



2019 American Outdoor Brands

ANNUAL REPORT

MISSOURI, USA

633,000 SQ. FT.

STATE-OF-THE-ART

We commenced operations at our new Logistics and Customer Services facility in Fiscal 2019. This facility will centralize logistics, warehousing and distribution operations for our entire business. Our new 'Missouri campus' is an important element in streamlining our approach to the market by simplifying and consolidating our logistics operations into a single location, making it easier for customers to do business with us, while providing efficiencies, and the infrastructure and capacity for our future growth.



An aerial photograph of a river flowing through a forest. The river is characterized by numerous rocks and rapids, creating white water. The surrounding forest is dense with green trees. The image is used as a background for the report cover.

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

We report on our business in two segments – Firearms and Outdoor Products & Accessories – In Firearms, fiscal 2019 was a year that presented several challenges for the industry, including changes in the political environment and reduced consumer demand for both firearms and the accessories attached to them, such as lights, lasers, and scopes. Despite that backdrop, we delivered year over year growth in revenue and gross margin, and we believe we gained in market share. In Outdoor Products & Accessories, we saw 6.8% growth in products not attached to firearms and, importantly, updated many of our brands.

WE MADE SIGNIFICANT & EXCITING PROGRESS TOWARDS OUR LONG-TERM STRATEGY OF BEING THE LEADING PROVIDER OF QUALITY PRODUCTS FOR THE SHOOTING, HUNTING, & RUGGED OUTDOOR ENTHUSIAST.

FIREARMS

WE INTRODUCED

106

NEW SKUs

Including 32 completely new products and numerous line extensions.

BY THE END OF FISCAL 2019, WE SHIPPED OVER

3,000,000

M&P Shield® pistols.

WE ARE NOW APPROACHING THE

\$1 BILLION

Milestone for total sales of the M&P® Shield® family of handguns.

THESE INCLUDED PERFORMANCE CENTER® VERSIONS OF OUR



Smith & Wesson® SW22 Victory® target pistol.



Performance Center® T/C® Long Range Rifle for precision target shooting.



Ported M&P
Shield® M2.0™



Smith & Wesson®
M442 Revolver

BOTH DESIGNED FOR
PERSONAL PROTECTION



During the year, we produced several new bundle promotions, which combine a firearm with items from our Outdoor Products & Accessories business, to provide consumers a great value with brand names they know and trust.

We believe the combined impact of achievements in our Firearms business throughout the year helped us win market share. While consumer demand for firearms remained weak in fiscal 2019, as indicated by a year-over-year decline in adjusted NICS background checks of 8.8%,

our units shipped into the sporting goods channel increased

4.2%



Our M&P® 380 Shield™ EZ® was named the 2019 Women's Innovation Product of the Year by both the NRA's American Rifleman and Shooting Illustrated publications. Our M&P® M2.0™ Compact pistol was named 2019 Handgun of the Year by NRA's American Rifleman. Our entire M&P® family of pistols has become a consumer favorite.

OUTDOOR PRODUCTS & ACCESSORIES

We created an entrepreneurial 'brand lane' structure, bringing a dedicated team focus to the positioning and identity of each of our

20 DISTINCT BRANDS

This approach supports organic growth by allowing each brand to respond quickly to changing consumer trends. It also allows us to leverage inorganic growth opportunities by rapidly integrating newly acquired brands without adding significant headcount.

OUR BRAND LANE TEAMS LAUNCHED OVER

300 NEW PRODUCTS IN FISCAL 2019

This includes the Caldwell® Hydrosled®, the Frankford Arsenal® M-Press™, and the BOG® DeathGrip™ Hunting Tripod and many other innovative product introductions.

WE RE-BRANDED OUR POPULAR BUBBA BLADE BRAND TO SIMPLY

BUBBA™

We extended its signature non-slip red grip into a variety of new products across fishing gear and accessories.

*This effectively took
Bubba Blade from a single
product brand, to a broad and
exciting new lifestyle brand*

that captures today's Water to Plate lifestyle trend that appeals to so many consumers. This is a great example of our ability to leverage our brands to greatly expand our addressable markets.



WE INTRODUCED
A NEW LINE OF
SIGHTS & SCOPES
UNDER THE
CRIMSON
TRACE® BRAND

This significantly broadened our product offering and greatly expanded our addressable market for this brand.



LASTLY, WE COMMENCED OPERATIONS
AT A NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART

633,000 SQ. FT.

LOGISTICS & CUSTOMER SERVICES FACILITY

This is an important element in streamlining our approach to the market by simplifying and consolidating our logistics operations for both segments to a single location, making it easier for customers to do business with us, while providing efficiencies and the infrastructure and capacity for our future growth. Because the property will house multiple functions, we refer to it as our "Missouri campus". Currently, all customer orders for our firearms business are now managed entirely at our Missouri campus. This simplification of our go-to-market process is allowing the consolidation of a number of physical locations. When complete, we will have eliminated 570,000 square feet of space across multiple locations and consolidated that functionality into our Missouri campus.

FISCAL 2019

NET SALES OF

\$638.3
MILLION

Represented an increase of 5.2%
from fiscal 2018 net sales.

FIREARMS SEGMENT
GROSS SALES OF

\$481.3
MILLION

Gross sales increased by 6.3%
from the prior fiscal year.

OUTDOOR PRODUCTS &
ACCESSORIES SEGMENT GROSS SALES

\$177.3
MILLION

Gross sales rose 3.3%
over fiscal 2018.

GROSS MARGIN FOR FISCAL 2019



FULL YEAR 2019 GAAP NET
INCOME TOTALED

\$18.4
MILLION

NON-GAAP ADJUSTED
EBITDAS* TOTALED

\$111.3
MILLION

THE STRENGTH OF OUR BALANCE SHEET
IN FISCAL 2019 SUPPORTED A NUMBER OF
INITIATIVES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

We ended the year with approximately \$41.0 million of cash and \$115.4 million of total net borrowings. We paid down \$25 million on our line of credit in fiscal 2019, resulting in no borrowings on the line of credit at the end of the year. We have reduced our net borrowings by nearly \$100 million in less than two years, while still investing heavily in our business, including small acquisitions and our new Logistics & Customer Services facility. Currently our long-term borrowings consist of \$75 million in Senior Notes due in 2020, and \$81.4 million on our Bank Term Loan A, also due in 2020.

In fiscal 2020, we expect to continue employing the strength of our balance sheet to fuel additional growth opportunities, both organic and inorganic.

FISCAL 2020

Our growing portfolio of brands for the shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor enthusiast, combined with our strong balance sheet, position us well for fiscal 2020. Creative teams in both our Firearms and our Outdoor Products & Accessories businesses will remain focused on innovation, tapping into their passion for the shooting sports, fishing, camping, and the rugged outdoors to deliver products that truly excite consumers. At the same time, we will remain alert to inorganic opportunities in Outdoor Products & Accessories that allow us to grow our consumer base and expand our overall addressable market. We will also continue ramping operations at our Missouri campus. Our investment in our infrastructure is significant, and will continue throughout 2020, so it is important to underscore that these actions are a critical part of creating an adaptable and scalable framework that truly differentiates us from our competition and adds value for our customers. Most importantly, these investments will enable our future organic and inorganic growth, ultimately creating value for our shareholders.

Our vision for our company is one that truly sets us apart from our peers. Our focus remains on the consumer, and our investments reflect that focus. From innovation in new product development to the creation of a leverageable infrastructure that allows us to rapidly integrate acquisitions and streamline our go-to-market process – all of our objectives are designed to expand our addressable markets and to take an increasing share of those markets by addressing the needs, wants, and desires of our consumers.



P. JAMES DEBNEY
*President, Chief Executive
Officer, & Director*



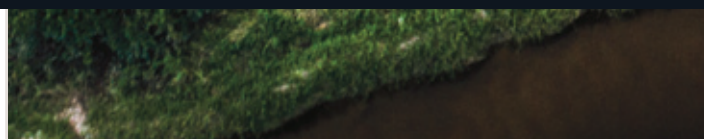
BARRY M. MONHEIT
Chairman of the Board

*Please refer to the "Reconciliation of U.S. GAAP to Non-GAAP Financial Measures" disclosure and associated tables appearing on page A-1 immediately after our Annual Report on Form 10-K, which accompanies this 2019 Annual Report.



WE THANK OUR CUSTOMERS AND OUR EMPLOYEES

for their dedication and loyalty.
We look forward to fiscal 2020 as
we continue to position our
company for long-term success.



COMPANY

Growth Strategy

WE FOCUS ON HARVESTING THE GROWTH POTENTIAL OF OUR 20 DISTINCT BRANDS.

We do this by leveraging our deep understanding of the consumer's needs, wants and desires, and using that information as a leading light for our new product development pipeline. This approach allows us to further expand our overall addressable market, and to establish ourselves in new product categories where, we believe, our brands have 'permission to play'.

We made significant progress on this objective across our entire company in fiscal 2019.



WE ARE NOW APPROACHING
\$1 BILLION

in total sales of the M&P Shield® family of handguns



PERFORMANCE CENTER®
SMITH & WESSON® M442 REVOLVER



PERFORMANCE CENTER® T/C®
LONG RANGE RIFLE



Firearms

PERFORMANCE CENTER®

We introduced Performance Center® versions of our Smith & Wesson® SW22 Victory® (a competition ready target pistol), as well as our Smith & Wesson® M442 revolver, our M&P Shield® M2.0™ (The Performance Center® version) pistols, and our M&P® 380 Shield™ EZ® pistols, all of which were designed for personal protection. We developed and released the Performance Center® T/C® Long Range Rifle, which is a perfect match for the consumer's desire to participate in precision target shooting. We reintroduced our historic and popular Model 19 revolver after a decades-long hiatus.

BUNDLE PROMOTIONS

We produced several new Bundle promotions, which combine a firearm with items from our Outdoor Products & Accessories business, to provide consumers a great value with brand names they know and trust. The most impactful of these included our M&P® 380 Shield™ EZ® combined with a Lockdown® Vault, and our M&P Shield® M2.0™ with integrated Crimson Trace® Laser combined with a soft case, M&P™ Knife, and M&P® Flashlight. These bundles generated revenue for both of our business segments, while providing consumers a great value and, in one bundle, an immediate, safe storage solution for their new firearm.

M&P® 380 SHIELD™ EZ®

Our M&P® 380 Shield™ EZ® was named the 2019 Women's Innovation Product of the Year by both the NRA's American Rifleman and Shooting Illustrated publications. Our entire M&P Shield® family has become a consumer favorite and, by the end of fiscal 2019 we had shipped over 3 million M&P Shield® pistols.



Outdoor

PRODUCTS & ACCESSORIES



WHETHER
MARKSMAN,
HARVESTER,
DEFENDER, OR
ADVENTURER,
EACH LANE
CONSISTS
OF HIGHLY
AGILE TEAMS.

We created an entrepreneurial-based 'brand lane' structure that brings dedicated focus to each brand, establishing its positioning, its identity, and where it has 'permission to play' within specific product categories. Whether Marksman, Harvester, Defender or Adventurer, each lane consists of a highly agile team that provides dedicated brand management, creative design, content production, product management, new product development, and engineering. This team approach supports organic growth by allowing each brand to respond quickly to changing consumer trends. The modular nature of the lanes also allows us to capture inorganic growth opportunities by rapidly integrating newly acquired brands without adding significant headcount.

BUBBA™

When we acquired Bubba Blade® in fiscal 2018, the brand name had recognition among fishing enthusiasts, but was narrowly focused on a single product category: knives. Our vision for the brand at the time of acquisition was always much larger, and we believed it could flourish as a leader in the broader fishing category. So, in fiscal 2019, we re-branded Bubba Blade® to simply BUBBA™, and transferred its valuable product DNA, such as its signature non-slip red grip, into a variety of new products across fishing gear and accessories. We effectively took Bubba Blade® from a single product brand, to a broad and exciting new lifestyle brand that captures one of today's most popular trends:



Much like Farm to Table, BUBBA™ addresses the Water to Plate lifestyle that appeals to so many consumers. This example demonstrates the ability to leverage our brands to greatly expand our addressable markets.

IT'S AN EXCITING STORY THAT IS JUST BEGINNING, AND WE BELIEVE WE POSSESS OTHER BRANDS THAT HAVE SIMILAR POTENTIAL.

CALDWELL®

Caldwell® is the leader in shooting rests and a major player among all shooting accessory brands. Aligned with our mission to eliminate the variables that make you miss, we expanded on this position by creating the Hydrosled®, a patent-protected shooting rest that changes the game by making it simple to add weight on the go. With its easy to fill reservoir, you can add pebbles, sand, or even water to achieve the benefit of up to 95% felt recoil reduction.

BOG

BOG-POD® has long been respected by hunters as a trusted name in shooting sticks and tri-pods, known for its quality, durability, and versatility in the field. Building on its market-leading position, the team within our 'Harvester' brand lane identified a broader opportunity for BOG-POD® and, in fiscal 2019, relaunched the brand as 'BOG®,' including a new look that leverages the brand's DNA and provides 'permission to play' in virtually every segment of the hunting accessory market. With innovative products "Engineered for the Unknown™," BOG® continues to provide on its promise to deliver versatility and dependability on the hunt.

FRANKFORD ARSENAL™

Frankford Arsenal® has gained tremendous notoriety for its innovative line of reloading accessories. Building on the momentum from a refreshed image and logo, we launched the new Frankford Arsenal® M-Press™, a proprietary, coaxial style, single stage press that offers more features and benefits than any competitor. This introduction enabled us to successfully enter a much larger product category and set the foundation for Frankford Arsenal® to establish itself as a leader in all reloading tools.



BOG® DEATHGRIP™
CARBON FIBER TRIPOD



CALDWELL®
HYDROSLED®



FRANKFORD
ARSENAL® M-PRESS™

Safety

As a leading American manufacturer of firearms since 1852, we are proud of our rich history, which includes a number of long-standing initiatives to support the safe and legal possession and use of our products. In addition, through membership in and contributions to our industry's trade association, the National Shooting Sports Foundation, we support many initiatives to promote the safe ownership, operation, storage, and safekeeping of firearms, including:

SAFETY LOCKS — We were among the first firearm companies to voluntarily provide a cable-style firearm safety lock included in the box with every firearm we make. We began this practice many years ago and have since given away millions of free firearm safety locks.

OWNER'S MANUALS — We call out and prominently display in our owners' manuals information on responsible firearm ownership, safe handling, and safe storage, and we place a sticker in the box of each firearm we make that refers owners to these provisions in the accompanying owner's manual.

BASIC PISTOL HANDBOOK — We have long been a contributing author to and a sponsor of a nationally known firearms safety instruction manual that is distributed to approximately 200,000 firearms consumers each year.

FIREARM SAFETY LITERATURE AND VIDEOS — Our sponsorships provide support for NSSF's firearms safety literature and videos which include "Firearms Responsibility in the Home", "Firearms Safety Depends on You", and "Firearms Safety in Vehicles".



PROJECT CHILDSAFE® — Conducted by the NSSF in partnership with more than 15,000 law enforcement agencies, Project ChildSafe® is the largest, most comprehensive firearm safety education program in the United States, promoting firearm safety through the distribution of safety education materials and free firearm safety kits. Since 1999, Project ChildSafe has distributed more than 37 million firearm safety kits, including cable-style locks to firearm owners. The project's 'Own' It? Respect It. Secure It.™ campaign gives NSSF industry members an ongoing platform to promote and encourage firearm safety and the safe storage of firearms.



DON'T LIE FOR THE OTHER GUY™ — Don't Lie for the Other Guy is a national campaign launched by the NSSF in 2000, in partnership with the ATF, to help prevent prohibited persons from getting their hands on firearms through illegal "straw purchases." Don't Lie for the Other Guy assists firearms retailers to identify and deter straw purchases, and to raise public awareness that straw purchasing is a serious crime.



SUICIDE PREVENTION — The NSSF works with the Veterans Administration, the State of Utah, and mental health agencies to help educate firearm owners and the public on how to keep firearms out of reach of those who, during a period of despair, might do themselves harm. We join the NSSF in supporting the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's Project 2025, an initiative to reduce the annual suicide rate.



OPERATION SECURE STORE® — Operation Secure Store is a cooperative initiative between the NSSF and the ATF to provide rewards for information leading to the successful arrest of criminals responsible for stealing firearms from the holder of a Federal Firearms License (FFL). Additionally, the NSSF is helping educate FFL holders on steps they can take to reduce the chance firearms will be stolen from them. We join the NSSF in supporting passage of the Federal Firearms Licensee Protection Act of 2017, to strengthen criminal penalties for theft of firearms from an FFL holder, and to impose mandatory minimum sentences to help deter criminals and help prevent firearms from falling into the wrong hands.

Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information

Certain statements contained in this 2019 Annual Report 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, but are not limited to, progress towards our long-term strategy of being the leading provider of quality products for the shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor enthusiast; our belief that achievements in our Firearms business helped us win market share; our belief that our new 633,000 square foot logistics facility in Missouri will support our long-term growth and enhance our operating efficiencies; our expectation that we will continue to employ the strength of our balance sheet to fuel additional growth opportunities, both organic and inorganic; and our belief that we continue to position our company for long-term success. We caution that these statements are qualified by important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those reflected by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, but are not limited to, economic, social, political, legislative, and regulatory factors; the potential for increased regulation of firearms and firearm-related products; actions of social activists that could have an adverse effect on our business; the impact of lawsuits; 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; 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 633,000 square foot logistics facility; our ability to introduce new products; 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 Securities and Exchange Commission, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019.

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.

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

In this annual report, certain non-GAAP financial measures, including "non-GAAP net income," "Adjusted EBITDAS," and "free cash flow" are presented. From time-to-time, the company considers and uses these supplemental measures of operating performance in order to provide the reader with an improved understanding of underlying performance trends. The company believes it is useful for itself and the reader to review, as applicable, both (1) GAAP measures that include (i) amortization of acquired intangible assets, (ii) transition costs, (iii) acquisition-related costs, (iv) fair value inventory step-up expense, (v) debt extinguishment costs, (vi) recall related expenses, (vii) the tax effect of non-GAAP adjustments, (ix) net cash provided by operating activities, (x) net cash used in investing activities, (xi) acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired, (xii) receipts from note receivable, (xiii) interest expense (xiv) income tax expense, (xv) depreciation and amortization, (xvi) stock-based compensation expenses, (xvii) discontinued operations, (xviii) changes in contingent consideration, and (xix) impairment of long-lived intangible assets, and (2) the non-GAAP measures that exclude such information. The company presents these non-GAAP measures because it considers them an important supplemental measure of its performance. The company's definition of these adjusted financial measures may differ from similarly named measures used by others. The company believes 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 the company's GAAP measures. The principal limitations of these measures are that they do not reflect the company's actual expenses and may thus have the effect of inflating its financial measures on a GAAP basis.

	THREE MONTHS ENDED		YEARS ENDED	
	APRIL 30, 2019	APRIL 30, 2018	APRIL 30, 2019	APRIL 30, 2018
GAAP NET INCOME	\$9,825	\$7,664	\$18,410	\$20,128
INTEREST EXPENSE	2,747	2,638	9,790	11,092
INCOME TAX EXPENSE/(BENEFIT)	2,929	6,291	10,328	(2,511)
DEPRECIATION & AMORTIZATION	13,908	12,922	52,770	50,970
STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION EXPENSE	1,922	2,054	7,992	7,816
DIODE RECALL	—	1,666	—	1,666
IMPAIRMENT OF LONG-LIVED TANGIBLE ASSETS	—	—	10,396	—
FAIR VALUE INVENTORY STEP-UP	92	272	454	500
DEBT EXTINGUISHMENT COSTS	—	226	—	226
ACQUISITION-RELATED COSTS	22	14	28	769
TRANSITION COSTS	434	(2)	1,185	439
CHANGE IN CONTINGENT CONSIDERATION	—	(340)	(60)	(1,640)
NON-GAAP ADJUSTED EBITDAS	\$31,879	\$33,405	\$111,293	\$89,455

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

Form 10-K

☒ **ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**
For the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019
Commission file number 1-31552



American Outdoor Brands Corporation

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Nevada
*(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)*

87-0543688
*(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)*

**2100 Roosevelt Avenue
Springfield, Massachusetts 01104
(800) 331-0852**

*(Address including zip code, and telephone number,
including area code, of principal executive offices)*

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

<i>(Title of Class)</i>	<i>Trading Symbols</i>	<i>(Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered)</i>
Common Stock, Par Value \$.001 per Share	AOBC	Nasdaq Global Select Market

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:
None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes ☐ No ☒

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 every Interactive Data File required to be submitted 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 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Smaller reporting company	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emerging growth company	<input type="checkbox"/>		

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 in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes ☐ No ☒

The aggregate market value of Common Stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant (47,560,970 shares) based on the last reported sale price of the registrant's Common Stock on the Nasdaq Global Select Market on October 31, 2018, which was the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, was \$650,634,079. For purposes of this computation, all officers, directors, and 10% beneficial owners of the registrant are deemed to be affiliates. Such determination should not be deemed to be an admission that such officers, directors, or 10% beneficial owners are, in fact, affiliates of the registrant.

As of June 17, 2019, there were outstanding 54,801,943 shares of the registrant's Common Stock, par value \$.001 per share.

Documents Incorporated by Reference

Portions of the registrant's definitive proxy statement for the 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION
ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K
For the Fiscal Year Ended April 30, 2019

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
PART I	
ITEM 1. BUSINESS	1
ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS	18
ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS	37
ITEM 2. PROPERTIES	38
ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS	38
ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES	38
PART II	
ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT’S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES	39
ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA	41
ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS	42
ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK	57
ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA	57
ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE	57
ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES	57
ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION	59
PART III	
ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE	59
ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION	59
ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS	59
ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE	59
ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES	59
PART IV	
ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES	60
SIGNATURES	63
INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	F-1
EX-21.1	
EX-23.1	
EX-23.2	
EX-31.1	
EX-31.2	
EX-32.1	
EX-32.2	

Smith & Wesson®, S&W®, M&P®, M&P Shield®, Performance Center®, Bodyguard®, EZ®, Governor®, SW22 Victory®, T/C ®, America’s Master Gunmaker®, Compass®, Contender®, Dimension®, Encore®, Number 13®, T17®, Triumph®, Weather Shield®, Ammo Vault®, Caldwell®, Delta Force®, Delta Series®, Fieldpod®, Galaxy®, Wheeler®, Tipton®, Frankford Arsenal®, Lockdown®, BOG®, Golden Rod®, Mag Charger®, Hooyman®, Schrade®, Old Timer®, Uncle Henry®, Imperial®, Non-Typical Wildlife Solutions®, Crimson Trace®, Lasergrips®, Laserguard®, Rail Master®, Shockstop®, Kryptonite®, Laserlyte®, Reaction Tyme®, Trigger Tyme®, Score Tyme®, Quick Tyme®, Rumble Tyme®, Key Gear®, U-Dig-It®, BUBBA®, Bubba Blade®, One Cut and You’re Through®, Gemtech®, G-Core®, Halo®, Integra®, Mist-22®, The Professional’s Choice for Decades®, World Class Silencers®, LiNQ®, and Stinky Bubba® are some of the registered U.S. trademarks of our company or one of our subsidiaries. American Outdoor Brands CorporationSM, M2.0TM, SDVETM, Thompson/Center ArmsTM, Impact!TM, StrikeTM, VentureTM, HydrosledTM, IntellidropperTM, M-PressTM, Night TerrorTM, OfficerTM, Engineered for the UnknownTM, The Ultimate LifestyleTM, Water to PlateTM, Your Land. Your LegacyTM, Complete FocusTM, Defender SeriesTM, Instinctive ActivationTM, Master SeriesTM, MOCTM, USTTM, ZinxTM, Blast JacketTM, OneTM, The Professional’s Choice for DecadesTM, TurkinatorTM, and World Class AmmunitionTM are some of the unregistered trademarks of our company or one of our subsidiaries. This report also may contain trademarks and trade names of other companies.

This report includes market and industry data that we obtained from industry publications, third-party studies and surveys, government agency sources, filings of public companies in our industry, and internal company surveys. Industry publications and surveys generally state that the information contained therein has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable. Although we believe the foregoing industry and market data to be reliable at the date of the report, this information could prove to be inaccurate as a result of a variety of matters.

Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information

The statements contained in this annual report on Form 10-K that are not purely historical are forward-looking statements within the meaning of applicable securities laws. Forward-looking statements include statements regarding our “expectations,” “anticipations,” “intentions,” “beliefs,” “contemplations,” “projections,” “predications,” or “strategies” regarding the future. Forward-looking statements also include, among other things, statements regarding our objectives, goals, strategies, plans, and focus; net sales, margins, expenses, earnings, royalties, and capital expenditures for fiscal 2020 and thereafter; the amount of environmental and other reserves; estimates of fair value; goodwill and intangible assets; the effect of a variety of economic, social, political, legislative, and regulatory factors on our business; the outcome of the lawsuits and claims to which we are subject and their effect on us; future investments for capital expenditures; future products and product developments; the features and performance of our products; the success of particular product or marketing programs; any manufacturing partnerships, strategic alliances, or acquisitions we may enter into or make; future enterprise resource planning implementations and system improvements; future enhancements to our manufacturing capabilities; the successful operational implementation of our new national logistics facility; the benefits of our new national logistics facility; and liquidity and anticipated cash needs and availability. All forward-looking statements included in this report are based on information available to us as of the filing date of this report, and we assume no obligation to update any such forward-looking statements. Our actual results could differ materially from the forward-looking statements. Among the factors that could cause actual results to differ materially are the factors discussed under Item 1A, “Risk Factors.”

PART I

Item 1. *Business*

Introduction

We are a leading manufacturer, designer, and provider of consumer products for the shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor enthusiast. We are one of the largest manufacturers of handguns, modern sporting rifles, and handcuffs in the United States and an active participant in the hunting rifle and suppressor markets. We are also a leading provider of shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor products and accessories, including knives and cutting tools, sighting lasers, shooting supplies, tree saws, and survival gear.

Smith & Wesson was founded in 1852 by Horace Smith and Daniel B. Wesson. Mr. Wesson purchased Mr. Smith's interest in 1873. The Wesson family sold Smith & Wesson Corp., our wholly owned subsidiary, to Bangor Punta Corp. in 1965. Lear Siegler Corporation purchased Bangor Punta in 1984, thereby acquiring ownership of Smith & Wesson Corp. Forstmann Little & Co. purchased Lear Siegler in 1986 and sold Smith & Wesson Corp. shortly thereafter to Tomkins Corporation, an affiliate of U.K.-based Tomkins PLC. We purchased Smith & Wesson Corp. from Tomkins in May 2001 and renamed our company Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation.

In January 2017, we changed the name of our company from Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation to American Outdoor Brands Corporation to better reflect our expanding strategic focus on the growing markets for shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor enthusiasts. We believe that the name "American Outdoor Brands Corporation" better reflects our family of brands, our broad range of product offerings, and our plan to continue building upon our portfolio of strong American brands. We have two reporting segments: (1) Firearms and (2) Outdoor Products & Accessories.

In our Firearms segment, we manufacture a wide array of handguns (including revolvers and pistols), long guns (including modern sporting rifles, bolt action rifles, and muzzleloaders), handcuffs, suppressors, and other firearm-related products for sale to a wide variety of customers, including gun enthusiasts, collectors, hunters, sportsmen, competitive shooters, individuals desiring home and personal protection, law enforcement and security agencies and officers, and military agencies in the United States and throughout the world. We sell our firearm products under the Smith & Wesson, M&P, Performance Center, Thompson/Center Arms, and Gemtech brands. We manufacture our firearm products at our facilities in Springfield, Massachusetts, Houlton, Maine, and Deep River, Connecticut. We also sell our manufacturing services to other businesses to level-load our factories. We sell those services under our Smith & Wesson and Smith & Wesson Precision Components brands.

In our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment, we design, source, distribute, and manufacture reloading, gunsmithing, and gun cleaning supplies; high-quality stainless-steel cutting tools and accessories; flashlights; tree saws and related trimming accessories; shooting supplies, rests, and other related accessories; apparel; vault accessories; laser grips and laser sights; and a full range of products for survival and emergency preparedness. We sell our outdoor products and accessories under the following brands: Caldwell, Wheeler, Tipton, Frankford Arsenal, Lockdown, Hooyman, BOG, Crimson Trace, Imperial, Schrade, Old Timer, Uncle Henry, BUBBA, Smith & Wesson, M&P, Thompson/Center, and UST. We develop and market our outdoor products and accessories at our facilities in Columbia, Missouri; Wilsonville, Oregon; and Jacksonville, Florida. We have announced a plan to transition our Ultimate Survival Technologies, LLC, or UST, business and operations located in our facility in Jacksonville, Florida to our Columbia, Missouri facility during the first quarter of fiscal 2020.

Our objective is to continue to strengthen our position as one of the world's leading firearm manufacturers and expand our position as a provider of high-quality and innovative outdoor products and accessories for the shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor markets.

Key elements of our strategy to achieve this objective and deliver long-term stockholder value are as follows:

- drive organic growth by leveraging our brands and maintaining a robust product pipeline to increase market share in markets in which we participate and expand into adjacent and complementary markets;
- design, produce, and market high-quality, innovative firearms, firearms and hunting accessories, and rugged outdoor products that meet the needs and desires of our consumer and professional customers and that drive customer satisfaction and loyalty;
- create a leverageable infrastructure by streamlining and standardizing our business operations, including optimizing product distribution; and
- pursue acquisitions that are synergistic with our current business.

We estimate that the annual domestic non-military firearm market based on industry shipments is approximately \$2.2 billion for handguns and \$2.0 billion for long guns, excluding shotguns, with our market share in calendar 2018, based on the latest data, being approximately 14.5% and 5.1%, respectively. According to 2017 reports by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, or ATF, the U.S. firearm manufacturing industry has shown no compound annual growth between 2012 and 2017 in spite of individual years where units manufactured have grown as much as 26.0% in one year.

A report issued by the Outdoor Industry Association, a leading trade organization for the outdoor industry, estimates that the annual U.S. domestic hunting and shooting market is approximately \$16 billion, while the annual U.S. domestic outdoor recreation market is approximately \$90 billion to \$100 billion, which includes hunting and shooting, as well as camping, fishing, trail sports, and wildlife watching.

We have substantially expanded and diversified our business in recent years through internal growth and strategic acquisitions. The following table sets forth certain information about the current product lines that we added to our operations through acquisitions in the fiscal years indicated:

<u>Name, Original Location, and Developments</u>	<u>Type of Acquisition</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Segment</u>	<u>Products</u>
Thompson Center Holding Corporation, Rochester, New Hampshire (Subsequently relocated production of hunting products to Springfield, Massachusetts facility in fiscal 2011)	Stock	2007	Firearms	Long barrel manufacturing, bolt-action rifles, muzzle loaders, interchangeable systems, and black powder firearms
Tri-Town Precision Plastics, Inc., or TTPP, currently operating as SWPC Plastics LLC, or SWPC, (formerly known as Deep River Plastics, LLC) Deep River, Connecticut	Asset	2015	Firearms	Custom polymer injection molding services, rapid prototyping, sealing, tooling, and vertical integration
Battenfeld Acquisition Company Inc. and its subsidiary Battenfeld Technologies, Inc., or BTI, Columbia, Missouri	Stock	2015	Outdoor Products & Accessories	Hunting and shooting accessories
Hooyman, LLC, Appleton, Wisconsin	Asset	2015	Outdoor Products & Accessories	Extendable tree saws for the hunting and outdoor industry

<u>Name, Original Location, and Developments</u>	<u>Type of Acquisition</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Segment</u>	<u>Products</u>
Power Tech, Inc., Collierville, Tennessee	Asset	2016	Outdoor Products & Accessories	Tactical flashlights, universal LED lights, and pocket lights
Taylor Brands, LLC, operated as BTI Tools, LLC, or BTI Tools, Kingsport, Tennessee (subsequently relocated operations to our Columbia, Missouri facility in fiscal 2018)	Asset	2017	Outdoor Products & Accessories	High-quality knives, specialty tools, and accessories
Crimson Trace Corporation, or Crimson Trace, Wilsonville, Oregon	Stock	2017	Outdoor Products & Accessories	Laser sighting and tactical lighting systems for consumers, security agencies, and military agencies
Ultimate Survival Technologies, Inc., currently operating as Ultimate Survival Technologies, LLC, or UST, Jacksonville, Florida	Asset	2017	Outdoor Products & Accessories	High-quality survival and camping equipment including LED lights, all-weather fire-starting kits, unbreakable signal mirrors, premium outdoor cutting tools, first aid kits, survival kits, and camping products
Gemini Technologies, Incorporated, Eagle, Idaho (subsequently relocated operations to our Springfield, Massachusetts facility in fiscal 2019)	Asset	2018	Firearms	High-quality suppressors and accessories for consumers, law enforcement agencies, and military agencies
Fish Tales, LLC Tucson, Arizona	Asset	2018	Outdoor Products & Accessories	Premium sportsmen knives and tools for fishing and hunting, including Bubba Blade branded products
P&L Industries, Inc., Cottonwood, AZ (subsequently relocated operations to our Wilsonville, Oregon facility in fiscal 2019)	Asset	2019	Outdoor Products & Accessories	Laser training and sighting products for the consumer market, including LaserLyte branded products

We maintain our principal executive offices at 2100 Roosevelt Avenue, Springfield, Massachusetts 01104. Our telephone number is (800) 331-0852. Our website is located at www.aob.com. Through our website, we make available free of charge our annual reports on Form 10-K, our proxy statements, our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, our current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to any of these documents filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. These documents are available as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file them with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC. We also post on our website the charters of our Audit, Compensation, and Nominations and Corporate Governance Committees; our Corporate Governance Guidelines, our Code of Conduct, and any amendments or waivers thereto; and any other corporate governance materials contemplated by the regulations of the SEC and the Nasdaq Global Select Market. These documents are also available in print by contacting our corporate secretary at our executive offices.

Strategy

Our objective is to be the leading provider of quality products for the shooting, hunting, and outdoor enthusiast by enhancing our position as one of the world's leading firearm manufacturers and expanding our position as a provider of high-quality outdoor products and accessories for the shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor markets. Key elements of our strategy to achieve this objective are as follows:

Drive Organic Growth by Leveraging Brands and Designing Innovative New Products

We are focused on driving organic growth by ensuring a robust new product pipeline and leveraging our brands to help us to increase market share in markets in which we participate and to expand into adjacent and complementary markets.

As we focus on all of our brands, we plan to continue to expand existing customer relationships built on brand loyalty and trust. Thus, we will seek to (1) enter market segments that match our core consumer's passions for shooting, hunting, and outdoor activities, (2) acquire and create brands that are authentic, innovative, and differentiated in the market, (3) support and retain management teams that have an intimate understanding of the end consumer, a demonstrated track record of success, and a clear strategy for growth, and (4) meet profitability goals by providing an acceptable rate of return within the shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor markets. In addition, our goal is to continue to build our business in ways that allow us to optimize our current channel relationships, which serve our existing consumers, including distributors, large strategic retailers, buying groups, and internet retailers.

We plan to leverage our brands in Firearms by (1) capitalizing on the goodwill developed through our historic 167 year old "Smith & Wesson" brand as well as our extensive portfolio of other well-known brands, such as M&P, Performance Center, Thompson/Center Arms, and Gemtech, (2) enhancing our relationships with key retailers, distributors, and buying groups and using our standard margin advantage to engage in competitive promotional activities, and (3) introducing new products, especially in the polymer handgun market as represented by our M&P brand. During the last two fiscal years, we have introduced numerous new products, including variations and product lines around the Smith & Wesson, M&P, Thompson/Center, Gemtech, and Performance Center brands. We plan to continue to introduce new firearm products in fiscal 2020.

With 20 unique brands in Outdoor Products & Accessories, including the iconic Smith & Wesson brand, we have created a handful of talented teams, referred to as "brand lanes," that are organized around a common set of brand characteristics and consumer types. Each brand lane has dedicated brand management, creative design, and content production teams that work closely with product management, product development, and engineering functions. This structure allows us to focus on a full spectrum of brand and product initiatives with detailed brand activation plans centered around marketing, sales, and e-commerce teams. Under the brand lane structure, marketing generates digital and related content while the e-commerce teams distribute that content, and the sales team works with retailers to coordinate channel marketing activities. We have modernized and upgraded many of our outdoor and accessory brands, which now include Caldwell (shooting range products), Tipton (gun cleaning products), Wheeler (gunsmithing tools), Frankford Arsenal (ammunition reloading products), Hooyman (land management tools), BOG (hunting gear), Uncle Henry (hunting knives/tools), Old Timer (cutlery/tools), Imperial (cutlery/tools), Lockdown (storage solutions), Crimson Trace (firearm aiming solutions), LaserLyte (firearm training systems), UST (survival and camping products), Schrade (camp cutlery/tools), BUBBA (fishing gear), and KeyGear (camping products and tools). We also offer firearm accessories and non-firearm accessories, such as flashlights and knives, under our Firearms brands, including Smith & Wesson, M&P, Performance Center, and Thompson/Center Arms.

Design, Produce, and Market High-Quality Products that Drive Customer Satisfaction and Loyalty

We are focused on designing, producing, and marketing high-quality, innovative firearms, hunting, and rugged outdoor products and accessories that meet the needs and desires of our consumer and professional customers and that drive customer satisfaction and loyalty. Our ongoing research and development, product engineering, product sourcing, marketing, and distribution activities are critical components of our ability to offer successful products.

We believe that by offering high-quality products and services on a timely and cost-effective basis, as well as providing world-class customer service, training, and support, we will drive customer satisfaction and loyalty. We regard our high-quality, innovative products as the most important aspect of our customer satisfaction and loyalty, but we also offer customer service and support with various programs, such as toll-free customer support numbers, e-mail customer question and answer communications, broad service policies, and product warranties.

Create a Leverageable Infrastructure by Streamlining and Standardizing our Business Operations, including Optimizing Product Distribution

We intend to continue to streamline and standardize certain administrative functions of our business. For example, we operate in a shared services structure so that support and administrative functions, including human resources, accounting, finance, program management, legal, compliance, environmental, health, and safety, or EH&S, and information technology, can be leveraged across multiple locations to achieve efficiency and improved internal controls. In addition, we are leveraging our manufacturing expertise by creating a manufacturing services platform in our Springfield, Massachusetts facility. A streamlined and standardized approach requires investing in an integrated and configurable technology infrastructure in areas such as enterprise resource planning, or ERP, and compliance. We intend to continue investing in such systems to further enhance our efficiency, improve information reporting, and strengthen internal controls. These system improvements include the expansion of our existing SAP system to eventually cover substantially all of our facilities.

We are streamlining and standardizing our business operations, and simplifying our go-to-process, by optimizing our sales and product distribution through a centralized sales and logistics facility in Columbia, Missouri, which we have recently constructed. All business functions of our Outdoor Products & Accessories division will also eventually be housed at this facility, which we are calling our Missouri campus. We are in the process of eliminating 575,000 square feet of operations, office, warehouse, and third-party space across multiple locations and folding those operations into the Missouri campus. The objective of this strategy is to centralize the inventory management, sales, and distribution of finished products to optimize logistics expertise and yield optimal sales and tax efficiencies, as well as to more quickly harvest financial synergies from acquisitions. This strategy will also generate capacity for future growth and is also expected to eventually yield higher inventory turns, better customer service, and an ability to support an omni-channel customer base as our company expands further into the rugged outdoor market.

Pursue Acquisitions that are Synergistic with our Current Business

We intend to continue to complement our organic growth initiatives by pursuing strategic acquisitions that will enable us to expand our product offerings by leveraging existing brands and adding new brands, penetrate adjacent and complementary markets, increase our marketing and distribution, and enhance virtual integration, especially when we believe we can improve the performance and profitability of an acquired company through the implementation of our operating methods, strategies, and shared services center structure. During the last four fiscal years, we have spent nearly \$400.0 million on acquiring companies and brands to support our growth in the outdoor products and accessories market. For example, in fiscal 2015, the TTPP acquisition provided vertical integration and the BTI acquisition allowed us to expand our presence in the accessories and outdoor products markets and to leverage BTI's broad portfolio of hunting and shooting accessories brands. In addition, the BTI acquisition allowed us to leverage key firearm brands, such as Smith & Wesson, M&P, and Thompson/Center Arms, expanding those brands into the accessories market with products such as flashlights, knives, and tools. In fiscal 2017, we acquired Crimson Trace Corporation, Taylor Brands, LLC, and Ultimate Survival Technologies, Inc., which allowed us to capitalize on established brands to expand into the electro-optics, knife, and survival and camping equipment markets, respectively. We further expanded our knife offerings, and entered the large fishing accessories market, in fiscal 2018 when we purchased Bubba Blade branded knives, a provider of premium branded sports knives and tools for fishing and hunting. We have now expanded that business into other types of fishing gear and accessories, as well as rebranded it as BUBBA. We further expanded our offerings in fiscal 2018 and 2019 when we acquired Gemini Technologies, Incorporated, or Gemtech, a leading provider of quality suppressors and accessories for the consumer, law enforcement, and military market, as well as LaserLyte, a provider of laser training and sighting products for the consumer market.

Firearm Products and Manufacturing Services

General

Our firearm products combine our legacy of 167 years of American manufacturing and engineering expertise with modern technological advances. We strive to leverage our tradition of innovation in materials, performance, and engineering, along with our proven history of reliability, to produce feature-rich, safe, durable, accurate, and high-performing firearms that satisfy the needs of our broad range of customers. Our introduction of new firearm products is intended to enhance our competitive position and broaden our participation in the overall firearm market.

We have substantially enhanced the breadth and quality of our portfolio of firearm products over the years. We have always been a leader in the revolver market. The introduction of our popular M&P branded pistol in January 2005 resulted in our company becoming one of the leaders in the polymer pistol market as well, serving both the consumer sporting goods market and law enforcement agencies. The launch of our M&P branded modern sporting rifle in January 2006 has enabled us to capture what we estimate is the leading share of the modern sporting rifle market. The addition of our Thompson/Center Arms brand of hunting firearms and interchangeable firearm systems into our product portfolio in January 2007 enhanced our long gun barrel manufacturing capabilities for our modern sporting rifles. The addition of our Gemtech branded suppressor products in August 2017 expanded our firearm related product offerings. Our suppressors are compatible with most pistols and rifles on the market and complement our firearm products. We currently participate in three categories of the long gun market: bolt action rifles, muzzleloaders, and modern sporting rifles; and both core categories of the handgun market: semi-automatic pistols and revolvers.

All of our firearms and firearm related products are currently sold under our Smith & Wesson, M&P, Performance Center, Thompson/Center Arms, and Gemtech brands. Our customers include distributors; federal, state, and municipal law enforcement agencies and officers; government and military agencies; retailers; and consumers.

Our product development strategy is to understand our customers' needs and preferences and then design and develop products to uniquely meet those requirements. Throughout this process, we test multiple concepts with firearm owners and potential purchasers. We compare these test results against a growing database of prior concepts to identify those with the greatest market potential. Additional market research is completed to optimize the desired features and benefits. While this development process is ongoing, our launch timing for new products depends on market conditions to maximize sales across the entire product portfolio. In fiscal 2019, we launched several new products and product line extensions under our Smith & Wesson, M&P, Performance Center, Thompson/Center Arms, and Gemtech brands.

Firearm Products

In fiscal 2019, we further expanded our Smith & Wesson branded products by reintroducing the Model 610 10mm revolver, a stainless-steel revolver available in 4" and 6.5" barrel lengths, designed for personal protection and hunting. We also introduced our enhanced version of our Model 642 small frame revolver with a Crimson Trace Lasergrasp.

In fiscal 2019, we introduced several additions and enhancements to our popular line of M&P branded pistols and M&P modern sporting rifles. We enhanced our M&P M2.0 product platform by introducing a 45 Auto caliber model for our M&P M2.0 compact series and we added a shorter 3.6 inch barrel to our M&P M2.0 compact series 9mm and 40 S&W caliber models. Our compact series M&P M2.0 pistols, introduced in fiscal 2018, offer the same features as the full-size M&P M2.0 pistols, including a lighter, crisp trigger pull and a tactile, audible reset, as well as an aggressive grip texture for increased control and four interchangeable dimensional palmswell grip sizes. The M&P M2.0 compact received the NRA American Rifleman Golden Bullseye Award for Handgun of the Year.

We further enhanced our M&P M2.0 product platform, and enhanced our already popular M&P Shield pistol products, by offering a 45 Auto caliber for our concealed carry M&P Shield M2.0 pistol. This M&P45 Shield M2.0 pistol features an aggressive grip texture for increased control and a lighter crisp trigger pull and is offered with a Crimson Trace integrated red or green laser.

In addition, we enhanced our popular M&P380 Shield EZ pistol by adding a Crimson Trace green Laserguard. Our M&P380 Shield EZ was awarded two NRA Publications Golden Bullseye Awards and was the top scoring pistol in the American Rifleman's Ladies Pistol Project #3 study. The M&P380 Shield EZ features an easy-to-rack slide, easy-to-load magazine, and easy-to-clean design that allows consumers of all statures and strengths the opportunity to own, comfortably practice with, and effectively utilize this pistol for personal protection. Since its introduction in 2012, the M&P Shield pistol has become one of the most popular concealed carry firearms in the market as demonstrated by the milestone shipment of the three millionth M&P Shield pistol in fiscal 2019.

Within our M&P rifle products, we enhanced our M&P 15-22 SPORT and M&P 15-22 SPORT II by adding optic-ready rifles complete with a mounted Crimson Trace red or green dot electronic sight.

Our customers continue to demand premium firearms that provide a competitive edge in sport shooting and hunting. Our Performance Center products are engineered and manufactured to meet this need, and they incorporate many custom features not found on our standard products, such as enhanced triggers for smoother trigger pull, ported barrels for better muzzle control, and specialty sights for quicker target acquisition. During fiscal 2019, we expanded our Performance Center revolver offerings with the introduction of two new Model 19 revolvers and a Model 442 revolver that can be used for competition shooting, hunting, and personal protection. We also introduced a new Performance Center SW22 Victory target pistol for competition shooting with a scandium light weight frame and easy-to-rack slide. In addition, we introduced six new long-range rifles and two new .22 caliber rifles for hunting and target shooting.

Within our Thompson/Center Arms branded products, we continued to focus on expanding our bolt action rifle business while maintaining our leadership in muzzleloaders and interchangeable systems. We introduced the Thompson/Center T/CR22 semi-automatic rifle, which is designed to meet the needs and desires of hunters, plinkers, and first-time shooters. The T/CR22 offers a green fiber optic front sight, an adjustable rear peep sight for quick target acquisitions, a built in Picatinny rail system, a threaded barrel, and a 10-round rotary magazine.

Our firearm business is seasonal with revenue generally peaking in our fourth fiscal quarter, which ends April 30, as a result of most industry events and distributor shows normally scheduled during the early spring months. In addition, because of our operating schedule, which includes a summer and a winter shutdown of our firearm manufacturing facilities, we have an increased number of operating days in our fourth fiscal quarter, which allows our shipping and production volumes to exceed other quarters. Seasonality, however, can be disrupted by external events that may drive sales or impact channel inventories, which may slow or accelerate our sales.

Firearms net sales for the years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 were \$478.5 million, \$449.0 million, and \$773.0 million, respectively. Firearm gross profit for the years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 totaled \$152.8 million, \$123.2 million, and \$314.6 million, respectively. Total assets for our Firearms business totaled \$389.7 million and \$346.5 million as of April 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively. Refer to our consolidated financial statements, commencing on page F-1 of this report, for more information regarding our firearm business.

Sales of our handguns accounted for \$336.9 million, or 52.8%, of total net sales for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019; \$326.3 million, or 53.8%, of total net sales for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2018; and \$556.6 million, or 61.6%, of total net sales for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2017. Sales of long guns accounted for \$107.7 million, or 16.9%, of total net sales for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019; \$90.2 million, or 14.9%, of total net sales for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2018; and \$179.6 million, or 19.9%, of total net sales for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2017. Sales of other products and services accounted for \$33.9 million, or 5.3%, of total net sales for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019; \$32.5 million, or 5.4%, of total net sales for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2018; and \$36.8 million, or 4.1%, of total net sales for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2017.

Handguns

We currently manufacture an extensive variety of handgun models that includes revolvers and pistols. A revolver is a handgun with a cylinder that holds the ammunition in a series of rotating chambers that are successively aligned with the barrel of the firearm during each firing cycle. There are two general types of revolvers: single-action and double-action. To fire a single-action revolver, the hammer is pulled back to cock the firearm and align the cylinder before the trigger is pulled. To fire a double-action revolver, a single trigger pull advances the cylinder as it cocks and releases the hammer. A pistol is a handgun in which the ammunition chamber is an integral part of the barrel and which is fed ammunition from a magazine contained in the grip. The firing cycle ejects the spent casings and loads a new round into the chamber.

We have long been known as an innovator and leader in the revolver market, and most of our revolvers are currently marketed under the Smith & Wesson brand. We sell a wide range of sizes from small-frame revolvers used primarily for concealed carry and personal protection to large-frame revolvers used primarily for recreational and competitive sport shooting. Our extra-large frame revolvers primarily address the handgun-hunting market.

Our small-frame revolvers have been carried by law enforcement personnel and personal defense-minded citizens for 167 years. We hold a number of patents on various firearm applications, including the use of scandium, a material that possesses many of the same attributes as titanium but at a more reasonable cost. Our revolvers are available in a variety of models and calibers, with applications in virtually all professional and consumer markets.

We offer pistols under our Smith & Wesson, M&P, and Performance Center brands. Our full size and compact M&P pistol products have been engineered with input from professional users and are designed to offer performance, safety, and durability that meet the standards of global law enforcement and military personnel, as well as features attractive to consumers. We believe that our M&P branded pistol products are the most ergonomic, feature-rich, and innovative products on the market today. Our range of full size and compact M&P pistol products are made with a polymer frame, a rigid stainless steel chassis, and a black, through-hardened corrosion resistant finished stainless steel barrel and slide for durability. Our M&P pistol products feature patented and easily changed palmswell grips in three or four sizes, allowing the user to customize grips in a matter of seconds; a passive trigger safety to prevent the pistol from firing if dropped; an enlarged trigger guard to accommodate gloved hands; a sear lever release that eliminates the need to press the trigger in order to disassemble the firearm; an ambidextrous slide stop and reversible magazine release to accommodate right- and left-handed shooters; an optional internal locking system and magazine safety; and a universal equipment rail to allow the addition of accessories, including lights and lasers.

In fiscal 2012, we launched the M&P Shield pistol to address the growing personal protection and concealed carry market. The M&P Shield features a slim concealable profile, 9mm, 380 Auto, 40 S&W, and 45 Auto calibers, and M&P ergonomics. We introduced additional M&P Shield models during fiscal 2019. We believe the M&P Shield pistol is one of the most popular firearms in the market, having surpassed the three millionth unit shipped in fiscal 2019.

Our Performance Center has been providing specialized products and services for the most demanding shooting sports enthusiasts since 1990. To meet the requirements of law enforcement professionals, competitive shooters, collectors, and discriminating sport enthusiasts who demand superior firearm products, our Performance Center personnel conceptualize, engineer, and craft firearm products to create enhanced versions of our standard products. Our craftsmen, many of whom are actively involved in competitive shooting, are highly skilled and experienced gunsmiths. Performance Center products are offered under the Smith & Wesson, M&P, and Thompson/Center brands and are typically made in limited production quantities, although we offer a number of catalog variations in order to increase product availability.

Our "Classics" department makes it possible to own historic firearms that are manufactured today but modeled after original favorites, such as the Model 29, the firearm made famous by the movie character Dirty Harry. These firearms are newly crafted with designs that take advantage of some of the most famous and collectible guns that we have ever made. Our Classics department also makes commemorative firearms and employs master engravers to craft one-of-a-kind custom firearms. These custom-made applications reflect the skill and vision of the master engraver and the artistic expression of the owner. We offer a number of catalog variations of Classics and engraved Classics to our customers.

Long Guns

Our M&P branded modern sporting rifles are designed to satisfy the functionality and reliability needs of global military, law enforcement, and security personnel. These long guns are popular with consumers as hunting and sporting target rifles and are sold through our sporting good distributors, retailers, and dealers. We offer M&P modern sporting rifles in five different calibers (22LR, 5.56mm NATO (223), 300 Whisper, 308 Winchester (7.62x51mm), and 6.5 Creedmoor) for multiple recreational and professional uses. We also offer upper assemblies so gun owners can easily modify their M&P to suit the needs and tasks of the various forms of sport shooting and hunting. Our broad product portfolio of modern sporting rifles includes a 22 caliber model, an opening price-point sport model, a hunting caliber model for longer range effectiveness, and several models designed for the exclusive use of military and law enforcement agencies throughout the world.

We manufacture three lines of bolt-action rifles under our Thompson/Center Arms brand with several models in each line. These long guns are offered in over 10 different calibers. Bolt-action rifles operate by the cycling of a bolt handle that allows for both the loading and unloading of rounds via a magazine fed system. This design allows for multi-round capacity and a level of strength that supports larger calibers. Our bolt-action rifles feature 5R rifling and a minute of angle guarantee. We offer compact rifles for shooters of smaller stature. Bolt-action rifles are the most popular firearm among hunters because of their reputation for accuracy, reliability, and relatively light-weight design.

Under our Thompson/Center Arms brand, we also offer four lines of high-quality American-made single-shot “black powder,” or “muzzleloader,” firearms. Ammunition for our black powder firearms is loaded through the muzzle rather than the breech, as is the case with conventional firearms. Our black powder firearms are highly accurate, dependable rifles configured with muzzleloading barrels for hunting. Black powder firearms are purchased by hunting enthusiasts, primarily for use during exclusive black powder hunting seasons for hunting big game, such as deer and elk.

We offer two models of interchangeable, single-shot firearm systems that deliver numerous gun, barrel, and caliber configurations, and finishes. These firearm systems can be purchased fully assembled or as frame assemblies that can be configured by the owner as a center-fire rifle, rim-fire rifle, shotgun, black powder firearm, or single-shot handgun for use across the entire range of big- and small-game hunting. As a result, a firearm owner can easily change barrels, stocks, and forends, resulting in “one gun for all seasons” that can be continuously modified to suit the needs and tasks of the owner for various forms of sport shooting and hunting.

Other Products and Manufacturing Services

Our other products and manufacturing services in the firearms segment include the following:

Parts: We sell parts to support our firearm business, including barrels and magazines that are manufactured at our facilities or purchased through third parties.

Handcuffs: We are one of the largest manufacturers of handcuffs and restraints in the United States. We fabricate these products from the highest-grade carbon or stainless steel. Our patented Lever Lock cuffs offer a double-locking system for added security and comfort, without extra tools or keys. Double heat-treated internal locks help prevent tampering and smooth ratchets allow for swift cuffing and an extra measure of safety. We have the ability to customize handcuffs to fit customer specifications.

Smith & Wesson Academy: The Smith & Wesson Academy offers state-of-the-art instruction designed to meet the training needs of law enforcement and security customers worldwide. This service-only offering sends instructors to provide courses and training to law enforcement and military personnel at their locations in the field.

Suppressors: We are the nation’s oldest firearm suppressor manufacturer and an active participant in the firearm suppressor market around the world. Our Gemtech branded suppressors were the first to market in 1976 and have been involved in setting standards used by the military in suppressor testing, implementation, and safety. Our suppressors are constructed from high grade aluminum, steel, or titanium and are compatible with every major type of rimfire and centerfire pistol and centerfire rifle caliber currently on the market.

Manufacturing Services: We utilize our substantial manufacturing capabilities to provide services to third-party customers. Our manufacturing services include forging, heat treating, rapid prototyping, tooling, finishing, plating, machining, and custom plastic injection molding. We believe our manufacturing services provide us with increased flexibility and reduced supply chain risk. We also believe that business-to-business sales provide profitable revenue stream diversification and enable us to maximize capacity utilization of our manufacturing assets. We market our manufacturing services division under the Smith & Wesson Precision Components brand name.

Outdoor Products & Accessories

We are a provider of outdoor products and accessories used in the shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor markets. We design, source, distribute, and manufacture innovative, high-quality products under 20 brand names.

Our extensive array of products include shooting and field rests, reloading products, gunsmithing tools, knives and cutting tools, fishing gear, gun vises, laser sighting products, optics, and tactical lighting systems, hearing protection, camping and survival gear, and vault accessories. Since 2011, we have introduced over 1,500 variations of outdoor products and accessories products and we currently hold more than 224 patents. Some notable products that we introduced in fiscal 2019 include the Caldwell Hydrosled, the Frankford M-Press, and the BOG Deathgrip, as well as a new line of Crimson Trace branded sights and scopes. We have grown our Outdoor Products & Accessories business inorganically through strategic acquisitions and sustained organic growth to foster meaningful new product introductions each year. Our portfolio includes highly regarded brands such as the Caldwell line of shooting supplies, which has provided shooting accessories for more than 20 years, and Crimson Trace, which has provided laser lighting systems for nearly 25 years. We also sell products under other brand names, including Wheeler, Tipton, Frankford Arsenal, Schrade, Imperial, Uncle Henry, BUBBA, UST, Lockdown, Hooyman, BOG, Old Timer, LaserLyte, and KeyGear. Finally, several of the registered trademarks in our firearm business, including the S&W logo, the script “Smith & Wesson”, the “M&P” logo, the script “Thompson/Center Arms”, and the script “Performance Center” are well known and have a reputation for quality, value, and trustworthiness in the accessories industry. As a result of the sourcing and development skills of the Outdoor Products & Accessories division, we have reduced our licensing activity and are internally developing and marketing products featuring those strong brands. In addition, our brand lane structure enables us to focus on modernizing and upgrading our brands through initiatives developed by our internal marketing, sales, and e-commerce teams.

As noted above, we have built Outdoor Products & Accessories both organically and inorganically. In fiscal 2015, we acquired BTI, a leading provider of hunting and shooting accessories, in order to expand our presence in the firearm accessories and rugged outdoor markets and leverage BTI’s broad portfolio of hunting and shooting accessories brands that are popular with consumers. In fiscal 2017, we expanded our Outdoor Products & Accessories portfolio into the laser sighting market with the acquisition of Crimson Trace Corporation. Crimson Trace, based in Wilsonville, Oregon, is a leader in laser sighting and tactical lighting systems and an important supplier to our firearm business. In addition, in fiscal 2017, we expanded our Outdoor Products & Accessories portfolio by acquiring the net assets of Taylor Brands, LLC and Ultimate Survival Technologies, Inc. Taylor Brands, LLC which has been integrated into our BTI business and operates from Columbia, Missouri, is a leading provider of high-quality knives, specialty tools, and accessories. Ultimate Survival Technologies, Inc., based in Jacksonville, Florida, now operating as Ultimate Survival Technologies, LLC, or UST, is a provider of high-quality survival and camping equipment, including LED lights, all-weather fire starters, unbreakable signal mirrors, premium outdoor cutting tools, first aid kits, survival kits, and camp kitchen products. In fiscal 2018, we purchased Bubba Blade branded products, a provider of premium branded sports knives and tools for fishing and hunting. In fiscal 2019, we further expanded our Outdoor Products & Accessories portfolio by acquiring LaserLyte branded products, which includes laser training and sighting products for the consumer market.

Unlike our firearm business, which is a manufacturing and sales operation, our principal Outdoor Products & Accessories business model is to design, source, distribute, and produce products focusing on product innovation and highly efficient component-level overseas sourcing. We maintain long-term relationships with key industry accounts and utilize a highly efficient digital advertising and marketing approach. We typically launch well over 150 new outdoor products and accessories SKUs every year.

Outdoor Products & Accessories net sales were \$159.8 million, or 25.0%, of total net sales, for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019; \$157.9 million, or 26.0%, of total net sales, for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2018; and \$130.2 million, or 14.4%, of total net sales, for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2017. Results reported include net sales related to acquisitions for the period subsequent to their respective acquisition dates. Our Outdoor Products & Accessories gross profit for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 totaled \$73.4 million, \$72.5 million, and \$60.7 million, respectively. Total assets for our Outdoor Products & Accessories business totaled \$377.1 million and \$398.5 million as of April 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Marketing, Sales, and Distribution

General

We go to market in a variety of ways, including two-step distribution, strategic retailers, and buying groups consisting of certain large, regional retailers, utilizing a combination of direct sales and sales representatives to service these customers. We also sell firearms directly to law enforcement agencies and manufacturing services directly to other businesses. In Outdoor Products & Accessories, we also go to market utilizing strategic and online retailers and direct-to-dealer sales utilizing a combination of direct sales and sales representatives. We sell internationally primarily through distributors, which in turn sell to retail stores and government agencies. Our top five commercial distributors in the United States accounted for a total of 30.3% and 38.7%, of our consolidated net sales for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively. Those commercial distributors are not regionally exclusive and have many of the same dealer customers. Therefore, we believe that the loss of one or more of these distributors would not materially impact sales as the remaining distributors would be allocated additional sales.

We market our products to consumers through independent dealers, large retailers, in-store retail channels, direct to consumer, and range operations using focused marketing and promotional campaigns, which include print, broadcast, and digital advertising campaigns; social and electronic media; and in-store retail merchandising strategies. We are prominently featured in vertical print media, including editorial coverage in an extensive list of leading firearms and outdoor magazines, including *Guns & Ammo*, *American Rifleman*, *Shooting Times*, *American Handgunner*, *Shooting Illustrated*, *American Hunter*, *Outdoor Life*, and *Field & Stream*. We also sponsor many outdoor television, internet, and online programs that generate significant editorial exposure.

We sponsor a number of firearm safety, shooting, and hunting events and organizations. We print various product catalogs that are distributed to our dealers and mailed directly, on a limited basis, to consumers. We also attend various trade shows, such as the Shooting, Hunting, Outdoor Trade (SHOT) Show, the NRA Annual Meeting & Exhibits, the National Association of Sporting Goods Wholesalers Show, the International Association of Chiefs of Police Show, the Association of the United States Army Show, or AUSA Show, the International Weapons Exhibition Show, or IWA Show, in Europe, and various distributor, buying group, and consumer shows.

For the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, advertising and promotion expenses were \$24.3 million, \$25.8 million, and \$22.3 million, respectively, excluding the cost of rebates and promotions reflected in gross profit. The increase in advertising and promotion expenses was due to the businesses acquired in fiscal year 2018.

We sell our products worldwide. International sales accounted for 5%, 5%, and 3% of our net sales for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively. Our businesses own tooling that is located at various suppliers in Asia and North America.

Digital Marketing

We utilize our websites, including www.aob.com, www.smith-wesson.com, www.tcarms.com, www.btibrands.com, www.crimsontrace.com, www.ustbrands.com, and www.gemtech.com, to market our products and services and to provide a wide range of information regarding our company to customers, consumers, dealers, distributors, investors, and government and law enforcement agencies worldwide. Social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, LinkedIn, and Twitter are effective ways for us to communicate the features and benefits of our products. Our direct to consumer e-mail marketing helps us to further engage our consumers and communicate the value of our brands. We continue to invest in new digital marketing capabilities designed by our e-commerce team to provide best-in-class customer experiences. Utilizing our digital platform, we operate branded e-commerce websites designed to inform, inspire, and prepare our customers for the rugged outdoors. We believe our digital platform supports future sales growth and profitability.

Retail

We operate online retail stores from which we sell hunting, camping, and shooting accessories under all of our brands. Firearms are not sold through our online retail stores.

Service and Support

We utilize a variety of methods for supporting our consumers and dealers for our Firearms division. We have a toll-free customer service number, e-mail, and social media messaging to answer questions and resolve issues regarding our firearm products. In addition, we offer a limited one-year warranty program and a lifetime service policy under which we repair defects in material or workmanship in our firearm products without charge for as long as the original purchaser owns the firearm. We also maintain a number of authorized warranty centers throughout the world and provide both warranty and charge repair services at our facilities.

We utilize a toll-free customer service number to answer questions and resolve issues regarding our Outdoor Products & Accessories division. We offer a limited one-year, three-year, limited-lifetime, or full-lifetime warranty program to the original purchaser of our outdoor products and accessories, depending on the product purchased. We also will repair or replace with an item of equivalent value, at our option, certain products or parts that are found to be defective under normal use and service, without charge during the warranty period.

Facilities

We have three manufacturing facilities at which we produce our firearm products: a 575,000 square-foot facility located in Springfield, Massachusetts; a 38,000 square-foot facility located in Houlton, Maine; and a 150,000 square-foot facility located in Deep River, Connecticut. We conduct our handgun and long gun manufacturing and some of our manufacturing service activities at our Springfield facility. Our Houlton facility is a machining center only with no assembly, finishing, or small parts operations. We also produce handcuffs and other restraint devices at our Houlton facility. We use our Deep River facility for custom plastic injection molding services, rapid prototyping, and tooling. All of these facilities are ISO 9001 certified.

We perform in our own facilities most of the machining and all of the assembly, inspection, and testing of the firearms that we sell. We produce our major firearm components utilizing computer-assisted machines. Our skilled employees use sophisticated automated testing equipment to ensure the proper functioning of our firearms. Every firearm is test fired before shipment. Our Springfield and Houlton facilities are currently operating on two shift patterns; a four shift, 168 hour per week schedule and a three shift, 120 hour per week schedule. We seek to minimize inventory costs through an integrated planning and production system. All facilities in our Firearms division operate under SAP, a fully integrated ERP system. We intend to continue investing in improving our facilities and our systems in order to increase efficiency, improve information reporting, and strengthen internal controls.

In connection with our Outdoor Products & Accessories division, we operate two facilities, each of which consists of a warehouse and connected office space: a 145,000 square-foot building in Columbia, Missouri and a 100,625 square foot building in Jacksonville, Florida. We also operate a 50,000 square-foot light manufacturing, assembly, and warehousing facility with connected office space in Wilsonville, Oregon. We source almost all of our outdoor products and accessories and component parts from third-party contract manufacturers located primarily in Asia and North America. Each of these facilities is ISO 9001 certified.

In fiscal 2017, we announced a plan to establish a national logistics facility in Boone County, Missouri. In fiscal 2018, we broke ground on this new 633,000 square foot facility, which was completed in November 2018 and is expected to become fully operational in fiscal 2020. This logistics facility is designed to centralize the inventory management, sales, and distribution for our entire portfolio of finished products throughout our business. We expect to vacate both the 145,000 square-foot Columbia facility and the 100,625 square-foot Jacksonville facility in fiscal 2020 and centralize those operations in our Boone County facility. We plan to optimize logistics expertise and yield optimal tax efficiency, as well as to quickly harvest financial synergies from acquisitions. We also expect to yield higher inventory turns, provide better customer service, and gain the ability to support an omni-channel customer base as our company expands further into the rugged outdoor market once this facility becomes fully operational.

Suppliers

We manufacture most of the components for our firearms, but purchase certain components and parts, including bolt carriers, rifle receivers, magazines, small parts, and rifle stocks, from third parties. We also purchase ammunition for product testing. Most of our major suppliers for our firearm products are U.S.-based and provide materials, components, and parts, such as steel, polymer components, and metal-injected-molded components. The costs of these materials, components, and parts are at competitive rates. We have become less dependent on any particular supplier by strategically sourcing parts and raw material from multiple suppliers based on quality, cost and risk. Whenever appropriate, critical parts and components have primary and secondary sources of supply. We are also able to leverage our supply base to supplement our internal capacity and provide flexibility in our response to changes in market conditions. We use numerous raw materials, such as steel, wood, lead, brass, and plastics, in producing and testing our products. We have alternative sources for these raw materials.

Most of the major suppliers for our Outdoor Products & Accessories division products are based in Asia, although a portion of these products are produced, manufactured, and assembled in the United States. We continue to expand our supply base to maintain competitive pricing and quality standards and to be in a position to respond rapidly to changes in customer demand and market trends. For certain components, we utilize a dual sourcing supply chain to mitigate risks associated with sourcing key components from only one supplier.

Research and Development; New Product Introductions

Through our advanced products engineering departments, we enhance existing products and develop new products for all our businesses. In fiscal 2019, 2018, and 2017, our gross spending on research activities relating to the development of new products was \$12.9 million, \$11.4 million, and \$10.2 million, respectively. As of April 30, 2019, we had 71 employees at our various facilities engaged in ongoing research and development activities for all of our brands.

Patents, Trademarks, and Copyrights

We recognize the importance of innovation and protecting our intellectual property. Accordingly, we own numerous patents related to our products. We apply for patents whenever we develop innovative new products, unique designs, or processes of commercial importance. We do not believe that our business is materially dependent on any single patent.

Because of the significance of our brand names, our trademarks, service marks, trade dress, and copyrights are also important to our business. We have an active global program of trademark registration, monitoring, and enforcement. We believe that our Smith & Wesson, M&P, Performance Center, Thompson/Center Arms, and Gemtech brands and our S&W monogram trademarks are known and recognized by the public worldwide and are important to our firearm business. In addition, we market our outdoor products and accessories under 20 brand names, including Caldwell, Wheeler, Tipton, Frankford Arsenal, Lockdown, Hooyman, BOG, Crimson Trace, Imperial, Schrade, Old Timer, Uncle Henry, BUBBA, LaserLyte, Smith & Wesson, M&P, Performance Center, Thompson/Center, UST, and KeyGear. We also sell outdoor products and accessories utilizing our firearm brands.

We intend to vigorously pursue and challenge infringements of our patents, trademarks, service marks, trade dress, and copyrights, as we believe the goodwill associated with them is a cornerstone of our branding strategy.

Competition

We encounter competition in the firearms industry from both domestic and foreign manufacturers. Although some competitors manufacture a wide variety of firearms as we do, most of our competitors manufacture only certain types of firearms. We are one of the largest manufacturers of handguns, modern sporting rifles, and handcuffs in the United States and an active participant in the hunting rifle market. We compete primarily based upon innovation, quality, reliability, durability, price, performance, consumer brand awareness, and customer service and support. Our customer service organization is proactive in offering timely responses to customer inquiries. We believe we can effectively compete with all our present competitors.

Our primary competitors are Ruger and Taurus in the revolver market and Glock, Ruger, Sig Sauer, Springfield Armory, and Taurus in the pistol market. We compete primarily with Colt, Sig Sauer, Ruger, Remington, Savage, and Daniel Defense in the modern sporting rifle market and Browning, Remington, Ruger, Savage, CVA, and Traditions in the hunting rifle market.

Our competitors in the outdoor products and accessories markets are not as clearly defined as the firearms market because of the broad range of brand names and products. Our primary competitor in the outdoor products and accessories market is Vista Outdoors. Almost all other competitors are smaller private companies that directly compete with only one or two of our brands.

Customers

We sell our firearm products through a variety of federally licensed distribution channels. Depending upon the product or service, our firearm customers include distributors; federal, state, and municipal law enforcement agencies and officers; government and military agencies; retailers; and consumers. Our outdoor products and accessories customers consist primarily of internet retailers, distributors, traditional retailers, and consumers. The ultimate users of our firearm and outdoor products and accessories include shooting and outdoor enthusiasts, collectors, sportsmen, competitive shooters, hunters, individuals desiring home and personal protection, law enforcement and military personnel and agencies, and other government organizations.

We grant payment terms to most commercial customers ranging from 30 to 90 days. However, in some instances, we provide longer payment terms, particularly as it relates to our hunting dating programs, which provides payment terms due in the fall for certain orders of hunting products received in the spring and summer.

During fiscal 2019, firearm sales into our professional channel accounted for 11.7% of our firearm net sales which include state and local law enforcement agencies, the federal government, and international customers. The remaining 88.3% of our firearm net sales were through federal firearm licensees to domestic consumers. Net sales for Outdoor Products & Accessories segment during fiscal 2019 were 4.2% to international customers and 95.8% to domestic customers. Our domestic net sales are made to e-commerce retailers, strategic retailers, dealers, and distributors that sell to licensed dealers that in turn sell to the end users. In some cases, we sell directly to large retailers and dealers.

Governmental Regulations

Our firearm and suppressor business is primarily regulated by the ATF, which licenses the manufacture, sale, and import of firearms and suppressors in the United States. The ATF conducts periodic audits of our facilities that hold Federal Firearms Licenses. The U.S. Department of State currently oversees the export of articles, services, and related technical data that are designated as defense articles or defense services on the U.S. Munitions List, as set forth in the International Traffic in Arms Regulations, or ITAR, under the Arms Export Control Act, or AECA. We are required to obtain an export license for all international shipments of items controlled under ITAR and AECA.

There are also various state laws, regulations, and local ordinances relating to firearm characteristics, features, and sales, as well as firearm magazine capacities. Local firearm dealers must comply with state and local laws, regulations, and ordinances pertaining to firearm, suppressor, and magazine sales within their jurisdictions. We manufacture several firearm models and magazines in various capacities that comply with those laws, regulations, and ordinances for sales in those states and localities. In Massachusetts, for example, there are regulations related to the weight of the trigger pull, barrel length, material strength, and independent testing of handguns. California, Connecticut, Maryland, New Jersey, and New York, as well as other states, the District of Columbia, and other localities, have similar laws, ordinances, and restrictions. In addition, California and the District of Columbia require new pistols to contain a microstamping mechanism, which must be able to etch or imprint, in two locations, a microstamp array of characters that identify the make, model, and serial number of the pistols onto each cartridge case when the pistol is fired. No commercially produced firearm has utilized the microstamping process, which is considered by most to be unfeasible, and we have no plans to utilize any microstamping feature in our firearms. Therefore, we will not sell into California or the District of Columbia any pistol that is subject to the microstamping feature requirement.

Warnings and instructions concerning the safe operation of our firearms and suppressors are contained in Safety & Instruction Manuals included in all boxes in which firearms and suppressors are shipped and are also available for download from our Smith & Wesson, Thompson/Center Arms, and Gemtech websites.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, regulates certain of our electro-optics products.

Our outdoor products and accessories business is subject to various standard business regulations of the kind that typically apply to all companies whose products are used by consumers.

Environmental Health and Safety

We are subject to numerous federal, state, and local laws and regulations that regulate the health and safety of our workforce, including those regulations monitored by the Occupational Health and Safety Administration, or OSHA, the National Fire Protection Association, and the Department of Public Health. Though not exhaustive, examples of applicable regulations include confined space safety, walking and working surfaces, machine guarding, and life safety.

We are also subject to numerous federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations concerning, among other things, emissions to the air, discharges to land, surface, subsurface strata and water and the generation, handling, storage, transportation, treatment, and disposal of hazardous waste and other materials. These laws require us to make significant expenditures of both a capital and expense nature. Several of the more significant federal laws applicable to our operations include the Clean Air Act; the Clean Water Act; the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, or CERCLA; and the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, or RCRA.

We are required to remediate hazardous waste at our facilities. Currently, we own a designated site in Springfield, Massachusetts that contains two release areas, which are the focus of remediation projects as part of the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, or MCP. The MCP provides a structured environment for the voluntary remediation of regulated releases. We may be required to remove hazardous waste or remediate the alleged effects of hazardous substances on the environment associated with past disposal practices at sites not owned by us. We have received notice that we are a potentially responsible party from the Environmental Protection Agency and/or individual states under CERCLA or a state equivalent at two sites.

In our efforts to satisfy our environmental responsibilities and to comply with environmental laws and regulations, we have established, and periodically update, policies relating to the environmental standards of performance for our operations. We have in place programs that monitor compliance with various federal, state, and local environmental regulations. However, in the normal course of our manufacturing operations, we are subject to governmental proceedings and orders pertaining to waste disposal, air emissions, and water discharges from our operations into the environment. We regularly incur substantial capital and operating costs to comply with environmental laws, including remediation of known environmental conditions which we fund through cash flows from operations. We spent \$1.0 million in fiscal 2019 on environmental compliance, consisting of \$795,000 for disposal fees and containers, \$188,000 for remediation, \$60,000 for DEP analysis and fees.

In the normal course of our business, we may become involved in various proceedings relating to environmental health and safety matters, and we are currently engaged in an environmental investigation and remediation. Our manufacturing facilities are located on properties with a long history of industrial use, including the use of hazardous substances. We have identified soil and groundwater contamination at our Springfield, Massachusetts plant that we are investigating, monitoring, or remediating, as appropriate. As of April 30, 2019, we had recorded a \$725,000 environmental reserve in non-current liabilities. Our estimate of these costs is based upon currently enacted laws and regulations, currently available facts, experience in remediation efforts, existing technology, and the ability of other potentially responsible parties or contractually liable parties to pay the allocated portions of any environmental obligations.

When the available information is sufficient to estimate the amount of liability, that estimate has been used; when the information is only sufficient to establish a range of probable liability and no point within the range is more likely than any other, the lower end of the range has been used. We may not have insurance coverage for our environmental remediation costs. We have not recognized any gains from probable recoveries or other gain contingencies. We calculated the environmental reserve using undiscounted amounts based on third-party independent environmental remediation reports.

Based on information known to us, we do not expect current environmental regulations or environmental proceedings and claims to have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows. However, it is not possible to predict with certainty the impact on us of future environmental compliance requirements or of the cost of resolution of future environmental health and safety proceedings and claims, in part because the scope of the remedies that may be required is not certain, liability under federal environmental laws is joint and several in nature, and environmental laws and regulations are subject to modification and changes in interpretation. There can be no assurance that additional or changing environmental regulation will not become more burdensome in the future and that any such development would not have a material adverse effect on our company.

Employees

As of May 31, 2019, we had 1,988 employees, including 8 part-time employees. Of these employees, 1,484 were engaged in manufacturing, 141 in sales and marketing, 50 in finance and accounting, 74 in research and development, 46 in information services, and 193 in various executive or other administrative functions. None of our employees are represented by a union in collective bargaining with us. Of our employees, 24.3% have 10 or more years of service with our company and 7.2% have greater than 25 years of service with our company. We believe that our employee relations are good and that the high quality of our employee base is instrumental to our success.

Backlog

As of April 30, 2019 and 2018, we had a backlog of orders for firearms totaling \$39.2 million and \$96.1 million, respectively. The decrease in firearms order backlog from the prior fiscal year was primarily because of the normalization of channel inventories and the timing of order fulfillment. We had a backlog of orders for our outdoor products and accessories totaling \$12.7 million and \$14.3 million as of April 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively. Our backlog consists of orders for which purchase orders have been received and which are generally scheduled for shipment within six months and subject to capacity constraints. We allow orders received that have not yet shipped to be cancelled; therefore, our backlog may not be indicative of future sales.

Executive Officers

The following table sets forth certain information regarding our executive officers:

Name	Age	Position
P. James Debney	51	President and Chief Executive Officer
Jeffrey D. Buchanan	63	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Administrative Officer, and Treasurer
Robert J. Cicero	52	Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer, and Secretary
Mark P. Smith	43	President, Manufacturing Services
Brian D. Murphy	35	President, Outdoor Products & Accessories
Lane A. Tobiassen	56	President, Firearms

P. James Debney has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of our company and as a member of our board of directors since September 2011. He was Vice President from April 2010 until September 2011, and President of our firearms division from November 2009 until September 2011. Mr. Debney was President of Presto Products Company, a \$500 million business unit of Alcoa Consumer Products, a manufacturer of plastic products, from December 2006 until February 2009. He was Managing Director of Baco Consumer Products, a business unit of Alcoa Consumer Products, a manufacturer of U.K.-branded and private label foil, film, storage, food, and trash bag consumer products, from January 2006 until December 2006; Manufacturing and Supply Chain Director from August 2003 until December 2005; and Manufacturing Director from April 1998 until July 2003. Mr. Debney joined Baco Consumer Products in 1989 and held various management positions in operations, production, conversion, and materials.

Jeffrey D. Buchanan has served as Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer of our company since January 2011 and has served as Chief Administrative Officer since September 2015. Mr. Buchanan served as Secretary from January 2011 until April 2012. Mr. Buchanan served as a director of our company from November 2004 until December 2010. He was of counsel to the law firm of Ballard Spahr LLP from May 2010 until December 2010. Mr. Buchanan served as a Senior Managing Director of CKS Securities, LLC, a registered broker-dealer, from August 2009 until May 2010 and as a Senior Managing Director of Alare Capital Securities, L.L.C., a registered broker-dealer, from November 2006 until July 2009. From 2005 to 2006, Mr. Buchanan was principal of Echo Advisors, Inc., a corporate consulting and advisory firm focusing on mergers, acquisitions, and strategic planning. Mr. Buchanan served in various positions for Three-Five Systems, Inc., a publicly traded electronic manufacturing services company, including Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer, from May 1996 until February 2005. Mr. Buchanan was a business attorney from 1986 until 1996 for the law firm of O'Connor, Cavanagh, Anderson, Killingsworth & Beshears and for the law firm of Davis Wright Tremaine LLP from 1984 until 1986. He was a senior staff person at Deloitte & Touche LLP from 1982 to 1984. Mr. Buchanan is a director of Synaptics Incorporated, a publicly traded company that develops custom user interface solutions.

Robert J. Cicero has served as Senior Vice President and General Counsel of our company since June 2017, Vice President and General Counsel of our company since October 2011 and Chief Compliance Officer and Secretary since April 2012. Mr. Cicero was Associate General Counsel, Compliance Officer and Assistant Secretary of Chemtura Corporation, a global specialty chemicals company, from March 2009 until October 2011; Assistant General Counsel from July 2005 until March 2009; and Chief Counsel from September 2003 until July 2005. He was an Associate in the Executive Compensation and Employee Benefits Group for the law firm of Shearman & Sterling LLP from May 2000 until September 2003; an Associate in the Labor and Employment Section for the law firm of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, LLP, from May 1998 until May 2000; and an Associate in the Labor and Employment Section for the law firm of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP from June 1996 until May 1998. Mr. Cicero was an Assistant Corporation Counsel in the New York City Office of the Corporation Counsel from September 1993 until June 1996.

Mark P. Smith has served as President, Manufacturing Services of our company and as President of Manufacturing Services for Smith & Wesson Corp., a subsidiary of our company, since March 2016. Mr. Smith served as Vice President of Manufacturing and Supply Chain Management from May 2011 until March 2016 and served as Vice President of Supply Chain Management from May 2010 until May 2011. He was Director- Supply Chain Solutions for Alvarez & Marsal Business Consulting, LLC from April 2007 until April 2010. Mr. Smith held various positions for Ecolab, Inc., a developer and marketer of programs, products, and services for the hospitality, foodservice, healthcare, industrial, and energy markets, from March 2001 until April 2007, including Program Manager, Acquisition Integration Manager, Senior Manufacturing Planner, Plant Engineer, and Senior Production / Quality Supervisor. Mr. Smith was a Production Supervisor for Bell Aromatics, a manufacturer of flavors and fragrances, from August 1999 until March 2001.

Brian D. Murphy has served as President of the Outdoor Products & Accessories Division of our company since June 2017. From December 2016 until May 2017, he was President of the Outdoor Recreation Division, the activities of which have been collapsed into Outdoor Product & Accessories. From February 2015 until December 2016, he was Vice President, Corporate Development of Vista Outdoor, Inc., a designer, manufacturer, and marketer of outdoor sports and recreation products. From April 2013 until February 2015, Mr. Murphy was Director of Mergers & Acquisitions and Director of Financial Planning & Analysis for Alliant Techsystems (“ATK”), an aerospace, defense, and outdoor sporting goods company. Mr. Murphy held various management roles at McMaster-Carr Supply Company, a supplier of maintenance, repair and operations materials to industrial and commercial facilities worldwide, from April 2011 until March 2013. From May 2006 until October 2010 he served as an investment banker with the firm Houlihan Lokey, where he advised companies in the areas of strategy, acquisitions, divestitures, recapitalizations, and restructuring. Mr. Murphy serves as a board member for the American Knife and Tool Institute, a non-profit organization that advocates for the knife industry.

Lane A. Tobiassen has served as President of the Firearms Division of our company since March 2019. From August 2016 until March 2019, he was President of the Electro-Optics Division of our company, which was established in August 2016 when our company acquired Crimson Trace Corporation, the industry leader in laser sighting systems and tactical lighting for firearms. Mr. Tobiassen served as President of Crimson Trace Corporation from September 2009 until August 2016, and as Marketing Director from April 2005 until September 2009. Previously, he was Vice President of Marketing at LaCrosse Footwear, Inc., a leading producer of outdoor footwear and protective apparel. From August 2000 until September 2001, he served as Vice President of Marketing for Danner, Inc., a division of LaCrosse Footwear, Inc. Lane is currently on the Board of Directors of Nosler, Inc., a leading manufacturer of high-performance bullets and ammunition.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Investors should carefully consider the following risk factors, together with all the other information included in the Form 10-K, in evaluating our company, our business, and our prospects. The most significant risks that could materially and adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows include the risk factors described below.

Our performance is influenced by a variety of economic, social, political, legislative, and regulatory factors.

Our performance is influenced by a variety of economic, social, political, legislative, and regulatory factors. General economic conditions and consumer spending patterns can negatively impact our operating results. Economic uncertainty, unfavorable employment levels, declines in consumer confidence, increases in consumer debt levels, increased commodity prices, and other economic factors may affect consumer spending on discretionary items and adversely affect the demand for our products. Economic conditions also affect governmental, political, and budgetary policies. As a result, economic conditions also can have an effect on the sale of our products to law enforcement, government, and military customers.

Social, political, and other factors also can affect our performance. Concerns about presidential, congressional, and state elections and legislature and policy shifts resulting from those elections can affect the demand for our products. In addition, speculation surrounding increased gun control at the federal, state, and local level and heightened fears of terrorism and crime can affect consumer demand for our products. Often, such concerns result in an increase in near-term consumer demand and subsequent softening of demand when such concerns subside. Inventory levels in excess of customer demand may negatively impact operating results.

Federal and state legislatures frequently consider legislation relating to the regulation of firearms, including amendment or repeal of existing legislation. Existing laws may also be affected by future judicial rulings and interpretations. These possible changes to existing legislation or the enactment of new legislation may seek to restrict the makeup of a firearm, including limitations on magazine capacity; mandate the use of certain technologies in a firearm; remove existing legal defenses in lawsuits; or ban the sale and, in some cases, the ownership of various types of firearms and accessories. If such restrictive changes to legislation develop, we could find it difficult, expensive, or even impossible to comply with them, impeding new product development and distribution of existing products. In addition, gun-control activists may succeed in imposing restrictions or an outright ban on private gun ownership. Such restrictions or bans could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

We remain dependent on the sale of our firearm products.

We manufacture a wide array of handguns, modern sporting rifles, hunting rifles, black powder firearms, handcuffs, and firearm-related products and accessories for sale to a wide variety of customers, including gun enthusiasts, collectors, hunters, sportsmen, competitive shooters, individuals desiring home and personal protection, law enforcement and security agencies and officers, and military agencies in the United States and throughout the world. As noted above, sales of firearms are influenced by a variety of economic, social, political, legislative, and regulatory factors, which may result in volatile revenue patterns. During fiscal 2015, in an effort to diversify our revenue, we began an acquisition strategy to grow into the adjacent outdoor products and accessories market. Since that time, we have spent approximately \$400.0 million on acquiring companies and brands to further this diversification strategy. However, firearms continue to represent a large proportion of our net sales. In fiscal 2019, firearm product sales represented approximately 69.7% of our consolidated net sales. While our strategy has been to diversify and grow our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment which would reduce the risks associated with a focus on any single product line or division, there can be no assurance that our strategy will be successful.

Certain of our businesses are subject to extensive regulation.

Our firearm business, as well as the business of all producers and marketers of firearms and firearm parts, is subject to numerous federal, state, local, and foreign laws, regulations, and protocols, including the rules and regulations of the ATF. If we fail to comply with ATF rules and regulations, the ATF may limit our activities or growth, fine us, or ultimately put us out of business.

The manufacture, sale, and purchase of firearms are subject to extensive federal, state, and local governmental regulation. The primary federal laws are the National Firearms Act of 1934, or NFA, the Gun Control Act of 1968, or GCA, and the Arms Export Control Act of 1976, or AECA, which have been amended from time to time. The NFA severely restricts the private ownership of fully automatic weapons and heavily regulates other firearms defined in that law and accompanying regulations, including firearm suppressors. The GCA places certain restrictions on the interstate sales of firearms, among other things. The export of our products is controlled by the International Traffic in Arms Regulations, or ITAR. ITAR implements the provisions of the AECA as described in the Code of Federal Regulations and is enforced by the U.S. Department of State. In order for us to sell some of our products in accordance with ITAR, including firearms and firearm suppressors to foreign customers, we must obtain export licenses from the U.S. government, primarily the U.S. Department of State. The U.S. Department of State has discretion as to whether to grant a license, and approval depends on the foreign policies and national security interests of the United States. In addition, Congress may take action to block a proposed sale of firearms for export valued at \$1 million or higher. Consequently, we may not be able to obtain export licenses, or to complete profitable contracts as a result of political or other reasons that are outside our control. Failure to receive required licenses or authorizations or the termination or suspension of our export privileges could have an adverse effect on our business. Further, because our manufacturing process includes certain toxic, flammable, and explosive chemicals, we are subject to the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards, as administered by the Department of Homeland Security, which requires that we take additional reporting and security measures related to our manufacturing process.

In addition, like many other manufacturers, we are subject to compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the data privacy laws of Massachusetts and other jurisdictions, and many other regulations surrounding employment law, environmental law, taxation, and consumer protection.

In addition to federal requirements, state and local laws and regulations may place additional restrictions or prohibitions on gun ownership and transfer. These laws and regulations vary significantly from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. Some states or other governmental entities have enacted, and others are considering, legislation restricting or prohibiting the ownership, use, or sale of certain categories of firearms, firearm suppressors, ammunition, ammunition feeding devices, or all of these products. Several states require internal or external locking mechanisms for firearms sold in their jurisdictions. Some states mandate, or are considering mandating, certain design features on safety or other grounds. Such legislation could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

Existing industry protections may be repealed or affected by judicial rulings. For example, the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act of 2005, or the PLCAA, was enacted by Congress in 2005 in order to protect firearms manufacturers and dealers from liability when their legally manufactured and lawfully sold products are later used in criminal acts. The PLCAA (or the state law equivalent of the PLCAA) could be repealed or amended, and legislation has been introduced in Congress to repeal the law. The PLCAA (or the state law equivalent of the PLCAA) may also be affected by future judicial rulings and interpretations. In *Soto v. Bushmaster Firearms International, LLC*, a case arising from the mass shooting in Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, the Connecticut Court of Appeals allowed claimants to pursue state claims for unfair trade practices and potentially other theories of liability notwithstanding the immunity granted to firearms manufacturers under the PLCAA. If the PLCAA (or the state law equivalent of the PLCAA) were repealed, amended, or reinterpreted, firearms manufacturers could face a significant increase in litigation, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

Compliance with all of these laws, regulations, and protocols is costly and time consuming. Although we make substantial efforts to ensure compliance with the many regulations to which we are subject, inadvertent violation of any of these laws, regulations, and protocols could cause us to incur fines and penalties and could also lead to restrictions on our ability to manufacture and sell our products and services and to import or export the products that we sell. In addition, these laws, regulations, and protocols, as well as their interpretation by courts and regulatory authorities, may change at any time. There can be no assurance that such changes to the laws, regulations, and protocols or to their interpretations will not adversely affect our business.

Actions of social activists could cause us to incur substantial costs, divert management’s attention and resources, and have an adverse effect on our business.

From time to time, we may be subject to informal private or public inquiries and/or formal proxy proposals by activists urging us to take certain corporate actions, many of which may not be aligned with the best financial or operational interests of our company. Such activities may adversely affect our business in a number of ways, since responding to such inquiries or proposals can be costly, time consuming, disruptive to our operations, and could meaningfully divert the attention of our resources, including those of our management team and our employees. For example, such activities could require us to retain the services of various professionals to advise us on such matters, including legal, financial, and communications advisors, which could be costly. In addition, certain stockholder inquiries and proposals could create perceived uncertainties or concerns as to our future operating environment, legislative environment, strategy direction, or leadership, and such uncertainties or concerns could result in the loss of potential business opportunities; could harm our ability to attract new investors, customers, and employees; could harm or disrupt our business and financial relationships; could result in consumer boycotts of our products; and could cause our stock price to experience periods of decline, volatility, or stagnation. For example, gun-control activists could pressure our financial institutions, our insurance carriers, our customers, our vendors, or other businesses and institutions with whom we maintain relationships to cease doing business with us or adopt actions that are not in the best interests of our company, inconsistent with the legal operations of our business, or contrary to the beliefs of our core consumers. In addition, our reputation could be irreparably damaged if our core consumers believe that we have adopted the gun control agenda of certain activists. Such activities could have a negative impact on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

We are subject to lawsuits and governmental investigations and inquiries.

We are currently involved in several lawsuits, including a lawsuit involving a municipality and several product liability lawsuits.

We are vigorously defending ourselves in the lawsuits to which we are subject. There can be no assurance, however, that we will not have to pay significant damages or amounts in settlement above insurance coverage. An unfavorable outcome or prolonged litigation could harm our business. Litigation of this nature is also expensive and time consuming and may divert the time and attention of our management.

Our products expose us to potential product liability, warranty liability, and personal injury claims, as well as litigation relating to the use or misuse of our products. These include allegations of defects in manufacturing and design, failure to warn of inherent dangers in the product itself or activities associated with the product, and negligence and strict liability. In addition, as described earlier, we could be subject to future litigation arising out of the criminal misuse of our firearms. If successful, such claims could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition. Although we maintain product liability insurance in amounts that we believe are reasonable, we may not be able to maintain such insurance on acceptable terms, if at all, in the future, and product liability claims may exceed the amount of insurance coverage available to us. Because we manufacture and sell firearms, insurance carriers may decide not to insure our products or our company in the future. In addition, our reputation may be adversely affected by such claims, whether or not successful, including potential negative publicity about our products. Due to the nature of our products, we anticipate that we will continue to be involved in litigation, including product liability cases and claims in the future.

Defects in our products could reduce demand and result in a decrease in sales or damage to our reputation. Our products can contain latent defects that are not detected until after the product is introduced to the market. In addition, we obtain many of our products and component parts from third-party suppliers and may not be able to detect defects until after they are sold. Defects in our products may result in a loss of sales, recall or corrective action expenses, damage to our reputation, and increased warranty costs, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

We have been and may continue to be subject to governmental investigations and inquiries. Such investigations and inquiries could subject us to various sanctions, including significant civil and criminal penalties, the indictment of our company or various of our officers and employees, our being prevented from bidding on domestic military and government contracts, our disbarment by the U.S. Department of State, private civil litigation arising out of the outcome of the investigations or inquiries, the diversion of time and attention of our management from normal business operations, and a negative impact on the perception of our company by investors, customers, and others.

It is difficult to align our capacity with our demand.

From time to time, we have been capacity constrained and have been unable to satisfy on a timely basis the demand for some of our products. During the last several fiscal years, we have improved our manufacturing productivity by adding capacity, increasing daily production quantities, increasing operational availability of equipment, reducing machinery down time, extending machinery useful life, and increasing manufacturing efficiency. Future significant increases in consumer demand for our products or increased business from law enforcement or military agencies may require us to expand further our manufacturing capacity, particularly through the purchase of additional manufacturing equipment and the addition of manufacturing space. We may not be able to increase our capacity in time to satisfy increases in demand that may occur from time-to-time, and we may not have adequate financial resources to increase capacity to meet demand. Capacity constraints may prevent us from satisfying customer orders and result in a loss of market share to competitors that are not capacity constrained. At other times, such as recently, we may suffer excess capacity and increased overhead costs, particularly if we increase our capacity to meet actual or anticipated demand and that demand decreases or does not materialize. Various actions that we have taken in the past, such as outsourcing a portion of our production and reducing our expenses, enable us to mitigate the effect of reduced product demand, but such actions cannot totally mitigate the effect of reduced product demand.

Our manufacturing facilities are critical to our success.

Our Springfield, Massachusetts facility is critical to our success, as we currently produce most of our firearm products at this facility.

The Springfield facility also houses our principal research, development, engineering, design, shipping, sales, marketing, finance, and management functions. Any event that causes a disruption of the operation of this facility for even a relatively short period of time would adversely affect our ability to produce and ship many of our firearm products and to provide service to our firearm customers. We frequently make certain changes in our manufacturing operations to modernize the facility and associated equipment and systems as a result of the age of the facility and the need to introduce certain efficiencies in manufacturing and other processes in order to produce our anticipated volume of products in a more efficient and cost-effective manner. We anticipate that we will continue to incur significant capital and other expenditures with respect to the facility, but we may not be successful in continuing to improve efficiencies.

We also depend on our Houlton, Maine and Deep River, Connecticut facilities. Our Houlton facility is used primarily as a machining facility for our firearms as well as our handcuffs and restraints, and our Deep River facility is used primarily for custom plastic injection molding services, rapid prototyping, and tooling. A disruption in the activities of these facilities could adversely affect our firearm manufacturing operations.

Our proposed logistics facility may not produce the benefits expected.

In October 2017, we entered into a lease agreement with Ryan Boone County, LLC for the design, construction, and lease of an approximately 633,000 square-foot national logistics facility in the Columbia area of Boone County, Missouri. Our logistics facility has been completed and is expected to be fully operational in fiscal 2020. We plan ultimately to rely on this logistics facility for substantially all of our product distribution. In addition, the diversion of management's time and attention to the operational implementation of the logistics facility may adversely affect our day-to-day business activities. While we have plans, processes, and testing protocols in place to mitigate the risks associated with the successful operational implementation of our logistics facility, there can be no assurance that such plans will succeed.

The logistics facility will include computer controlled and automated equipment. As a result, the operations of the facility will be complicated and may be subject to a number of risks related to security or computer viruses, the proper operation of software and hardware, electronic or power interruptions, or other system failures. In addition, because substantially all of our products will be distributed from one location, our operations could also be interrupted by labor difficulties, extreme or severe weather conditions, or by floods, fires or other natural disasters near our logistics facility. Our ability to successfully operate the logistics facility in fiscal 2020 also depends on numerous factors, including, among others, the successful operational implementation of our logistics facility, our ability to manage a complex project, the proper design of the logistics facility, the ability to employ a skilled workforce to operate the logistics facility, the design and operation of computer controlled and automated systems, the design of software systems to operate the logistics facility, and the integration of the logistics facility into our ERP system. Difficulties or delays in performing any of these critical tasks could delay the timely opening of our logistics facility and negatively impact the efficient operation of our business. We maintain business interruption insurance, but it may not adequately protect us from the adverse effect that may be caused by significant disruptions in our product distribution, such as the long-term loss of customers or an erosion of our brand image.

Our ability to meet customer expectations, manage inventory, complete sales, and achieve objectives for operating efficiencies as well as tax savings and incentives will depend on the timely implementation and proper operation of our new logistics facility. The fixed costs associated with owning, operating, and maintaining a large, highly automated logistics facility during a period of economic weakness or declining sales could result in lower operating efficiencies, financial deleverage, and potential impairment in the recorded value of distribution assets. This fixed cost structure may make it difficult for us to maintain our profitability levels if sales volumes decline for an extended period of time and could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

Our efforts to develop new products may be costly and ineffective.

Our efforts to develop new products may not be successful, and any new products that we develop may not result in customer or market acceptance. The development of new products is a lengthy and costly process. Any new products that we develop and introduce to the marketplace may be unsuccessful or achieve success that does not meet our expectations for a variety of reasons, including delays in introduction, unfavorable cost comparisons with alternative products, and unfavorable performance. Significant expenses related to proposed new products that prove to be unsuccessful for any reason could adversely affect our business, operating results, and financial condition.

We rely on outsourcing for a portion of our production, and any interruptions in these arrangements could disrupt our ability to fill our customers' orders.

We utilize contract manufacturers for a portion of our firearm production requirements, particularly during periods of very high customer demand, in order to increase our manufacturing capacity and reduce our capital expenditures for facilities that may not always operate at peak capacity. Qualifying new contract manufacturers is time consuming and may result in unforeseen disruptions in our manufacturing and operations. The loss of our relationships with our contract manufacturers or their inability to conduct their services for us as anticipated in terms of capacity, cost, quality, and timeliness could adversely affect our ability to fill customer orders in accordance with required delivery, quality, and performance requirements. If this were to occur, the resulting decline in revenue could harm our business.

We source a significant portion of the outdoor products and accessories that we sell from third-party contract manufacturers, located primarily in Asia and North America. Our ability to secure qualified suppliers that meet our quality and other standards, and to receive these products in a timely and efficient manner, represents a challenge, especially with suppliers located and products sourced outside the United States. Political and economic instability in countries in which foreign suppliers are located, the financial and managerial instability of suppliers, the failure by suppliers to meet our standards, labor problems experienced by our suppliers, the availability of raw materials to our suppliers, product quality issues, currency exchange rates, transport availability and cost, inflation, and other factors relating to suppliers and the countries in which they are located are beyond our control. The United States' foreign trade policies, tariffs, and other impositions on imported goods, trade sanctions imposed on certain countries, the limitation on the importation of certain types of goods or of goods containing certain types of materials from other countries, and other factors relating to foreign trade also are beyond our control. These and a majority of other factors affecting our suppliers and our access to products could adversely affect our business.

We also depend on our contract manufacturers to maintain high levels of productivity and satisfactory delivery schedules. We do not have long-term agreements with many of our contract manufacturers that guarantee production capacity, prices, lead times, or delivery schedules. Our contract manufacturers serve other customers, a number of which may have greater production requirements than we do. As a result, our contract manufacturers could determine to prioritize production capacity for other customers or reduce or eliminate deliveries to us on short notice. Lower than expected manufacturing efficiencies could increase our cost and disrupt or delay our supplies. Any of these problems could result in our inability to deliver our products in a timely manner or adversely affect our business, operating results, and financial condition.

Protectionist tariffs and trade wars could harm our business.

Protectionist tariffs and trade wars could adversely affect our business, particularly our Outdoor Products & Accessories business. The United States has imposed and threatened to impose further tariffs on a variety of products and materials imported from various foreign countries. Tariff policies of the United States can be expected to result in retaliatory actions by affected countries, potentially resulting in trade wars and increased costs for goods imported into the United States. Any tariffs that result in increased costs or unavailability of imported products and accessories that we obtain for resale from foreign suppliers or materials used in our domestically produced products could require us to increase the prices of the products we sell or result in lower gross margins on such products if we are unable to increase the price of such products to our customers.

We often rely on third parties, including independent sales representatives and agents that act on our behalf.

We are often represented by third parties, including independent sales representatives and agents. These representatives and agents sometimes have the ability to enter into agreements on our behalf. The actions of these third parties could adversely affect our business if they enter into low margin contracts or conduct themselves in a manner that damages our reputation in the marketplace. We also face a risk that these third parties could violate domestic or foreign laws, which could put us at risk for prosecution in the United States or internationally.

Poor product quality or performance could adversely affect our operating results and reputation.

Poor product quality or performance could adversely affect our operating results and reputation. We generally provide a limited one-year, three-year, limited-lifetime, or full-lifetime warranty and a lifetime-service policy to the original purchaser of our new firearm products and a limited one-year warranty to the original purchaser of our new outdoor products and accessories. We offer a one-year or limited lifetime warranty program to the original purchaser of our outdoor products and accessories, depending on the product purchased.

While we believe we have a strong track record of developing, manufacturing, and selling high-quality products, from time to time, we have experienced manufacturing and design issues with respect to some of our firearms and have initiated product recalls and safety alerts in the past. Based on the volume of products we have shipped into the market, any future recall, safety alerts, or product liability claims could harm our reputation, cause us to lose business, and cause us to incur significant warranty, support, and repair costs.

We may incur higher medical benefit costs in the future.

We are self-insured for our employee medical plan. While our medical costs in recent years have generally increased at the same level as the regional average, our aging workforce and other employee demographics could result in an increase in our medical costs beyond what we have experienced or expect. We have stop-loss coverage in place for catastrophic events, but the aggregate impact of a high number of claims up to our stop-loss limit may have an adverse impact on our profitability.

We cannot assess the effect that legislation will have on our healthcare costs and structure or our ability to provide healthcare benefits to our employees. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, or ACA, became effective in calendar 2015 with other provisions to become effective over succeeding years.

The Trump Administration and the Republican Congress are pursuing legislative and regulatory efforts to repeal and replace ACA. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, which was adopted in December 2017, effectively eliminated certain provisions of the ACA, including the individual mandate starting in 2019 requiring consumers to buy insurance or pay a penalty subject to a limited number of exceptions. It is generally anticipated that the Trump Administration and the Republican Congress will continue their efforts to repeal and replace the ACA, possibly in its entirety, and that many states, including states in which we conduct operations, will adopt their own health care legislation. Changes to the healthcare requirements in the future may have an adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

Liability insurance is expensive and may be difficult to obtain.

Liability insurance coverage is expensive and from time to time may be difficult or impossible to obtain. Our insurance policies are subject to periodic review by our insurers and may not be renewed at all or on similar or favorable terms. Because we manufacture and sell firearms, insurance carriers may decide not to insure us in the future. In addition, if we or other firearms manufacturers sustain significant losses or make significant insurance claims, our ability to obtain future insurance coverage at commercially reasonable rates could be materially adversely affected. Our liability insurance costs were \$3.8 million in fiscal 2019 and \$5.2 million in fiscal 2018. An inability to obtain liability insurance, significant increases in the cost of insurance we obtain, or losses in excess of our liability insurance coverage, could have a material adverse effect on us.

Shortages of, and price increases for, components, parts, raw materials, and other supplies may delay or reduce our sales and increase our costs.

Although we manufacture most of the components for our firearms, we purchase certain components and parts from third parties, including bolt carriers, rifle receivers, magazines, slides, small parts, barrels, and rifle stocks. We rely on third-party suppliers and manufacturers for substantially all of our outdoor products and accessories' finished products and components, and we have limited control over these suppliers and manufacturers. We also purchase ammunition for product testing.

Most of our major suppliers for our firearm products are U.S.-based and provide materials, components, and parts, such as raw steel, polymer components, and metal-injected-molded components. The costs of these materials, components, and parts are at competitive rates. We have become increasingly dependent on a small number of key vendors that supply components and parts for our firearms as a result of our decision to increase our manufacturing flexibility by using third parties that can supplement our internal capacity to better react to changes in market conditions. Most of our major suppliers for our outdoor products and accessories components and products are based in Asia. Our major suppliers for electro-optics components are based in Asia and North America. We also use numerous raw materials that we purchase from third-party suppliers in producing and testing our products, including steel, wood, lead, brass, and plastics. Uncertainties related to governmental fiscal policies, including increased duties, tariffs, or other trade restrictions, could increase the prices of finished products, components, and raw materials we purchase from third-party suppliers.

Our inability to obtain sufficient quantities of components, parts, raw materials, and other supplies from independent sources necessary for the production of our products could result in reduced or delayed sales or lost orders. Any delay in or loss of sales could adversely impact our operating results. Many of the components, parts, raw materials, and other supplies used in the production of our products are available only from a limited number of suppliers. In most cases, we do not have long-term supply contracts with these suppliers. As a result, we could be subject to increased costs, supply interruptions, and difficulties in obtaining materials and finished products. Our suppliers also may encounter difficulties or increased costs in obtaining the materials necessary to produce the components and parts that we use in our products. The time lost in seeking and acquiring new sources or the inability to locate alternative sources of comparable quality at an acceptable price, or at all, could negatively impact our net sales and profitability. Shortages of ammunition also can adversely affect the demand for our products.

We have occasionally received, and may receive in the future, product deliveries from suppliers that fail to conform to our quality control standards. In such circumstances, our inability to sell those products could have a negative effect on our net sales and increase our administrative and shipping costs if we are unable to obtain replacement products in a timely manner.

Damage or disruption to manufacturing and distribution capabilities of, or the disruption of deliveries from, our suppliers because of severe or catastrophic events, including weather, natural disaster, fire or explosion, terrorism, pandemics, or labor disruptions, including at ports or at our suppliers, could impair our ability to manufacture or sell our products. Although we have insurance to cover potential loss from most of our suppliers for these events, we could experience losses in excess of our insured limits. In addition, failure to take adequate steps to mitigate the likelihood or potential impact of such events, or to effectively manage such events if they occur, could have a material adverse effect on us, as well as require additional resources to restore our supply chain.

Interruptions in the proper functioning of our information systems or other issues with our ERP systems could cause disruption to our operations.

We rely extensively on our information systems to manage our business, data, communications, supply chain, ordering, pricing, billing, inventory replenishment, accounting functions, and other processes. Our systems are subject to damage or interruption from various sources, including power outages, computer and telecommunications failures, computer viruses, cyber security breaches, vandalism, severe weather conditions, catastrophic events, terrorism, and human error, and our disaster recovery planning cannot account for all eventualities. If our systems are damaged, fail to function properly, or otherwise become compromised or unavailable, we may incur substantial costs to repair or replace them, and we may experience loss of critical data and interruptions or delays in our ability to perform critical functions, which could adversely affect our business, operating results, and financial condition.

Our information technology systems require periodic modifications, upgrades, and replacement that subject us to costs and risks, including potential disruption to our internal control structure, substantial capital expenditures, additional administration and operating expenses, retention of sufficiently skilled personnel or outside firms to implement and operate existing or new systems, and other risks and costs of delays or difficulties in transitioning to new or modified systems or of integrating new or modified systems into our current systems. In addition, challenges implementing new or modified technology systems may cause disruptions in our business operations and have an adverse effect on our business operations if not anticipated and appropriately mitigated.

All businesses in our Firearm division and our largest business in our Outdoor Products & Accessories division operate under a fully integrated ERP system, SAP. We are currently implementing SAP at our new national logistics facility, which is expected to be fully operational in fiscal 2020. This implementation could result in a major disruption to our business, and any disruption could have a negative effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition. In addition, implementing SAP has required and will continue to require significant resources and refinement to fully realize the expected benefits of the system.

Breaches of our information systems could adversely affect our reputation, disrupt our operations, and result in increased costs and loss of revenue.

There have been an increasing number of cyber security incidents affecting companies around the world, which have caused operational failures or compromised sensitive or confidential corporate data. Although we do not believe our systems are at a greater risk of cyber security incidents than other similar organizations, such cyber security incidents may result in the loss or compromise of customer, financial, or operational data; loss of assets; disruption of billing, collections, or normal operating activities; disruption of electronic monitoring and control of operational systems; and delays in financial reporting and other management functions. In addition, acquisitions of smaller, closely held companies could increase our risk as they often lack the systems, policies, procedures, and controls of larger companies. Possible impacts associated with cyber security incidents (which generally are increasing in both frequency and sophistication) may include, among others, remediation costs related to lost, stolen, or compromised data; repairs to data processing systems; increased cyber security protection costs; reputational damage; lawsuits seeking damages; regulatory actions; and adverse effects on our compliance with applicable privacy and other laws and regulations. Such occurrences could have an adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

We face intense competition that could result in our losing or failing to gain market share and suffering reduced sales.

We operate in intensely competitive consumer markets that are characterized by competition from major domestic and international companies. This intense competition could result in pricing pressures, lower sales, reduced margins, and lower market share. Some of our competitors may have greater financial, technical, marketing, distribution, and other resources and, in certain cases, may have lower cost structures than we possess that may afford them competitive advantages. As a result, they may be able to devote greater resources to the promotion and sale of products, negotiate lower prices on raw materials and components, deliver competitive products at lower prices, and introduce new products and respond to customer requirements more effectively and quickly than we can.

Competition in the consumer products industry is primarily based on innovation, quality, reliability, durability, price, performance, consumer brand awareness, and customer service and support. Our inability to compete in one or more of these areas could have a negative impact on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

Acquisitions involve significant risks, and any acquisitions that we undertake in the future could be difficult to integrate, disrupt our business, dilute stockholder value, and harm our operating results.

We have a strategy to expand our operations through acquisitions in order to enhance existing products and offer new products, enter new markets and businesses, strengthen and avoid interruption from our supply chain, and improve our position in current markets and businesses. Acquisitions involve significant risks and uncertainties. We cannot accurately predict the timing, size, and success of any future acquisitions. We may be unable to identify suitable acquisition candidates or to complete the acquisitions of candidates that we identify. Increased competition for acquisition candidates or increased asking prices by acquisition candidates may increase purchase prices for acquisitions to levels beyond our financial capability or to levels that would not result in the returns required by our acquisition criteria. Acquisitions also may become more difficult in the future as we or others acquire the most attractive candidates. Unforeseen expenses, difficulties, and delays frequently encountered in connection with expansion through acquisitions could inhibit our growth and negatively impact our business, operating results, and financial condition.

Our ability to complete acquisitions that we desire to make in the future will depend upon various factors, including the following:

- the availability of suitable acquisition candidates at attractive purchase prices;
- the ability to compete effectively for available acquisition opportunities;
- the availability of cash resources, borrowing capacity, or stock at favorable price levels to provide required purchase prices in acquisitions;
- the ability of management to devote sufficient attention to acquisition efforts; and
- the ability to obtain any requisite governmental or other approvals.

We plan to pursue acquisitions of businesses that are not involved in the manufacture of firearms, such as businesses involved in shooting and hunting sports, companies involved in what we consider the rugged outdoor market (which may include camping, hiking, fishing, and a variety of other outdoor recreational and leisure activities), companies that perform manufacturing services for us or supply us with components or materials, and other businesses that we regard as complementary to our business. We may have little or no experience with certain acquired businesses, which could involve significantly different supply chains, production techniques, customers, and competitive factors than our current business. This lack of experience would require us to rely to a great extent on the management teams of these acquired businesses. These acquisitions also could require us to make significant investments in systems, equipment, facilities, and personnel in anticipation of growth. These costs could be essential to implement our growth strategy in supporting our expanded activities and resulting corporate structure changes. We may be unable to achieve some or all of the benefits that we expect to achieve as we expand into these new markets within the time frames we expect, if at all. If we fail to achieve some or all of the benefits that we expect to achieve as we expand into these new markets, or do not achieve them within the time frames we expect, our business, operating results, and financial condition could be adversely affected.

As a part of any potential acquisition, we may engage in discussions with various acquisition candidates. In connection with these discussions, we and each potential acquisition candidate may exchange confidential operational and financial information, conduct due diligence inquiries, and consider the structure, terms, and conditions of the potential acquisition. In certain cases, the prospective acquisition candidate agrees not to discuss a potential acquisition with any other party for a specific period of time and agrees to take other actions designed to enhance the possibility of the acquisition, such as preparing audited financial information. Potential acquisition discussions frequently take place over a long period of time and involve difficult business integration and other issues. As a result of these and other factors, a number of potential acquisitions that from time-to-time appear likely to occur do not result in binding legal agreements and are not consummated, but may result in increased legal, consulting, and other costs.

Unforeseen expenses, difficulties, and delays frequently encountered in connection with future acquisitions could inhibit our growth and negatively impact our profitability. Any future acquisitions may not meet our strategic objectives or perform as anticipated. In addition, the size, timing, and success of any future acquisitions may cause substantial fluctuations in our operating results from quarter to quarter. For example, our acquisition of Thompson/Center Arms in January 2007 and SWSS, LLC in July 2009 resulted in substantial write-offs of goodwill and long-lived intangible assets. Consequently, our operating results for any quarter may not be indicative of the results that may be achieved for any subsequent quarter or for a full fiscal year. These interim fluctuations could adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

If we finance any future acquisitions in whole or in part through the issuance of common stock or securities convertible into or exercisable for common stock, existing stockholders will experience dilution in the voting power of their common stock and earnings per share could be negatively impacted. The extent to which we will be able or willing to use our common stock for acquisitions will depend on the market price of our common stock from time-to-time and the willingness of potential acquisition candidates to accept our common stock as full or partial consideration for the sale of their businesses. Our inability to use our common stock as consideration, to generate cash from operations, or to obtain additional funding through debt or equity financings in order to pursue an acquisition could limit our growth.

Our recent acquisitions and any acquisitions that we undertake in the future could be difficult to integrate, disrupt our business, and harm our operations.

We have a history of acquiring businesses, having spent approximately \$400.0 million on acquisitions in the last five fiscal years. In order to pursue successful acquisitions, we may need to integrate the operations of acquired businesses into our operations, including centralizing certain functions to achieve cost savings and pursuing programs and processes that leverage our sales and growth opportunities. In fiscal 2017, we acquired Crimson Trace Corporation and the assets of Taylor Brands, LLC and Ultimate Survival Technologies, Inc. In fiscal 2018, we acquired the assets of Gemini Technologies, Incorporated and Fish Tales, LLC. In fiscal 2019, we acquired LaserLyte branded products from P&L Industries Inc. The integration of the management, operations, and facilities of acquired businesses with our own could involve difficulties, which could adversely affect our growth rate and operating results.

We may be unable to effectively complete an integration of the management, operations, facilities, and accounting and information systems of acquired businesses with our own; to implement effective controls to mitigate legal and business risks with which we have no prior experience; to manage efficiently the combined operations of the acquired businesses with our operations; to achieve our operating, growth, and performance goals for acquired businesses; to achieve additional sales as a result of our expanded operations; or to achieve operating efficiencies or otherwise realize cost savings as a result of anticipated acquisition synergies. The integration of acquired businesses involves numerous risks and uncertainties, including the following:

- the potential disruption of our core businesses;
- risks associated with entering markets and businesses in which we have little or no prior experience;
- diversion of management's attention from our core businesses;
- adverse effects on existing business relationships with suppliers and customers;
- risks associated with increased regulatory or compliance matters;
- failure to retain key customers, suppliers, or personnel of acquired businesses;
- the potential strain on our financial and managerial controls and reporting systems and procedures;
- greater than anticipated costs and expenses related to the integration of the acquired business with our business;
- potential unknown liabilities associated with the acquired company;
- risks associated with weak internal controls over information technology systems and associated cyber security risks;

- meeting the challenges inherent in effectively managing an increased number of employees in diverse locations;
- failure of acquired businesses to achieve expected results;
- the risk of impairment charges related to potential write-downs of acquired assets in future acquisitions; and
- the challenge of creating uniform standards, controls, procedures, policies, and information systems.

Potential strategic alliances may not achieve their objectives, which could impede our growth.

We have entered into strategic alliances in the past and anticipate that we will enter into new strategic alliances in the future. We continue to explore strategic alliances designed to expand our product offerings, enter new markets, and improve our distribution channels. Our existing strategic alliances and any new strategic alliances may not achieve their intended objectives, and parties to our strategic alliances may not perform as contemplated. The failure of these alliances may impede our ability to introduce new products and enter new markets.

If our goodwill, intangible assets, or long-lived assets become impaired, we may be required to record a significant charge to earnings.

We review our goodwill, intangible assets, and long-lived assets (collectively, “tested assets”) for impairment annually or when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable. After such review, we may be required to record a significant charge to our financial statements during the period in which such impairment of our tested assets is determined, negatively impacting our results of operations. During the third quarter of fiscal 2019, we assessed and recorded a \$10.4 million impairment charge related to the goodwill of our Electro Optics operating unit, which was subsequently restructured and combined into our Outdoor Product & Accessories operating unit. As of April 30, 2019, our Firearms and Outdoor Products & Accessories operating units had tested assets of \$19.0 million and \$163.2 million, respectively. For further discussion of the valuation of tested assets, see Note 3 *Significant Accounting Policies* to our consolidated financial statements. Factors that may be considered a change in circumstances, indicating that the carrying value of our tested assets may be reduced or otherwise not be recoverable, include, but are not limited to, general economic conditions, changes in regulations, reduced future cash flow estimates, slower growth rates, changes in the competitive environment for our products, and the success of new products.

Our growth strategy may require significant additional funds, the amount of which will depend upon our working capital and general corporate needs.

Any substantial borrowings made to finance operations or future acquisitions could make us more vulnerable to a downturn in our operating results, a downturn in economic conditions, or increases in interest rates on borrowings. If our cash flow from operations is insufficient to meet our debt service requirements, we could be required to sell additional equity securities, refinance our obligations, or dispose of assets in order to meet our debt service requirements. Adequate financing may not be available if and when we need it or may not be available on terms acceptable to us. In addition, certain banks may refuse to do business with us even if we are a creditworthy customer. The failure to obtain sufficient financing on favorable terms and conditions could have a material adverse effect on us.

From time to time, we may seek additional equity or debt financing to provide funds for the expansion of our business. We cannot predict the timing or amount of any such financing requirements at this time. If such financing is not available on satisfactory terms, we may be unable to expand our business or to develop new business at the rate desired, and our operating results may suffer. Debt financing increases expenses and must be repaid regardless of operating results. Equity financing could result in additional dilution to existing stockholders.

As of April 30, 2019, we had \$156.4 million of long-term borrowings outstanding, of which \$6.3 million is payable in the next 12 months. The degree to which we are leveraged could adversely affect our ability to obtain further financing for working capital, acquisitions, or other purposes and could make us more vulnerable to industry downturns and competitive pressures. Our ability to meet our debt service obligations will depend upon our future performance, which will be subject to the financial condition, business environment, and other factors affecting our operations, many of which are beyond our control.

The failure to manage our growth could adversely affect our operations.

To continue to expand our business and strengthen our competitive position, we must make significant investments in systems, equipment, facilities, and personnel. In addition, we may commit significant funds to increase our sales, marketing, information technology, and research and development efforts in order to expand our business. As a result of the increase in fixed costs and operating expenses, our failure to increase sufficiently our net sales to offset these increased costs could adversely affect our operating results.

The failure to manage our growth effectively could adversely affect our operations. We have substantially increased the number of our manufacturing and design programs and plan to further expand the number and diversity of our programs in the future. Managing our planned growth effectively will require us to:

- enhance our operational, financial, and management systems;
- enhance our facilities and purchase additional equipment, which will include ongoing modernization and expansion of our Springfield, Massachusetts, Deep River, Connecticut, and Houlton, Maine facilities;
- achieve the anticipated benefits of our new national logistics facility; and
- successfully hire, train, and motivate additional employees, including additional personnel for our technological, sales, and marketing efforts.

The expansion of our products and customer base may result in increases in our overhead and selling expenses. We also may be required to increase staffing and other expenses as well as our expenditures on capital equipment and leasehold improvements in order to meet the demand for our products. Any increase in expenditures in anticipation of future sales that do not materialize would adversely affect our profitability.

Our business is highly dependent upon our brand recognition and reputation, and the failure to maintain or strengthen our brand recognition or reputation would likely have a material adverse effect on our business.

Our brand recognition and reputation are critical aspects of our business. We believe that maintaining and further enhancing all of our brands is critical to retaining existing customers and attracting new customers. We also believe that the importance of our brand recognition and reputation will continue to increase as competition in our markets continues to develop.

We anticipate that our advertising, marketing, and promotional efforts will increase in the foreseeable future as we continue to seek to enhance our brands and consumer demand for our products. Historically, we have relied on print and electronic media advertising to increase consumer awareness of our brands to increase purchasing intent and conversation. We anticipate that we will increasingly rely on other forms of media advertising, including social media and digital marketing. Our future growth and profitability will depend in large part upon the effectiveness and efficiency of our advertising, promotion, public relations, and marketing programs. These brand promotion activities may not yield increased revenue and the efficacy of these activities will depend on a number of factors, including our ability to do the following:

- determine the appropriate creative message and media mix for advertising, marketing, and promotional expenditures;
- select the right markets, media, and specific media vehicles in which to advertise;

- identify the most effective and efficient level of spending in each market, media, and specific media vehicle; and
- effectively manage marketing costs, including creative and media expenses, in order to maintain acceptable customer acquisition costs.

Increases in the pricing of one or more of our marketing and advertising channels could increase our marketing and advertising expenses or cause us to choose less expensive but possibly less effective marketing and advertising channels. If we implement new marketing and advertising strategies, we may incur significantly higher costs than our current channels, which in turn could adversely affect our operating results. Implementing new marketing and advertising strategies also could increase the risk of devoting significant capital and other resources to endeavors that do not prove to be cost effective. We also may incur marketing and advertising expenses significantly in advance of the time we anticipate recognizing revenue associated with such expenses, and our marketing and advertising expenditures may not generate sufficient levels of brand awareness and conversation or result in increased revenue. Even if our marketing and advertising expenses result in increased revenue, the increase might not offset our related expenditures. If we are unable to maintain our marketing and advertising channels on cost-effective terms or replace or supplement existing marketing and advertising channels with similarly or more effective channels, our marketing and advertising expenses could increase substantially, our customer base could be adversely affected, and our business, operating results, financial condition, and reputation could suffer.

An inability to expand our e-commerce business could reduce our future growth.

Consumers are increasingly shopping online via e-commerce retailers and we face intense pressure to make our products available via e-commerce services. Although firearms currently cannot be delivered direct-to-consumer, firearms are increasingly sold on e-commerce websites and delivered to licensed firearm retailers near to the consumer, who then perform the requisite legal procedures and checks for a small fee. Our success in participating in e-commerce, especially in non-firearm transactions, will depend on our ability to effectively use our marketing resources to communicate with existing and potential customers. To increase our e-commerce sales, we may have to be more promotional to compete, which could impact our gross margin and increase our marketing expenses. We do not currently have a fully functional direct-to-consumer e-commerce platform and are reliant on third party e-commerce websites to sell our products, which could lead to our e-commerce customers being able to have control over the pricing of our products. This in turn could lead to adverse relationship consequences with our customers that operate brick and mortar locations as they may perceive themselves to be at a disadvantage based on the e-commerce pricing to end consumers. There is no assurance that we will be able to successfully expand our e-commerce business and respond to shifting consumer traffic patterns and direct-to-consumer buying trends.

In addition, e-commerce and direct-to-consumer operations are subject to numerous risks, including implementing and maintaining appropriate technology to support business strategies, reliance on third-party computer hardware/software and service providers, data breaches, violations of state, federal, or international laws, including those relating to online privacy, credit card fraud, telecommunication failures and electronic break-ins, and similar disruptions, and disruption of Internet service. Our inability to adequately respond to these risks and uncertainties or to successfully maintain and expand our direct-to-consumer business may have an adverse impact on our results of operations.

We may have difficulty collecting amounts owed to us.

Certain of our customers have experienced, and may in the future experience, credit-related issues. We perform ongoing credit evaluations of customers, but these evaluations may not be completely effective. We grant payment terms to most customers ranging from 30 to 90 days and do not generally require collateral. However, in some instances we provide longer payment terms, particularly as it relates to our hunting products. Should more customers than we anticipate experience liquidity issues, or if payment is not received on a timely basis, we may have difficulty collecting amounts owed to us by such customers and our business, operating results, and financial condition could be adversely impacted.

For the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019, none of our customers exceeded 10% of our net sales and one of our customers accounted for approximately 19.8% of our accounts receivable. For the fiscal year ended April 30, 2018, one of our customers accounted for 11.9% of our net sales and none of our customers accounted for 10% or more of our accounts receivable. For the fiscal year ended April 30, 2017, none of our customers exceeded 10% of our net sales and one of our customers accounted for approximately 17.5% of our accounts receivable.

Through our growth strategy, our sales could become increasingly dependent on purchases by several large retail customers. Consolidation in the retail industry could also adversely affect our business. If our sales were to become increasingly dependent on business with several large retailers, we could experience more concentrated credit-related risks and be adversely affected by the loss or a significant decline in sales to one or more of these customers. In addition, our dependence on a smaller group of retailers could result in their increased bargaining position and pressures on the prices we charge.

Our inability to protect our intellectual property or obtain the right to use intellectual property from third parties could impair our competitive advantage, reduce our sales, and increase our costs.

Our success and ability to compete depend in part on our ability to protect our intellectual property. We rely on a combination of patents, copyrights, trade secrets, trademarks, trade dress, customer records, monitoring, brand protection services, confidentiality agreements, and other contractual provisions to protect our intellectual property, but these measures may provide only limited protection. Our failure to enforce and protect our intellectual property rights or obtain the right to use necessary intellectual property from third parties could reduce our sales and increase our costs. In addition, the laws of some foreign countries do not protect proprietary rights as fully as do the laws of the United States.

Patents may not be issued for the patent applications that we have filed or may file in the future. Our issued patents may be challenged, invalidated, or circumvented, and claims of our patents may not be of sufficient scope or strength, or issued in the proper geographic regions, to provide meaningful protection or any commercial advantage. We have registered certain of our trademarks and trade dress in the United States and other countries. We have also recorded certain of our registered trademarks with customs officials in the United States and other countries. We may be unable to enforce existing or obtain new registrations of principle or other trademarks in key markets. Failure to obtain or enforce such registrations could compromise our ability to protect fully our trademarks and brands and could increase the risk of challenges from third parties to our use of our trademarks and brands.

In the past, we did not consistently require our employees and consultants to enter into confidentiality agreements, employment agreements, or proprietary information and invention agreements; however, such agreements are now required. Therefore, our former employees and consultants may try to claim some ownership interest in our intellectual property and may use our intellectual property competitively and without appropriate limitations. In addition, our acquired businesses may not have consistently required their employees and consultants to enter into confidentiality agreements, employment agreements, or proprietary information and invention agreements. Claims by such individuals may affect our business, operating results, and financial condition.

We may incur substantial expenses and devote significant resources in prosecuting others for their unauthorized use of our intellectual property rights.

We may become involved in litigation regarding patents and other intellectual property rights. Other companies, including our competitors, may develop intellectual property that is similar or superior to our intellectual property, duplicate our intellectual property, or design around our patents and may have or obtain patents or other proprietary rights that would prevent, limit, or interfere with our ability to make, use, or sell our products. Effective intellectual property protection may be unavailable or limited in some foreign countries in which we sell products or from which competing products may be sold. Unauthorized parties may attempt to copy or otherwise use aspects of our intellectual property and products that we regard as proprietary. Our means of protecting our proprietary rights in the United States or abroad may prove to be inadequate and competitors may be able to independently develop similar intellectual property. If our intellectual property protection is insufficient to protect our intellectual property rights, we could face increased competition in the markets for our products.

Should any of our competitors file patent applications or obtain patents that claim inventions also claimed by us, we may choose to participate in an interference proceeding to determine the right to a patent for these inventions because our business would be harmed if we fail to enforce and protect our intellectual property rights. Even if the outcome is favorable, this proceeding could result in substantial cost to us and disrupt our business.

In the future, we also may need to file lawsuits to enforce our intellectual property rights, protect our trade secrets, or determine the validity and scope of the proprietary rights of others. This litigation, whether successful or unsuccessful, could result in substantial costs and diversion of resources, which could have a material adverse effect on us.

We face risks associated with international activities, including related to compliance with the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act or other applicable anti-corruption legislation.

Political and economic conditions abroad may result in a reduction of or inhibition of our growth in our sales in numerous foreign countries and our purchase of certain accessories and components from certain countries in Asia and Europe, including China, Taiwan, and Italy. Protectionist trade legislation in either the United States or foreign countries, such as a change in the current tariff structures, export or import compliance laws, or other trade policies, could reduce our ability to sell our products in foreign markets, the ability of foreign customers to purchase our products, and our ability to import components, parts, and products from foreign suppliers. Our efforts to comply with the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, or other applicable anti-corruption laws and regulations may limit our international business activities, necessitate the implementation of certain processes and compliance programs, and subject us to enforcement actions or penalties for noncompliance. Both the U.S. and foreign governments have increased their oversight and enforcement activities in this area in recent years, and we expect applicable agencies to continue to increase such activities in the future.

Our foreign sales and purchases of certain accessories and components also create a number of logistical and communication challenges. These activities also expose us to various economic, political, and other risks, including the following:

- compliance with U.S. and local laws and regulatory requirements, including adverse changes in those laws and requirements;
- transportation delays or interruptions and other effects of less developed infrastructures;
- foreign exchange rate fluctuations;
- limitations on imports and exports;
- imposition of restrictions on currency conversion or the transfer of funds;
- the possibility of appropriation of our assets without just compensation;
- taxes, tariffs, and duties;
- the burdens and costs of compliance with a variety of foreign laws; and
- political or economic instability in countries in which we conduct business, including possible terrorist acts.

We currently maintain operations in Belgium and the People's Republic of China and have plans to expand our international operations. As a result, we are exposed to risks in the countries in which we operate or will operate in the future, including political and economic changes or volatility, geopolitical regional conflicts, terrorist activity, and political unrest, which could negatively affect our international operations.

Environmental laws and regulations may impact our business.

We are subject to numerous federal, state, and local laws that regulate or otherwise relate to the protection of the environment, including the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, CERCLA, and the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by RCRA. CERCLA, RCRA, and related state laws subject us to the potential obligation to remove or mitigate the environmental effects of the disposal or release of certain pollutants at our manufacturing facilities and at third-party or formerly owned sites at which contaminants generated by us may be located. This requires us to make expenditures of both a capital and expense nature.

In our efforts to satisfy our environmental, health, and safety responsibilities and to comply with all applicable laws and regulations, we maintain policies relating to the environmental, health, and safety standards for our operations and conduct programs to monitor compliance with various environmental regulations. However, in the normal course of our manufacturing operations, we may become subject to governmental proceedings and orders pertaining to waste disposal, air emissions, and water discharges into the environment. We believe, based on the information available to us, that we are in substantial compliance with applicable environmental regulations.

From a remediation perspective, we may not have identified all existing contamination on our properties, and we cannot predict whether our operations will cause contamination in the future. As a result, we could incur additional costs to clean up contamination that exceed the amount of our reserves. We will periodically review the probable and reasonably estimable environmental costs in order to update the environmental reserves. Furthermore, it is not possible to predict with certainty the impact on us of future environmental, health, and safety compliance requirements or of the cost of resolution of future regulatory proceedings and claims, in part because the scope of the remedies that may be required is not certain, liability under federal environmental laws is joint and several in nature, and environmental health and safety laws and regulations are subject to modification and changes in interpretation. Additional or changing environmental health and safety regulation may become burdensome in the future, and any such development could have an adverse effect on us.

Our indebtedness could adversely affect our business and limit our ability to plan for or respond to changes in our business, and we may be unable to generate sufficient cash flow to satisfy significant debt service obligations.

As of April 30, 2019, we had consolidated indebtedness of 156.4 million, of which \$6.3 million is payable in the next 12 months. On June 15, 2015, we entered into a new unsecured credit facility, or the Credit Agreement, with TD Bank, N.A. and other lenders, or the Lenders, which included a \$175.0 million revolving line of credit, or the Revolving Line, and a \$105.0 million term loan, or the Term Loan, of which \$81.4 million remained outstanding as of April 30, 2019. The Revolving Line provides availability until June 15, 2020 for general corporate purposes, with borrowings to bear interest at a variable rate equal to LIBOR or prime plus an applicable margin based on our consolidated leverage ratio, at our election. On October 27, 2016, we entered into a second amendment to our existing unsecured credit agreement, or the Second Amendment, which, among other things increased the Revolving Line to \$350.0 million, increased the option to expand the credit commitment to \$150.0 million, and extended the maturity of the Revolving Line from June 15, 2020 to October 27, 2021. Other than the changes described in the Second Amendment, we otherwise remain subject to the terms of the Credit Agreement, as described below. As of April 30, 2019, no borrowings outstanding on the Revolving Line. Had there been borrowings, they would have bore interest at 4.48%, the LIBOR rate plus an applicable margin. We were required to obtain fixed interest rate protection on the Term Loan covering not less than 75% of the aggregate outstanding principal balance of the Term Loan. Accordingly, on June 18, 2015, we entered into an interest rate swap agreement, which expires on June 15, 2020, that covered 100% of the \$105.0 million of floating rate debt. On July 6, 2015, we executed an interest rate swap pursuant to such agreement. This swap, when combined with the applicable margin based on our consolidated leverage ratio, effectively fixed our interest rate on the Term Loan at 4.48%, which is subject to change based on our consolidated leverage ratio.

In February 2018, we issued \$75.0 million of 5.000% Senior Notes due 2020, or the 2020 Senior Notes, and used the proceeds of the notes offering to redeem our then outstanding \$75.0 million of 5.000% Senior Notes due 2018, or the 2018 Senior Notes, in March 2018. The Credit Agreement and the indenture governing the 2020 Senior Notes, or the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture, each contain certain affirmative and negative financial and other restrictive covenants. We may also incur additional indebtedness in the future, including borrowings under our credit facility. Our indebtedness, after taking into account additional borrowings under our credit facility, and the fact that a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations must be used to make principal and interest payments on our indebtedness, could have important consequences, including the following:

- increasing our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions;
- reducing the availability of our cash flow for other purposes;
- limiting our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industry in which we operate, which would place us at a competitive disadvantage compared to our competitors that may have less debt;

- limiting, by the financial and other restrictive covenants in our debt agreements, our ability to borrow additional funds; and
- having a material adverse effect on our business if we fail to comply with the covenants in our debt agreements, because such failure could result in an event of default that, if not cured or waived, could result in all or a substantial amount of our indebtedness becoming immediately due and payable.

Our ability to incur significant future indebtedness, whether to finance potential acquisitions or for general corporate purposes, will depend on our ability to generate cash. To a certain extent, our ability to generate cash is subject to general economic, financial, competitive, legislative, regulatory, and other factors that are beyond our control. If our business does not generate sufficient cash flow from operations or if future borrowings are not available to us under our credit facility in amounts sufficient to enable us to fund our liquidity needs, our financial condition and operating results may be adversely affected. If we cannot make scheduled principal and interest payments on our debt obligations in the future, we may need to refinance all or a portion of our indebtedness on or before maturity, sell assets, delay capital expenditures, or seek additional equity.

Our governing documents and Nevada law could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire us and discourage a takeover.

Certain provisions of our articles of incorporation and bylaws and Nevada law make it more difficult for a third party to acquire us and make a takeover more difficult to complete, even if such a transaction were in our stockholders' interest or might result in a premium over the market price for the shares held by our stockholders.

The issuance of additional common stock in the future, including shares that we may issue pursuant to option grants, may result in dilution in the net tangible book value per share of our common stock.

Our board of directors has the legal power and authority to determine the terms of an offering of shares of our capital stock, or securities convertible into or exchangeable for these shares, to the extent of our shares of authorized and unissued capital stock.

The sale of a substantial number of shares that are eligible for sale could adversely affect the price of our common stock.

As of April 30, 2019, there were 54,696,762 shares of our common stock outstanding. Substantially all of these shares are freely tradable without restriction or further registration under the securities laws, unless held by an "affiliate" of our company, as that term is defined in Rule 144 under the securities laws. Shares held by affiliates of our company, which generally include our directors, executive officers, and certain principal stockholders, are subject to the resale limitations of Rule 144 described below.

In general, under Rule 144 as currently in effect, any person or persons whose shares are aggregated for purposes of Rule 144, who is deemed an affiliate of our company and beneficially owns restricted securities with respect to which at least six months has elapsed since the later of the date the shares were acquired from us, or from an affiliate of ours, is entitled to sell within any three-month period a number of shares that does not exceed the greater of 1% of the then outstanding shares of our common stock and the average weekly trading volume in common stock during the four calendar weeks preceding such sale. Sales by affiliates under Rule 144 also are subject to certain manner-of-sale provisions and notice requirements and to the availability of current public information about us. Rule 701, as currently in effect, permits our employees, officers, directors, and consultants who purchase shares pursuant to a written compensatory plan or contract to resell these shares in reliance upon Rule 144, but without compliance with specific restrictions.

Rule 701 provides that affiliates may sell their Rule 701 shares under Rule 144 without complying with the holding period requirement and that non-affiliates may sell their shares in reliance on Rule 144 without complying with the holding period, public information, volume limitation, or notice provisions of Rule 144. Subject to the availability of current public information about us, a person who is not an affiliate, who has not been an affiliate within three months prior to sale, and who beneficially owns restricted securities with respect to which at least six months has elapsed since the later of the date the shares were acquired from us, or from an affiliate of ours, is entitled to sell such shares under Rule 144 without regard to any of the volume limitations or other requirements described above. Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market could adversely affect the market price for our common stock.

As of April 30, 2019, we had outstanding nonqualified stock options to purchase 267,761 shares of common stock under our incentive stock plans and other option agreements, 1,035,506 undelivered time-based restricted stock units, or RSUs, and 596,125 unearned performance stock units, or PSUs, under our incentive stock plans. We issued 230,282 of the 6,000,000 shares of common stock reserved for issuance under our 2011 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, or the ESPP, during fiscal 2019. We have registered for offer and sale the shares of common stock that are reserved for issuance pursuant to our incentive stock plans and available for issuance pursuant to the ESPP. Shares covered by such registration statements upon the exercise of stock options, the vesting of RSUs and PSUs or pursuant to the ESPP generally will be eligible for sale in the public market, except that affiliates will continue to be subject to volume limitations and other requirements of Rule 144. The issuance or sale of such shares could depress the market price of our common stock.

We may issue securities that could dilute stockholder ownership and the net tangible book value per share of our common stock.

We may decide to raise additional funds through public or private debt or equity financing to fund our operations. If we raise funds by issuing equity securities, the percentage ownership of our current stockholders will be reduced and the new equity securities may have rights superior to those of our common stock. We may not obtain sufficient financing on terms that are favorable to us. We may delay, limit, or eliminate some or all of our proposed operations if adequate funds are not available. We may also issue equity securities as consideration for acquisitions we may make. The issuance of additional common stock in the future, including shares that we may issue pursuant to our incentive stock plans and ESPP, may result in dilution in the net tangible book value per share of our common stock.

Our operating results may involve significant fluctuations.

Various factors contribute to significant periodic and seasonal fluctuations in our operating results. These factors include the following:

- the volume of customer orders relative to our capacity;
- the success of product and service introductions and market acceptance of new products by us and our competitors;
- timing of expenditures in anticipation of future customer orders;
- effectiveness in managing manufacturing processes and costs;
- changes in cost and availability of labor and components;
- ability to manage inventory and inventory obsolescence;
- social and political factors specific to our industry;
- pricing and other competitive pressures; and
- changes or anticipated changes in economic, social, political, legislative, and regulatory factors.

Accordingly, you should not rely on the results of any period as an indication of our future performance. If our operating results fall below expectations of securities analysts or investors, our stock price may decline.

The market price of our common stock could be subject to wide fluctuations as a result of many factors.

Many factors could affect the market price of our common stock, including the following:

- variations in our operating results;
- the relatively small public float of our common stock;
- introductions of new products and services by us or our competitors;
- the performance of our distributors;

- changes in the estimates of our operating performance or changes in recommendations by any securities analysts that follow our stock;
- general economic, social, political, and market conditions and consumer spending patterns;
- governmental policies and regulations;
- investor reaction to news events;
- lack of investor interest in a firearm business;
- the general performance of the markets in which we participate; and
- factors relating to suppliers and competitors.

In addition, market demand for small-capitalization stocks, and price and volume fluctuations in the stock market unrelated to our performance, could result in significant fluctuations in the market price of our common stock. The performance of our common stock could adversely affect our ability to raise equity in the public markets and adversely affect the growth of our business.

We depend on key personnel, our business may be harmed, if we fail to retain and attract skilled management and other key personnel.

Our success depends to a significant extent upon the continued services of our current management team, including P. James Debney, our President and Chief Executive Officer. The loss of Mr. Debney or one or more of our other key executives or employees could have a material adverse effect on our business. Except for Mr. Debney, we do not maintain “key person” insurance policies on the lives of any of our executive officers or any of our other employees. We employ all of our executive officers and key employees on an at-will basis, and their employment can be terminated by us or them at any time, for any reason, and without advance notice, subject to certain severance obligations upon termination. In order to retain valuable employees, in addition to salary and cash incentives, we regard our ability as a public company to grant stock-based compensation as an important component of our ability to attract and retain key personnel. The value to employees of stock-based compensation over time will be significantly affected by movements in our stock price that are beyond our control and may at any time be insufficient to counteract offers from other companies.

Our success also depends on our ability to attract, retain, and motivate additional skilled management personnel. We plan to continue to expand our work force to continue to improve our business and operating results. We believe that there is significant competition for qualified personnel with the skills and knowledge that we require, particularly as a result of ongoing firearm industry consolidation and other industry developments. Many of the other companies with which we compete for qualified personnel have greater financial and other resources than we do. They also may provide more diverse opportunities and better chances for career advancement. Some of these characteristics may be more appealing to high-quality candidates than those which we have to offer. If we are not able to retain our current key personnel, or attract the necessary qualified key personnel to accomplish our business objectives, we may experience constraints that will impede significantly the achievement of our business objectives and our ability to pursue our business strategy. New hires require significant training and, in most cases, take significant time before they achieve full productivity. New employees may not become as productive as we expect, and we may be unable to hire or retain sufficient numbers of qualified individuals. If our recruiting, training, and retention efforts are not successful or do not generate a corresponding increase in revenue, our business will be harmed.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

Not applicable.

Item 2. Properties

The following table sets forth information regarding our principal operating properties and other significant properties as of April 30, 2019. All the properties listed below are leased except where otherwise indicated. In general, our operating properties are well maintained, suitably equipped and in good operating condition.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Reporting Segment</u>
North America		
<i>United States</i>		
Arizona		
Scottsdale	Office	Corporate
Arkansas		
Bentonville	Office	Outdoor Products & Accessories
Connecticut		
Deep River	Plant	Firearms
Florida		
Jacksonville	Office & Warehouse	Outdoor Products & Accessories
Idaho		
Meridian	Office	Firearms
Maine		
Houlton(1)	Plant	Firearms
Massachusetts		
Springfield(1)	Executive Offices & Plant	Corporate Office, Shared Services, Firearms
New Hampshire		
Somersworth	Research & Development	Firearms
Missouri		
Columbia	Office & Warehouse	Outdoor Products & Accessories
Columbia	Office & Warehouse	Firearms, Outdoor Products & Accessories
Oregon		
Wilsonville	Office & Warehouse	Outdoor Products & Accessories
Europe		
<i>Belgium</i>		
Herstal	Office	Firearms
Asia		
<i>People's Republic of China</i>		
Shenzhen	Office	Corporate, Outdoor Products & Accessories

(1) Owned property.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

Information regarding our legal proceedings is discussed in Note 17 to our consolidated financial statements, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

PART II

Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Our common stock has been traded on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "AOBC" since January 1, 2017. In fiscal 2017, we changed our name from Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation to American Outdoor Brands Corporation. Our common stock was previously traded on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "SWHC" from July 20, 2006 to January 1, 2017. The following table sets forth the range of market prices for our common stock as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market by quarter during the past two fiscal years:

	High	Low
2019		
First quarter	\$ 13.36	\$ 9.31
Second quarter	\$ 15.95	\$ 9.27
Third quarter	\$ 15.32	\$ 11.50
Fourth quarter	\$ 13.06	\$ 9.03
2018		
First quarter	\$ 24.49	\$ 20.22
Second quarter	\$ 21.21	\$ 13.28
Third quarter	\$ 15.22	\$ 11.70
Fourth quarter	\$ 11.94	\$ 8.32

On June 17, 2019, the last reported sale price of our common stock was \$9.02 per share. On June 17, 2019, there were 788 record holders of our common stock.

Dividend Policy

We have never declared or paid cash dividends on our common stock. We currently plan to retain any earnings to finance the growth of our business rather than to pay cash dividends. Payment of any cash dividends in the future will depend on our financial condition, operating results, and capital requirements as well as other factors deemed relevant by our board of directors. In addition, our credit facility and the indenture governing our 2020 Senior Notes restrict our ability to pay dividends.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

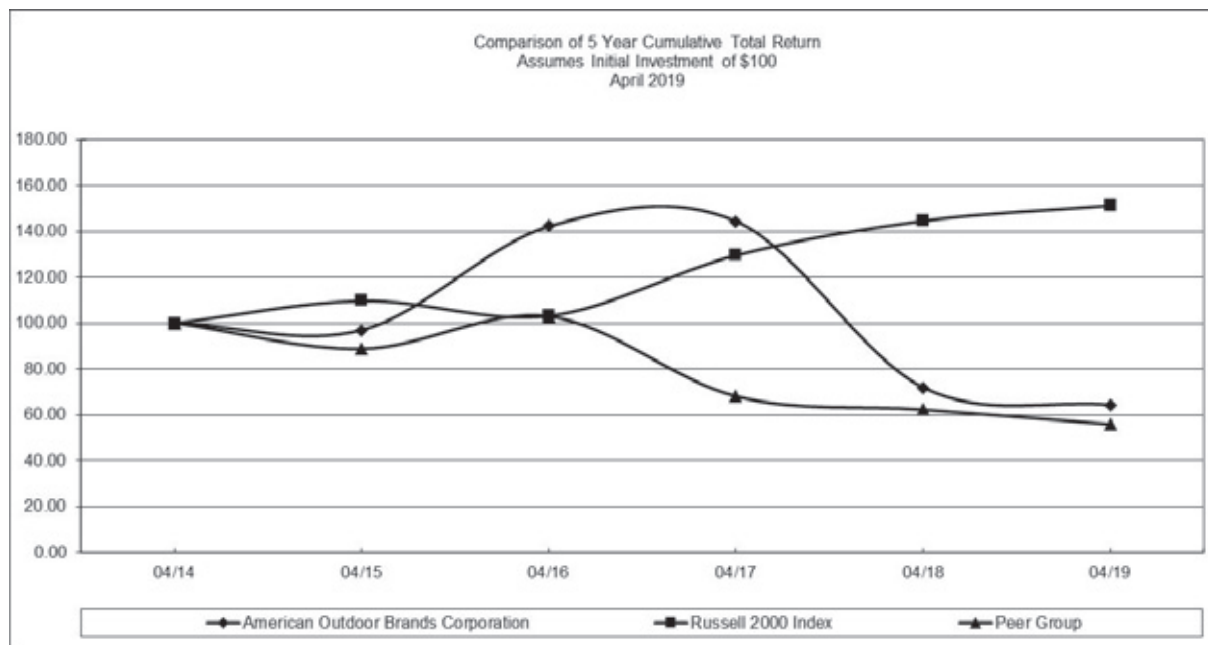
For equity compensation plan information, refer to Item 12 in Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Performance Graph

The following line graph compares cumulative total stockholder returns for the five years ended April 30, 2019 for (i) our common stock; (ii) the Russell 2000 Index; (iii) a peer group consisting of Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc., Vista Outdoor, Inc., and National Presto Industries, Inc., (Peer Group on the graph below). The graph assumes an investment of \$100 on April 30, 2014. The calculation of cumulative stockholder return on the Russell 2000 Index and the peer group include reinvestment of dividends, but the calculation of cumulative stockholder return on our common stock does not include reinvestment of dividends because we did not pay any dividends during the measurement period. The performance shown is not necessarily indicative of future performance.

COMPARISON OF FIVE-YEAR CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN*

Among American Outdoor Brands Corporation, The Russell 2000 Index,
And Peer Group



* \$100 invested on April 30, 2014 in stock or index — including reinvestment of dividends. Fiscal year ending April 30.

The performance graph above shall not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act, or otherwise subject to the liability of that section. The performance graph above will not be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing of our company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act.

Repurchases of Common Stock

As of April 30, 2019, we had no authorized share repurchase programs. We did not repurchase any shares of our common stock during fiscal 2019.

Item 6. Selected Financial Data

The consolidated statements of income and cash flows data for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 and the consolidated balance sheet data as of April 30, 2019 and 2018 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this report. The consolidated statements of income/(loss) and cash flows data for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2016 and 2015 and the consolidated balance sheet data as of April 30, 2017, 2016, and 2015 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements not included herein. You should read this information in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements, including the related notes, and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” included in Item 7 of this report.

	Fiscal Year Ended April 30,				
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
	(In thousands, except share, per share, and ratio data)				
Net sales	\$ 638,277	\$ 606,850	\$ 903,188	\$ 722,908	\$ 551,862
Cost of sales	412,046	411,098	527,916	429,096	356,936
Gross profit	226,231	195,752	375,272	293,812	194,926
Operating expenses	188,175 (a)	168,704	175,333	135,169	105,298
Operating income	38,056	27,048	199,939	158,643	89,628
Total other income/(expense), net	(9,318)	(9,431)	(8,633)	(13,550)	(10,896)
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	28,738	17,617	191,306	145,093	78,732
Income tax expense/(benefit)	10,328	(2,511)	63,452	51,135	28,905
Income from continuing operations (b)	18,410	20,128	127,854	93,958	49,827
Discontinued operations:					
Loss from operation of discontinued security solutions division	—	—	—	—	(297)
Income tax benefit	—	—	—	—	(83)
Loss from operation of discontinued security solutions division	—	—	—	—	(214)
Net income	\$ 18,410	\$ 20,128	\$ 127,854	\$ 93,958	\$ 49,613
Net income per share:					
Basic - continuing operations	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.37	\$ 2.29	\$ 1.72	\$ 0.92
Basic - total	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.37	\$ 2.29	\$ 1.72	\$ 0.92
Diluted - continuing operations	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.37	\$ 2.25	\$ 1.68	\$ 0.90
Diluted - total	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.37	\$ 2.25	\$ 1.68	\$ 0.90
Weighted average number of shares outstanding:					
Basic	54,483	54,061	55,930	54,765	53,988
Diluted	55,216	54,834	56,891	55,965	55,228
Depreciation and amortization	\$ 53,859	\$ 52,075	\$ 50,213	\$ 41,237	\$ 30,893
Capital expenditures	\$ 33,949	\$ 18,490	\$ 34,876	\$ 29,474	\$ 28,199
Year-end financial position:					
Working capital	\$ 187,401	\$ 169,682	\$ 167,196	\$ 210,639	\$ 116,065
Current ratio	2.7	2.7	2.1	2.7	2.4
Total assets	\$ 766,789	\$ 745,060	\$ 788,036	\$ 619,503	\$ 490,925
Current portion of notes and loans payable	\$ 6,300	\$ 6,300	\$ 6,300	\$ 6,300	\$ —
Notes and loans payable, net of current portion	\$ 149,434	\$ 180,304	\$ 210,657	\$ 166,564	\$ 170,933
Capital lease payable, net of current portion	\$ 45,400	\$ 22,143	\$ 173	\$ —	\$ 1,455

- (a) Operating expenses for fiscal 2019 include a \$10.4 million impairment of goodwill in our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment. See Note 3 – *Significant Accounting Policies* for further detail.
- (b) Income from continuing operations for fiscal 2019 includes activity for the period subsequent to the acquisition of LaserLyte. Income from continuing operations for fiscal 2018 includes activity for the period subsequent to the acquisitions of Gemini Technologies, Incorporated and Fish Tales, LLC. Fiscal 2018 and 2017 includes activity for the period subsequent to the acquisitions of Taylor Brands, LLC, Crimson Trace, and UST in fiscal 2017. Fiscal 2018, 2017, 2016, and 2015 includes activity for the period subsequent to our TTPP and BTI acquisitions in fiscal 2015. See Note 2 – *Acquisitions* to the consolidated financial statements for further detail.

Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

You should read the following Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto contained elsewhere in this report. This discussion contains forward-looking statements that involve risks, uncertainties, and assumptions. Our actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of a variety of factors, including those set forth under Item 1A, "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this report.

In fiscal 2017, in three separate transactions, we acquired (1) substantially all of the net assets of Taylor Brands, LLC, (2) substantially all of the assets of Ultimate Survival Technologies, Inc. (now referred to as Ultimate Survival Technologies, LLC, or UST), and (3) all of the issued and outstanding stock of Crimson Trace Corporation for an aggregate purchase price of \$211.1 million, net of cash acquired, subject to certain adjustments, utilizing cash on hand. Taylor Brands, LLC, which has been integrated into our Battenfeld Technologies business and operates from Columbia, Missouri, is a leading provider of high-quality knives, specialty tools, and accessories. Crimson Trace Corporation, based in Wilsonville, Oregon, is a leading provider of laser sight and tactical light products for consumers, law enforcement, security agencies, and military agencies worldwide. UST, based in Jacksonville, Florida, is a provider of high-quality survival and camping equipment, including LED lights, all-weather fire starters, unbreakable signal mirrors, premium outdoor cutting tools, first aid kits, survival kits, and camp kitchen products. Results of operations for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2017 include activity for the period subsequent to the respective acquisition dates of Taylor Brands, LLC, Crimson Trace Corporation, and UST. We collectively refer to the acquisitions of Taylor Brands, LLC, Crimson Trace Corporation, and UST as the 2017 Acquisitions.

In fiscal 2018, in two separate transactions, we acquired substantially all of the net assets of Gemini Technologies, Incorporated, or Gemtech, and Bubba Blade branded products and other assets from Fish Tales, LLC. The aggregate purchase price for the two acquisitions was \$23.1 million, subject to certain adjustments, utilizing a combination of cash on hand and borrowings under our revolving line of credit. Gemtech, which has been integrated into our Smith & Wesson business and operates from Springfield, Massachusetts, is a provider of quality suppressors and accessories for the consumer, law enforcement, and military markets. Fish Tales, LLC, which has been fully integrated into our Battenfeld Technologies business and operates out of our Columbia, Missouri facility, was a provider of premium sportsman knives and tools for fishing and hunting, including the premium knife brand Bubba Blade. We collectively refer to the acquisitions of Gemtech and Bubba Blade branded products as the 2018 Acquisitions.

In January 2019, we acquired substantially all of the LaserLyte branded products and other assets, or LaserLyte, from P&L Industries Inc., for a purchase price of \$2.0 million, subject to certain adjustments, utilizing cash on hand. P&L Industries was a provider of laser training and sighting products for the consumer market. The LaserLyte business has been fully integrated into our Crimson Trace business and operates out of our Wilsonville, Oregon facility. This acquisition did not have a material impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements for any period presented.

We report our results of operations in two segments: (1) Firearms and (2) Outdoor Products & Accessories.

2019 Highlights

Our operating results for fiscal 2019 included the following:

- Total net sales of \$638.3 million, was an increase of \$31.4 million, or 5.2%, over the prior fiscal year.
- Firearms segment gross sales of \$481.3 million, which included \$2.9 million of intersegment revenue, an increase of \$28.5 million, or 6.3%, over the prior fiscal year.
- Outdoor Products & Accessories segment gross sales of \$177.3 million, which included \$17.5 million of intersegment revenue, an increase of \$5.6 million, or 3.3%, over the prior fiscal.
- Gross margin of 35.4% increased 310 basis points over the prior fiscal year.

- A combination of factors occurring in the firearms industry during the last few years, including changes in the political environment and reduced overall demand for both firearms and the accessories that are attached to firearms, such as laser sights, resulted in us lowering our long-range sales volume, operating profit, and cash flow forecasts in our former Electro-Optics operating unit. Based on those forecasts, we felt it important to seek out efficiencies in that operating unit to increase operating performance and as a result decided to combine that operating unit with our Outdoor Products & Accessories operating unit. The lowered forecasts and the decision to reorganize those operating units caused us to evaluate the fair value of our operating units. Based on the results of this evaluation, we recorded a \$10.4 million non-cash impairment of goodwill in our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment.
- Net income in fiscal 2019 was negatively impacted by a \$10.4 million impairment of goodwill and in fiscal 2018 net income was positively impacted by a one-time Tax Reform benefit of \$8.7 million. Net income in fiscal 2019 was \$18.4 million, a decrease of \$1.7 million, or 8.5%, from the prior fiscal year and net income per diluted share in fiscal 2019 was \$0.33, a decrease of \$0.04, or 10.8%, from the prior fiscal year.

Key Performance Indicators

We evaluate the performance of our business based upon operating profit, which includes net sales, cost of sales, selling and administrative expenses, and certain components of other income and expense. We also track our return on invested capital, and we use adjusted EBITDAS (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization, and stock-based compensation expense, excluding certain non-operational items), which is a non-GAAP financial metric, as a supplemental measure of our performance in order to provide investors with an improved understanding of underlying performance trends. We evaluate our firearm products by such measurements as gross margin per unit produced, units produced per day, revenue by trade channel, and incoming orders per day. We evaluate our outdoor products and accessories products by such measurements as incoming orders per day and sales and gross margin by customer and brand.

External Factors that Impact the Firearm Industry

The firearm industry has been subject to many external factors in the past that have significantly increased the volatility of revenue generated for all companies within the industry. These factors include, among others, fears surrounding crime and terrorism; tragic news events; potential restrictions on the sale or makeup of firearms; actual and potential legislative, judicial, and regulatory actions; economic changes; and changes in the social and political environment, including presidential elections. See Item 1A, *Risk Factors*, for further discussion of external factors that impact the firearm industry. Although these external factors have created demand surges and volatility in the firearms market, and often make it difficult to predict demand, we believe that those external factors have also likely contributed to a long-term increase in consumer interest in firearms. This increased consumer interest has helped the firearm industry generate a ten-year compound annual growth rate in units of approximately 7.6% according to the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, or ATF. We believe that this expanding base of consumers combined with our strong brand recognition and attractive price points are important factors in our goal to continue increasing our market share. Based on data from calendar 2017, we estimate that we have a 14.5% share of the U.S. consumer market for handguns.

Results of Operations

Net Sales

The following table sets forth certain information regarding net sales for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (dollars in thousands):

	2019	2018	\$ Change	% Change	2017
Handguns	\$ 336,901	\$ 326,290	\$ 10,611	3.3%	\$ 556,566
Long Guns	107,717	90,222	17,495	19.4%	179,612
Other Products & Services	33,859	32,474	1,385	4.3%	36,819
Firearms Segment	478,477	448,986	29,491	6.6%	772,997
Outdoor Products & Accessories Segment	159,800	157,864	1,936	1.2%	130,191
Total Net Sales	<u>\$ 638,277</u>	<u>\$ 606,850</u>	<u>\$ 31,427</u>	<u>5.2%</u>	<u>\$ 903,188</u>

The following table sets forth certain information regarding trade channel net sales for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (dollars in thousands):

	2019	2018	\$ Change	% Change	2017
Sporting Goods Channel	\$ 564,537	\$ 532,662	\$ 31,875	6.0%	\$ 819,132
Professional Channel	58,716	57,336	1,380	2.4%	68,009
Other Products & Services	15,024	16,852	(1,828)	-10.8%	16,047
Total Net Sales	<u>\$ 638,277</u>	<u>\$ 606,850</u>	<u>\$ 31,427</u>	<u>5.2%</u>	<u>\$ 903,188</u>

We include domestic handgun, long gun, and parts revenue as well as revenue from our outdoor products and accessories in our sporting goods distribution channel, and we include international and law enforcement handgun, long gun, and handcuff revenue in our professional channel. We include manufacturing services and plastic injection molding revenue in other products and services.

The following table sets forth certain information regarding firearm units shipped by trade channel for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (units in thousands):

<u>Total Units Shipped</u>	2019	2018	# Change	% Change	2017
Handguns	1,162	1,155	7	0.6%	1,843
Long Guns	327	287	40	13.9%	420
<u>Sporting Goods Channel Units Shipped</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u># Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>2017</u>
Handguns	1,067	1,053	14	1.3%	1,702
Long Guns	309	267	42	15.7%	391
<u>Professional Channel Units Shipped</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u># Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>2017</u>
Handguns	95	102	(7)	-6.9%	141
Long Guns	18	20	(2)	-10.0%	29

Fiscal 2019 Net Sales Compared with Fiscal 2018

Firearms

Revenue for our handguns increased \$10.6 million, or 3.3%, over fiscal 2018, primarily as a result of lower consumer rebates on our polymer pistols, the recognition of deferred revenue on shipments of promotional products, and higher demand for concealed carry M&P branded polymer pistols and revolvers, partially offset by lower shipments of Performance Center branded polymer pistols. Actual unit shipments into the sporting goods channel for our handgun products increased 1.3% over fiscal 2018, primarily as a result of increased demand for certain of our handgun products because of successful seasonal promotional programs, including a promotion that bundled one of our handgun products with a shooting accessories product. Although overall consumer demand for handguns decreased 8.9% from fiscal 2018 (as indicated by adjusted background checks reported in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, or NICS), we believe consistent demand for the broad array of quality products that we offer, combined with a normalized level of distributor inventory (rather than a sharp decline in such inventory in the prior year), had a positive impact on our fiscal 2019 results.

Revenue for our long guns increased \$17.5 million, or 19.4%, over fiscal 2018, partially because of replenishment of inventory, specifically for our sport model modern sporting rifle, in the sporting goods channel and several successful promotional programs, including a promotion that bundled a firearm with shooting accessory products. As a result, we believe we increased our market share for long guns.

Other products and services revenue increased \$1.4 million, or 4.3%, over the prior year, primarily because of higher sales of parts and handcuffs.

New products, defined as any new SKU not shipped in the prior year, represented 20.1% of firearm revenue for fiscal 2019 and included our new concealed carry Performance Center M&P branded polymer pistol and many other new product line extensions for our M&P and Thompson/Center Arms branded products. The increase in the number of units sold favorably impacted firearm revenue by 1.0%.

Our firearm inventory levels decreased during fiscal 2019 as a result of increased shipments to fulfill seasonal promotional programs and increased demand for our modern sporting rifles, offset by increased inventory to reduce the risk of potential shipping disruptions when our national logistics facility in Boone County, Missouri becomes fully operational for Firearms in fiscal 2020. While inventory levels, both internally and in the distribution channel, in excess of demand may negatively impact future operating results, it is difficult to forecast the potential impact of distributor inventories on future revenue and income since demand is impacted by many factors, including seasonality, new product introductions, news events, political events, and consumer tastes.

Our Firearms segment order backlog as of April 30, 2019 and 2018 was \$39.2 million and \$96.1 million, respectively. The decrease in order backlog from the prior fiscal year was primarily because of the normalization of channel inventories and the timing of order fulfillment. We allow orders received that have not yet shipped to be cancelled, and therefore, our backlog may not be indicative of future sales.

Outdoor Products & Accessories

Net sales for our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment for fiscal 2019 increased \$1.9 million, or 1.2%, over fiscal 2018. Net sales increased primarily because of market acceptance of newly introduced accessories products over the past several years and increased revenue from strategic retailers, including internet retailers, partially offset from lower electro-optics products revenue as a result of a general decline in firearm market conditions mentioned above.

New products in our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment represented 6.2% of this segment's revenue for fiscal 2019 and included more than 300 new products. Net sales for our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment was 25.0% of total company net sales compared with 26.0% in fiscal 2018.

Our Outdoor Products & Accessories inventory levels increased during fiscal 2019, primarily because of increased inventory purchases to mitigate tariff costs. We expect inventory levels to continue to increase in anticipation of additional tariff costs in early fiscal 2020 and a planned inventory build to reduce the risk of potential shipping disruptions when we transition our outdoor products and accessories business into our national logistics facility in Boone County, Missouri during fiscal 2020.

Our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment order backlog as of April 30, 2019 was \$12.7 million, or \$1.6 million lower than at the end of fiscal 2018. We allow orders received that have not yet shipped to be cancelled, and therefore, our backlog may not be indicative of future sales.

Fiscal 2018 Net Sales Compared with Fiscal 2017

Firearms

Net sales in our Firearms segment for fiscal 2018 decreased 41.9% from fiscal 2017. We had lower shipments across nearly all product categories as customer orders softened in light of excessive channel inventories at the beginning of the fiscal year combined with lower consumer demand potentially as a result of reduced political pressure on firearm laws and regulations (as indicated by an 8.9% reduction in total adjusted background checks reported in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, or NICS). We also believe the demand in the first half of fiscal 2017 was heightened primarily because of news events, including terrorism, as well as the political environment that may have caused concerns related to potential firearm ownership restrictions leading up to the Presidential election. In addition, the success of promotions on certain products in our fourth fiscal quarter ended April 30, 2017 exceeded our expectations and may have pulled forward shipments into the prior fiscal year, contributing to reduced firearm orders during the first half of fiscal 2018.

Our handgun product revenue decreased \$230.3 million, or 41.4%, from fiscal 2017 because of the lower demand for the majority of our products. Revenue for our long guns decreased \$89.4 million, or 49.8%, from fiscal 2017 as a result of lower demand for our modern sporting rifles, offset by increased revenue for certain Thompson/Center Arms branded hunting rifles. New products represented 29.2% of firearm revenue for fiscal 2018 and included our new concealed carry M&P branded polymer pistol and many other product line extensions for our M&P and Thompson/Center Arms branded products. Price increases favorably impacted firearm revenue by 0.1% for fiscal 2018 compared with fiscal 2017. The reduction in the number of units sold negatively impacted firearm revenue by 40.6%.

Total unit shipments for handguns declined at a slower rate than our decline in revenue for handguns as a result of promotional product shipments during the period, which lowered our average selling price. Total unit shipments for long guns declined at a substantially slower rate than our decline in revenue as a result of promotional product shipments during fiscal 2018 and product mix primarily driven by lower demand for our higher priced modern sporting rifles and offset by increased shipments for certain lower priced Thompson/Center Arms branded hunting rifles.

Our Firearms segment order backlog as of April 30, 2018 was \$96.1 million, which was relatively flat from the end of fiscal 2017. We allow orders received that have not yet shipped to be cancelled, and therefore, our backlog may not be indicative of future sales.

Outdoor Products & Accessories

Our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment net sales for fiscal 2018 increased 21.3% over fiscal 2017, primarily because of net sales generated by the 2017 Acquisitions and 2018 Acquisitions. Revenue from acquisitions totaled \$27.9 million, or 17.7%, of net sales for this segment. Organic revenue was relatively flat from fiscal 2017. Net sales for our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment was 26.0% of total net sales compared with 14.4% in fiscal 2017.

Our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment order backlog as of April 30, 2018 was \$14.3 million, or \$1.8 million higher than at the end of fiscal 2017. We allow orders received that have not yet shipped to be cancelled, and therefore, our backlog may not be indicative of future sales.

Cost of Sales and Gross Profit

The following table sets forth certain information regarding cost of sales and gross profit for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (dollars in thousands):

<u>Total Company</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>2017</u>
Cost of sales	\$ 412,046	\$ 411,098	\$ 948	0.2%	\$527,916
Gross profit	\$ 226,231	\$ 195,752	\$ 30,479	15.6%	\$375,272
% of net sales (gross margin)	35.4%	32.3%			41.5%
<u>Firearms Segment</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>2017</u>
Cost of sales	\$ 325,636	\$ 325,746	\$ (110)	0.0%	\$458,392
Gross profit	\$ 152,842	\$ 123,240	\$ 29,602	24.0%	\$314,605
% of net sales (gross margin)	31.9%	27.4%			40.7%
<u>Outdoor Products & Accessories Segment</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>2017</u>
Cost of sales	\$ 86,410	\$ 85,352	\$ 1,058	1.2%	\$69,524
Gross profit	\$ 73,390	\$ 72,512	\$ 878	1.2%	\$60,667
% of net sales (gross margin)	45.9%	45.9%			46.6%

Fiscal 2019 Cost of Sales and Gross Profit Compared with Fiscal 2018

Gross margin for fiscal 2019 for our Firearms segment increased by 4.5% over the prior fiscal year, primarily because of a combination of lower promotional product discounts, consumer rebates, and lower manufacturing spending, which favorably impacted gross margin by 6.9%. The favorable impacts to gross margin were partially offset by inventory valuation reserves related to manufacturing capitalization variance and lower of cost or market adjustments, unfavorable manufacturing fixed-cost absorption, and unfavorable product mix, all of which negatively impacted gross margin by 2.5%.

Gross margin for fiscal 2019 for our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment remained flat compared with the prior fiscal year. Favorable impacts to gross margin included changes in customer mix, which yielded higher gross margins, and lower promotional activity offset by unfavorable product mix. Our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment favorably impacted total company gross margin by 3.5% for fiscal 2019.

Fiscal 2018 Cost of Sales and Gross Profit Compared with Fiscal 2017

Gross margin for fiscal 2018 for our Firearms segment decreased by 13.3% from fiscal 2017, primarily because of a combination of reduced sales volumes across nearly all product categories, additional promotional product discounts, unfavorable manufacturing fixed-cost absorption, and inventory valuation adjustments. The unfavorable manufacturing fixed-cost absorption from lower sales volumes, inventory valuation adjustments, and additional promotional product discounts negatively impacted gross margin by 18.5%, partially offset by favorable manufacturing spending, which favorably impacted gross margin by 5.9%.

Gross margin for fiscal 2018 for our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment decreased 0.7% from fiscal 2017. Fiscal 2017 included \$4.7 million of increased cost of goods sold from the fair value step-up in inventory and backlog expense as a result of the 2017 Acquisitions, which yielded a 3.6% unfavorable impact on gross margin on that segment. Excluding this expense in fiscal 2017, gross margin decreased 4.3% for fiscal 2018. Inorganic gross margin negatively impacted our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment gross margin by 1.0%, primarily because the gross margin of our survival products are generally lower than other products in this segment, partially offset by the higher gross margin for our electro-optic products. Organic gross margins decreased 3.3% from fiscal 2017, resulting from costs related to a recall of certain electro-optics products, which yielded a 1.0% unfavorable impact to gross margin, combined with a change in product mix and promotional activity. Our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment favorably impacted total company gross margin by 4.9% for fiscal 2018.

Operating Expenses

The following table sets forth certain information regarding operating expenses for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (dollars in thousands):

	2019	2018	\$ Change	% Change	2017
Research and development	\$ 12,866	\$ 11,361	\$ 1,505	13.2%	\$ 10,238
Selling and marketing	57,263	55,805	1,458	2.6%	49,338
General and administrative	107,651	101,538	6,113	6.0%	115,757
Impairment of long-lived assets	10,396	—	10,396	N/A	—
Total operating expenses	\$ 188,176	\$ 168,704	\$ 19,472	11.5%	\$ 175,333
% of net sales	29.5%	27.8%			19.4%

Fiscal 2019 Operating Expenses Compared with Fiscal 2018

Excluding the impact of the goodwill impairment described above, operating expenses increased \$9.1 million over fiscal 2018. Research & development expenses increased \$1.5 million as a result of increased compensation-related expenses and professional fees. Selling and marketing expenses increased primarily as a result of \$1.9 million of increased compensation-related expenses and increased travel and entertainment expenses, partially offset by decreased advertising expenses, commission costs, and professional fees. General and administrative expenses increased \$6.1 million because of \$8.9 million of increased compensation-related expenses as well as increased depreciation expenses related to our national logistics facility. These increases were partially offset by \$2.3 million of decreased professional fees, lower donations to the National Rifle Association of \$950,000, decreased travel and entertainment related expenses, and decreased acquisition-related costs.

Fiscal 2018 Operating Expenses Compared with Fiscal 2017

Operating expenses decreased \$6.6 million from fiscal 2017. Research and development expenses increased primarily because of \$1.1 million of additional operating expenses relating to the acquired companies. Selling and marketing expenses increased because of \$4.7 million of additional operating expenses relating to acquired companies, \$4.4 million of increased advertising expenses related to co-op advertising and rebate expenses, and \$2.1 million of increased sales representative commission expenses, partially offset by \$2.1 million of decreased management incentives and travel and entertainment expenses. General and administrative expenses decreased primarily because of an \$18.5 million decrease in profit-related compensation costs and a \$3.1 million decrease in acquisition-related costs, as well as due to other cost reduction initiatives, partially offset by \$10.6 million of additional operating expenses relating to acquired companies and \$1.3 million of increased professional fees and travel and entertainment expenses.

Operating Income

The following table sets forth certain information regarding operating income for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (dollars in thousands):

	2019	2018	\$ Change	% Change	2017
Operating income	\$ 38,056	\$ 27,048	\$ 11,008	40.7%	\$ 199,939
% of net sales (operating margin)	6.0%	4.5%			22.1%

Fiscal 2019 Operating Income Compared with Fiscal 2018

Excluding the impact of the goodwill impairment described above, operating income for fiscal 2019 was \$48.5 million, an increase of \$21.4 million, or 79.1% over fiscal 2018, primarily because of a combination of lower promotional product discounts, lower consumer rebates, lower manufacturing spending, decreased professional fees, lower donations to the National Rifle Association, decreased travel and entertainment related expenses, and decreased acquisition-related costs. These increases to operating income were partially offset by unfavorable inventory valuation adjustments and manufacturing fixed-cost absorption, increased compensation-related expenses, and increased depreciation expenses related to our national logistics facility.

Fiscal 2018 Operating Income Compared with Fiscal 2017

For fiscal 2018, operating income was \$27.0 million, a decrease of \$172.9 million from fiscal 2017, primarily because of reduced sales volumes of our firearm products and the related operating profit impacts from unfavorable manufacturing fixed-cost absorption, additional operating expenses related to the 2017 Acquisitions and 2018 Acquisitions, and increased advertising, rebate, and sales representative commission expenses, partially offset by reduced general and administrative expenses related to profit-related compensation expense and lower acquisition-related costs.

Other Income/(Expense)

The following table sets forth certain information regarding operating income/(expense) for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (dollars in thousands):

	2019	2018	\$ Change	% Change	2017
Other income/(expense)	\$ 33	\$ 1,737	\$ (1,704)	N/A	\$ (52)

In fiscal 2018, we recorded an adjustment of \$1.6 million in the contingent consideration liability in connection with the acquisition of Ultimate Survival Technologies, Inc.

Interest (Expense)/Income

The following table sets forth certain information regarding interest expense for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (dollars in thousands):

	2019	2018	\$ Change	% Change	2017
Interest expense	\$ (9,351)	\$ (11,168)	\$ (1,817)	-16.3%	\$ (8,581)

Interest expense decreased by \$1.8 million from the prior fiscal year because of lower overall outstanding debt during fiscal 2019.

Income Tax Expense

The following table sets forth certain information regarding income tax expense for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (dollars in thousands):

	2019	2018	\$ Change	% Change	2017
Income tax expense/(benefit)	\$ 10,328	\$ (2,511)	\$ 12,839	511.3%	\$ 63,452
% of income from operations (effective tax rate)	35.9%	-14.3%		50.2%	33.2%

We recorded income tax expense of \$10.3 million for fiscal 2019, versus an income tax benefit of \$2.5 million for fiscal 2018, primarily because of the impact of Tax Reform in the prior year. The effective tax rates were 35.9% and (14.3%) for fiscal 2019 and 2018, respectively. The effective tax rate for the fiscal 2019 excludes a non-cash goodwill impairment charge as a discrete item.

We recorded an income tax benefit of \$2.5 million for fiscal 2018, compared with a tax expense of \$63.5 million for fiscal 2017, primarily because of the impact of Tax Reform and lower operating profit. The effective tax rates were (14.3%) and 33.2% for fiscal 2018 and 2017, respectively. We estimated the impact of Tax Reform, based on currently available information and interpretations of the law, to be a benefit of \$8.7 million. The majority of the tax benefit was due to re-measurement of deferred tax assets and liabilities at lower enacted corporate federal tax rates, which did not have a cash impact in fiscal 2018. Excluding the impact of Tax Reform and other discrete items, our effective tax rate for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2018 was 35.4%.

Net Income

The following table sets forth certain information regarding net income and the related per share data for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (dollars in thousands, except per share data):

	2019	2018	\$ Change	% Change	2017
Net income	\$ 18,410	\$ 20,128	\$ (1,718)	-8.5%	\$ 127,854
Net income per share					
Basic	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.37	\$ (0.03)	-8.1%	\$ 2.29
Diluted	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.37	\$ (0.04)	-10.8%	\$ 2.25

Fiscal 2019 Net Income Compared with Fiscal 2018

Excluding the impact of Tax Reform in the prior fiscal year and goodwill impairment in the current fiscal year, net income was \$28.8 million in fiscal 2019 compared with \$11.4 million in fiscal 2018, an increase of \$17.4 million, or 152.6%. The increase in net income was primarily due to increased revenue, a combination of lower promotional product discounts, consumer rebates, lower manufacturing spending, decreased professional fees, and lower donations to the National Rifle Association. The favorable impacts to net income were partially offset by unfavorable inventory valuation adjustments and manufacturing fixed-cost absorption, increased compensation-related expenses, and increased depreciation expenses related to our national logistics facility.

Fiscal 2018 Net Income Compared with Fiscal 2017

Net income of \$20.1 million for fiscal 2018 was \$107.7 million lower than net income of \$127.9 million in fiscal 2017, primarily because of lower firearm revenue, the negative impacts on gross margin discussed above, and increased operating expenses resulting from the 2017 Acquisitions and 2018 Acquisitions. Acquisition-related expenses as a result of the 2018 Acquisitions negatively impacted net income per diluted share by \$0.01 per share. This was offset by the favorable impact of a lower effective tax rate as a result of Tax Reform, lower profit-related compensation expense, and lower acquisition-related expenses.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our principal cash requirements are to (1) finance the growth of our operations, including working capital and capital expenditures, (2) service our existing debt, and (3) fund any potential acquisitions. Capital expenditures for tooling for new product offerings, various information technology projects, and manufacturing machinery replacements and upgrades represent important cash needs.

The following table sets forth certain cash flow information for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (dollars in thousands):

	2019	2018	\$ Change	% Change	2017
Operating activities	\$ 57,450	\$ 61,643	\$ (4,193)	-6.8%	\$ 123,576
Investing activities	(34,827)	(42,164)	7,337	-17.4%	(243,742)
Financing activities	(30,468)	(32,168)	1,700	-5.3%	(9,564)
Total cash flow	<u>\$ (7,845)</u>	<u>\$ (12,689)</u>	<u>\$ 4,844</u>	<u>-38.2%</u>	<u>\$ (129,730)</u>

Operating Activities

Operating activities represent the principal source of our cash flow.

Cash provided by operating activities was \$57.5 million in fiscal 2019, or \$4.2 million lower than the prior fiscal year. Cash generated by operating activities for fiscal 2019 was favorably impacted by net income of \$72.3 million before depreciation and amortization, \$11.0 million of increased payroll and incentives due to increased management incentive accruals, and a \$10.4 million non-cash goodwill impairment charge in our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment. Cash provided by operating activities was negatively impacted by \$29.0 million of increased accounts receivable due to the timing of customer shipments, \$10.5 million of increased inventory primarily due to increased inventory purchases to mitigate tariff costs related to our outdoor products and accessories products, and an \$7.2 million reduction in accrued expenses because of decreased promotional product discounts and consumer rebate accruals. We anticipate that inventory levels will increase in our first quarter of fiscal 2020 due to seasonal trends, purchases to mitigate additional tariff costs expected in early fiscal 2020, and a planned inventory build to reduce the risk of shipping complications as we transition our outdoor products and accessories products to our national logistics facility in fiscal 2020.

Cash provided by operating activities was \$61.6 million in fiscal 2018, or \$62.0 million lower than fiscal 2017. Cash generated by operating activities for fiscal 2018 was favorably impacted by net income of \$72.2 million before depreciation and amortization as well as a \$51.4 million decrease in accounts receivable due to lower sales volume and a reduction in promotional term offerings. Cash generated by operating activities was partially offset by a \$17.0 million increase in inventory because of lower firearm sales volumes and demand, \$22.5 million of lower profit-related compensation accruals, \$21.0 million of reduced accounts payable as a result of reduced manufacturing purchases, and an \$8.6 million reduction in accrued expenses because of decreased promotional product discounts and rebate accruals.

Investing Activities

Cash used in investing activities in fiscal 2019 was \$34.8 million, or \$7.3 million lower than in the prior fiscal year primarily due to \$21.3 million of spending on business acquisitions in the prior fiscal year, partially offset by higher spending on capital expenditures in fiscal 2019 as compared with the prior fiscal year. We recorded capital expenditures of \$33.9 million, or \$15.5 million over the prior fiscal year, primarily because of spending related to our national logistics facility that was completed during fiscal 2019. Excluding spending related to our national logistics facility, we recorded capital expenditures of \$16.5 million, a decrease of \$2.0 million from the prior fiscal year. During fiscal 2019, we acquired substantially all of the LaserLyte branded products and other assets from P&L Industries Inc., for a purchase price of \$2.0 million, subject to certain adjustments, utilizing cash on hand.

Cash used in investing activities in fiscal 2018 was \$42.2 million, or \$201.6 million lower than fiscal 2017 primarily due to \$188.0 million of higher spending in the prior fiscal year on acquisition of businesses. We recorded capital expenditures of \$18.5 million in fiscal 2018, a decrease of \$16.6 million from fiscal 2017. We began building our national logistics facility in fiscal 2018, which was treated as a capital lease and recorded in construction in progress, offset by a capital lease payable throughout building construction. As of April 30, 2018, we had recorded \$22.0 million in construction in progress, which was included in property, plant, and equipment in our consolidated balance sheet, for costs incurred by the builder relating to the purchase of land and costs related to the design and construction of the building, offset by a \$22.0 million capital lease payable, which was included in other non-current liabilities in our consolidated balance sheet for fiscal 2018.

Financing Activities

Cash used in financing activities was \$30.5 million in fiscal 2019, which was relatively flat from the prior fiscal year. Cash used in financing activities during fiscal 2019 and 2018 was primarily the result of reducing our outstanding borrowings under our Revolving Line by \$25.0 million and principal payments on our Term Loan.

Cash used in financing activities was \$32.2 million in fiscal 2018, an increase of \$22.6 million, compared with cash used in financing activities of \$9.6 million for fiscal 2017.

Capital Lease – In fiscal 2017, we announced a plan to establish a national logistics facility in Boone County, Missouri. We ultimately plan to rely on this logistics facility for substantially all of our product distribution. In fiscal 2018, we broke ground on our new 633,000 square foot facility, which was completed in November 2018 and will become fully operational in fiscal 2020. As part of the completion of the building, we entered into a lease agreement with the developer of the building for \$46.2 million. The lease has an effective interest rate of approximately 5.0% and is payable in 240 monthly installments through fiscal 2039. Leases are accounted for under the provisions of ASC 840-10, *Leases*, which requires that leases be evaluated and classified as operating or capital leases for financial reporting purposes. Based on our evaluation under ASC 840-10, we determined that the lease qualified as a capital lease because the net present value of future lease payments exceeded 90% of the fair market value of the leased building. The building is pledged to secure the amounts outstanding. We included \$681,000 of short-term capital lease obligation in accrued expenses and \$45.4 million in long-term capital lease obligation on the condensed consolidated balance sheet.

Credit Facilities - On June 15, 2015, we entered into a Credit Agreement that provides us with a \$175.0 million Revolving Line and a \$105.0 million Term Loan. The Term Loan matures on June 15, 2020, and our Revolving Line matures on October 27, 2021. We had no borrowings on our Revolving Line and \$81.4 million outstanding on our Term Loan as of April 30, 2019. See Note 6 – *Notes and Loans Payable and Financing Arrangements* in the notes to the consolidated financial statements for additional information regarding our credit facility. Any proceeds under the credit facility are expected to be used for general corporate purposes.

On June 18, 2015, we entered into an interest rate swap agreement, which expires on June 15, 2020, covering \$105.0 million of floating rate debt under the Term Loan. On July 6, 2015, we executed an interest rate swap pursuant to such agreement, which requires us to pay interest at a defined rate of 1.56% while receiving interest at a defined variable rate of one-month LIBOR (0.188% at July 31, 2015). The notional amount of the interest rate swap was \$105.0 million and had an aggregate fair value of \$710,000 as of April 30, 2019. This swap, when combined with the applicable margin based on our consolidated leverage ratio as of April 30, 2019, effectively fixed our interest rate on the Term Loan, subject to change based on changes in our consolidated leverage ratio. As of April 30, 2019, our interest rate on the Term Loan was 4.48%. We do not expect the interest rate swap to have any material effect on earnings within the next 12 months.

On October 27, 2016, we entered into a second amendment to our existing Credit Agreement with our lenders to expand our unsecured Revolving Line to \$350.0 million with an option to increase the credit commitment for an additional \$150.0 million and extended the maturity of the Revolving Line to October 27, 2021. Other than the changes described in the amendment, we remain subject to the terms of the Credit Agreement, as amended. We incurred \$525,000 in debt issuance costs related to this amendment.

2018 Senior Notes - During fiscal 2015, we issued an aggregate of \$75.0 million of 2018 Senior Notes to various institutional investors pursuant to the terms and conditions of an indenture and purchase agreements. The 2018 Senior Notes bear interest at a rate of 5.000% per annum payable on January 15 and July 15 of each year, beginning on January 15, 2015. We incurred \$2.3 million of debt issuance costs related to the issuance of the 2018 Senior Notes. As discussed below, the 2018 Senior Notes were redeemed on March 8, 2018 with proceeds from the issuance of 5.000% Senior Notes due 2020. As part of the redemption, in fiscal 2018, we wrote off \$226,000 of debt issuance costs related to the 2018 Senior Notes.

2020 Senior Notes - On February 28, 2018, we issued an aggregate of \$75.0 million of 2020 Senior Notes to various institutional investors pursuant to the terms and conditions of an indenture, or the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture, and purchase agreements. The 2020 Senior Notes bear interest at a rate of 5.000% per annum payable on February 28 and August 28 of each year, beginning on August 28, 2018. We used the proceeds of the 2020 Senior Notes offering to redeem our then outstanding 2018 Senior Notes. We incurred \$158,000 in debt issuance costs related the issuance of the 2020 Senior Notes.

As of February 28, 2019, we may, at our option, upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' prior notice, redeem all or a portion of the 2020 Senior Notes at a redemption price of 100.000% of the principal amount of the 2020 Senior Notes to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest as of the applicable redemption date. Subject to certain restrictions and conditions, we may be required to make an offer to repurchase the 2020 Senior Notes from the holders of the 2020 Senior Notes in connection with a change of control or disposition of assets. If not redeemed by us or repaid pursuant to the holders' right to require repurchase, the 2020 Senior Notes mature on August 28, 2020.

The 2020 Senior Notes are general, unsecured obligations of our company. The 2020 Senior Notes Indenture contains certain affirmative and negative covenants, including limitations on restricted payments (such as share repurchases, dividends, and early payment of indebtedness), limitations on indebtedness, limitations on the sale of assets, and limitations on liens. Payments that would otherwise be characterized as restricted payments are permitted under the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture in an amount not to exceed 50% of our consolidated net income for the period from the issue date to the date of the restricted payment, provided that at the time of making such payments, (a) no default has occurred or would result from the making of such payments, and (b) we are able to satisfy the debt incurrence test under the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture, or the 2020 Senior Notes Lifetime Aggregate Limit. In addition, the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture provides for other exceptions to the restricted payments covenant, each of which are independent of the 2020 Senior Notes Lifetime Aggregate Limit. Among such exceptions are (i) the ability to make share repurchases each fiscal year in an amount not to exceed the lesser of (A) \$50.0 million in any fiscal year or (B) 75.0% of our consolidated net income for the previous four consecutive published fiscal quarters prior to the date of the determination of such consolidated net income, and (ii) share repurchases over the life of the 2020 Senior Notes in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$75.0 million.

The limitation on indebtedness in the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture is only applicable at such time that the consolidated coverage ratio (as set forth in the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture) for us and our restricted subsidiaries is less than 3.00 to 1.00. In general, as set forth in the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture, the consolidated coverage ratio is determined by comparing our prior four quarters' consolidated EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) to our consolidated interest expense.

The Credit Agreement for our credit facility contains financial covenants relating to maintaining maximum leverage and minimum debt service coverage. The 2020 Senior Notes Indenture contains a financial covenant relating to times interest earned. We were in compliance with all debt covenants as of April 30, 2019.

Share Repurchase Programs - In fiscal 2017, we repurchased 2.6 million shares of our common stock in the open market for \$50.0 million utilizing a combination of cash on hand and borrowings under our Revolving Line. During fiscal 2019, the remaining \$50.0 million of outstanding authorized share repurchase programs expired. We did not repurchase any shares of our common stock during fiscal 2019 or 2018.

At April 30, 2019, we had \$41.0 million in cash and cash equivalents on hand.

Based upon our current working capital position, current operating plans, and expected business conditions, we believe that our existing capital resources and credit facilities will be adequate to fund our operations, including our outstanding debt and other commitments, for the next 12 months, apart from any major acquisitions.

Our future capital requirements will depend on many factors, including net sales, the timing and extent of spending to support product development efforts, the expansion of sales and marketing activities, the timing of introductions of new products and enhancements to existing products, the costs to ensure access to adequate manufacturing capacity, costs to enhance the equipment and software at our logistics facility, and any acquisitions or strategic investments that we may determine to make. Further equity or debt financing may not be available to us on acceptable terms or at all. If sufficient funds are not available or are not available on acceptable terms, our ability to take advantage of unexpected business opportunities or to respond to competitive pressures could be limited or severely constrained.

Inflation

We do not believe that inflation had a material impact on us during fiscal 2019, 2018, or 2017.

Critical Accounting Policies

Revenue Recognition

We recognize revenue in accordance with the provisions of Accounting Standards Update, or ASU, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)*, which became effective for us on May 1, 2018. Generally, all performance obligations are satisfied and revenue is recognized when the risks and rewards of ownership have transferred to the customer, which is generally upon shipment but could be delayed until the receipt of customer acceptance.

In some instances, sales include multiple performance obligations. The most common of these instances relates to sales promotion programs under which customers are entitled to receive free goods based upon their purchase of our products. The fulfillment of these free goods are our responsibility. In such instances, we allocate the revenue of the promotional sales based on the estimated level of participation in the sales promotional program and the timing of the shipment of all of the products included in the promotional program, including the free goods. Revenue is recognized proportionally as each performance obligation is satisfied, based on the relative transaction price of each product. The net change in contract liabilities for a given period is reported as an increase or decrease to sales.

Our product sales are generally sold free on board, or FOB, shipping point and provide payment terms to most commercial customers ranging from 20 to 90 days of product shipment with a discount available to some customers for early payment. For contracts with discounted terms, the transaction price is determined upon establishment of the contract that contains the final terms of the sale, including the description, quantity, and price of each product purchased. We estimate variable consideration relative to the amount of cash discounts to which customers are likely to be entitled. In some instances, we provide longer payment terms, particularly as it relates to our hunting dating programs, which represent payment terms due in the fall for certain orders of hunting products received in the spring and summer. We do not consider these extended terms to be a significant financing component of the contract because the payment terms are less than one year. In all cases, we consider our costs related to shipping and handling to be a cost of fulfilling the contract with the customer.

Valuation of Long-lived Tangible and Intangible Assets

We evaluate the recoverability of long-lived assets, or asset groups, whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that carrying amounts may not be recoverable. When such evaluations indicate that the related future undiscounted cash flows are not sufficient to recover the carrying values of the assets, such carrying values are reduced to fair value and this adjusted carrying value becomes the asset's new cost basis. We determine fair value primarily using future anticipated cash flows that are directly associated with and are expected to arise as a direct result of the use and eventual disposition of the asset, or asset group, discounted using an interest rate commensurate with the risk involved.

We have significant long-lived tangible and intangible assets, which are susceptible to valuation adjustments as a result of changes in various factors or conditions. The most significant long-lived tangible and intangible assets, other than goodwill, are property, plant, and equipment, developed technology, customer relationships, patents, trademarks, and trade names. We amortize all finite-lived intangible assets either on a straight-line basis or based upon patterns in which we expect to utilize the economic benefits of such assets. We initially determine the values of intangible assets by a risk-adjusted, discounted cash flow approach. We assess the potential impairment of identifiable intangible assets and fixed assets whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying values may not be recoverable and at least annually. Factors we consider important, which could trigger an impairment of such assets, include the following:

- significant underperformance relative to historical or projected future operating results;
- significant changes in the manner or use of the assets or the strategy for our overall business;
- significant negative industry or economic trends;
- a significant decline in our stock price for a sustained period; and
- a decline in our market capitalization below net book value.

Future adverse changes in these or other unforeseeable factors could result in an impairment charge that could materially impact future results of operations and financial position in the reporting period identified.

In accordance with ASC 350, *Intangibles-Goodwill and Other*, we test goodwill for impairment on an annual basis on February 1 and between annual tests if indicators of potential impairment exist. The impairment test compares the fair value of the operating units to their carrying amounts to assess whether impairment is present. We have reviewed the provisions of ASC 350-20, with respect to the criteria necessary to evaluate the number of reporting units that exist. In prior years, we had concluded that we had three operating units when reviewing ASC 350-20: Firearms, Outdoor Products & Accessories, and Electro-Optics. However, a combination of factors occurring in the firearms industry during the last few years, including changes in the political environment and reduced overall demand for both firearms and the accessories that are attached to firearms, such as laser sights, has resulted in us lowering our long-range sales volume, operating profit, and cash flow forecasts in our Electro-Optics operating unit. Based on those forecasts, we felt it important to seek out efficiencies in that operating unit to increase operating performance and, as a result, decided to combine our Electro-Optics operating unit with our Outdoor Products & Accessories operating unit. The lowered forecasts and the decision to reorganize those operating units caused us to evaluate the fair value of our operating units utilizing those forecasts. Because of that evaluation, we recorded a \$10.4 million impairment of goodwill in our Electro-Optics operating unit during the three months ended January 31, 2019. This impairment was recorded in our Outdoor Products & Accessories reporting segment. Based on our review of ASC 350-20 subsequent to the reorganization of Electro-Optics into Outdoor Products & Accessories, we have determined that we now have two operating units: Firearms and Outdoor Products & Accessories.

We estimate the fair value of our Firearms and Outdoor Products & Accessories operating units using an equal weighting of the fair values derived from the income approach and the market approach because we believe a market participant would equally weight both approaches when valuing the operating units. The income approach is based on the projected cash flows that are discounted to their present value using discount rates that consider the timing and risk of the forecasted cash flows. Fair value is estimated using internally developed forecasts and assumptions. The discount rate used is the average estimated value of a market participant's cost of capital and debt, derived using customary market metrics. Other significant assumptions include revenue growth rates, profitability projections, and terminal value growth rates. The market approach estimates fair values based on the determination of appropriate publicly traded market comparison companies and market multiples of revenue and earnings derived from those companies with similar operating and investment characteristics as the operating unit being valued. Finally, we compare and reconcile our overall fair value to our market capitalization in order to assess the reasonableness of the calculated fair values of our operating units. We recognize an impairment loss for goodwill if the implied fair value of goodwill is less than the carrying value.

As of our valuation date, our Firearms operating unit had \$19.0 million of goodwill and its fair value significantly exceeded its carrying value. Our Outdoor Products & Accessories operating unit had \$155.4 million of goodwill and its fair value significantly exceeded its carrying value. Although we concluded that there was no additional impairment on the goodwill associated with our operating units as of April 30, 2019, we will continue to closely monitor their performance and related market conditions for future indicators of potential impairment and reassess accordingly. Our assumptions related to the development of fair value could deviate materially from actual results and forecasts used to support asset carrying values may change in the future, which could result in non-cash charges that would adversely affect our financial results of operations, specifically as it relates to our Outdoor Products & Accessories operating units.

We evaluated our other operating units and concluded that the fair value exceeded the carrying amount. The re-measurement of goodwill is classified as a Level 3 fair value assessment as described in Note 12 - *Fair Value Measurement*, due to the significance of unobservable inputs developed using company-specific information.

Inventories

We value inventories at the lower of cost, using the first-in, first-out, or FIFO, method, or net realizable value. An allowance for potential non-saleable inventory due to excess stock or obsolescence is based upon a detailed review of inventory, past history, and expected future usage.

Warranty

We generally provide a limited one-year warranty and a lifetime service policy to the original purchaser of our new firearm products. We either provide a limited one-year, three-year, lifetime, or full lifetime warranty program to the original purchaser of most of our accessories products. We will also repair or replace certain products or parts found to be defective under normal use and service with an item of equivalent value, at our option, without charge during the warranty period. We provide for estimated warranty obligations in the period in which we recognize the related revenue. We quantify and record an estimate for warranty-related costs based on our actual historical claims experience and current repair costs. We make adjustments to accruals as warranty claims data and historical experience warrant. Should we experience actual claims and repair costs that are higher than the estimated claims and repair costs used to calculate the provision, our operating results for the period or periods in which such returns or additional costs materialize could be adversely impacted.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

The nature and impact of recent accounting pronouncements is discussed in Note 3 — *Significant Accounting Policies* to our consolidated financial statements, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Contractual Obligations and Commercial Commitments

The following table sets forth a summary of our material contractual obligations and commercial commitments as of April 30, 2019 (in thousands):

	Total	Less Than 1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	More Than 5 Years
Long-term debt obligations	159,192	7,303	\$ 151,889	—	—
Capital lease obligation	78,497	2,965	6,072	6,197	63,263
Operating lease obligations	14,595	3,629	5,920	4,125	921
Purchase obligations	74,786	74,786	—	—	—
Total obligations	<u>\$ 327,070</u>	<u>\$ 88,683</u>	<u>\$ 163,881</u>	<u>\$ 10,322</u>	<u>\$ 64,184</u>

We had no borrowings under our Revolving Line as of April 30, 2019. In addition, we had approximately \$4.1 million of contractually obligated interest payments pertaining to the \$81.4 million remaining balance of our Term Loan, which represents interest payments through July 15, 2020. Also included in the table above is approximately \$5.0 million of contractually obligated interest payments pertaining to the \$75.0 million of our 2020 Senior Notes, which represents interest payments through August 28, 2020. In fiscal 2019, we entered into a \$45.4 million capital lease obligation related to the purchase of land and costs related to the design and construction of our national logistics facility. We have \$32.4 million of contractually obligated interest payments pertaining to our outstanding capital lease obligation.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not have any transactions, arrangements, or other relationships with unconsolidated entities that are reasonably likely to affect our liquidity or capital resources. We have no special purpose or limited purpose entities that provide off-balance sheet financing, liquidity, or market or credit risk support or that engage in leasing, hedging, research and development services, or other relationships that expose us to liability that is not reflected in our financial statements.

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

We do not enter into any market risk sensitive instruments for trading purposes. Our principal market risk relates to the variable interest rate associated with our Credit Agreement, which consists of a \$350.0 million revolving line of credit and a \$105.0 million Term Loan, that bear interest at a variable rate equal to LIBOR or prime, at our election, plus an applicable margin based on our consolidated leverage ratio. As of April 30, 2019, we had no borrowings outstanding under the Revolving Line. Had there been borrowings, they would have bore interest at 4.48%, equal to the LIBOR rate plus an applicable margin. We were required to obtain fixed interest rate protection covering not less than 75% of the aggregate outstanding principal balance of the Term Loan. Accordingly, on June 18, 2015, we entered into an interest rate swap agreement, which expires on June 15, 2020, that covered 100% of the \$105.0 million of floating rate debt. On July 6, 2015, we executed an interest rate swap pursuant to such agreement. This swap, when combined with the applicable margin based on our consolidated leverage ratio, effectively fixed our interest rate on the Term Loan, which is subject to change based on changes in our consolidated leverage ratio. As of April 30, 2019, our interest rate on the Term Loan was 4.48%.

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

Reference is made to the financial statements, the notes thereto, and the report thereon, commencing on page F-1 of this report, which financial statements, notes, and report are incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

Not applicable.

Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

Conclusions Regarding Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act). Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as of April 30, 2019, concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act was recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in SEC rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There was no change in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during our fourth fiscal quarter of 2019 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Inherent Limitations on Effectiveness of Controls

Our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, does not expect that our disclosure controls and procedures or our internal controls will prevent all error and all fraud. A control system, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues, misstatements, errors, and instances of fraud, if any, within our company have been or will be prevented or detected. Further, internal controls may become inadequate as a result of changes in conditions, or through the deterioration of the degree of compliance with policies or procedures.

MANAGEMENT’S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

Management of American Outdoor Brands Corporation (the “Company”) is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Rule 13a-15(f) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. With the participation of the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of April 30, 2019 as required by Rule 13a-15(c) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The Company utilized the criteria and framework established by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations (COSO) of the Treadway Commission in *Internal Control — Integrated Framework* (2013) in performing this assessment. Based on this evaluation, management concluded that the Company’s internal control over financial reporting was effective as of April 30, 2019. Internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements.

The Company’s independent registered public accounting firm, Deloitte & Touche LLP, has audited the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of April 30, 2019 as stated in their report dated June 19, 2019, on page F-2 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

/s/ P. James Debney

P. James Debney
President and Chief Executive Officer

/s/ Jeffrey D. Buchanan

Jeffrey D. Buchanan
Executive Vice President, Chief Financial
Officer, Chief Administrative Officer, and
Treasurer

Item 9B. Other Information

On June 18, 2019, we approved a restructuring plan involving the previously announced consolidation of the Electro-Optics division into the Outdoor Products & Accessories division in order to improve efficiencies. We expect to incur restructuring charges of approximately \$1.0 million comprising severance, retention, and relocation costs to be recorded primarily in the first six months of fiscal year 2020. We expect cash expenditures associated with these actions will continue into the third and fourth quarters of fiscal year 2020. The restructuring plan is anticipated to result in cost savings of approximately \$1.0 million in the second half of fiscal year 2020 and approximately \$4.0 million of annual cost reductions to be fully reflected in our consolidated financial statements by fiscal year 2021.

PART III**Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance**

The information required by this Item relating to our directors and corporate governance is incorporated herein by reference to the definitive Proxy Statement to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A of the Exchange Act for our 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. The information required by this Item relating to our executive officers is included in Item 1, “Business — Executive Officers” of this report.

Item 11. Executive Compensation

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the definitive Proxy Statement to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A of the Exchange Act for our 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the definitive Proxy Statement to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A of the Exchange Act for our 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the definitive Proxy Statement to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A of the Exchange Act for our 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the definitive Proxy Statement to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A of the Exchange Act for our 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

PART IV

Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules

(a) Financial Statements and Financial Statement Schedules

(1) Consolidated Financial Statements are listed in the Index to Consolidated Financial Statements on page F-1 of this report.

(2) Financial Statement Schedules: Schedule II — Valuation and Qualifying Accounts for the years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 is set forth on page F-37 of this report.

(b) Exhibits

Exhibit Number	Exhibit
2.9	Stock Purchase and Sale Agreement, dated November 25, 2014, by and among the Registrant, Clearview Battenfeld Acquisition Company LLC, and the Members named therein(1)
2.10	Asset Purchase Agreement, dated July 15, 2016, by and among BTI Tools, LLC, Taylor Brands, LLC, and the Members named therein (2)
2.11	Asset Purchase Agreement, dated July 25, 2016, by and among Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation and Crimson Trace Holdings, LLC (3)
3.1	Amended and Restated Bylaws (4)
3.4	Second Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation (5)
3.9(a)	Certificate of Withdrawal of Certificate of Designation(6)
4.1	Form of Common Stock Certificate(7)
4.32	Indenture, dated as of February 28, 2018, among the Registrant and the Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as Trustee(8)
10.24(a)*	Amended and Restated 2004 Incentive Stock Plan(9)
10.28*	Amendments to 2004 Incentive Stock Plan(10)
10.51**	Agreement with Respect to Defense of Smith & Wesson: Firearms Litigation, dated as of November 11, 2004(11)
10.72*	Form of Indemnity Agreement entered into with the following directors and executive officers: As of June 29, 2009 with Barry M. Monheit, Michael F. Golden, Robert L. Scott, John B. Furman, Mitch A. Saltz, I. Marie Wadecki, and Jeffrey D. Buchanan; as of November 2009 with P. James Debney; as of July 2011 with Robert H. Brust; as of December 14, 2011 with Mark P. Smith; as of April 24, 2013 with Robert J. Cicero; and as of February 5, 2016 with Anita Britt(12)
10.83(a)*	Amended and Restated Severance and Change in Control Agreement, executed December 8, 2011 as of January 3, 2011, by and between the Registrant and Jeffrey D. Buchanan(13)
10.91(a)*	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, executed December 8, 2011 as of September 26, 2011, between P. James Debney and Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation(13)
10.95*	Letter of Amendment, dated September 9, 2011, between Jeffrey D. Buchanan and the Registrant(13)
10.96*	Letter of Amendment, dated September 9, 2011, between P. James Debney and Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation(13)

Exhibit Number	Exhibit
10.98*	Form of Non-Qualified Stock Option Award Grant Notice and Agreement to the 2004 Incentive Stock Plan(13)
10.100*	Amended and Restated 2011 Employee Stock Purchase Plan(14)
10.107*	Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation Executive Severance Pay Plan(15)
10.108	Adoption Agreement to the Smith & Wesson Nonqualified Supplemental Deferred Compensation Plan(16)
10.109*	Smith & Wesson Nonqualified Supplemental Deferred Compensation Plan Document(16)
10.110*	2013 Incentive Stock Plan(17)
10.111*	Form of Restricted Stock Unit Award Grant Notice and Agreement to the 2013 Incentive Stock Plan for awards made beginning in April 2014(18)
10.111(a)*	Form of Restricted Stock Unit Grant Notice and Agreement to the 2013 Incentive Stock Plan for awards made beginning in September 2014(19)
10.111(b)*	Form of Restricted Stock Unit Award Grant Notice and Agreement to the 2013 Incentive Stock Plan for awards made beginning in April 2015(19)
10.112*	Form of Performance Stock Unit Award Grant Notice and Agreement to the 2013 Incentive Stock Plan for awards made beginning in April 2014(18)
10.112(a)*	Form of Performance Stock Unit Award Grant Notice and Agreement to the 2013 Incentive Stock Plan for awards made beginning in April 2015(19)
10.113	Credit Agreement, dated as of June 15, 2015, among the Registrant and Smith & Wesson Corp., as Borrowers, the Subsidiaries of the Borrowers party thereto, as the guarantors, TD Bank, N.A., as the Administrative Agent, the other lenders party thereto from time to time, TD Securities (USA) LLC, Branch Banking and Trust Company, Regions Business Capital, and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, as Joint Lead Arrangers and Joint Bookrunners, and Branch Banking and Trust Company, Regions Bank, and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, as Co-Syndication Agents, including all exhibits thereto(19)
10.113(a)	Second Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of October 27, 2016, among the Registrant and Smith & Wesson Corp., as Borrowers, the Subsidiaries of the Borrowers party thereto, as the guarantors, TD Bank, N.A., as the Administrative Agent, the other lenders party thereto from time to time, TD Securities (USA) LLC, Branch Banking and Trust Company, Regions Business Capital, and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, as Joint Lead Arrangers and Joint Bookrunners, and Branch Banking and Trust Company, Regions Bank, and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, as Co-Syndication Agents(20)
10.114	Lease Agreement, dated October 26, 2017, by and between Ryan Boone County, LLC and Smith & Wesson Corp.(21)
10.115	Guaranty, dated October 26, 2017, entered into by the Registrant(21)
10.116	Form of Purchase Agreement by and among American Outdoor Brands Corporation and the investors party thereto(8)
21.1	Subsidiaries of the Registrant
23.1	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP, an Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
31.1	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Principal Executive Officer
31.2	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Principal Financial Officer
32.1	Section 1350 Certification of Principal Executive Officer

Exhibit Number	Exhibit
32.2	Section 1350 Certification of Principal Financial Officer
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

* Management contract or compensatory arrangement.

** An application has been submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission for confidential treatment, pursuant to Rule 24b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, of portions of this exhibit. These portions have been omitted from this exhibit.

- (1) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on November 26, 2014.
- (2) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on July 18, 2016.
- (3) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on July 26, 2016.
- (4) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 12, 2019.
- (5) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 8, 2019.
- (6) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on October 1, 2013.
- (7) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form S-3 (No. 333-136842) filed with the SEC on August 23, 2006.
- (8) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on March 1, 2018.
- (9) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on September 28, 2011.
- (10) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on August 14, 2006.
- (11) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on March 10, 2005.
- (12) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 10-K filed with the SEC on June 30, 2009.
- (13) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on December 8, 2011.
- (14) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 10-K filed with the SEC on June 28, 2012.
- (15) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Amendment No. 2 to Schedule TO filed with the SEC on July 10, 2013.
- (16) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on December 20, 2013.
- (17) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form S-8 filed with the SEC on December 20, 2013.
- (18) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 10-K filed with the SEC on June 19, 2014.
- (19) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 10-K filed with the SEC on June 22, 2015.
- (20) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on October 31, 2016.
- (21) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on October 31, 2017.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) 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.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION

/s/ P. James Debney

P. James Debney

President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: June 19, 2019

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the date indicated.

Signature	Capacity	Date
<u>/s/ P. James Debney</u> P. James Debney	President, Chief Executive Officer, and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	June 19, 2019
<u>/s/ Jeffrey D. Buchanan</u> Jeffrey D. Buchanan	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Administrative Officer, and Treasurer (Principal Accounting and Financial Officer)	June 19, 2019
<u>/s/ Barry M. Monheit</u> Barry M. Monheit	Chairman of the Board	June 19, 2019
<u>/s/ Robert L. Scott</u> Robert L. Scott	Vice Chairman of the Board	June 19, 2019
<u>/s/ Anita D. Britt</u> Anita D. Britt	Director	June 19, 2019
<u>/s/ Robert H. Brust</u> Robert H. Brust	Director	June 19, 2019
<u>/s/ John B. Furman</u> John B. Furman	Director	June 19, 2019
<u>/s/ Gregory J. Gluchowski, Jr.</u> Gregory J. Gluchowski, Jr.	Director	June 19, 2019
<u>/s/ Michael F. Golden</u> Michael F. Golden	Director	June 19, 2019
<u>/s/ Mitchell A. Saltz</u> Mitchell A. Saltz	Director	June 19, 2019
<u>/s/ I. Marie Wadecki</u> I. Marie Wadecki	Director	June 19, 2019

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INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

	<u>Page</u>
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	F-2
Consolidated Balance Sheets as of April 30, 2019 and 2018	F-3
Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income for the years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017	F-4
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity for the years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017	F-5
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017	F-6
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	F-8
Schedule II — Valuation and Qualifying Accounts for the years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017	F-40

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Shareholders and Board of Directors of
American Outdoor Brands Corporation
Springfield, Massachusetts

Opinions on the Financial Statements and Internal Control over Financial Reporting

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of American Outdoor Brands Corporation and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of April 30, 2019 and 2018, the related consolidated statements of income and comprehensive income, changes in stockholders' equity, and cash flows, for each of the three years in the period ended April 30, 2019, and the related notes and the schedule listed in the Index at Item 15 (collectively referred to as the "financial statements"). We also have audited the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of April 30, 2019, based on criteria established in *Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of April 30, 2019 and 2018, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended April 30, 2019, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also, in our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of April 30, 2019, based on criteria established in *Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by COSO.

Basis for Opinions

The Company's management is responsible for these financial statements, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying *Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

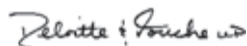
We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud, and whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects.

Our audits of the financial statements included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures to respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audits also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

Definition and Limitations of Internal Control over Financial Reporting

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate./s/



Boston, Massachusetts
June 19, 2019

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2014.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	As of:	
	April 30, 2019	April 30, 2018
	(In thousands, except par value and share data)	
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 41,015	\$ 48,860
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$1,899 on April 30, 2019 and \$1,824 on April 30, 2018	84,907	56,676
Inventories	163,770	153,353
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	6,528	6,893
Income tax receivable	2,464	4,582
Total current assets	298,684	270,364
Property, plant, and equipment, net	183,268	159,125
Intangibles, net	91,840	112,760
Goodwill	182,269	191,287
Other assets	10,728	11,524
	\$ 766,789	\$ 745,060
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 35,584	\$ 33,617
Accrued expenses and deferred revenue	39,322	41,632
Accrued payroll and incentives	21,473	10,514
Accrued income taxes	175	513
Accrued profit sharing	2,830	1,283
Accrued warranty	5,599	6,823
Current portion of notes and loans payable	6,300	6,300
Total current liabilities	111,283	100,682
Deferred income taxes	9,776	12,895
Notes and loans payable, net of current portion	149,434	180,304
Capital lease payable, net of current portion	45,400	22,143
Other non-current liabilities	6,452	6,888
Total liabilities	322,345	322,912
Commitments and contingencies (Note 17)		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$.001 par value, 20,000,000 shares authorized, no shares issued or outstanding	—	—
Common stock, \$.001 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized, 72,863,624 issued and 54,696,762 shares outstanding on April 30, 2019 and 72,433,705 shares issued and 54,266,843 shares outstanding on April 30, 2018	73	72
Additional paid-in capital	263,180	253,616
Retained earnings	402,946	389,146
Accumulated other comprehensive income	620	1,689
Treasury stock, at cost (18,166,862 shares on April 30, 2019 and April 30, 2018)	(222,375)	(222,375)
Total stockholders' equity	444,444	422,148
	\$ 766,789	\$ 745,060

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

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	For the Years Ended April 30,		
	2019	2018	2017
	(In thousands, except per share data)		
Net sales	\$ 638,277	\$ 606,850	\$ 903,188
Cost of sales	412,046	411,098	527,916
Gross profit	226,231	195,752	375,272
Operating expenses:			
Research and development	12,866	11,361	10,238
Selling and marketing	57,263	55,805	49,338
General and administrative	107,650	101,538	115,757
Goodwill impairment	10,396	—	—
Total operating expenses	188,175	168,704	175,333
Operating income	38,056	27,048	199,939
Other (expense)/income, net:			
Other income/(expense), net	33	1,737	(52)
Interest expense, net	(9,351)	(11,168)	(8,581)
Total other (expense)/income, net	(9,318)	(9,431)	(8,633)
Income from operations before income taxes	28,738	17,617	191,306
Income tax expense/(benefit)	10,328	(2,511)	63,452
Net income	18,410	20,128	127,854
Comprehensive (loss)/income:			
Change in unrealized (loss)/income on interest rate swap	(1,393)	1,531	1,860
Other comprehensive (loss)/income, before income taxes	(1,393)	1,531	1,860
Income tax benefit/(expense) on other comprehensive loss	324	(424)	(676)
Other comprehensive (loss)/income, net of tax	(1,069)	1,107	1,184
Comprehensive income:	\$ 17,341	\$ 21,235	\$ 129,038
Net income per share:			
Basic	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.37	\$ 2.29
Diluted	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.37	\$ 2.25
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding:			
Basic	54,483	54,061	55,930
Diluted	55,216	54,834	56,891

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

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

(In thousands)	Common Stock		Additional Paid-In Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income/(Loss)	Treasury Stock		Total Stockholders' Equity
	Shares	Amount				Shares	Amount	
Balance at April 30, 2016	71,559	\$ 72	\$ 239,505	\$ 241,310	\$ (748)	15,563	\$ (172,323)	\$ 307,816
Proceeds from exercise of employee stock options	54	—	193	—	—	—	—	193
Repurchase of common stock	—	—	—	—	—	2,604	(50,052)	(50,052)
Stock-based compensation	—	—	8,590	—	—	—	—	8,590
Excess tax benefit for stock-based compensation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shares issued under employee stock purchase plan	144	—	2,249	—	—	—	—	2,249
Change in unrealized income on interest rate swap, net of tax effect	—	—	—	—	1,184	—	—	1,184
Issuance of common stock under restricted stock unit awards, net of shares surrendered	260	—	(4,672)	—	—	—	—	(4,672)
Net income	—	—	—	127,854	—	—	—	127,854
Balance at April 30, 2017	72,017	72	245,865	369,164	436	18,167	(222,375)	393,162
Proceeds from exercise of employee stock options	19	—	67	—	—	—	—	67
Stock-based compensation	—	—	7,815	—	—	—	—	7,815
Shares issued under employee stock purchase plan	203	—	2,146	—	—	—	—	2,146
Change in unrealized income on interest rate swap, net of tax effect	—	—	—	—	1,107	—	—	1,107
Reclassification due to U.S. Tax Reform	—	—	—	(146)	146	—	—	—
Issuance of common stock under restricted stock unit awards, net of shares surrendered	195	—	(2,277)	—	—	—	—	(2,277)
Net income	—	—	—	20,128	—	—	—	20,128
Balance at April 30, 2018	72,434	72	253,616	389,146	1,689	18,167	(222,375)	422,148
Proceeds from exercise of employee stock options	48	—	304	—	—	—	—	304
Stock-based compensation	—	—	7,992	—	—	—	—	7,992
Shares issued under employee stock purchase plan	231	—	1,918	—	—	—	—	1,918
Change in unrealized loss on interest rate swap, net of tax effect	—	—	—	—	(1,069)	—	—	(1,069)
Impact of adoption of accounting standard updates	—	—	—	(4,610)	—	—	—	(4,610)
Issuance of common stock under restricted stock unit awards, net of shares surrendered	151	1	(650)	—	—	—	—	(649)
Net income	—	—	—	18,410	—	—	—	18,410
Balance at April 30, 2019	<u>72,864</u>	<u>\$ 73</u>	<u>\$ 263,180</u>	<u>\$ 402,946</u>	<u>\$ 620</u>	<u>18,167</u>	<u>\$ (222,375)</u>	<u>\$ 444,444</u>

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

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	For the Years Ended April 30,		
	2019	2018	2017
	(In thousands)		
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income	\$ 18,410	\$ 20,128	\$ 127,854
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	53,859	52,075	50,213
(Gain)/loss on sale/disposition of assets	(454)	44	99
Provision for losses on notes and accounts receivable	1,060	991	1,546
Impairment of long-lived tangible assets	—	282	—
Goodwill impairment	10,396	—	—
Deferred income taxes	(2,795)	(8,775)	(7,840)
Change in fair value of contingent consideration	(60)	(1,640)	—
Stock-based compensation expense	7,992	7,815	8,590
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	(28,997)	51,380	(40,709)
Inventories	(10,533)	(16,971)	(22,171)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	359	514	(1,619)
Income taxes	1,780	5,848	(13,745)
Accounts payable	3,392	(20,998)	1,233
Accrued payroll and incentives	10,959	(10,754)	988
Accrued profit sharing	1,547	(11,721)	1,545
Accrued expenses and deferred revenue	(7,193)	(8,424)	21,238
Accrued warranty	(1,224)	1,915	(1,415)
Other assets	(671)	(417)	1,029
Other non-current liabilities	(377)	351	(3,260)
Net cash provided by operating activities	57,450	61,643	123,576
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired	(1,772)	(23,120)	(211,069)
Refunds on machinery and equipment	—	—	2,776
Receipts from note receivable	74	—	65
Payments to acquire patents and software	(516)	(560)	(638)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	1,336	6	—
Payments to acquire property and equipment	(33,949)	(18,490)	(34,876)
Net cash used in investing activities	(34,827)	(42,164)	(243,742)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Proceeds from loans and notes payable	50,000	150,000	100,000
Cash paid for debt issuance costs	—	(158)	(525)
Payments on capital lease obligation	(741)	(646)	(558)
Payments on notes and loans payable	(81,300)	(181,300)	(56,300)
Proceeds from Economic Development Incentive Program	—	—	101
Payments to acquire treasury stock	—	—	(50,052)
Proceeds from exercise of options to acquire common stock, including employee stock purchase plan	2,222	2,213	2,442
Payment of employee withholding tax related to restricted stock units	(649)	(2,277)	(4,672)
Net cash used in financing activities	(30,468)	(32,168)	(9,564)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(7,845)	(12,689)	(129,730)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	48,860	61,549	191,279
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 41,015	\$ 48,860	\$ 61,549
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information			
Cash paid for:			
Interest	\$ 9,473	\$ 10,624	\$ 7,650
Income taxes	\$ 10,567	\$ 1,387	\$ 85,216

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

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS - (Continued)

Supplemental Disclosure of Non-cash Investing and Financing Activities:

	For the Year Ended April 30,		
	2019	2018	2017
	(In thousands)		
Purchases of property and equipment included in accounts payable	\$ 565	\$ 2,406	\$ 2,474
Change in fair value of interest rate swap	1,393	1,531	1,860
Contingent consideration	—	100	1,700
Purchases of property and equipment funded by capital lease	24,271	21,974	—
Capital lease obligation	24,271	21,974	—
Changes in note receivable	1,007	—	—

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statement

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Organization

We are a leading manufacturer, designer, and provider of consumer products for the shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor enthusiast. We are one of the largest manufacturers of handguns, modern sporting rifles, and handcuffs in the United States and an active participant in the hunting rifle and suppressor markets. We are also a leading provider of shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor products and accessories, including knives and cutting tools, sighting lasers, shooting supplies, tree saws, and survival gear.

In January 2017, we changed the name of our company from Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation to American Outdoor Brands Corporation to better reflect our expanding strategic focus on the growing markets for shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor enthusiasts. We believe that the name “American Outdoor Brands Corporation” better reflects our family of brands, our broad range of product offerings, and our plan to continue building upon our portfolio of strong American brands. We have two reporting segments: (1) Firearms and (2) Outdoor Products & Accessories.

In our Firearms segment, we manufacture a wide array of handguns (including revolvers and pistols), long guns (including modern sporting rifles, bolt action rifles, and muzzleloaders), handcuffs, suppressors, and other firearm-related products for sale to a wide variety of customers, including gun enthusiasts, collectors, hunters, sportsmen, competitive shooters, individuals desiring home and personal protection, law enforcement and security agencies and officers, and military agencies in the United States and throughout the world. We sell our firearm products under the Smith & Wesson, M&P, Performance Center, Thompson/Center Arms, and Gemtech brands. We manufacture our firearm products at our facilities in Springfield, Massachusetts; Houlton, Maine; and Deep River, Connecticut. We also sell our manufacturing services to other businesses to level-load our factories. We sell those services under our Smith & Wesson and Smith & Wesson Precision Components brands.

In our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment, we design, source, distribute, and manufacture reloading, gunsmithing, and gun cleaning supplies; high-quality stainless-steel cutting tools and accessories; flashlights, tree saws and related trimming accessories; shooting supplies, rests, and other related accessories; apparel; vault accessories; laser grips and laser sights; and a full range of products for survival and emergency preparedness. We sell our products under the Caldwell, Crimson Trace, Wheeler, Tipton, Frankford Arsenal, Schrade, Imperial, Uncle Henry, BUBBA, UST, Lockdown, Hooyman, BOG, Old Timer, LaserLyte, and KeyGear brands. We also offer firearms and non-firearms accessories, such as flashlights and knives, under our brands in our firearms business, including Smith & Wesson, M&P, Performance Center, and Thompson/Center Arms. We develop and market our outdoor products and accessories at our facilities in Columbia, Missouri; Wilsonville, Oregon; and Jacksonville, Florida.

During fiscal 2017, we acquired substantially all of the net assets of Taylor Brands, LLC as well as Ultimate Survival Technologies, Inc., and we acquired all of the issued and outstanding stock of Crimson Trace Corporation, in three separate transactions, which we refer to collectively as the 2017 Acquisitions. See Note 2 – *Acquisitions* below for more information regarding these transactions.

During fiscal 2018, we acquired substantially all of the net assets of Gemini Technologies, Incorporated, or Gemtech, as well as Bubba Blade branded products and other assets from Fish Tales, LLC, in two separate transactions, which we refer to collectively as the 2018 Acquisitions. See Note 2 – *Acquisitions* below for more information regarding these transactions.

In January 2019, we acquired substantially all of the LaserLyte branded products and other assets, from P&L Industries Inc, which we refer to as the LaserLyte Acquisition. See Note 2 – *Acquisitions* below for more information regarding this transaction.

The 2017 Acquisitions, the 2018 Acquisitions, and the LaserLyte Acquisition have been accounted for in accordance with ASC 805-20, *Business Combinations*, and accordingly, the results of operations from the acquired businesses have been included in our consolidated financial statements following the acquisition dates.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

2. Acquisitions

LaserLyte Acquisition

In January 2019, we acquired substantially all of the LaserLyte branded products and other assets from P&L Industries, Inc., for a purchase price of \$2.0 million, subject to certain adjustments, utilizing cash on hand. P&L Industries was a provider of laser training and sighting products for the consumer market. The operations of LaserLyte were fully integrated into our facility located in Wilsonville, Oregon and reported in our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment. This acquisition did not have a material impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements for all periods presented. Included in general and administrative costs are \$28,000 of acquisition-related costs incurred for the LaserLyte Acquisition during the year ended April 30, 2019.

Pro forma results of operations assuming that the LaserLyte Acquisitions had occurred as of May 1, 2017 are not required because of the immaterial impact on our consolidated financial statements for all periods presented.

2018 Acquisitions

In August 2017, in two separate transactions, we acquired (1) substantially all of the net assets of Gemtech and (2) Bubba Blade branded products and other assets from Fish Tales, LLC. The aggregate purchase price for the two acquisitions was \$23.1 million, subject to certain adjustments, utilizing a combination of cash on hand and borrowings under our revolving line of credit. In connection with the Gemtech acquisition, additional consideration of up to a maximum of \$17.1 million may be paid contingent upon the cumulative three year sales volume of Gemtech products. The valuation of this contingent consideration liability was established in accordance with ASC 805 — *Business Combinations*. Based on current forecasted revenue, we believe it is unlikely that the acquired business will achieve the performance metrics. Therefore, as of April 30, 2019, the contingent liability was recorded at a fair value of \$100,000 in non-current liabilities. Gemtech, based in Meridian, Idaho, is a provider of quality suppressors and accessories for the consumer, law enforcement, and military markets. Fish Tales, LLC, based in Oro Valley, Arizona, was a provider of premium sportsmen knives and tools for fishing and hunting, including the premium knife brand Bubba Blade. The valuations of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed in the 2018 Acquisitions are complete. During the three months ended October 31, 2018, we increased goodwill by \$618,000 due to inventory valuation adjustments.

The following table summarizes the allocation of the purchase price for the 2018 Acquisitions (in thousands):

	2018 Acquisitions (As Initially Reported)	Measurement Period Adjustments	2018 Acquisitions (As Adjusted)
Accounts receivable	\$ 846	(86)	\$ 760
Inventories	4,683	(601)	4,082
Other current assets	145	(56)	89
Property, plant, and equipment	506	13	519
Intangibles	6,400	—	6,400
Goodwill	11,846	708	12,554
Total assets acquired	24,426	(22)	24,404
Accounts payable	1,261	(25)	1,236
Accrued payroll	49	(1)	48
Other long-term liabilities	100	(100)	—
Total liabilities assumed	1,410	(126)	1,284
	<u>\$ 23,016</u>	<u>104</u>	<u>\$ 23,120</u>

Included in general and administrative costs were \$769,000 of acquisition-related costs incurred during the year ended April 30, 2018, related to the 2018 Acquisitions.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

We amortize intangible assets in proportion to expected annual revenue generated from the intangibles that we acquire. The following are the identifiable intangible assets acquired (in thousands) in the 2018 Acquisitions and their respective weighted average lives:

	Amount	Weighted Average Life (In years)
Developed technology	\$ 1,700	5.9
Customer relationships	1,600	5.2
Trade names	3,100	5.6
	<u>\$ 6,400</u>	

Pro forma results of operations assuming that the 2018 Acquisitions had occurred as of May 1, 2016 are not required because of the immaterial impact on our consolidated financial statements for all periods presented.

2017 Acquisitions

In fiscal 2017, in three separate transactions, we acquired (1) substantially all of the net assets of Taylor Brands, LLC, (2) substantially all of the assets of Ultimate Survival Technologies Inc. (now referred to as Ultimate Survival Technologies, LLC, or UST), and (3) all of the issued and outstanding stock of Crimson Trace Corporation for an aggregate purchase price of \$211.1 million, net of cash acquired, subject to certain adjustments, utilizing cash on hand. In connection with the purchase of Ultimate Survival Technologies, Inc., up to an additional \$2.0 million might have been paid over a period of two years, contingent upon the financial performance of the acquired business. The valuation of this contingent liability was established in accordance with ASC 805 — *Business Combinations*. The initial fair value of this contingent consideration liability was \$1.7 million. Based on the forecasted revenue, during fiscal 2018, we recorded a \$1.6 million reduction in the fair value of this contingent consideration liability because we did not expect that the acquired business would achieve the performance metrics. During the three months ended January 31, 2019, we recorded a \$60,000 reduction in the remaining fair value of this contingent liability because we confirmed the performance metrics were not achieved. These reductions were recorded in other income on the condensed consolidated statements of income.

The following table summarizes the allocation of the purchase price for the 2017 Acquisitions (in thousands):

	2017 Acquisitions (As Initially Reported)	Measurement Period Adjustments	2017 Acquisitions (As Adjusted)
Accounts receivable	\$ 11,635	\$ (213)	\$ 11,422
Inventories	31,269	453	31,722
Income tax receivable	—	68	68
Other current assets	430	(132)	298
Property, plant, and equipment	8,232	—	8,232
Intangibles	97,850	(14,500)	83,350
Goodwill	92,801	10,109	102,910
Total assets acquired	<u>242,217</u>	<u>(4,215)</u>	<u>238,002</u>
Accounts payable	6,214	18	6,232
Accrued expenses	973	158	1,131
Accrued payroll	1,500	(72)	1,428
Accrued income taxes	6	(6)	—
Accrued warranty	98	96	194
Deferred income taxes	20,658	(4,409)	16,249
Total liabilities assumed	<u>29,449</u>	<u>(4,215)</u>	<u>25,234</u>
	<u>\$ 212,768</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 212,768</u>

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

Included in general and administrative costs are \$3.8 million of acquisition-related costs incurred for the 2017 Acquisitions during the year ended April 30, 2017. The 2017 Acquisitions generated \$61.1 million of revenue during the year ended April 30, 2017.

We amortize intangible assets in proportion to expected yearly revenue generated from the intangibles that we acquire. We amortize order backlog over the estimated life during which the backlog is fulfilled. The following are the identifiable intangible assets acquired (in thousands) in the 2017 Acquisitions and their respective weighted average lives:

	Amount	Weighted Average Life (In years)
Developed technology	\$ 3,000	4.1
Customer relationships	62,100	5.0
Trade names	17,000	4.8
Order backlog	1,150	0.3
Non-competition agreement	100	3.4
	<u>\$ 83,350</u>	

Additionally, the following table reflects the unaudited pro forma results of operations assuming that the 2017 Acquisitions had occurred on May 1, 2015 (in thousands, except per share data):

	For the Year Ended April 30, 2017
Net sales	\$ 934,247
Income from operations	195,295
Net income per share - diluted	2.30

The unaudited pro forma income from operations for the years ended April 30, 2017 has been adjusted to reflect increased cost of goods sold from the fair value step-up in inventory, which is expensed over the first inventory cycle, and the amortization of intangibles and order backlog incurred as if the 2017 Acquisitions had occurred on May 1, 2015. The unaudited pro forma information is presented for informational purposes only and is not necessarily indicative of the actual results that would have been achieved had the 2017 Acquisitions occurred as of May 1, 2015 or the results that may be achieved in future periods.

3. Significant Accounting Policies

Use of Estimates — The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the financial statement dates and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting periods. Our significant estimates include the accrual for warranty, reserves for excess and obsolete inventory, rebates and other promotions, and valuation of intangible assets. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Principles of Consolidation — The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of American Outdoor Brands Corporation and its wholly owned subsidiaries, including Smith & Wesson Corp. and SWPC Plastics, LLC, reported in our Firearms segment; BTI, BTI Tools, Crimson Trace, UST, and AOB Consulting (Shenzhen), Co., LTD., reported in our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment; and SWSS LLC, formerly Smith & Wesson Security Solutions, Inc., or SWSS, our former security solutions division. In our opinion, all adjustments, which include only normal recurring adjustments necessary to fairly present the financial position, results of operations, changes in stockholders' equity, and cash flows at April 30, 2019 and 2018 and for the periods presented, have been included. All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

Fair Value of Financial Instruments — Unless otherwise indicated, the fair values of all reported assets and liabilities, which represent financial instruments not held for trading purposes, approximate the carrying values of such amounts because of their short-term nature or market rates of interest.

Cash and Cash Equivalents — We consider all highly liquid investments purchased with original maturities of three months or less at the date of acquisition to be cash equivalents. We maintain our cash in bank deposit accounts that, at times, may exceed federally insured limits. We have not experienced any losses in such accounts. As of April 30, 2019, all of our accounts exceeded federally insured limits.

Financial Instruments — We account for derivative instruments under Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 815-10, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosure Topic*, which establishes accounting and reporting standards for derivative instruments and hedging activities and requires us to recognize these instruments as either assets or liabilities on the balance sheet and measure them at fair value. The carrying value of our Term Loan approximated the fair value as of April 30, 2019. The carrying value of the 2020 Senior Notes as of April 30, 2019 approximated the fair value in considering Level 2 inputs within the hierarchy as the 2020 Senior Notes are not frequently traded. The fair value of the interest rate swap was estimated by a third-party using inputs that are observable or that can be corroborated by observable market data, such as interest rate yield curves, and, therefore, are classified within Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy. See Note 6 – *Notes and Loans Payable and Financing Arrangements* for more information regarding our financial instruments.

Trade Receivables — We extend credit to our domestic customers and some foreign distributors based on their financial condition. We sometimes offer discounts for early payment on invoices. When we believe the extension of credit is not advisable, we rely on either a prepayment or a letter of credit. We write off balances deemed uncollectible by us against our allowance for doubtful accounts. We estimate our allowance for doubtful accounts through current past due balances, knowledge of our customers’ financial situations, and past payment history.

Concentrations of Credit Risk — Financial instruments that potentially subject us to concentration of credit risk consist principally of cash, cash equivalents, and trade receivables. We place our cash and cash equivalents in overnight U.S. government securities. Concentrations of credit risk with respect to trade receivables are limited by the large number of customers comprising our customer base and their geographic and business dispersion. We perform ongoing credit evaluations of our customers’ financial condition and generally do not require collateral.

For the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019, none of our customers exceeded 10% of our net sales and one of our customers accounted for approximately 19.8% of our accounts receivable. For the fiscal year ended April 30, 2018, one of our customers accounted for 11.9% of our net sales and none of our customers accounted for 10% or more of our accounts receivable. For the fiscal year ended April 30, 2017, none of our customers exceeded 10% of our net sales and one of our customers accounted for approximately 17.5% of our accounts receivable.

Inventories — We value inventories at the lower cost, using the first-in, first-out, or FIFO method, or net realizable value. An allowance for potential non-saleable inventory due to excess stock or obsolescence is based upon a detailed review of inventory, past history, and expected future usage.

Property, Plant, and Equipment — We record property, plant, and equipment, consisting of land, building, improvements, machinery, equipment, software, hardware, furniture, and fixtures, at cost and depreciate them using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives. We charge expenditures for maintenance and repairs to earnings as incurred, and we capitalize additions, renewals, and betterments. Upon the retirement or other disposition of property and equipment, we remove the related cost and accumulated depreciation from the respective accounts and include any gain or loss in operations. A summary of the estimated useful lives is as follows:

Description	Useful Life
Building and improvements	10 to 40 years
Software and hardware	2 to 7 years
Machinery and equipment	2 to 10 years

We include tooling, dies, and fixtures as part of machinery and equipment and depreciate them over a period generally not exceeding ten years.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

Intangible Assets — We record intangible assets at cost or based on the fair value of the assets acquired. Intangible assets consist of developed technology, customer relationships, trademarks, trade names, and patents. We amortize intangible assets over their estimated useful lives or in proportion to expected yearly revenue generated from the intangibles that were acquired.

Revenue Recognition — We recognize revenue in accordance with the provisions of Accounting Standards Update, or ASU, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)*, which became effective for us on May 1, 2018. Generally, all performance obligations are satisfied and revenue is recognized when the risks and rewards of ownership have transferred to the customer, which is generally upon shipment but could be delayed until the receipt of customer acceptance.

In some instances, sales include multiple performance obligations. The most common of these instances relates to sales promotion programs under which customers are entitled to receive free goods based upon their purchase of our products. The fulfillment of these free goods are our responsibility. In such instances, we allocate the revenue of the promotional sales based on the estimated level of participation in the sales promotional program and the timing of the shipment of all of the products included in the promotional program, including the free goods. Revenue is recognized proportionally as each performance obligation is satisfied, based on the relative transaction price of each product. The net change in contract liabilities for a given period is reported as an increase or decrease to sales.

Our product sales are generally sold free on board, or FOB, shipping point and provide payment terms to most commercial customers ranging from 20 to 90 days of product shipment with a discount available to some customers for early payment. For contracts with discounted terms, the transaction price is determined upon establishment of the contract that contains the final terms of the sale, including the description, quantity, and price of each product purchased. We estimate variable consideration relative to the amount of cash discounts to which customers are likely to be entitled. In some instances, we provide longer payment terms, particularly as it relates to our hunting dating programs, which represent payment terms due in the fall for certain orders of hunting products received in the spring and summer. We do not consider these extended terms to be a significant financing component of the contract because the payment terms are less than one year. In all cases, we consider our costs related to shipping and handling to be a cost of fulfilling the contract with the customer.

Segment Information — We have two reporting segments: Firearms, which includes our Firearms and Manufacturing Services divisions; and Outdoor Products & Accessories. See Note 19 – *Segment Reporting* for more information regarding our segments.

Research and Development — We engage in both internal and external research and development, or R&D, in order to remain competitive and to exploit possible untapped market opportunities. We approve prospective R&D projects after analysis of the cost and benefits associated with the potential product. Costs in R&D expense include, among other items, salaries, materials, utilities, and administrative costs.

Earnings per Share — We calculate basic and diluted earnings per common share in accordance with the provisions of ASC 260-10, *Earnings Per Share*. Basic earnings per common share equals net income divided by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per common share equals net income divided by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period, including the effect of outstanding stock options and other stock-based instruments if their effect is dilutive.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

The following table provides a reconciliation of the net income amounts and weighted average number of common and common equivalent shares used to determine basic and diluted earnings per common share (in thousands, except per share data):

	For the Year Ended April 30,								
	2019			2018			2017		
	Net Income	Shares	Per Share Amount	Net Income	Shares	Per Share Amount	Net Income	Shares	Per Share Amount
Basic earnings	\$ 18,410	54,483	\$ 0.34	\$ 20,128	54,061	\$ 0.37	\$ 127,854	55,930	\$ 2.29
Effect of dilutive stock awards	—	733	(0.01)	—	773	—	—	961	(0.04)
Diluted earnings	<u>\$ 18,410</u>	<u>55,216</u>	<u>\$ 0.33</u>	<u>\$ 20,128</u>	<u>54,834</u>	<u>\$ 0.37</u>	<u>\$ 127,854</u>	<u>56,891</u>	<u>\$ 2.25</u>

All of our outstanding stock options and restricted stock units, or RSUs, were included in the computation of diluted earnings per share for the years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017.

Valuation of Long-lived Tangible and Intangible Assets — We evaluate the recoverability of long-lived assets, or asset groups, whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that carrying amounts may not be recoverable. When such evaluations indicate that the related future undiscounted cash flows are not sufficient to recover the carrying values of the assets, such carrying values are reduced to fair value and this adjusted carrying value becomes the asset's new cost basis. We determine fair value primarily using future anticipated cash flows that are directly associated with and are expected to arise as a direct result of the use and eventual disposition of the asset, or asset group, discounted using an interest rate commensurate with the risk involved.

We have significant long-lived tangible and intangible assets, which are susceptible to valuation adjustments as a result of changes in various factors or conditions. The most significant long-lived tangible and intangible assets, other than goodwill, are property, plant, and equipment, developed technology, customer relationships, patents, trademarks, and trade names. We amortize all finite-lived intangible assets either on a straight-line basis or based upon patterns in which we expect to utilize the economic benefits of such assets. We initially determine the values of intangible assets by a risk-adjusted, discounted cash flow approach. We assess the potential impairment of identifiable intangible assets and fixed assets whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying values may not be recoverable and at least annually. Factors we consider important, which could trigger an impairment of such assets, include the following:

- significant underperformance relative to historical or projected future operating results;
- significant changes in the manner or use of the assets or the strategy for our overall business;
- significant negative industry or economic trends;
- a significant decline in our stock price for a sustained period; and
- a decline in our market capitalization below net book value.

Future adverse changes in these or other unforeseeable factors could result in an impairment charge that could materially impact future results of operations and financial position in the reporting period identified.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

In accordance with ASC 350, *Intangibles-Goodwill and Other*, we test goodwill for impairment on an annual basis on February 1 and between annual tests if indicators of potential impairment exist. The impairment test compares the fair value of the operating units to their carrying amounts to assess whether impairment is present. We have reviewed the provisions of ASC 350-20, with respect to the criteria necessary to evaluate the number of reporting units that exist. In prior years, we have concluded that we had three operating units when reviewing ASC 350-20: Firearms, Outdoor Products & Accessories, and Electro-Optics. However, a combination of factors occurring in the firearms industry during the last few years, including changes in the political environment and reduced overall demand for both firearms and the accessories that are attached to firearms, such as laser sights, has resulted in us lowering our long-range sales volume, operating profit, and cash flow forecasts in our Electro-Optics operating unit. Based on those forecasts, we felt it important to seek out efficiencies in that operating unit to increase operating performance and as a result decided to combine our Electro-Optics operating units with our Outdoor Products & Accessories operating unit. The lowered forecasts and the decision to reorganize those operating units caused us to evaluate the fair value of our operating units utilizing those forecasts. Because of that evaluation, we recorded a \$10.4 million impairment of goodwill in our Electro-Optics operating unit during the three months ended January 31, 2019. This impairment was recorded in our Outdoor Products & Accessories reporting segment. No material impairment charges were recorded in fiscal 2018 or 2017 based on our review of our long-lived tangible and intangible assets. Based on our review of ASC 350-20 subsequent to the reorganization of Electro-Optics into Outdoor Products & Accessories, we have determined that we now have two operating units: Firearms and Outdoor Products & Accessories.

We estimate the fair value of our Firearms and Outdoor Products & Accessories operating units using an equal weighting of the fair values derived from the income approach and the market approach because we believe a market participant would equally weight both approaches when valuing the operating units. The income approach is based on the projected cash flows that are discounted to their present value using discount rates that consider the timing and risk of the forecasted cash flows. Fair value is estimated using internally developed forecasts and assumptions. The discount rate used is the average estimated value of a market participant's cost of capital and debt, derived using customary market metrics. Other significant assumptions include revenue growth rates, profitability projections, and terminal value growth rates. The market approach estimates fair values based on the determination of appropriate publicly traded market comparison companies and market multiples of revenue and earnings derived from those companies with similar operating and investment characteristics as the operating unit being valued. Finally, we compare and reconcile our overall fair value to our market capitalization in order to assess the reasonableness of the calculated fair values of our operating units. We recognize an impairment loss for goodwill if the implied fair value of goodwill is less than the carrying value.

As of our valuation date, our Firearms operating unit had \$19.0 million of goodwill and its fair value significantly exceeded its carrying value. Our Outdoor Products & Accessories operating unit had \$163.2 million of goodwill and its fair value significantly exceeded its carrying value. Although we concluded that there was no additional impairment of the goodwill associated with our operating units as of April 30, 2019, we will continue to closely monitor their performance and related market conditions for future indicators of potential impairment and reassess accordingly. Our assumptions related to the development of fair value could deviate materially from actual results and forecasts used to support asset carrying values may change in the future, which could result in non-cash charges that would adversely affect our financial results of operations.

Income Taxes — We use the asset and liability approach for financial accounting and reporting income taxes. The provision for income taxes is based upon income reported in the accompanying consolidated financial statements as required by ASC 740-10, *Accounting for Income Taxes*. We determine deferred tax assets and liabilities based on temporary differences between financial reporting and tax bases in assets and liabilities and measure them by applying enacted rates and laws expected to be in place when the deferred items become subject to income tax or deductible for income tax purposes. We recognize the effect on deferred taxes and liabilities of a change in tax rates in the period that includes the enactment date. In assessing the realization of our deferred income tax assets, we consider whether it is more likely than not that the deferred income tax assets will be realized. The ultimate realization of our deferred income tax assets depends upon generating future taxable income during the periods in which our temporary differences become deductible and before our net operating loss carryforwards expire. We evaluate the recoverability of our deferred income tax assets by assessing the need for a valuation allowance on a quarterly basis. If we determine that it is more likely than not that our deferred income tax assets will not be recovered, we establish a valuation allowance against some or all of our deferred income tax assets. Recording or reversing a valuation allowance could have a significant effect on our future results of operations and financial position.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

Warranty — We generally provide a limited one-year warranty and a lifetime service policy to the original purchaser of our new firearm products. We either provide a limited one year or limited lifetime warranty program to the original purchaser of most of our outdoor products and accessories products and we will repair or replace any of our electro-optics products or parts that are found to be defective under normal use and service with an item of equivalent value, at our option, without charge during the warranty period. We provide for estimated warranty obligations in the period in which we recognize the related revenue. We quantify and record an estimate for warranty-related costs based on our actual historical claims experience and current repair costs. We make adjustments to accruals as warranty claims data and historical experience warrant. Should we experience actual claims and repair costs that are higher than the estimated claims and repair costs used to calculate the provision, our operating results for the period or periods in which such returns or additional costs materialize would be adversely impacted.

From time to time, we have experienced certain manufacturing and design issues with respect to some of our firearms and have initiated some product recalls and safety alerts in the past.

In November 2011, we initiated a recall of all Thompson/Center Arms Venture rifles manufactured since the products' introduction in mid-2009. In June 2013, we also initiated a recall of all Thompson/Center Arms bolt action rifles manufactured since the products' introduction in 2007. In April 2018, we initiated a consumer advisory for certain models of our M&P Shield EZ pistols because in rare circumstances the safety on the pistol will move from the fire position to the "safety on" position when using ammunition that produces a high level of felt recoil. In May 2018, we initiated a recall of certain models of our electro-optics products that incorporated diodes manufactured by a particular third party because the diodes failed to comply with a Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, standard for laser products. We have made efforts to notify all consumers that may be impacted by this recall. The remaining cost of all recalls, safety alerts, and consumer advisories is \$2.4 million, which is recorded in accrued warranty on our consolidated balance sheet.

Warranty expense for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 amounted to \$2.9 million, \$5.8 million, and \$1.3 million, respectively.

The following table sets forth the change in accrued warranties, a portion of which is recorded as a non-current liability, in the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (in thousands):

Balance as of April 30, 2017	\$ 5,544
Warranties issued and adjustments to provisions	5,834
Warranty claims	(3,865)
Balance as of April 30, 2018	7,513
Warranties issued and adjustments to provisions	2,852
Warranty claims	(4,163)
Balance as of April 30, 2019	<u>\$ 6,202</u>

Sales and Promotional Related Expenses — We present product sales in our consolidated financial statements, net of customer promotional program costs that depend upon the volume of sales. For promotional program costs that are not dependent on the volume of sales, we record promotional costs in cost of goods sold. The total of all our promotional programs amounted to \$39.2 million, \$58.2 million, and \$37.3 million for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively. We have a co-op advertising program at the retail level. We expensed costs amounting to \$23.8 million, \$23.3 million, and \$21.3 million for fiscal 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively, as selling and marketing expenses.

Shipping and Handling — In the accompanying consolidated financial statements, we included amounts billed to customers for shipping and handling in net sales. In our Firearms segment, we include costs relating to shipping and handling charges, including inbound freight charges, internal transfer costs, and the other costs of our distribution network, in cost of goods sold. In our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment, inbound freight charges and internal transfer costs are included in cost of goods sold; however, costs incurred to distribute products to customers is included in general and administrative expenses.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

Insurance Reserves — We are self-insured through retentions or deductibles for the majority of our workers' compensation, automobile, general liability, product liability, and group health insurance programs. Self-insurance amounts vary up to \$10.0 million per occurrence; however, we believe the likelihood of reaching the maximum per occurrence limit is remote. We record our liability for estimated premiums and incurred losses in the accompanying consolidated financial statements on an undiscounted basis.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards — In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, or FASB, issued ASU 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)*, or ASU 2014-09. The core principle of ASU 2014-09 is 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 in exchange for those goods or services. We adopted the new standard on May 1, 2018 utilizing the modified retrospective approach. See Note 4 — *Revenue Recognition and Contracts with Customers* below for more information.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, *Leases (Topic 842)*, or ASU 2016-02, which amends the existing guidance to require lessees to recognize right-of-use assets and lease liabilities in a classified balance sheet (with the exception of leases with a term equal to or less than 12 months). The most prominent among the changes in the standard is the requirement for lessees to recognize right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for those leases classified as operating leases under current U.S. GAAP. The requirements of this ASU are effective for financial statements for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2018, and early adoption is permitted. We will be implementing leasing software to assist us in the accounting and tracking of leases and plan to use the optional transition method allowed by ASU 2016-02. Under this method, the standard will be applied prospectively in the year of adoption. We will elect to use the package of practical expedients, which permits us to not reassess certain lease contract provisions. We expect the effect of ASU 2016-02 will result in the recognition of right-of-use assets of \$11.5 million, the recognition of lease liabilities of \$12.8 million, and the elimination of deferred rent and lease incentive liabilities of \$1.3 million, primarily relating to our real estate operating leases, with no impact to retained earnings. We will adopt ASU 2016-02 in our first quarter of fiscal 2020.

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-13, *Financial Instruments — Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments*. The new standard changes the impairment model for most financial assets that are measured at amortized cost and certain other instruments, including trade receivables, from an incurred loss model to an expected loss model and adds certain new required disclosures. Under the expected loss model, entities will recognize credit losses to be incurred over the entire contractual term of the instrument rather than delaying recognition of credit losses until it is probable the loss has been incurred. The requirements of this ASU are effective for financial statements for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2019, and early adoption is permitted. We are currently evaluating the impact this standard will have on our consolidated financial statements, which we do not expect to be material.

4. Revenue Recognition and Contracts with Customers:

On May 1, 2018, we adopted ASU 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)*, or ASU 2014-09, using the modified retrospective approach, and recorded a contract liability, included in accrued expenses in the condensed consolidated balance sheet, for outstanding performance obligations related to sales promotions. Under the modified retrospective approach, results for reporting periods after May 1, 2018 will be presented in accordance with ASU 2014-09, while prior period amounts will not be adjusted and will continue to be reported in accordance with the previous guidance, Accounting Standards Codification, or ASC, Topic 605, *Revenue Recognition*. When evaluating our performance obligations, we disaggregate revenue based on major product lines, which correlate with our reportable segments disclosed in Note 19 — *Segment Reporting*. Domestic sales account for 95% of our total net sales. There are no significant judgments or estimates used in the determination of performance obligations, and the transaction price for the performance obligations are allocated on a pro-rata basis. There are no other contract costs that need to be considered based on the nature of our performance obligations.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

The following table outlines adjustments we recorded to our condensed consolidated balance sheet as a result of the adoption of ASU 2014-09 (in thousands):

	Balance at April 30, 2018	Accounting Standard Adjustments	Opening Balance May 1, 2018
Accrued expenses and deferred revenue	\$ 41,632	\$ (17,176)	\$ 24,456
Deferred revenue from contracts with customers	—	23,305	23,305
Deferred income taxes	12,895	(1,519)	11,376
Retained earnings	389,146	(4,610)	384,536

At April 30, 2018, we had accrued \$17.2 million of sales promotions, representing the cost of free goods earned but not yet shipped to our customers. On adoption of ASU 2014-09, we reversed this accrual and recorded deferred revenue of \$23.3 million relating to these outstanding performance obligations, a deferred tax asset of \$1.5 million, and a \$4.6 million adjustment to reduce the opening balance of retained earnings at May 1, 2018. We record deferred revenue in accrued expenses in the condensed consolidated balance sheet.

The following table outlines the impact of the adoption of ASU 2014-09 on revenue recognized during the year ended April 30, 2019 (in thousands):

Outstanding performance obligations with customers as of May 1, 2018	\$ 23,305
Revenue recognized	(51,213)
Revenue deferred	40,121
Outstanding performance obligations with customers as of April 30, 2019	<u>\$ 12,213</u>

During fiscal 2019, we recognized \$22.2 million of revenue previously deferred as of May 1, 2018 as the performance obligations relating to sales promotions were satisfied. In addition, we deferred \$11.1 million during fiscal 2019, net of revenue recognized, as the performance obligations related to sales promotions have not been satisfied, resulting in an outstanding performance obligation liability of \$12.2 million that is recorded in accrued expenses in the condensed consolidated balance sheet. During fiscal 2019, we recognized an \$11.1 million net increase of revenue relating to the adoption of ASU 2014-09. We estimate that the majority of the revenue from the outstanding performance obligations as of April 30, 2019 will be recognized during our first quarter of fiscal 2020. As a result of the adoption of ASU 2014-09, for the year ended April 30, 2019, gross margin was unfavorably impacted by 400 basis points and earnings per share was increased by \$0.03.

5. Goodwill and Intangible Assets

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill by reporting segment are as follows (in thousands):

	Firearms Segment	Outdoor Products & Accessories Segment	Total Goodwill
Balance as of April 30, 2017	\$ 13,770	\$ 155,247	\$ 169,017
Adjustments	—	10,249	10,249
Acquisitions	4,720	7,301	12,021
Balance as of April 30, 2018	18,490	172,797	191,287
Adjustments	534	—	534
Acquisitions	—	844	844
Goodwill impairment	—	(10,396)	(10,396)
Balance as of April 30, 2019	<u>\$ 19,024</u>	<u>\$ 163,245</u>	<u>\$ 182,269</u>

For more information regarding goodwill impairment testing, see Note 3 — *Significant Accounting Policies — Valuation of Long-lived Tangible and Intangible Assets* to our consolidated financial statements.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

The following table presents a summary of intangible assets as of April 30, 2019 and 2018 (in thousands):

	April 30, 2019			April 30, 2018		
	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount
Customer relationships	\$ 92,560	\$ (41,643)	\$ 50,917	\$ 92,360	\$ (28,252)	\$ 64,108
Developed technology	21,230	(10,428)	10,802	21,130	(8,178)	12,952
Patents, trademarks, and trade names	57,477	(28,479)	28,998	56,718	(22,099)	34,619
Backlog	1,150	(1,150)	—	1,150	(1,150)	—
	172,417	(81,700)	90,717	171,358	(59,679)	111,679
Patents in progress	897	—	897	855	—	855
Total definite-lived intangible assets	173,314	(81,700)	91,614	172,213	(59,679)	112,534
Indefinite-lived intangible assets	226	—	226	226	—	226
Total intangible assets	<u>\$ 173,540</u>	<u>\$ (81,700)</u>	<u>\$ 91,840</u>	<u>\$ 172,439</u>	<u>\$ (59,679)</u>	<u>\$ 112,760</u>

- (a) Changes to the gross carrying amount of customer relationships relate to purchase accounting adjustments. For more information regarding the changes in valuation of customer relations, see Note 2 — *Acquisitions* to our consolidated financial statements.

We amortize intangible assets with determinable lives over a weighted-average period of approximately five years. The weighted-average periods of amortization by intangible asset class is approximately five years for customer relationships, six years for developed technology, and five years for patents, trademarks, and trade names. Amortization expense, excluding amortization of deferred financing costs, amounted to \$22.0 million, \$21.0 million, and \$20.1 million for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively.

The following table represents future expected amortization expense as of April 30, 2019, which will primarily be recorded in our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment (in thousands):

Fiscal	Amount
2020	\$ 19,209
2021	16,595
2022	14,210
2023	11,841
2024	10,093
Thereafter	18,769
Total	<u>\$ 90,717</u>

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

6. Notes and Loans Payable and Financing Arrangements

Credit Facilities — On June 15, 2015, we and certain of our domestic subsidiaries entered into an unsecured credit facility, or the Credit Agreement, with TD Bank, N.A. and other lenders, or the Lenders, which included a \$175.0 million revolving line of credit, or the Revolving Line, and a \$105.0 million term loan, or the Term Loan, of which \$81.4 million remains outstanding as of April 30, 2019. The Revolving Line provides for availability for general corporate purposes with borrowings to bear interest at a variable rate equal to LIBOR or prime plus an applicable margin based on our consolidated leverage ratio, at our election. On October 27, 2016, we entered into a second amendment to our Credit Agreement, or the Second Amendment, which, among other things, increased the Revolving Line to \$350.0 million, increased the option to expand the credit commitment to \$150.0 million, and extended the maturity of the Revolving Line from June 15, 2020 to October 27, 2021. Other than the changes described in the Second Amendment, we otherwise remain subject to the terms of the Credit Agreement, as described below. We incurred \$525,000 of debt issuance costs related to this amendment and have recorded these costs in notes payable in the consolidated balance sheet.

As of April 30, 2019, we had no borrowings outstanding under the Revolving Line. Had there been borrowings, they would have bore interest at 4.48%, equal to the LIBOR rate plus an applicable margin. The Term Loan requires principal payments of \$6.3 million per annum plus interest, payable quarterly. Any remaining outstanding amount on the maturity date of June 15, 2020 will be due in full.

We were required to obtain interest rate protection on the Term Loan covering not less than 75% of the aggregate outstanding principal balance of the Term Loan. Accordingly, on June 18, 2015, we entered into an interest rate swap agreement, which expires on June 15, 2020, that covered 100% of the \$105.0 million of floating rate debt. On July 6, 2015, we executed an interest rate swap pursuant to such agreement, which requires us to pay interest at a defined rate of 1.56% while receiving interest at a defined variable rate of one-month LIBOR (0.188% at July 31, 2015). This swap, when combined with the applicable margin based on our consolidated leverage ratio, effectively fixed our interest rate on the Term Loan, which is subject to change based on changes in our consolidated leverage ratio. As of April 30, 2019, our interest rate on the Term Loan was 4.48%.

We recognize derivatives as either assets or liabilities on our consolidated balance sheets at fair value. The accounting for changes in the fair value (i.e., unrealized gains or losses) of a derivative instrument depends on whether it has been designated and qualifies as part of a hedging relationship and on the type of hedging relationship. Derivatives that do not qualify for hedge accounting must be adjusted to fair value through earnings. Our interest rate swap agreement is considered effective and qualifies as a cash flow hedge. The effective portion of the gain or loss on the derivative that is designated and qualifies as a cash flow hedge is recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income or loss and reclassified into earnings in the same period or periods during which the hedged transaction affects earnings. As of April 30, 2019, the interest rate swap was considered effective and had no effect on earnings. The fair value of the interest rate swap on April 30, 2019 and 2018 was an asset of \$710,000 and \$2.1 million, respectively, and was recorded in other assets on our consolidated balance sheet. We do not expect the interest rate swap to have any material effect on earnings within the next 12 months.

2018 Senior Notes – During fiscal 2015, we issued an aggregate of \$75.0 million of 5.000% Senior Notes due 2018, or the 2018 Senior Notes, to various institutional investors pursuant to the terms and conditions of an indenture and purchase agreements. The 2018 Senior Notes bear interest at a rate of 5.000% per annum payable on January 15 and July 15 of each year, beginning on January 15, 2015. We incurred \$2.3 million of debt issuance costs related to the issuance of the 2018 Senior Notes. As discussed below, the 2018 Senior Notes were redeemed on March 8, 2018 with proceeds from the issuance of 5.000% Senior Notes due 2020. As part of the redemption, in fiscal 2018, we wrote off \$226,000 of debt issuance costs related to the 2018 Senior Notes.

2020 Senior Notes – On February 28, 2018, we issued an aggregate of \$75.0 million of 5.000% Senior Notes due 2020, or the 2020 Senior Notes, to various institutional investors pursuant to the terms and conditions of an indenture, or the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture, and purchase agreements. The 2020 Senior Notes bear interest at a rate of 5.000% per annum payable on February 28 and August 28 of each year, beginning on August 28, 2018. We incurred \$158,000 of debt issuance costs related to the issuance of the 2020 Senior Notes.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

As of February 28, 2019, we may, at our option, upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' prior notice, redeem all or a portion of the 2020 Senior Notes at a redemption price of 100.000% of the principal amount of the 2020 Senior Notes to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest as of the applicable redemption date. Subject to certain restrictions and conditions, we may be required to make an offer to repurchase the 2020 Senior Notes from the holders of the 2020 Senior Notes in connection with a change of control or disposition of assets. If not redeemed by us or repaid pursuant to the holders' right to require repurchase, the 2020 Senior Notes mature on August 28, 2020.

The 2020 Senior Notes are general, unsecured obligations of our company. The 2020 Senior Notes Indenture contains certain affirmative and negative covenants, including limitations on restricted payments (such as share repurchases, dividends, and early payment of indebtedness), limitations on indebtedness, limitations on the sale of assets, and limitations on liens. Payments that would otherwise be characterized as restricted payments are permitted under the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture in an amount not to exceed 50% of our consolidated net income for the period from the issue date to the date of the restricted payment, provided that at the time of making such payments, (a) no default has occurred or would result from the making of such payments, and (b) we are able to satisfy the debt incurrence test under the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture, or the 2020 Senior Notes Lifetime Aggregate Limit. In addition, the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture provides for other exceptions to the restricted payments covenant, each of which are independent of the 2020 Senior Notes Lifetime Aggregate Limit. Among such exceptions are (i) the ability to make share repurchases each fiscal year in an amount not to exceed the lesser of (A) \$50.0 million in any fiscal year or (B) 75.0% of our consolidated net income for the previous four consecutive published fiscal quarters prior to the date of the determination of such consolidated net income, and (ii) share repurchases over the life of the 2020 Senior Notes in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$75.0 million.

The limitation on indebtedness in the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture is only applicable at such time that the consolidated coverage ratio (as set forth in the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture) for us and our restricted subsidiaries is less than 3.00 to 1.00. In general, as set forth in the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture, the consolidated coverage ratio is determined by comparing our prior four quarters' consolidated EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) to our consolidated interest expense. The carrying value of our 2020 Senior Notes as of April 30, 2019 approximated the fair value in considering Level 2 inputs within the hierarchy.

Debt Issuance Costs — We did not record any debt issuance costs for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019. We recorded, in notes payable, \$158,000, and \$525,000 of debt issuance costs for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. These costs are being amortized to expense over the life of the credit facility or the 2020 Senior Notes Indenture. In total, we amortized \$431,000, \$1.1 million, and \$918,000 to interest expense for all debt issuance costs in fiscal 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively, including write-offs related to extinguishment.

The Credit Agreement for our credit facility contains financial covenants relating to maintaining maximum leverage and minimum debt service coverage. The 2020 Senior Notes Indenture contains a financial covenant relating to times interest earned.

Letters of Credit — At April 30, 2019, we had outstanding letters of credit aggregating \$1.0 million.

7. Net Sales

The following table sets forth the breakdown of net sales for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (in thousands):

	For the Years Ended April 30,		
	2019	2018	2017
Handguns	\$ 336,901	\$ 326,290	\$ 556,566
Long Guns	107,717	90,222	179,612
Other Products & Services	33,859	32,474	36,819
Firearms Segment	478,477	448,986	772,997
Outdoor Products & Accessories Segment	159,800	157,864	130,191
Total Net Sales	<u>\$ 638,277</u>	<u>\$ 606,850</u>	<u>\$ 903,188</u>

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

We sell our products and services in our Firearms segment under our Smith & Wesson, M&P, Performance Center, Gemtech, Thompson/Center Arms, and Smith & Wesson Precision Components brands. Depending upon the product or service, our firearm customers primarily include distributors; federal, state, and municipal law enforcement agencies and officers; government and military agencies; businesses; and retailers. We sell our outdoor products & accessories products under our Caldwell, Wheeler, Tipton, Frankford Arsenal, Lockdown, Hooyman, BOG, Crimson Trace, Imperial, Schrade, Old Timer, Uncle Henry, BUBBA, UST, LaserLyte, and KeyGear brands. We also offer firearms accessories and non-firearms accessories, such as flashlights and knives, under our Firearm brands, including Smith & Wesson, M&P, Performance Center, and Thompson/Center Arms. Our outdoor products and accessories customers are generally, distributors, retailers, and consumers.

We sell our products worldwide. The following table sets forth the breakdown of export net sales included in the above table. Our export net sales accounted for 5%, 5%, and 3% of total net sales for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively (in thousands):

Region	For the Years Ended April 30,		
	2019	2018	2017
Europe	\$ 11,860	\$ 9,586	\$ 11,545
Asia	3,866	4,725	4,046
Latin America	3,268	2,038	1,778
All others international	14,030	12,388	10,418
Total international net sales	<u>\$ 33,024</u>	<u>\$ 28,737</u>	<u>\$ 27,787</u>

Our Firearms and Outdoor Products & Accessories segments own tooling that is located at various suppliers in Asia and North America.

8. Advertising Costs

We expense advertising costs, primarily consisting of magazine advertisements, printed materials, and television advertisements, either as incurred or upon the first occurrence of the advertising. Advertising expense, included in selling and marketing expenses for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, amounted to \$24.3 million, \$25.8 million, and \$22.3 million, respectively.

9. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The following table summarizes property, plant, and equipment as of April 30, 2019 and 2018 (in thousands):

	April 30, 2019	April 30, 2018
Machinery and equipment	\$ 270,815	\$ 251,706
Software and hardware	47,587	43,097
Building and improvements	34,584	29,908
Land and improvements	3,787	3,845
Capital lease	46,246	—
	403,019	328,556
Less: Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(228,306)	(198,545)
	174,713	130,011
Construction in progress	8,555	29,114
Total property, plant, and equipment, net	<u>\$ 183,268</u>	<u>\$ 159,125</u>

Depreciation of tangible assets and amortization of software expense amounted to \$31.4 million, \$30.0 million, and \$29.2 million for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively. The large decrease in construction in progress resulted from the majority of the assets associated with our national logistics facility being placed into service in fiscal 2019.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

The following table summarizes depreciation and amortization expense, which includes amortization of intangibles and debt financing costs, by line item for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (in thousands):

	For the Years Ended April 30,		
	2019	2018	2017
Cost of sales	\$ 23,797	\$ 24,582	\$ 24,744
Research and development	625	557	428
Selling and marketing	530	619	424
General and administrative (a)	28,476	25,212	23,699
Interest expense	431	1,105	918
Total depreciation and amortization	<u>\$ 53,859</u>	<u>\$ 52,075</u>	<u>\$ 50,213</u>

- (a) General and administrative expenses included \$21.8 million, \$20.8 million, and \$18.4 million of amortization for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively, which were recorded as a result of our acquisitions.

10. Inventories

The following table sets forth a summary of inventories, net of reserves, stated at lower of cost or market, as of April 30, 2019 and 2018 (in thousands):

	April 30, 2019	April 30, 2018
Finished goods	\$ 108,247	\$ 91,480
Finished parts	36,181	42,075
Work in process	7,576	7,657
Raw material	11,766	12,141
Total inventories	<u>\$ 163,770</u>	<u>\$ 153,353</u>

11. Accrued Expenses and Deferred Revenue

The following table sets forth other accrued expenses as of April 30, 2019 and 2018 (in thousands):

	April 30, 2019	April 30, 2018
Deferred revenue	\$ 12,213	\$ —
Accrued employee benefits	5,241	5,741
Accrued taxes other than income	6,078	3,933
Accrued rebates and promotions (a)	4,877	21,339
Accrued professional fees	2,649	2,332
Accrued distributor incentives	1,895	1,502
Accrued commissions	1,004	1,342
Interest payable	737	930
Current portion of capital lease obligation	681	431
Accrued other	3,947	4,082
Total accrued expenses and deferred revenue	<u>\$ 39,322</u>	<u>\$ 41,632</u>

- (a) Decrease in rebates and promotions from fiscal 2018 is due to the adoption of ASU 2014-09 in fiscal 2019. For more information regarding these transactions, see Note 4 — *Revenue Recognition and Contracts with Customers*.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

12. Fair Value Measurement

We follow the provisions of ASC 820-10, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures Topic*, or ASC 820-10, for our financial assets and liabilities. ASC 820-10 provides a framework for measuring fair value under GAAP and requires expanded disclosures regarding fair value measurements. ASC 820-10 defines fair value as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. ASC 820-10 also establishes a fair value hierarchy which requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs, where available, and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value.

Financial assets and liabilities recorded on the accompanying consolidated balance sheets are categorized based on the inputs to the valuation techniques as follows:

Level 1 — Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in an active market that we have the ability to access at the measurement date (examples include active exchange-traded equity securities, listed derivatives, and most U.S. Government and agency securities).

Our cash and cash equivalents, which are measured at fair value on a recurring basis, totaled \$41.0 million and \$48.9 million as of April 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively. We utilized Level 1 of the value hierarchy to determine the fair values of these assets.

Level 2 — Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on quoted prices in markets in which trading occurs infrequently or whose values are based on quoted prices of instruments with similar attributes in active markets. Level 2 inputs include the following:

- quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in non-active markets (such as corporate and municipal bonds which trade infrequently);
- inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability (such as interest rate and currency swaps); and
- inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the asset or liability (such as certain securities and derivatives).

The carrying value of our Term Loan approximated the fair value as of April 30, 2019 in considering Level 2 inputs within the hierarchy. The carrying value of our 2020 Senior Notes as of April 30, 2019 approximated the fair value in considering Level 2 inputs within the hierarchy as our 2020 Senior Notes are not frequently traded. The fair value of our interest rate swap was estimated by a third party using inputs that are observable or that can be corroborated by observable market data, such as interest rate yield curves, and, therefore, are classified within Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy. For more information regarding the interest rate swap, refer to Note 6 — *Notes and Loans Payable and Financing Arrangements* to our consolidated financial statements.

Level 3 — Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on prices or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement. These inputs reflect our assumptions about the assumptions a market participant would use in pricing the asset or liability.

The acquisition-related contingent consideration liability represents the estimated fair value of additional future earn-outs payable for acquisitions of businesses that included earn-out clauses. The valuation of the contingent consideration will be evaluated on an ongoing basis and is based on management estimates and entity-specific assumptions which are considered Level 3 inputs.

In connection with the purchase of UST, up to an additional \$2.0 million may be paid over a period of two years, contingent upon the financial performance of the acquired business. The valuation of this contingent consideration liability was established in accordance with ASC 805 — *Business Combinations*. The initial fair value of this contingent consideration liability was \$1.7 million. Based on the forecasted revenue, during fiscal 2018, we recorded a \$1.6 million reduction in the fair value of this contingent consideration liability because we did not expect that the acquired business would achieve the performance metrics. During fiscal 2019, we recorded a \$60,000 reduction in the remaining fair value of this contingent liability because we confirmed the performance metrics were not achieved. These reductions were recorded in other income on the condensed consolidated statements of income.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

In connection with the Gemtech acquisition, up to a maximum of \$17.1 million may be paid contingent upon the cumulative three year sales volume of the acquired business. The valuation of this contingent consideration liability was established in accordance with ASC 805 — *Business Combinations*. Based on current forecasted revenue, we believe it is unlikely that the acquired business will achieve the performance metrics. Therefore, as of April 30, 2019 and 2018, the contingent liability was recorded at a fair value of \$100,000 in non-current liabilities.

13. Self-Insurance Reserves

As of April 30, 2019 and 2018, we had reserves for workers' compensation, product liability, municipal liability, and medical/dental costs totaling \$8.9 million and \$9.2 million, respectively, of which \$4.8 million was classified as other non-current liabilities. As of April 30, 2019 and 2018, \$3.6 million and \$3.9 million, respectively, were included in accrued expenses on the accompanying consolidated balance sheets. In addition, as of April 30, 2019 and 2018, \$620,000 and \$590,000, respectively, of workers' compensation recoverable was classified as other assets. While we believe these reserves to be adequate, it is possible that the ultimate liabilities will exceed such estimates.

The following table summarizes the activity in the workers' compensation, product liability, municipal liability, and medical/dental reserves in the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (in thousands):

	For the Year Ended April 30,		
	2019	2018	2017
Beginning balance	\$ 9,173	\$ 8,663	\$ 10,082
Additional provision charged to expense	21,602	22,802	15,801
Payments	(21,916)	(22,292)	(17,220)
Ending balance	<u>\$ 8,859</u>	<u>\$ 9,173</u>	<u>\$ 8,663</u>

It is our policy to provide an estimate for loss as a result of expected adverse findings or legal settlements on product liability, municipal liability, workers' compensation, and other matters when such losses are probable and are reasonably estimable. It is also our policy to accrue for reasonable estimable legal costs associated with defending such litigation. While such estimates involve a range of possible costs, we determine, in consultation with counsel, the most likely cost within such range on a case-by-case basis. We also record receivables from insurance carriers relating to these matters when their collection is probable. As of April 30, 2019 and 2018, we had accrued reserves for product and municipal litigation liabilities of \$3.3 million and \$3.4 million, respectively (of which \$2.8 million was non-current), consisting entirely of expected legal defense costs. In addition, as of April 30, 2019 and 2018, we had recorded receivables from insurance carriers related to these liabilities of \$1.9 million, nearly all of which has been classified as other assets.

14. Stockholders' Equity

Treasury Stock

During fiscal 2017, our board of directors authorized the repurchase of up to \$50.0 million of our common stock, subject to certain conditions, in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions. During fiscal 2019, that authorized repurchase program expired, resulting in no remaining authorized repurchase programs as of April 30, 2019. Prior to this authorized repurchase program, in fiscal 2017, we repurchased 2.6 million shares of our common stock in the open market for \$50.0 million, utilizing a combination of cash on hand and borrowings under our Revolving Line. We did not repurchase any shares of our common stock during fiscal 2019 or 2018.

Incentive Stock and Employee Stock Purchase Plans

We have two stock incentive plans, or SPs: the 2004 Incentive Stock Plan and the 2013 Incentive Stock Plan. New grants under the 2004 Incentive Stock Plan have not been made since the approval of the 2013 Incentive Stock Plan at our September 23, 2013 annual meeting of stockholders. All new grants covering all participants are issued under the 2013 Incentive Stock Plan.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

The 2013 Incentive Stock Plan authorizes the issuance of 3,000,000 shares, plus any shares that were reserved and remained available for grant and delivery under the 2004 Incentive Stock Plan as of September 23, 2013, the effective date of the 2013 Incentive Stock Plan. The plan permits the grant of options to acquire common stock, restricted stock awards, RSUs, stock appreciation rights, bonus stock and awards in lieu of obligations, performance awards, and dividend equivalents. Our board of directors, or a committee established by our board, administers the SPs, selects recipients to whom awards are granted, and determines the grants to be awarded. Options granted under the SPs are exercisable at a price determined by our board or committee at the time of grant, but in no event, less than fair market value of our common stock on the date granted. Grants of options may be made to employees and directors without regard to any performance measures. All options issued pursuant to the SPs are generally nontransferable and subject to forfeiture.

Unless terminated earlier by our board of directors, the 2013 Incentive Stock Plan will terminate at the earliest of (1) the tenth anniversary of the effective date of the 2013 Stock Plan, or (2) such time as no shares of common stock remain available for issuance under the plan and we have no further rights or obligations with respect to outstanding awards under the plan. The date of grant of an award is deemed to be the date upon which our board of directors or board committee authorizes the granting of such award.

Except in specific circumstances, grants vest over a period of three or four years and grants of stock options are exercisable for a period of 10 years. The plan also permits the grant of awards to non-employees, which our board of directors or committee has authorized in the past.

The number of shares and weighted average exercise prices of options for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 are as follows:

	For the Year Ended April 30,					
	2019		2018		2017	
	Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Options outstanding, beginning of year	316,160	\$ 6.69	335,160	\$ 6.58	389,360	\$ 6.16
Exercised during the period	(48,399)	6.28	(19,000)	4.70	(54,200)	3.57
Options outstanding, end of period	<u>267,761</u>	<u>\$ 6.76</u>	<u>316,160</u>	<u>\$ 6.69</u>	<u>335,160</u>	<u>\$ 6.58</u>
Weighted average remaining contractual life	2.35		3.16		4.01	
	years		years		years	
Options exercisable, end of period	<u>267,761</u>	<u>\$ 6.76</u>	<u>316,160</u>	<u>\$ 6.69</u>	<u>335,160</u>	<u>\$ 6.58</u>
	2.35		3.16		4.01	
Weighted average remaining contractual life	<u>years</u>		<u>years</u>		<u>years</u>	

As of April 30, 2019, there were 4,404,603 shares available for grant under the 2013 Incentive Stock Plan. We use our unissued share pool for all shares issued for options, restricted stock awards, RSUs, performance share units, performance-based restricted stock units, or PSUs, and shares issued under our Employee Stock Purchase Plan, or ESPP.

The aggregate intrinsic value of outstanding and exercisable stock options as of April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 was \$826,000, \$1.4 million, and \$5.2 million, respectively. The aggregate intrinsic value of the options exercised for the years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 was \$285,000, \$116,000, and \$1.3 million, respectively. At April 30, 2019, there was no unrecognized compensation cost of outstanding options.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

The following table summarizes stock compensation expense by line item for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (in thousands):

	For the Years Ended April 30,		
	2019	2018	2017
Cost of sales	\$ 746	\$ 882	\$ 1,139
Research and development	99	187	217
Selling and marketing	489	382	801
General and administrative	6,658	6,364	6,433
Total stock-based compensation	<u>\$ 7,992</u>	<u>\$ 7,815</u>	<u>\$ 8,590</u>

We grant service-based RSUs to employees, consultants, and directors. The awards are made at no cost to the recipient. An RSU represents the right to acquire one share of our common stock and does not carry voting or dividend rights. Except in specific circumstances, RSU grants to employees generally vest over a period of three or four years with one-third or one-fourth of the units vesting, respectively, on each anniversary date of the grant date. The aggregate fair value of our RSU grants is amortized to compensation expense over the applicable vesting period.

We grant PSUs to our executive officers and certain management employees who are not executive officers. At the time of grant, we calculate the fair value of our PSUs using the Monte-Carlo simulation. We incorporate the following variables into the valuation model:

	For the Years Ended April 30,		
	2019	2018	2017
Grant date fair market value			
American Outdoor Brands Corporation	\$ 9.85	\$ 11.11	\$ 21.89
Russell 2000 Index	\$ 1,591.21	\$ 1,557.89	\$ 1,417.13
Volatility (a)			
American Outdoor Brands Corporation	45.19%	42.27%	41.67%
Russell 2000 Index	15.65%	16.26%	16.77%
Correlation coefficient (b)	0.14	0.19	0.22
Risk-free interest rate (c)	2.23%	2.61%	1.44%
Dividend yield (d)	0%	0%	0%

- (a) Expected volatility is calculated over the most recent period that represents the remaining term of the performance period as of the valuation date, or three years.
- (b) The correlation coefficient utilizes the same historical price data used to develop the volatility assumptions.
- (c) The risk-free interest rate is based on the yield of a zero-coupon U.S. Treasury bill, commensurate with the three-year performance period.
- (d) We do not expect to pay dividends in the foreseeable future.

The PSUs vest, and the fair value of such PSUs will be recognized, over the corresponding three-year performance period. Our PSUs have a maximum aggregate award equal to 200% of the target amount granted. Generally, the number of PSUs that may be earned depends upon the total stockholder return, or TSR, of our common stock compared with the TSR of the Russell 2000 Index, or RUT, over the three-year performance period. For PSUs, our stock must outperform the RUT by 5% in order for the target award to vest. In addition, there is a cap on the number of shares that can be earned under our PSUs, which is equal to six times the grant-date value of each award.

In certain circumstances, the vested awards will be delivered on the first anniversary of the applicable vesting date. We have applied a discount to the grant date fair value when determining the amount of compensation expense to be recorded for these RSUs and PSUs.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

During the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019, we granted 181,600 PSUs to certain of our executive officers. We also granted 360,185 service-based RSUs during the year ended April 30, 2019, including 167,818 RSUs to certain of our executive officers, 49,509 RSUs to our directors, and 142,858 RSUs to non-executive officer employees. Compensation expense recognized related to grants of RSUs and PSUs was \$7.3 million for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019.

During the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019, we canceled 33,899 service-based RSUs as a result of the service period condition not being met and 112,000 PSUs as the three year stock performance targets were not achieved. We delivered 206,572 shares of common stock to current employees under vested RSUs and PSUs with a total market value of \$2.5 million.

During the year ended April 30, 2018, we granted 157,700 PSUs to certain of our executive officers. We also granted 388,186 service-based RSUs during the year ended April 30, 2018, including 159,167 RSUs to certain of our executive officers, 52,826 RSUs to our directors, and 176,193 RSUs to non-executive officer employees. In addition, in connection with a 2014 grant of 105,000 PSUs (i.e., the target amount granted), which achieved 115.2% of the targeted award, we vested and delivered awards totaling 121,504 shares to certain of our executive officers. Compensation expense recognized related to grants of RSUs and PSUs was \$7.1 million for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2018.

During the fiscal year ended April 30, 2018, we canceled 208,496 service-based RSUs and 39,429 PSUs as a result of the service period condition not being met and delivered 300,496 shares of common stock to current employees under vested RSUs and PSUs with a total market value of \$6.2 million.

During the year ended April 30, 2017, we granted 153,100 PSUs to certain of our executive officers. We also granted 394,909 service-based RSUs during the year ended April 30, 2017, including 168,800 RSUs to certain of our executive officers, 24,896 RSUs to our directors, and 201,213 RSUs to non-executive officer employees. In addition, in connection with a 2013 grant of 118,500 PSUs (i.e., the target amount granted), which achieved 200.0% of the maximum aggregate award possible, we vested and delivered awards totaling 237,000 shares to certain of our executive officers. Compensation expense recognized related to grants of RSUs and PSUs was \$7.8 million for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2017.

During the fiscal year ended April 30, 2017, we canceled 19,448 service-based RSUs as a result of the service period condition not being met and delivered 433,966 shares of common stock to current employees under vested RSUs and PSUs with a total market value of \$11.7 million.

The grant date fair value of RSUs and PSUs that vested in fiscal 2019 was \$3.9 million and in fiscal 2018 and 2017 was \$5.0 million.

A summary of activity for unvested RSUs and PSUs for fiscal years 2019, 2018, and 2017 is as follows:

	For the Year Ended April 30,					
	2019		2018		2017	
	Total # of	Weighted	Total # of	Weighted	Total # of	Weighted
	Restricted	Average	Restricted	Average	Restricted	Average
	Stock Units	Grant Date	Stock Units	Grant Date	Stock Units	Grant Date
		Fair Value		Fair Value		Fair Value
RSUs and PSUs outstanding, beginning of period	1,442,317	\$ 17.80	1,428,848	\$ 18.58	1,215,753	\$ 15.38
Awarded	541,785	10.65	561,890	15.09	666,509	19.85
Vested	(206,572)	19.11	(300,496)	16.53	(433,966)	11.64
Forfeited	(145,899)	16.11	(247,925)	17.04	(19,448)	17.19
RSUs and PSUs outstanding, end of period	<u>1,631,631</u>	<u>\$ 15.44</u>	<u>1,442,317</u>	<u>\$ 17.80</u>	<u>1,428,848</u>	<u>\$ 18.58</u>

As of April 30, 2019, there was \$7.7 million of unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested RSUs and PSUs. This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted average remaining contractual term of 1.8 years.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

On September 26, 2011, our stockholders approved our 2011 ESPP, which authorizes the sale of up to 6,000,000 shares of our common stock to employees. All options and rights to participate in our ESPP are nontransferable and subject to forfeiture in accordance with our ESPP guidelines. Our current ESPP will be implemented in a series of successive offering periods, each with a maximum duration of 12 months. If the fair market value, or FMV, per share of our common stock on any purchase date is less than the FMV per share on the start date of a 12-month offering period, then that offering period will automatically terminate, and a new 12-month offering period will begin on the next business day. Each offering period will begin on April 1 or October 1, as applicable, immediately following the end of the previous offering period. Payroll deductions will be on an after-tax basis, in an amount of not less than 1% and not more than 20% (or such greater percentage as the committee appointed to administer our ESPP may establish from time to time before the first day of an offering period) of a participant's compensation on each payroll date. The option exercise price per share will equal 85% of the lower of the FMV on the first day of the offering period or the FMV on the exercise date. The maximum number of shares that a participant may purchase during any purchase period is 12,500 shares, or a total of \$25,000 in shares, based on the FMV on the first day of the offering period. Our ESPP will remain in effect until the earliest of (a) the exercise date that participants become entitled to purchase a number of shares greater than the number of reserved shares available for purchase under our ESPP, (b) such date as is determined by our board of directors in its discretion, or (c) March 31, 2022. In the event of certain corporate transactions, each option outstanding under our ESPP will be assumed or an equivalent option will be substituted by the successor corporation or a parent or subsidiary of such successor corporation. During fiscal 2019, 2018, and 2017, 230,282, 203,002, and 144,102 shares, respectively, were purchased by our employees under our ESPP.

We measure the cost of employee services received in exchange for an award of an equity instrument based on the grant-date fair value of the award. We calculate the fair value of our stock options issued to employees using the Black-Scholes model at the time the options were granted. That amount is then amortized over the vesting period of the option. With our ESPP, fair value is determined at the beginning of the purchase period and amortized over the term of each exercise period.

The following assumptions were used in valuing our ESPP purchases during the years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017:

	For the Years Ended April 30,		
	2019	2018	2017
Risk-free interest rate	2.21%	1.62%	0.60%
Expected term	6 months	6 months	6 months
Expected volatility	45.3%	42.3%	45.3%
Dividend yield	0%	0%	0%

We estimate expected volatility using historical volatility for the expected term. The fair value of each stock option or ESPP purchase was estimated on the date of the grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model (using the risk-free interest rate, expected term, expected volatility, and dividend yield variables, as noted in the above table). The total stock-based compensation expense, including stock options, purchases under our ESPP, and RSU and PSU awards, was \$8.0 million, \$7.8 million, and \$8.6 million, for fiscal years 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively.

15. Employer Sponsored Benefit Plans

Contributory Defined Investment Plan — We offer two contributory defined investment plans covering substantially all employees, subject to service requirements. Employees may contribute up to 100% of their annual pay, depending on the plan. We generally make discretionary matching contributions of up to 50% of the first 6% of employee contributions to the plan. We contributed \$2.9 million, \$3.0 million, and \$2.7 million for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively.

Non-Contributory Profit Sharing Plan — We have a non-contributory profit sharing plan covering substantially all of our employees. Employees become eligible on May 1 following the completion of a full fiscal year of continuous service. Our contributions to the plan are discretionary. For fiscal 2019, we plan to contribute approximately \$2.8 million, which has been recorded in general and administrative costs. We contributed \$1.3 million and \$13.0 million for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. Contributions are funded after the fiscal year-end.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

16. Income Taxes

Income tax expense/(benefit) from continuing operations consists of the following (in thousands):

	For the Year Ended April 30,		
	2019	2018	2017
Current:			
Federal	\$ 8,999	\$ 5,081	\$ 61,943
State	2,600	1,184	9,349
Foreign	5	—	—
Total current	11,604	6,265	71,292
Deferred:			
Deferred federal	(879)	(9,081)	(6,969)
Deferred state	(397)	305	(871)
Total deferred	(1,276)	(8,776)	(7,840)
Total income tax expense/(benefit)	<u>\$ 10,328</u>	<u>\$ (2,511)</u>	<u>\$ 63,452</u>

The following table presents a reconciliation of the provision for income taxes from continuing operations at statutory rates to the provision (benefit) in the consolidated financial statements (in thousands):

	For the Year Ended April 30,		
	2019	2018	2017
Federal income taxes expected at the statutory rate (a)	\$ 6,035	\$ 5,355	\$ 66,957
State income taxes, less federal income tax benefit	1,804	1,460	5,310
Stock compensation	708	(322)	(3,092)
Business meals and entertainment	181	302	296
Domestic production activity deduction	—	(335)	(5,728)
Research and development tax credit	(567)	(426)	(453)
Goodwill impairment	2,183	—	—
Other	54	(403)	162
Federal tax rate change on deferred taxes	(70)	(8,142)	—
Total income tax expense/(benefit)	<u>\$ 10,328</u>	<u>\$ (2,511)</u>	<u>\$ 63,452</u>

- (a) We had a statutory rate of 21% in fiscal 2019, a blended statutory rate of 30.4% in fiscal 2018 because of Tax Reform, and a statutory rate of 35% in fiscal 2017.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

Deferred tax assets (liabilities) related to temporary differences are the following (in thousands):

	For the Years Ended April 30,	
	2019	2018
Non-current tax assets (liabilities):		
Net operating loss carryforwards and tax credits	\$ 3,256	\$ 3,372
Inventories	6,741	6,204
Accrued expenses, including compensation	5,800	3,037
Environmental reserves	181	258
Product liability	360	353
Accrued promotions	73	1,061
Workers' compensation	478	485
Warranty reserve	1,525	1,843
Stock-based compensation	3,884	3,576
State bonus depreciation	1,454	1,117
Property taxes	(185)	(160)
Property, plant, and equipment	(20,392)	(18,434)
Intangible assets	(10,006)	(12,510)
Pension	234	218
Other	397	21
Less valuation allowance	(3,576)	(3,336)
Net deferred tax asset/(liability) — total	<u>\$ (9,776)</u>	<u>\$ (12,895)</u>

We had federal net operating loss carryforwards amounting to \$108,000 as of April 30, 2019, which expire in fiscal 2020. We obtained \$8.2 million in additional loss carryforwards through our acquisition of SWSS on July 20, 2009, the majority of which was utilized in fiscal 2010. Utilization of the remaining losses is limited by Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code to \$108,000 in fiscal 2019 and for each taxable year thereafter. It is possible that future substantial changes in our ownership could occur that could result in additional ownership changes pursuant to Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code. If such an ownership change were to occur, there could be an annual limitation on the remaining tax loss carryforward.

There were \$17.9 million in state net operating loss carryforwards as of April 30, 2019 and 2018. The state net operating loss carryforwards will expire between April 30, 2025 and April 30, 2038. There were \$2.9 million and \$3.1 million of state tax credit carryforwards as of April 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively. The state tax credit carryforwards will expire between April 30, 2023 and April 30, 2025 or have no expiration date.

As of April 30, 2019, valuation allowances of \$911,000 and \$2.3 million were provided on our deferred tax assets for those state net operating loss carryforwards, and state tax credits, respectively, that we do not anticipate using prior to their expiration. As of April 30, 2018, valuation allowances of \$921,000 and \$2.4 million were provided on our deferred tax assets for those state net operating loss carryforwards and state tax credits, respectively, that we do not anticipate using prior to their expiration. Additional valuation allowances of \$342,000 were provided on our deferred income tax assets as of April 30, 2019, as we believe that it is more likely than not that all such assets will be realized. These allowances related to IRC Section 162(m) limitations on the deductibility of certain executive compensation. Recording a valuation allowance or reversing a valuation allowance could have an effect on our future results of operations and financial position.

On December 22, 2017, the U.S. federal government enacted comprehensive tax legislation with Tax Reform, which makes broad and complex changes to the U.S. tax code. Tax Reform significantly revises the corporate federal income tax by, among other things, lowering the corporate federal income tax rate from 35% to 21%, limiting various deductions, and repealing the domestic manufacturing deduction.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

On December 22, 2017, the SEC issued Staff Accounting Bulletin 118, or SAB118, that provided additional guidance allowing companies to use a measurement period, similar to that used in business combinations, to account for the impacts of Tax Reform in their financial statements. This measurement period was not permitted to extend beyond one year from the Tax reform enactment date. In accordance with SAB 118, to the extent that a company's accounting for certain income tax effects of the Tax Reform is incomplete, but the company was able to determine a reasonably estimating the effects, we were permitted to record a provisional estimate in our financial statements. All provisional estimates related to Tax Reform were finalized within the measurement period.

The income tax provisions (benefit) represent effective tax rates of 35.9% and (14.3%) for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively. The tax benefit in fiscal 2018 was primarily caused by the effect of Tax Reform which resulted in the remeasurement of deferred tax assets and liabilities, as well as lower operating profit. Excluding the impact of Tax Reform and other discrete items, our effective tax rate for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2018 was 35.4%.

U.S. income taxes have not been provided on \$50,000 of undistributed earnings of our foreign subsidiary since it is our intention to permanently reinvest such earnings offshore. If the earnings were distributed in the form of dividends, we would not be subject to U.S. tax as a result of the Tax Act but could be subject to foreign income and withholding taxes. Determination of the amount of this unrecognized deferred income tax liability is not practical.

At April 30, 2019 and 2018, we did not have any gross tax-effected unrecognized tax benefits.

With limited exception, we are subject to U.S. federal, state, and local, or non-U.S. income tax audits by tax authorities for fiscal years subsequent to April 30, 2015.

17. Commitments and Contingencies

Litigation

In January 2018, Gemini Technologies, Incorporated, or Gemini, commenced an action against us and Smith & Wesson Corp. in the United States District Court for the District of Idaho, or District Court. The complaint alleges, among other things, that the defendants breached the earn-out and other provisions of the Asset Purchase Agreement and ancillary agreements between the parties in connection with Smith & Wesson Corp.'s acquisition of the Gemtech business from Gemini. The complaint seeks a declaratory judgment interpreting various terms of the Asset Purchase Agreement and damages in the sum of \$18.6 million. In May 2018, the District Court dismissed the complaint on the grounds of *forum non conveniens*. In June 2018, Gemini appealed the decision dismissing its complaint to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Oral argument was held before the Court of Appeals on May 14, 2019. We believe the claims asserted in the complaint have no merit, and we intend to aggressively defend this action.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

We are a defendant in six product liability cases and are aware of five other product liability claims, primarily alleging defective product design, defective manufacturing, or failure to provide adequate warnings. In addition, we are a co-defendant in a case filed on August 27, 1999 by the city of Gary, Indiana against numerous firearm manufacturers, distributors, and dealers seeking to recover monetary damages, as well as injunctive relief, allegedly arising out of the misuse of firearms by third parties. In January 2018, the trial court granted defendants' Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings, dismissing the case in its entirety. In February 2018, plaintiffs appealed the dismissal to the Indiana Court of Appeals. On May 23, 2019, the Indiana Court of Appeals issued a decision, which affirmed in part and reversed in part and remanded for further proceedings, the trial court's dismissal of the City's complaint. The parties have until July 8, 2019 to file petitions to transfer jurisdiction to the Indiana Supreme Court. In May 2018, we were named in an action related to the Parkland, Florida shooting, filed in the Circuit Court, Broward County, Florida, seeking a declaratory judgment that a Florida statute that provides firearm manufacturers and dealers immunity from liability when their legally manufactured and lawfully sold firearms are later used in criminal acts only applies to civil actions commenced by governmental agencies not private litigants. In August 2018, we moved to dismiss the complaint on the grounds that it seeks an impermissible advisory opinion. On December 6, 2018, the court granted defendants' motion to dismiss without prejudice and granted plaintiffs leave to amend their complaint. On December 10, 2018, plaintiffs filed a Second Amended Complaint for Declaratory Relief. On December 13, 2018, defendants filed a Motion to Dismiss Plaintiffs' Second Amended Complaint. A hearing was held on defendants' second motion to dismiss on December 17, 2018. A decision has not yet been issued by the court.

We believe that the various allegations as described above are unfounded, and, in addition, that any accident and any results from them or any injuries were due to negligence or misuse of the firearm by the claimant or a third party.

In addition, from time to time, we are involved in lawsuits, claims, investigations, and proceedings, including commercial, environmental, and employment matters, which arise in the ordinary course of business.

The relief sought in individual cases primarily includes compensatory and, sometimes, punitive damages. Certain of the cases and claims seek unspecified compensatory or punitive damages. In others, compensatory damages sought may range from less than \$75,000 to approximately \$350,000. In our experience, initial demands do not generally bear a reasonable relationship to the facts and circumstances of a particular matter. We believe that our accruals for product liability cases and claims, as described below, are a reasonable quantitative measure of the cost to us of product liability cases and claims.

We are vigorously defending ourselves in the lawsuits to which we are subject. An unfavorable outcome or prolonged litigation could harm our business. Litigation of this nature also is expensive, time consuming, and diverts the time and attention of our management.

We monitor the status of known claims and the related product liability accrual, which includes amounts for defense costs for asserted and unasserted claims. After consultation with litigation counsel and a review of the merit of each claim, we have concluded that we are unable to reasonably estimate the probability or the estimated range of reasonably possible losses related to material adverse judgments related to such claims and, therefore, we have not accrued for any such judgments. In the future, should we determine that a loss (or an additional loss in excess of our accrual) is at least reasonably possible and material, we would then disclose an estimate of the possible loss or range of loss, if such estimate could be made, or disclose that an estimate could not be made. We believe that we have provided adequate accruals for defense costs.

For the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, we paid \$322,000, \$473,000, and \$254,000, respectively, in defense and administrative costs relative to product liability and municipal litigation. In addition, we spent an aggregate of \$180,000, \$129,000, and \$209,000, respectively, in those fiscal years in settlement fees related to product liability cases.

We have recorded our liability for defense costs before consideration for reimbursement from insurance carriers. We have also recorded the amount due as reimbursement under existing policies from the insurance carriers as a receivable shown in other current assets and other assets.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

We recognize gains and expenses for changes in our product liability provisions and municipal litigation liabilities. In fiscal 2019, we recorded expense of \$293,000; in fiscal 2018, we recorded expense of \$540,000; and in fiscal 2017, we recorded a gain of \$364,000.

At this time, an estimated range of reasonably possible additional losses relating to unfavorable outcomes cannot be made.

Environmental Remediation

We are subject to numerous federal, state, and local laws and regulations that regulate the health and safety of our workforce, including, but not limited to, those regulations monitored by the Occupational Health and Safety Administration, or OSHA, the National Fire Protection Association, and the Department of Public Health. Though not exhaustive, examples of applicable regulations include confined space safety, walking and working surfaces, machine guarding, and life safety.

We are also subject to numerous federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations concerning, among other things, emissions in the air, discharges to land, surface, subsurface strata and water and the generation, handling, storage, transportation, treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes and other materials. These laws have required us to make significant expenditures of both a capital and expense nature. Several of the more significant federal laws applicable to our operations include the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, or CERCLA, and the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

We have in place programs and personnel to monitor compliance with various federal, state, and local environmental regulations. In the normal course of our manufacturing operations, we are subject to governmental proceedings and orders pertaining to waste disposal, air emissions, and water discharges into the environment. We fund our environmental costs through cash flows from operations. We believe that we are in compliance with applicable environmental regulations in all material respects.

We are required to remediate hazardous waste at our facilities. Currently, we own a designated site in Springfield, Massachusetts that contains two release areas, which are the focus of remediation projects as part of the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, or MCP. The MCP provides a structured environment for the voluntary remediation of regulated releases. We may be required to remove hazardous waste or remediate the alleged effects of hazardous substances on the environment associated with past disposal practices at sites not owned by us. We have received notice that we are a potentially responsible party from the Environmental Protection Agency and/or individual states under CERCLA or a state equivalent at two sites.

As of April 30, 2019 and 2018, we recorded approximately \$725,000 and \$1.0 million, respectively, of environmental reserve in non-current liabilities. We have calculated the net present value of the environmental reserve to be equal to the carrying value of the liability recorded on our books. Our estimate of these costs is based upon currently enacted laws and regulations, currently available facts, experience in remediation efforts, existing technology, and the ability of other potentially responsible parties or contractually liable parties to pay the allocated portions of any environmental obligations.

When the available information is sufficient to estimate the amount of liability, that estimate has been used. When the information is only sufficient to establish a range of probable liability and no point within the range is more likely than any other, the lower end of the range has been used. We may not have insurance coverage for our environmental remediation costs. We have not recognized any gains from probable recoveries or other gain contingencies. The environmental reserve was calculated using undiscounted amounts based on environmental remediation reports obtained from independent third-parties.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

Based on information known to us, we do not expect current environmental regulations or environmental proceedings and claims to have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows. However, it is not possible to predict with certainty the impact on us of future environmental compliance requirements or the cost of resolving of future environmental health and safety proceedings and claims, in part because the scope of the remedies that may be required is not certain, liability under federal environmental laws is joint and several in nature, and environmental laws and regulations are subject to modification and changes in interpretation. There can be no assurance that additional or changing environmental regulation will not become more burdensome in the future and that any such development would not have a material adverse effect on our company.

Contracts

Employment Agreements — We have employment, severance, and change of control agreements with certain officers and managers.

Other Agreements — We have distribution agreements with various third parties in the ordinary course of business.

Leases

In fiscal 2017, we announced a plan to establish a national logistics facility in Boone County, Missouri. We ultimately plan to rely on this logistics facility for substantially all of our product distribution. In fiscal 2018, we broke ground on this new 633,000 square foot facility, which was completed in November 2018 and will become operational over the course of the remainder of fiscal 2020. As part of the completion of the building, we entered into a lease agreement with the developer of the building for \$46.2 million. The lease has an effective interest rate of approximately 5.0% and is payable in 240 monthly installments through fiscal 2039. Leases are accounted for under the provisions of ASC 840-10, *Leases*, which requires that leases be evaluated and classified as operating or capital leases for financial reporting purposes. Based on our evaluation under ASC 840-10, we determined that the lease qualified as a capital lease because the net present value of future lease payments exceeded 90% of the fair market value of the leased building. The building is pledged to secure the amounts outstanding. We included \$681,000 of short-term capital lease obligation in accrued expenses and \$45.6 million in long-term capital lease obligation on the condensed consolidated balance sheet. As noted above, we plan to adopt ASU 2016-02 - *Leases*, in our first quarter of fiscal 2020. Upon adoption, we plan to remove the current finance obligation and capital lease asset and record a right of use asset and lease liability equal to the net present value of future minimum lease payments. We expect the lease liability to be \$40.8 million and right of use asset to be \$41.6 million upon adoption of ASU 2016-02.

Future minimum lease payments, including all our capital leases, for succeeding fiscal years is as follows (in thousands):

	Capital Lease Obligation
2020	2,965
2021	3,016
2022	3,056
2023	3,071
2024	3,126
Thereafter	63,263
Total future minimum lease payments	78,497
Less amounts representing interest	(32,416)
Present value of minimum lease payments	46,081
Less current maturities of capital lease	(681)
Long-term maturities of capital lease	<u>\$ 45,400</u>

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

The following summarizes our operating leases for office and/or manufacturing space:

Location of Lease	Expiration Date
Bentonville, Arkansas	December 31, 2023
Jacksonville, Florida	June 30, 2019
Shenzhen, China	October 31, 2019
Springfield, Massachusetts	November 30, 2020
Houlton, Maine	January 31, 2022
Scottsdale, Arizona	April 30, 2021
Somersworth, New Hampshire	June 30, 2021
Wilsonville, Oregon	October 31, 2022
Columbia, Missouri	April 30, 2023
Columbia, Missouri	November 25, 2038
Deep River, Connecticut	May 4, 2024
Meridian, Idaho	October 14, 2027
Herstal, Belgium	January 21, 2027

We also lease machinery, photocopiers, and vehicles for our national sales force with various expiration dates.

As of April 30, 2019, the operating lease commitments were as follows (in thousands):

For the Year Ended April 30,	Amount
2020	\$ 3,639
2021	3,154
2022	2,786
2023	2,583
2024	1,562
Thereafter	946
	<u>\$ 14,670</u>

Rent expense in the fiscal years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 was \$5.0 million, \$5.2 million, and \$4.4 million, respectively.

18. Quarterly Financial Information (Unaudited)

The following table summarizes quarterly financial results in fiscal 2019 and 2018. In our opinion, all adjustments necessary to present fairly the information for such quarters have been reflected (in thousands, except per share data):

	For the Year Ended April 30, 2019				
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Full Year
Net sales	\$ 138,833	\$ 161,703	\$ 162,008	\$ 175,733	\$ 638,277
Gross profit	52,422	56,386	54,059	63,364	226,231
Net income	\$ 7,645	\$ 6,665	\$ (5,725) (b)	\$ 9,825	\$ 18,410
Per common share (a)					
Basic - total	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.12	\$ (0.10)	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.34
Diluted - total	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.12	\$ (0.10)	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.33

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

For the Year Ended April 30, 2018

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Full Year
Net sales	\$ 129,021	\$ 148,427	\$ 157,376	\$ 172,026	\$ 606,850
Gross profit	40,632	50,799	46,917	57,404	195,752
Net (loss)/income	\$ (2,165)	\$ 3,234	\$ 11,395 (c)	\$ 7,664	\$ 20,128
Per common share (a)					
Basic - total	\$ (0.04)	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.37
Diluted - total	\$ (0.04)	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.37

- (a) Basic and diluted earnings per share may not equal the sum of the quarterly basic and diluted earnings per share due to rounding.
- (b) Amounts includes a \$10.4 million non-cash goodwill impairment relating to our Outdoor Products & Accessories segment.
- (c) Amount includes an income tax benefit of approximately \$9.4 million, primarily caused by the effect of Tax Reform, which resulted in the remeasurement of deferred tax assets and liabilities at lower enacted corporate federal tax rates.

19. Segment Reporting

We report our results of operations in two segments: (1) Firearms (which includes Firearms and Manufacturing Services divisions) and (2) Outdoor Products & Accessories. Our two segments are defined based on the reporting and review process used by the chief operating decision maker, our Chief Executive Officer. The Firearms segment has been determined to be a single operating segment and reporting segment based on our reliance on production metrics such as gross margin per unit produced, units produced per day, incoming orders per day, and revenue produced by trade channel, all of which are particular to the Firearms segment. The Outdoor Products & Accessories segment has been determined to be a single operating segment and reporting segment based on our measurement of incoming orders per day and sales and gross margin by customer and brand.

The Firearms segment includes our firearms, services, and other components, which we manufacture or provide at our facilities in Springfield, Massachusetts, Houlton, Maine, and Deep River, Connecticut and our firearm products, which we develop, assemble, and market in our Springfield, Massachusetts facility. The Outdoor Products & Accessories segment includes our accessories products, which we develop, source, market, and distribute at our facilities in Columbia, Missouri and Jacksonville, Florida and our electro-optics products, which we develop, market, and assemble in our Wilsonville, Oregon facility. We report operating costs based on the activities performed within each segment.

Segment assets are those directly used in or clearly allocable to a reportable segment's operations. Assets by business segment are presented in the following table as of April 30, 2019 and 2018 (in thousands):

	As of April 30, 2019			As of April 30, 2018		
	Outdoor Products & Accessories			Outdoor Products & Accessories		
	Firearms	Accessories	Total	Firearms	Accessories	Total
Total assets	\$389,719	\$ 377,070	\$766,789	\$346,517	\$ 398,543	\$745,060
Property, plant, and equipment, net	170,549	12,719	183,268	146,154	12,971	159,125
Intangibles, net	4,661	87,179	91,840	4,944	107,816	112,760
Goodwill	19,024	163,245	182,269	18,490	172,797	191,287

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

Results by business segment are presented in the following table for the years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017 (in thousands):

	For the Year Ended April 30, 2019 (a)				
	Firearms	Outdoor Products & Accessories	Corporate	Intersegment Eliminations	Total
Revenue from external customers	\$ 478,477	\$ 159,800	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 638,277
Intersegment revenue	2,858	17,469	—	(20,327)	—
Total net sales	481,335	177,269	—	(20,327)	638,277
Cost of sales	335,051	97,143	—	(20,148)	412,046
Gross margin	153,787	80,127	—	(7,683)	226,231
Operating income/(loss)	59,663	(18,414)(b)	(44,831)	41,638	38,056
Income tax expense/(benefit)	12,068	(966)	(774)	—	10,328

	For the Year Ended April 30, 2018 (a)				
	Firearms	Outdoor Products & Accessories	Corporate	Intersegment Eliminations	Total
Revenue from external customers	\$ 448,986	\$ 157,864	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 606,850
Intersegment revenue	3,807	13,816	—	(17,623)	—
Total net sales	452,793	171,680	—	(17,623)	606,850
Cost of sales	332,889 (c)	93,822	—	(15,613)	411,098
Gross margin	119,903	77,859	—	(2,010)	195,752
Operating income/(loss)	30,213	(5,508)(d)	(44,128)	46,471	27,048
Income tax expense/(benefit) (e)	16,729	(8,059)	(11,181)	—	(2,511)

	For the Year Ended April 30, 2017 (a)				
	Firearms	Outdoor Products & Accessories	Corporate	Intersegment Eliminations	Total
Revenue from external customers	\$ 772,997	\$ 130,191	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 903,188
Intersegment revenue	3,643	10,530	—	(14,173)	—
Total net sales	776,640	140,721	—	(14,173)	903,188
Cost of sales	464,019	75,737 (f)	—	(11,840)	527,916
Gross margin	312,619	64,985	—	(2,332)	375,272
Operating income/(loss)	201,442	(3,949)(g)	(47,787)	50,233	199,939
Income tax expense/(benefit)	77,585	(2,300)	(11,833)	—	63,452

- (a) For the years ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, we allocated all of corporate overhead expenses except for interest and income taxes, such as general and administrative expenses and other corporate-level expenses, to both our Firearms and Outdoor Products & Accessories segments.
- (b) Amount includes a non-cash goodwill charge of \$10.4 million and \$21.5 million of amortization of intangible assets identified as a result of our acquisition.
- (c) Amount includes \$500,000 of additional cost of goods sold from the fair value inventory step-up related to our 2018 Acquisitions.
- (d) Amount includes \$20.8 million of amortization of intangible assets identified as a result of our acquisitions.
- (e) Amounts include an income tax benefit of approximately \$8.7 million, primarily caused by the effect of Tax Reform, which resulted in the re-measurement of deferred tax assets and liabilities at lower enacted corporate federal tax rates.
- (f) Amount includes \$4.7 million of additional cost of goods sold from the fair value inventory step-up and backlog expense related to the 2017 Acquisitions.
- (g) Amount includes \$18.4 million of amortization of intangible assets identified as a result of our acquisitions.

AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (Continued)

20. Subsequent Events:

On June 18, 2019, we approved a restructuring plan involving the previously announced consolidation of the Electro-Optics division into the Outdoor Products & Accessories division in order to improve efficiencies. We expect to incur restructuring charges of approximately \$1.0 million comprising severance, retention, and relocation costs to be recorded primarily in the first six months of fiscal year 2020. We expect cash expenditures associated with these actions will continue into the third and fourth quarters of fiscal year 2020. The restructuring plan is anticipated to result in cost savings of approximately \$1.0 million in the second half of fiscal year 2020 and approximately \$4.0 million of annual cost reductions to be fully reflected in our consolidated financial statements by fiscal year 2021.

SCHEDULE II
AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS
For the Years Ended April 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017

		<u>Additions</u>				
	<u>Balance at</u>	<u>Charged to</u>	<u>Charged to</u>		<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Balance at</u>
	<u>May 1,</u>	<u>Costs and</u>	<u>Other</u>			<u>April 30,</u>
		<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Accounts</u>			
2019						
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 1,824	\$ 631	\$ —		\$ (556)	\$ 1,899
Deferred tax valuation allowance	3,336	240	—		—	3,576
2018						
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 598	\$ 1,000	\$ 401 (1)		\$ (175)	\$ 1,824
Deferred tax valuation allowance	2,792	544	—		—	3,336
2017						
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 680	\$ 1,319	\$ 108 (2)		\$ (1,509) (3)	\$ 598
Deferred tax valuation allowance	2,561	231	—		—	2,792

- (1) Increase in fiscal 2018 valuation accounts represents acquired balances related to the Gemtech acquisition.
- (2) Increase in fiscal 2017 valuation accounts represents acquired balances related to the 2017 Acquisitions.
- (3) Decrease in fiscal 2017 valuation accounts primarily represents a write-off of one of our customers' accounts receivable balances.

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❶ Compensation Committee

❷ Nominations & Corporate Governance Committee

❸ Audit Committee



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