the “Securities Act”), (ii) understands that any securities to be acquired by it pursuant to the Restructuring Transactions have not been registered under the Securities Act and that such securities are, to the extent not acquired pursuant to section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, being offered and sold pursuant to an exemption from registration contained in the Securities Act, based in part upon such Consenting Party’s representations contained in this Agreement, and cannot be sold unless subsequently registered under the Securities Act or an exemption from registration is available, and (iii) has such knowledge and experience in financial and business matters that such Consenting Party is capable of evaluating the merits and risks of the securities to be acquired by it pursuant to the Restructuring Transactions and understands and is able to bear any economic risks with such investment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed and delivered by their respective duly authorized officers, solely in their respective capacity as officers of the undersigned and not in any other capacity, as of the date first set forth above.

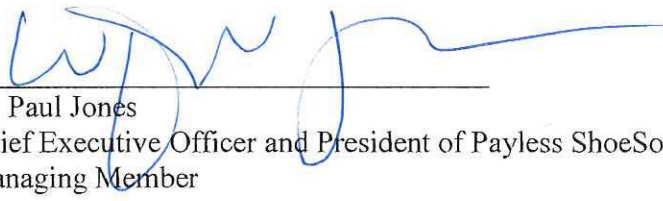
PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC

By:   
Name: W. Paul Jones  
Title: Chief Executive Officer

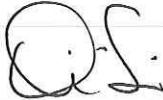
PAYLESS INC.  
PAYLESS SHOESOURCE, INC.  
PAYLESS SHOESOURCE WORLDWIDE, INC.

By:   
Name: W. Paul Jones  
Title: Chief Executive Officer and President

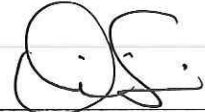
COLLECTIVE BRANDS FRANCHISING SERVICES, LLC

By:   
Name: W. Paul Jones  
Title: Chief Executive Officer and President of Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc., as  
Managing Member

PAYLESS INTERMEDIATE HOLDINGS LLC  
WBG-PSS HOLDINGS LLC  
PAYLESS FINANCE, INC.  
COLLECTIVE BRANDS SERVICES, INC.  
PSS DELAWARE COMPANY 4, INC.  
PAYLESS PURCHASING SERVICES, INC.  
PAYLESS GOLD VALUE CO, INC.  
COLLECTIVE LICENSING, L.P.  
PSS CANADA, INC.

By:   
Name: Michael C. Schwindle  
Title: President


SHOE SOURCING, INC.

By:   
Name: Michael C. Schwindle  
Title: Chairman and President


PAYLESS SHOESOURCE OF PUERTO RICO, INC.  
CLINCH, LLC

By:   
Name: Michael C. Schwindle  
Title: Chief Executive Officer

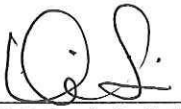
PAYLESS COLLECTIVE GP, LLC  
COLLECTIVE LICENSING INTERNATIONAL, LLC

By:   
Name: Michael C. Schwindle  
Title: Chief Executive Officer and President


PAYLESS SHOESOURCE MERCHANDISING, INC.

By:   
Name: Michael C. Schwindle  
Title: Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

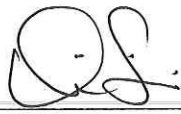
PAYLESS SHOESOURCE DISTRIBUTION, INC.  
PAYLESS INTERNATIONAL FRANCHISING, LLC.

By:   
Name: Michael C. Schwindle  
Title: Vice President

PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA INC.  
PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA GP INC.

By:   
Name: Michael C. Schwindle  
Title: Vice President and Treasurer

PAYLESS SHOESOURCE CANADA LP

By:   
Name: Michael C. Schwindle  
Title: Vice President and Treasurer of Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc., as General Partner

COLLECTIVE BRANDS LOGISTICS, LIMITED

By:   
Name: Dave Milton  
Title: Director

--AND--

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Wang, Tsung-Yuan  
Title: Director

DYNAMIC ASSETS LIMITED

By:   
Name: Dave Milton  
Title: Director

--AND--

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Wang, Tsung-Yuan  
Title: Director

--AND--

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Robert Carroll  
Title: Director

EASTBOROUGH, INC.  
PAYLESS NYC, INC.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Gary C. Madsen  
Title: Vice President and Treasurer



COLLECTIVE BRANDS LOGISTICS, LIMITED

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Dave Milton  
Title: Director

--AND--

By: Tsun Yuan Wang  
Name: Wang, Tsung-Yuan  
Title: Director

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--AND--

By: Tsun Yuan Wang  
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Title: Director

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Title: Director

--AND--

By:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Robert Carroll  
Title: Director

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PAYLESS NYC, INC.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Gary C. Madsen  
Title: Vice President and Treasurer

COLLECTIVE BRANDS LOGISTICS, LIMITED

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Dave Milton  
Title: Director

--AND--

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Wang, Tsung-Yuan  
Title: Director

DYNAMIC ASSETS LIMITED

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Dave Milton  
Title: Director

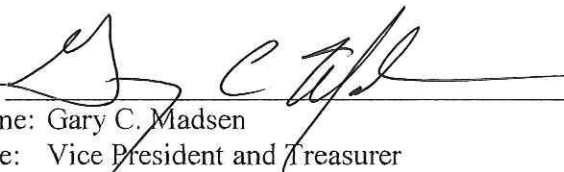
--AND--

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Wang, Tsung-Yuan  
Title: Director

--AND--


By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Robert Carroll  
Title: Director

EASTBOROUGH, INC.  
PAYLESS NYC, INC.

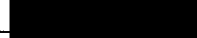
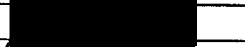
By:   
Name: Gary C. Madsen  
Title: Vice President and Treasurer

**ALDEN GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES MASTER FUND, L.P.**

BY: ALDEN GLOBAL CAPITAL LLC (on behalf of the above funds managed, advised,  
or sub-advised by it)

By:   
Name: Heath Freeman  
Title: President

Principal Amount of First Lien Claims:  
Principal Amount of Second Lien Claims:

\$   
\$ 

Notice Address:

Alden Global Capital LLC  
885 Third Avenue, 34th Floor  
New York, New York 10022  
Attn: Jennifer Wild  
Michael Monticciolo  
Email: JWild@aldenglobal.com  
MMonticciolo@aldenglobal.com

**AIC FINANCE PARTNERSHIP, LP**



\_\_\_\_\_  
By: its General Partner  
Name: Rob Stobo  
Title: Manager

Principal Amount of First Lien Claims:   
Principal Amount of Second Lien Claims: 




Notice Address:

1 Embarcadero Center Suite 2110  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
Fax: 415-616-7699  
Attention: Kevin Clarkson  
Email: [coacct@aicap.com](mailto:coacct@aicap.com)

**AXAR MASTER FUND, LTD.  
STAR V PARTNERS LLC**

BY: AXAR CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LP (on behalf of the above funds managed,  
advised, or sub-advised by it)

By:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Andrew Axelrod  
Title: Managing Partner

Principal Amount of First Lien Claims:   
(Axar Master Fund Ltd = , Star V Partners LLC = )

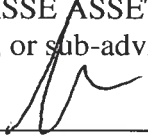
Principal Amount of Second Lien Claims: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

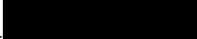
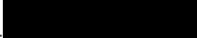
Notice Address:  
Axar Capital Management LP  
1330 Avenue of the Americas, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10019

ATRIUM IX  
ATRIUM VIII  
ATRIUM X  
ATRIUM XI  
AUSTRALIANSUPER PTY LTD ATF  
AUSTRALIANSUPER  
BA/CSCREDIT 1 LLC  
BENTHAM WHOLESALE  
SYNDICATED LOAN FUND  
CALIFORNIA STATE TEACHERS'  
RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
CITY OF NEW YORK GROUP TRUST  
COMMONWEALTH OF  
PENNSYLVANIA STATE  
TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
COPPERHILL LOAN FUND I, LLC  
CREDIT SUISSE NOVA (LUX)  
CREDIT SUISSE OPPORTUNITY  
FUNDS-CREDIT SUISSE  
FLOATING RATE HIGH INCOME  
FUND

CREDIT SUISSE SENIOR LOAN  
INVESTMENT UNIT TRUST  
DOLLAR SENIOR LOAN FUND, LTD.  
EATON CORPORATION MASTER  
RETIREMENT TRUST  
ERIE INDEMNITY COMPANY  
ERIE INSURANCE EXCHANGE  
MADISON PARK FUNDING IX, LTD.  
MADISON PARK FUNDING X, LTD.  
MADISON PARK FUNDING XI, LTD.  
MADISON PARK FUNDING XII, LTD.  
MADISON PARK FUNDING XIII, LTD.  
MADISON PARK FUNDING XIV, LTD.  
MADISON PARK FUNDING XV, LTD.  
MADISON PARK FUNDING XVI, LTD.  
MADISON PARK FUNDING XVII,  
LTD.  
MADISON PARK FUNDING XVIII,  
LTD.  
SENIOR SECURED FLOATING RATE  
LOAN FUND

BY: CREDIT SUISSE ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC (on behalf of the above funds managed, advised, or sub-advised by it)

By:   
Name: Louis Farano  
Title: Authorized Signatory

Principal Amount of First Lien Claims: \$   
Principal Amount of Second Lien Claims: \$ 

Notice Address:

Credit Suisse Asset Management, LLC  
One Madison Avenue  
New York, New York 10010  
Attn: Adrienne Dale  
Email: adrienne.dale@credit-suisse.com

**BLACKSTONE / GSO LONG-SHORT CREDIT INCOME FUND  
BLACKSTONE / GSO SENIOR FLOATING RATE TERM FUND  
BLACKSTONE / GSO STRATEGIC CREDIT FUND**

By: GSO / Blackstone Debt Funds Management LLC, as investment adviser

**ADIRONDACK PARK CLO LTD.  
BIRCHWOOD PARK CLO, LTD.  
BOWMAN PARK CLO, LTD.  
DORCHESTER PARK CLO LIMITED  
EMERSON PARK CLO, LTD  
FINN SQUARE CLO LTD.  
MARINE PARK CLO LTD.  
PINNACLE PARK CLO, LTD.  
SENECA PARK CLO, LTD.  
SHERIDAN SQUARE CLO LTD.  
STEWART PARK CLO, LTD.  
THACHER PARK CLO, LTD.  
TRYON PARK CLO, LTD.**

By: GSO / Blackstone Debt Funds Management LLC, its collateral manager

**GREEN CREEK LLC**

By: FS Investment Corporation II, its sole member

By: GSO / Blackstone Debt Funds Management LLC, its sub-adviser

**GSO AIGUILLE DES GRANDS MONTETS FUND I LP  
GSO AIGUILLE DES GRANDS MONTETS FUND II LP  
GSO AIGUILLE DES GRANDS MONTETS FUND III LP**

By: GSO Capital Partners LP, its attorney-in fact

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: MARISA BEENEY  
Title: AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY

Principal Amount of First Lien Claims:  
Principal Amount of Second Lien Claims:




Notice Address:

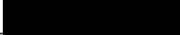
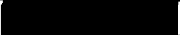
GSO Capital Partners LP  
GSO / Blackstone Debt Funds Management LLC  
345 Park Ave, 31<sup>st</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10154



**HAWKEYE CAPITAL MASTER**

BY: HAWKEYE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LLC (on behalf of the above funds managed, advised, or sub-advised by it)

By:   
Name: Richard Rubin  
Title: Managing Partner

Principal Amount of First Lien Claims: \$   
Principal Amount of Second Lien Claims: \$ 

Notice Address:

Hawkeye Capital Management, LLC  
1251 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10020  
Attn: Richard Rubin  
Matthew Greenblatt  
Email: rich@hawkeyecap.com  
mattg@hawkeyecap.com

BY: INVESCO SENIOR SECURED MANAGEMENT, INC. (on behalf of the  
above funds managed, advised, or sub-advised by it)

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Kevin Egan

Title: Senior Portfolio Manager

Date: 4/3/17

Principal Amount of First Lien Claims: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal Amount of Second Lien Claims: \_\_\_\_\_

Notice Address:

Invesco Senior Secured Management, Inc.  
1166 Avenue of the Americas, 26<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
New York, NY 10036  
Attn: Peter Wollman  
Email: Peter\_Wollman@invesco.com

**OCTAGON INVESTMENT PARTNERS 24, LTD.  
OCTAGON INVESTMENT PARTNERS XIV, LTD.  
OCTAGON INVESTMENT PARTNERS XIX, LTD.  
OCTAGON INVESTMENT PARTNERS XV LTD  
OCTAGON INVESTMENT PARTNERS XVI, LTD  
OCTAGON INVESTMENT PARTNERS XVII LTD.  
OCTAGON INVESTMENT PARTNERS XVIII, LTD.  
OCTAGON INVESTMENT PARTNERS XX, LTD.  
OCTAGON INVESTMENT PARTNERS XXI, LTD.  
OCTAGON INVESTMENT PARTNERS XXII, LTD.  
OCTAGON INVESTMENT PARTNERS XXIII, LTD.  
OCTAGON LOAN FUNDING, LTD.  
OCTAGON MULTI-STRATEGY CORPORATE CREDIT MASTER FUND LP**

BY: OCTAGON CREDIT INVESTORS, LLC (on behalf of the above funds managed,  
advised, or sub-advised by it)

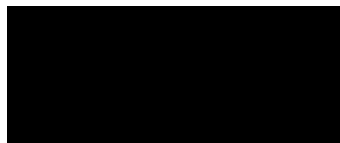
By: 

Name:

Title:

Michael Nechamkin - Portfolio Manager

Principal Amount of First Lien Claims:  
Principal Amount of Second Lien Claims:



Notice Address:

Octagon Credit Investors, LLC  
250 Park Ave. 15th Floor  
New York, NY 10177  
Attn: Meg Julian  
Mike Searles  
Email: mjulian@octagon.com  
msearles@octagoncredit.com

**RSA EXHIBIT A**

RSA Term Sheet

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**PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, ET AL.**  
**RESTRUCTURING TERM SHEET**

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THIS TERM SHEET (THIS “TERM SHEET”) DESCRIBES A PROPOSED RESTRUCTURING (THE “RESTRUCTURING”) FOR PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC AND CERTAIN OF ITS AFFILIATES (COLLECTIVELY, THE “DEBTORS”) PURSUANT TO A JOINT PLAN OF REORGANIZATION, WHICH WOULD BE FILED BY THE DEBTORS IN CONNECTION WITH A CONTEMPLATED CHAPTER 11 FILING (THE “CHAPTER 11 CASES”) IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI (THE “BANKRUPTCY COURT”).

THIS TERM SHEET IS NOT AN OFFER OR A SOLICITATION WITH RESPECT TO ANY SECURITIES OF THE DEBTORS. ANY SUCH OFFER OR SOLICITATION SHALL COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE SECURITIES LAWS AND/OR PROVISIONS OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE.

THIS TERM SHEET IS PROVIDED IN CONFIDENCE AND MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE DEBTORS AND THE REQUISITE CONSENTING LENDERS (AS SUCH TERM IS DEFINED HEREIN). THIS TERM SHEET IS A SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL IN FURTHERANCE OF SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS. ACCORDINGLY, THIS TERM SHEET IS PROTECTED BY RULE 408 OF THE FEDERAL RULES OF EVIDENCE AND ANY OTHER APPLICABLE STATUTES OR DOCTRINES PROTECTING THE USE OR DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS.

THIS TERM SHEET IS SUBJECT TO ONGOING REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY, AND IS NOT BINDING UPON, THE DEBTORS AND THE CONSENTING LENDERS (AS SUCH TERM IS DEFINED HEREIN), IS SUBJECT TO MATERIAL CHANGE, AND IS BEING DISTRIBUTED FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY.

<b><u>GENERAL PROVISIONS REGARDING THE RESTRUCTURING</u></b>	
<b>Restructuring Summary<sup>1</sup></b>	Prior to the date upon which the Debtors commence the Chapter 11 Cases (the “ <u>Petition Date</u> ”), the Debtors, certain Prepetition First Lien Lenders holding Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims (such holders, the “ <u>Consenting First Lien Lenders</u> ” and such claims, the “ <u>Consenting First Lien Lender Claims</u> ”), and certain Prepetition Second Lien Lenders holding Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims (such holders, the “ <u>Consenting Second Lien Lenders</u> ” and together with the Consenting First Lien Lenders, the “ <u>Consenting Lenders</u> ”) shall execute a Restructuring Support Agreement (the “ <u>Restructuring Support</u>

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<sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms used but not defined in this “Restructuring Summary” section shall have the respective meanings ascribed to such terms herein.

Agreement”), pursuant to which (i) the Debtors shall agree to pursue and implement a plan of reorganization consistent in form and substance in all material respects with this Term Sheet and all exhibits hereto (the “Chapter 11 Plan”) and (ii) the Consenting First Lien Lenders and the Consenting Second Lien Lenders shall agree to support the Chapter 11 Plan.

This Term Sheet outlines the proposed capital structure and other material terms and conditions of the Restructuring. The Term Sheet does not include a description of all of the terms, conditions and other provisions that are to be contained in the definitive documentation governing the Restructuring, which remain subject to further discussion and negotiation.

The Debtors’ Chapter 11 Cases will be funded by: (i) the new money commitments under the Term DIP Facility in aggregate principal amount of \$80 million; and (ii) the ABL DIP Facility, which shall constitute a roll-up of the Prepetition ABL Facility Claims and the Aggregate Commitments (as defined in the Prepetition ABL Facility).

The Debtors’ pro forma exit capital structure will consist of the following:

- **New ABL Facility.** A senior secured asset-based revolving credit facility on terms at least as favorable to the Debtors and the lenders under the New First Lien Term Loan Facility as the Prepetition ABL Facility, as determined by the Requisite Consenting Lenders (as defined herein) in their reasonable discretion.
- **New First Lien Term Loan Facility.** \$280 million first lien senior secured term loan facility (the “New First Lien Term Loan Facility”), on the material terms set forth in the New First Lien Term Loan Facility Term Sheet attached hereto as **Exhibit B**, consisting of (i) a first-out amortizing term loan (the “Tranche A-1 Term Loan”) and (ii) a last-out amortizing term loan (the “Tranche A-2 Term Loan”). The size of the Tranche A-1 Term Loan shall be equal to the outstanding balance of the Term DIP Facility on the Effective Date. The size of the Tranche A-2 Term Loan shall be \$280 million less the amount of the Tranche A-1 Term Loan.
- **New Equity.** Payless Holdings LLC, as reorganized pursuant to and under the Plan, or a new corporation or limited liability company that may be formed to directly or indirectly acquire all of the assets and/or stock of the Debtors (“Reorganized Payless Holdings”) shall issue equity (the “New Equity”) on the Effective Date on the terms set forth herein, which shall be deemed fully paid and non-assessable.

On the date (the “Effective Date”) on which all conditions to the effectiveness of the Chapter 11 Plan are either (i) satisfied or (ii) waived by (a) the Debtors and (b) a group of Consenting First Lien Lenders that collectively hold in the aggregate more than 50% of the aggregate Consenting First Lien Lender Claims held by the Consenting First Lien Lenders as of the relevant date, the “Requisite Consenting Lenders”), the Debtors shall consummate the Chapter 11 Plan, pursuant to which:

- each holder of a Term DIP Facility Claim shall convert its Term DIP Facility Claim into a claim under the Tranche A-1 Term Loan, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, under the New First Lien Term Loan Facility;
- each holder of an ABL DIP Claim shall (i) be paid in full in cash with the proceeds of the New ABL Facility or (ii) convert its ABL DIP Claim into a claim under the New ABL Facility (with such holder’s commitment under the ABL DIP Facility converting to a commitment under the New ABL Facility);
- each holder of a Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its pro rata share of (i) the Tranche A-2 Term Loan and (ii) 91.0% of the New Equity (subject to reduction on account of the Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery, and subject to dilution from the MEIP and the Exit Commitment Fee);
- each holder of a Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its pro rata share of 9.0% of the New Equity (subject to dilution from the MEIP and the Exit Commitment Fee);
- each holder of a Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall receive its pro rata share of the Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery (subject to dilution from the MEIP and the Exit Commitment Fee); provided that such holder shall have the option to elect to instead receive a cash payment equal to a percentage to be determined by the Debtors (with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders) of the value of its Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery (the “GUC Cash-Out Option”).
- each holder of an Other General Unsecured Claim shall receive its pro rata share of \$[•] (the “Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool”); provided that Other General Unsecured Claims shall include unsecured deficiency claims of holders of the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims and the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims (collectively, the “Deficiency Claims”) (after taking into account recoveries of such holders received on account of Worldwide General Unsecured Claims); and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• each holder of a Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim shall receive a cash payment equal to a percentage to be determined by the Debtors (with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders) of such holder’s remaining allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim after taking into account payments made by the Debtors to such holder during the Chapter 11 Cases on account of general unsecured claims or under other Classes hereto.</li> </ul> <p>The “<u>Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery</u>” shall mean, for all purposes hereunder, the pro rata share of Unencumbered Property at Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. to which a Worldwide General Unsecured Claim is entitled to receive New Equity on account of the value thereof (net of the value of Unencumbered Property used to satisfy Administrative Claims (including diminution in value claims) and other priority claims against the Debtors, if any), which shall be determined by calculating such holder’s allowed general unsecured claim against the aggregate value of Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc.’s Unencumbered Property as a percentage of all unsecured claims of holders against Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. (including, without limitation, (a) the Prepetition First Lien Deficiency Claims and (b) the amount of Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims outstanding as of the Petition Date) (the “<u>Unencumbered Pro Rata Calculation</u>”).</p> <p>“<u>Unencumbered Property</u>” shall mean all present and after acquired property of the Debtors, wherever located, not subject to a lien or security interest on the Petition Date.</p>
<p><b>Prepetition Funded Debt to be Repaid/Restructured</b></p>	<p>The prepetition funded debt to be repaid and restructured include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approximately \$140 million in Tranche A Loan obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest through the Petition Date (as defined herein), the “<u>Prepetition Tranche A ABL Facility Claims</u>”) outstanding under that certain asset-based revolving credit agreement, dated as of October 9, 2012 (as amended, restated, modified or supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility</u>” and together with any Loan Document (as defined in the Prepetition ABL Facility) and any other document related to or evidencing the loans and obligations thereunder, the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility Loan Documents</u>”) among Holdings (as defined therein), the Borrowers (as defined therein), the several lenders from time to time party thereto (the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility Lenders</u>”) and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association (in such capacity, the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility Agent</u>”);</li> <li>• Approximately \$30.5 million in Letter of Credit obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest through the Petition Date, the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility L/C Obligations</u>”);</li> <li>• Approximately \$55 million in Tranche A-1 Loan obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest and allowed</li> </ul>



	<p>prepayment fees and expenses, the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility FILO Term Loan Claims</u>” and together with the Prepetition Tranche A ABL Facility Claims and the Prepetition ABL Facility L/C Obligations, the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility Claims</u>”) outstanding under the Prepetition ABL Facility;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approximately \$506 million in obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest through the Petition Date, the “<u>Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims</u>”) outstanding under that certain First Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014 (as amended, restated, modified or supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the “<u>Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement</u>” and together with any Loan Document (as defined in the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement) and any other document related to or evidencing the loans and obligations thereunder, the “<u>Prepetition First Lien Loan Documents</u>”), among Holdings, the Borrowers, the several lenders from time to time party thereto (the “<u>Prepetition First Lien Lenders</u>”) and Cortland Products Corp. (as successor to Morgan Stanley Senior Funding Inc., in such capacity, the “<u>Prepetition First Lien Agent</u>”); and</li><li>• Approximately \$145.0 million in obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest through the Petition Date, the “<u>Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims</u>” and together with the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, the “<u>Prepetition Credit Agreement Claims</u>”) outstanding under that certain Second Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014 (as amended, restated, modified or supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the “<u>Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement</u>” and together with any Loan Document (as defined in the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement) and any other document related to or evidencing the loans and obligations thereunder, the “<u>Prepetition Second Lien Loan Documents</u>”), among Holdings, the Borrowers, the several lenders from time to time party thereto (the “<u>Prepetition Second Lien Lenders</u>”) and Morgan Stanley Senior Funding Inc. (in such capacity, the “<u>Prepetition Second Lien Agent</u>”).</li></ul>
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<p><b>The Term DIP Facility</b></p>	<p>The material terms of the Term DIP Facility are set forth in the Term DIP Credit Agreement attached hereto as <b>Exhibit A</b>, which shall govern in all respects.</p> <p>On the Petition Date, the Debtors shall file a motion seeking approval of a superpriority senior-secured non-amortizing debtor-in-possession term credit facility (the “<u>Term DIP Facility</u>”) comprised of a term loan facility in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$80 million of principal loaned (subject to original issue discount provided in connection with certain fees as set forth in the DIP Fee Letter (as defined in Term DIP Credit Agreement)), consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) A \$30 million initial draw at the hearing to approve the Term DIP Facility on a final basis (the “<u>Initial DIP Amount</u>”);</li> <li>(ii) During the period of time following entry of the Disclosure Statement Order (as defined herein) through the Effective Date, subject in each case to consent by the Required Lenders (as defined in the Term DIP Facility), up to \$50 million of additional funds available pursuant to multiple draw requests (each, an “<u>Interim DIP Draw</u>”); and</li> <li>(iii) upon the Effective Date, a final draw of remaining available proceeds, if any, under the Term DIP Facility in an amount sufficient to provide the Debtors with no more than \$25 million of liquidity upon emergence (the “<u>Final DIP Draw</u>,” together with the Initial DIP Amount and Interim DIP Draws, the “<u>Term DIP Loans</u>”).</li> </ul> <p>Each Consenting First Lien Lender that executed the Restructuring Support Agreement prior to the Petition Date (each, a “<u>Backstop Lender</u>”; and collectively, the “<u>Backstop Lenders</u>”) shall backstop the Term DIP Loans on a pro rata basis, determined based on the outstanding principal amount of Term Loans under the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement held by the Backstop Lenders or their affiliated funds as of the Petition Date; <u>provided</u> that an Initial Consenting Lender may elect to not backstop its pro rata share of the Term DIP Loans, in which case the remaining Backstop Lenders shall cover such Initial Consenting Lender’s funding obligation on a pro rata basis.</p> <p>Each Prepetition First Lien Lender that executes the Restructuring Support Agreement within 30 days following the Petition Date shall have the option, at its election, to fund its pro rata share of the Term DIP Loans. For the avoidance of doubt, only the Backstop Lenders are entitled to their pro rata share of the backstop fee (as described in the DIP Fee Letter).</p>
<p><b>The ABL DIP Facility</b></p>	<p>The Debtors are seeking to roll the existing Prepetition ABL Facility Claims into a postpetition ABL facility (the “<u>ABL DIP Facility</u>” and together with the Term DIP Facility, the “<u>DIP Facilities</u>”). More</p>

	<p>specifically, amounts outstanding under the Prepetition ABL Facility (including, for the avoidance of doubt, Aggregate Commitments, as defined therein) shall be exchanged on a dollar-for-dollar basis into a superpriority senior secured asset-based revolving credit facility. The ABL DIP Facility is comprised of a revolving loan facility in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$305 million.</p>
<p><b>Qualified Vendors / Qualified Trade Agreement</b></p>	<p>Each holder of a general unsecured claim that (i) directly relates to and arises solely from the receipt of goods and services by the Debtors arising with, and held by, entities with whom the Debtors are conducting, and with whom the Debtors elect<sup>2</sup> to continue to conduct, business as of the Effective Date and (ii) has executed an agreement or similar arrangement with the Debtors (a “<u>Qualified Trade Agreement</u>”), which agreement shall be reasonably acceptable to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, to provide favorable vendor terms for at least 12 months following the Effective Date (each such holder, a “<u>Consenting Qualified Vendor</u>” and each such claim, a “<u>Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim</u>”), shall receive treatment in accordance with Class 5 of the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<p><b><u>CLASSIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF CLAIMS</u></b></p>	
<p>The following designates the classes of claims against and interests (each, a “Class”) in each of the Debtors on a non-consolidated basis. Certain of the Debtors may not have holders of claims or interests in a particular Class or Classes. The summary of classification and treatment of claims set forth below groups the Debtors together solely for the purpose of describing treatment under the Chapter 11 Plan. Such groupings shall not affect each Debtor’s status as a separate legal entity, change the organizational structure of the Debtors’ business enterprise, constitute a change of control of any Debtor for any purpose, cause a merger or consolidation of any legal entities, or cause the transfer of any assets.</p>	
<p><b><u>Unclassified Claims</u></b></p>	
<p><b>Administrative Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent a holder of an allowed administrative claim, including claims of the type described in section 503(b)(9) of chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101-1532 (the “<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>”), (each, an “<u>Administrative Claim</u>”) already has been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such holder of an Administrative Claim, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Administrative Claim, each such holder of an allowed Administrative Claim shall receive payment in full, in cash, of the unpaid portion of its allowed Administrative Claim.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Unclassified; non-voting.</p>

<sup>2</sup> The Debtors may elect to renegotiate and or reject executory contracts and to separately classify and treat any claims arising therefrom, subject to the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders.

<p><b>Priority Tax Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> Priority tax claims (“<u>Priority Tax Claims</u>”) shall be treated in accordance with section 1129(a)(9)(C) of the Bankruptcy Code.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Unclassified; non-voting.</p>
<p><b>ABL DIP Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Allowance.</b> The claims under the ABL DIP Facility (the “<u>ABL DIP Claims</u>”) shall be allowed in the full amount due and owing under the ABL DIP Facility.</p> <p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a holder of an allowed ABL DIP Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed ABL DIP Claim, each such holder of an allowed ABL DIP Claim shall receive (i) payment in full in cash or (ii) on a dollar-for-dollar-basis, its pro rata share of the New ABL Facility; <u>provided, however</u>, that fees and expenses due and owing thereunder shall be paid in full and in cash on the Effective Date or as soon thereafter as reasonably practicable.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Unclassified; non-voting.</p>
<p><b>Term DIP Facility Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Allowance.</b> The claims under the Term DIP Facility (the “<u>Term DIP Facility Claims</u>”) shall be allowed in the full amount due and owing under the Term DIP Facility.</p> <p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a holder of an allowed Term DIP Facility Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Term DIP Facility Claim, each such holder of an allowed Term DIP Facility Claim shall receive, on a dollar-for-dollar-basis, its pro rata share of the Tranche A-1 Term Loan.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Unclassified; non-voting.</p>
<p><b><u>Classified Claims and Interests</u></b></p>	
<p><b>Class 1 – Other Priority Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent a holder of an allowed claim described in section 507(a) of the Bankruptcy Code (each, an “<u>Other Priority Claim</u>”) already has been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such holder of an Other Priority Claim, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Other Priority Claim, each such holder of an Other Priority Claim shall receive payment in full, in cash, of the unpaid portion of its Other Priority Claim.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Each holder of an Other Priority Claims will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Chapter 11 Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each holder of an Other Priority Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the</p>

	Chapter 11 Plan.
<p><b>Class 2 – Other Secured Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a holder of an allowed secured claim, other than a Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim (each, an “<u>Other Secured Claim</u>”) already has been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such holder, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Other Secured Claim, each holder of Other Secured Claim shall receive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. payment in full, in cash, of the unpaid portion of its Other Secured Claim;</li> <li>ii. delivery of the collateral securing such Other Secured Claim; or</li> <li>iii. other treatment, as decided by the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders to their mutual satisfaction, such that the Other Secured Claim shall be rendered unimpaired.</li> </ul> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Each holder of an Other Secured Claim will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Chapter 11 Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each holder of an Other Secured Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 3 – Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Allowance.</b> The Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be allowed in an aggregate amount equal to approximately \$506 million.</p> <p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a holder of an allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim, each holder of a Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its pro rata share of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. the Tranche A-2 Term Loan; and</li> <li>ii. 91.0% of the New Equity (subject to reduction on account of the Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery, and subject to dilution from the MEIP and the exit fee set forth in the DIP Fee Letter (as defined in Term DIP Credit Agreement)) (the “<u>Exit Commitment Fee</u>”).</li> </ul> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each holder of a Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 4 – Prepetition Second Lien Credit</b></p>	<p><b>Allowance.</b> The Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be allowed in an aggregate amount equal to approximately</p>

<p><b>Agreement Claims</b></p>	<p>\$145.0 million.</p> <p><b>Treatment.</b> Except to the extent that a holder of an allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim (including the unsecured deficiency claim of the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims), each such holder of an allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its pro rata share of 9.0% of the New Equity (subject to dilution from the MEIP and the Exit Commitment Fee).</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each holder of a Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 5 –Qualified Unsecured Trade Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a holder of an allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim, each such holder of an allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim shall receive a cash payment equal to a percentage to be determined by the Debtors (with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders) of such holder’s remaining allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim after taking into account payments made by the Debtors to such holder during the Chapter 11 Cases on account of general unsecured claims or under other Classes hereto.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each holder of an allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.<sup>3</sup></p>
<p><b>Class 6A – Other General Unsecured Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> Except to the extent that a holder of an allowed general unsecured claim (other than a Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim or Worldwide General Unsecured Claim) (each, an “<u>Other General Unsecured Claim</u>”) agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Other General Unsecured Claim, each such holder of an allowed Other General Unsecured Claim shall receive its pro rata share of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each holder of an allowed Other General Unsecured Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 6B – Worldwide General Unsecured Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> Except to the extent that a holder of an allowed general unsecured claim against Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. (each, an “<u>Worldwide General Unsecured Claim</u>”) agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge</p>

<sup>3</sup> The Debtors may elect to renegotiate and or reject executory contracts and to separately classify and treat any claims arising therefrom, subject to the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders.

	<p>of and in exchange for each allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim, each such holder of an allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall receive its pro rata share of the GUC Worldwide Equity Recovery, as determined pursuant to the Unencumbered Pro Rata Calculation and subject to the GUC Cash-Out Option.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each holder of an allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 7 – Intercompany Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> Intercompany Claims shall be reinstated, cancelled, or compromised as determined by the Debtors with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired or Unimpaired. Each holder of an Intercompany Claim will be conclusively deemed to have (a) rejected the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan of Reorganization or (b) accepted the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan, respectively.</p>
<p><b>Class 8 – Existing Equity Interests</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date, all equity interests in Payless Holdings LLC (including options, warrants, rights, or other securities or agreements to acquire such equity interests) (collectively, the “<u>Existing Equity Interests</u>”) shall be discharged, cancelled, released, and extinguished.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each holder of an Existing Equity Interest will be conclusively deemed to have rejected the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each holder of an Existing Equity Interest will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 9 – Intercompany Interests</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date, all Intercompany Interests shall be cancelled or reinstated, as determined by the Debtors with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired or Unimpaired. Each holder of an Intercompany Interest will be conclusively deemed to have (a) rejected the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan of Reorganization or (b) accepted the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan, respectively.</p>
<p><b>Class 10 – Section 510(b) Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date, all claims arising under section 510(b) of the Bankruptcy Code (each, a “<u>Section 510(b) Claim</u>”) shall be cancelled without any distribution.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each holder of a Section 510(b) Claim will be</p>





<b>Exculpation</b>	Customary exculpation provisions, including all Released Parties to the extent permitted by applicable law.
<b>Discharge</b>	Customary discharge provisions.
<b>Injunction</b>	Customary injunction provisions, including all Released Parties.
<b><u>GENERAL PROVISIONS / MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION</u></b>	
<b>Cancellation of Instruments, Certificates and Other Documents</b>	On the Effective Date, except to the extent otherwise provided above, all instruments, certificates, and other documents evidencing debt or equity interests in the Debtors shall be cancelled, and the obligations of the Debtors thereunder, or in any way related thereto, shall be discharged.
<b>Board of Directors of Reorganized Payless Holdings</b>	The initial directors and officers of the reorganized Debtors (the “ <u>Reorganized Debtors</u> ”) shall be selected by the Requisite Consenting Lenders and disclosed in accordance with section 1129(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.
<b>Shareholders Agreement</b>	Holders of New Equity shall be parties to a shareholders agreement, the material terms of which shall be filed as part of the plan supplement, and which shall otherwise be satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders.
<b>Charter; Bylaws</b>	The charter, bylaws, and/or other organizational documents of each of the Debtors shall be amended and restated in a manner consistent with section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code and shall otherwise be satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders.
<b>Exemption from SEC Registration; Private Company Status</b>	<p>The issuance of all securities under the Chapter 11 Plan will be exempt from SEC registration under section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code. To the extent section 1145 is unavailable, such securities shall be exempt from SEC registration as a private placement pursuant to Section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and/or the safe harbor of Regulation D promulgated thereunder, or such other exemption as may be available from any applicable registration requirements.</p> <p>The Reorganized Debtors shall be private, non-SEC reporting companies on the Effective Date.</p>
<b>Management Incentive Program</b>	The Chapter 11 Plan will provide that, promptly on or after the effective date, equity awards for 6%-10% of the New Equity (on a fully diluted basis) of Reorganized Payless Holdings will be granted to continuing employees of the Debtors and members of the new board of directors by the new board of directors of Reorganized Payless Holdings, with pricing, vesting and exercise terms to be determined by the new Board of

	<p>Directors upon consultation with the CEO. Such equity awards shall be on terms reflective of a policy of rewarding the contribution of management to the long-term financial performance of the Reorganized Debtors.</p> <p>The Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders shall negotiate in good faith to reach agreement regarding modified terms of the “Cash Incentive Program” (annual cash incentive and long-term cash incentive for non-senior officers) within 30 days of the Petition Date. The Annual Cash Program, as modified, shall be assumed upon the effectiveness of the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<b>Employment Agreements</b>	Notwithstanding the rejection or assumption of any employment agreement, the Chapter 11 Plan will provide for the assumption of severance obligations for up to one (1) year for each of the 12 individuals identified in the document labeled “Senior Officer Severance Costs”; provided that such severance obligations shall not exceed \$5.6 million (excluding taxes) in the aggregate.
<b>Chief Restructuring Officer</b>	Within 30 days of the Petition Date, the Debtors will engage Robert Campagna of Alvarez & Marsal North America LLC as Chief Restructuring Officer (or, if not possible, such other individual as agreed to by the Requisite Consenting Lenders) on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders and will seek court approval of such retention as promptly as possible.
<b>Avoidance Actions</b>	Reorganized Payless Holdings will retain all rights to commence and pursue any and all claims and causes of action arising under the sections 544, 545, 547, 548 and 550 of the Bankruptcy Code (collectively, the “ <u>Avoidance Actions</u> ”) and other litigation.
<b>Tax Issues</b>	The terms of the Chapter 11 Plan and the restructuring contemplated by this Term Sheet shall be structured, with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, to preserve favorable tax attributes of the Debtors to the extent practicable.
<b>Retention of Jurisdiction</b>	The Acceptable Plan will provide for the retention of jurisdiction by the Bankruptcy Court for usual and customary matters.
<b><u>CONDITIONS, MILESTONES, AND COVENANTS</u></b>	
<b>Conditions Precedent to Plan Confirmation</b>	<p>Confirmation of the Chapter 11 Plan shall be subject to the following conditions precedent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. the Chapter 11 Plan must be in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders;</li> <li>ii. the Debtors shall have achieved 85% of the projected rent savings from landlord concessions on ongoing lease obligations on an annual run-rate, which projected rent savings were agreed to by the Backstop Lenders and the Debtors prior to the Petition</li> </ul>

	<p>Date; and</p> <p>iii. the Proposed form of order confirming the Chapter 11 Plan shall be, in form and substance, reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders.</p>
<p><b>Conditions to Funding the Final DIP Draw</b></p>	<p>The Following shall be conditions to the funding of the Final DIP Draw:</p> <p>i. The order confirming the Chapter 11 Plan shall have been in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders;</p> <p>ii. The Debtors shall have achieved 85% of the projected rent savings from landlord concessions on ongoing lease obligations on an annual run-rate, which projected rent savings were agreed to by the Backstop Lenders and the Debtors prior to the petition date;</p> <p>iii. The Debtors shall have performed within 85% of the projected FY 2017 EBITDA run rate, which projection was agreed to by the Backstop Lenders and the Debtors prior to the Petition Date; and</p> <p>iv. The Debtors shall have paid all reasonable and documented fees and out-of-pocket expenses payable to the DIP Agents and the Backstop Lenders, including all reasonable and documented out-of-pocket fees and expenses of counsel and other professionals of such parties as set forth in Section 6.1(b) of the Term DIP Credit Agreement and Section 4.1(f) of the credit agreement governing the ABL DIP Facility.</p>
<p><b>Debtors' Covenants</b></p>	<p>The Chapter 11 Plan and all supporting and implementing documentation (including all briefs and other pleadings filed in support thereof, all documents filed as part of the plan supplement, and the confirmation order) shall be in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders.</p> <p>The Debtors will provide the Backstop Lenders and their respective advisors with bi-weekly updates concerning the status of (i) lease negotiations, (ii) critical vendor negotiations and entry into qualified trade agreements, and (iii) renegotiation of the terms of Joint Venture Agreements, with the first meeting occurring on April 14, 2017.</p> <p>The Debtors' inventory shall not be less than 85% of the Debtors' planned inventory level, tested on the last business day of every other month (the first testing period shall be May 31, 2017).</p>
<p><b>Chapter 11 Milestones</b></p>	<p>The Debtors shall satisfy the following chapter 11 milestones (the "<u>Milestones</u>"). The Debtors' failure to satisfy any of the below</p>

	<p>milestones shall constitute a “<u>(Consenting Lender Termination Event)</u>” under the Restructuring Support Agreement.<sup>4</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Bankruptcy Court’s entry of the Interim Order (as defined in the Term DIP Credit Agreement) on or before three (3) calendar days following the Petition Date.</li><li>• No later than 21 calendar days after the Petition Date the Debtors shall have filed a prearranged Plan or Reorganization, in form and substance satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, and consistent with this Term Sheet and the Restructuring Support Agreement.</li><li>• No later than 21 calendar days after the Petition Date the Debtors shall have filed a disclosure statement motion and disclosure statement (the “<u>Disclosure Statement</u>”) in form and substance satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders.</li><li>• The Bankruptcy Court’s entry of an order extending the time period of the Debtors to assume or reject unexpired leases of real property to a date that is 210 calendar days from the Petition Date on or before 30 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li><li>• No later than 44 calendar days after the Petition Date the Debtors shall have filed their schedules and Statement of Financial Affairs with the Bankruptcy Court.</li><li>• The Bankruptcy Court’s entry of the Final Order (as defined in the Term DIP Credit Agreement) on or before 35 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li><li>• No later than 60 calendar days after the Petition Date the Bankruptcy Court shall have entered an order setting the date (the “<u>Bar Date</u>”) by which proofs of claim for general unsecured creditors must be filed.</li><li>• The hearing on the Disclosure Statement shall have been heard by the Bankruptcy Court on or before 61 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li><li>• The Bankruptcy Court’s entry of an order, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, approving the Disclosure Statement (the “<u>Disclosure Statement Order</u>”) on or before 62 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li><li>• The Bar Date shall have occurred on or before 65 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li><li>• The Debtors shall have commenced solicitation on the Chapter 11 Plan on or before 65 calendar days following the</li></ul>
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<sup>4</sup> Any Milestone that falls on a weekend or federal holiday shall be extended to the next business day.

	<p>Petition Date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Debtors shall have filed a motion or motions, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, with the Bankruptcy Court seeking an entry of an order or orders authorizing (i) the Remaining Lease Rejections and (ii) GOB sales for each store subject to a rejected lease on or before 90 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li> <li>• The Debtors shall have renegotiated the terms of Joint Venture Agreements such that they are on market terms, as determined in the reasonable judgment of the Requisite Consenting Lenders, by the date that is 100 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li> <li>• The hearing on Plan confirmation shall have been heard by the Bankruptcy Court on or before 110 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li> <li>• The Bankruptcy Court shall have entered an order, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, authorizing the Remaining Lease Rejections on or before 114 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li> <li>• The Bankruptcy Court's shall have entered an order, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, confirming the Chapter 11 Plan (the "<u>Plan Confirmation Order</u>") on or before 114 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li> <li>• The Effective Date shall have occurred not later than 128 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases</b></p>	<p>The Debtors shall seek to assume or reject executory contracts and unexpired leases in consultation with, and with the consent (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld) of the Requisite Consenting Lenders.</p> <p>The Chapter 11 Plan shall provide (a) for the assumption of all indemnification provisions currently in place (whether in the by-laws, certificates of incorporation, board resolutions, indemnification agreements, or employment contracts) for the current directors, managers, and officers of the Debtors and any non-Debtor affiliates, which assumption shall be irrevocable, and shall survive the Plan Effective Date and (b) the Debtors shall maintain their current D&amp;O coverage in place as of the Effective Date of the date of the Restructuring Support Agreement for current and former directors and officers.</p> <p>The Chapter 11 Plan will provide that the executory contracts and unexpired leases that are not assumed or rejected as of the Effective Date (either pursuant to the Chapter 11 Plan or a separate motion) will be deemed rejected pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code. For the avoidance of doubt, such consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders shall be required to be obtained with respect to all decisions to</p>

	assume or reject, including the deemed rejection of executory contracts and unexpired leases pursuant to the Chapter 11 Plan.
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**Consent & Acknowledgement dated as of April 25, 2017**

**CONSENT AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**  
**Restructuring Support Agreement and RSA Term Sheet**  
April 25, 2017

This consent and acknowledgment (the “Consent”) by the undersigned parties sets forth the understanding of the parties regarding that certain Restructuring Support Agreement dated as of April 4, 2017 (as amended, supplemented, or otherwise modified from time to time in accordance with the terms thereof, and including the “RSA Term Sheet” attached thereto as Exhibit A, the “Restructuring Support Agreement”), by and between the Company<sup>1</sup> and certain Holders of First Lien Claims (as defined therein) in their capacity as holders of First Lien Claims and, if applicable, their capacity as Holders of Second Lien Claims (as defined therein) (collectively, the “RSA Lender Parties”).

By this Consent, the RSA Lenders Parties acknowledge and agree that the restructuring support agreement attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**, including the term sheet attached to **Exhibit 1** as **Exhibit A**, are acceptable to the RSA Lenders. Further, the RSA Lenders agree to be bound by the terms set forth in the restructuring support agreement and term sheet attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** as if such documents amended and restated the Restructuring Support Agreement and the RSA Term Sheet.

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<sup>1</sup> The “Company” shall mean, collectively, Payless Holdings LLC; Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC; WBG - PSS Holdings LLC; Payless Inc.; Payless Finance, Inc.; Collective Brands Services, Inc.; PSS Delaware Company 4, Inc.; Shoe Sourcing, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource, Inc.; Eastborough, Inc.; Payless Purchasing Services, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Merchandising, Inc.; Payless Gold Value CO, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc.; Payless NYC Inc.; Payless ShoeSource of Puerto Rico, Inc.; Payless Collective GP, LLC; Collective Licensing, L.P.; Collective Licensing International, LLC; Clinch, LLC; Collective Brands Franchising Services, LLC; Payless International Franchising, LLC; Collective Brands Logistics, Limited; Dynamic Assets Limited; PSS Canada, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc.; and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP.



**Exhibit 1**

Restructuring Support Agreement

## RESTRUCTURING SUPPORT AGREEMENT

This RESTRUCTURING SUPPORT AGREEMENT (as amended, supplemented, or otherwise modified from time to time in accordance with the terms hereof, this “Agreement”<sup>1</sup>), dated as of April 4, 2017, is entered into by and among the following parties:

- i. the Company;<sup>2</sup> and
- ii. the undersigned Holders of First Lien Claims (as defined below) in their capacity as holders of First Lien Claims and, if applicable, their capacity as Holders of Second Lien Claims (as defined below), collectively with their respective successors and permitted assigns and any subsequent holder of First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims that becomes party hereto in accordance with the terms hereof, the “Consenting Lenders”).

The Company and each Consenting Lender, and any subsequent person or entity that becomes a party hereto in accordance with the terms hereof, are referred to herein as the “Consenting Parties” and individually as a “Consenting Party.” Each Consenting Party intends to be and is bound under this Agreement with respect to any and all claims against, or interests in, the Company whether currently held or hereafter acquired, by such Consenting Party.

**WHEREAS**, the Consenting Parties and their respective professionals have negotiated a restructuring and recapitalization transaction (the “Restructuring,” and the transactions contemplated thereby, the “Restructuring Transactions”) that will be implemented and consummated pursuant to a chapter 11 plan of reorganization (as may be modified in accordance with Section 10 hereof, the “Plan”), the terms of which shall be consistent in all respects with those set forth in this Agreement, the term sheet attached hereto as **Exhibit A** (the “Term Sheet”<sup>3</sup>), the DIP Documents (as defined below), and the Definitive Documents (as defined

<sup>1</sup> Each of the exhibits attached hereto and any schedules to such exhibits (collectively, the “Exhibits and Schedules”) is expressly incorporated herein and made a part of this Agreement, and all references to this Agreement shall include the Exhibits and Schedules. In the event of any inconsistency between this Agreement (without reference to the Exhibits and Schedules) and the Exhibits and Schedules, this Agreement (without reference to the Exhibits and Schedules) shall govern; provided, however, that to the extent there is a conflict among the Exhibits and Schedules, the conflicting term of the Term Sheet shall control and govern.

<sup>2</sup> The “Company” shall mean, collectively, Payless Holdings LLC; Payless Intermediate Holdings LLC; WBG - PSS Holdings LLC; Payless Inc.; Payless Finance, Inc.; Collective Brands Services, Inc.; PSS Delaware Company 4, Inc.; Shoe Sourcing, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource, Inc.; Eastborough, Inc.; Payless Purchasing Services, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Merchandising, Inc.; Payless Gold Value CO, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc.; Payless NYC Inc.; Payless ShoeSource of Puerto Rico, Inc.; Payless Collective GP, LLC; Collective Licensing, L.P.; Collective Licensing International, LLC; Clinch, LLC; Collective Brands Franchising Services, LLC; Payless International Franchising, LLC; Collective Brands Logistics, Limited; Dynamic Assets Limited; PSS Canada, Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Canada Inc.; Payless ShoeSource Canada GP Inc.; and Payless ShoeSource Canada LP.

<sup>3</sup> Capitalized terms used and not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Term Sheet. The Term Sheet is expressly incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this Agreement as if fully set forth herein. The Term Sheet sets forth the material terms and conditions of the Restructuring Transactions; provided, however, that the Term Sheet is supplemented by the terms and conditions of this Agreement. In the event of any inconsistency between the Term Sheet and this Agreement, this Agreement shall control.

below) to be filed in the cases captioned *In re Payless Holdings LLC, et al.*, Case No. 17-42267-659 (the “Chapter 11 Cases”) commenced under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the “Bankruptcy Code”) in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri (the “Bankruptcy Court”) on April 4, 2017;

**WHEREAS**, as of the date hereof, the Debtors have debt outstanding under that certain First Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014, by and among (i) WBG – PSS Holdings LLC, as Holdings, and Payless Inc., Payless Finance, Inc., Payless ShoeSource, Inc., and Payless ShoeSource Distribution, Inc., as Borrowers, (collectively, the “Company Credit Agreement Parties”), (ii) the banks and other financial institutions named therein as lenders (the “First Lien Lenders”), (iii) Cortland Products Corp. (“Cortland”), as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent (as successor to Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. (“Morgan Stanley”) in such capacity, the “First Lien Agent”), and (iv) Morgan Stanley, Jefferies Finance LLC, and MCS Capital Markets LLC, as Joint Lead Arrangers and Joint Bookrunners (as amended, modified, or otherwise supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the “First Lien Term Loan Agreement,” and the claims and other obligations arising thereunder, the “First Lien Claims”), as further set forth in the Term Sheet;

**WHEREAS**, as of the date hereof, the Debtors have debt outstanding under that certain Second Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014, by and among (i) the Company Credit Agreement Parties, (ii) the banks and other financial institutions named therein as lenders (the “Second Lien Lenders”), (iii) Morgan Stanley, as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent, and (iv) Morgan Stanley, Jefferies Finance LLC, and MCS Capital Markets LLC, as Joint Lead Arrangers and Joint Bookrunners (as amended, modified, or otherwise supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the “Second Lien Term Loan Agreement,” and the claims and other obligations arising thereunder, the “Second Lien Claims”), as further set forth in the Term Sheet;

**WHEREAS**, as of the date hereof, the Consenting Lenders beneficially own or control (with sole investment or voting discretion), in the aggregate, approximately 65.6% of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the First Lien Claims and 64.8% of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Second Lien Claims;

**WHEREAS**, as of the date hereof, the Debtors have debt outstanding under that certain asset-based credit agreement dated as of October 9, 2012, by and among (i) the Company Credit Agreement Parties, (ii) the banks and other financial institutions named therein as lenders (the “ABL Lenders”), (iii) Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, in its capacity as Agent and Co-Collateral Agent (the “ABL Agent”), (iv) General Electric Capital Corporation, as Co-Collateral Agent, Bank of America, N.A., as Syndication Agent, and Wells Fargo Capital Finance, LLC, and (v) Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, as Joint Lead Arrangers and Joint Bookrunners (as amended, modified, or otherwise supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the “ABL Credit Agreement”), as further set forth in the Term Sheet;

**WHEREAS**, the Debtors have requested and (i) certain of the ABL Lenders or their affiliates (in their capacities as such, the “DIP ABL Lenders”) have agreed to provide a \$305 million debtor-in-possession revolving financing facility (the “DIP ABL Facility”); (ii) certain of the Consenting Lenders or their affiliates (in their capacities as such, the “DIP Term Lenders,”

and collectively with the DIP ABL Lenders, the “DIP Lenders”) have agreed to provide an up to \$80 million debtor-in-possession term loan financing facility (the “DIP Term Facility,” and with the DIP ABL Facility, the “DIP Financing”), with the ABL Agent acting as the agent for the DIP ABL Facility and the First Lien Agent acting as the agent under the DIP Term Facility (in their capacity as such, the “DIP Agents”); and (iii) the Consenting Lenders and the ABL Agent have agreed to the Company’s use of cash collateral, which DIP Financing and use of cash collateral will be in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the credit agreement governing the ABL Facility (the “DIP ABL Credit Agreement”) and the credit agreement governing the DIP Term Facility (the “DIP Term Credit Agreement”; together with the DIP ABL Credit Agreement, the “DIP Credit Agreements”) and a proposed order approving the DIP Financing, attached hereto as **Exhibit B** (the “Interim DIP Order,” and collectively with the DIP Credit Agreements and any documents related thereto, the “DIP Documents”);

**WHEREAS**, prior to the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases, the Company and the Consenting Lenders engaged in arm’s-length, good-faith negotiations, culminating in the Consenting Parties’ agreement on the terms of the Plan, as more particularly detailed and described herein, in the Term Sheet, and in the DIP Documents, that will be implemented through the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases and the filing by the Company of voluntary petitions with the Bankruptcy Court (the date of such filing, the “Petition Date”), which date shall be no later than one calendar day after the Agreement Effective Date; and

**WHEREAS**, the Consenting Parties are prepared to perform their obligations hereunder, subject to the terms and conditions hereof.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the premises and the mutual covenants and agreements set forth herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Consenting Parties, intending to be legally bound hereunder, do agree as follows:

**1. Effectiveness.**

This Agreement shall be effective and binding with respect to each of the Consenting Parties at the time at which (i) the Company shall have executed and delivered counterpart signature pages of this Agreement to counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee and (ii) Consenting Lenders holding more than 50.0% in principal amount of the First Lien Claims and more than 50.0% in principal amount of the Second Lien Claims shall have executed and delivered counterpart signature pages of this Agreement to counsel to the Company (the “Agreement Effective Date”); provided, however, that signature pages executed by the Consenting Parties shall be delivered to (a) counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee in an unredacted form and (b) the Company and its counsel in an unredacted form (to be held on a confidential basis by such counsel in accordance with Section 9 hereof).

**2. Certain Definitions.**

As used in this Agreement, the following terms have the following meanings:

- (a) “**Confirmation Order**” means the order confirming the Plan.
- (b) “**Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee**” means the undersigned Consenting Lenders represented by King & Spalding LLP and Houlihan Lokey Capital Inc.
- (c) “**Definitive Documents**” means all documents (including any related orders, agreements, instruments, schedules, or exhibits) that are contemplated by the Plan and that are otherwise necessary or desirable to implement, effectuate, or otherwise relate to the Restructuring, including, without limitation: (i) the Plan; (ii) the documents to be filed in the supplement to the Plan; (iii) the Disclosure Statement; (iv) Disclosure Statement Motion and the Disclosure Statement Order; (v) the Confirmation Order; (vi) any documentation relating to the use of cash collateral and the DIP Financing, including motions seeking authority to use cash collateral and obtain the DIP Financing, any Financing Orders, and the DIP Documents; (vii) any organizational documents, shareholder and member related agreements, or other governance documents for the reorganized Company; and (viii) such other documents or agreements as may be reasonably necessary to implement the Restructuring contemplated by this Agreement and the Term Sheet.
- (d) “**Disclosure Statement**” means the disclosure statement for the Plan that is prepared and distributed in accordance with sections 1125, 1126(b), and 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- (e) “**Disclosure Statement Motion**” means the motion seeking approval of the Disclosure Statement.
- (f) “**Disclosure Statement Order**” means the order approving the Disclosure Statement.
- (g) “**Final Financing Order**” means one or more final orders entered by the Bankruptcy Court authorizing the Debtors to enter into the DIP Financing.
- (h) “**Financing Orders**” means the Final Financing Order and Interim Financing Order, collectively.
- (i) “**Holder**” means any individual, partnership, joint venture, firm, or corporation that beneficially owns or controls (with sole investment or voting discretion) First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims, as applicable.
- (j) “**Interim Financing Order**” means one or more interim orders entered by the Bankruptcy Court authorizing the Debtors to enter into the DIP Financing on an interim basis.
- (k) “**Plan Effective Date**” means the effective date of the Plan.

(l) “*Plan Support Period*” means the period commencing on the Agreement Effective Date and ending on the earlier of the (i) date on which this Agreement is terminated in accordance with Section 6 hereof and (ii) the Plan Effective Date.

(m) “*Requisite Consenting Lenders*” means, as of the relevant date, Consenting Lenders that collectively hold at least a majority of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the First Lien Claims held by all of the Consenting Lenders as of such date.

### **3. Definitive Documents**

Each of the Definitive Documents shall (A) contain terms and conditions consistent in all material respects with this Agreement, the Term Sheet, and the DIP Documents and (B) shall otherwise be reasonably satisfactory in all respects to the Company and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, including with respect to any modifications, amendments, deletions, or supplements to such Definitive Documents at any time during the Plan Support Period.

### **4. Agreements of the Consenting Parties.**

(a) During the Plan Support Period, subject to the terms and conditions hereof, each Consenting Party agrees, solely with respect to itself, that:

(i) it will use its commercially reasonable efforts to support the Restructuring and the transactions contemplated by the Term Sheet, as applicable, and to act in good faith and take all commercially reasonable actions necessary to consummate the Restructuring and the Restructuring Transactions in a manner consistent with this Agreement, including the timelines set forth herein;

(ii) it will use commercially reasonable efforts to support the Debtors request for entry by the Bankruptcy Court of the Financing Orders, the Disclosure Statement Order, and the Confirmation Order within the timeframes contemplated by this Agreement;

(iii) it shall not (A) direct any administrative agent or collateral agent to take any action inconsistent with such Consenting Party’s obligations under this Agreement, and, if any applicable administrative agent or collateral agent takes any action inconsistent with such Consenting Party’s obligations under this Agreement, such Consenting Party shall use its commercially reasonable efforts to request that such administrative agent or collateral agent cease and refrain from taking any such action (but shall not be required to incur any indemnification obligations in respect of such request or otherwise), or (B) directly or indirectly encourage any other person or entity to directly or indirectly, (x) object to, delay, impede, or take any other action or any inaction to interfere with the acceptance, approval, implementation, consummation, or amendment of the Plan (whether before or after confirmation, provided that such amendment is consistent with this Agreement); (y) propose, file, support, vote for, or take any other action in furtherance of any restructuring, workout, plan of arrangement, or plan of reorganization for the Company that is inconsistent with this Agreement, the DIP Documents, the Term Sheet, or the Plan, as applicable; or (z) exercise any right or remedy for the enforcement, collection, or recovery of any claim against the Company except in a manner consistent with this Agreement, the Financing Orders, and the Plan, as applicable;

(iv) subject to the receipt of the Disclosure Statement pursuant to the Disclosure Statement Order, it shall (A) timely vote or cause to be voted any First Lien Claims and Second Lien Claims (as applicable) it holds to accept the Plan by timely delivering its duly executed and completed ballot or ballots, as applicable, accepting the Plan on a timely basis following commencement of the solicitation of acceptances of the Plan in accordance with sections 1125(g) and 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code; (B) not change or withdraw such vote or the elections described above (or cause or direct such vote or elections to be changed or withdrawn); provided, however, that such vote or elections shall be immediately revoked (and deemed void *ab initio*) by all Consenting Parties upon the expiration of the Plan Support Period or the termination of this Agreement; and (C) to the extent it is permitted to elect whether to opt out of the releases set forth in the Plan, not elect to opt out of the releases set forth in the Plan by timely delivering its duly executed and completed ballot or ballots indicating such election; and

(v) use commercially reasonable efforts to support, and take all commercially reasonable actions necessary to facilitate, the approval of the Disclosure Statement, solicitation of votes on the Plan, and confirmation and consummation of the Plan.

(b) Transfers. During the Plan Support Period, subject to the terms and conditions hereof, each Consenting Party agrees, solely with respect to itself, that it shall not sell, use, assign, convey, grant, transfer, permit the participation in, or otherwise dispose of, in whole or in part (each, a “Transfer”), any ownership (including any beneficial ownership)<sup>4</sup> in the First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims, as applicable, that it holds (collectively, for purposes of this Section 4, the “Consenting Party Claims”), as applicable, or any option thereon or any right or interest therein (including, but not limited to, accomplishing the same, by granting any proxies or depositing any interests in the Consenting Party Claims into a voting trust or by entering into a voting agreement with respect to the Consenting Party Claims), unless (i) the intended transferee is a Consenting Party or (ii) if the intended transferee is not a Consenting Party, such intended transferee executes and delivers to counsel to the Company on the terms set forth below an executed transfer agreement in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C (a “Transfer Agreement”) before such Transfer is effective (it being understood and agreed by the Consenting Parties that any such Transfer shall not be effective as against the Company until notification of such Transfer and a copy of the executed, unaltered, and unredacted Transfer Agreement is received by counsel to the Company, in each case, on the terms set forth herein) (such transfer, a “Permitted Transfer” and such party to such Permitted Transfer, a “Permitted Transferee”), in which event (I) the transferee (including the Consenting Party transferee, if applicable) shall be deemed to be a Consenting Party hereunder to the extent of such transferred rights and obligations, and (II) the transferor shall be deemed to relinquish its rights (and be released from its obligations) under this Agreement to the extent of such transferred rights and obligations. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, during the Plan Support Period, each Consenting Party may offer, sell, or otherwise transfer any or all of its holdings of First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims to any entity that, as of the date of transfer, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with such Consenting Party; provided, however, that such entity

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<sup>4</sup> As used herein, the term “beneficial ownership” means the direct or indirect economic ownership of, and/or the power, whether by contract or otherwise, to direct the exercise of the voting rights and the disposition of, all or any portion of the Consenting Party Claims or the right to acquire any such Consenting Party Claims.

shall automatically be subject to the terms of this Agreement and deemed a Consenting Party hereunder, and shall execute a Transfer Agreement.

(i) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, (A) the foregoing provisions shall not preclude any Consenting Party from settling or delivering any Consenting Party Claims to settle any confirmed transaction pending as of the date of such Consenting Party's entry into this Agreement (subject to compliance with applicable securities laws and it being understood that such Consenting Party Claims so acquired and held (i.e., not as a part of a short transaction) shall be subject to the terms of this Agreement), (B) a Qualified Marketmaker<sup>5</sup> that acquires any Consenting Party Claims with the purpose and intent of acting as a Qualified Marketmaker for such Consenting Party Claims, shall not be required to execute and deliver to counsel a Transfer Agreement or otherwise agree to be bound by the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement if the transfer otherwise is a Permitted Transfer; provided, however, that if any of the conditions in this clause (B) is not satisfied, the Qualified Marketmaker will be required to execute and deliver a Transfer Agreement, and (C) to the extent any Consenting Party is acting solely in its capacity as a Qualified Marketmaker, it may Transfer any ownership interests in the Consenting Party Claims (as applicable) that it acquires from a holder of the Consenting Party Claims that is not a Consenting Party to a transferee that is not a Consenting Party at the time of such Transfer without the requirement that the transferee be or become a signatory to this Agreement or execute a Transfer Agreement; provided, however, that in the event such Consenting Party fails to act solely in its capacity as a Qualified Marketmaker in compliance with this clause (C), any transferee that is not a Consenting Party must execute and deliver a Transfer Agreement.

(ii) This Agreement shall in no way be construed to preclude any Consenting Party from acquiring additional Consenting Party Claims; provided, however, that (A) any Consenting Party that acquires additional Consenting Party Claims during the Plan Support period shall promptly notify counsel to the Company and counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee of such acquisition, including the amount of such acquisition, and (B) such acquired Consenting Party Claims shall automatically and immediately upon acquisition by a Consenting Party be deemed subject to the terms of this Agreement (regardless of when or whether notice of such acquisition is given to the Company), in the case of each of clauses (A) and (B), other than with respect to any Consenting Party Claims acquired by such Consenting Party in its capacity as a Qualified Marketmaker, in accordance with Section 4(b)(i).

(iii) This Section 4 shall not impose any obligation on the Company to issue any "cleansing letter" or otherwise publicly disclose information for the purpose of enabling a Consenting Party to Transfer any Consenting Party Claims. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, to the extent the Company and another Consenting Party have entered into a separate agreement with respect to the issuance of a "cleansing letter" or other

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<sup>5</sup> As used herein, the term "Qualified Marketmaker" means an entity that (a) holds itself out to the public or the applicable private markets as standing ready in the ordinary course of business to purchase from customers and sell to customers claims against the Company (or enter with customers into long and short positions in claims against the Company), in its capacity as a dealer or market maker in claims against the Company and (b) is, in fact, regularly in the business of making a market in claims against issuers or borrowers (including debt securities or other debt).



public disclosure of information (each such executed agreement, a “Confidentiality Agreement”), the terms of such Confidentiality Agreement shall continue to apply and remain in full force and effect according to its terms.

(iv) Any Transfer made in violation of this Section 4(b) shall be void *ab initio*.

(c) DIP Term Facility Backstop. Each Consenting Lender holding a First Lien Claim that has executed this Agreement prior to the Petition Date (each, an “Initial Consenting Lender” and collectively, the “Initial Consenting Lenders”), may, at its option, directly or through one more affiliated funds or financing vehicles (or funds or accounts advised or sub-advised by such person) commit to backstop the aggregate Term DIP Commitments (as such term is defined in the Term DIP Credit Agreement) on a pro rata basis, determined based on the outstanding aggregate principal amount of First Lien Claims held by the Initial Consenting Lenders or their affiliated funds as of the Petition Date (each such Initial Consenting Lender backstopping the Term DIP Commitments, a “Backstop Lender”; collectively, the “Backstop Lenders”; each Backstop Lender’s commitment, a “Backstop DIP Commitment”; and collectively, the “Backstop DIP Commitments”). To the extent one or more of the Initial Consenting Lenders elects to not backstop its pro rata share of the Term DIP Commitments, the remaining Backstop Lenders shall cover such Initial Consenting Lender’s funding obligation on a pro rata basis. In exchange for each Backstop Lender’s Backstop DIP Commitment, each such Backstop Lender shall be entitled to a backstop fee equal to 3.00% on the entire Backstop DIP Commitments as set forth in the DIP Fee Letter (as such term is defined in the Term DIP Credit Agreement).

## **5. Agreements of the Company.**

(a) Subject to the terms and conditions hereof, including Section 6(c)(iii), prior to and during the Plan Support Period, the Company agrees that it shall, without limitation:

(i) (A)(1) complete and file, within the timeframes contemplated herein, the Plan, the Disclosure Statement, and the other Definitive Documents and (2) use commercially reasonable efforts to obtain entry by the Bankruptcy Court of the Financing Orders, the Disclosure Statement Order, and the Confirmation Order within the timeframes contemplated by this Agreement; and (B) use commercially reasonable efforts to obtain any and all required regulatory and/or third-party approvals for the Restructuring embodied in the Plan, if any, and solely to the extent necessary to effectuate the Restructuring;

(ii) continue to operate its businesses without material change in such operations or disposition of material assets (in each case, unless the Requisite Consenting Lenders have expressly consented thereto in writing) in accordance with its business judgment, and confer with the Consenting Parties and their respective representatives, as reasonably requested, to report on operational matters and the general status of ongoing operations; provided, however, notwithstanding the forgoing, the Debtors shall be permitted to continue the liquidation of certain business assets as contemplated by the “going-out-of-business” motion to be filed with the Bankruptcy Court or any disposition of assets contemplated by a budget prepared in connection with the Financing Orders.

(iii) (A) support and take all reasonable actions necessary or reasonably requested by the Requisite Consenting Lenders to facilitate the solicitation, confirmation, and consummation of the Restructuring, the Plan, and the transactions contemplated thereby, (B) not take any action directly or indirectly that is inconsistent with, or that would reasonably be expected to prevent, interfere with, delay, or impede the approval of the Disclosure Statement, the solicitation of votes on the Plan, and the confirmation and consummation of the Plan and the Restructuring, including soliciting, causing, or allowing any of its agents or representatives to solicit any agreements relating to any chapter 11 plan or restructuring transaction (including, for the avoidance of doubt, a transaction premised on an asset sale of substantially all of the Company's assets under section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code) other than the Restructuring or a motion by the Debtors to engage an Approved Liquidator, as contemplated by and defined in the DIP Documents (an "Alternative Transaction"), and (C) (x) not, nor encourage any other person to, take any action which would, or would reasonably be expected to, breach or be inconsistent with this Agreement or delay, impede, appeal, or take any other negative action, directly or indirectly, or encourage any other entity to interfere with the acceptance or implementation of the Restructuring, and (y) in the event any other person takes any action described in the preceding clause (x), take all steps reasonably necessary to affirmatively contest such action and/or object thereto, including, without limitation, timely filing a formal written response in opposition thereto with the Bankruptcy Court;

(iv) (A) provide (x) draft copies of all first day motions or applications and other documents that the Company intends to file with the Bankruptcy Court on the Petition Date, and (y) draft copies of all other material motions and applications that the Company intends to file with the Bankruptcy Court after the Petition Date, in each case, to counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee at least three (3) calendar days prior to the date on which the Company intends to file such documents; provided, that final filing versions of such documents shall be reasonably acceptable, in form and substance, to the Requisite Consenting Lenders or otherwise amended to be reasonably acceptable, in form and substance, to the Requisite Consenting Lenders upon the Company receiving notice that any final filing versions were not reasonably acceptable to the Requisite Consenting Lenders;

(B) file on the Petition Date such first day motions and pleadings that are reasonably acceptable in form and substance, to the Requisite Consenting Lenders;

(C) (i) file the Plan, the Disclosure Statement (other than any exhibits attached thereto), and the Disclosure Statement Motion with the Bankruptcy Court within 21 calendar days of the Petition Date; (ii) obtain approval of the Disclosure Statement Motion within 62 calendar days of the Petition Date, and (iii) obtain entry of the Confirmation Order within 114 calendar days of the Petition Date (such date that the Confirmation Order is entered, the "Confirmation Date");

(D) seek a Confirmation Order that becomes effective and enforceable immediately upon its entry and seek to have the period in which an appeal thereto must be filed commence immediately upon its entry;

(v) obtain authority, pursuant to the Financing Orders, to pay all pre- and postpetition reasonable and documented (in summary form) fees and expenses of (A)

King & Spalding LLP, as counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee, (B) Houlihan Lokey Capital, Inc., as financial advisor to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee, (C) Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP, as counsel to the First Lien Agent; and (D) counsel retained by any Initial Consenting Lender prior to the Petition Date (and acknowledged on or prior to such date by counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee); provided that, and so long as, such Initial Consenting Lender (i) remains a party to and fulfills its obligations under this Agreement (unless such Initial Consenting Lender terminates this Agreement pursuant to Section 6(e), in which case the fees and expenses of such terminating Initial Consenting Lender's counsel shall be paid by the Company through and including the termination date); and (ii) becomes a lender under the Term DIP Facility and fulfills its obligations under the Term DIP Credit Agreement;

(vi) maintain their good standing under the laws of the states in which they are incorporated or organized;

(vii) timely file with the Bankruptcy Court or any other applicable United States court a formal written objection to any motion filed with the Bankruptcy Court or any other United States court by any party seeking the entry of an order (A) directing the appointment of an examiner with expanded powers or a trustee in any of the Chapter 11 Cases, (B) converting any of the Chapter 11 Cases to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code, (C) dismissing any of the Chapter 11 Cases, (D) modifying or terminating the Company's exclusive right to file and/or solicit acceptances of a plan of reorganization, or (E) granting any relief inconsistent with this Agreement and the Definitive Documents;

(viii) provide to the Consenting Parties and/or their respective professionals, upon reasonable advance notice to the Company, (A) reasonable access to the respective management and advisors of the Company for the purposes of evaluating the Company's finances and operations and participating in the planning process with respect to the Restructuring; (B) prompt access to any information provided to any existing or prospective financing sources (including lenders under any exit financing facility); and (C) timely and reasonable responses to all diligence requests;

(ix) use their commercially reasonable efforts to preserve intact in all material respects their current business organizations, keep available the services of their current officers and material employees (in each case, other than voluntary resignations, terminations for cause, or terminations consistent with applicable fiduciary duties), and preserve in all material respects their relationships with customers, sales representatives, suppliers, distributors, and others, in each case, having material business dealings with the Company (other than terminations for cause or consistent with applicable fiduciary duties);

(x) provide prompt written notice to the Consenting Parties between the date hereof and the Plan Effective Date of (A) the occurrence, or failure to occur, of any event of which the Company knows (or, upon reasonable inquiry, should have known), which occurrence or failure would be likely to cause (1) any covenant of the Company contained in this Agreement not to be satisfied in any material respect or (2) any condition precedent contained in the Plan or this Agreement not to timely occur or become impossible to satisfy, (B) receipt of any notice from any third-party alleging that the consent of such party is or may be required in

connection with the transactions contemplated by the Restructuring, (C) receipt of any notice from any governmental unit with jurisdiction in connection with this Agreement or the transactions contemplated by the Restructuring, (D) receipt of any notice of any proceeding commenced, or, to the actual knowledge of the Company, threatened against the Company, relating to or involving or otherwise affecting in any material respect the transactions contemplated by the Restructuring, and (E) any failure of the Company to comply, in any material respect, with or satisfy any covenant, condition, or agreement to be complied with or satisfied by it hereunder;

(xi) to the extent permitted under applicable law and confidentiality obligations, promptly notify the other Consenting Parties in writing following the receipt, in writing, of notice of any material governmental, regulatory, or third-party complaints, litigations, investigations, or hearings (or communications indicating that the same may be contemplated or threatened);

(xii) provide notice of any written or oral offer or proposal for an Alternative Transaction received by the Company or its advisors, together with copies of any and all documents relating thereto, to the advisors to counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee, within one business day of the Company's or their advisors' receipt thereof; and

(xiii) comply with all covenants set forth in the Term Sheet.

(b) Negative Covenants. The Company agrees that, for the duration of the Plan Support Period, the Company shall not take any action inconsistent with, or omit to take any action required by, this Agreement, the Plan, or any of the other Definitive Documents. The Company further agrees that prior to and during the Plan Support Period, the Company shall not: (i) take any action that impairs or removes any interest or right the Consenting Parties have in and to any collateral held or owned by the Company without the consent of the First Lien Lenders or bankruptcy court order authorizing such action; (ii) make any transfers from and after the Agreement Effective Date and through the Plan Support Period to or for the account of insiders or affiliates in respect of antecedent debt without a Bankruptcy Court order; and (iii) other than voluntary departure or termination for cause, change any of its management team without immediate replacement with another qualified individual; provided that any actions taken by the Company that are permitted or required by the ABL Credit Agreement, the DIP ABL Credit Agreement, the Term DIP Credit Agreement, First Lien Term Loan Agreement, or the Second Lien Term Loan Agreement (in each case, as in effect on the date hereof) will not be deemed to be a violation of this Section 5(b).

(c) Automatic Stay. The Company acknowledges and agrees and shall not dispute that after the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases, the giving of notice of termination by any Consenting Party pursuant to this Agreement shall not be a violation of the automatic stay of section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code (and the Company hereby waives, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the applicability of the automatic stay as it relates to any such notice being provided). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, following the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases and unless and until there is an unstayed order of the Bankruptcy Court providing that the giving of notice under and/or termination of this Agreement in accordance with its terms is not prohibited by the automatic stay imposed by section 362 of the Bankruptcy

Code, the occurrence of any of the termination events in Section 6(b), 6(d), or 6(e) shall result in an automatic termination of this Agreement, to the extent any of the Terminating Consenting Parties (as defined below) would otherwise have the ability to terminate this Agreement in accordance with Section 6(b), 6(d), or 6(e), five (5) calendar days following such occurrence unless waived in writing by all of the Terminating Consenting Parties.

(d) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, nothing in this Agreement shall require the Company or any directors, officers, or members of the Company, each in its capacity as a director, officer, or member of the Company, to take any action, or to refrain from taking any action, to the extent inconsistent with its or their fiduciary obligations under applicable law (as reasonably determined by them in good faith after consultation with legal counsel).

## **6. Termination of Agreement.**

(a) Automatic Termination. This Agreement shall terminate automatically, without any further action required by any Consenting Party, upon the occurrence of any of the following events: (i) entry of an order denying confirmation of the Plan, (ii) the occurrence of the Plan Effective Date, (iii) an order confirming the Plan is reversed or vacated, or (iv) any court of competent jurisdiction has entered a final, non-appealable judgment or order declaring this Agreement to be unenforceable.

(b) Consenting Party Termination Events. This Agreement may be terminated by the Requisite Consenting Lenders (or the First Lien Agent acting at the direction of the Requisite Consenting Lenders) by the delivery to the Company, and counsel to the Consenting Parties other than the Consenting Parties seeking to terminate this Agreement pursuant to this Section 6(b) (such Consenting Parties seeking to terminate, the "Terminating Consenting Parties") of a written notice in accordance with Section 19 hereof, upon the occurrence of any of the following events (each, a "Consenting Party Termination Event"):

(i) the Company fails to meet any of the Milestones as set forth in the Term sheet;

(ii) the breach by any Consenting Party other than the Terminating Consenting Parties, of (A) any affirmative or negative covenant contained in this Agreement or (B) any other obligations of such breaching Consenting Party set forth in this Agreement, in each case, in any material respect (without giving effect to any "materiality" qualifiers set forth therein), and, in either respect, to the extent such breach would have a material adverse effect on the consummation of the Restructuring in accordance with the Term Sheet or the Definitive Documents and which breach remains uncured for a period of 5 calendar days following such breaching Consenting Party's receipt of notice pursuant to Section 19 hereof (as applicable);

(iii) any representation or warranty in this Agreement made by the Company shall have been untrue in any material respect when made or shall have become untrue in any material respect, or the Company violates any of the covenants herein, and such breach remains uncured for a period of 10 calendar days following the Company's receipt of notice pursuant to Section 19 hereof (as applicable);

(iv) the Company files any motion, pleading, or related document with the Bankruptcy Court in a manner that is materially inconsistent with this Agreement, the DIP Credit Agreements, the Term Sheet, or the Plan, and such motion, pleading, or related document has not been withdrawn after 3 business days of the Company receiving written notice in accordance with Section 19 that such motion, pleading, or related document is materially inconsistent with this Agreement, the Term Sheet, the DIP Documents, or the Plan;

(v) the issuance by any governmental authority, including any regulatory authority or court of competent jurisdiction, of any ruling, judgment, or order enjoining the consummation of or rendering illegal the Plan or the Restructuring or any material portion thereof, and either (A) such ruling, judgment, or order has been issued at the request of or with the acquiescence of the Company, or (B) in all other circumstances, such ruling, judgment, or order has not been reversed or vacated within 30 calendar days after such issuance;

(vi) the Bankruptcy Court (or other court of competent jurisdiction) enters an order (A) directing the appointment of an examiner with expanded powers or a trustee in any of the Chapter 11 Cases, (B) converting any of the Chapter 11 Cases to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code, (C) dismissing any of the Chapter 11 Cases, or (D) the effect of which would render the Plan incapable of consummation on the terms set forth in this Agreement or the Term Sheet;

(vii) the Company's consensual use of cash collateral has been terminated in accordance with the terms of the Financing Orders;

(viii) other than pursuant to any relief sought by the Company that is not materially inconsistent with its obligations under this Agreement or the Plan, the Bankruptcy Court grants relief terminating, annulling, or modifying the automatic stay (as set forth in section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code) with respect to any assets of the Company having an aggregate fair market value in excess of \$5.0 million without the prior written consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders;

(ix) the Company files or supports (or fails to timely object to) another party in filing (A) a motion or pleading challenging the amount, validity, or priority of any First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims or (B) any plan of reorganization, liquidation, or sale of all or substantially all of the Company's assets, other than the Restructuring set forth herein or a motion by the Debtors to engage an Approved Liquidator, as contemplated by and defined in the DIP Documents;

(x) the Company (A) withdraws the Plan, (B) publicly announces or otherwise informs any of the Consenting Parties of its intention not to support the Plan or the Restructuring, (C) files a motion with the Bankruptcy Court seeking the approval of an Alternative Transaction, or (D) agrees to pursue (including, for the avoidance of doubt, as may be evidenced by a term sheet, letter of intent, or similar document) or publicly announces its intent to pursue an Alternative Transaction;

(xi) if the Definitive Documents and any amendments, modifications, deletions, or supplements thereto do not comply with Section 3 or Section 10 of this Agreement,

as applicable; provided that such Definitive Documents or amendments, modifications, deletions, or supplements thereto were not modified to be consistent with Section 3 or Section 10, as applicable, or withdrawn within five (5) business days following such breaching Consenting Party's receipt of notice pursuant to Section 19 hereof;

(xii) the Bankruptcy Court enters an order modifying or terminating the Company's exclusive right to file and/or solicit acceptances of a plan of reorganization (including the Plan);

(xiii) the occurrence of any Event of Default under (and as defined in) the Definitive Documentation governing the DIP Financing;

(xiv) the Company has determined to exercise its rights under Section 6(c)(iii) of this Agreement;

(xv) the Company files a motion seeking entry of an order approving any key employee incentive plan, employee retention plan, or comparable plan, except as provided in the Plan, without the prior written consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders; or

(xvi) Holders of First Lien Claims do not receive under the Plan on account of such First Lien Claims their pro rata share of at least 86.5% of the New Equity (but subject to dilution from the MEIP and Exit Commitment Fee) after taking into account distributions to all other holders of claims and interests under the Plan.

(c) Company Termination Events. This Agreement may be terminated by the Company pursuant to this Section 6(c) five (5) calendar days following the delivery to counsel to the Consenting Parties of a written notice in accordance with Section 19 hereof, which notice may be delivered upon the occurrence of any of the following events (each, a "Company Termination Event"):

(i) the breach by one or more of the Consenting Lenders representing in excess of 50.01% of the aggregate principal amount of the First Lien Claims each with respect to any of the representations, warranties, or covenants of such Consenting Party, as set forth in this Agreement, to the extent such breach would have a material adverse effect on the consummation of the Restructuring, and which breach remains uncured for a period of five (5) calendar days after the receipt by the applicable Consenting Lenders from the Company of written notice of such breach;

(ii) the issuance by any governmental authority, including any regulatory authority or court of competent jurisdiction, of any ruling, judgment, or order enjoining the consummation of or rendering illegal the Plan or the Restructuring or any material portion thereof, and either (A) such ruling, judgment, or order has been issued at the request of or with the acquiescence of the Company, or (B) in all other circumstances, such ruling, judgment, or order has not been reversed or vacated within thirty (30) calendar days after such issuance; or

(iii) the board of directors, managers, or similar governing body, as applicable, of any Company entity determines that taking any action, refraining from taking any action, or continued performance under this Agreement would be inconsistent to any extent with

its (or their respective officers or directors') fiduciary obligations under applicable law (as reasonably determined by the Company in good faith after consultation with legal counsel).

(d) Mutual Termination. This Agreement may be terminated by mutual agreement of the Company and the Requisite Consenting Lenders upon the receipt of written notice delivered in accordance with Section 19 hereof.

(e) Consenting Party Individual Termination Right. Any individual Consenting Party shall have the right to terminate this Agreement, as to itself only, if (i) the Plan Effective Date shall not have occurred by 11:59 p.m. (New York time) on the date that is 210 calendar days after the Petition Date (the "Outside Date") or (ii) (x) the Company or any other Consenting Party takes any action that is inconsistent with this Agreement or the Term Sheet or (y) this Agreement or the Term Sheet or any provision therein is waived, modified, amended or changed without the consent of the affected Consenting Party that, in either case, in the reasonable determination of the affected Consenting Party, disproportionately and adversely affects the rights of such Consenting Party (including with respect to its Second Lien Claims) and its affiliates (taken as a whole) related to or under this Agreement, the Term Sheet or the Plan. In the event a Consenting Party terminates pursuant to this Section 6(e), such termination shall be effective as to such Consenting Party only and shall not affect any of the rights or obligations of any other party to this Agreement.

(f) Effect of Termination. Upon the termination of this Agreement in accordance with this Section 6, and except as provided in Section 13 hereof, this Agreement shall forthwith become null and void and of no further force or effect as to all Consenting Parties and each Consenting Party shall, except as provided otherwise in this Agreement, be immediately released from its liabilities, obligations, commitments, undertakings, and agreements under or related to this Agreement and shall have all the rights and remedies that it would have had and shall be entitled to take all actions, whether with respect to the Restructuring or otherwise, that it would have been entitled to take had (notwithstanding the passage of any applicable deadlines) it not entered into this Agreement; provided, however, that in no event shall any such termination relieve a Consenting Party from liability for its breach or non-performance of its obligations hereunder prior to the date of such termination. Upon any such termination of this Agreement, any vote or consent given by the Consenting Parties prior to termination shall automatically be deemed, for all purposes, to be null and void *ab initio* and shall not be considered or otherwise used in any manner by the Consenting Parties in connection with the Restructuring and this Agreement and such consents or ballots may be changed or resubmitted regardless of whether the applicable voting deadline has passed (without the need to seek a court order or consent from the Company allowing such change or resubmission).

**7. Definitive Documents; Good Faith Cooperation; Further Assurances.**

Subject to the terms and conditions described herein, during the Plan Support Period, each Consenting Party, severally and not jointly, hereby covenants and agrees to reasonably cooperate with each other in good faith in connection with the negotiation, drafting, execution, and delivery of the Definitive Documents. Furthermore, subject to the terms and conditions hereof, each of the Consenting Parties shall take such action as may be reasonably necessary or reasonably requested by the other Consenting Parties to carry out the purposes and



intent of this Agreement, including making and filing any required regulatory filings (provided, however, that no Consenting Party shall be required to incur any out of pocket cost or expense, or any liability in connection therewith).

**8. Representations and Warranties.**

(a) Each Consenting Party, severally and not jointly, represents and warrants to the other Consenting Parties that the following statements are true, correct, and complete as of the date hereof (or as of the date a Consenting Party becomes a party hereto):

(i) such Consenting Party is validly existing and in good standing under the laws of its jurisdiction of incorporation or organization, and has all requisite corporate, partnership, limited liability company, or similar authority to enter into this Agreement and carry out the transactions contemplated hereby and perform its obligations contemplated hereunder; and the execution and delivery of this Agreement and the performance of such Consenting Party's obligations hereunder have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate, limited liability company, partnership, or other similar action on its part;

(ii) the execution, delivery, and performance by such Consenting Party of this Agreement does not and will not (A) violate any provision of law, rule, or regulation applicable to it, its charter, or its bylaws (or other similar governing documents), or (B) conflict with, result in a breach of or constitute (with due notice or lapse of time or both) a default under any material contractual obligation to which it is a party (except to the extent such conduct is consented to by the counterparty thereto or the Requisite Consenting Lenders relevant thereto);

(iii) the execution, delivery, and performance by such Consenting Party of this Agreement does not and will not require any registration or filing with, consent or approval of, or notice to, or other action, with or by, any federal, state, or governmental authority or regulatory body, except such filings as may be necessary and/or required by the SEC; and

(iv) this Agreement is the legally valid and binding obligation of such Consenting Party, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, except as enforcement may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, or other similar laws relating to or limiting creditors' rights generally or by equitable principles relating to enforceability or a ruling of the Bankruptcy Court.

(b) Each Consenting Party severally (and not jointly) represents and warrants to the Company that, as of the date hereof (or as of the date such Consenting Party becomes a party hereto), such Consenting Party (i) is the beneficial owner of the aggregate principal amount of First Lien Claims, and/or Second Lien Claims (as applicable) set forth below its name on the signature page hereof (or below its name on the signature page of a Transfer Agreement for any Consenting Party that becomes a party hereto after the date hereof), and/or (ii) has, with respect to the beneficial owners of such First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims (as applicable), (A) sole investment or voting discretion with respect to such First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims (as applicable), (B) full power and authority to vote on and consent to matters concerning such First Lien Claims, and/or Second Lien Claims, (as applicable), or to exchange,

assign, and transfer such First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims (as applicable), and (C) full power and authority to bind or act on the behalf of, such beneficial owners.

**9. Disclosure; Publicity.**

(a) On or before the Petition Date, the Company shall disseminate a press release disclosing the existence of this Agreement and the terms hereof and of the Plan (including any schedules and exhibits thereto that are filed with the Bankruptcy Court on the Petition Date) with such redactions as may be reasonably requested by counsel to any Consenting Party to maintain the confidentiality of the Consenting Parties provided in Section 9(b), except as otherwise required by law.

(b) The Company shall submit drafts to counsel to the Consenting Parties of any press releases and public documents, that constitute disclosure of the existence or terms of this Agreement or any amendment to the terms of this Agreement at least three (3) calendar days prior to making any such disclosure, and shall afford them a reasonable opportunity under the circumstances to comment on such documents and disclosures, final versions of which shall be reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders. Except as required by law or otherwise permitted under the terms of any other agreement between the Company on the one hand, and any Consenting Party, on the other hand, no Consenting Party or its advisors (including counsel to any Consenting Party) shall disclose to any person or entity (including, for the avoidance of doubt, any other Consenting Party), other than advisors to the Company, the principal amount or percentage of any First Lien Claims, Second Lien Claims, or any other securities of the Company held by any Consenting Party, in each case, without such Consenting Party's prior written consent; provided, however, that (i) if such disclosure is required by law, subpoena, or other legal process or regulation, the disclosing Consenting Party shall afford the relevant Consenting Party a reasonable opportunity to review and comment in advance of such disclosure and shall take all reasonable measures to limit such disclosure (the expense of which, if any, shall be borne by the relevant disclosing Consenting Party) and (ii) the foregoing shall not prohibit the disclosure of the aggregate percentage or aggregate principal amount of First Lien Claims or Second Lien Claims held by all Consenting Parties. Notwithstanding the provisions in this Section 9, any Consenting Party may disclose, to the extent consented to in writing by a duly authorized officer or representative of the affected Consenting Party, such Consenting Party's individual holdings.

**10. Amendments and Waivers.**

During the Plan Support Period, this Agreement, including any exhibits or schedules hereto, may not be waived, modified, amended, or supplemented except in a writing signed by the Company and the Requisite Consenting Lenders; provided, however, that (i) any modification, amendment, deletion, or change to the definition of Requisite Consenting Lenders shall, in each case, require the prior written consent of each Consenting First Lien Lender, (ii) any extension of the Outside Date with respect to any Consenting First Lien Lender shall require the prior written consent of such Consenting First Lien Lender, (iii) any modification, amendment, deletion, or change to this Section 10 or the definition of Requisite Consenting Lenders shall require the prior written consent of each Requisite Creditor and (iv) any modification, amendment, or change to Section 6(e) shall require the prior written consent of

each Consenting Party; provided further, however, that any waiver, modification, amendment, deletion, or supplement that disproportionately and adversely affects the economic recoveries or treatment of any Consenting Party under the Plan may not be made without the prior written consent of each such adversely affected Consenting Party.

**11. Governing Law; Jurisdiction; Waiver of Jury Trial.**

(a) This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and the rights of the Consenting Parties shall be governed by, the law of the State of New York, without giving effect to the conflicts of law principles thereof.

(b) Each of the Consenting Parties irrevocably agrees that any legal action, suit, or proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement brought by any Consenting Party or its successors or assigns shall be brought and determined in any federal or state court in the Borough of Manhattan, the City of New York, and each of the Consenting Parties hereby irrevocably submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of the aforesaid courts for itself and with respect to its property, generally and unconditionally, with regard to any such proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the Restructuring Transactions. Each of the Consenting Parties agrees not to commence any proceeding relating hereto or thereto except in the courts described above in New York or in the Bankruptcy Court, other than proceedings in any court of competent jurisdiction to enforce any judgment, decree, or award rendered by any such court in New York as described herein. Each of the Consenting Parties further agrees that notice as provided herein shall constitute sufficient service of process and the Consenting Parties further waive any argument that such service is insufficient. Subject to the foregoing, each of the Consenting Parties hereby irrevocably and unconditionally waives, and agrees not to assert, by way of motion or as a defense, counterclaim, or otherwise, in any proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the Restructuring Transactions, (i) any claim that it is not personally subject to the jurisdiction of the courts in New York as described herein for any reason, (ii) that it or its property is exempt or immune from jurisdiction of any such court or from any legal process commenced in such courts (whether through service of notice, attachment prior to judgment, attachment in aid of execution of judgment, execution of judgment, or otherwise) and (iii) that (A) the proceeding in any such court is brought in an inconvenient forum, (B) the venue of such proceeding is improper, or (C) this Agreement, or the subject matter hereof, may not be enforced in or by such courts. Notwithstanding the foregoing, during the pendency of the Chapter 11 Cases, all proceedings contemplated by this Section 11(b) shall be brought in the Bankruptcy Court.

(c) EACH CONSENTING PARTY HEREBY WAIVES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY RIGHT IT MAY HAVE TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY LEGAL PROCEEDING DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED HEREBY (WHETHER BASED ON CONTRACT, TORT, OR ANY OTHER THEORY). EACH CONSENTING PARTY (I) CERTIFIES THAT NO REPRESENTATIVE, AGENT, OR ATTORNEY OF ANY OTHER CONSENTING PARTY HAS REPRESENTED, EXPRESSLY OR OTHERWISE, THAT SUCH OTHER CONSENTING PARTY WOULD NOT, IN THE EVENT OF LITIGATION, SEEK TO ENFORCE THE FOREGOING WAIVER AND (II) ACKNOWLEDGES THAT IT AND THE OTHER CONSENTING PARTIES HAVE BEEN

INDUCED TO ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMENT BY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE MUTUAL WAIVERS AND CERTIFICATIONS IN THIS SECTION.

**12. Specific Performance/Remedies.**

It is understood and agreed by the Consenting Parties that money damages would not be a sufficient remedy for any breach of this Agreement by any Consenting Party and each non-breaching Consenting Party shall be entitled to specific performance and injunctive or other equitable relief (including attorneys' fees and costs) as a remedy of any such breach, without the necessity of proving the inadequacy of money damages as a remedy, including an order of the Bankruptcy Court requiring any Consenting Party to comply promptly with any of its obligations hereunder.

**13. Survival.**

Notwithstanding the termination of this Agreement pursuant to Section 6 hereof, the agreements and obligations of the Consenting Parties set forth in this Section 13 and the following Sections: 1, 6(f), 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20 and 21 hereof (and any defined terms used in any such Sections) shall survive such termination and shall continue in full force and effect for the benefit of the Consenting Parties in accordance with the terms hereof; provided, however, that any liability of a Consenting Party for failure to comply with the terms of this Agreement shall survive such termination.

**14. Headings.**

The headings of the sections, paragraphs, and subsections of this Agreement are inserted for convenience only and shall not affect the interpretation hereof or, for any purpose, be deemed a part of this Agreement.

**15. Successors and Assigns; Severability; Several Obligations.**

This Agreement is intended to bind and inure to the benefit of the Consenting Parties and their respective successors, permitted assigns, heirs, executors, administrators, and representatives; provided, however, that nothing contained in this Section 15 shall be deemed to permit Transfers of interests in the First Lien Claims and/or Second Lien Claims other than in accordance with the express terms of this Agreement. If any provision of this Agreement, or the application of any such provision to any person or entity or circumstance, shall be held invalid or unenforceable in whole or in part, such invalidity or unenforceability shall attach only to such provision or part thereof and the remaining part of such provision hereof and this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect so long as the economic or legal substance of the transactions contemplated hereby is not affected in any manner materially adverse to any Consenting Party. Upon any such determination of invalidity, the Consenting Parties shall negotiate in good faith to modify this Agreement so as to effect the original intent of the Consenting Parties as closely as possible in a reasonably acceptable manner in order that the transactions contemplated hereby are consummated as originally contemplated to the greatest extent possible. The agreements, representations, and obligations of the Consenting Parties are, in all respects, several and neither joint nor joint and several.

**16. No Third-Party Beneficiaries.**

Unless expressly stated otherwise herein, this Agreement shall be solely for the benefit of the Consenting Parties and no other person or entity shall be a third-party beneficiary hereof.

**17. Prior Negotiations; Entire Agreement.**

This Agreement, including the exhibits and schedules hereto, constitutes the entire agreement of the Consenting Parties, and supersedes all other prior negotiations (whether written, verbal or otherwise), with respect to the subject matter hereof and thereof, except that the Consenting Parties acknowledge that any confidentiality agreement and/or non-disclosure agreement (if any) heretofore executed between the Company and any Consenting Party shall continue in full force and effect in accordance with its terms.

**18. Counterparts.**

This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, and all of which together shall be deemed to be one and the same agreement. Execution copies of this Agreement may be delivered by facsimile, electronic mail, or otherwise, which shall be deemed to be an original for the purposes of this paragraph.

**19. Notices.**

All notices hereunder shall be deemed given if in writing and delivered, if contemporaneously sent by electronic mail, facsimile, courier, or by registered or certified mail (return receipt requested) to the following addresses and facsimile numbers:

- (1) If to the Company, to:

Payless, Inc.  
3231 SE Sixth Avenue  
Topeka, Kansas 66607  
Attention: Michael Schwindle, Senior Vice President and CFO

With a copy to:

Kirkland & Ellis LLP  
601 Lexington Avenue  
New York, New York 10022  
Attention: Nicole L. Greenblatt, P.C.  
(nicole.greenblatt@kirkland.com)

- and -

Kirkland & Ellis LLP  
300 North LaSalle  
Chicago, Illinois 60654  
Attention: William A. Guerrieri  
(will.guerrieri@kirkland.com)

(2) If to counsel to the Consenting First Lien Ad Hoc Committee, to:

King & Spalding LLP  
1185 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10036  
Attention: Michael Rupe  
(mrupe@kslaw.com)  
Jeffrey Pawlitz  
(jpawlitz@kslaw.com)  
Christopher G. Boies  
(cboies@kslaw.com)

Any notice given by electronic mail, facsimile, delivery, mail, or courier shall be effective when received.

**20. Reservation of Rights; No Admission.**

(a) Nothing contained herein shall (i) limit (A) the ability of any Consenting Party to consult with other parties or entities, or (B) the rights of any Consenting Party under any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, foreclosure, or similar proceeding, including, without limitation, the right to appear as a party in interest in any matter to be adjudicated in order to be heard concerning any matter arising in the Chapter 11 Cases, in each case, so long as such consultation or appearance is consistent with such Consenting Party's obligations hereunder, or under the terms of the Plan; (ii) limit the ability of any Consenting Party to sell or enter into any transactions in connection with the First Lien Claims, Second Lien Claims, or any other interests in the Company, subject to the terms of Section 4(b) hereof; (iii) limit the rights of any Consenting Party under the First Lien Credit Agreement, the Second Lien Credit Agreement, or any agreements executed in connection with the foregoing; or (iv) constitute a waiver or amendment of any provision of the First Lien Credit Agreement, the Second Lien Credit Agreement, or any agreements executed in connection with the foregoing.

(b) Except as expressly provided in this Agreement, nothing herein is intended to, or does, in any manner waive, limit, impair, or restrict the ability of each of the Consenting Parties to protect and preserve its rights, remedies, and interests, including, without limitation, its claims against any of the other Consenting Parties (or their respective affiliates or subsidiaries) or its full participation in the Chapter 11 Cases. This Agreement and the Plan are part of a proposed settlement of matters that could otherwise be the subject of litigation among the Consenting Parties. Pursuant to Rule 408 of the Federal Rule of Evidence, any applicable state rules of evidence and any other applicable law, foreign or domestic, this Agreement and all negotiations relating thereto shall not be admissible into evidence in any proceeding other than a proceeding to enforce its terms. This Agreement shall in no event be construed as or be deemed to be evidence of an admission or concession on the part of any Consenting Party of any claim or fault or liability or damages whatsoever. Each of the Consenting Parties denies any and all wrongdoing or liability of any kind and does not concede any infirmity in the claims or defenses which it has asserted or could assert.

(c) Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, nothing in this Agreement and neither a vote to accept the Plan by any Consenting Party nor the acceptance of the Plan by any Consenting Party shall (a) be construed to prohibit any Consenting Party from contesting whether any matter, fact, or thing is a breach of, or is inconsistent with, this Agreement or the Definitive Documents, or exercising rights or remedies specifically reserved herein, or (b) impair or waive the rights of any Consenting Party to assert or raise any objection permitted under this Agreement in connection with any hearing on confirmation of the Plan or in the Bankruptcy Court.

**21. Relationship Among Consenting Parties.**

(a) It is understood and agreed that no Consenting Party has any duty of trust or confidence in any kind or form with any other Consenting Party, and, except as expressly provided in this Agreement, there are no commitments among or between them. In this regard, it is understood and agreed that any Consenting Party may trade in the First Lien Claims, and/or the Second Lien Claims, or other equity securities of the Company without the consent of the Company or any other Consenting Party, subject to applicable securities laws, the terms of this Agreement, and any confidentiality agreement and/or non-disclosure agreement entered into with the Company; provided, however, that no Consenting Party shall have any responsibility for any such trading to any other person or entity by virtue of this Agreement. No prior history, pattern, or practice of sharing confidences among or between the Consenting Parties shall in any way affect or negate this understanding and agreement.

**22. No Solicitation; Representation by Counsel; Adequate Information.**

(a) This Agreement is not and shall not be deemed to be a solicitation for votes in favor of the Plan in the Chapter 11 Cases. The acceptances of the Consenting Parties with respect to the Plan will not be solicited until such Consenting Party has received the Disclosure Statement and related ballots and solicitation materials, each as approved by the Bankruptcy Court.

(b) Each Consenting Party acknowledges that it has had an opportunity to receive information from the Company and that it has been represented by counsel in connection with this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby. Accordingly, any rule of law or any legal decision that would provide any Consenting Party with a defense to the enforcement of the terms of this Agreement against such Consenting Party based upon lack of legal counsel shall have no application and is expressly waived.

(c) Although none of the Consenting Parties intends that this Agreement should constitute, and they each believe it does not constitute, a solicitation or acceptance of a chapter 11 plan of reorganization or an offering of securities, each Consenting Party acknowledges, agrees, and represents to the other Consenting Parties that it (i) is an “accredited investor” as such term is defined in Rule 501(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 (the “Securities Act”), (ii) understands that any securities to be acquired by it pursuant to the Restructuring Transactions have not been registered under the Securities Act and that such securities are, to the extent not acquired pursuant to section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code, being offered and sold pursuant to an exemption from registration contained in the Securities Act, based in part upon such Consenting Party’s representations contained in this Agreement, and cannot be sold unless subsequently registered under the Securities Act or an exemption from registration is available, and (iii) has such knowledge and experience in financial and business matters that such Consenting Party is capable of evaluating the merits and risks of the securities to be acquired by it pursuant to the Restructuring Transactions and understands and is able to bear any economic risks with such investment.



**Exhibit A**

Restructuring Term Sheet

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**PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC, ET AL.**  
**RESTRUCTURING TERM SHEET**

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THIS TERM SHEET (THIS “TERM SHEET”) DESCRIBES A PROPOSED RESTRUCTURING (THE “RESTRUCTURING”) FOR PAYLESS HOLDINGS LLC AND CERTAIN OF ITS AFFILIATES (COLLECTIVELY, THE “DEBTORS”) PURSUANT TO A JOINT PLAN OF REORGANIZATION, WHICH WOULD BE FILED BY THE DEBTORS IN CONNECTION WITH A CONTEMPLATED CHAPTER 11 FILING (THE “CHAPTER 11 CASES”) IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI (THE “BANKRUPTCY COURT”).

THIS TERM SHEET IS NOT AN OFFER OR A SOLICITATION WITH RESPECT TO ANY SECURITIES OF THE DEBTORS. ANY SUCH OFFER OR SOLICITATION SHALL COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE SECURITIES LAWS AND/OR PROVISIONS OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE.

THIS TERM SHEET IS PROVIDED IN CONFIDENCE AND MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE DEBTORS AND THE REQUISITE CONSENTING LENDERS (AS SUCH TERM IS DEFINED HEREIN). THIS TERM SHEET IS A SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL IN FURTHERANCE OF SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS. ACCORDINGLY, THIS TERM SHEET IS PROTECTED BY RULE 408 OF THE FEDERAL RULES OF EVIDENCE AND ANY OTHER APPLICABLE STATUTES OR DOCTRINES PROTECTING THE USE OR DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS.

THIS TERM SHEET IS SUBJECT TO ONGOING REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY, AND IS NOT BINDING UPON, THE DEBTORS AND THE CONSENTING LENDERS (AS SUCH TERM IS DEFINED HEREIN), IS SUBJECT TO MATERIAL CHANGE, AND IS BEING DISTRIBUTED FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY.

<b><u>GENERAL PROVISIONS REGARDING THE RESTRUCTURING</u></b>	
<b>Restructuring Summary<sup>1</sup></b>	Prior to the date upon which the Debtors commence the Chapter 11 Cases (the “ <u>Petition Date</u> ”), the Debtors, certain Prepetition First Lien Lenders holding Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims (such holders, the “ <u>Consenting First Lien Lenders</u> ” and such claims, the “ <u>Consenting First Lien Lender Claims</u> ”), and certain Prepetition Second Lien Lenders holding Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims (such holders, the “ <u>Consenting Second Lien Lenders</u> ” and together with the Consenting First Lien Lenders, the “ <u>Consenting Lenders</u> ”) shall execute a Restructuring Support Agreement (the “ <u>Restructuring Support</u>

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<sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms used but not defined in this “Restructuring Summary” section shall have the respective meanings ascribed to such terms herein.

Agreement”), pursuant to which (i) the Debtors shall agree to pursue and implement a plan of reorganization consistent in form and substance in all material respects with this Term Sheet and all exhibits hereto (the “Chapter 11 Plan”) and (ii) the Consenting First Lien Lenders and the Consenting Second Lien Lenders shall agree to support the Chapter 11 Plan.

This Term Sheet outlines the proposed capital structure and other material terms and conditions of the Restructuring. The Term Sheet does not include a description of all of the terms, conditions and other provisions that are to be contained in the definitive documentation governing the Restructuring, which remain subject to further discussion and negotiation.

The Debtors’ Chapter 11 Cases will be funded by: (i) the new money commitments under the Term DIP Facility in aggregate principal amount of \$80 million; and (ii) the ABL DIP Facility, which shall constitute a roll-up of the Prepetition ABL Facility Claims and the Aggregate Commitments (as defined in the Prepetition ABL Facility).

The Debtors’ pro forma exit capital structure will consist of the following:

- **New ABL Facility.** A senior secured asset-based revolving credit facility on terms at least as favorable to the Debtors and the lenders under the New First Lien Term Loan Facility as the Prepetition ABL Facility, as determined by the Requisite Consenting Lenders (as defined herein) in their reasonable discretion.
- **New First Lien Term Loan Facility.** \$280 million first lien senior secured term loan facility (the “New First Lien Term Loan Facility”), on the material terms set forth in the New First Lien Term Loan Facility Term Sheet attached hereto as **Exhibit B**, consisting of (i) a first-out amortizing term loan (the “Tranche A-1 Term Loan”) and (ii) a last-out amortizing term loan (the “Tranche A-2 Term Loan”). The size of the Tranche A-1 Term Loan shall be equal to the outstanding balance of the Term DIP Facility on the Effective Date. The size of the Tranche A-2 Term Loan shall be \$280 million less the amount of the Tranche A-1 Term Loan.
- **New Equity.** Payless Holdings LLC, as reorganized pursuant to and under the Plan, or a new corporation or limited liability company that may be formed to directly or indirectly acquire all of the assets and/or stock of the Debtors (“Reorganized Payless Holdings”) shall issue equity (the “New Equity”) on the Effective Date on the terms set forth herein, which shall be deemed fully paid and non-assessable.

On the date (the “Effective Date”) on which all conditions to the effectiveness of the Chapter 11 Plan are either (i) satisfied or (ii) waived by (a) the Debtors and (b) a group of Consenting First Lien Lenders that collectively hold in the aggregate more than 50% of the aggregate Consenting First Lien Lender Claims held by the Consenting First Lien Lenders as of the relevant date, the “Requisite Consenting Lenders”), the Debtors shall consummate the Chapter 11 Plan, pursuant to which:

- each holder of a Term DIP Facility Claim shall convert its Term DIP Facility Claim into a claim under the Tranche A-1 Term Loan, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, under the New First Lien Term Loan Facility;
- each holder of an ABL DIP Claim shall indefeasibly receive payment in full in cash for all amounts due and owing on account of their ABL DIP Claims, including, for the avoidance of doubt, payment in full, in cash on the Effective Date of the interest, fees, expenses, and other costs due and owing thereunder;
- each holder of a Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its pro rata share of (i) the Tranche A-2 Term Loan and (ii) 91.0% of the New Equity (subject to reduction on account of the Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery, and subject to dilution from the MEIP and the Exit Commitment Fee);
- each holder of a Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its pro rata share of 9.0% of the New Equity (subject to dilution from the MEIP and the Exit Commitment Fee);
- each holder of a Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall receive its pro rata share of the Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery (subject to dilution from the MEIP and the Exit Commitment Fee); provided that such holder shall have the option to elect to instead receive a cash payment equal to a percentage to be determined by the Debtors (with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders) of the value of its Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery (the “GUC Cash-Out Option”).
- each holder of an Other General Unsecured Claim shall receive its pro rata share of \$[•] (the “Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool”) to be funded from proceeds of the Term DIP Loans; provided that Other General Unsecured Claims shall include unsecured deficiency claims of holders of the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims and the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims (collectively, the “Deficiency Claims”) (after taking into account recoveries of such holders received on account of Worldwide General Unsecured Claims);

	<p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>each holder of a Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim shall receive a cash payment equal to a percentage to be determined by the Debtors (with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders) of such holder’s remaining allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim after taking into account payments made by the Debtors to such holder during the Chapter 11 Cases on account of general unsecured claims or under other Classes hereto.</li> </ul> <p>The “<u>Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery</u>” shall mean, for all purposes hereunder, the pro rata share of Unencumbered Property at Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. to which a Worldwide General Unsecured Claim is entitled to receive New Equity on account of the value thereof (net of the value of Unencumbered Property used to satisfy Administrative Claims (including diminution in value claims) and other priority claims against the Debtors, if any), which shall be determined by calculating such holder’s allowed general unsecured claim against the aggregate value of Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc.’s Unencumbered Property as a percentage of all unsecured claims of holders against Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. (including, without limitation, (a) the Prepetition First Lien Deficiency Claims and (b) the amount of Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims outstanding as of the Petition Date) (the “<u>Unencumbered Pro Rata Calculation</u>”).</p> <p>“<u>Unencumbered Property</u>” shall mean all present and after acquired property of the Debtors, wherever located, not subject to a lien or security interest on the Petition Date.</p>
<p><b>Prepetition Funded Debt to be Repaid/Restructured</b></p>	<p>The prepetition funded debt to be repaid and restructured include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approximately \$140 million in Tranche A Loan obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest through the Petition Date (as defined herein) and any unpaid fees, expenses, and other costs due and owing thereunder, the “<u>Prepetition Tranche A ABL Facility Claims</u>”) outstanding under that certain asset-based revolving credit agreement, dated as of October 9, 2012 (as amended, restated, modified or supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility</u>” and together with any Loan Document (as defined in the Prepetition ABL Facility) and any other document related to or evidencing the loans and obligations thereunder, the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility Loan Documents</u>”) among Holdings (as defined therein), the Borrowers (as defined therein), the several lenders from time to time party thereto (the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility Lenders</u>”), Wells Fargo Bank, National Association (in such capacity, the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility Agent</u>”) and TPG Specialty Lending, Inc. (in such capacity, the “<u>Tranche A-1 Agent</u>” and with the Prepetition ABL Facility Agent, the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility Agents</u>”);</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approximately \$30.5 million in Letter of Credit obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest through the Petition Date, the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility L/C Obligations</u>”);</li><li>• Approximately \$55 million in Tranche A-1 Loan obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest and allowed prepayment fees and expenses, the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility FILO Term Loan Claims</u>” and together with the Prepetition Tranche A ABL Facility Claims and the Prepetition ABL Facility L/C Obligations, the “<u>Prepetition ABL Facility Claims</u>”) outstanding under the Prepetition ABL Facility;</li><li>• Approximately \$506 million in obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest through the Petition Date, the “<u>Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims</u>”) outstanding under that certain First Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014 (as amended, restated, modified or supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the “<u>Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement</u>” and together with any Loan Document (as defined in the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement) and any other document related to or evidencing the loans and obligations thereunder, the “<u>Prepetition First Lien Loan Documents</u>”), among Holdings, the Borrowers, the several lenders from time to time party thereto (the “<u>Prepetition First Lien Lenders</u>”) and Cortland Products Corp. (as successor to Morgan Stanley Senior Funding Inc., in such capacity, the “<u>Prepetition First Lien Agent</u>”); and</li><li>• Approximately \$145.0 million in obligations (together with any accrued and unpaid interest through the Petition Date, the “<u>Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims</u>” and together with the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims, the “<u>Prepetition Credit Agreement Claims</u>”) outstanding under that certain Second Lien Term Loan and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2014 (as amended, restated, modified or supplemented from time to time prior to the date hereof, the “<u>Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement</u>” and together with any Loan Document (as defined in the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement) and any other document related to or evidencing the loans and obligations thereunder, the “<u>Prepetition Second Lien Loan Documents</u>”), among Holdings, the Borrowers, the several lenders from time to time party thereto (the “<u>Prepetition Second Lien Lenders</u>”) and Morgan Stanley Senior Funding Inc. (in such capacity, the “<u>Prepetition Second Lien Agent</u>”).</li></ul>
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<p><b>The Term DIP Facility</b></p>	<p>The material terms of the Term DIP Facility are set forth in the Term DIP Credit Agreement attached hereto as <b>Exhibit A</b>, which shall govern in all respects.</p> <p>On the Petition Date, the Debtors shall file a motion seeking approval of a superpriority senior-secured non-amortizing debtor-in-possession term credit facility (the “<u>Term DIP Facility</u>”) comprised of a term loan facility in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$80 million of principal loaned (subject to original issue discount provided in connection with certain fees as set forth in the DIP Fee Letter (as defined in Term DIP Credit Agreement)), consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) A \$30 million initial draw at the hearing to approve the Term DIP Facility on a final basis (the “<u>Initial DIP Amount</u>”);</li> <li>(ii) During the period of time following entry of the Disclosure Statement Order (as defined herein) through the Effective Date, subject in each case to consent by the Required Lenders (as defined in the Term DIP Facility), up to \$50 million of additional funds available pursuant to multiple draw requests (each, an “<u>Interim DIP Draw</u>”); and</li> <li>(iii) upon the Effective Date, a final draw of remaining available proceeds, if any, under the Term DIP Facility in an amount sufficient to provide the Debtors with no more than \$25 million of liquidity upon emergence (the “<u>Final DIP Draw</u>,” together with the Initial DIP Amount and Interim DIP Draws, the “<u>Term DIP Loans</u>”).</li> </ul> <p>Each Consenting First Lien Lender that executed the Restructuring Support Agreement prior to the Petition Date (each, a “<u>Backstop Lender</u>”; and collectively, the “<u>Backstop Lenders</u>”) shall, directly or through one more affiliated funds or financing vehicles (or funds or accounts advised or sub-advised by such person) commit to backstop the Term DIP Loans on a pro rata basis, determined based on the outstanding principal amount of Term Loans under the Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement held by the Backstop Lenders or their affiliated funds as of the Petition Date; <u>provided</u> that an Initial Consenting Lender may elect to not backstop its pro rata share of the Term DIP Loans, in which case the remaining Backstop Lenders shall cover such Initial Consenting Lender’s funding obligation on a pro rata basis.</p> <p>Each Prepetition First Lien Lender that executes the Restructuring Support Agreement within 30 days following the Petition Date shall have the option, at its election, to fund its pro rata share of the Term DIP Loans. For the avoidance of doubt, only the Backstop Lenders are entitled to their pro rata share of the backstop fee (as described in the DIP Fee Letter).</p>
<p><b>The ABL DIP Facility</b></p>	<p>The Debtors are seeking to roll the existing Prepetition ABL Facility</p>

	<p>Claims into a postpetition ABL facility (the “<u>ABL DIP Facility</u>” and together with the Term DIP Facility, the “<u>DIP Facilities</u>”). More specifically, amounts outstanding under the Prepetition ABL Facility (including, for the avoidance of doubt, Aggregate Commitments, as defined therein) shall be exchanged on a dollar-for-dollar basis into a superpriority senior secured asset-based revolving credit facility. The ABL DIP Facility is comprised of a revolving loan facility in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$305 million.</p>
<p><b>Qualified Vendors / Qualified Trade Agreement</b></p>	<p>Each holder of a general unsecured claim that (i) directly relates to and arises solely from the receipt of goods and services by the Debtors arising with, and held by, entities with whom the Debtors are conducting, and with whom the Debtors elect<sup>2</sup> to continue to conduct, business as of the Effective Date and (ii) has executed an agreement or similar arrangement with the Debtors (a “<u>Qualified Trade Agreement</u>”), which agreement shall be reasonably acceptable to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, to provide favorable vendor terms for at least 12 months following the Effective Date (each such holder, a “<u>Consenting Qualified Vendor</u>” and each such claim, a “<u>Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim</u>”), shall receive treatment in accordance with Class 5 of the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<p><b><u>CLASSIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF CLAIMS</u></b></p>	
<p>The following designates the classes of claims against and interests (each, a “Class”) in each of the Debtors on a non-consolidated basis. Certain of the Debtors may not have holders of claims or interests in a particular Class or Classes. The summary of classification and treatment of claims set forth below groups the Debtors together solely for the purpose of describing treatment under the Chapter 11 Plan. Such groupings shall not affect each Debtor’s status as a separate legal entity, change the organizational structure of the Debtors’ business enterprise, constitute a change of control of any Debtor for any purpose, cause a merger or consolidation of any legal entities, or cause the transfer of any assets.</p>	
<p><b><u>Unclassified Claims</u></b></p>	
<p><b>Administrative Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent a holder of an allowed administrative claim, including claims of the type described in section 503(b)(9) of chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101-1532 (the “<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>”), (each, an “<u>Administrative Claim</u>”) already has been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such holder of an Administrative Claim, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Administrative Claim, each such holder of an allowed Administrative Claim shall receive payment in full, in cash, of the unpaid portion of its allowed Administrative Claim.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Unclassified; non-voting.</p>

<sup>2</sup> The Debtors may elect to renegotiate and or reject executory contracts and to separately classify and treat any claims arising therefrom, subject to the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders.



<p><b>Priority Tax Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> Priority tax claims (“<u>Priority Tax Claims</u>”) shall be treated in accordance with section 1129(a)(9)(C) of the Bankruptcy Code.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Unclassified; non-voting.</p>
<p><b>ABL DIP Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Allowance.</b> The claims under the ABL DIP Facility (the “<u>ABL DIP Claims</u>”) shall be allowed in the full amount due and owing under the ABL DIP Facility.</p> <p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date, except to the extent that a Holder of an allowed ABL DIP Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed ABL DIP Claim, each such Holder of an allowed ABL DIP Claim shall indefeasibly receive<sup>3</sup> payment in full in cash for all amounts due and owing on account of its ABL DIP Claim, including, for the avoidance of doubt, payment in full, in cash on the Effective Date of the interest, fees, expenses, and other costs due and owing thereunder;</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Unclassified; non-voting.</p>
<p><b>Term DIP Facility Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Allowance.</b> The claims under the Term DIP Facility (the “<u>Term DIP Facility Claims</u>”) shall be allowed in the full amount due and owing under the Term DIP Facility.</p> <p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a holder of an allowed Term DIP Facility Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Term DIP Facility Claim, each such holder of an allowed Term DIP Facility Claim shall receive, on a dollar-for-dollar-basis, its pro rata share of the Tranche A-1 Term Loan.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Unclassified; non-voting.</p>
<p><b><u>Classified Claims and Interests</u></b></p>	
<p><b>Class 1 – Other Priority Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent a holder of an allowed claim described in section 507(a) of the Bankruptcy Code (each, an “<u>Other Priority Claim</u>”) already has been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such holder of an Other Priority Claim, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Other Priority Claim, each such holder of an Other Priority Claim shall receive payment in full, in cash, of the unpaid portion of its Other Priority Claim.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Each holder of an Other Priority Claims will be</p>

<sup>3</sup> In the event that the entire amount of the Prepetition ABL Facility does not “roll-up” into the DIP ABL Facility, the Debtors will amend this Restructuring Term Sheet and any filed Plan to reflect that holders of Claims under the Prepetition ABL Facility will be entitled to payment in full, in cash on account of such claims on the Effective Date.

	<p>conclusively deemed to have accepted the Chapter 11 Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each holder of an Other Priority Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 2 – Other Secured Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a holder of an allowed secured claim, other than a Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim (each, an “<u>Other Secured Claim</u>”) already has been paid during the Chapter 11 Cases or such holder, together with the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders, agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Other Secured Claim, each holder of Other Secured Claim shall receive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. payment in full, in cash, of the unpaid portion of its Other Secured Claim;</li> <li>ii. delivery of the collateral securing such Other Secured Claim; or</li> <li>iii. other treatment, as decided by the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders to their mutual satisfaction, such that the Other Secured Claim shall be rendered unimpaired.</li> </ul> <p><b>Voting.</b> Unimpaired. Each holder of an Other Secured Claim will be conclusively deemed to have accepted the Chapter 11 Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each holder of an Other Secured Claim will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 3 – Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Allowance.</b> The Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be allowed in an aggregate amount equal to approximately \$506 million.</p> <p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a holder of an allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim, each holder of a Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its pro rata share of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. the Tranche A-2 Term Loan; and</li> <li>ii. 91.0% of the New Equity (subject to reduction on account of the Worldwide GUC Equity Recovery, and subject to dilution from the MEIP and the exit fee set forth in the DIP Fee Letter (as defined in Term DIP Credit Agreement)) (the “<u>Exit Commitment Fee</u>”).</li> </ul> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each holder of a Prepetition First Lien Credit Agreement Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter</p>

	11 Plan.
<p><b>Class 4 – Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Allowance.</b> The Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims shall be allowed in an aggregate amount equal to approximately \$145.0 million.</p> <p><b>Treatment.</b> Except to the extent that a holder of an allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim (including the unsecured deficiency claim of the Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claims), each such holder of an allowed Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim shall receive its pro rata share of 9.0% of the New Equity (subject to dilution from the MEIP and the Exit Commitment Fee).</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each holder of a Prepetition Second Lien Credit Agreement Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 5 – Qualified Unsecured Trade Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, except to the extent that a holder of an allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim, each such holder of an allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim shall receive a cash payment equal to a percentage to be determined by the Debtors (with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders) of such holder’s remaining allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim after taking into account payments made by the Debtors to such holder during the Chapter 11 Cases on account of general unsecured claims or under other Classes hereto.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each holder of an allowed Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.<sup>4</sup></p>
<p><b>Class 6A – Other General Unsecured Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> Except to the extent that a holder of an allowed general unsecured claim (other than a Qualified Unsecured Trade Claim or Worldwide General Unsecured Claim) (each, an “<u>Other General Unsecured Claim</u>”) agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Other General Unsecured Claim, each such holder of an allowed Other General Unsecured Claim shall receive its pro rata share of the Other General Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each holder of an allowed Other General Unsecured Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>

<sup>4</sup> The Debtors may elect to renegotiate and or reject executory contracts and to separately classify and treat any claims arising therefrom, subject to the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders.

<p><b>Class 6B – Worldwide General Unsecured Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> Except to the extent that a holder of an allowed general unsecured claim against Payless ShoeSource Worldwide, Inc. (each, an “<u>Worldwide General Unsecured Claim</u>”) agrees to less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, settlement, release, and discharge of and in exchange for each allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim, each such holder of an allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim shall receive its pro rata share of the GUC Worldwide Equity Recovery (subject to dilution from the MEIP and the Exit Commitment Fee), as determined pursuant to the Unencumbered Pro Rata Calculation and subject to the GUC Cash-Out Option.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each holder of an allowed Worldwide General Unsecured Claim will be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 7 – Intercompany Claims</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> Intercompany Claims shall be reinstated, cancelled, or compromised as determined by the Debtors with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired or Unimpaired. Each holder of an Intercompany Claim will be conclusively deemed to have (a) rejected the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan of Reorganization or (b) accepted the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan, respectively.</p>
<p><b>Class 8 – Existing Equity Interests</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date, all equity interests in Payless Holdings LLC (including options, warrants, rights, or other securities or agreements to acquire such equity interests) (collectively, the “<u>Existing Equity Interests</u>”) shall be discharged, cancelled, released, and extinguished.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired. Each holder of an Existing Equity Interest will be conclusively deemed to have rejected the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, each holder of an Existing Equity Interest will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<p><b>Class 9 – Intercompany Interests</b></p>	<p><b>Treatment.</b> On the Effective Date, all Intercompany Interests shall be cancelled or reinstated, as determined by the Debtors with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.</p> <p><b>Voting.</b> Impaired or Unimpaired. Each holder of an Intercompany Interest will be conclusively deemed to have (a) rejected the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan of Reorganization or (b) accepted the Plan of Reorganization pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code and will not be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Chapter 11 Plan, respectively.</p>



	The Debtors' release of any third party will be provided for in the Chapter 11 Plan only to the extent, after investigation, the Board of Directors determines it is appropriate.
<b>Exculpation</b>	Customary exculpation provisions, including all Released Parties to the extent permitted by applicable law.
<b>Discharge</b>	Customary discharge provisions.
<b>Injunction</b>	Customary injunction provisions, including all Released Parties.
<b><u>GENERAL PROVISIONS / MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION</u></b>	
<b>Cancellation of Instruments, Certificates and Other Documents</b>	On the Effective Date, except to the extent otherwise provided above, all instruments, certificates, and other documents evidencing debt or equity interests in the Debtors shall be cancelled, and the obligations of the Debtors thereunder, or in any way related thereto, shall be discharged.
<b>Board of Directors of Reorganized Payless Holdings</b>	The initial directors and officers of the reorganized Debtors (the " <u>Reorganized Debtors</u> ") shall be selected by the Requisite Consenting Lenders and disclosed in accordance with section 1129(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.
<b>Shareholders Agreement</b>	Holders of New Equity shall be parties to a shareholders agreement, the material terms of which shall be filed as part of the plan supplement, and which shall otherwise be satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders.
<b>Charter; Bylaws</b>	The charter, bylaws, and/or other organizational documents of each of the Debtors shall be amended and restated in a manner consistent with section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code and shall otherwise be satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders.
<b>Exemption from SEC Registration; Private Company Status</b>	<p>The issuance of all securities under the Chapter 11 Plan will be exempt from SEC registration under section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code. To the extent section 1145 is unavailable, such securities shall be exempt from SEC registration as a private placement pursuant to Section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and/or the safe harbor of Regulation D promulgated thereunder, or such other exemption as may be available from any applicable registration requirements.</p> <p>The Reorganized Debtors shall be private, non-SEC reporting companies on the Effective Date.</p>
<b>Management Incentive Program</b>	The Chapter 11 Plan will provide that, promptly on or after the effective date, equity awards for 6%-10% of the New Equity (on a fully diluted

	<p>basis) of Reorganized Payless Holdings will be granted to continuing employees of the Debtors and members of the new board of directors by the new board of directors of Reorganized Payless Holdings, with pricing, vesting and exercise terms to be determined by the new Board of Directors upon consultation with the CEO. Such equity awards shall be on terms reflective of a policy of rewarding the contribution of management to the long-term financial performance of the Reorganized Debtors.</p> <p>The Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders shall negotiate in good faith to reach agreement regarding modified terms of the “Cash Incentive Program” (annual cash incentive and long-term cash incentive for non-senior officers) within 30 days of the Petition Date. The Annual Cash Program, as modified, shall be assumed upon the effectiveness of the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>
<b>Employment Agreements</b>	Notwithstanding the rejection or assumption of any employment agreement, the Chapter 11 Plan will provide for the assumption of severance obligations for up to one (1) year for each of the 12 individuals identified in the document labeled “Senior Officer Severance Costs”; provided that such severance obligations shall not exceed \$5.6 million (excluding taxes) in the aggregate.
<b>Chief Restructuring Officer</b>	Within 30 days of the Petition Date, the Debtors will engage Robert Campagna of Alvarez & Marsal North America LLC as Chief Restructuring Officer (or, if not possible, such other individual as agreed to by the Requisite Consenting Lenders) on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders and will seek court approval of such retention as promptly as possible.
<b>Avoidance Actions</b>	Reorganized Payless Holdings will retain all rights to commence and pursue any and all claims and causes of action arising under the sections 544, 545, 547, 548 and 550 of the Bankruptcy Code (collectively, the “ <u>Avoidance Actions</u> ”) and other litigation.
<b>Tax Issues</b>	The terms of the Chapter 11 Plan and the restructuring contemplated by this Term Sheet shall be structured, with the consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, to preserve favorable tax attributes of the Debtors to the extent practicable.
<b>Retention of Jurisdiction</b>	The Acceptable Plan will provide for the retention of jurisdiction by the Bankruptcy Court for usual and customary matters.
<b><u>CONDITIONS, MILESTONES, AND COVENANTS</u></b>	
<b>Conditions Precedent to Plan Confirmation</b>	<p>Confirmation of the Chapter 11 Plan shall be subject to the following conditions precedent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. the Chapter 11 Plan must be in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>ii. the Debtors shall have achieved 85% of the projected rent savings from landlord concessions on ongoing lease obligations on an annual run-rate, which projected rent savings were agreed to by the Backstop Lenders and the Debtors prior to the Petition Date; and</li><li>iii. the Proposed form of order confirming the Chapter 11 Plan shall be, in form and substance, reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders.</li></ul>
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<p><b>Conditions to Funding the Final DIP Draw</b></p>	<p>The Following shall be conditions to the funding of the Final DIP Draw:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The order confirming the Chapter 11 Plan shall have been in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders;</li> <li>ii. The Debtors shall have achieved 85% of the projected rent savings from landlord concessions on ongoing lease obligations on an annual run-rate, which projected rent savings were agreed to by the Backstop Lenders and the Debtors prior to the petition date;</li> <li>iii. The Debtors shall have performed within 85% of the projected FY 2017 EBITDA run rate, which projection was agreed to by the Backstop Lenders and the Debtors prior to the Petition Date; and</li> <li>iv. The Debtors shall have paid all reasonable and documented fees and out-of-pocket expenses payable to the DIP Agents and the Backstop Lenders, including all reasonable and documented out-of-pocket fees and expenses of counsel and other professionals of such parties as set forth in Section 6.1(b) of the Term DIP Credit Agreement and Section 4.1(f) of the credit agreement governing the ABL DIP Facility.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Debtors' Covenants</b></p>	<p>The Chapter 11 Plan and all supporting and implementing documentation (including all briefs and other pleadings filed in support thereof, all documents filed as part of the plan supplement, and the confirmation order) shall be in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Requisite Consenting Lenders.</p> <p>The Debtors will provide the Backstop Lenders and their respective advisors with bi-weekly updates concerning the status of (i) lease negotiations, (ii) critical vendor negotiations and entry into qualified trade agreements, and (iii) renegotiation of the terms of Joint Venture Agreements, with the first meeting occurring on April 14, 2017.</p> <p>The Debtors' inventory shall not be less than 85% of the Debtors' planned inventory level, tested on the last day of every other fiscal month (the first testing period shall be May 27, 2017).</p>
<p><b>Chapter 11 Milestones</b></p>	<p>The Debtors shall satisfy the following chapter 11 milestones (the "<u>Milestones</u>"). The Debtors' failure to satisfy any of the below milestones shall constitute a "<u>(Consenting Lender Termination Event)</u>" under the Restructuring Support Agreement.<sup>5</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bankruptcy Court's entry of the Interim Order (as defined in the Term DIP Credit Agreement) on or before three (3) calendar days following the Petition Date.</li> </ul>

<sup>5</sup> Any Milestone that falls on a weekend or federal holiday shall be extended to the next business day.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No later than 21 calendar days after the Petition Date the Debtors shall have filed a prearranged Plan or Reorganization, in form and substance satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, and consistent with this Term Sheet and the Restructuring Support Agreement.</li><li>• No later than 21 calendar days after the Petition Date the Debtors shall have filed a disclosure statement motion and disclosure statement (the “<u>Disclosure Statement</u>”) in form and substance satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders.</li><li>• The Bankruptcy Court’s entry of an order extending the time period of the Debtors to assume or reject unexpired leases of real property to a date that is 210 calendar days from the Petition Date on or before 30 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li><li>• No later than 44 calendar days after the Petition Date the Debtors shall have filed their schedules and Statement of Financial Affairs with the Bankruptcy Court.</li><li>• The Bankruptcy Court’s entry of the Final Order (as defined in the Term DIP Credit Agreement) on or before 35 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li><li>• No later than 60 calendar days after the Petition Date the Bankruptcy Court shall have entered an order setting the date (the “<u>Bar Date</u>”) by which proofs of claim for general unsecured creditors must be filed.</li><li>• The hearing on the Disclosure Statement shall have been heard by the Bankruptcy Court on or before 61 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li><li>• The Bankruptcy Court’s entry of an order, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, approving the Disclosure Statement (the “<u>Disclosure Statement Order</u>”) on or before 62 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li><li>• The Bar Date shall have occurred on or before 65 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li><li>• The Debtors shall have commenced solicitation on the Chapter 11 Plan on or before 65 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li><li>• The Debtors shall have filed a motion or motions, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, with the Bankruptcy Court seeking an entry of an order or orders authorizing (i) the Remaining Lease Rejections and (ii) GOB sales for each store subject to a rejected lease on or before 90 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Debtors shall have renegotiated the terms of Joint Venture Agreements such that they are on market terms, as determined in the reasonable judgment of the Requisite Consenting Lenders, by the date that is 100 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li> <li>• The hearing on Plan confirmation shall have been heard by the Bankruptcy Court on or before 110 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li> <li>• The Bankruptcy Court shall have entered an order, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, authorizing the Remaining Lease Rejections on or before 114 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li> <li>• The Bankruptcy Court's shall have entered an order, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Requisite Consenting Lenders, confirming the Chapter 11 Plan (the "<u>Plan Confirmation Order</u>") on or before 114 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li> <li>• The Effective Date shall have occurred not later than 128 calendar days following the Petition Date.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases</b></p>	<p>The Debtors shall seek to assume or reject executory contracts and unexpired leases in consultation with, and with the consent (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld) of the Requisite Consenting Lenders.</p> <p>The Chapter 11 Plan shall provide (a) for the assumption of all indemnification provisions currently in place (whether in the by-laws, certificates of incorporation, board resolutions, indemnification agreements, or employment contracts) for the current directors, managers, and officers of the Debtors and any non-Debtor affiliates, which assumption shall be irrevocable, and shall survive the Plan Effective Date and (b) the Debtors shall maintain their current D&amp;O coverage in place as of the Effective Date of the date of the Restructuring Support Agreement for current and former directors and officers.</p> <p>The Chapter 11 Plan will provide that the executory contracts and unexpired leases that are not assumed or rejected as of the Effective Date (either pursuant to the Chapter 11 Plan or a separate motion) will be deemed rejected pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code. For the avoidance of doubt, such consent of the Requisite Consenting Lenders shall be required to be obtained with respect to all decisions to assume or reject, including the deemed rejection of executory contracts and unexpired leases pursuant to the Chapter 11 Plan.</p>

**EXHIBIT H**

Cash Incentive Plan Term Sheet

[TO COME]

**EXHIBIT I**

New First Lien Term Loan Facility Term Sheet

[TO COME]