UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): December 7, 2017

American Outdoor Brands Corporation

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Nevada (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 001-31552 (Commission File Number) 87-0543688 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

2100 Roosevelt Avenue Springfield, Massachusetts (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} (800) \ 331-0852 \\ (Registrant's telephone number, including area code) \end{tabular}$

	ck the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following isions (see General Instruction A.2. below):
	Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
	Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
	Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
	Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
	cate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 §CRF 230.405) or 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR §240.12b-2).
Eme	rging growth company \Box
	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 sed financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

We are furnishing the disclosure in this Item 2.02 in connection with the disclosure of information in the form of the textual information from a press release issued on December 7, 2017.

The information in this Item 2.02 (including the exhibit) is furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 and shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section.

We do not have, and expressly disclaim, any obligation to release publicly any updates or any changes in our expectations or any change in events, conditions, or circumstances on which any forward-looking statement is based.

The text included with this Current Report on Form 8-K is available on our website at <u>www.aob.com</u>, although we reserve the right to discontinue that availability at any time.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit
Number Exhibits

99.1 Press release from American Outdoor Brands Corporation, dated December 7, 2017

EXHIBIT INDEX

Press release from American Outdoor Brands Corporation, dated December 7, 2017

99.1

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 hereunto duly authorized.

Date: December 7, 2017

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION

By: /s/ Jeffrey D. Buchanan

Jeffrey D. Buchanan

Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Administrative Officer, and Treasurer



Contact: Liz Sharp, VP Investor Relations American Outdoor Brands Corporation (413) 747-6284 <u>Isharp@aob.com</u>

American Outdoor Brands Corporation Reports Second Quarter Fiscal 2018 Financial Results

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., December 7, 2017 — American Outdoor Brands Corporation (NASDAQ Global Select: AOBC), one of the world's leading providers of firearms and quality products for the shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor enthusiast, today announced financial results for the second quarter fiscal 2018, ended October 31, 2017.

Second Quarter Fiscal 2018 Financial Highlights

- Quarterly net sales were \$148.4 million, in-line with the company's guidance range, compared with \$233.5 million for the second quarter last year, a decrease of 36.4%.
- Gross margin for the quarter was 34.2% compared with 41.8% for the second quarter last year.
- Quarterly GAAP net income was \$3.2 million, or \$0.06 per diluted share, compared with net income of \$32.5 million, or \$0.57 per diluted share, for the comparable quarter last year. Second quarter 2018 and 2017 GAAP net income per diluted share include expenses of \$2.8 million and \$3.0 million, respectively, for amortization, net of tax, related to acquisitions.
- Quarterly Non-GAAP net income was \$6.3 million, or \$0.11 per diluted share, compared with \$39.1 million, or \$0.68 per diluted share, for the comparable quarter last year. GAAP to non-GAAP adjustments to net income exclude a number of acquisition-related costs, including amortization, fair value inventory step-up and backlog expense, one-time transition costs, and discontinued operations, as well as the associated tax effect on non-GAAP adjustments. For a detailed reconciliation, see the schedules that follow in this release.
- Quarterly non-GAAP Adjusted EBITDAS was \$23.1 million, or 15.5% of net sales, compared with \$72.4 million, or 31.0% of net sales, for the comparable quarter last year.
- During the second quarter, the company completed the purchase of substantially all of the assets of Gemini Technologies, Incorporated ("Gemtech"), a provider of high quality suppressors and accessories for the consumer, law enforcement, and military markets, for \$10.9 million. The company also completed the purchase of substantially all of the assets of Fish Tales, LLC, a provider of premium sportsman knives and tools for fishing and hunting, including the knife brand, Bubba Blade™, for approximately \$12.1 million.

James Debney, American Outdoor Brands Corporation President and Chief Executive Officer, commented, "Our results for the second quarter were within our guidance range despite challenging market conditions. Lower shipments in our Firearms business reflected a significant reduction in wholesaler and retailer orders versus the prior year, and were partially offset by higher revenue in our Outdoor Products & Accessories business. Total revenue for the quarter faced a challenging comparison to last year, when we believe strong consumer demand was driven by personal safety concerns and pre-election fears of increased firearm legislation."

"In Firearms, shipments of our new M&P branded polymer products in full-size, compact, and concealed carry models helped to offset lower orders in other product categories. While we were pleased that our firearm inventory at distributors declined slightly during the quarter, we believe that orders were negatively impacted by heightened channel inventory from multiple manufacturers at retail. As expected, our internal inventories peaked during the quarter, as we prepared for a number of new firearm product launches. Since then, we have reduced our internal production output levels and our outsourced capacity to help lower inventories and better balance production to demand. For the second half of fiscal 2018, our focus remains on ensuring that our internal manufacturing resources are aligned with demand. In addition, we intend to introduce several exciting new products, and execute on long-term organic growth initiatives that support our vision of being the leading provider of quality products for the shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor enthusiast," concluded Debney.

Jeffrey D. Buchanan, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Administrative Officer, commented, "We ended the quarter with cash of \$68.2 million and net debt of approximately \$223 million. While cash flow for our second quarter was flat, as expected, we are forecasting positive cash flow for the balance of our fiscal year, as we lower our internal inventory levels in conjunction with the upcoming holiday buying season, new product launches, and winter distributor buying shows which take place during our fourth fiscal quarter."

Financial Outlook

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION NET SALES AND EARNINGS PER SHARE GUIDANCE, INCLUDING GAAP TO NON-GAAP RECONCILIATION (Unaudited)

	Т	Range for the Three Months Ending January 31, 2018 170,000 \$180,00				Range Year E April 3	Ending	3
Net sales (in thousands)	\$1	70,000	\$18	80,000	\$6	50,000	\$67	75,000
GAAP income per share — diluted	\$	0.01	\$	0.04	\$	0.33	\$	0.43
Amortization of acquired intangible assets		0.10		0.10		0.38		0.38
Acquisition-related costs		_		_		0.01		0.01
Transition costs		_		_		0.01		0.01
Change in contingent consideration		_		_		(0.02)		(0.02)
Tax effect of non-GAAP adjustments		(0.04)		(0.04)		(0.14)		(0.14)
Non-GAAP income per share — diluted	\$	0.07	\$	0.10	\$	0.57	\$	0.67

Conference Call and Webcast

The company will host a conference call and webcast today, December 7, 2017, to discuss its second quarter fiscal 2018 financial and operational results. Speakers on the conference call will include James Debney, President and Chief Executive Officer, and Jeffrey D. Buchanan, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Administrative Officer. The conference call may include forward-looking statements. The conference call and webcast will begin at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (2:00 p.m. Pacific Time). Those interested in listening to the conference call via telephone may call directly at (844) 309-6568 and reference conference code 2598827. No RSVP is necessary. The conference call audio webcast can also be accessed live and for replay on the company's website at www.aob.com, under the Investor Relations section. The company will maintain an audio replay of this conference call on its website for a period of time after the call. No other audio replay will be available.

Reconciliation of U.S. GAAP to Non-GAAP Financial Measures

In this press release, certain non-GAAP financial measures, including "non-GAAP net income," "Adjusted EBITDAS," and "free cash flow" are presented. From time-to-time, we consider and use these supplemental measures of operating performance in order to provide the reader with an improved understanding of underlying performance trends. We believe it is useful for our company and the reader to review, as applicable, both (1) GAAP measures that include (i) amortization of acquired intangible assets, (ii) transition costs, (iii) discontinued operations, (iv) changes in contingent consideration liabilities, (v) acquisition-related costs, (vi) inventory step-up and backlog expense, (vii) tax effect of non-GAAP adjustments, (viii) net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities, (ix) net cash used in investing activities, (x) receipts from note receivable, (xi) interest expense (xii) income tax (benefit)/expense, (xiii) depreciation and amortization, and (xiv) stock-based compensation expense; and (2) the non-GAAP measures that exclude such information. We present these non-GAAP measures because we consider them an important supplemental measure of our performance. Our definition of these adjusted financial measures may differ from similarly named measures used by others. We believe these measures facilitate operating performance comparisons from period to period by eliminating potential differences caused by the existence and timing of certain expense items that would not otherwise be apparent on a GAAP basis. These non-GAAP measures have limitations as an analytical tool and should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for our GAAP measures. The principal limitations of these measures are that they do not reflect our actual expenses and may thus have the effect of inflating our financial measures on a GAAP basis.

About American Outdoor Brands Corporation

American Outdoor Brands Corporation (NASDAQ Global Select: AOBC) is a provider of quality products for shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor enthusiasts in the global consumer and professional markets. The Company reports two segments: Firearms and Outdoor Products & Accessories. Firearms manufactures handgun and long gun products sold under the Smith & Wesson®, M&P®, Thompson/Center Arms™, and Gemtech® brands as well as provides forging, machining, and precision plastic injection molding services. Outdoor Products & Accessories provides shooting, hunting, and outdoor accessories, including reloading, gunsmithing, and gun cleaning supplies, tree saws, vault accessories, knives, laser sighting systems, tactical lighting products, and survival and camping equipment. Brands in Outdoor Products & Accessories include Smith & Wesson®, M&P®, Thompson/Center Arms™, Crimson Trace®, Caldwell® Shooting Supplies, Wheeler® Engineering, Tipton® Gun Cleaning Supplies, Frankford Arsenal® Reloading Tools, Lockdown® Vault Accessories, Hooyman® Premium Tree Saws, BOG POD®, Golden Rod® Moisture Control, Schrade®, Old Timer®, Uncle Henry®, Imperial®, Bubba Blade®, and UST™. For more information on American Outdoor Brands Corporation, call (844) 363-5386 or log on to www.aob.com.

Safe Harbor Statement

Certain statements contained in this press release may be deemed to be forward-looking statements under federal securities laws, and we intend that such forward-looking statements be subject to the safe-harbor created thereby. Such forward-looking statements include, among others, our strategy to continue growing and balancing our business across the shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor enthusiast market; our belief that total revenue for the quarter faced a challenging comparison to last year's heightened levels of firearms demand which we believe was driven by concerns for personal safety and the potential for increased firearm legislation; our belief that lower shipments in our Firearms business were due to a softening in wholesaler and retailer orders compared to last year; our belief that heightened channel inventory from multiple manufacturers at retail locations contributed to lower orders in the quarter; our belief that we are focused on executing our long-term strategic initiatives, which support our vision of being the leading provider of quality products for the shooting, hunting and rugged outdoor enthusiast; our belief that we will generate positive cash flow for the balance of our fiscal year; and our expectations for net sales, GAAP income per diluted share, amortization of acquired intangible assets, acquisition-related costs, transition costs, change in contingent consideration, tax effect of non-GAAP adjustments, and non-GAAP income per diluted share for the third quarter of fiscal 2018 and for fiscal 2018. We caution that these statements are qualified by important risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those reflected by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others, the demand for our products; the state of the U.S. economy in general and the firearm industry in particular; general economic conditions and consumer spending patterns; our competitive environment; the supply, availability and costs of raw materials and components; the potential for increased regulation of firearms and firearm-related products; speculation surrounding fears of terrorism and crime; our anticipated growth and growth opportunities; our ability to increase demand for our products in various markets, including consumer, law enforcement, and military channels, domestically and internationally; our penetration rates in new and existing markets; our strategies; our ability to maintain and enhance brand recognition and reputation; risks associated with the establishment of our new 630,000 square foot national distribution center; our ability to introduce new products including our new M&P branded polymer products in full-size, compact and concealed carry models; the success of new products; our ability to expand our markets; our ability to integrate acquired businesses in a successful manner; the general growth of our outdoor products and accessories business; the potential for cancellation of orders from our backlog; and other risks detailed from time to time in our reports filed with the SEC, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2017.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (Unaudited)

		For the Three Months Ended			For the Six Months Ended			
	Octol	ber 31, 2017		ber 31, 2016	ber 31, 2017	Octo	ber 31, 2016	
		4.40.407		n thousands, exce			440 470	
Net sales	\$	148,427	\$	233,528	\$ 277,448	\$	440,479	
Cost of sales		97,628		135,923	 186,017		255,305	
Gross profit		50,799		97,605	 91,431		185,174	
Operating expenses:								
Research and development		2,746		2,698	5,532		4,851	
Selling and marketing		15,351		12,527	27,069		21,721	
General and administrative		24,713		30,229	 54,041		53,926	
Total operating expenses		42,810		45,454	86,642		80,498	
Operating income		7,989		52,151	4,789		104,676	
Other (expense)/income, net:								
Other (expense)/income, net		(3)		(30)	1,295		(30)	
Interest expense, net		(2,963)		(2,175)	 (5,354)		(4,188)	
Total other (expense)/income, net		(2,966)		(2,205)	 (4,059)		(4,218)	
Income from operations before income taxes		5,023		49,946	730		100,458	
Income tax expense/(benefit)		1,789		17,463	 (337)		32,752	
Net income		3,234		32,483	1,067		67,706	
Net income per share:								
Basic	\$	0.06	\$	0.58	\$ 0.02	\$	1.21	
Diluted	\$	0.06	\$	0.57	\$ 0.02	\$	1.18	
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding:					 			
Basic		54,044		56,231	53,975		56,140	
Diluted		54,656		57,136	54,800		57,145	

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AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited)

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Total stockholders' equity 393,162			(000 075)		(000 075)
	,				
\$ 816,26 <u>3</u> \$ 788,03 <u>6</u>	Total stockholders' equity				
		\$	816,263	\$	788,036

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)

		For the Six M	lonthe End	ed
	Octo	ber 31, 2017		ber 31, 2016
		(In thou	usands)	
Cash flows from operating activities:		4.00=		07.700
Net income	\$	1,067	\$	67,706
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		00.047		00 770
Depreciation and amortization		26,317		23,772
Loss on sale/disposition of assets		34		104
Provision for losses on accounts receivable		354		308
Change in contingent consideration		(1,300)		
Stock-based compensation expense		4,179		3,918
Changes in operating assets and liabilities (net effect of acquisitions):		07.110		(2.520)
Accounts receivable		27,112		(3,538)
Inventories		(42,581)		(14,349)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		(1,362)		(2,775)
Income taxes		(1,133)		(9,676)
Accounts payable		(8,725)		1,111
Accrued payroll and incentives		(11,640)		(4,728)
Accrued profit sharing		(10,399)		(4,699)
Accrued expenses Accrued warranty		(13,084)		4,235
•		262		116
Other assets Other non-current liabilities		(362)		(183)
		609		52
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		(30,652)		61,374
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired		(23,016)		(178,059)
Refunds on machinery and equipment		_		5,083
Receipts from note receivable				43
Payments to acquire patents and software		(254)		(425)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment		6		(22 242)
Payments to acquire property and equipment		(9,863)		(23,312)
Net cash used in investing activities		(33,127)		(196,670)
Cash flows from financing activities:				
Proceeds from loans and notes payable		75,000		50,000
Cash paid for debt issuance costs				(525)
Payments on capital lease obligation		(323)		(298)
Payments on notes and loans payable		(3,150)		(28,150)
Proceeds from Economic Development Incentive Program		_		101
Proceeds from exercise of options to acquire common stock, including employee stock				
purchase plan		1,058		948
Payment of employee withholding tax related to restricted stock units		(2,184)		(4,163)
Net cash provided by financing activities		70,401		17,913
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		6,622		(117,383)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period		61,549		191,279
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$	68,171	\$	73,896
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information		,	_ _	3,000
Cash paid for:				
Interest	\$	1 911	\$	2 002
Income taxes	Ф	4,844 1,257	Φ	3,802 42,609
income taxes		1,237		42,009

RECONCILIATION OF GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES TO NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES (Dollars in thousands, except per share data) (Unaudited)

		For the Three	Months Ended	l	For the Six Months Ende			ed	
	October	31, 2017	October		October	31, 2017	October	31, 2016	
	\$	% of Sales	\$	% of Sales	\$	% of Sales	\$	% of Sales	
GAAP gross profit	\$50,799	34.2%	\$ 97,605	41.8%	\$91,431	33.0%	\$185,174	42.0%	
Fair value inventory step-up and backlog									
expense	91	0.1%	3,824	1.6%	91	0.0%	3,824	0.9%	
Non-GAAP gross profit	\$50,890	34.3%	\$101,429	43.4%	\$91,522	33.0%	\$188,998	42.9%	
GAAP operating expenses	\$42,810	28.8%	\$ 45,454	19.5%	\$86,642	31.2%	\$ 80,498	18.3%	
Amortization of acquired intangible assets	(4,268)	-2.9%	(4,566)	-2.0%	(9,953)	-3.6%	(7,110)	-1.6%	
Transition costs	(79)	-0.1%		_	(391)	-0.1%	`-	_	
Discontinued operations	<u>``</u>	_	(23)	0.0%	<u>`</u>	_	(44)	0.0%	
Acquisition-related costs	(259)	-0.2%	(1,824)	-0.8%	(676)	-0.2%	(3,156)	-0.7%	
Non-GAAP operating expenses	\$38,204	25.7%	\$ 39,041	16.7%	\$75,622	27.3%	\$ 70,188	15.9%	
GAAP operating income	\$ 7,989	5.4%	\$ 52,151	22.3%	\$ 4,789	1.7%	\$104,676	23.8%	
Fair value inventory step-up and backlog	, ,		, , ,		. ,		,		
expense	91	0.1%	3,824	1.6%	91	0.0%	3,824	0.9%	
Amortization of acquired intangible assets	4,268	2.9%	4,566	2.0%	9,953	3.6%	7,110	1.6%	
Transition costs	79	0.1%	<u> </u>	_	391	0.1%	·—	_	
Discontinued operations	_	_	23	0.0%	_	_	44	0.0%	
Acquisition-related costs	259	0.2%	1,824	0.8%	676	0.2%	3,156	0.7%	
Non-GAAP operating income	\$12,686	8.5%	\$ 62,388	26.7%	\$15,900	5.7%	\$118,810	27.0%	
GAAP net income	\$ 3,234	2.2%	\$ 32,483	13.9%	\$ 1,067	0.4%	\$ 67,706	15.4%	
Fair value inventory step-up and backlog									
expense	91	0.1%	3,824	1.6%	91	0.0%	3,824	0.9%	
Amortization of acquired intangible assets	4,268	2.9%	4,566	2.0%	9,953	3.6%	7,110	1.6%	
Transition costs	79	0.1%	_	_	391	0.1%	_	_	
Discontinued operations	_	_	23	0.0%	_	_	44	0.0%	
Acquisition-related costs	259	0.2%	1,824	0.8%	676	0.2%	3,156	0.7%	
Change in contingent consideration	_	_	_	_	(1,300)	-0.5%	_	_	
Tax effect of non-GAAP adjustments	(1,672)	-1.1%	(3,583)	<u>-1.5</u> %	(3,532)	-1.3%	(4,611)	-1.0%	
Non-GAAP net income	\$ 6,259	4.2%	\$ 39,137	16.8%	\$ 7,346	2.6%	\$ 77,229	17.5%	
GAAP net income per share - diluted	\$ 0.06		\$ 0.57		\$ 0.02		\$ 1.18		
Fair value inventory step-up and backlog									
expense	_		0.07		_		0.07		
Amortization of acquired intangible assets	0.08		0.08		0.18		0.12		
Transition costs	_		_		0.01		_		
Discontinued operations	_		_		_		_		
Acquisition-related costs	_		0.03		0.01		0.06		
Change in contingent consideration	_		_		(0.02)		_		
Tax effect of non-GAAP adjustments	(0.03)		(0.06)		(0.06)		(0.08)		
Non-GAAP net income per share - diluted (a)	\$ 0.11		\$ 0.68(a)		\$ 0.13(a)		\$ 1.35		

⁽a) Non-GAAP net income per share does not foot due to rounding.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES RECONCILIATION OF NET OPERATING CASH FLOW TO FREE CASH FLOW (In thousands) (Unaudited)

		For the Three	Months E	nded	For the Six Months Ended				
	October 31, 2017		Octo	October 31, 2016		October 31, 2017		ber 31, 2016	
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	\$	3,840	\$	20,764	\$	(30,652)	\$	61,374	
Net cash used in investing activities		(28,339)		(185,555)		(33,127)		(196,670)	
Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired		23,016		178,059		23,016		178,059	
Receipts from note receivable				(22)				(43)	
Free cash flow	\$	(1,483)	\$	13,246	\$	(40,763)	\$	42,720	

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AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES RECONCILIATION OF GAAP NET INCOME TO NON-GAAP ADJUSTED EBITDAS (in thousands) (Unaudited)

	For the Three Months Ended				For the Six Months Ended				
	Octob	per 31, 2017	Octo	ber 31, 2016	Octob	per 31, 2017	Octo	ber 31, 2016	
GAAP net income	\$	3,234	\$	32,483	\$	1,067	\$	67,706	
Interest expense		3,033		2,313		5,423		4,367	
Income tax expense/(benefit)		1,789		17,463		(337)		32,752	
Depreciation and amortization		12,304		12,384		25,831		22,488	
Stock-based compensation expense		2,289		2,126		4,179		3,918	
Fair value inventory step-up and backlog expense		91		3,824		91		3,824	
Acquisition-related costs		259		1,824		676		3,156	
Discontinued operations		_		23		_		44	
Transition costs		79		_		391		_	
Change in contingent consideration		_		_		(1,300)		_	
Non-GAAP Adjusted EBITDAS	\$	23,078	\$	72,440	\$	36,021	\$	138,255	

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