

Differential Brands Group Inc.  
Form 10-Q  
November 14, 2017  
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2017

OR

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

For the transition period from                      to

Commission File Number: 0-18926

DIFFERENTIAL BRANDS GROUP INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Edgar Filing: Differential Brands Group Inc. - Form 10-Q

Delaware  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

11-2928178  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1231 South Gerhart Avenue, Commerce, California 90022  
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(323) 890-1800

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

N/A

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer	Accelerated filer
Non-accelerated filer	Smaller reporting company
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)	Emerging growth company

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

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

The number of shares of the registrant's common stock outstanding as of November 14, 2017 was 13,330,849.

---

Table of Contents

DIFFERENTIAL BRANDS GROUP INC.

INDEX TO QUARTERLY REPORT ON FORM 10-Q

	Page
<b><u>PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u></b>	
<b><u>Item 1. Financial Statements</u></b>	
<u>Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of September 30, 2017, December 31, 2016 and September 30, 2016</u>	3
<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the Three and Nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016</u>	4
<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Equity for the Nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016</u>	5
<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016</u>	6
<u>Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	8
<b><u>Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u></b>	34
<b><u>Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u></b>	47
<b><u>Item 4. Controls and Procedures</u></b>	47
<b><u>PART II. OTHER INFORMATION</u></b>	
<b><u>Item 1. Legal Proceedings</u></b>	49
<b><u>Item 1A. Risk Factors</u></b>	49
<b><u>Item 6. Exhibits</u></b>	50
<b><u>SIGNATURES</u></b>	51

Table of Contents

## PART I — FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Item 1. Financial Statements

## DIFFERENTIAL BRANDS GROUP INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(amounts in thousands, except share data)

	September 30, 2017 (unaudited)	December 31, 2016 (Note 1)	September 30, 2016 (unaudited)
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,792	\$ 6,476	\$ 4,424
Accounts receivable, net	23,732	20,225	22,345
Inventories, net	38,004	23,977	29,849
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	5,170	4,249	2,607
Total current assets	69,698	54,927	59,225
Property and equipment, net	9,287	10,620	12,897
Goodwill	8,471	8,271	10,728
Intangible assets, net	90,414	91,886	91,758
Other assets	515	467	493
Total assets	\$ 178,385	\$ 166,171	\$ 175,101
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>			
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 26,218	\$ 19,930	\$ 23,873
Short-term convertible note	13,565	13,137	12,777
Current portion of long-term debt	2,188	1,250	1,063
Total current liabilities	41,971	34,317	37,713
Deferred rent	3,591	3,636	3,641
Line of credit	20,819	12,742	13,590
Convertible notes	13,549	12,660	12,452
Long-term debt, net of current portion	45,444	47,218	47,445
Deferred income taxes, net	12,880	11,074	10,378
Other liabilities	—	—	81
Total liabilities	138,254	121,647	125,300
Commitments and contingencies (Note 13)			
Equity	5	5	5

Edgar Filing: Differential Brands Group Inc. - Form 10-Q

Series A convertible preferred stock, \$0.10 par value: 50,000 shares authorized, issued and outstanding at September 30, 2017, December 31, 2016 and September 30, 2016

Common stock, \$0.10 par value: 100,000,000 shares authorized, 13,330,849, 13,239,125 and 13,082,000 shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2017, December 31, 2016 and September 30, 2016, respectively

	1,333	1,324	1,309
Additional paid-in capital	60,384	59,154	58,616
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	740	(221)	704
Accumulated deficit	(22,331)	(15,738)	(10,833)
Total equity	40,131	44,524	49,801
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 178,385	\$ 166,171	\$ 175,101

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

Table of Contents

## DIFFERENTIAL BRANDS GROUP INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND

## COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

(in thousands, except per share data)

(unaudited)

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016 (Note 2)	2017	2016 (Note 2)
Net sales	\$ 42,389	\$ 41,160	\$ 118,944	\$ 107,248
Cost of goods sold	24,334	25,491	66,067	62,731
Gross profit	18,055	15,669	52,877	44,517
Operating expenses				
Selling, general and administrative	15,334	16,456	47,633	47,049
Depreciation and amortization	1,493	1,593	4,526	4,456
Retail store impairment	—	—	—	279
Total operating expenses	16,827	18,049	52,159	51,784
Operating income (loss) from continuing operations	1,228	(2,380)	718	(7,267)
Interest expense	2,262	2,090	6,536	5,426
Other (income) expense, net	(12)	121	(1)	121
Loss from continuing operations before income taxes	(1,022)	(4,591)	(5,817)	(12,814)
Income tax (benefit) provision	(839)	(1,770)	776	(1,193)
Loss from continuing operations	(183)	(2,821)	(6,593)	(11,621)
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	—	—	—	(1,286)
Net loss	\$ (183)	\$ (2,821)	\$ (6,593)	\$ (12,907)
Net loss	\$ (183)	\$ (2,821)	\$ (6,593)	\$ (12,907)
Other comprehensive income, net of tax:				
Foreign currency translation adjustment	615	704	961	704
Other comprehensive income	615	704	961	704
Comprehensive income (loss)	\$ 432	\$ (2,117)	\$ (5,632)	\$ (12,203)
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.50)	\$ (0.95)
Loss from discontinued operations	—	—	—	(0.11)
Loss per common share - basic	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.50)	\$ (1.06)
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.50)	\$ (0.95)
Loss from discontinued operations	—	—	—	(0.11)
Loss per common share - diluted	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.50)	\$ (1.06)

Weighted average shares outstanding				
Basic	13,322	12,953	13,306	12,222
Diluted	13,322	12,953	13,306	12,222

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



Table of Contents

DIFFERENTIAL BRANDS GROUP INC.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY

(in thousands, unaudited)

Common Stock		Preferred Series A		Additional Paid-In Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Accumulated Deficit	Common Members		Preferred Members	
Shares	Par Value	Shares	Par Value				Units	Amount	Units	Amount
—	\$ —	—	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	4,900	\$ 22,743	5,100	\$ 24,750
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1,016)	—	(1,016)
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(28,905)	—	(28,905)
8,825	883	—	—	(13,634)	—	—	(4,900)	7,178	(5,100)	5,500
3,509	351	—	—	19,649	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	50	5	49,064	—	—	—	—	—	—
703	70	—	—	1,680	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	510	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	849	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	5	—	—	498	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	704	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	(10,833)	—	—	—	—
13,082	\$ 1,309	50	\$ 5	\$ 58,616	\$ 704	\$ (10,833)	—	\$ —	—	\$ —

Edgar Filing: Differential Brands Group Inc. - Form 10-Q

13,239	\$ 1,324	50	\$ 5	\$ 59,154	\$ (221)	\$ (15,738)	—	\$ —	—	\$ —
—	—	—	—	1,339	—	—	—	—	—	—
92	9	—	—	(109)	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	961	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	(6,593)	—	—	—	—
13,331	\$ 1,333	50	\$ 5	\$ 60,384	\$ 740	\$ (22,331)	—	\$ —	—	\$ —

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

Table of Contents

## DIFFERENTIAL BRANDS GROUP INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(in thousands, unaudited)

	Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (6,593)	\$ (11,621)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss from continuing operations to net cash used in operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	4,526	4,456
Retail store impairment	—	279
Amortization of deferred financing costs	326	261
Amortization of convertible notes discount	516	610
Paid-in-kind interest	1,206	284
Stock-based compensation	1,339	1,352
Provision for bad debts	181	131
Amortization of inventory step up	—	1,659
Deferred taxes	1,648	(1,159)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(3,493)	(7,798)
Inventories	(13,823)	(1,195)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(916)	276
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	7,943	(6,982)
Deferred rent	(38)	73
Net cash used in continuing operating activities	(7,178)	(19,374)
Net cash used in discontinued operating activities	—	(1,384)
Net cash used in operating activities	(7,178)	(20,758)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Cash paid in reverse acquisition with Robert Graham, net of cash acquired	—	(6,538)
Refund (payment) of security deposit	7	(37)
Purchases of property and equipment	(777)	(1,337)
Cash paid for the acquisition of SWIMS, net of cash acquired	—	(11,828)
Net cash used in investing activities	(770)	(19,740)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Proceeds from issuance of Series A convertible preferred stock, net of offering costs	—	49,881
Proceeds from term debt	—	50,000
Repayment of long-term debt	(938)	(375)
Proceeds from line of credit, net	7,420	14,143
Proceeds from short-term convertible notes	—	13,000
Repayment of terminated line of credit and loan payable	—	(23,349)
Payment of deferred financing costs	(124)	(1,584)
Redemption of unit holders	—	(58,218)

Edgar Filing: Differential Brands Group Inc. - Form 10-Q

(Repayment of) proceeds from customer cash advances	(1,707)	812
Payment of accrued distribution to members	—	(1,366)
Taxes paid in lieu of shares issued for stock-based compensation	(267)	—
Net cash provided by financing activities	4,384	42,944
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(120)	12
NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(3,684)	2,458
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, at beginning of period	6,476	1,966
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, at end of period	\$ 2,792	\$ 4,424

Table of Contents

## DIFFERENTIAL BRANDS GROUP INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Continued)

(in thousands, unaudited)

	Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:		
Interest paid	\$ 4,381	\$ 3,038
Income taxes paid	\$ 147	\$ 2,642
Supplemental disclosures of non-cash investing and financing activities:		
Common stock issued in reverse acquisition with Robert Graham	\$ —	\$ 20,000
Issuance of convertible notes	\$ —	\$ 16,473
Debt discount recorded in connection with convertible notes	\$ —	\$ 4,673
Contribution of Robert Graham in exchange for common shares	\$ —	\$ 12,751
Reclassification of other assets to offering costs	\$ —	\$ 812
Reclassification of other assets to deferred financing costs	\$ —	\$ 349
Common stock issued in acquisition of SWIMS	\$ —	\$ 1,750
Debt discount recorded in connection with short-term convertible note	\$ —	\$ 465
Warrants issued in acquisition of SWIMS	\$ —	\$ 45
Accrued capital expenditures	\$ 256	\$ —

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

Table of Contents

DIFFERENTIAL BRANDS GROUP INC.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(amounts in thousands except share and per share data)

(unaudited)

1. Business Description and Basis of Presentation

The condensed consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2016 has been derived from audited financial statements. The condensed consolidated financial statements as of and for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 and the related footnote information have been prepared on a basis consistent with the consolidated financial statements as of and for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015. In addition, these condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) for interim financial information and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by U.S. GAAP for complete financial statements and thus should be read in conjunction with the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016. In the opinion of management, the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements contain all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring adjustments) that management considers necessary to present fairly the financial position, results of operations and cash flows of the Company for the interim periods presented. The results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 are not necessarily indicative of the results anticipated for the entire year ending December 31, 2017. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Differential Brands Group Inc. and subsidiaries (“we,” “us,” the “Company” or “Differential”) began operations in 1987 as Innovo, Inc. Since the Company’s founding, the Company has evolved from producing craft and accessory products to designing and selling apparel products bearing the Hudson®, Robert Graham® and SWIMS® brand names.

The Company’s principal business activity involves the design, development and worldwide marketing of: apparel products, which include denim jeans, related casual wear and accessories bearing the brand name Hudson®; apparel products and accessories bearing the brand name Robert Graham®; footwear, apparel and accessories bearing the brand name SWIMS®. Our primary operating subsidiaries are Hudson Clothing, LLC (“Hudson”), Robert Graham Designs, LLC and Robert Graham Retail, LLC (collectively “Robert Graham”), and DFBG Swims, LLC (“Swims”). In addition, we have other non-operating subsidiaries.

The condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States and include the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries. All significant

intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

As previously reported, on September 11, 2015, the Company completed the sale of certain operating and intellectual property assets related to the business operated under the brand names “Joe’s Jeans,” “Joe’s,” “Joe’s JD” and “else” (the “Joe’s Business”) to GBG USA Inc., a Delaware corporation (“GBG”), and the sale of certain intellectual property assets related to the Joe’s Business to Joe’s Holdings LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (“Joe’s Holdings”), for an aggregate purchase price of \$80.0 million (the “Joe’s Asset Sale”). The Company also entered into the amended and restated revolving credit agreement (the “CIT Amended and Restated Revolving Credit Agreement”), dated September 11, 2015, which provided for a maximum credit availability of \$7.5 million.

On January 28, 2016, the Company completed the acquisition (the “RG Merger”) of all of the outstanding equity interests of RG Parent LLC and its subsidiaries (“Robert Graham” or “RG”), for an aggregate of \$81.0 million in cash and 8,825,461 shares of the Company’s common stock, par value \$0.10 per share (after giving effect to the Reverse Stock Split, as defined below). The aggregate cash consideration was used to repay \$19.0 million of RG’s outstanding loans and indebtedness under its revolving credit agreement with J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. On the RG Merger’s closing date, all outstanding loans under the CIT Amended and Restated Revolving Credit Agreement were repaid and it was terminated in connection with entering into (i) a new credit and security agreement (as later amended, the

Table of Contents

“ABL Credit Agreement”) with Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as lender, (ii) a new credit and security agreement with TCW Asset Management Company, as agent, and the lenders party thereto (as later amended, the “Term Credit Agreement”), and (iii) an amended and restated deferred purchase factoring agreement with CIT (the “A&R Factoring Agreement”).

Effective upon consummation of the RG Merger, the Company effected a reverse stock split (the “Reverse Stock Split”) of the Company’s issued and outstanding common stock such that each 30 shares of issued and outstanding common stock were reclassified into one share of issued and outstanding common stock, which Reverse Stock Split did not change the par value or the amount of authorized shares of common stock. The primary purpose of the Reverse Stock Split was to increase the per-share market price of the Company’s common stock in order to maintain its listing on The Nasdaq Capital Market maintained by The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC. Unless otherwise indicated, all share amounts in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (this “Quarterly Report”) have been adjusted to reflect the Reverse Stock Split.

After the closing of the Joe’s Asset Sale on September 11, 2015, the Company retained and operated 32 Joe’s® brand retail stores, of which the Company transferred 18 retail stores to GBG on January 28, 2016 for no additional consideration. As of February 29, 2016, the remaining 14 Joe’s® brand retail stores were closed and as a result are reported in this Quarterly Report as discontinued operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2016.

On July 18, 2016, the Company completed the acquisition of all of the outstanding share capital of Norwegian private limited company SWIMS AS (“SWIMS”) for an aggregate consideration of (i) \$12.0 million in cash, (ii) 702,943 shares of common stock and (iii) warrants to purchase an aggregate of 150,000 shares of common stock with an exercise price of \$5.47 per share.

The RG Merger has been accounted for as a reverse merger and recapitalization and as a result of the RG Merger, the former RG members own a majority of the Company’s issued and outstanding equity. Under the acquisition method, RG is deemed the accounting acquirer for financial reporting purposes, with the Company, as the legal acquirer, being viewed as the accounting acquiree. As a result, the assets, liabilities and operations reflected in the historical condensed consolidated financial statements and elsewhere in this Quarterly Report prior to the RG Merger are those of RG and are recorded at the historical cost basis and reflect RG’s historical financial condition and results of operations for comparative purposes. The Company’s condensed consolidated financial statements include: (i) from January 1, 2016 up to the day prior to the closing of the RG Merger on January 28, 2016, the results of operations and cash flows of RG; (ii) from and after the RG Merger’s closing date on January 28, 2016, the results of continuing operations, cash flows and, as applicable, the assets and liabilities of the combined company, comprising the Company’s Hudson business and RG; (iii) from and after the RG Merger’s closing date on January 28, 2016, the results of the discontinued operations from the Joe’s® brand retail stores that were not transferred to GBG but that closed as of February 29, 2016 ; and (iv) from and after the acquisition of SWIMS on July 18, 2016, the results of continuing operations and cash flows and, as applicable, the assets and liabilities of SWIMS.



Prior to the RG Merger, RG and the Company had different fiscal year ends, with RG's fiscal year ending on December 31 and the Company's fiscal year ending on November 30. In connection with the RG Merger, the Company changed its fiscal year end to December 31.

The Company's reportable business segments are Wholesale, Consumer Direct and Corporate and other. For periods before the RG Merger's closing date, the discussion of reportable segments reflects only the operations of RG. The Company manages, evaluates and aggregates its operating segments for segment reporting purposes primarily on the basis of business activity and operation. The Wholesale segment is comprised of sales of products to premium nationwide department stores, boutiques, specialty retailers, and select off-price and international customers. The Wholesale segment also includes expenses from sales and customer service departments, trade shows, warehouse distribution, design and production, and product samples. The Consumer Direct segment is comprised of sales to consumers through the Robert Graham® brand full-price retail stores and outlet stores, through the SWIMS® brand outlet stores and through the online e-commerce sites at [www.hudsonjeans.com](http://www.hudsonjeans.com), [www.robertgraham.us](http://www.robertgraham.us) and [www.swims.com](http://www.swims.com). The information contained on, or that can be accessed through, these websites is not a part of this Quarterly Report and is not incorporated by reference herein. The Corporate and other segment is comprised of revenue from trademark licensing agreements and expenses from corporate operations, which include the executive, finance,

Table of Contents

legal, information technology and human resources departments and general brand marketing and advertising expenses associated with the Company's brands.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Information regarding significant accounting policies is contained in Note 2, "Summary of Significant Accounting Policies" of the consolidated financial statements in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016.

Inventory and Reclassification

During the three months ended March 31, 2017, the Company modified its capitalization of overhead costs allocated to inventory to include certain production costs that were previously excluded. These production expenses were previously included in cost of goods sold and selling, general and administrative expenses. These costs are now included in production overhead capitalized to inventory to better reflect the costs incurred to bring the Company's inventory to a saleable condition after the recent change in the Company's processes of sourcing inventory. This modification resulted in additional capitalization of \$1.4 million of production overhead to the standard cost of inventory from production expenses during the first quarter of fiscal 2017. This modification has been accounted for on a prospective basis from January 1, 2017.

The increase in inventories resulted in a \$1.4 million non-cash benefit (or \$0.11 per diluted share), which was comprised of a \$0.3 million decrease in cost of goods sold and a \$1.1 million decrease in selling, general and administrative expenses.

In addition, the Company has reclassified delivery expenses, design costs, warehousing and handling costs and other inventory acquisition related costs to cost of goods sold, which were previously included in selling, general and administrative expenses. The classification of these costs in cost of goods sold more accurately reflects the cost of producing and distributing products. Additionally, this presentation enhances the comparability of the Company's financial statements with industry peers. The change has been reflected in the condensed consolidated statements of operations in the prior periods to conform to the presentation in the current period. The impact of the reclassification resulted in an increase to cost of goods sold and a decrease to selling, general and administrative expenses in the amount of \$4.7 million and \$13.2 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively.

Following is a reconciliation of the reclassification of costs from selling, general and administrative to cost of goods sold discussed above for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 (in thousands):

Edgar Filing: Differential Brands Group Inc. - Form 10-Q

	Three months ended September 30, 2016			Nine months ended September 30, 2016		
	Before Reclass	Reclass	After Reclass	As Previously Reported	Reclass	After Reclass
Net sales	\$ 41,160	\$ —	\$ 41,160	\$ 107,248	\$ —	\$ 107,248
Cost of goods sold	20,832	4,659	25,491	49,518	13,213	62,731
Gross profit	20,328	(4,659)	15,669	57,730	(13,213)	44,517
Operating expenses						
Selling, general and administrative	21,115	(4,659)	16,456	60,262	(13,213)	47,049
Depreciation and amortization	1,593	—	1,593	4,456	—	4,456
Retail store impairment	—	—	—	279	—	279
Total operating expenses	22,708	(4,659)	18,049	64,997	(13,213)	51,784
Operating loss from continuing operations	(2,380)	—	(2,380)	(7,267)	—	(7,267)
Interest expense	2,090	—	2,090	5,426	—	5,426
Other expense, net	121	—	121	121	—	121
Loss from continuing operations before income taxes	(4,591)	—	(4,591)	(12,814)	—	(12,814)
Income tax benefit	(1,770)	—	(1,770)	(1,193)	—	(1,193)
Loss from continuing operations	(2,821)	—	(2,821)	(11,621)	—	(11,621)
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	—	—	—	(1,286)	—	(1,286)
Net loss	\$ (2,821)	\$ —	\$ (2,821)	\$ (12,907)	\$ —	\$ (12,907)

## Table of Contents

### Cost of Goods Sold

Cost of goods sold includes the following: the cost of merchandise; customs related taxes and duties; production costs; delivery expense; in-bound and outbound freight; obsolescence and shrink provisions; design costs; warehousing and handling costs and other inventory acquisition related costs.

### Financial Accounting Standards Recently Adopted

In March 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) No. 2016-09, Compensation—Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements To Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting, which amends ASC Topic 718, relating to employee share-based payment accounting. This guidance simplifies several aspects of the accounting for employee share-based payment transactions, including the accounting for income taxes, forfeitures, and statutory tax withholding requirements, as well as classification in the statement of cash flows. This ASU is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016, and interim periods within that reporting period. The Company adopted this standard in the first quarter of 2017 and there was no material impact on the condensed consolidated financial statements.

In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU No. 2017-04, Intangibles —Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment. Topic 350, Intangibles—Goodwill and Other (Topic 350), currently requires an entity to perform a two-step test to determine the amount, if any, of goodwill impairment. ASU No. 2017-04 removes the second step of the test. An entity will apply a one-step quantitative test and record the amount of goodwill impairment as the excess of a reporting unit's carrying amount over its fair value, not to exceed the total amount of goodwill allocated to the reporting unit. The new guidance does not amend the optional qualitative assessment of goodwill impairment. The ASC amendments are effective for annual or any interim goodwill impairment tests in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019 with early adoption permitted. The Company adopted this standard in the first quarter of 2017 and there was no impact on the condensed consolidated financial statements.

### Recently Issued Financial Accounting Standards

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers, Accounting Standards Codification 606 (“ASC 606”). This amendment prescribes that an entity should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled to in exchange for those goods or services. The amendment supersedes the revenue recognition requirements in ASC Topic 605, Revenue Recognition, and most industry-specific guidance throughout the Industry Topics of the Codification. For the Company’s annual and interim reporting periods the mandatory adoption date of ASC 606 is January 1, 2018, and two methods of adoption are allowed, either a full retrospective adoption or a modified retrospective adoption. In August 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-14, which deferred the effective

date of ASU No. 2014-09 to the first quarter of 2018. In March 2016, April 2016, May 2016, December 2016, and May 2017 the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-08, ASU No. 2016-10, ASU No. 2016-12, ASU No. 2016-20, and ASU No. 2017-10, respectively, as clarifications to ASU No. 2014-09. ASU No. 2016-08 clarifies how to identify the unit of accounting for the principal versus agent evaluation, how to apply the control principle to certain types of arrangements, such as service transactions, and reframed the indicators in the guidance to focus on evidence that an entity is acting as a principal rather than as an agent. ASU No. 2016-10 clarifies the existing guidance on identifying performance obligations and licensing implementation. ASU No. 2016-12 adds practical expedients related to the transition for contract modifications and further defines a completed contract, clarifies the objective of the collectability assessment and how revenue is recognized if collectability is not probable, and when non-cash considerations should be measured. ASU No. 2016-20 corrects or improves guidance in 13 narrow focus aspects of the guidance. ASU No. 2017-10 clarifies that the grantor in a service concession arrangement is the operating entity's customer for purposes of revenue recognition. The effective dates for these ASUs are the same as the effective date for ASU No. 2014-09, for the Company's annual and interim periods beginning January 1, 2018. These ASUs also require enhanced disclosures regarding the nature, amount, timing, and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows. The Company will adopt the new revenue standards in the first quarter of 2018. The Company has not selected a transition model and is still completing the assessment of the impact these ASUs will have on its condensed consolidated financial statements. The Company does not expect significant changes to the amounts or timing of revenue recognition for product sales, which are its primary revenue stream and represent 98% of consolidated net sales. The Company is also in the process of assessing the impact of the standard on license revenue. As

## Table of Contents

the Company completes its assessment, the Company is also identifying and preparing to implement changes to its accounting policies, business processes, and internal controls to support the new accounting and disclosure requirements.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-02, Leases (Topic 842), which affects the accounting for leases. The guidance requires lessees to recognize assets and liabilities on the balance sheet for the rights and obligations created by all leases with terms of more than 12 months. The amendment also will require qualitative and quantitative disclosures designed to give financial statement users information on the amount, timing, and uncertainty of cash flows arising from leases. This ASU is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018 and interim periods within that reporting period. Early application is permitted. The Company is currently assessing the impact of the new standard on its condensed consolidated financial statements, but anticipates an increase in assets and liabilities due to the recognition of the required right-of-use asset and corresponding liability for all lease obligations that are currently classified as operating leases, such as real estate leases for corporate headquarters, administrative offices, retail stores, and showrooms as well as additional disclosure on all its lease obligations. The income statement recognition of lease expense is not expected to significantly change from the current methodology.

In August 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-15, Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments. ASU No. 2016-15 amends the guidance in ASC 230 on the classification of certain cash receipts and payments in the statement of cash flows. The primary purpose of ASU No. 2016-15 is to reduce the diversity in practice that has resulted from the lack of consistent principles on this topic. ASU No. 2016-15 is effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2017, and early adoption is permitted for all entities. Entities must apply the guidance retrospectively to all periods presented but may apply it prospectively from the earliest date practicable if retrospective application would be impracticable. The Company is currently evaluating the impact the adoption of ASU No. 2016-15 will have on its condensed consolidated financial statements.

### 3. Factored Accounts and Receivables

#### RG's Former Factoring Agreement

In December 2013, RG entered into a deferred purchase factoring arrangement and loan agreement with CIT. Under the agreement, RG assigned trade accounts receivable to a commercial factor with recourse, while retaining ownership of the assigned accounts receivable until the occurrence of a specified triggering event. In January 2016, in connection with the RG Merger, the Company terminated the deferred purchase factoring arrangement and loan agreement and entered into the A&R Factoring Agreement (as defined below).

#### A&R Factoring Agreement

In January 2016, in connection with the RG Merger, the Company entered into the A&R Factoring Agreement with CIT, through its subsidiaries, Robert Graham Designs LLC and Hudson, which replaced all prior agreements relating to factoring and inventory security. The A&R Factoring Agreement provides that the Company sell and assign to CIT certain accounts receivable, including accounts arising from or related to sales of inventory and the rendition of services. Under the A&R Factoring Agreement, the Company pays various factoring rates depending on the credit risk associated with the nature of the account. The A&R Factoring Agreement may be terminated by CIT upon 60 days' written notice or immediately upon the occurrence of an event of default as defined in the agreement. The A&R Factoring Agreement may be terminated by the Company upon 60 days' written notice prior to December 31, 2020 or annually with 60 days' written notice prior to December 31 of each year thereafter.

#### SWIMS Factoring Agreement

In connection with the acquisition of SWIMS, SWIMS has maintained a preexisting Credit Assurance and Factoring Agreement between SWIMS and DNB Bank ASA ("DNB"), dated August 26, 2013 (the "SWIMS Factoring Agreement"). The SWIMS Factoring Agreement is a combined credit assurance and factoring agreement, pursuant to which SWIMS is granted financing of up to 80% of its preapproved outstanding invoiced receivables. DNB receives an annual commission based on invoiced revenues and a quarterly commission of the maximum financing amount plus other administrative costs. The SWIMS Factoring Agreement is secured with (a) first-priority lien on SWIMS's (i) machinery and plant (up to NOK 10.0 million) and (ii) inventory (up to NOK 10.0 million) and (b) additional liens on

Table of Contents

SWIMS's factoring in the amount of NOK 1.0 million (first lien), NOK 4.0 million (second lien), NOK 7.0 million (third lien) and NOK 2.5 million (fourth lien). The SWIMS Factoring Agreement may be terminated by SWIMS upon 14 days' prior written notice for any reason and by DNB upon 14 days' prior written notice for just cause. DNB may also terminate the SWIMS Factoring Agreement without any prior written notice in the event of a material breach by SWIMS. As of September 30, 2017, SWIMS had outstanding financing commitments on NOK 28.4 million (approximately \$3.6 million as of September 30, 2017) of its preapproved outstanding invoiced receivables pursuant to the SWIMS Factoring Agreement.

Accounts receivable consists of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016	September 30, 2016
Non-recourse receivables assigned to factor	\$ 18,780	\$ 20,226	\$ 20,355
Client recourse receivables	4,244	1,634	3,009
Total receivables assigned to factor	23,024	21,860	23,364
Allowance for customer credits	(3,480)	(5,157)	(4,508)
Factored accounts receivable, net	\$ 19,544	\$ 16,703	\$ 18,856
Non-factored accounts receivable	\$ 5,456	\$ 4,743	\$ 4,851
Allowance for customer credits	(1,065)	(1,031)	(720)
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(203)	(190)	(642)
Non-factored accounts receivable, net	\$ 4,188	\$ 3,522	\$ 3,489
Total accounts receivable, net	\$ 23,732	\$ 20,225	\$ 22,345

Of the total amount of receivables sold by the Company as of September 30, 2017, December 31, 2016 and September 30, 2016, the Company holds the risk of payment of \$4.2 million, \$1.6 million and \$3.0 million, respectively, in the event of non-payment by the customers.

#### 4. Inventories

Inventories are valued at net realizable value with cost determined by the first-in, first-out method. Inventories consisted of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016	September 30, 2016
Finished goods	\$ 35,585	\$ 22,537	\$ 28,069
Finished goods consigned to others	1,908	1,179	1,266
Work in progress	267	42	198
Raw materials	244	219	316
Total inventories	\$ 38,004	\$ 23,977	\$ 29,849



## 5. Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

When the Company determines that the carrying value of long lived assets, such as property and equipment, may not be recoverable based upon the existence of one or more factors, and the carrying value exceeds the estimated undiscounted cash flows expected to be generated by the asset, impairment is measured based on a projected discounted cash flow method using a discount rate determined by management. These cash flows are calculated by netting future estimated sales against associated merchandise costs and other related expenses such as payroll, occupancy and marketing. The impairment loss calculations require management to apply judgment in estimating future cash flows and the discount rates that reflect the risk inherent in future cash flows.

Table of Contents

Future expected cash flows for retail store assets are based on management's estimates of future cash flows over the remaining lease period or expected life, if shorter. The Company considers historical trends, expected future business trends and other factors when estimating each store's future cash flow. The Company also considers factors such as: the local environment for each store location, including mall traffic and competition; the ability to successfully implement strategic initiatives; and the ability to control variable costs such as cost of goods sold and payroll, and in some cases, renegotiate lease costs. If actual results are not consistent with the assumptions and judgments used in estimating future cash flows and asset fair values, there may be additional exposure to future impairment losses that could be material to the results of operations. Retail store impairment charges of \$279 thousand were recorded during the nine months ended September 30, 2016 due to the closure of one store prior to the lease end date, which is included in the Consumer Direct segment. There was no impairment charge recorded related to the retail stores during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 or for the three months ended September 30, 2016.

## 6. Intangible Assets and Goodwill

Intangible assets are recorded at cost, less accumulated amortization. Amortization of intangible assets with finite lives is provided for over their estimated useful lives on a straight-line basis. The life of the trade names are indefinite. Intangible assets as of September 30, 2017 consisted of the following (in thousands):

	Amortization Period	Gross Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Amount
Trade names	Indefinite	\$ 66,087	\$ —	\$ 66,087
Customer relationships	7 to 15 Years	35,150	10,905	24,245
Non-compete agreements	3 Years	138	56	82
Total		\$ 101,375	\$ 10,961	\$ 90,414

Intangible assets as of December 31, 2016 consisted of the following (in thousands):

	Amortization Period	Gross Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Amount
Trade names	Indefinite	\$ 65,480	\$ —	\$ 65,480
Customer relationships	7 to 15 Years	34,997	8,699	26,298
Non-compete agreements	3 Years	128	20	108
Total		\$ 100,605	\$ 8,719	\$ 91,886

Intangible assets as of September 30, 2016 consisted of the following (in thousands):

	Amortization Period	Gross Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Amount
--	------------------------	-----------------	-----------------------------	---------------

Edgar Filing: Differential Brands Group Inc. - Form 10-Q

Trade names	Indefinite	\$ 63,667	\$ —	\$ 63,667
Customer relationships	7 to 15 Years	35,968	8,017	27,951
Non-compete agreements	3 Years	150	10	140
Total		\$ 99,785	\$ 8,027	\$ 91,758

Amortization expense related to the intangible assets amounted to approximately \$0.7 million and \$0.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Amortization expense related to the intangible assets amounted to approximately \$2.2 million and \$2.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

Table of Contents

As of September 30, 2017, the future amortization expense related to the finite-lived intangible assets is as follows (in thousands):

2017	Remainder of the year	\$ 751
2018		2,990
2019		2,968
2020		2,947
2021		2,943
Thereafter		11,728
		\$ 24,327

Goodwill consisted of the following as of September 30, 2017, December 31, 2016 and September 30, 2016 (in thousands):

	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016	September 30, 2016
Beginning balance	\$ 8,271	\$ 2,286	\$ 2,286
Goodwill created by the RG Merger	—	3,638	4,238
Goodwill created by the acquisition of SWIMS	—	2,393	3,993
Foreign currency adjustments	200	(46)	211
Ending balance	\$ 8,471	\$ 8,271	\$ 10,728

There was no impairment charge recorded related to intangible assets or goodwill during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016.

7. Debt and Preferred Stock

The five-year payment schedule of the Company's convertible notes, line of credit and long-term debt as of September 30, 2017 is as follows (in thousands):

	Payments Due by Period						Deferred Financing Costs, Net	Original Issue Discount, Net	Carrying Value
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total			
Short-term convertible note	\$ —	\$ 13,565	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 13,565	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 13,565

Edgar Filing: Differential Brands Group Inc. - Form 10-Q

Line of credit	1,151	—	—	20,085	—	21,236	417	—	20,819
Long-term debt	313	2,500	3,750	5,000	37,000	48,563	931	—	47,632
Convertible notes	—	—	—	—	17,255	17,255	—	3,706	13,549
Total	\$ 1,464	\$ 16,065	\$ 3,750	\$ 25,085	\$ 54,255	\$ 100,619	\$ 1,348	\$ 3,706	\$ 95,565

JPM Credit Facility and Capex Loan of RG

On December 23, 2013, RG entered into a \$30.0 million revolving credit facility with JP Morgan Chase Bank (the “JPM Loan Agreement”), which was later amended such that \$3.5 million of the revolving credit facility was reclassified to a term loan (the “Capex Loan”). In January 2016, RG used the aggregate cash consideration received in the RG Merger to repay all \$19.0 million of RG’s outstanding loans and indebtedness under the JPM Loan Agreement, including the Capex Loan.

Line of Credit and Long-Term Debt – ABL Credit Agreement and Term Credit Agreement

On January 28, 2016, in connection with consummation of the RG Merger, the Company and certain of its subsidiaries entered into (i) the ABL Credit Agreement; (ii) the Term Credit Agreement; and (iii) the A&R Factoring Agreement. See “Note 3 – Factored Accounts and Receivables” for a discussion of the A&R Factoring Agreement.

The ABL Credit Agreement provides for a senior secured asset-based revolving credit facility (the “Revolving Facility”) with commitments in an aggregate principal amount of \$40.0 million. The Term Credit Agreement provides

Table of Contents

for a senior secured term loan credit facility (the "Term Facility") in an aggregate principal amount of \$50 million. The Revolving Facility matures on October 30, 2020. The Term Facility matures on January 28, 2021. The amount available to be drawn under the Revolving Facility is based on the borrowing base values attributed to eligible accounts receivable and eligible inventory. The availability under the Revolving Facility as of September 30, 2017 was \$13.4 million. Borrowings under the Revolving Facility and the Term Facility totaled \$20.1 million and \$48.6 million as of September 30, 2017, respectively.

Certain of the Company's subsidiaries are co-borrowers under the ABL Credit Agreement and the Term Credit Agreement. The obligations under the ABL Credit Agreement and the Term Credit Agreement are guaranteed by all of the Company's domestic subsidiaries and are secured by substantially all of the Company's assets, including the assets of its domestic subsidiaries.

The ABL Credit Agreement provides that, subject to customary conditions, the Company, and certain of its subsidiaries that are borrowers, may seek to obtain incremental commitments under the Revolving Facility in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$10.0 million. The Term Credit Agreement provides that, subject to customary conditions, the Company, and certain of its subsidiaries that are borrowers, may seek to obtain incremental term loans under the Term Facility in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$50.0 million. The Company does not currently have any commitments for such incremental loans under either facility.

There are no scheduled payments under the Revolving Facility. The Revolving Facility is required to be prepaid to the extent extensions of credit thereunder exceed the applicable borrowing base. Outstanding loans under the Revolving Facility may be prepaid at any time at the Company's option without premium or penalty, other than customary "breakage" costs with respect to LIBOR loans.

The Term Facility is subject to quarterly payments of principal as follows: (i) 0.25% for each of the first four fiscal quarters; (ii) 0.625% for each of the four fiscal quarters thereafter; (iii) 1.25% for each of the next following four fiscal quarters; (iv) 1.875% for each of the next following four fiscal quarters; and (v) 2.50% for each fiscal quarter thereafter, with the balance payable at maturity. The Term Facility includes mandatory prepayments customary for credit facilities of its nature, including, subject to certain exceptions: (i) 100% of the net cash proceeds from issuances of debt that is not permitted and certain equity issuances; (ii) 100% of the net cash proceeds from certain non-ordinary course asset sales, subject to customary exceptions and reinvestment rights; (iii) 100% of certain insurance proceeds and condemnation recoveries, subject to customary exceptions and reinvestment rights; (iv) 100% of the net cash proceeds from certain extraordinary receipts; and (v) a variable percentage of excess cash flow, ranging from 50% to 0% depending on our senior leverage ratio. Outstanding loans under the Term Facility may be prepaid at any time at the Company's option subject to customary "breakage" costs with respect to LIBOR loans. Subject to certain exceptions, prepayments of loans under the Term Facility are subject to a prepayment premium of (i) 2.00% during the first year after the closing date and (ii) 1.00% during the second year after the closing date.

Borrowings under the ABL Credit Agreement and Term Credit Agreement bear interest at a rate equal to either, at the Company's option, an adjusted base rate or the LIBOR (subject to a 0.50% floor for borrowings under the Term Facility), in each case plus an applicable margin. The applicable margins for borrowing under the Term Facility (which varies based on our senior leverage ratio) range from 9.50% to 6.00% for base rate loans and 10.50% to 7.00% for LIBOR loans. The applicable margin for borrowings under the Revolving Facility is 0.50% for base rate loans and

1.75% for LIBOR loans. An unused commitment fee equal to 0.25% per annum of the average daily amount by which the total commitments under the Revolving Facility exceeds the outstanding usage under the Revolving Facility is payable monthly in arrears.

The ABL Credit Agreement and Term Credit Agreement contain customary representations and warranties, events of default and covenants, including, among other things and subject to certain exceptions, covenants that restrict the ability of the Company and its subsidiaries, to incur additional indebtedness, create or permit liens on assets, engage in mergers or consolidations, dispose of assets, make prepayments of certain indebtedness, pay certain dividends and other restricted payments, make investments, and engage in transactions with affiliates. The Term Credit Agreement requires the Company to comply with various financial covenants to be tested. If an event of default under a credit

## Table of Contents

agreement occurs and continues, the commitments may be terminated and the principal amount outstanding, together with all accrued and unpaid interest and other amounts owed may be declared immediately due and payable.

To permit the acquisition of SWIMS, on July 18, 2016, the Company also entered into (i) a Consent and Amendment No. 1 to the ABL Credit Agreement and accompanying security agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as lender, and (ii) a Consent and Amendment No. 1 to the Term Credit Agreement and accompanying security agreement with TCW Asset Management Company, as agent for the lenders and the lenders party thereto.

Additionally, on March 27, 2017, the Company entered into (i) Amendment No. 2 to the Term Credit Agreement to modify certain defined terms, add a liquidity covenant, revise certain covenants and set an 8.75% base rate and 9.75% LIBOR rate for the period between March 27, 2017 and May 15, 2017, and (ii) Amendment No. 2 to the ABL Credit Agreement to conform certain defined terms to those in Amendment No. 2 in the Term Credit Agreement. As of September 30, 2017, the Company was in compliance with the financial and non-financial covenants included in the ABL Credit Agreement and the Term Credit Agreement.

## Modified Convertible Notes

On September 8, 2015, the Company entered into the rollover agreement with the holders of convertible notes originally issued in connection with the acquisition of the Hudson business (“the Rollover Agreement”), pursuant to which, on January 28, 2016, the holders of the notes contributed the notes to the Company in exchange for the following:

- 1,167,317 shares of common stock;
- a cash payment of approximately \$8.6 million, before expenses; and
- an aggregate principal amount of approximately \$16.5 million of modified convertible notes (the “Modified Convertible Notes”).

The Modified Convertible Notes are structurally and contractually subordinated to our senior debt and will mature on July 28, 2021. The Modified Convertible Notes accrue interest quarterly on the outstanding principal amount at a rate of 6.5% per annum (which increased to 7% as of October 1, 2016 with respect to the Modified Convertible Notes issued to Fireman Capital CPF Hudson Co-Invest LP (“Fireman”)), which is payable 50% in cash and 50% in additional paid-in-kind notes; provided, however, that the Company may, in its sole discretion, elect to pay 100% of such interest in cash. Beginning on January 28, 2016, the Modified Convertible Notes are convertible by each of the holders into shares of our common stock, cash, or a combination of cash and common stock, at the Company’s election.



If the Company elects to issue only shares of common stock upon conversion of the Modified Convertible Notes, each of the Modified Convertible Notes would be convertible, in whole but not in part, into a number of shares of the Company's common stock equal to the "conversion amount" divided by the "market price." The "conversion amount" is (a) the product of (i) the "market price", multiplied by (ii) the quotient of (A) the principal amount, divided by (B) the conversion price, minus (b) the aggregate optional prepayment amounts paid to the holder. The "market price" is the average of the closing prices for our common stock over the 20-trading-day period immediately preceding the notice of conversion. If the Company elects to pay cash with respect to a conversion of the Modified Convertible Notes, the amount of cash to be paid per share will be equal to the conversion amount. The Company will have the right to prepay all or any portion of the principal amount of the Modified Convertible Notes at any time so long as the Company makes a pro rata prepayment on all of the Modified Convertible Notes.

The following table is a summary of the recorded value of the Modified Convertible Notes as of September 30, 2017 (in thousands). The value of the convertible notes reflects the present value of the contractual cash flows from the

Table of Contents

Modified Convertible Notes and resulted in an original issue discount of \$4.7 million that was recorded on January 28, 2016, the issuance date.

	September 30, 2017
Modified Convertible Notes - face value	\$ 16,473
Less: original issue discount	(4,673)
Modified Convertible Notes recorded value on issue date	11,800
PIK interest issued	782
Accumulated accretion of original issue debt discount	967
Modified Convertible Notes value	\$ 13,549

## Short-Term Convertible Note

In connection with the acquisition of SWIMS® in July 2016, the Company entered into certain financing arrangements with Tengram Capital Fund II, L.P. (“Tengram II”), an entity affiliated with the holder of the Company’s Series A Preferred Stock, TCP Denim, LLC, including a convertible note issued to Tengram II on July 18, 2016 (the “SWIMS Convertible Note”). The SWIMS Convertible Note accrues interest at a rate of 3.75% per annum, compounding on the first day of each month starting August 1, 2016, and will convert, at Tengram II’s option or on the revised maturity date of January 18, 2018, which had an original maturity date of January 18, 2017, if not already repaid in cash on or prior to that date, into up to 4,500,000 newly issued shares of our Series A-1 Preferred Stock at a conversion price of \$3.00 per share. The Company is currently evaluating all options in order to assess the repayment of the SWIMS Convertible Note at maturity if it is not converted. The Series A-1 Preferred Stock will itself be convertible into shares of our common stock at an initial price of \$3.00 per share (subject to adjustment), will be entitled to dividends at a rate of 10% per annum payable quarterly in arrears, will be senior to the common stock upon liquidation and will have voting rights on an as-converted basis alongside its common stock.

The value of the SWIMS Convertible Note reflects the present value of the contractual cash flows and resulted in an original issue discount of \$465 thousand that was recorded on July 18, 2016, the issuance date. See “Note 17 – Acquisition of SWIMS” and “Note 9 – Equity” for a discussion on the warrants issued in connection with the acquisition of SWIMS. The following table is a summary of the recorded value of the convertible note as of September 30, 2017 (in thousands).

	September 30, 2017
Short-term convertible notes - face value	\$ 13,000
Less: Original issue discount	(465)
Short-term convertible notes recorded value on issue date	12,535
PIK interest issued	565
Accumulated accretion of original issue debt discount	465
Short-term convertible notes value	\$ 13,565

SWIMS Overdraft Agreement

In connection with the acquisition of SWIMS, SWIMS has maintained a preexisting Overdraft Facility Agreement between SWIMS and DNB Bank ASA (“DNB”), dated January 27, 2016 (the “Overdraft Agreement”). The Overdraft Agreement is an overdraft facility that provides SWIMS with access to up to NOK 6.0 million (approximately \$0.7 million as of September 30, 2017) in total, divided between (a) an ordinary credit of NOK 3.5 million at an interest rate of 7.4% plus an additional quarterly fee of 0.4% on the outstanding principal in frame commissions and (b) an additional credit of NOK 2.5 million at an interest rate of 4.9% plus an additional quarterly fee of 0.5% on the outstanding principal in frame commissions. The Overdraft Agreement is secured with (a) first-priority liens on SWIMS’s (i) machinery and plant (up to NOK 10.0 million) and (ii) inventory (up to NOK 10.0 million) and (b) additional liens on SWIMS’s factoring in the amount of NOK 1.0 million (first lien), NOK 4.0 million (second lien), NOK 7.0 million (third lien) and NOK 2.5 million (fourth lien). For more information on the SWIMS Factoring Agreement, see “Note 3 – Factored Accounts and Receivables.” The Overdraft Agreement may be terminated by SWIMS upon 14 days’ prior written notice for any reason and by DNB upon 14 days’ prior written notice for just cause.

Table of Contents

DNB may also terminate the Overdraft Agreement without any prior written notice in the event of a material breach by SWIMS. As of September 30, 2017, the outstanding balance on the facility governed by the Overdraft Agreement was NOK 9.2 million (approximately \$1.1 million).

## Total Interest Expense

The following table is a summary of total interest expense as follows (in thousands):

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Contractual coupon interest	\$ 1,984	\$ 1,723	\$ 5,694	\$ 4,555
Amortization of discounts and deferred financing costs	278	367	842	871
Total interest expense	\$ 2,262	\$ 2,090	\$ 6,536	\$ 5,426

## Series A Preferred Stock

In connection with the RG Merger, the Company entered into the RG Stock Purchase Agreement with TCP Denim, LLC pursuant to which the Company issued and sold to TCP Denim, LLC an aggregate of 50,000 shares of the Series A Preferred Stock, for an aggregate purchase price of \$50.0 million in cash. The proceeds from the sale of Series A Preferred Stock were used to consummate the RG Merger. Under the form of certificate of designation for the Series A Preferred Stock, each share of Series A Preferred Stock entitles the holder to receive cumulative dividends when, as and if declared by the Board of Directors or a duly authorized committee thereof, payable quarterly, at an annual rate of 10%, plus accumulated and accrued dividends thereon through such date. To date, the Board of Directors or a duly authorized committee thereof has not declared any dividends on the Series A Preferred Stock. Additionally, if the Board of Directors declares or pays a dividend on the common stock, then each holder of the Series A Preferred Stock will be entitled to receive a cash dividend on an as-converted basis. Each holder of the Series A Preferred Stock is entitled to vote on an as-converted basis and together with the holders of common stock as a single class, subject to certain limitations.

For so long as a to-be-determined percentage of the shares of the Series A Preferred Stock remains outstanding, the holders of the Series A Preferred Stock, exclusively and as a separate class, will be entitled to elect three members of the Board of Directors, each of whom may only be removed without cause by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of Series A Preferred Stock. The holders of the Series A Preferred Stock have separate class voting rights with respects to certain matters affecting their rights. Upon any liquidation event, holders of the Series A Preferred Stock are entitled to receive the greater of the liquidation preference on the date of determination and the amount that would be payable to the holders of the Series A Preferred Stock had such holders converted their shares of Series A Preferred Stock into shares of common stock immediately prior to such liquidation event. Each share of the Series A Preferred Stock is convertible, at the option of the holder thereof, at any time and without the payment of

additional consideration by the holder, at an initial conversion price of \$11.16.

#### 8. Fair Value Measurement of Financial Instruments

The fair value of financial instruments held (which consist of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued expenses) do not differ materially from their recorded amounts because of the relatively short period of time between origination of the instruments and their expected realization. The carrying amounts of the line of credit and long-term debt approximate fair value because of the variable interest rates. The fair value of the convertible notes is based on the amount of future cash flows associated with the instrument discounted using the incremental borrowing rate, which are considered Level 3 liabilities.

Fair value is defined as the exit price, or the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants as of the measurement date. ASC 820, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures also establishes a hierarchy for inputs used in measuring fair value that maximizes the use of observable inputs and minimizes the use of unobservable inputs by requiring that the most observable inputs be used when available. Observable inputs are inputs market participants would use in valuing the asset or liability and are

Table of Contents

developed based on market data obtained from sources independent of us. Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect our assumptions about the factors market participants would use in valuing the asset or liability. The guidance establishes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

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

Level 2—Inputs other than Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities

Level 3—Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities

Assets and liabilities are classified in their entirety based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurements. The Company reviews the fair value hierarchy classification on a quarterly basis. Changes in the observability of valuation inputs may result in a reclassification of levels for certain securities within the fair value hierarchy.

The following table presents the fair value hierarchy for liabilities measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis as of September 30, 2017, December 31, 2016 and September 30, 2016 (in thousands):

Financial Instrument	Level	Carrying Value			Fair Value		
		September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016	September 30, 2016	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016	September 30, 2016
Convertible notes - short-term	3	\$ 13,565	\$ 13,137	\$ 12,777	\$ 13,565	\$ 13,137	\$ 12,777
Convertible notes - long-term	3	13,549	12,660	12,452	11,250	11,250	12,000
		\$ 27,114	\$ 25,797	\$ 25,229	\$ 24,815	\$ 24,387	\$ 24,777

The key assumptions for determining the fair value at September 30, 2017 included the remaining time to maturity of 3.88 years, volatility of 60%, and the risk-free interest rate of 1.77%.

9. Equity

Stock Incentive Plans

Amended and Restated 2004 Stock Incentive Plan

In 2004, the Board of Directors adopted, and the Company's shareholders approved the Stock Incentive Plan. In October 2011, the Board of Directors adopted, and the Company's shareholders approved, the Amended and Restated 2004 Stock Incentive Plan (the "Amended and Restated Plan") to update the 2004 Stock Incentive Plan with respect to certain provisions and changes in the tax code since its original adoption.

2016 Stock Incentive Plan

On October 5, 2016, the Board of Directors adopted the Differential Brands Group Inc. 2016 Stock Incentive Compensation Plan (the "2016 Stock Incentive Plan") which was approved by the Company's shareholders on November 7, 2016. Under the 2016 Stock Incentive Plan, 3,529,109 shares of common stock have been reserved for issuance in connection with grants of nonqualified stock options, incentive stock options, stock appreciation rights ("SARs"), restricted stock, restricted stock units ("RSUs"), performance-based compensation awards, other stock-based awards, dividend equivalents and cash-based awards. The Company has granted RSUs, stock options and performance share units ("PSUs") to its officers, non-employee directors, employees and consultants pursuant to the 2016 Plan.

As of September 30, 2017, shares reserved for future issuance under the incentive plans include: (i) 444 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of stock options granted under the Amended and Restated Plan; and (ii)

Table of Contents

3,284,407 shares of common stock issuable under the 2016 Stock Incentive Plan. As of September 30, 2017, no shares remained available for grant under the Amended and Restated Plan.

## Stock Options

The following table summarizes stock option activity by incentive plan for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 (in actual amounts):

	Amended and Restated Plan	2016 Stock Incentive Plan	Total Number of Shares
Outstanding at January 1, 2017	444	150,000	150,444
Granted	—	—	—
Exercised	—	—	—
Forfeited / Expired	—	—	—
Outstanding at September 30, 2017	444	150,000	150,444

The following table summarizes stock option activity for all incentive plans for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 (in actual amounts):

	Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (Years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Outstanding at January 1, 2017	150,444	\$ 4.04		
Granted	—	—		
Exercised	—	—		
Expired	—	—		
Forfeited	—	—		
Outstanding at September 30, 2017	150,444	\$ 4.04	5.67	\$ -
Exercisable at September 30, 2017	50,444	\$ 4.08	4.69	\$ -

For all stock compensation awards that contain graded vesting with time based service conditions, the Company has elected to apply a straight line recognition method to account for these awards. A total of \$(7) thousand and \$0 stock-based compensation expense related to stock options was recognized during the three months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively. A total of \$7 thousand and \$0 stock-based compensation expense related to stock options was recognized during the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

The stock option awards are measured at fair value on the grant date using the Black-Scholes option valuation model. Stock options granted to non-employees are re-valued at each reporting period. Key input assumptions used to estimate the fair value of stock options include the exercise price of the award, the expected option term, expected



volatility over the option's expected term, the risk-free interest rate over the option's expected term and the expected annual dividend yield, if any. Effective as of January 1, 2017 upon adoption of ASU No. 2016-09, the Company accounts for forfeitures as they occur. Prior to adoption of ASU No. 2016-09, the Company's policy was to estimate forfeitures based on an analysis of the award recipients' positions and the vesting period of the awards. Application of a forfeiture rate was not deemed necessary in prior periods. Thus, there was no impact to the financial statements upon this change in policy. Shares of common stock will be issued when the options are exercised.

As of September 30, 2017, there was \$41 thousand of total unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested stock options. The unrecognized compensation cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted average of 1.7 years.

Table of Contents

## Restricted Stock Units

The following table summarizes RSU activity for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 (in actual amounts):

	Restricted Stock Units	
	Number Of Units	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Outstanding at January 1, 2017	800,843	\$ 4.65
Granted	510,000	2.24
Vested	135,553	4.34
Forfeited	115,000	2.88
Outstanding at September 30, 2017	1,060,290	\$ 3.72

A total of \$0.4 million and \$0.3 million of stock-based compensation expense was recognized related to RSUs during the three months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively. A total of \$1.3 million and \$1.4 million of stock-based compensation expense was recognized related to RSUs during the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively. As of September 30, 2017, there was \$2.7 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested Restricted Stock Units. The unrecognized compensation cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted average of 1.8 years.

## Performance Share Units

The Company granted 513,678 performance share units during 2016, which vest over three years if the performance targets set by the Compensation Committee are met. If less than 80 percent of the performance targets are reached, zero percent of the performance share units will vest. Unvested performance share units in any completed year will be eligible for vesting in subsequent years if the subsequent year performance target is exceeded and the excess is sufficient to make up for the prior year shortfall. As of September 30, 2017, since it is not deemed probable that the performance targets will be met, none of the shares have vested, and no expense has been recognized.

## Warrants

The Company issued warrants in conjunction with the acquisition and financing of SWIMS (see “Note 17 – Acquisition of SWIMS”) that are currently exercisable, which have been classified as equity.

In connection with the SWIMS acquisition, the Company issued to Tengram II a warrant for the purchase of 500,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$3.00 per share and has an estimated fair value of \$465 thousand. The Company determined the fair value of the warrant at the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model

based on the market value of the underlying common stock, an exercise price of \$3.00 per share, an expected life (term) of 5 years, a volatility rate of 50%, based upon the expected volatility in market traded stock over the same period as the remaining term of the warrants, zero dividends, and a risk free interest rate of 1.14%. In addition, a 20% discount for lack of marketability was applied based upon the Rule 144 six-month restriction period.

Also in connection with the SWIMS acquisition, the Company issued to the SWIMS Sellers (as defined in Note 17) warrants for the purchase of 150,000 shares of common stock with an exercise price of \$5.47 per share that have an estimated fair value of \$45 thousand. The Company determined the fair value of the warrants at the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model based on the market value of the underlying common stock, an exercise price of \$5.47 per share, an expected life (term) of 3 years, a volatility rate of 45%, based upon the expected volatility in market traded stock over the same period as the remaining term of the warrants, zero dividends, and a risk free interest rate of 0.85%. In addition, a 10% discount for lack of marketability was applied based upon the Rule 144 six-month restriction period.

Table of Contents

## 10. Loss per Share

Loss per share is computed using weighted average common shares and dilutive common equivalent shares outstanding. Potentially dilutive shares consist of outstanding stock options, unvested RSUs, unvested PSUs, warrants, convertible Series A Preferred Stock and shares issuable upon the assumed conversion of the Modified Convertible Notes and the SWIMS Convertible Note. A reconciliation of the numerator and denominator of basic and diluted loss per share is as follows (in thousands, except per share data):

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Basic loss per share computation				
Numerator:				
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (183)	\$ (2,821)	\$ (6,593)	\$ (11,621)
Loss from discontinued operations	—	—	—	(1,286)
Net loss	\$ (183)	\$ (2,821)	\$ (6,593)	\$ (12,907)
Denominator:				
Weighted average common shares outstanding	13,322	12,953	13,306	12,222
Loss per common share - basic				
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.50)	\$ (0.95)
Loss from discontinued operations	—	-	—	(0.11)
Loss per common share - basic	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.50)	\$ (1.06)
Diluted loss per share computation				
Numerator:				
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (183)	\$ (2,821)	\$ (6,593)	\$ (11,621)
Loss from discontinued operations	—	—	—	(1,286)
Net loss	\$ (183)	\$ (2,821)	\$ (6,593)	\$ (12,907)
Denominator:				
Weighted average common shares outstanding	13,322	12,953	13,306	12,222
Effect of dilutive securities:				
Options, RSUs, PSUs, warrants, Series A, convertible notes	—	—	—	—
Dilutive common shares	13,322	12,953	13,306	12,222
Loss per common share - diluted				
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.50)	\$ (0.95)
Loss from discontinued operations	—	—	—	(0.11)
Loss per common share - diluted	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.50)	\$ (1.06)

The following potential shares of common stock were excluded from diluted EPS as the Company had a net loss for the period (in thousands):

	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Outstanding stock options	150	0	150	0
Unvested RSUs	1,060	700	1,060	700
Unvested PSUs	458	—	458	—
Outstanding warrants	650	650	650	650
Convertible Series A Preferred Stock	4,480	4,480	4,480	4,480
Modified Convertible Notes	1,237	1,197	1,237	1,197
SWIMS Convertible Note	4,522	4,353	4,522	4,353

Table of Contents

## Loss per Share under Two-Class Method

The Series A Preferred Stock has the non-forfeitable right to participate on an as converted basis at the conversion rate then in effect in any common stock dividends declared and as such, is considered a participating security. The Series A Preferred Stock is included in the computation of basic and diluted loss per share pursuant to the two-class method. Holders of the Series A Preferred Stock do not participate in undistributed net losses because they are not contractually obligated to do so.

The computation of diluted loss per share attributable to common stockholders reflects the potential dilution that could occur if securities or other contracts to issue shares of common stock that are dilutive were exercised or converted into shares of common stock (or resulted in the issuance of shares of common stock) and would then share in the Company's earnings. During the periods in which the Company record a loss from continuing operations attributable to common stockholders, securities would not be dilutive to net loss per share and conversion into shares of common stock is assumed not to occur.

The following table provides a reconciliation of net loss to preferred stockholders and common stockholders for purposes of computing net loss per share for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Net loss	\$ (183)	\$ (2,821)	\$ (6,593)	\$ (12,907)
Less: preferred dividends	1,382	1,314	4,099	3,445
Net loss attributable to stockholders	(1,565)	(4,135)	(10,692)	(16,352)
Participating securities - Series A Preferred Stock	—	—	—	—
Net loss attributable to common stockholders	\$ (1,565)	\$ (4,135)	\$ (10,692)	\$ (16,352)
Denominator:				
Weighted average common shares outstanding	13,322	12,953	13,306	12,222
Loss per common share - basic and diluted under two-class method	\$ (0.12)	\$ (0.32)	\$ (0.80)	\$ (1.34)

## 11. Income Taxes

The Company accounts for income taxes under the asset and liability method; under this method, deferred assets and liabilities are determined based on differences between financial reporting and tax reporting bases of assets and liabilities and are measured using enacted tax rates and laws that are expected to be in effect when the differences are expected to reverse. Until the RG Merger on January 28, 2016, the Company was treated as a partnership for tax purposes. Pursuant to this status, taxable income or loss of the Company was included in the income tax returns of its owners. Consequently, no federal income tax provision was recorded through the RG Merger date. However, under state laws, certain taxes are imposed upon limited liability companies and were provided for through the RG Merger date.

The effective tax rate from operations was a benefit of 82% for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to a benefit of 39% for the three months ended September 30, 2016. The effective tax rate from operations was an expense of -13% for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to a benefit of 9% for the nine months ended September 30, 2016. The difference in the effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2017, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2016, was primarily due to a change in the ratio of year-to-date losses to forecasted losses. The projected tax expense for the year predominately consists of current state and foreign tax expenses and deferred taxes associated with the Company's foreign subsidiary and the Company's deferred tax liability for indefinite lived intangible assets. For the three month and nine month periods ended September 30, 2017, the Company has utilized a discrete method, as allowed by ASC 740-270-30-18, "Income Taxes - Interim Reporting," to calculate its interim income tax provision for its foreign subsidiary. The Company believes that the use of the estimated annual effective tax rate method for the foreign subsidiary is not reliable since small changes in the projected ordinary

Table of Contents

annual income would result in significant changes in the estimated annual effective tax rate. The discrete method treats the year-to-date period as if it was the annual period and determines the income tax expense or benefit on that basis.

A valuation allowance is required if, based on the weight of available evidence, it is more likely than not that all or a portion of a deferred tax asset will not be realized. Quarterly, management reassesses the need for a valuation allowance. Realization of deferred income tax assets is dependent upon taxable income in prior carryback years, estimates of future taxable income, tax planning strategies and reversals of existing taxable temporary differences. Because of our lack of U.S. earnings history, the net U.S. deferred tax assets have been fully offset by a valuation allowance, excluding any deferred tax liabilities for long-lived intangibles. The Company has not provided for U.S. taxes on unremitted earnings of its foreign subsidiary the Company does not expect to remit earnings and profits to the U.S. As a result, deferred taxes were not provided related to the cumulative translation adjustments.

Utilization of some of the federal and state net operating loss and credit carryforwards are subject to annual limitations due to the “change in ownership” provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and similar state provisions. The annual limitations may result in the expiration of net operating losses and credits before utilization. The net operating losses are presented net of any expirations associated with such limitations.

At September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the Company had \$0.1 million of certain unrecognized tax benefits, included as a component of accounts payable and accrued expenses within the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets. There were no unrecognized tax benefits as of September 30, 2016. Interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions, if any, are recorded in income tax expense. With few exceptions, the Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal, state or local income tax examination by taxing authorities for years prior to 2013. The Company is currently under examination by the Internal Revenue Service for the pre-acquisition year ended November 30, 2015. The Company believes that any adjustments expected to result from this examination have been adequately reserved for.



Table of Contents

## 12. Segment Reporting and Operations by Geographic Area

## Segment Reporting

Effective January 1, 2017, the Company reclassified delivery expenses, design costs, warehousing and handling costs and other inventory acquisition related costs to cost of goods sold, which were previously included in selling, general and administrative expenses. See “Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies.” In addition, effective January 1, 2017, the Company reclassified production and design costs from the Corporate and other segment to the Wholesale and Consumer Direct segments due to a change in how the business is being operated going forward. The change in presentation has been retrospectively applied to the prior period to conform to the current period presentation. The following table contains summarized financial information by reportable segment (in thousands):

	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Net sales:				
Wholesale	\$ 32,393	\$ 31,993	\$ 88,910	\$ 80,325
Consumer Direct	9,188	8,725	27,959	25,461
Corporate and other	808	442	2,075	1,462
	\$ 42,389	\$ 41,160	\$ 118,944	\$ 107,248
Gross profit:				
Wholesale	\$ 11,655	\$ 9,927	\$ 33,210	\$ 26,941
Consumer Direct	5,592	5,300	17,592	16,113
Corporate and other	808	442	2,075	1,463
	\$ 18,055	\$ 15,669	\$ 52,877	\$ 44,517
Operating expenses:				
Wholesale	\$ 3,428	\$ 4,636	\$ 11,053	\$ 10,684
Consumer Direct	5,981	5,912	18,364	18,643
Corporate and other	7,418	7,501	22,742	22,457
	\$ 16,827	\$ 18,049	\$ 52,159	\$ 51,784
Operating income (loss):				
Wholesale	\$ 8,227	\$ 5,291	\$ 22,157	\$ 16,257
Consumer Direct	(389)	(612)	(772)	(2,530)
Corporate and other	(6,610)	(7,059)	(20,667)	(20,994)
	\$ 1,228	\$ (2,380)	\$ 718	\$ (7,267)
Capital expenditures:				
Wholesale	\$ 249	\$ 72	\$ 264	\$ 344
Consumer Direct	24	123	318	885
Corporate and other	81	17	308	108
	\$ 354	\$ 212	\$ 890	\$ 1,337
		September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016	September 30, 2016
Total assets:				
Wholesale		\$ 61,536	\$ 44,793	\$ 70,020
Consumer Direct		8,241	10,093	11,194
Corporate and other		108,608	111,285	93,887
		\$ 178,385	\$ 166,171	\$ 175,101



Table of Contents

13. Commitments and Contingencies

Litigation

The Company is party to legal proceedings and claims in the ordinary course of business, including proceedings to protect its intellectual property rights. As part of the Company's monitoring program for its intellectual property rights, from time to time, the Company files lawsuits in the United States and abroad for acts of trademark counterfeiting, trademark infringement, trademark dilution, patent infringement or breach of other state or foreign laws. These actions often result in seizure of counterfeit merchandise and negotiated settlements with defendants. Defendants sometimes raise the invalidity or unenforceability of the Company's proprietary rights as affirmative defenses or counterclaims.

In the opinion of management, based upon advice of legal counsel, the likelihood is remote that the impact of any pending proceedings and claims, either individually or in the aggregate, would have a material adverse effect on the consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. However, because the ultimate outcome of legal proceedings and claims involves judgments, estimates and inherent uncertainties, actual outcomes of these proceedings and claims may materially differ from current estimates. It is possible that resolution of one or more of the proceedings currently pending or threatened could result in losses material to the consolidated results of operations, liquidity or financial condition.

On a quarterly basis, the Company reviews its legal proceedings and claims to determine if an unfavorable outcome is considered "remote," "reasonably possible" or "probable" as defined by U.S. GAAP. If it is determined that an unfavorable outcome is probable and is reasonably estimable, potential litigation losses are accrued for. The liability the Company may ultimately incur with respect to such litigation matters, in the event of a negative outcome, may be in excess of amounts accrued for, if at all. If it is determined an unfavorable outcome is not probable or reasonably estimable, no accrual is made.

14. Related Party Transactions

Peter Kim

The Company entered into several agreements, including a stock purchase agreement, a convertible note, a registration rights agreement, an employment agreement and a non-competition agreement with Peter Kim, the Founder and Vice Chairman of Hudson, in connection with the acquisition of Hudson. Additionally, in connection with the RG Merger, the Company entered into a Rollover Agreement pursuant to which the convertible notes were exchanged for a combination of cash, stock and Modified Convertible Notes, and a new employment and non-competition agreement with Mr. Kim. Mr. Kim's employment agreement was amended on June 16, 2017. Mr. Kim also has rights under the Registration Rights Agreement described below with respect to shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of his Modified Convertible Notes. See "Note 7 – Debt and Preferred Stock." As of September 30, 2017, the amount outstanding under the convertible note payable to Mr. Kim was \$8.8 million with accrued interest of \$144 thousand.

Under the non-competition agreement with Differential and Hudson, which became effective as of the closing date of the RG Merger, Mr. Kim has agreed not to engage in, compete with or permit his name to be used by or in connection with any premium denim apparel business outside his role with Hudson that is competitive to Differential, Hudson or the Company's respective subsidiaries for a period of up to three years from, as a result of the amendment to his employment agreement, June 16, 2017. The amendment to Mr. Kim's employment agreement also involved (i) a change to his annual bonus opportunity, (ii) a modification of his severance arrangement, and (iii) a change to the definition of "Restricted Business" as set forth in the employment agreement.

#### Registration Rights Agreement

On the closing date of the RG Merger, the Company entered into a registration rights agreement (the "Registration Rights Agreement") with TCP Denim, LLC and certain of its affiliates, who are our major stockholders of the Company, the noteholder party to the Rollover Agreement (including Mr. Kim and Fireman) and Michael Buckley, our Chief Executive Officer. Pursuant to the Registration Rights Agreement, and subject to certain limitations described

## Table of Contents

therein, the Company is required to provide certain demand and piggyback registration rights to the parties to the Registration Rights Agreement. In particular, the Company is required to prepare and file a registration statement on Form S-1 or S-3 (or any similar form or successor thereto) for the registration under the Securities Act of shares of our common stock (i) issued to the parties to the Registration Rights Agreement in connection with the RG Merger Agreement and the Rollover Agreement and (ii) issuable upon conversion of the Series A Preferred Stock and the Modified Convertible Notes. Prior to the closing date of the RG Merger, the Company had a substantially similar registration rights agreement with the holders of the original convertible notes, which included Fireman and Mr. Kim.

### Employment Agreements with Officers

The Company entered into employment agreements with Mr. Buckley, Mr. Kim and Bob Ross, our Chief Financial Officer. The agreements have varying initial terms, but Mr. Buckley's and Mr. Ross's contain automatic one-year renewals, unless terminated by either party, and provide for minimum base salaries adjusted for annual increases, incentive bonuses based upon the attainment of specified goals, and severance payments in the event of termination of employment, as defined in the employment contracts.

### Payments to Tengram Capital Partners, LP

From time to time, we expect to reimburse Tengram Capital Partners, LP, an entity that is affiliated with our largest stockholders, for certain travel and other related expenses of its employees related to services performed on the Company's behalf and at the Company's request. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, we incurred expenses of \$0 and \$62 thousand related to reimbursement of expenses, respectively. For the three months ended September 30, 2016, we incurred expenses of \$76 thousand. For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, we incurred expenses of \$952 thousand, which included (i) \$751 thousand of reimbursement for legal fees incurred by TCP Denim, LLC, in connection with the purchase of the Series A Preferred Stock and RG Merger; and (ii) \$41 thousand of pre-RG Merger management fees that were paid by RG that are non-recurring as a result of the RG Merger.

### SWIMS® Transaction

In connection with the acquisition of SWIMS in July 2016, the Company entered into certain financing arrangements with Tengram II, an entity affiliated with the holder of the Series A Preferred Stock, TCP Denim, LLC. See "Note 17 – Acquisition of SWIMS." As of September 30, 2017, the amount outstanding under the convertible note payable to Tengram Capital Fund II, L.P was \$13.6 million and accrued interest of \$42 thousand.

### 15. Discontinued Operations

Edgar Filing: Differential Brands Group Inc. - Form 10-Q

On February 29, 2016, the Company completed the closure of 14 of its Joe's® brand retail stores. In accordance with ASC 205-20, Presentation of Financial Statements – Discontinued Operations, the results of operations of the former Joe's Business are reported as discontinued operations in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income (loss) for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 because those operations were disposed of as of March 31, 2016. There were no discontinued operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017. The operations and cash flows of the 14 Joe's® brand retail stores that were part of the Joe's Business have been recorded as discontinued operations since the Company does not have any continuing involvement in the operations of such retail stores that were closed after the disposal transaction. There were no assets or liabilities from the discontinued operations as of September 30, 2017, December 31, 2016, and September 30, 2016.

The operating results of discontinued operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 are as follows (in thousands):

	Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016
Net sales from discontinued operations	\$ —	\$ 1,208
Loss from discontinued operations before income tax	\$ —	\$ (1,286)
Income tax provision	—	—
Loss from discontinued operations	\$ —	\$ (1,286)

Table of Contents

16. RG Merger and Related Transactions

On January 28, 2016, the Company completed the RG Merger. In connection with the RG Merger, the Company also completed the issuance and sale of an aggregate of fifty thousand (50,000) shares of preferred stock designated as Series A Convertible Preferred Stock (the “Series A Preferred Stock”), for an aggregate purchase price of \$50.0 million in cash, as contemplated by the stock purchase agreement, dated as of September 8, 2015 (the “RG Stock Purchase Agreement”), by and between the Company and TCP Denim, LLC. The Company used the proceeds from the RG Stock Purchase Agreement and the debt financing provided by the credit facilities under the ABL Credit and Term Credit Agreement (see “Note 7 – Debt and Preferred Stock”) to consummate the RG Merger and the transactions contemplated by the RG Merger Agreement.

Also in connection with the completion of the RG Merger, the Company completed the exchange of \$38.1 million in the aggregate principal amount of outstanding convertible notes for (i) 1,167,317 shares of common stock (after giving effect to the Reverse Stock Split); (ii) a cash payment of approximately \$8.6 million; and (iii) an aggregate principal amount of approximately \$16.5 million of the Modified Convertible Notes, as contemplated by the Rollover Agreement, between the Company and the holders of the convertible notes.

In addition, in connection with the consummation of the RG Merger, the Company entered into (i) the ABL Credit Agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as lender, (ii) the Term Credit Agreement with TCW Asset Management Company, and (iii) the A&R Factoring Agreement with CIT. See “Note 7 – Debt and Preferred Stock” for additional information about the ABL Credit Agreement and Term Credit Agreement and “Note 3 – Factored Accounts and Receivables” for additional information about the factoring agreement.

RG Merger Consideration

The RG Merger has been accounted for under the acquisition method of accounting with RG as the accounting acquirer. Under the acquisition method of accounting, tangible and intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed are recorded based on their estimated fair values as of the closing date of the RG Merger. The excess of purchase price over the net assets acquired is recorded as goodwill. Purchased intangible assets with finite lives are amortized over their estimated useful lives. Goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives are not amortized but are tested at least annually for impairment or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

The stock price used to determine the purchase price allocation is based on the closing price of the common stock as of January 28, 2016, which was \$5.70. The equity consideration was based upon the assumption that 3,508,747 shares of common stock were outstanding, which included 2,342,000 shares of common stock outstanding and 1,167,000 total aggregate shares of common stock issued to convertible noteholders upon conversion of the convertible notes

into shares of our common stock under the Rollover Agreement. As a result of the Rollover Agreement, immediately after giving effect to the RG Merger and related Merger Transactions, the holders of the Modified Convertible Notes owned approximately 14% of the combined company on an as-converted, fully diluted basis.



Table of Contents

Under the acquisition method of accounting, the total purchase price is allocated to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on their estimated fair values. The following is the total purchase price (in thousands, except share and per share data):

Assets acquired and liabilities assumed:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,092
Factored accounts receivable	6,719
Accounts receivable	336
Inventories	11,378
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	2,278
Property and equipment	356
Other assets	352
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(15,417)
Customer cash advances	(893)
Line of credit	(4,683)
Deferred income tax liability	(9,677)
Other liabilities	(81)
Buy-out payable	(1,668)
Intangible assets acquired:	
Trade name	32,300
Customer relationships	13,400
Total	36,792
Excess purchase price over net assets acquired	3,638
Total net assets acquired	\$ 40,430
Total purchase price:	
Cash paid to existing holders of convertible notes	\$ 8,630
Fair value of Modified Convertible Notes transferred to the existing holders of convertible notes	11,800
Equity consideration to the Company's stockholders and existing holders of convertible notes (3,508,747 common shares at \$5.70)	20,000
Total Purchase Price	\$ 40,430

The assets acquired consisted of tangible and intangible assets and liabilities assumed. As a result of the fair value assessment, inventory acquired was stepped up to fair value by the amount of \$0.4 million which was sold during the first half of fiscal 2016, and is included in cost of goods sold within the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income (loss) for the nine months ended September 30, 2016. The fair value of the Modified Convertible Notes was determined with the assistance of a third-party valuation specialist. The face value of the Modified Convertible Notes in the amount of \$16.5 million was discounted by \$4.7 million to arrive at the fair value of the Modified Convertible Notes. The discount was calculated based on the present values of the contractual cash flows from the Modified Convertible Notes.

The differences between the fair value of the consideration paid and the estimated fair value of the assets and liabilities has been recorded as goodwill. The significant factors that resulted in recognition of goodwill were: (a) the

purchase price was based upon cash flow and return on capital projections assuming integrations of the companies; and (b) the calculation of the fair value of tangible and intangible assets acquired that qualified for recognition. The Company has determined that the useful life of the acquired trade name asset is indefinite, and therefore, no amortization expense will be recognized until the useful life is determined not to be indefinite. The useful life of the acquired customer relationships are finite and will be amortized over their useful lives. However, the assets will be tested for impairment if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the assets might be impaired. Additionally, a deferred tax liability has been established in the allocation of the purchase price with respect to the identified indefinite long-lived intangible assets acquired.

The Company incurred \$38 thousand of non-recurring acquisition-related transaction costs and \$18 thousand of non-recurring restructuring expenses related to the RG Merger during the three months ended September 30, 2016,

30

---

Table of Contents

which are included in selling, general and administrative expense within the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income (loss). The Company incurred \$3.1 million of non-recurring acquisition-related transaction costs and \$1.6 million of non-recurring restructuring expenses related to the RG Merger during the nine months ended September 30, 2016, which are included in selling, general and administrative expenses within the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income (loss). No acquisition-related transaction costs or restructuring expenses were incurred for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 related to the RG Merger.

See “Note 17 – Acquisition of SWIMS” for a presentation of the unaudited pro forma results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively, as if the RG Merger and SWIMS acquisition had occurred on January 1, 2016. These results are not intended to reflect actual operations had the acquisition occurred on January 1, 2016.

17. Acquisition of SWIMS

On July 18, 2016, the Company completed the acquisition of all of the outstanding share capital of Norwegian private limited company SWIMS. SWIMS is a Scandinavian lifestyle brand known for its range of fashion-forward, water-resistant footwear and sportswear. The Company purchased SWIMS for aggregate consideration of (i) approximately \$12.0 million in cash, (ii) 702,943 shares of our common stock and (iii) warrants to purchase an aggregate of 150,000 shares of common stock with an exercise price of \$5.47 per share. The acquisition was completed pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, dated as of July 18, 2016 (the “SWIMS Purchase Agreement”), between the Company, its wholly-owned subsidiary DFBG Swims, the shareholders of SWIMS named therein (the “SWIMS Sellers”), Øystein Alexander Eskeland and Atle Søvik, acting jointly as the representatives of the SWIMS Sellers, and, for certain limited purposes, TCP Denim, LLC, TCP RG, LLC and TCP RG II, LLC. Pursuant to the SWIMS Purchase Agreement, DFBG Swims deposited approximately \$0.3 million of the cash consideration into an escrow account for certain indemnification obligations of the SWIMS Sellers.

To finance the acquisition, the Company issued the following to Tengram II: (i) a warrant for the purchase of 500,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$3.00 per share (the “SWIMS Warrant”); and (ii) the SWIMS Convertible Note, with principal of \$13.0 million. See “Note 7 – Debt and Preferred Stock” for a discussion of the terms of the convertible note. The SWIMS Warrant has an estimated fair value of \$0.5 million, which has been recorded as a debt discount against the proceeds of the SWIMS Convertible Note. Management estimated the fair value of the equity consideration issued with the assistance of a third-party appraisal firm. The estimation of fair value considered key assumptions for discount for lack of marketability and for inputs used in an option pricing model to value warrants.

The acquisition qualified as a business combination and was accounted for under the acquisition method of accounting. Business acquisitions are accounted for under the acquisition method by assigning the purchase price to tangible and intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed. Assets acquired and liabilities assumed are recorded at their fair values and the excess of the purchase price over the amounts assigned is recorded as goodwill. Purchased intangible assets with finite lives are amortized over their estimated useful lives. Goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives are not amortized but are tested at least annually for impairment or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.



Table of Contents

The purchase price included the issuance of 702,943 shares of common stock that contain restrictions on resale with an estimated fair value of approximately \$1.8 million and the issuance of warrants to purchase 150,000 shares of common stock in the aggregate with an estimated fair value of \$45 thousand. Management estimated the fair value of the equity consideration issued with the assistance of a third-party appraisal firm. The estimation of fair value considered key assumptions for discount for lack of marketability and for inputs used in an option pricing model to value warrants. Included in the \$13.8 million is approximately \$0.3 million that is being held in escrow to support indemnification obligations. The following is the total purchase price allocation (in thousands, except share and per share data):

Assets acquired and liabilities assumed:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 189
Factored accounts receivable	1,552
Inventories	3,466
Prepaid expenses and other assets	647
Property and equipment	498
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(1,706)
Deferred income tax liability	(2,476)
Intangible assets acquired:	
Trade name	7,286
Customer relationships	1,833
Non-compete agreements	130
Total	11,419
Excess purchase price over net assets acquired	2,393
Total net assets acquired	\$ 13,812
Total purchase price:	
Cash paid to sellers	\$ 12,017
Equity consideration issued to sellers (702,943 common shares at \$2.49)	1,750
Fair value of warrants issued to sellers	45
Total Purchase Price	\$ 13,812

The purchase price was allocated to the tangible and intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on their estimated fair values as of the acquisition date. The fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed represent management's estimate of fair value based on information obtained from various sources, including management's historical experience. As a result of the fair value assessment, inventory acquired was stepped up to fair value by the amount of \$1.3 million which was sold and included in cost of goods sold within the condensed consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income (loss) during the third quarter of fiscal 2016. The estimated fair value of the acquired tangible and intangible assets and liabilities assumed were determined using multiple valuation approaches depending on the type of tangible or intangible asset acquired, including but not limited to the income approach, the excess earnings method, the with versus without method, net realizable value method and the relief from royalty method approach.

The amount of goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price over the net identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed. Goodwill primarily represents, among other factors, the value of synergies expected to be realized by integration with our Company and expected positive cash flow and return on capital projections from the integration. Goodwill arising from the acquisition of SWIMS was determined as the excess of the purchase price over the net acquisition date fair values of the acquired assets and the liabilities assumed, and is not deductible for income tax purposes subject to certain tax elections that are currently being considered.

The Company has determined that the useful life of the acquired trade name asset is indefinite, and therefore, no amortization expense will be recognized until the useful life is determined not to be indefinite. The useful life of the acquired customer relationships and non-compete agreements are finite and are being amortized over their useful lives. However, the assets will be tested for impairment if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the assets might be

Table of Contents

impaired. Additionally, a deferred tax liability has been established in the allocation of the purchase price with respect to the identified indefinite long-lived intangible assets acquired.

The Company incurred \$0.9 million and \$1.3 million of non-recurring acquisition-related transaction costs related to the SWIMS acquisition during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively, which are included in selling, general and administrative expense within the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income (loss). No acquisition-related transaction costs for SWIMS were incurred for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017.

## Pro forma financial information

The following table presents actual results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, and pro forma results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, as if the RG Merger and SWIMS acquisition had occurred on January 1, 2016 (in thousands, except per share data). The pro forma financial information presented includes the effects of adjustments related to the amortization of acquired tangible and intangible assets, and excludes other non-recurring transaction costs directly associated with the acquisition such as legal and other professional service fees. Statutory rates were used to calculate income taxes.

	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Net sales	\$ 42,389	\$ 41,317	\$ 118,944	\$ 117,509
Net loss	\$ (183)	\$ (1,977)	\$ (6,593)	\$ (4,451)
Weighted average common shares outstanding	13,322	13,083	13,306	13,083
Loss per common share - basic and diluted	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.15)	\$ (0.50)	\$ (0.34)

The pro forma financial information as presented above is for information purposes only and is not necessarily indicative of the actual results that would have been achieved had the RG Merger and SWIMS acquisition occurred at the beginning of the earliest period presented or the results that may be achieved in future periods.

## 18. Restructuring

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, the Company recorded \$18 thousand and \$1.6 million of restructuring charges in connection with the RG Merger related to severance and benefit related costs, and termination of consulting arrangements. These charges are included in selling, general and administrative expenses within the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income (loss). The Company made cash payments of \$0.3 million and \$1.6 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively, related to these restructuring expenses. There were no amounts payable related to restructuring costs as

of September 30, 2016. There were no restructuring charges related to the RG Merger for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017.



Table of Contents

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

Forward-Looking Statements

This Quarterly Report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of Exchange Act, which represent our management's beliefs and assumptions concerning future events based on information currently available to us. When used in this Quarterly Report, the words and phrases "may," "will," "expect," "anticipate," "intend," "estimate," "continue," "believe," "plan," "project," "will be," "will continue," "will likely result," "indicates," "forecast," "guidance," "ou" and similar expressions and the negatives of such words and phrases are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Similarly, statements that describe our future expectations, objectives and goals or contain projections of our future results of operations or financial condition are also forward-looking statements.

These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to certain risks and uncertainties, which are difficult to predict and which could cause actual results to differ materially, including, without limitation: the risk of intense competition in the denim and premium lifestyle apparel industries; the risk that we incurred substantial indebtedness in connection with the acquisition of RG, and, to a lesser extent, SWIMS, which we may need to refinance or may not generate sufficient cash flow from operations to enable us to pay our indebtedness or to fund our liquidity needs; risks associated with our foreign sourcing of our products and the implementation of foreign production for Hudson's products, including in light of potential changes in international trade relations brought on by the new U.S. presidential administration; the effects of the RG Merger and acquisition of SWIMS on our financial results, business performance and product offerings and risks associated with successfully integrating these businesses to achieve cost savings and synergies; risks associated with our third-party distribution system; the risk that we will be unsuccessful in gauging fashion trends and changing customer preferences; the risk that changes in general economic conditions, consumer confidence or consumer spending patterns, including consumer demand for denim and premium lifestyle apparel, will have a negative impact on our financial performance or strategies and our ability to generate cash flows from our operations to service our indebtedness; the risk that the credit ratings of the combined company or its subsidiaries, including the Hudson, RG and SWIMS businesses, may be different from what we expect; risks related to our ability to respond to the business environment and fashion trends; risks related to continued acceptance of our brands in the marketplace; risks related to our reliance on a small number of large customers; risks related to our ability to implement successfully any growth or strategic plans; risks related to our ability to manage our inventory effectively; the risk of cyber-attacks and other system risks; risks related to our ability to continue to have access on favorable terms to sufficient sources of liquidity necessary to fund ongoing cash requirements of our operations or new acquisitions; risks related to our ability to continue to have access on favorable terms to sufficient sources of liquidity necessary to fund ongoing cash requirements of our operations or new acquisitions; risks related to our pledge of all our tangible and intangible assets as collateral under our financing agreements; risks related to our ability to generate positive cash flow from operations; risks related to a possible oversupply of denim in the marketplace; and the other risk factors contained in our reports filed with the SEC pursuant to the Exchange Act, including our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 (the "2016 Form 10-K"), and in "Part II, Item 1A, Risk Factors" of this Quarterly Report.

Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. Since we operate in a rapidly changing environment, new risk factors can arise and it is not possible for our management to predict all such risk factors, nor can our management assess the impact of all such risk factors on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements. Our future results, performance or achievements could differ materially from those expressed or implied in these forward-looking statements. We do not undertake any obligation to publicly revise these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances occurring after the date hereof or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events, except as may be required by law.

## Table of Contents

### Introduction

This management's discussion and analysis summarizes the significant factors affecting our results of operations and financial condition during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016. This discussion should be read in conjunction with our condensed consolidated financial statements and notes thereto and information contained in this Quarterly Report.

### Executive Overview

Our principal business activity is the design, development and worldwide marketing of products that bear the brand names Hudson®, Robert Graham® and SWIMS®. Hudson®, established in 2002, is a designer and marketer of women's and men's premium, branded denim and apparel. Robert Graham®, established in 2001, is a sophisticated, eclectic apparel and accessories brand seeking to inspire a global movement. SWIMS®, established in 2006 and acquired by us in July 2016, is a Scandinavian lifestyle brand best known for its range of fashion-forward, water-friendly footwear, apparel and accessories. Because we focus on design, development and marketing, we rely on third parties to manufacture our apparel products. We sell our products through our own retail stores, our websites and to numerous retailers, which include major department stores, specialty stores and distributors around the world.

Our Hudson® product line includes women's and men's denim jeans, pants, shirts, jackets and other bottoms and we continue to evaluate offering a range of new products under the Hudson® brand name. Additionally, children's denim jeans, pants, shirts, jackets and other bottoms are produced by a third party under a license agreement and Hudson receives royalty payments based upon net sales from the licensee. Our Robert Graham® product line includes premium priced men's sport shirts, denim jeans, pants, shorts, sweaters, knits, t shirts, sport-coats, outerwear and swimwear. RG also offers a line of women's apparel, mainly in its own retail stores. Additionally, men's shoes, belts, small leather goods, dress shirts, neckwear, tailored clothing, headwear, eyewear, hosiery, underwear, loungewear and fragrances are produced by third parties under various license agreements and RG receives royalty payments based upon net sales from licensees. Our SWIMS® product line includes men's and women's footwear, men's apparel and accessories.

We operate retail stores for our Robert Graham® and SWIMS® brands. As of November 14, 2017, we operated 30 Robert Graham® brand stores, which consisted of 18 full price stores and 12 outlet stores, and 2 SWIMS® brand outlet stores. Lastly, we also license the SWIMS® brand name and products for sale in 8 SWIMS® branded retail stores internationally.

On September 8, 2015, we entered into various definitive agreements pursuant to which we agreed to (i) the Joe's Asset Sale, which was completed on September 11, 2015, whereby we sold certain of our operating and intellectual property assets related to the Joe's Business for a total of \$80.0 million, (ii) combine our remaining business operated under the Hudson brand with RG pursuant to the RG Merger Agreement, (iii) issue and sell \$50.0 million of our Series A Preferred Stock in a private placement to an affiliate of TCP Denim, LLC pursuant to the RG Stock Purchase Agreement, (iv) exchange our outstanding Convertible Notes for a combination of cash, shares of our common stock and the Modified Convertible Notes and (v) gain a CEO with public company experience. On January 28, 2016, all outstanding loans were repaid and were terminated in connection with entering into the ABL Credit Agreement and Term Credit Agreement. On January 28, 2016, we completed the RG Merger with RG. After the closing of the Joe's

Operating Asset Purchase Agreement and the Joe's IP Asset Purchase Agreement in September 2015, we retained and operated 32 Joe's® brand retail stores until we transferred or closed them in early 2016. The retail stores transferred or closed are reported as discontinued operations for all periods presented in this Quarterly Report.

As part of our operating strategy, we are seeking to create a platform that focuses on branded operating companies in the premium apparel, footwear and accessories sectors. Our focus is on organically growing our brands through a global, omni-channel distribution strategy, while seeking opportunities to craft and maintain a portfolio of complementary, premium brands. From time to time, we evaluate and will continue to evaluate in the future strategic transactions designed to enhance shareholder value including, but not limited to, acquisitions (such as the acquisition of SWIMS in 2016), divestitures, investments, joint ventures and alliances.

## Table of Contents

For the remainder of 2017, we believe that our growth drivers will be dependent upon the successful execution of several initiatives to strengthen our platform, which include leveraging talent and improving effectiveness and efficiencies of our processes and systems. Overall, we see opportunities for continued margin enhancement if we are successful in enhancing our Wholesale and Consumer Direct segments, and leveraging our Corporate and other segment, improving product sourcing and increasing the proportion of our business derived from our Consumer Direct segment.

Our business is seasonal. The majority of the marketing and sales orders take place from late fall to late spring. The greatest volume of shipments and actual sales are generally made from summer through early fall, which coincides with our third and fourth fiscal quarters and, accordingly, our cash flow is strongest in those quarters. Due to the seasonality of our business, as well as the evolution and changes in our business and product mix, including our acquisition of Hudson, the acquisition of the Robert Graham business, and the acquisition of the SWIMS business, our quarterly or yearly results are not necessarily indicative of future results.

### Inventory and Reclassification

During the three months ended March 31, 2017, we modified the capitalization of overhead costs allocated to inventory to include certain production costs that were previously excluded. These production expenses were previously included in cost of goods sold and selling, general and administrative expenses. These costs are now included in production overhead capitalized to inventory to better reflect the costs incurred to bring our inventory to a saleable condition after the recent change in our processes of sourcing inventory. This modification resulted in additional capitalization of \$1.4 million of production overhead to the standard cost of inventory from production expenses. This modification has been accounted for on a prospective basis from January 1, 2017.

The increase in inventories resulted in a \$1.4 million non-cash benefit (or \$0.11 per diluted share), which was comprised of a \$0.3 million decrease in cost of goods sold and a \$1.1 million decrease in selling, general and administrative expenses.

In addition, we reclassified delivery expenses, design costs, warehousing and handling costs and other inventory acquisition related costs to cost of goods sold, which were previously included in selling, general and administrative expenses. The classification of these costs in cost of goods sold more accurately reflects the cost of producing and distributing products. Additionally, this presentation enhances the comparability of our financial statements with industry peers. The change has been reflected in the condensed consolidated statements of operations in the prior period to conform to the presentation in the current period. The impact of the reclassification resulted in an increase to cost of goods sold and a decrease to selling, general and administrative expenses in the amount of \$4.7 million and \$13.2 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively.

### Reportable Segments

Our reportable business segments are Wholesale, Consumer Direct and Corporate and other. We manage, evaluate and aggregate our operating segments for segment reporting purposes primarily on the basis of business activity and operation. Our Wholesale segment is comprised of sales of products to better nationwide department stores, boutiques, specialty retailers, and select off-price and international customers, and includes expenses from sales and customer service departments, trade shows, warehouse distribution, design and production, and product samples. Our Consumer Direct segment is comprised of sales to consumers through our Robert Graham® brand full-price retail stores and outlet stores, through our SWIMS® brand outlet stores and through our e-commerce sites at [www.hudsonjeans.com](http://www.hudsonjeans.com), [www.robertgraham.us](http://www.robertgraham.us) and [www.swims.com](http://www.swims.com). The information contained on, or that can be accessed through, these websites is not a part of this Quarterly Report and is not incorporated by reference herein. The Corporate and other segment is comprised of revenue from trademark licensing agreements and overhead from corporate operations, which include the executive, finance, legal, information technology, and human resources departments. For periods before the RG Merger's closing date, our discussion of reportable segments reflects only the operations of RG. In addition, the information presented reflects the integration of the SWIMS® brand since its acquisition on July 18, 2016.

## Table of Contents

### Wholesale

Our Wholesale segment is comprised of sales of Robert Graham®, Hudson® and SWIMS® products to better nationwide department stores, specialty retailers, boutiques, select off-price retailers and international customers. In addition, SWIMS® products are sold to international licensed store operators. Our Wholesale segment includes expenses from our sales and customer service departments, trade shows, warehouse distribution, design and production, and product samples associated with our Robert Graham®, Hudson® and SWIMS® product lines for the respective periods described above. Domestically, we sell our Robert Graham®, Hudson® and SWIMS® products through our own showrooms, as well as, in the case of our Robert Graham® products, with independent sales representatives who may have their own showrooms. At the showrooms, retailers review the latest collections offered and place orders. The showroom representatives provide us with purchase orders from the retailers and other specialty store buyers. Internationally, we sell our products to customers in various countries.

We measure performance of our Wholesale segment primarily based on the diversity of product classifications and number of retail “doors” that sell our products within existing accounts as well as our ability to selectively expand into new accounts having retail customers carrying similar premium-priced products. While our Wholesale segment has slightly declined we have focused on growing our higher margin Consumer Direct segment. Our go-forward strategy includes driving sales by improving productivity in existing accounts/doors, selectively expanding into new accounts and continued installation of shop-in-shops. International expansion, largely through wholesale distributors and licensees, is also a strategy that we are pursuing.

### Consumer Direct

Our Consumer Direct segment is comprised of sales of our Robert Graham® products directly to consumers in the United States through full-price retail stores, outlet stores, our e-commerce site, [www.robertgraham.us](http://www.robertgraham.us) and through the circulation of over 775,000 catalogs distributed seasonally throughout the United States. As this segment generates higher gross margin rates and provides us greater control of our brand product mix and distribution, we have grown from one Robert Graham® brand retail store in 2011 to 30 retail stores as of September 30, 2017, including 18 full price stores and 12 outlet stores. We have expanded the e-commerce part of the Consumer Direct segment through direct digital, creating a larger customer database and generating repeat customer sales through our Collector’s Club Loyalty Program. Additionally, following the closing of the RG Merger Agreement on January 28, 2016, our Consumer Direct segment was comprised of sales of our Hudson® products to consumers through our e-commerce site at [www.hudsonjeans.com](http://www.hudsonjeans.com) and following the acquisition of SWIMS® on July 18, 2016, sales of our SWIMS® products to consumers through our e-commerce site at [www.swims.com](http://www.swims.com) and our two Company operated outlet stores.

We measure performance of our Consumer Direct segment primarily based on the profitability of our stores and websites, as well as our ability to acquire and retain customers in our e-commerce business and the site traffic and conversion rates on our websites.

Corporate and other

Our Corporate and other segment is comprised of licenses to third parties for the right to use our various trademarks in connection with the manufacture and sale of designated Robert Graham® products in specified geographical areas for specified periods. Our licensing revenues for our Robert Graham® products stem primarily from the following product categories and geographical areas: men's shoes, belts, small leather goods, dress shirts, neckwear, tailored clothing, headwear, eyewear, jewelry, hosiery, underwear, loungewear and fragrances, and distribution in Canada. Following the closing of the RG Merger on January 28, 2016, our Corporate and other segment also included licensing revenue from the sale by our licensee of our Hudson® children's product line. Our Corporate and other segment also encompassed our corporate operations, including the general brand marketing and advertising, information technology, finance, executive, legal, and human resources departments associated with our Robert Graham®, Hudson® and SWIMS® product lines for the respective periods described above. Similar to our Wholesale segment, we measure performance of our Corporate and other segment primarily based on our licensees' ability to profitably sell our products in multiple categories to their existing wholesale customers and to add new licensees in brand relevant categories. Goodwill and intangible assets are included within the Corporate and other segment.



Table of Contents

## Results of Operations

The following tables set forth, for the periods indicated, selected information from our statements of operations and statements of operations by our reportable segments. These tables should be read in conjunction with the discussion that follows:

	Three months ended September 30,				
	2017	2016	\$ Change	% Change	
	(unaudited, in thousands)				
Net sales	\$ 42,389	\$ 41,160	\$ 1,229	3	%
Cost of goods sold	24,334	25,491	(1,157)	(5)	
Gross profit	18,055	15,669	2,386	15	
Gross margin	43	% 38	% 194	%	
Operating expenses					
Selling, general and administrative	15,334	16,456	(1,122)	(7)	
Depreciation and amortization	1,493	1,593	(100)	(6)	
Retail store impairment	—	—	—		
Total operating expenses	16,827	18,049	(1,222)	(7)	
Operating income (loss) from continuing operations	1,228	(2,380)	3,608	(152)	
Interest expense	2,262	2,090	172	8	
Other (income) expense, net	(12)	121	(133)	(110)	
Loss from continuing operations before income taxes	(1,022)	(4,591)	3,569	(78)	
Income tax benefit	(839)	(1,770)	931	(53)	
Loss from continuing operations	(183)	(2,821)	2,638	(94)	
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	—	—	—		
Net loss	\$ (183)	\$ (2,821)	\$ 2,638	(94)	%

	Three months ended September 30,				
	2017	2016	\$ Change	% Change	
	(unaudited, in thousands)				
Net sales:					
Wholesale	\$ 32,393	\$ 31,993	\$ 400	1	%
Consumer Direct	9,188	8,725	463	5	
Corporate and other	808	442	366	83	
	\$ 42,389	\$ 41,160	\$ 1,229	3	%
Gross profit:					
Wholesale	\$ 11,655	\$ 9,927	\$ 1,728	17	%
Consumer Direct	5,592	5,300	292	6	
Corporate and other	808	442	366	83	
	\$ 18,055	\$ 15,669	\$ 2,386	15	%
Operating expenses:					
Wholesale	\$ 3,428	\$ 4,636	\$ (1,208)	(26)	%

Edgar Filing: Differential Brands Group Inc. - Form 10-Q

Consumer Direct	5,981	5,912	69	1	
Corporate and other	7,418	7,501	(83)	(1)	
	\$ 16,827	\$ 18,049	\$ (1,222)	(7)	%
Operating income (loss) from continuing operations:					
Wholesale	\$ 8,227	\$ 5,291	\$ 2,936	55	%
Consumer Direct	(389)	(612)	223	(36)	
Corporate and other	(6,610)	(7,059)	449	(6)	
	\$ 1,228	\$ (2,380)	\$ 3,608	(152)	%

Table of Contents

Three Months Ended September 30, 2017 Compared to Three Months Ended September 30, 2016

Net Sales

Net sales increased by 3% to \$42.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 from \$41.2 million for the same quarter last year. The \$1.2 million increase was attributable to the positive performance and addition of the SWIMS® brand, which was not comparable during the 18 days in the prior year's quarter before acquisition. SWIMS contributed \$5.4 million of net sales for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to \$3.5 million for the same quarter last year. Hudson sales for the three months ended September 30, 2017 improved over \$1.0 million versus the prior year's quarter driven by wholesale sales to its specialty retail customers. These gains were more than offset by Robert Graham sales declines of \$1.6 million during the same period comparison, driven by weaker wholesale sales to its specialty and off-price customers, some of whom were negatively impacted by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma in August and September of 2017.

Wholesale net sales increased by 1% to \$32.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 from \$32.0 million for the same period in the prior year. The increase in Wholesale net sales was partially due to the addition of the SWIMS brand. Approximately \$0.8 million of the increase was due to growth in Wholesale net sales from our Hudson brand which delivered strong performances with specialty and off-price customers. Hudson growth was driven by an increase in number of units sold that more than offset a modest decline in average selling price. Hudson wholesale sales improvements were offset by declines in Wholesale net sales from our Robert Graham brand, which decreased \$1.7 million compared to the same period last year. Robert Graham declines resulted from both fewer units shipped and lower average selling price. Hurricanes impacted various key markets during August and September this year, negatively impacting the Company's Wholesale segment business during the third quarter of fiscal 2017. Cancellations were approximately \$450 thousand across our brands, and inbound inventory receipt delays were \$400 thousand, which were scheduled to ship in the third quarter of fiscal 2017 but shipped in the fourth quarter.

Consumer Direct net sales increased by 5% to \$9.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 from \$8.7 million for the same quarter in the prior year due to the addition of the SWIMS brand for the full quarter as discussed above and opening one new SWIMS outlet store and launching a U.S. based SWIMS website during 2017. Overall Consumer Direct segment net sales grew during the three months ended September 30, 2017 due to a 12% jump in e-commerce net sales and a 5% gain at store sales, both of which were impacted by an improvement in customer conversion. The increased conversion has continued due to better customer adoption of our fashion offerings at a more attractive price point. Consumer Direct was also negatively impacted by the hurricanes. Robert Graham lost net store sales of approximately \$300 thousand during the third quarter of fiscal 2017 due to the hurricanes, determined based on trends at affected stores over the time periods leading up to the hurricanes, while the negative sales impact on e-commerce was too difficult to measure.

Corporate and other net sales increased by 83% to \$0.8 million, consisting of licensing revenue, for the third quarter of fiscal 2017 compared to \$0.4 million of licensing revenue for the same quarter last year.

Gross Profit

Gross profit increased by \$2.4 million, or 15%, to \$18.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 from \$15.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016. The increase in gross profit was partially attributable to the acquisition of the SWIMS brand, discussed above. In addition, in the three months ended September 30, 2016, SWIMS recorded a one-time purchase accounting adjustment to step up inventory to fair value by \$1.3 million, which was sold through during the third quarter of fiscal 2016 reducing gross profit by the amount of the inventory step up adjustment. Improved gross profit during the quarter was also driven by both the increase in sales volume and an increase in gross margin rates of approximately 100 basis points (not including the impact of the one-time SWIMS adjustment). Margin rates improved based on better initial margins and lower markdowns during the quarter.

Wholesale gross profit increased 17% for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to the same quarter in the prior year due to the acquisition of our SWIMS brand and the 2016 impact of stepping up the inventory to fair value as mentioned above. Wholesale gross margin rates also increased over the same period in the prior year

## Table of Contents

primarily due to better overall initial margins and lower markdowns than the prior year's quarter. For the three months ended September 30, 2017, Wholesale segment gross profit was negatively impacted by approximately \$425 thousand due to the hurricanes, determined based on order cancellations and inbound inventory receipt delays.

Gross profit also increased in our Consumer Direct segment for the third quarter of 2017. The increase in Consumer Direct sales and gross margin rates both contributed to the improvement, partially offset by the hurricanes, which had a \$225 thousand impact on Direct to Consumer gross profit, determined based on trends at affected stores over the time periods leading up to the hurricanes.

Corporate and other gross profit increased by 83% to \$0.8 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2017, compared to \$0.4 million in the same period for the prior year, due to an increase in licensing revenue.

## Operating Expenses

Operating expenses include (i) selling, general and administrative expenses related to employee and employee benefits, sales commissions, advertising, merger and acquisition related costs, professional fees, stock-based compensation and factor and bank fees, (ii) depreciation and amortization, and (iii) retail store impairment.

Operating expenses decreased by 7% to \$16.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 from \$18.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016. The \$1.2 million decrease in operating expenses was mainly attributable to significant cost savings including a \$0.7 million decrease in selling expenses and a \$0.2 million decrease in administrative expenses. The decrease in operating expenses is also attributable to \$0.9 million of one-time acquisition costs incurred in the third quarter of fiscal 2016 related to the SWIMS acquisition, offset by \$0.8 million of additional expenses for the SWIMS brand during the third quarter of fiscal 2017 which was not included for the full quarter in the prior year.

Selling, general and administrative expenses were approximately 36.2% and 40.0% of net sales for the third quarter of fiscal 2017 and 2016, respectively. Depreciation and amortization expense, as a percent of net sales, decreased to 3.5% from 3.9% for the third quarter of fiscal 2017 compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2016.

## Interest Expense

Interest expense increased to \$2.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 from \$2.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016, due to interest expense on a larger principal balance related to our credit facilities, convertible notes and the amortization of debt discounts and deferred financing costs related to those facilities and notes.

#### Income Tax (Benefit) Provision

Our effective tax rate from operations was a benefit of 82% for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to a benefit of 39% for the three months ended September 30, 2016. The difference in the effective tax rate for the third quarter of fiscal 2017, as compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2016, was primarily due to a change in the ratio of year-to-date losses to forecasted loss.

#### Net Loss

We generated a net loss of \$0.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017, compared to a net loss of \$2.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016.

40

---

Table of Contents

	Nine months ended September 30,			
	2017	2016	\$ Change	% Change
	(unaudited, in thousands)			
Net sales	\$ 118,944	\$ 107,248	\$ 11,696	11 %
Cost of goods sold	66,067	62,731	3,336	5
Gross profit	52,877	44,517	8,360	19
Gross margin	44 %	42 %	71 %	
Operating expenses				
Selling, general and administrative	47,633	47,049	584	1
Depreciation and amortization	4,526	4,456	70	2
Retail store impairment	—	279	(279)	(100)
Total operating expenses	52,159	51,784	375	1
Operating income (loss) from continuing operations	718	(7,267)	7,985	(110)
Interest expense	6,536	5,426	1,110	20
Other (income) expense, net	(1)	121	(122)	(101)
Loss from continuing operations before income taxes	(5,817)	(12,814)	6,997	(55)
Income tax provision (benefit)	776	(1,193)	1,969	(165)
Loss from continuing operations	(6,593)	(11,621)	5,028	(43)
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	—	(1,286)	1,286	(100)
Net loss	\$ (6,593)	\$ (12,907)	\$ 6,314	(49) %

	Nine months ended September 30,			
	2017	2016	\$ Change	% Change
	(unaudited, in thousands)			
Net sales:				
Wholesale	\$ 88,910	\$ 80,325	\$ 8,585	11 %
Consumer Direct	27,959	25,461	2,498	10
Corporate and other	2,075	1,462	613	42
	\$ 118,944	\$ 107,248	\$ 11,696	11 %
Gross profit:				
Wholesale	\$ 33,210	\$ 26,941	\$ 6,269	23 %
Consumer Direct	17,592	16,113	1,479	9
Corporate and other	2,075	1,463	612	42
	\$ 52,877	\$ 44,517	\$ 8,360	19 %
Operating expenses:				
Wholesale	\$ 11,053	\$ 10,684	\$ 369	3 %
Consumer Direct	18,364	18,643	(279)	(1)
Corporate and other	22,742	22,457	285	1
	\$ 52,159	\$ 51,784	\$ 375	1 %
Operating income (loss) from continuing operations:				
Wholesale	\$ 22,157	\$ 16,257	\$ 5,900	36 %
Consumer Direct	(772)	(2,530)	1,758	(69)
Corporate and other	(20,667)	(20,994)	327	(2)
	\$ 718	\$ (7,267)	\$ 7,985	(110) %





Table of Contents

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017 Compared to Nine Months Ended September 30, 2016

Net Sales

Net sales increased by 11% to \$118.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 from \$107.2 million for the same period last year. The \$11.7 million increase was attributable to the addition of the Hudson and SWIMS brands for the full period, which contributed an additional \$15.2 million of net sales for the nine months ended September 30, 2017. This was more than offset by Robert Graham sales declines of \$3.4 million during the same period comparison, driven by weaker wholesale sales to its specialty and department store customers, some whom were negatively impacted by the hurricanes in August and September of the third quarter of 2017.

Wholesale net sales increased by 11% to \$88.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 from \$80.3 million for the same period in the prior year. The increase in Wholesale net sales was due to the addition of the Hudson and SWIMS brands for the full period that contributed an additional \$12.5 million of Wholesale sales for the nine months ended September 30, 2017. The addition of the Hudson and SWIMS brands more than offset a \$3.9 million or 15% decline in Robert Graham Wholesale sales for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to the same period last year. The hurricanes during the third quarter of fiscal 2017 negatively impacted Wholesale net sales by approximately \$850 thousand determined based on order cancellations and inbound inventory receipt delays as discussed above with the quarterly results.

Consumer Direct net sales increased by 10% to \$28.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 from \$25.5 million for the same period in the prior year primarily due to the acquisition of the Hudson and SWIMS brands as discussed above, which contributed additional Consumer Direct net sales of \$2.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017. Consumer Direct net sales also grew during the nine months ended September 30, 2017 due to improved Robert Graham e-commerce net sales, which increased 13% over the same period last year due to an increase in units per transaction and conversion rate. Robert Graham retail store net sales for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 slightly increased 1% compared to the same period last year, offset by the negative impact of the hurricanes of approximately \$300 thousand during the third quarter of fiscal 2017, determined based on trends at affected stores over the time periods leading up to the hurricanes.

Corporate and other net sales increased by 42% to \$2.1 million, consisting of licensing revenue, for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to \$1.5 million of licensing revenue for the same period last year.

Gross Profit

Gross profit increased by \$8.4 million or 19% to \$52.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 from \$44.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2016. The increase in gross profit was attributable to the addition of the Hudson and SWIMS brands for the full period, which contributed additional gross profit of \$8.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017. This includes the negative impact to gross profit for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 of \$1.7 million related to the Hudson and SWIMS inventory that was stepped up to fair value during the acquisitions in 2016 and sold through during the nine months ended September 30, 2016. Gross margin rates increased approximately 130 basis points for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to the same period in the prior year (excluding the impact of the one-time Hudson and SWIMS inventory adjustments), primarily due to higher initial margin rates. Gross profit for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 also includes an addition of \$0.3 million due to a change in accounting estimate related to our standard production costs allocated to inventory effective January 1, 2017.

Wholesale gross profit increased 23% to \$33.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 from \$26.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 due to the addition of the Hudson and SWIMS brands with additional gross profit of \$6.4 million, including the \$1.7 million Hudson and SWIMS inventory adjustment discussed above. This was offset by the approximately \$425 thousand negative impact to gross profit due to the hurricanes in the third quarter of 2017 determined based on order cancellations and inbound inventory receipt delays.

Consumer Direct gross profit increased by 9% to \$17.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 from \$16.1 million for the same period last year due to the addition of the Hudson and SWIMS brands, partially offset by

## Table of Contents

the hurricanes which had a \$225 thousand impact on Direct to Consumer gross profit, determined based on trends at affected stores over the time periods leading up to the hurricanes.

Corporate and other gross profit increased by 42% to \$2.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to \$1.5 million for the same period in the prior year due to the increase in licensing revenue.

## Operating Expenses

Operating expenses include (i) selling, general and administrative expenses related to employee and employee benefits, sales commissions, advertising, merger and acquisition related costs, professional fees, stock-based compensation and factor and bank fees, (ii) depreciation and amortization, and (iii) retail store impairment.

Operating expenses increased by 1% to \$52.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 from \$51.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2016. The \$0.4 million increase in operating expenses was mainly attributable to \$6.3 million of additional expenses for the Hudson and SWIMS brands for the full period and \$0.9 million of restructuring costs incurred during the nine months ended September 30, 2017. This was partially offset by \$5.4 million of one-time acquisition and restructuring costs incurred during the nine months ended September 30, 2016 related to the RG Merger and the SWIMS acquisition and an impairment charge of \$0.3 million recorded during the first quarter of 2016. The increase in operating expenses is also offset by a \$1.1 million additional capitalization of production costs, from selling, general and administrative expenses to the cost of inventory due to a change in sourcing processes that impacts production overhead costs, effective January 1, 2017.

Selling, general and administrative expenses were approximately 40.0% and 43.9% of net sales for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Depreciation and amortization expense, as a percent of net sales, decreased to 3.8% from 4.2% for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2016.

## Interest Expense

Interest expense increased to \$6.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 from \$5.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2016, associated with a full period of interest expense on a larger principal balance related to our credit facilities, convertible notes and the amortization of debt discounts and deferred financing costs related to those facilities and notes.

## Income Tax Provision (Benefit)

Our effective tax rate from operations was an expense of -13% for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to a benefit of 9% for the nine months ended September 30, 2016. The difference in the effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2017, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2016, was primarily due to a change in the ratio of year-to-date losses to forecasted loss.

As our subsidiary RG was a limited liability company until the RG Merger on January 28, 2016, it paid taxes only in some jurisdictions since income was generally taxed directly to its members and most taxes were paid directly by its members on the income of RG. However, since some jurisdictions do not recognize the limited liability company status, they required taxes to be paid by RG. After the transaction, all of our entities are subject to corporate entity level taxes, as the transaction resulted in a status change.

#### Loss from Discontinued Operations

We had a loss from discontinued operations during the nine months ended September 30, 2016 of \$1.3 million due to the operation of the Joe's brand retail stores, which we operated until their assignment in January 2016 and closure in February 2016.

Table of Contents

Net Loss

We generated a net loss of \$6.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017, compared to a net loss of \$12.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2016.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Sources of Liquidity and Outlook

Our primary sources of liquidity are: (i) cash proceeds from Wholesale operations sold on account, both managed and insured through factors and internal credit management resources; (ii) cash proceeds from sales through our Consumer Direct segment tendered in cash, credit card, debit card or gift card; (iii) cash proceeds from licenses collected from licensees via check or wire transfer; and (iv) the cash proceeds from borrowing under various credit facilities described below. Cash is used to make payments of debt and interest and for payroll and operating disbursements including inventories, operating expenses and capitalized property, software and equipment.

Our primary capital needs are for: (i) working capital; (ii) debt principal and interest; and (iii) trade credit to our customers. We anticipate funding our operations through working capital by generating cash flows from operations and utilization of available lines of credit under our existing credit facilities.

At September 30, 2017, December 31, 2016 and September 30, 2016, our cash and cash equivalent balances were \$2.8 million, \$6.5 million and \$4.4 million, respectively. In addition to cash, the Company had \$13.4 million of availability to borrow under its line of credit. Based on our cash on hand, the expected borrowing availability under our existing credit facilities and other financing arrangements, \$18.7 million of non-recourse short term receivables, and sales forecasts, we believe that we have the working capital resources necessary to meet our projected operational needs beyond the next 12 months from the date of this Quarterly Report. However, if we require more capital for growth and integration or if we experience a decline in sales and/or operating losses, we believe that it will be necessary to obtain additional working capital through additional credit arrangements, debt and/or equity issuances and/or other strategic transactions.

Cash Flows for the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017 and September 30, 2016

For the nine months ended September 30, 2017, we used \$7.2 million of cash flows in operating activities to fund our working capital. Cash flows used in investing activities during the nine months ended September 30, 2017 totaled \$0.8 million primarily for the purchase of property and equipment. Cash flows from financing activities during the nine months ended September 30, 2017 totaled \$4.4 million. These cash flows from financing activities primarily consisted of a \$7.4 million drawn down on our line of credit under the ABL Credit Agreement offset by repayment of customer cash advances in the amount of \$1.7 million, repayment of principal payments under our Term Credit Agreement of \$0.9 million and taxes paid in lieu of shares issued for stock-based compensation of \$0.3 million.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, we used \$20.8 million of cash flows from operating activities to fund our working capital, pay for costs related to the RG Merger and SWIMS acquisition that were incurred through September 30, 2016 and fund our discontinued operations. In investing activities, we used \$1.3 million for the purchase of property and equipment, \$8.6 million to pay existing holders of Modified Convertible Notes pursuant to the Rollover Agreement, net of cash on hand as of the date of the RG Merger of \$2.1 million, and \$11.8 million to pay the former stockholders of SWIMS, net of cash on hand as of the acquisition date. Cash flows from financing activities during the nine months ended September 30, 2016 totaled \$42.9 million. These cash flows consisted of \$50 million from the issuance of Series A Preferred Stock, \$13 million from the issuance of the SWIMS Convertible Note and \$62.4 million in funds from our credit facilities, net of the following financing costs (i) \$23.3 million for the repayment in full of our CIT Amended and Restated Revolving Credit Agreement and the JPM Loan Agreement; (ii) \$58.2 million for the redemption of the units held by our RG members; (iii) \$1.4 million as a distribution to RG members, which was accrued at the prior year end; and (iv) \$375 thousand of principal payments under our Term Credit Agreement. At September 30, 2016, the JPM Loan Agreement and the CIT Amended and Restated Revolving Credit Agreement were each fully repaid using the proceeds of the cash consideration given to RG in the RG Merger in January 2016.

Table of Contents

Credit Agreements and Other Financing Arrangements

In connection with the RG Merger, certain historical credit and financing arrangements were repaid. See “Note 7 – Debt and Preferred Stock” to our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for additional information related to these historical agreements.

ABL Credit Agreement and Term Credit Agreement

On January 28, 2016, in connection with the closing of the RG Merger Agreement, we and certain of our subsidiaries entered into (i) the ABL Credit Agreement and accompanying security agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as lender, and (ii) the Term Credit Agreement and accompanying security agreement with TCW Asset Management Company, as agent, and the lenders party thereto.

The ABL Credit Agreement provides for the Revolving Facility, an asset-based revolving facility with commitments in an aggregate principal amount of \$40.0 million. The Term Credit Agreement provides for the Term Facility, a senior secured term loan facility with commitments in an aggregate principal amount of \$50.0 million. The Revolving Facility matures on October 30, 2020. The Term Facility matures on January 28, 2021. The amount available to be drawn under the Revolving Facility is based on the borrowing base values attributed to eligible accounts receivable and eligible inventory. Our availability under the Revolving Facility as of September 30, 2017 was \$13.4 million.

Certain domestic subsidiaries of the Company are co-borrowers under the ABL Credit Agreement and the Term Credit Agreement. The obligations under the ABL Credit Agreement and Term Credit Agreement are guaranteed by all of our domestic subsidiaries and are secured by substantially all of our assets, including the assets of our domestic subsidiaries.

On March 27, 2017, we entered into (i) Amendment No. 2 to the Term Credit Agreement to modify certain defined terms, add a liquidity covenant, revise certain covenants and set an 8.75% base rate and 9.75% LIBOR rate for the period between March 27, 2017 and May 15, 2017 and (ii) Amendment No. 2 to the ABL Credit Agreement to confirm certain defined terms to that in Amendment No. 2 in the Term Credit Agreement. As of September 30, 2017, we were in compliance with the financial and non-financial covenants included in the ABL Credit Agreement and the Term Credit Agreement as of that date. For additional information on the ABL Credit Agreement and Term Credit Agreement, see “Note 7 – Debt and Preferred Stock” to our unaudited condensed financial statements.

A&R Factoring Agreement

In January 2016, in connection with the RG Merger, we entered into our A&R Factoring Agreement pursuant to which we sell or assign to CIT certain of our accounts receivable, including accounts arising from or related to sales of inventory and the rendering of services. Under the A&R Factoring Agreement, we pay factoring rates based on service type and credit profile of our customers. The A&R Factoring Agreement may be terminated by either party upon 60 days' written notice or immediately upon the occurrence of an event of default as defined in the agreement. For additional information on the A&R Factoring Agreement, see "Note 3 – Factor Accounts and Receivables" to our unaudited condensed financial statements.

#### SWIMS Factoring Agreement

In connection with the acquisition of SWIMS, SWIMS has maintained its preexisting SWIMS Factoring Agreement between SWIMS and DNB, dated August 26, 2013. The SWIMS Factoring Agreement is a combined credit assurance and factoring agreement, pursuant to which SWIMS is granted financing of up to 80% of its preapproved outstanding invoiced receivables. DNB receives an annual commission based on invoiced revenues and a quarterly commission of the maximum financing amount plus other administrative costs. The SWIMS Factoring Agreement may be terminated by SWIMS upon 14 days' prior written notice for any reason and by DNB upon 14 days' prior written notice for just cause. DNB may also terminate the SWIMS Factoring Agreement without any prior written notice in the event of a material breach by SWIMS. For additional information on the SWIMS Factoring Agreement, see "Note 3 – Factored Accounts and Receivables" to our unaudited condensed financial statements.



Table of Contents

Modified Convertible Notes and Rollover Agreement

The Company issued convertible notes in connection with the acquisition of Hudson with different interest rates and conversion features for Hudson's management stockholders, including Peter Kim and Fireman Capital CPF Hudson Co-Invest LP. On September 8, 2015, the Company entered into the Rollover Agreement with the holders of those convertible notes, pursuant to which, on January 28, 2016, the holders of the notes contributed their notes to the Company in exchange for the following:

- 1.2 million shares of common stock;
- a cash payment of approximately \$8.6 million, before expenses; and
- an aggregate principal amount of approximately \$16.5 million of Modified Convertible Notes.

The Modified Convertible Notes are structurally and contractually subordinated to our senior debt and will mature on July 28, 2021. The Modified Convertible Notes accrue interest quarterly on the outstanding principal amount at a rate of 6.5% per annum (which increased to 7% as of October 1, 2016 with respect to the Modified Convertible Notes issued to Fireman Capital CPF Hudson Co-Invest LP), which is payable 50% in cash and 50% in additional paid-in-kind notes; provided, however, that the Company may, in its sole discretion, elect to pay 100% of such interest in cash. Beginning on January 28, 2016, the Modified Convertible Notes are convertible by each of the holders into shares of our common stock, cash, or a combination of cash and common stock, at our election.

If we elect to issue only shares of common stock upon conversion of the Modified Convertible Notes, each of the Modified Convertible Notes would be convertible, in whole but not in part, into a number of shares equal to the "conversion amount" divided by the "market price". The "conversion amount" is (a) the product of (i) the "market price", multiplied by (ii) the quotient of (A) the principal amount, divided by (B) the conversion price, minus (b) the aggregate optional prepayment amounts paid to the holder. The market price is the average of the closing prices for our common stock over the 20-trading-day period immediately preceding the notice of conversion. If we elect to pay cash with respect to a conversion of the Modified Convertible Notes, the amount of cash to be paid per share will be equal to the "conversion amount". We will have the right to prepay all or any portion of the principal amount of the Modified Convertible Notes at any time so long as we make a pro rata prepayment on all of the Modified Convertible Notes.

Short-Term Convertible Note

On July 18, 2016, we issued a convertible promissory note to Tengram II, with principal of \$13.0 million in connection with the acquisition of SWIMS, referred to as the SWIMS Convertible Note. The SWIMS Convertible Note accrues interest at a rate of 3.75% per annum, compounding on the first day of each month starting August 1, 2016, and will convert, at Tengram II's option or on the extended maturity date of January 18, 2018 (which had an original maturity date of January 18, 2017) if not already repaid in cash on or prior to that date, into up to 4.5 million newly issued shares of our Series A-1 Preferred Stock at a conversion price of \$3.00 per share. We are currently evaluating all of our options in order to assess the repayment of the SWIMS Convertible Note at maturity if it is not converted. Additionally, the Series A-1 Preferred Stock will itself be convertible into shares of our common stock at an initial price of \$3.00 per share (subject to adjustment), will be entitled to dividends at a rate of 10% per annum payable quarterly in arrears, will be senior to the common stock upon liquidation and will have voting rights on an as-converted basis alongside our common stock. In the event that we are unable or elect not to repay the SWIMS Convertible Note, or if the SWIMS Convertible Note is not extended past its maturity date, then the SWIMS Convertible Note will be converted at maturity.

#### SWIMS Overdraft Agreement

In connection with the acquisition of SWIMS, SWIMS has maintained a preexisting Overdraft Agreement between SWIMS and DNB, dated January 27, 2016. The Overdraft Agreement is an overdraft facility that provides SWIMS with access to up to NOK 6.0 million (approximately \$0.7 million as of September 30, 2017) in total, divided between (a) an ordinary credit of NOK 3.5 million at an interest rate of 7.4% plus an additional quarterly fee of 0.4% on the outstanding principal in frame commissions and (b) an additional credit of NOK 2.5 million at an interest rate of

## Table of Contents

4.9% plus an additional quarterly fee of 0.5% on the outstanding principal in frame commissions. For additional information on the Overdraft Agreement, see “Note 7 – Debt and Preferred Stock” to our unaudited condensed financial statements.

### Off Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not have any off balance sheet arrangements.

### Contractual Obligations

Not applicable. The registrant is relying on smaller reporting company disclosure requirements.

### Critical Accounting Policies and Use of Estimates

Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations is based upon our condensed consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (“U.S. GAAP”). The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, sales and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. There have been no material changes to our critical accounting policies and estimates from the information provided in “Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Management’s Discussion of Critical Accounting Policies” included in our 2016 Form 10-K, except as provided in “Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies” to our condensed consolidated financial statements above.

### Recent Accounting Pronouncements

See “Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies” to our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements above regarding new accounting pronouncements.

### Where You Can Find Other Information

Our corporate website is [www.differentialbrandsgroup.com](http://www.differentialbrandsgroup.com). The information contained on, or that can be accessed through, our website is not a part of this Quarterly Report and is not incorporated by reference herein. We make available on or through our website, without charge, our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed with or furnished to the SEC pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, as soon as reasonably practicable after such reports are electronically submitted to the SEC. Our SEC filings, including exhibits filed or furnished therewith, are also available for at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). In addition, any materials filed with, or furnished to, the SEC may be read and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549 or viewed online at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Information regarding the operation of the Public Reference Room can be obtained by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. You may request copies of these documents, upon payment of a duplicating fee, by writing to the SEC at its principal office at 100 F Street, NE, Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Not applicable. The registrant is relying on smaller reporting company disclosure requirements.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) and Rule 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act. Disclosure controls and procedures are those controls and procedures designed to ensure that information

Table of Contents

required to be disclosed in our reports under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. In addition, disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that the information required to be disclosed by us in our reports under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

As of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report, our management carried out an evaluation, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures. In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, our management recognized that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives, and our management necessarily was required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures. Based on that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of September 30, 2017.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Exchange Act) during the quarter ended September 30, 2017 that materially affected, or that are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Table of Contents

PART II — OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

We are a party to lawsuits and other contingencies in the ordinary course of our business. We do not believe that we are currently a party to any material pending legal proceedings. Additionally, in the opinion of management, based upon advice of legal counsel, the likelihood is remote that the impact of any pending legal proceedings and claims, either individually or in the aggregate, would have a material adverse effect on our condensed consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. For more information, see “Note 13 – Commitments and Contingencies” to our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements in “Part I, Item 1” of this Quarterly Report.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Although this item is not required because we are relying on smaller reporting company disclosure requirements, we note the following additional risk factor, which should be read in conjunction with the risk factors disclosed in “Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors” of our 2016 Form 10-K.

If our common stock’s closing bid price remains below the minimum price of \$1.00 per share, our common stock may be delisted from the The Nasdaq Capital Market maintained by The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (“NASDAQ”).

On November 7, 2017, the closing price of our common stock was below \$1.00 per share. If our common stock continues to trade below \$1.00 per share, which is the minimum closing bid price required for continued listing on NASDAQ, for 30 consecutive business days, we will receive a notification letter from NASDAQ and will have 180 calendar days (subject to extension in some circumstances) to regain compliance with the minimum bid price rule. To regain compliance, the closing bid price of our common stock must be at least \$1.00 per share for a minimum of ten consecutive business days (or such longer period of time as the NASDAQ may require in some circumstances). If we fail to regain compliance with the minimum bid price rule or fail to maintain compliance with all other applicable NASDAQ continued listing requirements, NASDAQ may determine to delist our common stock, at which time our common stock would be quoted on the OTC markets. The delisting of our common stock could adversely impact us by, among other things, reducing the liquidity and market price of our common stock, reducing the number of investors willing to hold or acquire our common stock, limiting our ability to issue additional securities in the future, and limiting our ability to fund our operations.



Table of Contents

Item 6. Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Description	Document if Incorporated by Reference
4.1	<u>Amendment No. 2 to Convertible Promissory Note, dated as of July 18, 2017, by and between Differential Brands Group Inc., and Tengram Capital Fund II, L.P.</u>	Exhibit 4.1 to Current Report on Form 8-K filed on July 20, 2017
31.1	<u>Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002</u>	
31.2	<u>Certification of Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002</u>	
32.1*	<u>Certification of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002</u>	
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document	
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document	
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document	
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document	
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document	
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document	

---

\* Furnished herewith.



Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

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

DIFFERENTIAL BRANDS GROUP INC.

November 14, 2017 /s/ Michael Buckley  
Michael Buckley  
Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

November 14, 2017 /s/ Bob Ross  
Bob Ross  
Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial Officer and  
Principal Accounting Officer)