

METALS USA INC
Form 10-K
March 15, 2012

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 December 31, 2011

Commission File Number 333-132918

FLAG INTERMEDIATE HOLDINGS CORPORATION

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction

of incorporation or organization)

2400 E. Commercial Blvd., Suite 905

20-3779375
(I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

33308

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Fort Lauderdale, Florida
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Zip Code)

Commission File Number 1-13123

METALS USA, INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction)

76-0533626
(I.R.S. Employer

of incorporation or organization)

Identification No.)

2400 E. Commercial Blvd., Suite 905

Fort Lauderdale, Florida
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

33308
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (954) 202-4000

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

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 Exchange 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 submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of Registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company

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

There is no market for the Registrant's common stock. As of March 14, 2012, 100 shares of the Registrant's common stock were outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

None.

OMISSION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION

Flag Intermediate Holdings Corporation and Metals USA, Inc. meet the conditions set forth in General Instruction I(1)(a) and (b) of Form 10-K and are therefore filing this Form 10-K with the reduced disclosure format specified in General Instruction I(2) to Form 10-K.

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FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains statements reflecting assumptions, expectations, projections, intentions or beliefs about future events that are intended as forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements included or incorporated by reference in this Annual Report, other than statements of historical fact, that address activities, events or developments that we expect, believe or anticipate will or may occur in the future are forward-looking statements. These statements appear in a number of places, including Item 1. Business, Item 1A. Risk Factors, Item 3. Legal Proceedings and Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations. These statements represent our reasonable judgment on the future based on various factors and using numerous assumptions and are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause our actual results and financial position to differ materially from those contemplated by the statements. You can identify these statements by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts. They use words such as anticipate, believe, estimate, expect, forecast, may, should, plan, project and other words of similar meaning. In particular, these include, but are not limited to, statements relating to the following:

our projected operating or financial results, including anticipated cash flows from operations and asset sale proceeds for 2012;

our expectations regarding capital expenditures, interest expense and other payments;

our beliefs and assumptions relating to our liquidity position, including our ability to adapt to changing market conditions; and

our ability to compete effectively for market share with industry participants.

Any or all of our forward-looking statements may turn out to be wrong. They can be affected by inaccurate assumptions or by known or unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors including, among others:

supply, demand, prices and other market conditions for steel and other commodities;

the timing and extent of changes in commodity prices;

the effects of competition in our business lines;

the condition of the steel and metal markets generally, which will be affected by interest rates, foreign currency fluctuations and general economic conditions;

the ability of our counterparties to satisfy their financial commitments;

tariffs and other government regulations relating to our products and services;

adverse developments in our relationship with both our key employees and unionized employees;

operational factors affecting the ongoing commercial operations of our facilities, including catastrophic weather-related damage, regulatory approvals, permit issues, unscheduled blackouts, outages or repairs, unanticipated changes in fuel costs or availability of

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fuel emission credits or workforce issues;

our ability to operate our businesses efficiently, manage capital expenditures and costs (including general and administrative expenses) and generate earnings and cash flow;

restrictive covenants in our indebtedness that may adversely affect our operational flexibility;

general political conditions and developments in the United States and in foreign countries whose affairs affect supply, demand and markets for steel, metals and metal products;

our ability to retain key employees; and

our expectations with respect to our acquisition activity.

In addition, there may be other factors that could cause our actual results to be materially different from the results referenced in the forward-looking statements, some of which are included elsewhere in this Form 10-K, including in Item 1A. Risk Factors, and in Item 7.

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations. Many of these factors will be important in determining our actual future results. Consequently, no forward-looking statement can be guaranteed. Our actual future results may vary materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements contained in this Form 10-K are qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and we disclaim any obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this Form 10-K, except as otherwise required by applicable law.

PART I

**Item 1. Business
Overview**

Flag Intermediate Holdings Corporation is a corporation formed under the laws of the state of Delaware (Flag Intermediate). Flag Intermediate and its wholly owned subsidiary, Metals USA, Inc. (Metals USA), are referred to collectively herein as the Company. Flag Intermediate and Metals USA are wholly owned subsidiaries of Metals USA Holdings Corp. (Metals USA Holdings).

As one of the largest metal service center businesses in the United States, we believe that we are a leading provider of value-added processed carbon steel, stainless steel, aluminum, red metals, manufactured metal components and inventory management services. We believe that we serve an important function as an intermediary between primary metal producers that generally sell large volumes in limited sizes and configurations and end-users that generally require more services and smaller quantities of customized products. Operating 46 facilities comprising approximately 5.9 million square feet of industrial space, our metal service center business sold more than 1,396 thousand tons of metal products in 2011. We sell our products and services to a diverse customer base and broad range of end-user markets, including the aerospace, automotive industry manufacturing, defense, heavy equipment, marine transportation, commercial construction, office furniture manufacturing, and energy and oilfield service industries, among several others, throughout the United States. We strive to earn a margin over the cost of metal. Management's strategy, manifested through organic growth initiatives and our acquisitions of metal service center businesses, focuses on maximizing the margin we earn over the cost of metal by offering additional value-added processing services and diversifying our product mix. We believe our growth and acquisition strategy, in combination with management's demonstrated ability to manage metal purchasing and inventories to consistently meet our customers' high expectations for service and reliability, serves as a foundation for future revenue growth and stable operating profit per ton through the economic cycle.

We operate in three reportable business segments: Plates and Shapes Group, Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Group, and Building Products Group. Our Plates and Shapes and Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Groups perform customized, value-added processing services to unimproved steel and other metals required to meet specifications provided by our customers in addition to offering inventory management and just-in-time delivery services, among others. These services enable our customers to reduce material costs, decrease capital required for raw materials inventory and processing equipment, and save time, labor, warehouse space and other expenses. The customers of our Plates and Shapes and Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Groups are in the aerospace, automotive industry manufacturing, defense, heavy equipment, marine transportation, commercial construction, office furniture manufacturing, and energy and oilfield services industries. Our Building Products Group manufactures finished building products for distributors and contractors engaged in the residential remodeling industry.

On April 14, 2010, Metals USA Holdings completed its initial public offering of 11,426,315 shares of its common stock at \$21.00 per share (the IPO), as described in Metals USA Holdings' Registration Statement on Form S-1, as amended (File No. 333-150999). As a result of the IPO, the percentage of the Metals USA Holdings' outstanding capital stock held by non-affiliates as of December 31, 2011 is approximately 31%. Investment funds associated with Apollo Management V L.P. (Apollo Management) and together with its affiliated investment entities, Apollo (or Apollo V) own approximately 64% of the capital stock of Metals USA Holdings, with the remainder held by members of Metals USA Holdings management.

On May 18, 2005, Metals USA Holdings and its wholly owned subsidiary, Flag Acquisition Corporation, a Delaware corporation (Flag Acquisition), entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the Merger Agreement) with Metals USA. On November 30, 2005, Flag Acquisition, then a wholly owned subsidiary of Flag Intermediate, merged with and into Metals USA (the Merger), with Metals USA being the surviving

corporation. Flag Intermediate and Flag Acquisition conducted no operations during the period from May 9, 2005 (date of inception) to November 30, 2005. As a result of the Merger, all of Metals USA's issued and outstanding common stock is held indirectly by Metals USA Holdings through Flag Intermediate, its wholly owned subsidiary. Metals USA Holdings was formed by Apollo.

Flag Intermediate and its wholly owned subsidiary, Metals USA, are also referred to collectively herein as the Successor Company and Metals USA prior to the Merger is referred to as the Predecessor Company.

Growth Through Acquisitions

Strategic acquisitions of metal service center businesses that complement our overall product and service base are an important element to our growth strategy. The following acquisitions occurred over the last six years.

In May 2006, we bought Port City Metal Services (Port City) in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Port City increased our plate processing capabilities to customers serving the oil field, construction equipment and refining industries.

In June 2007, we acquired Lynch Metals, Inc. (Lynch Metals) with locations in Union, New Jersey and Anaheim, California. Lynch Metals provides value-added, specialized aluminum products to customers who are predominantly manufacturers of air/heat transfer products specifically focused on aerospace equipment, industrial and automotive applications.

In February 2009, we acquired VR Laser Services USA, Inc., which we subsequently renamed Philadelphia Plate (Philadelphia Plate), which further expanded our existing processing capabilities in the northeast region of the United States focused primarily on the marine and defense industries.

In June 2010, we acquired J. Rubin & Co. (J. Rubin), a metal service center business that operates in Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota with a broad mix of products and processing services that are provided to a diverse range of customer end markets.

In December 2010, we completed the acquisition of Ohio River Metal Services (ORMS), located in Jeffersonville, Indiana. ORMS operates a flat rolled metal service center that provides metal products and processing services to customers throughout the Ohio Valley.

In March 2011, we completed the acquisition of The Richardson Trident Company (Trident). Trident is a general line metal service center with fabricating capabilities designed to service the oil and gas industry, and is also a wholesale distributor of metals, plastics and electronic parts. The Company operates under The Trident Company and The Altair Company trade names. Trident's principal facility is in Richardson, Texas with branch locations in Houston, Austin, El Paso, Harlingen and Odessa, Texas; Tulsa, Oklahoma; Olathe, Kansas; Los Angeles, California; Boston, Massachusetts and Thomasville, Georgia.

Trident provides a broad range of metals and processing services with a product mix that emphasizes aluminum, stainless steel and nickel. The majority of Trident's customer base operates in the oil and gas services sector. Processing services include precision sawing, boring, honing, slitting, sheeting, shearing and tuning. Trident also offers supply chain solutions such as just-in-time delivery and value-added components required by original equipment manufacturers (OEMs).

Products and Services, Markets and Industry Information

The Company's businesses are managed on a decentralized basis operating in business segments based on product groups. We believe this product-oriented organizational structure facilitates the efficient advancement of our goals and objectives to achieve operational synergies and focused capital investment. Operational activities and policies are managed by corporate officers and key product group executives who, on average, have over 29

years of experience and are supported by finance, purchasing and sales and marketing staff. For additional industry segment information, see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Results of Operations by Segment, and Note 13 to our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2011 included elsewhere in this report.

Metal Processing/Metal Service Center Businesses: Plates and Shapes and Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Groups

Industry Overview. Companies operating in the metals industry can generally be characterized as primary metal producers, metal processors/metal service centers or end-users. Our Plates and Shapes and Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Groups are metals processors/metal service centers. As such, we purchase carbon steel, stainless steel, aluminum, brass, copper and other metals from producing mills and then sell our metal processing services and the metal to our customers, who are generally end-users. We believe that both primary metal producers and end-users increasingly seek to have their metals processing and inventory management requirements met by value-added oriented metal processors/metal service centers like us.

Metal service centers function as key intermediaries between the primary metals producers that produce and sell larger volumes of metals in a limited number of sizes and configurations and end-users, such as fabricators, contractors and OEMs that require smaller quantities of more customized products delivered on a just-in-time basis. End-users incorporate processed metals into finished products, in some cases with little further modification.

In our Plates and Shapes and Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Groups, we engage in pre-production processing of carbon steel, stainless steel, red metals and aluminum. We purchase metals from primary producers, maintain an inventory of various metals to allow rapid fulfillment of customer orders and perform customized processing services to the specifications provided by end-users. By providing these services, as well as offering inventory management and just-in-time delivery services, we enable our customers to reduce overall production costs and decrease capital required for raw materials inventory and metals processing equipment. The Plates and Shapes and Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Groups contributed approximately 95% of our 2011 net sales.

Metal service centers and processors purchase approximately 35% of all the metals used in the U.S. and Canada and play an important intermediary role between the production mills and the end-users. Over the last several years primary metal producers have consolidated and focused on optimizing the throughput and operating efficiencies of their production facilities. We believe this consolidation among primary steel and aluminum producers over the last several years has expanded the demand for metal distribution and service centers, and in particular those service centers capable of providing additional value-added metal processing and inventory management services. Over 300,000 end-users nationwide rely on metal service centers for their primary supply of metal products and services. End-users generally buy metal products and services from metal service centers on a margin over the cost of the metal. When customers require additional processing or inventory management services, value-added metal service centers such as ours earn an additional premium margin over the cost of metal.

By outsourcing their customized metal processing and inventory management needs, end-users have the potential to realize significant economic benefits by shifting the responsibility for pre-production processing to metal service centers and leveraging service centers' just-in-time delivery and other inventory management services. These supply-chain services, which are not normally provided by primary metals producers, enable end-users to reduce input, labor and other production costs, shorten lead times, and decrease required investments in working capital, manufacturing and warehouse facilities.

We believe that long-term growth opportunities for metal service centers will continue to expand as both primary metal producers and end-users increasingly seek to have their metal processing and inventory management requirements met by value-added metal service centers. Although the service center industry

remains fragmented with approximately 1,200 companies competing in North America, we believe larger service center businesses with greater scale and financial flexibility, like ours, enjoy significant advantages over smaller companies such as the ability to obtain higher discounts associated with volume purchases, the breadth of products and value-added services to meet the diverse needs of key end-use markets, and the more sophisticated logistics capabilities necessary to serve national accounts.

Plates and Shapes Group. The Plates and Shapes Group processes and sells steel plates and structural beams, bars, angles and tubes. We believe we are one of the largest distributors of steel plates and structural beams in the United States. In 2011, we sold approximately 596 thousand tons of products through 19 metal service centers located primarily in the southern and eastern regions of the United States. Our metal service centers are generally equipped to provide additional value-added processing, and a substantial portion of our volume is processed prior to being delivered to the end-user. These processing services include burning, blasting and painting (the process of cleaning steel plate by shot-blasting, then immediately applying a paint or primer), tee-splitting (the cutting of metal beams along the length to form separate pieces), cambering (the bending of structural shapes to improve load-bearing capabilities), leveling (the flattening of metals to uniform tolerances for proper machining), cutting, sawing, punching, drilling, beveling, surface grinding, braking (bending), shearing and cutting-to-length (the cutting of metals into pieces and along the width of a coil to create sheets or plates). We sell our products to a diversified customer base, including a large number of small customers who purchase products in small order sizes. We believe our disciplined management and hands-on service, backed by our national network of metal service centers, enables us to effectively meet our customers' varied product and inventory management needs.

We generally earn additional margin from our customers by providing services such as product marking, item sequencing, just-in-time delivery and kitting. The customers who require these products and services are primarily in the fabrication, public and private non-residential construction, machinery and equipment, land and marine transportation, and energy industries. Because our metal service centers are generally located in close proximity to our metal suppliers and our customers, we are able to meet our customers' product and service needs reliably and consistently. Over the last six years, we added two businesses to our Plates and Shapes portfolio through acquisitions. In May 2006, we completed the acquisition of Port City, which bolstered our presence in the construction and oil-field services sectors. In February 2009, we acquired Philadelphia Plate, which has expanded our presence in the northeast region of the United States and augmented our presence in the marine and defense sectors.

Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Group. The Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Group processes and sells flat rolled carbon and stainless steel, aluminum, brass and copper in a number of alloy grades and sizes through 27 metal service centers located primarily in the mid-western and southern regions of the United States. We sold approximately 812 thousand tons of these products in 2011, with our revenues split approximately 60% and 40% between ferrous products and non-ferrous products, respectively. Substantially all of the products from this group that are sold undergo value-added processing prior to shipment to our customers. These processing services include precision blanking (the process in which metal is cut into precise two-dimensional shapes), slitting (the cutting of coiled metals to specified widths along the length of the coil), shearing and cutting-to-length, punching and leveling.

We sell our products and services to customers in the electrical and appliance manufacturing, fabrication, furniture, machinery and equipment, transportation and aerospace industries. Many of our large customers purchase through pricing arrangements or contractual agreements that specify the margin over the cost of metal and we generally earn additional margin from these customers by providing services such as product marking and labeling, just-in-time delivery and kitting. We are able to provide these services reliably because our metal service centers are generally located in close proximity to our metal suppliers and our customers. Over the last six years, we added four businesses to our Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous portfolio through acquisitions. In July 2007, we acquired Lynch Metals, a metal service center business that provides specialized aluminum products primarily to the aerospace, industrial and automotive industries. In June 2010, we acquired J. Rubin, expanding

the scope of our product lines, services and geographic footprint in the upper Midwest, in addition to allowing us to enhance our cross-selling opportunities in existing markets. In December 2010, we acquired ORMS, a metal service center with distinctive processing and service capabilities and a strategic location in an existing Midwest market. In March 2011, we acquired Trident, a wholesale distributor of metals, plastics and electronic parts with fabricating capabilities designed to service the oil and gas industry.

Product Mix. We provide a wide variety of metal products in different shapes and sizes to our customers. We actively manage our inventory levels and product mix in order to optimize the cost tradeoff between holding inventory and incurring a shortage situation. We strive to closely monitor our customer demand forecasts and coordinate our inventory levels and product mix with our customers' production planning and scheduling. We also analyze macroeconomic data, end-use market data and historical usage to forecast the cyclical effect of inventory building and reduction in the industries we serve, adjusting our inventory levels and product mix accordingly. Our product mix also changes as a result of acquisitions. We believe the proactive management of our inventory levels and product mix, along with our expanding geographic footprint and diverse customer segments position us to maintain long-term profitability throughout the various stages of economic cycles. We believe that our focus on product mix enhancement helps us to mitigate the effects of uneven demand associated with specific regions and end-user industries.

Net sales by product line as a percent of total sales for our metal service center businesses for each of the three years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009 were as follows:

	Twelve Months Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
Carbon Flat Rolled Products	34.7%	35.1%	31.5%
Mini Mill Products	10.5%	11.2%	10.9%
Non-Ferrous Products	24.4%	21.9%	20.0%
Plate Products	17.6%	18.1%	19.6%
Structural Products	12.8%	13.7%	18.0%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Value-Added Processing Services. Primary producers typically find it more cost effective to focus on large volume production and sale of metals in standard sizes and configurations to large volume purchasers. We process the metals to the precise length, width, shape and surface quality specified by our customers. Our value-added processes include:

Precision blanking the process in which metal is cut into precise two-dimensional shapes.

Flame cutting the cutting of metals to produce various shapes according to customer-supplied drawings.

Laser and plasma cutting the cutting of metals to produce shapes under strict tolerance requirements.

Slitting the cutting of coiled metals to specified widths along the length of the coil.

Blasting and painting the process of cleaning steel plate by shot-blasting, then immediately applying a paint or primer.

Plate forming and rolling the forming and bending of plates to cylindrical or required specifications.

Shearing and cutting to length the cutting of metals into pieces and along the width of a coil to create sheets or plates.

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Tee-splitting the cutting of metal beams along the length to form separate pieces.

Cambering the bending of structural shapes to improve load-bearing capabilities.

Sawing the cutting to length of bars, tubular goods and beams.

Leveling the flattening of metals to uniform tolerances for proper machining.

Edge trimming a process that removes a specified portion of the outside edges of coiled metal to produce uniform width and round or smooth edges.

Metallurgy the analysis and testing of the physical and chemical composition of metals.

Our additional capabilities include applications engineering and other value-added processes such as custom machining. Using these capabilities, we use processed metals to manufacture higher-value components.

Once we receive an order, we select the appropriate inventory and schedule it for processing in accordance with the customer's requirements and specified delivery date. Orders are monitored by our computer systems, including, in certain locations, the use of bar coding to aid in and reduce the cost of tracking material. We record the source of all metal shipped to customers. This enables us to identify the source of any metal which may later be shown to not meet industry standards or that fails during or after manufacture. This capability is important to our customers as it allows them to assign responsibility for non-conforming or defective metal to the mill that produced the metal. Many of the products and services we provide can be ordered and tracked through a web-based electronic network that directly connects our computer system to those of our customers.

We cooperate with our customers and tailor our deliveries to support their needs, which in many instances consist of short lead times, multiple daily deliveries, staged deliveries, or deliveries timed for immediate production. These just-in-time deliveries are defined by our customers and are generally intended to minimize their inventory investment and handling requirements.

While we ship products throughout the United States, most of our customers are located within a 250-mile radius of our facilities, thus enabling an efficient delivery system capable of handling a large number of short lead-time orders. We transport most of our products directly to our customers either with our own trucks for short-distance and/or multi-stop deliveries or through common or contract trucking companies.

We have quality control systems to ensure product quality and traceability throughout processing. Quality controls include periodic supplier audits, customer-approved quality standards, inspection criteria and metals source traceability. Twenty of our 46 metal service center facilities have International Standards for Organization, or ISO, certification.

Building Products Group

The Building Products Group manufactures and sells roofing and patio products. We generally sell these products through a network of independent distributors and home improvement contractors. Our roofing products business manufactures and sells a high performance roofing product consisting of a pressed and stone-coated steel panel that mimics the appearance of traditional shake and tile roofing. Our roofing product is well suited for all areas subject to threats of high winds, fires and hail storms. In May 2006, we acquired Duraloc Roofing Systems, Ltd., a Canadian-based company which we have re-branded as Allmet Roofing Products. This acquisition provided us with manufacturing capabilities on both the east and west coasts of North America. Our patio products business manufactures and sells building components used primarily for the erection of residential shade structures such as patio covers and enclosures. With facilities located throughout the southern and western regions of the United States, we believe we are one of only a few suppliers of patio products with national scale.

The downturn in the United States housing sector has pushed home improvement remodeling spending below its long-term trend. Falling home prices have discouraged discretionary home improvement spending and diminished the amount of equity that owners have in their homes. Prior to the downturn in the United States housing sector, the ability to borrow against equity created by rising home prices fueled remodeling activity, as

well as broader consumer spending. Now that home prices have softened, owners cannot finance home improvement projects as easily. These difficult end market conditions have affected sales growth associated with our Building Products Group.

We believe a recovering economy should stabilize house prices and consumer confidence levels, encouraging homeowners to reinvest in their homes and undertake deferred repairs, replacements and improvements. Low financing costs and a wave of previously foreclosed homes coming back on the market and in need of renovation could also contribute to growth. We believe these factors, coupled with an aging American housing stock, are generating significant pent-up demand for remodeling that should manifest itself when the housing sector rebounds (however, there can be no guarantee that demand for remodeling will increase or the timing of any such rebound).

Strategy

Our mission is to increase our position as one of the nation's leading integrated metals processors and distributors, recognized for best in class customer service and optimal inventory management to meet customer demands, and to ensure strategic use of our capital resources, continuing to strengthen the relationships we have with our suppliers, while constantly renewing our focus on safety, growth and profitability. Execution of the following strategies is critical to our success:

Expand Value-Added Services. We intend to continue to invest in capital projects that provide attractive returns and to continue to expand the value-added services we offer at each of our service center locations, a strategy we believe will both enhance our relationships with existing customers and help forge new customer relationships, both of which we believe will result in increased market share for us.

Increase Sales of Higher Margin Products and Services. The sale of higher margin products and services, which tend to have higher growth prospects and more stable demand, will continue to be one of our core strategies. We intend to continue executing on this strategy by increasing our core carbon offerings, non-ferrous volumes, and our sales of processed products.

Execute Strategic Acquisitions to Improve Our Business. We intend to continue to pursue acquisitions and we will generally target one to two bolt-on acquisitions per year that will enhance our metal service center strategy. We believe that we are well positioned to take advantage of acquisition opportunities in the fragmented service center industry because of our flexible capital structure.

Maintain and Strengthen Our Strong Relationships with Suppliers and Customers. As one of the largest metal service center businesses in the United States, we intend to use our relationships to leverage the opportunities presented by the consolidation of steel producers and the changing needs of our customers.

Continue Our Strong Focus on Inventory Management. We will continue managing our inventory to maximize our returns, profitability and cash flow while maintaining sufficient inventory to respond to our customers' demands. Constant evaluation of our inventory management framework will allow us to continue supplying our customers reliably, even during periods of tight metal supply. We expect our inventory management framework will continue generating strong earnings during periods of rising metal prices and strong cash flow during periods of declining metal prices.

Maintain High Free Cash Flow Generation and Conversion. We believe that we are a reliable supplier, especially of higher margin products and services, to our customers even in periods of tight supply. We believe that our reliability allows us to generate higher margins and more stable operating income through the business cycle. Moreover, we believe our inventory management framework, bolstered by our relationships with our metals suppliers, will stabilize earnings during periods of weakness. Our core business also requires minimal maintenance capital investment. We believe these strengths taken together underscore our ability to generate high levels of free cash flow, which will enable us to reinvest in our business, consummate future acquisitions, reduce debt, and achieve other corporate and financial objectives.

Maintain Our Focus on Safety Throughout Our Operating Facilities. We remain committed to the belief that nothing is more important than the safety of our people and will continue our disciplined focus on constantly improving the safety performance of our operations.

Raw Materials and Supply

In recent years, steel, aluminum, copper and other metals production in the United States has fluctuated from period to period as mills attempt to match production to projected demand. Periodically, this has resulted in shortages of, or increased ordering lead-times for, some products, as well as fluctuations in price. Typically, metals producers announce price changes with sufficient advance notice to allow us to order additional products prior to the effective date of a price increase, or to defer purchases until a price decrease becomes effective. Our purchasing decisions are based on our forecast of the availability of metal products, ordering lead-times and pricing, as well as our prediction of customer demand for specific products.

We obtain the overwhelming majority of our metals from domestic suppliers, which include Nucor Corp., AK Steel, Arcelor-Mittal, North American Stainless, Thyssen Krupp Steel USA, and Steel Dynamics. Although we have historically purchased approximately 10% to 15% of our raw material supplies from foreign producers, domestic suppliers have always been, and we believe will continue to be, our principal source of raw material.

Although most forms of steel and aluminum produced by mills can be obtained from a number of integrated mills or mini-mills, both domestically and internationally, there are a few products that are available from only a limited number of producers. Since most metals are shipped free-on-board and the transportation of metals is a significant cost factor, we generally seek to purchase metals, to the extent possible, from the nearest mill.

During the last decade, U.S. Steel, Nucor Corp. and Arcelor Mittal acquired several of their domestic competitors, and international integrated producers merged and consolidated operations. The result of this trend has been fewer integrated producers from which we can purchase our raw materials. We believe that global consolidation of the metals industry is beneficial to the metals industry as a whole by enhancing efficiency. However, such consolidation could result in price increases for the metal that we purchase.

Sales and Marketing; Customers

We employ a sales force consisting of internal and external salespeople. Internal salespeople are primarily responsible for maintaining customer relationships, receiving and soliciting individual orders and responding to service and other inquiries by customers. Our external sales force is primarily responsible for identifying potential customers and calling on them to explain our services. We believe that our sales force is trained and knowledgeable about the characteristics and applications of various metals, as well as the manufacturing methods employed by our customers.

Our sales and marketing focus is on the identification of end-users that could achieve significant cost savings through the use of our inventory management, value-added processing, just-in-time delivery and other services. We use a variety of methods to identify potential customers, including the use of databases, direct mail and participation in manufacturers trade shows. Customer referrals and the knowledge of our sales force about regional end-users also result in the identification of potential customers. Once a potential customer is identified, our outside salespeople assume responsibility for visiting the appropriate contact, typically the purchasing manager or manager of operations.

Nearly all sales are on a negotiated price basis. In some cases, sales are the result of a competitive bid process where a customer provides a list of products, along with requirements, to us and several competitors and we submit a bid on each product. We have a diverse customer base, with no single customer accounting for more than 4% of our net sales in each of the last three years. Our ten largest customers represented less than 14% of our net sales in 2011. For the year ended December 31, 2011, the average transaction size for our metal service

centers was approximately \$3,269. We have sought to enhance our position in stable growth industries that demand additional value-added services and reduce our exposure to more cyclical sectors. Through our organic growth and acquisitions, we have capitalized on opportunities to augment our existing product and service portfolio with high value-added products such as aluminum brazing sheet, armor plate, marine grade aluminum plate, and pressure vessel plate to service the aerospace, marine, defense, and oil and gas industries. Our broad portfolio of high-quality metal products and customized value-added services allows us to offer one-stop shopping to our customers. We believe the breadth of our portfolio provides a significant competitive advantage over smaller metal service centers, which generally stock fewer products and offer fewer services than we do.

Competition

The metals distribution industry is highly fragmented and competitive. Service centers compete with each other on price, service, quality and availability of products. According to Metal Center News, Metals USA is ranked number twelve among service centers in North America based on 2010 revenues.

Markets are generally oriented on a regional and local basis. We have numerous competitors in each of our product lines and geographic locations. In every market we service we compete with various combinations of other large, value-added oriented metals processor/metal service centers some of which may have greater financial resources than we have, smaller metals processors/metal service centers and, to a much lesser extent, with primary metals producers, who typically sell to very large customers requiring regular shipments of large volumes of metals.

Our sales and services decisions are decentralized, providing local management the flexibility to quickly address local market conditions. Historically, we believe we have been able to compete effectively because of our high levels of service, broad-based inventory, knowledgeable and trained sales force, integrated computer systems, modern equipment, numerous locations, geographic dispersion, operational economies of scale and combined purchasing volume. Furthermore, we believe our liquidity and overall financial position affords us a good platform with which to compete with our peers in the industry.

Government Regulation and Environmental Matters

Our operations are subject to a number of federal, state and local regulations relating to the protection of the environment and to workplace health and safety. In particular, our operations are subject to extensive federal, state and local laws and regulations governing waste disposal, air and water emissions, the handling of hazardous substances, environmental protection, remediation, workplace exposure and other matters. Hazardous materials we use in our operations include general commercial lubricants and cleaning solvents. Among the more significant regulated activities that occur at some of our facilities are: the accumulation of scrap metal, which is sold for recycling; the generation of plant trash and other solid wastes and wastewaters, such as water from burning tables operated at some of our facilities, which wastes are disposed of in accordance with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act using third-party commercial waste handlers; and the storage, handling, and use of lubricating and cutting oils and small quantities of maintenance-related products and chemicals, the health hazards of which are communicated to employees pursuant to Occupational Safety and Health Act-prescribed hazard communication efforts and the disposal or recycling of which are performed pursuant to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

Generally speaking, our facilities' operations do not involve the types of emissions of air pollutants, discharges of pollutants to land or surface water, or treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste which would ordinarily require federal or state environmental permits. Some of our facilities possess authorizations for air emissions from paints and coatings, hazardous materials permits under local fire codes or ordinances for the storage and use of small quantities of combustible materials such as oils or paints, and state or local permits for on-site septic systems. Our cost of obtaining and complying with such permits has not been and is not anticipated to be material. Our operations are such that environmental regulations typically have not required us to make significant capital expenditures for environmental compliance activities.

We believe that we are in substantial compliance with all applicable environmental and workplace health and safety laws and do not currently anticipate that we will be required to expend any substantial amounts in the foreseeable future in order to meet such requirements. However, some of the properties we own or lease are located in areas with a history of heavy industrial use, and are near sites listed on the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) National Priority List. CERCLA establishes joint and several responsibility for clean-up without regard to fault for persons who have arranged for disposal of hazardous substances at sites that have become contaminated and for persons who own or operate contaminated facilities. We have a number of properties located in or near industrial or light industrial use areas; accordingly, these properties may have been contaminated by pollutants which would have migrated from neighboring facilities or have been deposited by prior occupants. Some of our properties are affected by contamination from leaks and drips of cutting oils and similar materials. The costs of clean-ups to date have not been material. We are not currently subject to any claims or notices with respect to clean-up or remediation under CERCLA or similar laws for contamination at our leased or owned properties or at any off-site location. However, we cannot rule out the possibility that we could be notified of such claims in the future. It is also possible that we could be identified by the Environmental Protection Agency, a state agency or one or more third parties as a potentially responsible party under CERCLA or under analogous state laws.

Management Information Systems

Both the Plates and Shapes Group and Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Group metal service centers use a system marketed and distributed specifically for the metal service center industry. During 2003, we completed a similar common-platform initiative in the Building Products Group. Some of our subsidiaries currently use electronic data interchange, through which they offer customers a paperless process with respect to order entry, shipment tracking, billing, remittance processing and other routine activities. Additionally, several of our subsidiaries also use computer-aided drafting systems to directly interface with computer-controlled metals processing, resulting in more efficient use of material and time.

We believe investment in uniform management information systems and computer-aided manufacturing technology permits us to respond quickly and proactively to our customers' needs and service expectations. These systems are able to share data regarding inventory status, order backlog, and other critical operational information on a real-time basis.

Employees

As of December 31, 2011, we employed approximately 2,200 persons. As of December 31, 2011, approximately 176, or approximately 8% of our employees, at various sites were members of unions: the United Steelworkers of America; the Sheet Metals Workers Union; the International Association of Bridge, Structural, and Ornamental Ironworkers of America; and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Our relationship with these unions generally has been satisfactory. Within the last five years, we have not experienced any work stoppages at any of our facilities. We are currently a party to seven collective-bargaining agreements. Six expire in 2013 and one expires in 2014. Presently, we do not anticipate any problems or issues with respect to renewing these agreements upon acceptable terms. Historically, we have succeeded in negotiating new collective bargaining agreements without a strike and we expect to succeed in negotiating new collective bargaining agreements with respect to the agreements that expire in 2013 and 2014.

From time to time, there are shortages of qualified operators of metals processing equipment. In addition, during periods of low unemployment, turnover among less-skilled workers can be relatively high. We believe that our relations with our employees are satisfactory.

See **Risk Factors** Our ability to retain our key employees is critical to the success of our business, and failure to do so may adversely affect our revenues and as a result could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows and **Risk Factors** Adverse developments in our relationship with our unionized employees could adversely affect our business.

Vehicles

We operate a fleet of owned or leased trucks and trailers, as well as forklifts and support vehicles. We believe these vehicles are generally well maintained and adequate for our current operations.

Risk Management and Insurance

The primary risks in our operations are bodily injury, property damage and vehicle liability. We maintain general and vehicle liability insurance, liability insurance for bodily injury and property damage and workers' compensation coverage, which we consider sufficient to protect us against a catastrophic loss due to claims associated with these risks.

Safety

Our goal is to provide an accident-free workplace. We are committed to continuing and improving upon each facility's focus and emphasis on safety in the workplace. Our safety program includes regular weekly or monthly field safety meetings and training sessions to teach proper safety procedures. A comprehensive best practices safety program which has been implemented throughout our operations ensures that all employees comply with our safety standards, as well as those established by our insurance carriers, and federal, state and local laws and regulations. This program is led by the corporate office, with the assistance of each of our product group presidents, executive officers and industry consultants with expertise in workplace safety. Furthermore, the Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors considers workplace safety as an important factor in determining the annual bonus amounts awarded to our executive officers.

Financial Information About Segments

For information regarding revenues from external customers, measures of profit or loss and total assets for the last three years for each segment, see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Results of Operations by Segment and Note 13 to our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Patents, Trademarks and Other Intellectual Property Rights

We own several U.S. patents, trademarks, service marks and copyrights. Certain of the trademarks and patents are registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and, in some cases, with trademark offices of foreign countries. We consider other information owned by us to be trade secrets. We protect our trade secrets by, among other things, entering into confidentiality agreements with our employees and implementing security measures to restrict access to such information. We believe that our safeguards provide adequate protection to our proprietary rights. While we consider all of our intellectual property to be important, we do not consider any single intellectual property right to be essential to our operations as a whole.

Seasonal Aspects, Renegotiation and Backlog

There is a slight decrease in our business during the winter months because of inclement weather conditions and the seasonality of customer end markets. No material portion of our business is subject to renegotiation of profits or termination of contracts at the election of the government. Because of the just-in-time delivery policy and the short lead-time nature of our business, we do not believe the information on backlog of orders is material to an understanding of our business.

Foreign Operations

We do not have any material long-term assets or customer relationships outside of the United States. We have no material foreign operations or subsidiaries.

Research and Development

We do not incur material expenses in research and development activities but do participate in various research and development programs. We address research and development requirements and product enhancement by maintaining a staff of technical support, quality assurance and engineering personnel.

Communication with the Company

The Company's required Securities and Exchange Act filings such as annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports are available free of charge through the Company's website, <http://www.metalsusa.com>, as soon as reasonably practicable after they have been filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). All of these materials are located at the Investor Relations link. They can also be obtained free of charge upon request to the Company's principal address: Metals USA Holdings Corp., 2400 E. Commercial Blvd., Suite 905, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33308.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

In addition to the factors discussed elsewhere in this report and in Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, the following are some of the potential risk factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those projected in any forward-looking statements. You should carefully consider the risk factors set forth below, as well as other information contained in this document, when evaluating your investments in our securities. Any of the following risks could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows are heavily affected by changing metal prices. We believe metal prices are currently increasing from a low point in the cycle toward a new high point in the cycle (which may not continue).

Metal costs typically represent approximately 75% of our net sales. Metal costs can be volatile due to numerous factors beyond our control, including domestic and international economic conditions, labor costs, production levels, competition, import duties and tariffs and currency exchange rates. This volatility can significantly affect the availability and cost of raw materials for us and may, therefore, adversely affect our net sales, operating margin and net income. Our metal service centers maintain substantial inventories of metal to accommodate the short lead-times and just-in-time delivery requirements of our customers. Accordingly, using information derived from customers, market conditions, historic usage and industry research, we purchase metal in an effort to maintain our inventory at levels that we believe to be appropriate to satisfy the anticipated needs of our customers. Our commitments for metal purchases are generally at prevailing market prices in effect at the time we place our orders. We have no substantial long-term, fixed-price purchase contracts. When raw material prices rise, we may not be able to pass the price increase on to our customers. When raw material prices decline, customer demands for lower prices could result in lower sale prices and, to the extent we reduce existing inventory quantities, lower margins. There have been historical periods of rapid and significant movements in the prices of metal both upward and downward. These changes can make it difficult for us to accurately forecast our results, which could cause us to have higher or lower levels of inventory than required or make expenditures that may not generate expected returns. Any limitation on our ability to pass through any price increases to our customers could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Changes in metal prices (which we believe are currently increasing, which may not continue) also affect our liquidity because of the time difference between our payment for our raw materials and our collection of cash from our customers. We sell our products and typically collect our accounts receivable within 45 days after the sale; however, we tend to pay for replacement materials (which are more expensive when metal prices are rising) over a much shorter period, in part to benefit from early-payment discounts. As a result, when metal prices are rising, we tend to draw more on our \$500 million amended and restated senior secured asset-based credit facility due 2015 (the ABL facility) to cover the cash flow cycle from our raw material purchases to cash collection. This cash requirement for working capital is higher in periods when we are increasing inventory quantities. Our liquidity is thus adversely affected by rising metal prices. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Liquidity and Capital Resources Operating and Investing Activities.

Our operating results and liquidity could be negatively affected during economic downturns because the demand for our products is cyclical. We believe demand for our product is currently in the lower end of the cycle, although conditions have steadily improved throughout the latter half of 2009 through year-end 2011 (which may not continue).

Many of our products are used in businesses that are, to varying degrees, cyclical and have historically experienced periodic downturns due to economic conditions, energy prices, consumer demand and other factors beyond our control. These economic and industry downturns have been characterized by diminished product demand, excess capacity and, in some cases, lower average selling prices for our products. The recent economic

downturn and uncertainty about current global economic conditions pose risks as businesses in one or more of the markets that we serve, or consumers in one or more of the end-use markets that our customers serve, may postpone purchases in response to tighter credit, negative financial news and/or declines in asset values, which could have a material adverse effect on the demand for our products and services and on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. Additionally, as an increasing amount of our customers relocate their manufacturing facilities outside of the United States, we may not be able to maintain our level of sales to those customers.

The decline in steel prices resulting from weakened demand and an oversupply of steel throughout the supply chain during the latter half of 2008 and first half of 2009 contributed to a significant decline in steel product shipments from metals service centers in the United States. Reduced demand in a number of our markets combined with the foreign relocation of some of our customers could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Our customers sell their products abroad, and some of our suppliers buy feedstock abroad. As a result, our business is affected by general economic conditions and other factors outside the United States, primarily in Europe and Asia. Our suppliers' access to metal, and therefore our access to metal, is additionally affected by such conditions and factors. Similarly, the demand for our customers' products, and therefore our products, is affected by such conditions and factors. These conditions and factors include enhanced imbalances in the world's iron ore, coal and steel industries, a downturn in world economies, increases in interest rates, unfavorable currency fluctuations or a slowdown in the key industries served by our customers. In addition, demand for the products of our Building Products Group has been adversely affected by the downturn in the U.S. housing market, since the results of that group depend on a strong residential remodeling industry, which in turn has been historically driven by an expansion in the broader housing market and relatively high consumer confidence.

We rely on metal suppliers in our business and purchase a significant amount of metal from a limited number of suppliers and termination of one or more of our relationships with any of them could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

We use a variety of metals in our business. Our operations depend upon obtaining adequate supplies of metal on a timely basis. We purchase most of our metal from a limited number of metal suppliers. As of December 31, 2011, our top three metals suppliers represent a significant portion of our total metal purchasing cost. Termination of our relationship with any of these suppliers could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows if we were unable to obtain metal from other sources in a timely manner.

In addition, the domestic metals production industry has experienced consolidation in recent years. Further consolidation could result in a decrease in the number of our major suppliers or a decrease in the number of alternative supply sources available to us, which could make it more likely that termination of one or more of our relationships with major suppliers would result in a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. Consolidation could also result in price increases for the metal that we purchase. Such price increases could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows if we were not able to pass these price increases on to our customers.

Intense competition in our fragmented industry could adversely affect our profitability.

We are engaged in a highly fragmented and competitive industry. We compete with a large number of other value-added oriented metals processor/metal service centers on a regional and local basis, some of which may have greater financial resources than we have. Service centers compete with each other on price, service, quality and availability of products. According to Metal Center News, Metals USA is ranked number twelve among service centers in North America based on 2010 revenues. We also compete, to a much lesser extent, with primary metals producers, who typically sell to very large customers requiring regular shipments of large

volumes of metals. Because price, particularly in the ferrous flat rolled business, is a competitive factor, we may be required in the future to reduce sales volumes to maintain our level of profitability. Increased competition in any of our businesses could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Our ability to retain our key employees is critical to the success of our business, and failure to do so may adversely affect our revenues and as a result could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

We are dependent on the services of our Chief Executive Officer and other members of our senior management team to remain competitive in our industry. We may not be able to retain or replace one or more of these key employees, we may suffer an extended interruption in one or more of their services or we may lose the services of one or more of these key employees entirely. Our current key employees are subject to employment conditions or arrangements that permit the employees to terminate their employment without notice. Other than a life insurance policy maintained by us on our Chief Executive Officer, for which we are the beneficiary, we do not maintain any life insurance policies for our key employees. If any of our key employees were not able to dedicate adequate time to our business, due to personal or other factors, if we lose or suffer an extended interruption in the services of any of our key employees or if any of our key employees were to terminate their employment it could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. In addition, the market for qualified individuals may be highly competitive and we may not be able to attract and retain qualified personnel to replace or succeed members of our senior management or other key employees, should the need arise.

From time to time, there are shortages of qualified operators of metals processing equipment. In addition, during periods of low unemployment, turnover among less-skilled workers can be relatively high. Any failure to retain a sufficient number of such employees in the future could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

We are subject to litigation that could strain our resources and distract management.

From time to time, we are involved in a variety of claims, lawsuits and other disputes arising in the ordinary course of business. These suits concern issues including product liability, contract disputes, employee-related matters and personal injury matters. It is not feasible to predict the outcome of all pending suits and claims, and the ultimate resolution of these matters as well as future lawsuits could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows or reputation.

Environmental costs could decrease our net cash flow and adversely affect our profitability.

Our operations are subject to extensive regulations governing waste disposal, air and water emissions, the handling of hazardous substances, remediation, workplace exposure and other environmental matters. Some of the properties we own or lease are located in areas with a history of heavy industrial use, and are near sites listed for clean up under CERCLA. See Business Government Regulation and Environmental Matters. CERCLA established joint and several responsibility for clean-up without regard to fault for persons who have arranged for disposal of hazardous substances at sites that have become contaminated and for persons who own or operate contaminated facilities. We have a number of properties located in or near industrial or light industrial use areas; accordingly, these properties may have been contaminated by pollutants which would have migrated from neighboring facilities or have been deposited by prior occupants. Some of our properties are affected by contamination from leaks and drips of cutting oils and similar materials. The costs of clean-ups to date have not been material. It is possible that we could be notified of such claims in the future. See Business Government Regulation and Environmental Matters. It is also possible that we could be identified by the Environmental Protection Agency, a state agency or one or more third parties as a potentially responsible party under CERCLA or under analogous state laws. If so, we could incur substantial costs related to such claims, which could decrease our net cash flows and adversely affect our profitability.

Adverse developments in our relationship with our unionized employees could adversely affect our business.

As of December 31, 2011, approximately 176 of our employees (approximately 8%) at various sites were members of unions. We are currently a party to seven collective-bargaining agreements. Six expire in 2013 and one expires in 2014. Presently we do not anticipate any problems or issues with respect to renewing these agreements upon acceptable terms. However, no assurances can be given that we will succeed in negotiating new collective-bargaining agreements to replace the expiring ones without a strike. Any strikes in the future could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. See *Business Employees* for a discussion of our previous negotiations of collective-bargaining agreements.

We may not successfully implement our acquisition strategy, and acquisitions that we pursue may present unforeseen integration obstacles and costs, increase our leverage and negatively impact our performance.

We intend to continue to pursue our acquisition strategy, and we generally target one to two bolt-on acquisitions per year that will enhance our metal service center strategy. We may not be able to identify suitable acquisition candidates, and if we do identify suitable candidates, they may be larger than our historical targets. The expense incurred in consummating acquisitions of related businesses, or our failure to integrate such businesses successfully into our existing businesses, could affect our growth or result in our incurring unanticipated expenses and losses. Furthermore, we may not be able to realize any anticipated benefits from acquisitions. We regularly evaluate potential acquisitions and may complete one or more significant acquisitions in the future. To finance an acquisition, we may incur debt or issue equity, both of which could be materially greater amounts than in connection with prior acquisitions. The process of integrating acquired operations into our existing operations may result in unforeseen operating difficulties and may require significant financial resources that would otherwise be available for the ongoing development or expansion of existing operations. Some of the risks associated with our acquisition strategy which could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows, include:

potential disruption of our ongoing business and distraction of management;

unexpected loss of key employees or customers of the acquired company;

conforming the acquired company's standards, processes, procedures and controls with our operations;

coordinating new product and process development;

hiring additional management and other critical personnel;

encountering unknown contingent liabilities that could be material; and

increasing the scope, geographic diversity and complexity of our operations.

As a result of the foregoing, our acquisition strategy may not be successfully received by customers, and we may not realize any anticipated benefits from acquisitions.

We may not be able to retain or expand our customer base if the North American manufacturing industry continues to erode through moving offshore or through acquisition and merger or consolidation activity in our customers' industries.

Our customer base, including our Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Group's customer base, primarily includes manufacturing and industrial firms. Some of these customers operate in industries that are undergoing consolidation through acquisition and merger activity; some are considering or have considered relocating production operations overseas or outsourcing particular functions overseas; and some customers have closed as they were unable to compete successfully with overseas competitors. Our facilities are predominately located in the mid-western and southern United States. To the extent that these customers cease U.S. operations, relocate or move operations overseas to regions in which we do not have a presence, we could lose their business. In addition, acquirers of manufacturing and industrial firms may have suppliers of choice that do not

include us, which could affect our customer base and sales.

We may face product liability claims that are costly and create adverse publicity.

If any of the products that we sell cause harm to any of our customers, we could be exposed to product liability lawsuits. If we were found liable under product liability claims, we could be required to pay substantial monetary damages. Further, even if we successfully defended ourselves against this type of claim, we could be forced to spend a substantial amount of money in litigation expenses, our management could be required to spend valuable time to defend against these claims and our reputation could suffer, any of which could harm our business.

We may not be able to generate sufficient cash to service all of our indebtedness.

Our ability to make payments on our indebtedness depends on our ability to generate cash in the future. Our 11^{1/8} Senior Secured Notes due 2015 (the Metals USA Notes), the ABL facility and our other outstanding indebtedness are expected to account for significant cash interest expenses in fiscal 2012 and subsequent years. Accordingly, we will have to generate significant cash flows from operations to meet our debt service requirements. If we do not generate sufficient cash flow to meet our debt service and working capital requirements, we may need to seek additional financing; however, this insufficient cash flow may make it more difficult for us to obtain financing on terms that are acceptable to us, or at all. Furthermore, Apollo has no obligation to provide us with debt or equity financing and we therefore may be unable to generate sufficient cash to service all of our indebtedness.

Our use of leverage exposes us to interest rate risk and could adversely affect our ability to raise additional capital to fund our operations, limit our ability to react to changes in the economy or our industry and prevent us from meeting our obligations under our indebtedness.

As of December 31, 2011, our total indebtedness was \$515.6 million. We also had an additional \$163.8 million available for borrowing under the ABL facility as of that date.

Our indebtedness could have important consequences for you, including:

it may limit, along with the financial and other restrictive covenants in our indebtedness, among other things, our ability to borrow money, dispose of assets or sell equity for our working capital, capital expenditures, dividend payments, debt service requirements, strategic initiatives or other purposes;

it may limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our operations or business;

we may be more highly leveraged than some of our competitors, which may place us at a competitive disadvantage;

it may make us more vulnerable to downturns in our business or the economy; and

there would be a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows if we were unable to service our indebtedness or obtain additional financing, as needed.

Our debt agreements impose significant operating and financial restrictions, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

The ABL facility and the indenture governing the Metals USA Notes (the Metals USA Notes Indenture or the Indenture) contain various covenants that limit or prohibit our ability, among other things, to:

incur or guarantee additional indebtedness or issue certain preferred shares;

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pay dividends on our capital stock or redeem, repurchase, retire or make distributions in respect of our capital stock or subordinated indebtedness or make other restricted payments;

enter into or permit certain agreements or make certain investments or loans;

sell certain assets;

create or incur liens; and

enter into certain transactions with our affiliates.

The Metals USA Notes Indenture contains covenants that restrict our ability to take certain actions, such as incurring additional debt, if we are unable to meet defined adjusted EBITDA to fixed charges and consolidated total debt ratios (each, as defined by the Indenture). The covenants in the Indenture require us to have an adjusted EBITDA to fixed charge ratio (measured on a trailing four-quarter basis) of 2.0 to 1.0 to incur ratio indebtedness and a consolidated total debt ratio of no greater than 4.75 to 1.0 to incur ratio indebtedness in connection with acquisitions. Based on the calculations for the trailing four quarters, we are able to satisfy these covenants and incur additional indebtedness under these ratios, including for acquisition purposes, under the Indenture.

As of December 31, 2011, our fixed charge coverage ratio (FCCR), as defined by the loan and security agreement governing the ABL facility, was 2.82. As of December 31, 2011 we had \$163.8 million of additional borrowing capacity under the ABL facility. Failure to comply with the FCCR covenant of the ABL facility can result in limiting our long-term growth prospects by hindering our ability to incur future indebtedness or grow through acquisitions. We do not have to maintain a minimum FCCR as long as our borrowing availability under the ABL facility is greater than or equal to the greater of (i) \$45.0 million and (ii) 10% of the lesser of the borrowing base and the aggregate commitment (the Minimum Availability). We must maintain an FCCR of at least 1.0 to 1.0 if borrowing availability falls below the Minimum Availability.

Our inability to satisfy the terms of the negative covenants in our debt agreements do not, by themselves, constitute covenant violations or events of default. Rather, they are event-related restrictions that limit or prohibit the Company from taking certain corporate actions. See Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Liquidity and Capital Resources Covenant Compliance.

The restrictions contained in the agreements that govern the terms of our debt could:

limit our ability to plan for or react to market conditions or meet capital needs or otherwise restrict our activities or business plans;

adversely affect our ability to finance our operations, to enter into strategic acquisitions, investments or other capital needs or to engage in other business activities that would be in our interest; and

limit our access to the cash generated by our subsidiaries.

Upon the occurrence of an event of default under the ABL facility, the lenders could elect to declare all amounts outstanding under the ABL facility to be immediately due and payable and terminate all commitments to extend further credit. If we were unable to repay those amounts, the lenders under the ABL facility could proceed against the collateral granted to them to secure the ABL facility on a first-priority lien basis. If the lenders under the ABL facility accelerate the repayment of borrowings, such acceleration could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. In addition, we may not have sufficient assets to repay the Metals USA Notes upon acceleration.

For a more detailed description on the limitations on our ability to incur additional indebtedness, please see Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Financing Activities.

Despite our current indebtedness, we may still be able to incur significantly more indebtedness which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

The terms of the Metals USA Notes Indenture and the ABL facility contain restrictions on our ability to incur additional indebtedness. These restrictions are subject to a number of important qualifications and

exceptions, and the indebtedness incurred in compliance with these restrictions could be substantial. Accordingly, we or our subsidiaries could incur significant additional indebtedness in the future. As of December 31, 2011, we had approximately \$163.8 million available for additional borrowing under the ABL facility, including the subfacility for letters of credit, and the covenants under our debt agreements would allow us to borrow a significant amount of additional indebtedness. In addition, the Metals USA Notes Indenture does not limit the amount of indebtedness that may be incurred by Flag Intermediate or Metals USA Holdings. Additional leverage could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations and could increase the risks described in . Our use of leverage exposes us to interest rate risk and could adversely affect our ability to raise additional capital to fund our operations, limit our ability to react to changes in the economy or our industry and prevent us from meeting our obligations under our indebtedness, . Our debt agreements impose significant operating and financial restrictions, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows and . Because a portion of our indebtedness bears interest at rates that fluctuate with changes in certain prevailing short-term interest rates, we are vulnerable to interest rate increases.

Because a portion of our indebtedness bears interest at rates that fluctuate with changes in certain prevailing short-term interest rates, we are vulnerable to interest rate increases.

A portion of our indebtedness bears interest at rates that fluctuate with changes in certain short-term prevailing interest rates. As of December 31, 2011, we had approximately \$240.3 million of floating rate debt under the ABL facility and our Industrial Revenue Bonds (IRBs). We also had an additional \$163.8 million available for borrowing under the ABL facility as of December 31, 2011. Assuming a consistent level of debt, a 100 basis point change in the interest rate on our floating rate debt effective from the beginning of the year would increase or decrease our fiscal 2011 interest expense under the ABL facility and the IRBs by approximately \$2.4 million. We use derivative financial instruments to manage a portion of the potential impact of our interest rate risk. As of December 31, 2011, we had \$4.1 million of IRBs that were hedged under interest rate swap agreements. To some extent, derivative financial instruments can protect against increases in interest rates, but they do not provide complete protection over the longer term. If interest rates increase dramatically, we could be unable to service our debt which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

We are controlled by Apollo and its affiliates, and their interests as equity holders may conflict with yours.

We are an affiliate of, and are controlled by, Apollo and its affiliates. The interests of Apollo and its affiliates may not always be aligned with yours. For example, Apollo may have an interest in pursuing acquisitions, divestitures, financings or other transactions that, in their judgment, could enhance their equity investment, even though these transactions might involve risks to the non-affiliated holders of our common stock or holders of our debt if the transactions resulted in our being more highly leveraged or significantly changed the nature of our business operations or strategy. In addition, if we encounter financial difficulties, or if we are unable to pay our debts as they mature, the interests of Apollo might conflict with those of the non-affiliated holders of our common stock or the holders of our debt. In that situation, for example, the non-affiliated holders of our common stock or the holders of our debt might want us to raise additional equity to reduce our leverage and pay our debts, while Apollo might not want to increase their investment in us or have their ownership diluted and instead choose to take other actions, such as selling our assets. Furthermore, Apollo and its affiliates have no continuing obligation to provide us with debt or equity financing. Additionally, Apollo and certain of its affiliates are in the business of making investments in businesses engaged in the metals service industry that complement or directly or indirectly compete with certain portions of our business.

Further, if they pursue such acquisitions in the metals service industry, those acquisition opportunities may not be available to us. So long as Apollo and its affiliates continue to indirectly own a significant amount of the equity of Metals USA Holdings Corp., our parent company, even if such amount is less than 50%, they will continue to be able to strongly influence or effectively control our business decisions.

Item 1B. *Unresolved Staff Comments*
None.

Item 2. Properties

As of December 31, 2011, we operated 19 metal service centers in the Plates and Shapes Group and 27 facilities in the Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Group. These facilities use various metals processing and materials handling machinery and equipment. As of the same date, our Building Products Group operated four manufacturing plants where we process metals into various building products and 14 sales centers.

Many of our facilities are capable of being used at higher capacities, if necessary. We believe that our facilities will be adequate for the expected needs of our existing businesses over the next several years. Our metal service center facilities, Building Products sales centers and manufacturing plants, and administrative offices are located and described as follows:

OPERATING FACILITIES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2011

	Location	Square Footage	Owned/Leased
<i>Plates and Shapes Group:</i>			
	Mobile, Alabama	246,000	Owned
	Jacksonville, Florida	60,000	Owned
	Oakwood, Georgia	206,000	Owned
	Waggaman, Louisiana	371,000	Owned
	Baltimore, Maryland	65,000	Leased
	Seekonk, Massachusetts	115,000	Owned
	Columbus, Mississippi	45,000	Owned
	Newark, New Jersey	81,000	Owned
	Greensboro, North Carolina	180,000	Owned
	Canton, Ohio	110,000	Owned
	Enid, Oklahoma	112,000	Owned
	Muskogee, Oklahoma (1)	229,000	Owned
	Tulsa, Oklahoma	533,000	Leased
	Ambridge, Pennsylvania	200,000	Leased
	Langhorne, Pennsylvania	235,000	Leased
	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	85,000	Owned
	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	109,000	Leased
	York, Pennsylvania	109,000	Owned
	Cedar Hill, Texas	150,000	Owned

	Location	Square Footage	Owned/Leased
Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Group:			
	Thomasville, Alabama	75,000	Owned
	Anaheim, California	45,000	Leased
	Orange, California	28,000	Leased
	Thomasville, Georgia	52,000	Leased
	Madison, Illinois	100,000	Owned
	Northbrook, Illinois	187,000	Owned
	Rockford, Illinois	119,000	Owned
	Rockford, Illinois	41,000	Owned
	Jeffersonville, Indiana	90,000	Owned
	Jeffersonville, Indiana (1) (2)	270,000	Owned
	Jeffersonville, Indiana (2)	40,000	Leased
	Wichita, Kansas	43,000	Leased
	Mansfield, Massachusetts	42,000	Owned
	Walker, Michigan	50,000	Owned
	Plymouth, Minnesota	18,000	Owned
	Liberty, Missouri	117,000	Leased
	Union, New Jersey	39,000	Leased
	Randleman, North Carolina	154,000	Owned
	Springfield, Ohio	105,000	Owned
	Wooster, Ohio	140,000	Owned
	Tulsa, Oklahoma	130,000	Owned
	Houston, Texas	57,000	Owned
	Katy, Texas	212,000	Owned
	Odessa, Texas	29,000	Owned
	Richardson, Texas	192,000	Owned
	Germantown, Wisconsin	102,000	Owned
	Horicon, Wisconsin	120,000	Leased
	Horicon, Wisconsin	32,000	Leased
Building Products Group:			
Sales Centers			
	Birmingham, Alabama	19,000	Leased
	Phoenix, Arizona	111,000	Leased
	Hayward, California	24,000	Leased
	Leesburg, Florida	61,000	Leased
	Pensacola, Florida	48,000	Leased
	Las Vegas, Nevada	42,000	Leased
	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	40,000	Leased
	Irmo, South Carolina	38,000	Leased
	Nashville, Tennessee	44,000	Leased
	Houston, Texas	155,000	Leased
	Longview, Texas	15,000	Leased
	Mesquite, Texas	55,000	Leased
	Weslaco, Texas	21,000	Leased
	Kent, Washington	57,000	Leased
Manufacturing Plants			
	Brea, California	43,000	Owned
	Buena Park, California	168,000	Leased
	Groveland, Florida	247,000	Leased
	Courtland, Ontario	32,000	Owned

	Location	Square Footage	Owned/Leased
<i>Administrative Locations:</i>			
Corporate Headquarters	Fort Lauderdale, Florida	6,700	Leased
i-Solutions	Ft. Washington, Pennsylvania	4,000	Leased

- (1) These facilities are subject to liens with respect to specific debt obligations, including IRBs.
- (2) These facilities comprise one operating location.

Item 3. *Legal Proceedings*

From time to time, we are involved in a variety of claims, lawsuits and other disputes arising in the ordinary course of business. We believe the resolution of these matters and the incurrence of their related costs and expenses should not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations, liquidity or cash flows. While it is not feasible to predict the outcome of all pending suits and claims, the ultimate resolution of these matters as well as future lawsuits could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows or reputation.

Item 4. *Mine Safety Disclosures*

Not applicable.

PART II

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

As a result of the Merger, all of Metals USA Inc.'s issued and outstanding common stock is held indirectly by Metals USA Holdings through Flag Intermediate, its wholly owned subsidiary. Investment funds associated with Apollo own approximately 64% of the capital stock of Metals USA Holdings. As a result of Metals USA Holdings' initial public offering, the aggregate percentage of Metals USA Holdings' outstanding capital stock held by non-affiliates as of December 31, 2011 is approximately 31%. The remainder of the capital stock of Metals USA Holdings is held by members of management. Accordingly, the Company's common stock is not traded on any stock exchange and has no established public trading market.

Dividends

As a result of the Merger, Metals USA assumed the obligations of Flag Acquisition, including the Metals USA Notes. All domestic operating subsidiaries of Metals USA have agreed, jointly and severally with Flag Intermediate (Guarantors), to unconditionally and irrevocably guarantee Metals USA's obligations under the Metals USA Notes and Indenture Agreement dated November 30, 2005. Additionally, Flag Intermediate has unconditionally guaranteed as a primary obligor the due and punctual payment and performance of the obligations under the Indenture.

Metals USA Holdings is not a guarantor of the Metals USA Notes. There is a limitation on the amount of funds which can be transferred by the Guarantors to Metals USA Holdings in the form of dividends (see Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Liquidity and Capital Resources and Note 9 to the Consolidated Financial Statements).

No dividends were paid from Flag Intermediate to Metals USA Holdings during 2009, 2010 or 2011. In 2008, Flag Intermediate paid dividends to Metals USA Holdings aggregating \$87.5 million. In 2007, Flag Intermediate paid dividends to Metals USA Holdings aggregating \$18.1 million. In 2006, Flag Intermediate paid dividends to Metals USA Holdings aggregating \$25.0 million.

Item 6. Selected Financial Data

The following table sets forth our selected historical consolidated financial data as of the dates and for the periods indicated. The selected historical consolidated financial data for the year ended December 31, 2009, and as of December 31, 2010 and for the year ended December 31, 2010, and as of December 31, 2011, and for the year ended December 31, 2011, have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements and related notes included in this Form 10-K. The selected historical consolidated financial data for the year ended December 31, 2007, and as of December 31, 2007, and for the year ended December 31, 2008, and as of December 31, 2008, and as of December 31, 2009, presented in this table have been derived from the Company's audited consolidated financial statements not included in this Form 10-K. The historical results set forth below do not necessarily indicate results expected for any future period, and should be read in conjunction with, and are qualified by reference to, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and the consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto included elsewhere in this Form 10-K.

	Years Ended December 31,				
	2007	2008	2009 (in millions)	2010	2011
Statements of Operations Data:					
Net Sales	\$ 1,845.3	\$ 2,156.2	\$ 1,098.7	\$ 1,292.1	\$ 1,885.9
Cost of sales (exclusive of operating and delivery, and depreciation and amortization included in operating expenses below)	1,418.8	1,612.9	890.1	996.7	1,445.7
Operating expenses	313.0	336.3	230.7	235.1	304.9
Operating income (loss)	113.5	207.0	(22.1)	60.3	135.3
Interest expense	57.6	54.5	44.9	37.2	42.2
Gain on extinguishment of debt			(13.6)		
Other (income) expense, net		(0.2)	0.3		0.1
Income (loss) before income taxes	55.9	152.7	(53.7)	23.1	93.0
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	19.3	59.3	(18.0)	8.2	31.8
Net income (loss)	\$ 36.6	\$ 93.4	\$ (35.7)	\$ 14.9	\$ 61.2

	As of December 31,				
	2007	2008	2009 (in millions)	2010	2011
Balance Sheet Data:					
Working capital	\$ 511.9	\$ 635.3	\$ 276.3	\$ 368.2	\$ 488.0
Total assets	951.1	1,010.9	619.2	744.1	978.6
Long-term debt, less current portion	563.1	648.9	307.1	392.4	514.6
Stockholder's equity	167.6	175.4	141.1	158.1	220.7

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

This section contains statements that constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. See disclosure presented on page 2 of this report for cautionary information with respect to such forward-looking statements. Readers should refer to Item 1A. Risk Factors for risk factors that may affect future performance. The following discussion should be read in conjunction with Item 6. Selected Financial Data and Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.

Overview

All references to the Company include Flag Intermediate, its wholly owned subsidiary Metals USA, and the wholly owned subsidiaries of Metals USA.

We believe that we are a leading provider of value-added processed carbon steel, stainless steel, aluminum and specialty metals, as well as manufactured metal components. For the year ended December 31, 2011, approximately 95% of our revenue was derived from our metals service center and processing activities, which are segmented into two groups: Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Group and Plates and Shapes Group. The remaining portion of our revenue was derived from our Building Products Group, which principally manufactures and sells aluminum products related to the residential remodeling industry. We purchase metal from primary producers that generally focus on large volume sales of unprocessed metals in standard configurations and sizes. In most cases, we perform the customized, value-added processing services required to meet the specifications provided by end-use customers. Our Plates and Shapes Group and Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Group customers are in the aerospace, automotive industry manufacturing, defense, heavy equipment, marine transportation, commercial construction, office furniture manufacturing, and energy and oilfield services industries. Our Building Products Group customers are primarily distributors and contractors engaged in the residential remodeling industry.

Industry Trends

Metals Service Centers

U.S. steel consumption declined dramatically during the 2009 recession. 2009 U.S. steel consumption was less than 70% of 2008 U.S. steel consumption and significantly outpaced GDP declines. Consequently, annual growth in steel demand in 2010 exceeded prior year figures by more than 14% as U.S. industrial production recovered slowly.

World steel production continued to grow in 2011. Domestic steel mills produced at an average capacity utilization rate of 75% during 2011, up 8% from last year. Apparent demand began to improve in the economies of Europe and the United States at the end of 2011 and we believe it is likely that there will be further growth during 2012. Economic indicators in the U.S. have recently been rising, which we believe should mean positive growth in steel consumption in 2012.

China has continued to dominate global steel production and consumption, accounting for roughly half of the total global steel market. Chinese steel production levels and growth characteristics have created significant demand on iron ore and metallurgical coal which has generally outpaced global supply. Spot iron ore prices eased slightly during December 2011, but remained in a narrow range. Prices have since rebounded, and we believe this upward price trend will continue.

Steel prices were relatively stable during 2011 when compared to the significantly volatile periods of 2008, 2009, and to a lesser degree 2010. Given current market conditions, steel prices are predominately influenced by raw material input costs, namely iron ore and metallurgical coal. We believe that in the absence of any unanticipated macro-economic disruptions, no near term catalyst that would materially alter current price trends is anticipated.

Building Products

The downturn in the housing and mortgage markets has caused significant contraction in the home improvement remodeling industry. Research indicates that remodeling activity is pro-cyclical with both new residential construction and the broader economy, but remodeling lags homebuilding by several quarters. The high cyclicity of remodeling activity appears to be driven by discretionary improvements, similar to the products sold by our building products business, which are quite volatile. Improvement spending is expected to be much more cyclical and more sensitive to upturns and downturns in the general economy, whereas maintenance and repair spending is expected to be fairly stable over time.

While the pace of the decline in homeowner remodeling projects appears to be moderating, increased remodeling activity does not seem likely to materialize until further signs of recovery emerge in the broader housing market. Although lower financing costs are reducing the cost of financing home improvement projects, weak home prices, the lack of homeowner equity, and decreased cost recovery for most types of remodeling projects continue to discourage upper-end remodeling improvements.

Product demand for the Company's Building Products Group may be influenced by numerous factors such as interest rates, general economic conditions, consumer confidence and other factors beyond our control. Declines in existing home sales and improvement remodeling expenditures due to such factors could continue to limit the pace of the segment's recovery.

Consolidated Results of Operations

The following financial information reflects our historical financial statements.

	Fiscal Years Ended December 31,					
	2011	%	2010	%	2009	%
(in millions, except percentages)						
Net sales	\$ 1,885.9	100.0%	\$ 1,292.1	100.0%	\$ 1,098.7	100.0%
Cost of sales (exclusive of operating and delivery, and depreciation and amortization shown below)	1,445.7	76.7%	996.7	77.1%	890.1	81.0%
Operating and delivery	175.7	9.3%	131.9	10.2%	126.7	11.5%
Selling, general and administrative	108.0	5.7%	81.8	6.3%	85.1	7.7%
Depreciation and amortization	21.2	1.1%	17.8	1.4%	18.9	1.7%
Loss on sale of property and equipment			0.3	0.0%		
Advisory agreement termination charge			3.3	0.3%		
Operating income (loss)	135.3	7.2%	60.3	4.7%	(22.1)	-2.0%
Interest expense	42.2	2.2%	37.2	2.9%	44.9	4.1%
Gain on debt extinguishment					(13.6)	-1.2%
Other expense, net	0.1	0.0%			0.3	0.0%
Income (loss) before income taxes	\$ 93.0	4.9%	\$ 23.1	1.8%	\$ (53.7)	-4.9%

Results of Operations Year Ended December 31, 2011 Compared to 2010

Net sales. Net sales increased \$593.8 million, or 46.0%, from \$1,292.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$1,885.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The increase was primarily attributable to a 31.8% increase in shipments, in addition to a 12.9% increase in average realized prices for our Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous and Plates and Shapes Product Groups. Net sales for our Building Products Group increased \$2.8 million, or 3.4%, for the year ended December 31, 2011 compared to the same period of 2010. Results for the year ended December 31, 2011 include operating results from the Trident acquisition, which closed on March 11, 2011, and the ORMS acquisition, which closed on December 31, 2010. In addition, results for the year ended December 31, 2011 include a full twelve months of operating results from the J. Rubin

acquisition, which closed on June 28, 2010. Trident, ORMS and J. Rubin contributed a combined \$194.7 million of incremental sales for the year ended December 31, 2011. Excluding the Trident, ORMS and J. Rubin acquisitions, net sales for our metal service center businesses increased \$396.3 million, or 33.3%, for the year ended December 31, 2011 versus the same period of 2010, which primarily resulted from a 16.7% increase in shipments and a 14.2% increase in average realized prices. The increase in prices and volumes is attributable to the cyclical nature of the metal consuming industries supported by our products and services. The economic recovery that continued through 2011 has translated into increased metal consumption as industrial production continues to gradually expand. We continue to experience weaker demand in industries tied to non-residential construction and offshore oil and gas drilling.

According to data from the Metals Service Center Institute, actual shipments for the service center industry for the year ended December 31, 2011 are up 14.2% over the same period of 2010. Inventory levels have remained relatively stable throughout 2011. Despite a cautious economic outlook, business conditions were generally favorable for the year ended December 31, 2011 compared to the same period of 2010.

Cost of sales. Cost of sales increased \$449.0 million, or 45.0%, from \$996.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$1,445.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The increase was primarily attributable to a 31.8% increase in shipments for our Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous and Plates and Shapes Product Groups, in addition to an 11.8% increase in average cost per ton. Cost of sales for our Building Products Group increased \$4.2 million, or 7.2%. The Trident, ORMS and J. Rubin acquisitions added a combined \$144.2 million of incremental cost of sales for the year ended December 31, 2011. Excluding the Trident, ORMS and J. Rubin acquisitions, shipments increased 16.7% and average cost per ton increased 13.5% over the same period of 2010. The increase in volumes that contributed to higher cost of sales during 2011 was primarily attributable to the factors that affected the increase in net sales discussed above. Cost of sales as a percentage of net sales decreased from 77.1% for the year ended December 31, 2010 to 76.7% for the same period of 2011.

Operating and delivery. Operating and delivery expenses increased \$43.8 million, or 33.2%, from \$131.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$175.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The increase was a result of higher variable costs associated with increased shipments, most notably higher labor costs of approximately \$5.7 million and higher freight costs of approximately \$8.5 million. In addition, Trident, ORMS and J. Rubin added a combined \$21.2 million of incremental operating and delivery expenses for the year ended December 31, 2011. As a percentage of net sales, operating and delivery expenses decreased from 10.2% for the year ended December 31, 2010 to 9.3% for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Selling, general and administrative. Selling, general and administrative expenses increased \$26.2 million, or 32.0%, from \$81.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$108.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. An approximate \$7.2 million increase in incentive compensation, which is aligned with the improved performance of our business, contributed to the period-over-period increase. Trident, ORMS and J. Rubin added a combined \$12.0 million of incremental selling, general and administrative expenses for the year ended December 31, 2011. We also incurred costs of approximately \$1.6 million during 2011 which were primarily attributable to the Trident acquisition, which closed in March 2011. As a percentage of net sales, selling, general and administrative expenses decreased from 6.3% for the year ended December 31, 2010 to 5.7% for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$3.4 million, or 19.1%, from \$17.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$21.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The increase is primarily attributable to increases in fixed assets resulting from our growth through acquisitions over the past year and from increased capital spending, as our investments in new equipment have grown in line with higher business activity levels. Net property and equipment as of December 31, 2011 was \$247.8 million compared to \$198.8 million as of December 31, 2010. As a percentage of net sales, depreciation and amortization expenses decreased from 1.4% for the year ended December 31, 2010 to 1.1% for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Operating income. Operating income increased \$75.0 million, or 124.4%, from \$60.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$135.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The increase was primarily a result of the increase in net sales discussed above, in addition to the impact associated with the acquisitions of Trident, ORMS and J. Rubin, which contributed a combined \$13.1 million of incremental operating income for the year ended December 31, 2011. The increase in operating income during 2011 was also partially attributable to the absence of a \$3.3 million charge to operating expense for the termination of our advisory agreement with Apollo in connection with our IPO during the second quarter of 2010. As a percentage of net sales, operating income increased from 4.7% for the year ended December 31, 2010 to 7.2% for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Interest expense. Interest expense increased \$5.0 million, or 13.4%, from \$37.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$42.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The increase was due to higher borrowings and a higher average facility rate on the ABL facility. The weighted average outstanding balance on our ABL facility increased from \$77.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$214.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. Borrowings under the ABL facility were used to fund the Trident and ORMS acquisitions, in addition to higher working capital needs between the two periods.

Results of Operations Year Ended December 31, 2010 Compared to 2009

Net sales. Net sales increased \$193.4 million, or 17.6%, from \$1,098.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to \$1,292.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase was primarily attributable to a 16.0% increase in shipments, in addition to a 3.7% increase in average realized prices for our Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous and Plates and Shapes Product Groups. Net sales decreased \$10.2 million, or 10.9%, for our Building Products Group. Results for the year ended December 31, 2010, include the results from the J. Rubin acquisition from the date of the acquisition closing, which occurred on June 28, 2010. J. Rubin contributed \$17.8 million of incremental sales for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase in volumes for our metal service center businesses stemmed from better operating performance in an improving economy and stronger demand across most of our end-user markets, with the exception of weak non-residential construction and diminished levels of energy demand in the Gulf of Mexico. We believe that our focus on product mix enhancement during 2010 helped to mitigate the effects of uneven demand associated with specific regions and end-use industries.

Weak demand caused prices for many grades of steel to fall substantially during the first half of 2009, as steel producers in North America reduced prices and cut production to adjust to lower order levels. As a result, although our metal service center businesses benefitted from a broader market recovery since mid-2009, the increase in net sales for 2010 versus 2009 was largely driven by volumes. Carbon steel prices generally trended upward at a modest rate during the latter half of 2009, although we experienced intermittent volatility in steel prices at various times during 2010, mainly during the third quarter. Prices increased in late 2010 in response to persistent higher raw material costs and typical seasonal demand strength leading into the next year.

Cost of sales. Cost of sales increased \$106.6 million, or 12.0%, from \$890.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, to \$996.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase was primarily attributable to a 16.0% increase in shipments for our Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous and Plates and Shapes Product Groups, partially offset by a 1.9% decrease in average cost per ton. The J. Rubin acquisition added \$12.1 million of incremental cost of sales for the year ended December 31, 2010. Cost of sales for our Building Products Group decreased \$7.0 million, or 10.7%. The increase in volumes that contributed to higher cost of sales during 2010 was attributable to higher steel demand as the economy recovered from the global economic recession. Cost of sales as a percentage of net sales decreased from 81.0% for 2009 to 77.1% for 2010.

Operating and delivery. Operating and delivery expenses increased \$5.2 million, or 4.1%, from \$126.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to \$131.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase was a result of higher variable costs associated with increased shipments, most notably higher freight

costs of approximately \$2.9 million. The increase was partially offset by cost reduction initiatives implemented over the last eighteen months, including reductions in square footage under lease, reduction in headcount and employee benefit modifications. As a percentage of net sales, operating and delivery expenses decreased from 11.5% for the year ended December 31, 2009 to 10.2% for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Selling, general and administrative. Selling, general and administrative expenses decreased \$3.3 million, or 3.9%, from \$85.1 million for year ended December 31, 2009 to \$81.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. Lower costs associated with salaries and employee benefits, which amounted to approximately \$6.2 million, achieved through personnel reductions and other cost reduction initiatives were the primary contributors to the period-over-period decrease. The decrease also includes a decrease of \$0.5 million of expense related to potentially uncollectible customer accounts. As a percentage of net sales, selling, general and administrative expenses decreased from 7.7% for the year ended December 31, 2009 to 6.3% for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization expense decreased \$1.1 million, or 5.8%, from \$18.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to \$17.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. During the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, the Company has reduced capital expenditures to align our investments in new equipment with lower business activity levels, and also to use available cash for debt reduction. As we reduced capital spending, our depreciation costs decreased over time. The decrease was also due to lower amortization of customer list intangible assets (which is recognized on an accelerated basis and decreases over the life of the assets) recorded in connection with the acquisitions completed in May 2006, the acquisition of Lynch Metals in July 2007, and the Merger.

Operating income (loss). Operating income (loss) increased \$82.4 million, or 372.9%, from an operating loss of \$22.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to operating income of \$60.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase was primarily a result of the increase in sales discussed above, as well as the decreases in selling, general and administrative expenses, and depreciation and amortization, as discussed above. In addition, the J. Rubin acquisition also contributed \$1.1 million of incremental operating income for the period.

The increase in operating income during 2010 was partially offset by a \$3.3 million charge to operating expense for the termination of our advisory agreement with Apollo in connection with Metals USA Holdings' IPO. As a percentage of net sales, operating income (loss) increased from (2.0%) for the year ended December 31, 2009 to 4.7% for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Interest expense. Interest expense decreased \$7.7 million, or 17.1%, from \$44.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to \$37.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The decrease was primarily a function of reduced borrowings on our ABL facility. The weighted average outstanding balance on our ABL facility decreased from \$180.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to \$77.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Gain on extinguishment of debt. During the year ended December 31, 2009, we purchased \$48.7 million principal amount of the Metals USA Notes in the open market, resulting in a pretax gain of \$13.6 million (net of unamortized deferred financing costs) on debt extinguishment.

Results of Operations by Segment

	Fiscal Years Ended December 31,							Tons Shipped (1)	
	Net Sales	%	Operating Costs and Expenses	%	Operating Income (Loss)	%	Capital Spending	Direct	Toll
2011:									
Plates and Shapes	\$ 765.9	40.6%	\$ 682.9	39.0%	\$ 83.0	61.3%	\$ 6.4	567	29
Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous	1,046.7	55.5%	968.6	55.3%	78.1	57.7%	10.5	685	127
Building Products	85.8	4.5%	86.5	4.9%	(0.7)	-0.5%	4.6		
Corporate and other	(12.5)	-0.7%	12.6	0.7%	(25.1)	-18.6%	0.3	(12)	
Total	\$ 1,885.9	100.0%	\$ 1,750.6	100.0%	\$ 135.3	100.0%	\$ 21.8	1,240	156
2010:									
Plates and Shapes	\$ 538.0	41.6%	\$ 499.6	40.6%	\$ 38.4	63.7%	\$ 2.3	488	21
Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous	680.5	52.7%	635.2	51.6%	45.3	75.1%	0.7	528	30
Building Products	83.0	6.4%	83.6	6.8%	(0.6)	-1.0%			
Corporate and other	(9.4)	-0.7%	13.4	1.1%	(22.8)	-37.8%	1.0	(8)	
Total	\$ 1,292.1	100.0%	\$ 1,231.8	100.0%	\$ 60.3	100.0%	\$ 4.0	1,008	51
2009:									
Plates and Shapes	\$ 523.0	47.6%	\$ 537.8	48.0%	\$ (14.8)	67.0%	\$ 3.3	472	13
Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous	490.7	44.7%	474.2	42.3%	16.5	-74.7%	0.5	409	26
Building Products	93.2	8.5%	97.1	8.7%	(3.9)	17.6%			
Corporate and other	(8.2)	-0.7%	11.7	1.0%	(19.9)	90.0%	0.3	(7)	
Total	\$ 1,098.7	100.0%	\$ 1,120.8	100.0%	\$ (22.1)	100.0%	\$ 4.1	874	39

(1) Shipments are expressed in thousands of tons and are not an appropriate measure for the Building Products Group.
Segment Results Year Ended December 31, 2011 Compared to 2010

Plates and Shapes. Net sales increased \$227.9 million, or 42.4%, from \$538.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$765.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The increase was primarily attributable to a 21.6% increase in average realized prices, in addition to a 17.1% increase in shipments for the year ended December 31, 2011 compared to the year ended December 31, 2010. While we experienced increased demand from the defense and energy services end markets during 2011, the non-residential construction sector, which has been a key metal consuming end market for us in the past, continued to experience weak demand by historical standards.

Operating costs and expenses increased \$183.3 million, or 36.7%, from \$499.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$682.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The increase was primarily attributable to a 20.7% increase in average cost per ton, in addition to a 17.1% increase in shipments for the year ended December 31, 2011 compared to the year ended December 31, 2010. We incurred approximately \$0.6 million of facility closure and severance expenses related to the closure of a Plates and Shapes location in Hayward, California during the first quarter of 2011, which contributed to the increase in operating costs and expenses versus the prior year. Operating costs and expenses as a percentage of net sales decreased from 92.9% for the year ended December 31, 2010 to 89.2% for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Operating income increased \$44.6 million, or 116.1%, from \$38.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$83.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The increase primarily resulted from the increase in

net sales discussed above, in addition to lower operating costs and expenses as a percentage of net sales, as we continue to focus on cost control. Operating income as a percentage of net sales increased from 7.1% for the year ended December 31, 2010 to 10.8% for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous. Net sales increased \$366.2 million, or 53.8%, from \$680.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$1,046.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. Trident, ORMS and J. Rubin contributed a combined \$194.7 million of incremental sales for the year ended December 31, 2011. The remaining increase was primarily attributable to a 16.9% increase in shipments, in addition to a 7.7% increase in average realized prices for the year ended December 31, 2011 compared to the year ended December 31, 2010. Our recent acquisitions caused shipments during 2011 to include a larger proportion of toll processed tonnage than our historical norm. Toll processing describes performing processing services on customer-owned material. Net sales for toll processing equates to the processing service fee charged to the customer. Sales of non-ferrous metals accounted for approximately 40% of the segment's sales product mix for 2011, compared to approximately 38% for 2010. Our Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Group experienced increased demand in the automotive, heating and air conditioning equipment, lawn and garden equipment and aerospace equipment markets during 2011.

Operating costs and expenses increased \$333.4 million, or 52.5%, from \$635.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$968.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. Trident, ORMS and J. Rubin contributed a combined \$181.4 million of incremental operating costs and expenses to the segment for 2011. The remaining increase was primarily attributable to a 16.9% increase in shipments, in addition to a 7.8% increase in average cost per ton. Operating costs and expenses as a percentage of net sales decreased from 93.3% for the year ended December 31, 2010 to 92.5% for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Operating income increased \$32.8 million, or 72.4%, from \$45.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$78.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The increase was primarily attributable to the increase in volumes, combined with the increase in average realized prices discussed above. Trident, ORMS and J. Rubin contributed a combined \$13.1 million of incremental operating income for year ended December 31, 2011. Operating income as a percentage of net sales increased from 6.7% for the year ended December 31, 2010 to 7.5% for the same period of 2011.

Building Products. Net sales increased \$2.8 million, or 3.4%, from \$83.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$85.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. Although the Building Products segment experienced top-line growth during 2011 compared to the same period of 2010, this segment of our business continues to be affected by lower consumer spending on residential remodeling due to the effects of the economic recession. Weak job growth, high unemployment, declining home prices and subdued consumer confidence, in addition to decreased access to affordable credit for homeowners and residential remodeling contractors, have contributed to volatility in home improvement spending.

Operating costs and expenses increased \$2.9 million, or 3.5%, from \$83.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$86.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. Operating costs and expenses as a percentage of net sales for 2011 were approximately in line with 2010.

Operating loss increased from \$0.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$0.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. Results from operations for 2011 include a non-recurring gain of approximately \$0.7 million from a settlement with the previous owners of the Dura-Loc Roofing Systems, Ltd. (now Allmet Roofing Products) roofing business we acquired in 2006 to cover pre-acquisition warranty claims.

Corporate and other. This category reflects certain administrative costs and expenses management has not allocated to its industry segments. These costs include compensation for executive officers, insurance, professional fees for audit, tax and legal services and data processing expenses. The negative net sales amount represents the elimination of intercompany sales. The operating loss increased \$2.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 as compared to the year ended December 31, 2010 due primarily to higher professional fees and higher expenses associated with incentive compensation as a result of the underlying growth and improved performance of the business.

Segment Results Year Ended December 31, 2010 Compared to 2009

Plates and Shapes. Net sales increased \$15.0 million, or 2.9%, from \$523.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to \$538.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase was primarily attributable to a 4.9% increase in shipments, partially offset by a 2.0% decrease in average realized prices for the year ended December 31, 2010 compared to the year ended December 31, 2009. Product demand for the Plates and Shapes Group is more transactional in nature and is typically associated with industries and end markets that show strength during later stages of economic cycles. Although we experienced an increase in demand for structural steel during 2010, it was offset to a large extent by the dramatic decline in non-residential construction associated with the global recession that began in late 2008 and to a lesser extent by the U.S. deepwater drilling moratorium issued in May 2010. Intense competition negatively impacted pricing for structural steel throughout most of 2010.

Operating costs and expenses decreased \$38.2 million, or 7.1%, from \$537.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to \$499.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The decrease was primarily attributable to a 12.2% decrease in the average cost per ton, partially offset by a 4.9% increase in shipments for the year ended December 31, 2010 compared to the year ended December 31, 2009. Operating costs and expenses as a percentage of net sales decreased from 102.8% for the year ended December 31, 2009 to 92.9% for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Operating income (loss) increased by \$53.2 million, or 359.5%, from an operating loss of \$14.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to operating income of \$38.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase primarily resulted from lower operating costs and expenses, which were primarily the result of the decreases in average cost per ton discussed above in addition to cost reduction initiatives implemented during the year ended December 31, 2010 and prior thereto. Operating income (loss) as a percentage of net sales increased from (2.8%) for the year ended December 31, 2009 to 7.1% for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous. Net sales increased \$189.8 million, or 38.7%, from \$490.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to \$680.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The J. Rubin acquisition contributed \$17.8 million of incremental sales to this segment for the year ended December 31, 2010. The remaining increase was primarily attributable to a 25.3% increase in shipments, in addition to a 7.8% increase in average realized prices for the year ended December 31, 2010 compared to the year ended December 31, 2009. Sales of non-ferrous metals accounted for approximately 38% of the segment's sales product mix for 2010, compared to approximately 40% for 2009. Our Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Group experienced strong demand in the automotive, aerospace and lawn and garden equipment markets during 2010.

Operating costs and expenses increased \$161.0 million, or 34.0%, from \$474.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to \$635.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The J. Rubin acquisition contributed \$16.7 million of incremental operating costs and expenses to the segment for 2010. The remaining increase was primarily attributable to a 25.3% increase in shipments, in addition to a 6.9% increase in average cost per ton. Operating costs and expenses as a percentage of net sales decreased from 96.6% for the year ended December 31, 2009 to 93.3% for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Operating income increased by \$28.8 million, or 174.5%, from \$16.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to \$45.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase was primarily attributable to the increase in volumes, combined with the increase in average realized prices discussed above. Operating income as a percentage of net sales increased from 3.4% for the year ended December 31, 2009 to 6.7% for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Building Products. Net sales decreased \$10.2 million, or 10.9%, from \$93.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to \$83.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The sales decrease was driven by lower consumer spending on residential remodeling due to the effects of the economic recession and the resulting

depreciation of homes, as well as decreased access to affordable credit for homeowners and residential remodeling contractors. These factors have led to significant contraction in the home improvement remodeling industry.

Operating costs and expenses decreased \$13.5 million, or 13.9%, from \$97.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to \$83.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The decrease was primarily due to lower sales volume and a decrease in variable costs related to lower market demand, and to a lesser extent due to cost reduction measures which were implemented to align the cost structure of the segment to current levels of lower market demand. Operating costs and expenses as a percentage of net sales decreased from 104.2% for the year ended December 31, 2009 to 100.7% for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Operating loss decreased from an operating loss of \$3.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 to an operating loss of \$0.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The decrease was primarily attributable to lower operating costs, which decreased at a rate that was greater than the rate of decline in sales. Operating loss as a percentage of net sales was 0.7% for the year ended December 31, 2010 versus 4.2% for the year ended December 31, 2009.

Corporate and other. This category reflects certain administrative costs and expenses management has not allocated to its industry segments. These costs include compensation for executive officers, insurance, professional fees for audit, tax and legal services and data processing expenses. The negative net sales amount represents the elimination of intercompany sales. The operating loss increased \$2.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 as compared to the year ended December 31, 2009. During the second quarter of 2010, unamortized prepaid advisory fees of \$3.3 million were charged to expense as a result of the termination of our advisory agreement with Apollo in connection with Metals USA Holdings IPO. This charge was partially offset by a decrease in salaries and employee benefits of approximately \$1.0 million, in addition to lower professional and consulting fees of approximately \$0.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 versus 2009.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our primary sources of short-term liquidity are borrowings under the ABL facility and our cash flow from operations. We believe these resources will be sufficient to meet our working capital and capital expenditure requirements for the next year. As of December 31, 2011, we had \$227.7 million drawn on the ABL facility, our borrowing availability was \$163.8 million, and we had cash of \$5.9 million.

Our borrowing availability fluctuates daily with changes in eligible accounts receivables and inventory, less outstanding borrowings and letters of credit. See **Financing Activities** below. At March 7, 2012, we had \$253.8 million drawn on the ABL facility, our borrowing availability was \$162.8 million and we had cash of approximately \$6.2 million.

We generally meet long-term liquidity requirements, the repayment of debt and investment funding needs through additional borrowings under the ABL facility and the issuance of debt securities. At December 31, 2011, our long-term debt consisted of \$227.7 million of outstanding borrowings on the ABL facility, \$226.3 million principal amount of the Metals USA Notes, a note payable to Metals USA Holdings in the amount of \$47.0 million, IRBs with \$12.6 million principal amount outstanding, \$1.5 million in the form of a note payable in connection with the acquisition of Trident, and \$0.5 million of capital lease obligations. We believe that cash flow from operations, supplemented by cash available under the ABL facility, will be sufficient to enable us to meet our debt service and operational obligations as they come due for at least the next twelve months.

With respect to long-term liquidity, we believe that we will be able to meet our working capital, capital expenditure and debt service obligations. Our ability to meet long-term liquidity requirements is subject to obtaining additional debt and/or equity financing. Decisions by lenders and investors to enter into such

transactions with us will depend upon a number of factors, such as our historical and projected financial performance, compliance with the terms of our current credit agreements, industry and market trends, the availability of capital, and the relative attractiveness of alternative lending or investment opportunities.

Operating and Investing Activities

Although we do not produce any metal, our financial performance is affected by changes in metal prices. When metal prices rise, the prices at which we are able to sell our products generally increase over their historical costs; accordingly, our working capital (which consists primarily of accounts receivable and inventory) tends to increase in a rising price environment. Conversely, when metal prices fall, our working capital tends to decrease. Our working capital (current assets less current liabilities) increased from \$368.2 million at December 31, 2010 to \$488.0 million at December 31, 2011.

Changes in metal prices also affect our liquidity because of the time difference between our payment for our raw materials and our collection of cash from our customers. We sell our products and typically collect our accounts receivable within 45 days after the sale; however, we tend to pay for replacement materials (which are more expensive when metal prices are rising) over a much shorter period, primarily to benefit from early-payment discounts that are substantially higher than our cost of incremental debt. As a result, when metal prices are rising, we tend to draw more on the ABL facility to cover the cash flow cycle from material purchase to cash collection. When metal prices fall, we can replace our inventory at lower cost and, thus, generally the ABL facility utilization is reduced. We believe our cash flow from operations, supplemented with the cash available under the ABL facility, will provide sufficient liquidity to meet the challenges and obligations we face during the current metal price environment. Additionally, we intend to look for value-added business opportunities that we can acquire at reasonable prices. We intend to use cash flows from operations and borrowing availability under the ABL facility to fund future investments.

Cash Flows

The following discussion of the principal sources and uses of cash should be read in conjunction with our Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows which are set forth under Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.

Year Ended December 31, 2011

During the year ended December 31, 2011, net cash used in operating activities was \$17.1 million. Our working capital increased during 2011 as we experienced increasing prices and end market demand. Increases of \$48.6 million in our accounts receivable balance and \$93.6 million in our inventory value were the primary contributors to operating cash outflows for the period. Accounts receivable increased due to stronger sales which were primarily driven by sharply higher shipments versus the prior year.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$109.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, and consisted primarily of \$88.1 million of acquisition costs, net of cash acquired, for the Trident acquisition, which closed on March 11, 2011, and capital expenditures of \$21.8 million. The most significant internal capital project for 2011 was the construction of our Thomasville, Alabama Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous service center.

Net cash provided by financing activities was \$117.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, which consisted of net borrowings on the ABL facility of \$121.7 million offset by \$2.9 million of cash paid for loan financing costs and \$1.4 million of debt repayments.

Year Ended December 31, 2010

During the year ended December 31, 2010, net cash used in operating activities was \$30.2 million. This amount was primarily attributable to increases in accounts receivable and inventories. Changes in working

capital during 2010 reflected improving business conditions as commodity prices and demand continued to increase. We increased inventory tonnage on hand commensurate with increased levels of shipments to our customers, while prices increased moderately throughout the year, despite some intermittent volatility. Our accounts receivable increased due to higher sales levels in 2010.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$31.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, and consisted primarily of \$28.0 million for the acquisition of J. Rubin and ORMS in June and December, respectively. Capital expenditures amounted to \$4.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. There were no material individual capital investment projects specific to any facilities during 2010.

Net cash provided by financing activities was \$71.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, and consisted primarily of borrowings on the intercompany loan facility of \$47.0 million in addition to net borrowings under the ABL facility of \$31.0 million.

Year Ended December 31, 2009

During the year ended December 31, 2009, net cash provided by operating activities was \$248.9 million. This amount was primarily attributable to decreases in accounts receivable and inventories. Changes in working capital during 2009 reflect the change in the business environment that began during the fourth quarter of 2008, when we began reducing inventory purchases as a result of weaker demand and declining prices. Our accounts receivable decreased due to lower sales levels in 2009.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$7.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, and consisted of proceeds from sales of assets of \$0.5 million offset by \$4.1 million of capital expenditures and \$4.2 million for the acquisition of VR Laser. For the year ended December 31, 2009, the most significant internal capital projects were expansion of our plate processing machinery and equipment at our Tulsa, Oklahoma and York, Pennsylvania Plates and Shapes facilities.

Net cash used in financing activities was \$328.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, and consisted primarily of net repayments on the ABL facility of \$293.0 million, in addition to repayments of other long-term debt of \$35.6 million.

Covenant Compliance

Adjusted EBITDA

Adjusted EBITDA (as defined by the loan and security agreement governing the ABL facility and the Metals USA Notes Indenture) is defined as EBITDA further adjusted to exclude certain non-cash and non-recurring items. Adjusted EBITDA is not a defined term under GAAP and should not be used as an alternative to net income as an indicator of operating performance or to cash flow as a measure of liquidity.

Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio

Under the ABL facility, the FCCR is determined on a rolling four-quarter period, often referred to as a last-twelve month period, by dividing (1) the sum of Adjusted EBITDA of Metals USA minus income taxes paid in cash minus non-financed capital expenditures by (2) the sum of certain distributions paid in cash, cash interest expense and scheduled principal reductions on debt paid by Metals USA. Should borrowing availability under the ABL facility fall below Minimum Availability, we must maintain a FCCR of at least 1.0 to 1.0, measured on a trailing four-quarter basis. As of December 31, 2011, our borrowing availability under the ABL facility was \$163.8 million. In addition, the FCCR also is an important measure of our liquidity and affects our ability to take certain actions, including paying dividends to stockholders and making acquisitions.

Although the Metals USA Notes Indenture also contains covenants that restrict our ability to incur indebtedness and pay dividends based on our FCCR, the definition and application of the FCCR contained in the Indenture differs from the definition and application of the FCCR in the ABL facility in that the numerator of the FCCR as defined in the Indenture does not include cash income taxes or non-financed capital expenditures and the denominator of the FCCR as defined in the Indenture does not include the sum of certain distributions paid in cash and scheduled principal reductions on debt, and separate FCCRs are required under certain circumstances. See *Financing Activities* below.

Because access to debt capital is currently and in the future will continue to be important to us, we believe that the inclusion of supplementary adjustments to EBITDA applied in presenting Adjusted EBITDA are appropriate to provide additional information to investors to demonstrate compliance with the covenants in our debt agreements. Failure to comply with the FCCR covenant of the ABL facility can result in limiting our long-term growth prospects by hindering our ability to incur future indebtedness or grow through acquisitions. As of December 31, 2011, our FCCR was 2.82. As of December 31, 2011, we had \$163.8 million of additional borrowing capacity under the ABL facility.

The Metals USA Notes Indenture contains covenants that restrict our ability to take certain actions, such as incurring additional debt and making certain acquisitions, if we are unable to meet defined Adjusted EBITDA to fixed charge coverage ratios (as defined). The covenants in the Indenture require us to have an Adjusted EBITDA to fixed charge coverage ratio (measured on a trailing four-quarter basis and calculated differently from the fixed charge coverage ratio as defined by the ABL facility) of 2.0 to 1.0 to incur ratio indebtedness. Based on the calculations for the trailing four quarters, we are able to satisfy these covenants and incur additional indebtedness under these ratios, including for acquisition purposes, under the Indenture.

Our inability to satisfy the terms of the negative covenants in our debt agreements do not, by themselves, constitute covenant violations or events of default. Rather, they are event-related restrictions that may limit or prohibit the Company from taking certain corporate actions.

Limitations of Adjusted EBITDA

There are material limitations associated with making the adjustments to our earnings to calculate Adjusted EBITDA and using such a non-GAAP financial measure as compared to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measures. For instance, Adjusted EBITDA does not include:

interest expense, and, because we have borrowed money in order to finance our operations, interest expense is a necessary element of our costs and ability to generate revenue;

income tax expense, and because the payment of taxes is part of our operations, income tax expense is a necessary element of our costs and ability to operate; and

depreciation and amortization expense, and, because we use capital assets, depreciation and amortization expense is a necessary element of our costs and ability to generate revenue.

In addition, fixed charges should not be considered an alternative to interest expense.

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Below is a reconciliation of net income (loss) to EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA and net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(in millions, except ratios)		
Net income (loss)	\$ 61.2	\$ 14.9	\$ (35.7)
Depreciation and amortization (1)	23.3	19.8	21.2
Interest expense	42.2	37.2	44.9
Gain on extinguishment of debt			(13.6)
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	31.8	8.2	(18.0)
Other expense	0.1		0.3
EBITDA	158.6	80.1	(0.9)
Covenant defined adjustments:			
Stock options and grant expense (2)	2.4	1.2	0.4
Facilities closure (3)	0.6		2.1
Advisory agreement fees and other costs (4)		3.8	1.2
Acquisition expenses (5)	1.6		
Adjusted EBITDA	163.2	85.1	2.8
Loss on sale of property and equipment		0.3	
Provision for bad debts	2.9	2.4	2.9
Amortization of debt issuance costs	2.9	4.0	3.5
Deferred income taxes	15.4	1.6	4.2
Excess tax benefit from stock-based compensation		(0.1)	
Advisory agreement termination charge		3.3	
Interest expense	(42.2)	(37.2)	(44.9)
Provision for income taxes	(31.8)	(8.2)	18.0
Other expense	(1.0)		(0.3)
Facilities closure	(0.6)		(2.1)
Advisory agreement fees and other costs		(3.8)	(1.2)
Acquisition expenses (5)	(1.6)		
Changes in assets and liabilities	(124.3)	(77.6)	266.0
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	\$ (17.1)	\$ (30.2)	\$ 248.9
Net cash used in investing activities	\$ (109.6)	\$ (31.3)	\$ (7.8)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	\$ 117.4	\$ 71.2	\$ (328.6)
Fixed charge coverage ratio numerator (6)	\$ 119.9	\$ 88.5	\$ 15.8
Fixed charge coverage ratio denominator (6)	\$ 42.5	\$ 36.3	\$ 37.6
FCCR (6)	2.82	2.44	0.42

- (1) Includes depreciation for Building Products that is included in cost of sales.
- (2) Primarily stock-based compensation expense.
- (3) This amount represents charges for the closure of nine facilities in our Building Products Group and one facility in our Plates and Shapes Group during 2009, in addition to one facility in our Plates and Shapes Group during 2011.
- (4) Primarily represents expenses related to the advisory agreement we had with Apollo.
- (5) Primarily related to the acquisition of Trident, which closed in March 2011.
- (6) These amounts represent the FCCR numerator, the FCCR denominator, and the FCCR, each as defined by the ABL facility.

Financing Activities

The ABL Facility

On December 17, 2010, Flag Intermediate, Metals USA, and certain subsidiaries of Metals USA entered into an amended and restated loan and security agreement (the ABL Credit Agreement) with the lenders party thereto and Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent and collateral agent.

The ABL Credit Agreement provides for borrowings of up to \$500.0 million of Tranche A commitments and \$35.0 million of first-in, first-out (FILO) Tranche A-1 commitments (which may be increased up to \$750.0 million at the option of Metals USA, including \$35.0 million under the FILO tranche), under the 5-year, senior secured ABL facility that amended and restated Metals USA's then-existing \$625.0 million senior secured asset-based credit facility that was scheduled to mature on November 30, 2011.

On March 9, 2011, we activated \$25.0 million of the FILO tranche. The ABL facility permits us to borrow on a revolving basis through the earlier of November 30, 2015 and 60 days prior to the scheduled maturity of the Metals USA Notes, unless the Metals USA Notes are refinanced to a date more than 5 years and 60 days after the closing date of the ABL facility and/or repaid prior to such date. Substantially all of our subsidiaries are borrowers under the ABL facility.

On August 10, 2011, we amended the ABL facility by reducing the borrowing costs on the Tranche A commitments by 75 basis points and reducing the borrowing costs on the FILO tranche by 62.5 basis points. Under the amendment, the maturity date of the ABL facility was extended to the earlier of August 10, 2016 or 60 days prior to the scheduled maturity of the Metals USA Notes, unless the Metals USA Notes are refinanced to a date more than 5 years and 60 days after the closing date of the ABL facility and/or repaid prior to such date. The ABL facility remains subject to the same acceleration provision with respect to the maturity of the Metals USA Notes described above.

Borrowing Base. The maximum availability under the ABL facility is based on eligible receivables and eligible inventory, subject to certain reserves. Our borrowing availability fluctuates daily with changes in eligible receivables and inventory, less outstanding borrowings and letters of credit. The borrowing base is equal to:

85% of the net amount of eligible accounts receivable, plus

the lesser of (x) 80% of the lesser of the original cost or market value of eligible inventory and (y) 90% of the net orderly liquidation value of eligible inventory, plus

an incremental amount of the lesser of (x) the maximum commitments under the FILO tranche and (y) the sum of (i) 5% of the net amount of eligible accounts receivable and (ii) 5% of the net orderly liquidation value of eligible inventory during the effectiveness of any FILO tranche, less

reserves.

The ABL facility provides sub-limits for up to \$25.0 million of swingline loans and up to \$100.0 million for the issuance of letters of credit. Both the face amount of any outstanding letters of credit and any swingline loans will reduce borrowing availability under the ABL facility on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

As of December 31, 2011, we had \$415.4 million of eligible collateral, \$227.7 million in outstanding advances, \$23.9 million in open letters of credit and \$163.8 million of additional borrowing capacity. As of December 31, 2011, we had \$5.9 million of cash.

At March 7, 2012, we had \$439.3 million of eligible collateral, \$253.8 million in outstanding advances, \$22.7 million in open letters of credit and \$162.8 million of additional borrowing capacity. As of March 7, 2011, we had approximately \$6.2 million of cash.

Guarantees and Security. Substantially all of our subsidiaries are defined as borrowers under the ABL Credit Agreement. The obligations under the ABL facility are guaranteed by Flag Intermediate and certain of our

domestic subsidiaries and are secured by a first-priority lien and security interest in, among other things, accounts receivable, inventory and deposit accounts of Flag Intermediate, Metals USA and the subsidiaries of Metals USA party to the ABL Credit Agreement and a second-priority lien and security interest in, among other things, substantially all other tangible and intangible personal and real property owned by such companies, subject to certain exceptions.

Interest Rate and Fees. At Metals USA's option, interest accrues on the loans made under the ABL facility at either LIBOR plus a specified margin (set at 1.75% (3.25% for the FILO tranche) as of December 31, 2011), or the base rate (which is based off of the federal funds rate plus 0.50%, Bank of America's prime rate or LIBOR plus 1.00%), plus a specified margin (set at 0.75% (2.25% for the FILO tranche) as of December 31, 2011). Under the ABL facility amendment that was executed on August 10, 2011, the specified margins over LIBOR were reduced by 75 basis points for the Tranche A commitments and 62.5 basis points for the FILO tranche. The marginal rates vary based on our average monthly excess availability (as defined in the ABL Credit Agreement). The applicable base rate and the effective LIBOR rate for the loans made under the ABL facility were 3.25% and 0.55%, respectively, as of December 31, 2011.

A commitment fee is payable on any unused commitment equal to 0.25% per annum to the lenders under the ABL facility if utilization under the facility exceeds 40.0% of the total commitments under the facility and a commitment fee equal to 0.375% per annum if utilization under the facility is less than or equal to 40.0% of the total commitments under the facility. Customary letter of credit fees are also payable, as necessary.

Certain Conditions Precedent and Covenants. As a condition precedent to any borrowing or issuance of a letter of credit, a material adverse effect shall not have occurred or exist. The ABL facility contains customary representations, warranties and covenants, including limitations on our ability to incur or guarantee additional debt, subject to certain exceptions, pay dividends, or make redemptions and repurchases, with respect to capital stock, repay debt, create or incur certain liens, make certain loans or investments, make acquisitions or investments, engage in mergers, acquisitions, asset sales, and engage in certain transactions with affiliates. The ABL facility requires a lock-box arrangement for collection of accounts receivable and proceeds from sales of inventory. Metals USA may make withdrawals from the lock-box unless an event of default exists or borrowing availability is less than the greater of (i) \$50.0 million and (ii) 12.5% of the lesser of (A) the borrowing base (not to exceed \$62.5 million) and (B) the aggregate commitment. We do not have to maintain a minimum FCCR as long as our borrowing availability is greater than or equal to the Minimum Availability, defined as the greater of (i) \$45.0 million and (ii) 10% of the lesser of the borrowing base and the aggregate commitment. We must maintain an FCCR of at least 1.0 to 1.0 if borrowing availability falls below the Minimum Availability. For purposes of determining covenant compliance, the FCCR is determined by dividing (i) the sum of Adjusted EBITDA (as defined in the ABL Credit Agreement) minus income taxes paid in cash (excluding certain specified deferred taxes) minus non-financed capital expenditures by (ii) the sum of certain distributions paid in cash, cash interest expense and scheduled principal reductions on debt, and is calculated based on such amounts for the most recent period of four consecutive fiscal quarters for which financial statements are available. FCCR and Adjusted EBITDA are each calculated on a pro forma basis. As of December 31, 2011, our FCCR was 2.82.

Certain Events of Default and Remedies. The ABL facility contains events of default with respect to: default in payment of principal when due, default in the payment of interest, fees or other amounts after a specified grace period, material breach of the representations or warranties, default in the performance of covenants, a default that causes or permits acceleration under any indebtedness with a principal amount in excess of a specified amount, certain bankruptcy events, certain ERISA violations, invalidity of certain security agreements or guarantees, material judgments, or a change of control. In the event of default, the ABL Credit Agreement may permit a majority of the lenders to: (i) restrict the amount of or refuse to make revolving loans; (ii) cause customer receipts to be applied against borrowings under the ABL facility which would cause Metals USA to suffer a rapid loss of liquidity and restrict the ability to operate on a day-to-day basis; (iii) restrict or refuse to provide letters of credit; or ultimately: (iv) terminate the commitments and the agreement; or (v) declare any or all obligations to be immediately due and payable if such default is not cured in the specified period required.

Any payment default or acceleration under the ABL facility would also result in a default under the Metals USA Notes that would provide the holders of the Metals USA Notes with the right to demand immediate repayment.

Interest Rate Swaps. In February 2008, \$250.0 million notional amount of outstanding borrowings under the ABL facility were swapped from a floating LIBOR-based rate to a fixed rate. The swaps entitled us to receive quarterly payments of interest at a floating rate indexed to three-month LIBOR and pay a fixed rate that ranged from 2.686% to 2.997%, converting a portion of the outstanding borrowings on our ABL facility from a floating rate obligation to a fixed rate obligation. Pretax realized gains and losses from the Company's ABL facility interest rate swaps which were recognized in earnings during the year ended December 31, 2011 amounted to \$0.1 million of additional interest expense, consisting of \$1.8 million of settlements, offset by \$1.7 million of changes in the fair value of derivatives. The Company's ABL facility interest rate swaps expired during the second quarter of 2011.

The Metals USA Notes

On the closing date of the Merger, we received approximately \$268.0 million of net cash proceeds from the sale of \$275.0 million in aggregate principal amount of the Metals USA Notes, after deducting expenses of the offering. Interest on the Metals USA Notes accrues at the rate of 11 1/8% per annum and is payable semiannually in arrears on June 1 and December 1 and commenced on June 1, 2006. The Metals USA Notes will mature on December 1, 2015. We may redeem some or all of the Metals USA Notes at any time on or after December 1, 2010, at a predetermined redemption price plus accrued and unpaid interest and additional interest, if any, to the applicable redemption date. If we experience a change of control and we do not redeem the Metals USA Notes, we will be required to make an offer to repurchase the Metals USA Notes at a price equal to 101% of the principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest and additional interest, if any, to the date of repurchase.

Under the Metals USA Notes Indenture, we are required to pay interest on overdue principal at 1% per annum in excess of the above rate and are required to pay interest on overdue installments of interest at such higher rate to the extent lawful. The Metals USA Notes Indenture contains the covenants described under [Covenant Compliance](#) above.

The Metals USA Notes Indenture contains certain customary events of default, including (subject, in some cases, to customary cure period thresholds) defaults based on (1) the failure to make payments under the Metals USA Notes Indenture when due, (2) breach of covenants, (3) cross-defaults to other material indebtedness, (4) bankruptcy events and (5) material judgments. We were in compliance with all covenants as of December 31, 2011.

Industrial Revenue Bonds

Metals USA is a conduit bond obligor on IRBs issued by the municipalities of Muskogee, Oklahoma and Jeffersonville, Indiana. As of December 31, 2011, our total indebtedness under the IRBs was \$12.6 million. The IRBs are secured by certain real estate, leasehold improvements and equipment acquired with proceeds from the IRBs. The Muskogee IRB is due in one lump sum of \$5.7 million on May 1, 2023. The Jeffersonville IRBs had principal amounts outstanding of \$4.0 million and \$2.9 million as of December 31, 2011, and are being redeemed in varying amounts annually through August 2021 and December 2027, respectively. The interest rates assessed on the IRBs vary from month to month. As of December 31, 2011, the weighted average interest rate on the IRBs was 0.26%. The IRBs place various restrictions on certain of our subsidiaries, including but not limited to maintenance of required insurance coverage, maintenance of certain financial ratios, limits on capital expenditures and maintenance of tangible net worth and are supported by letters of credit. We were in compliance with all covenants as of December 31, 2011.

Interest Rate Swaps. In November 2004 and December 2007, ORMS, which we acquired on December 31, 2010, entered into two separate interest rate swap agreements in connection with the Jeffersonville IRBs

discussed above. The notional amounts under these swaps correspond to the principal amounts of the IRBs. The first swap agreement matured in December 2011. The second swap agreement matures in December 2017, and had notional value of \$4.0 million as of December 31, 2011, an amount that is reduced on an annual basis as the IRB is redeemed. Under the swaps, the notional amounts under the Jeffersonville IRBs were swapped from a floating rate based on a rate established by the Securities Industry and Financial Market Association (SIFMA) to fixed rates of 4.00% and 3.75%, converting the outstanding borrowings on the Jeffersonville IRBs from floating rate obligations to fixed rate obligations. Pretax realized gains and losses from these derivatives are recognized in earnings as an addition or reduction to interest expense, consisting of cash settlements and changes in the fair value of derivatives. The fair value of the ORMS interest rate swap was \$0.6 million at December 31, 2011, which was classified as other long-term liabilities in the consolidated balance sheet.

Intercompany Loan Agreement

Metals USA Holdings has made advances to Metals USA through an intercompany loan agreement, as amended, (the Loan Agreement), which totaled \$47.0 million as of December 31, 2011 and 2010. The advances have been primarily to accommodate working capital expansion and the J. Rubin acquisition discussed in Note 2 to our Consolidated Financial Statements. In June 2011, the Loan Agreement was amended to extend the maturity date to June 15, 2017, and to modify the rate at which borrowings under the Loan Agreement bear interest to LIBOR plus 6.00% per annum. The aggregate amount of Metals USA Holdings' commitment under the Loan Agreement is \$50.0 million. For the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, Metals USA recognized \$5.6 million and \$1.8 million, respectively, of interest expense related to the Loan Agreement.

Restricted Payments

Both the ABL facility and the Metals USA Notes Indenture contain restrictions as to the payment of dividends. Under the ABL Credit Agreement, general distributions are unlimited if the FCCR is at least 1.1:1.0 and availability (including a 30 day lookback) exceeds the greater of (i) \$50.0 million and (ii) 15% of the lesser of the borrowing base (not to exceed \$75.0 million) and the aggregate commitments. As of December 31, 2011, our FCCR was 2.82, and our borrowing availability was \$163.8 million.

As of December 31, 2011, \$28.9 million was available for general distribution under the restricted payment covenant contained in the Metals USA Notes Indenture. As of December 31, 2011, Flag Intermediate and its wholly owned subsidiary, Metals USA, had \$220.7 million of total stockholders' equity.

We believe that cash flow from operations, supplemented by cash available under the ABL facility, will be sufficient to enable us to meet our debt service and operational obligations as they come due for at least the next twelve months.

Commitments and Contingencies

From time to time, we are involved in a variety of claims, lawsuits and other disputes arising in the ordinary course of business. We believe the resolution of these matters and the incurrence of their related costs and expenses should not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations, liquidity or cash flows.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We were not engaged in off-balance sheet arrangements through any unconsolidated, limited purpose entities and no material guarantees of debt or other commitments to third parties existed at December 31, 2011.

Letters of credit outstanding at December 31, 2011 consist of letters of credit in the amount of \$14.0 million in conjunction with the IRBs and other letters of credit aggregating \$9.9 million (total letters of credit of \$23.9 million at December 31, 2011). Other letters of credit consist primarily of collateral support for our property and casualty insurance program. All letters of credit reduce the amount available to borrow under the ABL facility.

Contractual Obligations

We enter into operating leases for many of our facility, vehicle and equipment needs. These leases allow us to conserve cash by paying a monthly lease rental fee for the use of, rather than purchase of, facilities, vehicles and equipment. At the end of the lease, we have no further obligation to the lessor. We have varying amounts of open purchase orders that are subject to renegotiation/cancellation by either party as to quantity or price. Generally, the amounts outstanding relate to delivery periods of up to 12 weeks from the date of the purchase order.

Our future contractual obligations as of December 31, 2011 include the following:

	Total	For the Fiscal Years Ended December 31,					Beyond
		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
				(in millions)			
ABL facility (1)	\$ 227.7	\$	\$	\$	\$ 227.7	\$	\$
Purchase obligations	292.3	292.3					
Metals USA Notes	327.1	25.2	25.2	25.2	251.5		
IRBs (2)	12.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	10.5
Due to Parent	47.0						47.0
Other obligations (3)	8.0	1.2	1.3	1.2	0.7	0.6	3.0
Operating lease obligations	37.1	11.5	8.3	6.2	5.4	2.6	3.1
Total (4)	\$ 951.8	\$ 330.6	\$ 35.2	\$ 33.0	\$ 485.7	\$ 3.7	\$ 63.6

- (1) The amounts stated do not include interest costs. The ABL facility bears interest based upon a margin over reference rates established within a specific pricing grid. The marginal rates will vary based on availability. The applicable base rate and the effective LIBOR rate were 3.25% and 0.55%, respectively, on December 31, 2011.
- (2) The amounts do not include interest costs. The interest rates assessed on the IRBs vary from month to month based on an index of mutual bonds. The weighted average IRB rate was 0.26% as of December 31, 2011.
- (3) Consists of (i) note payable in connection with the Trident acquisition of approximately \$1.5 million, (ii) capital lease of approximately \$0.5 million, and (iii) a multiemployer pension fund withdrawal liability of approximately \$6.0 million.
- (4) Excludes payments for unrecognized tax benefits. We believe it is reasonably possible that a decrease of up to \$1.0 million in the consolidated liability for unrecognized tax benefits related to federal and state tax uncertainties may occur within the next twelve months. In addition, we believe that it is reasonably possible that approximately \$1.5 million of other remaining unrecognized tax benefits, each of which is individually insignificant, may be recognized within the next twelve months as a result of a lapse in the statute of limitations. For additional information see Note 10 to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8 of this Form 10-K.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations is based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP. The preparation of these consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities. Estimates are based on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The result of this process forms the basis for making judgments about the carrying value of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. We review our estimates and judgments on a regular, ongoing basis. Actual results may differ from these estimates due to changed circumstances and conditions.

The following accounting policies and estimates are considered critical in light of the potentially material impact that the estimates, judgments and uncertainties affecting the application of these policies might have on our reported financial information.

Accounts Receivable

We generally recognize revenue as product is shipped (risk of loss for our products generally passes at time of shipment), net of provisions for estimated returns. Financial instruments, which potentially subject us to concentrations of credit risk, consist principally of trade accounts and notes receivable. Collections on our accounts receivable are made through several lockboxes maintained by our lenders. Credit risk associated with concentration of cash deposits is low as we have the right of offset with our lenders for the substantial portion of our cash balances. Concentrations of credit risk with respect to trade accounts receivable are within several industries. Generally, credit is extended once appropriate credit history and references have been obtained. We perform ongoing credit evaluations of customers and set credit limits based upon reviews of customers' current credit information and payment history. We monitor customer payments and maintain a provision for estimated credit losses based on historical experience and specific customer collection issues that we have identified. Provisions to the allowance for doubtful accounts are made monthly and adjustments are made periodically based upon our expected ability to collect all such accounts. Generally we do not require collateral for the extension of credit.

Each month we consider all available information when assessing the adequacy of the provision for allowances, claims and doubtful accounts. Adjustments made with respect to the allowance for doubtful accounts often relate to improved information not previously available. Uncertainties with respect to the allowance for doubtful accounts are inherent in the preparation of financial statements. The rate of future credit losses may not be similar to past experience.

Inventories

As of December 31, 2011 we had inventories of \$402.5 million. Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market (LCM). Our inventories are accounted for using a variety of methods including specific identification, average cost and the first-in, first-out method of accounting. Under the LCM concept, the Company is required to recognize an additional expense in cost of sales in the current period for any inventory whose replacement cost has declined below its carrying cost.

We conduct an LCM inventory valuation annually as of December 31 or more frequently if circumstances indicate potential write-downs. The LCM valuation requires us to review product specific facts and circumstances, including current selling prices, estimated costs to complete and deliver the product, expectations for normal profit margins, costs currently in inventory, as well as current replacement costs.

In addition to making an assessment of current selling prices relative to product cost, we also review customer purchasing trends and take into consideration the current economic conditions as they relate to our industry and the end-use industries of our customers.

During 2008 and 2009, the global financial crisis caused significant contraction in industrial production world-wide. The reduction in demand for metals was driven by widespread inventory destocking throughout the supply chain as industry participants looked to preserve liquidity by reducing their investment in working capital. As a direct consequence of the rapid and unprecedented decline in metals prices we experienced as a result of the economic recession discussed above, we recorded \$53.4 million of write-downs during the year ended December 31, 2009, as compared to \$6.8 million of write-downs during the year ended December 31, 2008, for inventory LCM adjustments in our metal service center businesses.

We have not recorded any LCM adjustments since 2009, as metal selling prices relative to metal costs have been more favorable since approximately the second quarter of 2009. We continue to manage our inventory by working to optimize the tradeoff between holding inventory and forgoing incremental sales.

We regularly review inventory on hand and may periodically record provisions for damaged and slow-moving inventory based on the factors discussed above. Adjustments made with respect to inventory valuation often relate to improved information not previously available. Uncertainties with respect to inventory valuation are inherent in the preparation of financial statements. The rate of future losses associated with damaged or slow moving inventory, or LCM write-downs, may not be similar to past experience.

Goodwill

The acquisition method of accounting for business combinations requires the Company to make use of estimates and judgments to allocate the purchase price paid for acquisitions to the fair value of the net tangible and identifiable intangible assets. We perform a goodwill impairment test annually as of October 31. In addition, goodwill would be tested more frequently if changes in circumstances or the occurrence of events indicates that a potential impairment exists.

We test for impairment of goodwill by first making a qualitative assessment of whether it is more likely than not that a reporting unit's fair value is less than its carrying amount before applying the two-step goodwill impairment test. If we conclude that it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, we proceed to the two-step approach as prescribed in Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 350 Intangibles Goodwill and Other (ASC 350). The first step of the impairment test compares the fair value of a reporting unit with its carrying value including assigned goodwill. The second step of the impairment test is required only in situations where the carrying value of the reporting unit exceeds its fair value as determined in the first step. In such instances, we compare the implied fair value of goodwill to its carrying value. The implied fair value of goodwill is determined by allocating the fair value of a reporting unit to all of the assets and liabilities of that unit as if the reporting unit had been acquired in a business combination and the fair value of the reporting unit was the price paid to acquire the reporting unit. The excess of the fair value of a reporting unit over the amounts assigned to its assets and liabilities is the implied fair value of goodwill. An impairment loss is recorded to the extent that the carrying amount of the reporting unit goodwill exceeds the implied fair value of that goodwill.

We use the present value of future cash flows to determine fair value in combination with the market approach. While we believe that our keys assumptions and estimates are consistent with those a hypothetical market participant would use given circumstances that are present at the time the estimates are made, future operating results could reasonably differ from our estimates and could require a provision for impairment in a future period.

New Accounting Pronouncements

In December 2010, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2010-29 Business Combinations (Topic 805): Disclosure of Supplementary Pro Forma Information for Business Combinations (ASU 2010-29) which amended ASC Topic 805 Business Combinations to specify that if a public entity presents comparative financial statements, the entity should disclose revenue and earnings of the combined entity as though the business combination that occurred during the year had occurred as of the beginning of the comparable prior annual reporting period only. The ASU also expands the supplemental pro forma disclosures under ASC Topic 805 to include a description of the nature and the amount of material, nonrecurring pro forma adjustments directly attributable to the business combination included in the reported pro forma revenue and earnings. The ASU is effective prospectively for business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period beginning on or after December 15, 2010. We have disclosed the required information in accordance with ASU 2010-29 as it relates to the Trident acquisition described in Note 2 to our consolidated financial statements.

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-05 Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income (ASU 2011-05) which will amend some of the guidance in ASC Topic 220

Comprehensive Income regarding how companies must present comprehensive income. The main provisions of ASU 2011-05 provide that an entity that reports items of other comprehensive income has the option to present comprehensive income in either a single statement or two separate statements. A single statement would contain the components of net income and total net income, the components of other comprehensive income and total other comprehensive income, and a total for all comprehensive income. In a two-statement approach, an entity must present the components of net income and total net income in the first statement. That statement must be immediately followed by a financial statement that presents the components of other comprehensive income, a total for other comprehensive income, and a total for all comprehensive income. The ASU is intended to increase the prominence of other comprehensive income in financial statements and to facilitate convergence of U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards. The amendments in ASU 2011-05 are to be applied retrospectively. For public entities, the ASU is effective for fiscal years and interim periods within those years beginning after December 15, 2011. The Company expects to include the expanded disclosures about comprehensive income within its financial statements beginning in the first quarter of 2012. ASU 2011-05 impacts presentation only and will have no effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-08 Intangibles—Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Testing Goodwill for Impairment (ASU 2011-08) which amends the guidance in ASC Topic 350 Intangibles—Goodwill and Other on testing goodwill for impairment. ASU 2011-08 permits an entity to make a qualitative assessment of whether it is more likely than not that a reporting unit's fair value is less than its carrying amount before applying the two-step goodwill impairment test. If an entity concludes that it is not more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, it would not be required to perform the two-step impairment test for that reporting unit. The ASU's objective is to simplify how an entity tests goodwill for impairment. ASU 2011-08 is effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011. Early adoption is permitted. The Company elected to adopt ASU 2011-08 in the fourth quarter of 2011, coinciding with its 2011 annual goodwill impairment test. The adoption of ASU 2011-08 did not have a material impact on our financial statements.

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

In the normal course of our business, we are exposed to market risk, primarily from changes in interest rates and the cost of metal we hold in inventory. We continually monitor exposure to market risk and develop appropriate strategies to manage this risk. With respect to our metal purchases, there is no recognized market to purchase derivative financial instruments to reduce the inventory exposure risks. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Liquidity and Capital Resources for a discussion of market risk relative to steel prices.

Our exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates relates primarily to the ABL facility, which is subject to variable interest rates. As of December 31, 2011, outstanding borrowings under the ABL facility were \$227.7 million. Based on the weighted average borrowings outstanding on the ABL facility during the year ended December 31, 2011, a one percent increase or decrease in the weighted average facility rate would have resulted in a change to pretax interest expense of approximately \$2.2 million for the period.

In November 2004 and December 2007, ORMS, which we acquired on December 31, 2010, entered into two separate interest rate swap agreements in connection with the Jeffersonville IRBs discussed above. The notional amounts under these swaps correspond to the principal amounts of the IRBs. The first swap agreement matured in December 2011. The second swap agreement matures in December 2017, and had notional value of \$4.0 million as of December 31, 2011, an amount that is reduced on an annual basis as the IRB is redeemed. Under the swaps, the notional amounts under the Jeffersonville IRBs were swapped from a floating rate based on a rate established by SIFMA to fixed rates of 4.00% and 3.75%, converting the outstanding borrowings on the Jeffersonville IRBs from floating rate obligations to fixed rate obligations. Pretax realized gains and losses from these derivatives are recognized in earnings as an addition or reduction to interest expense, consisting of cash

settlements and changes in the fair value of derivatives. The fair value of the ORMS interest rate swap was \$0.6 million at December 31, 2011, which was classified as other long-term liabilities in the consolidated balance sheet.

At December 31, 2011, \$226.3 million aggregate principal amount of Metals USA Notes were outstanding with a fixed interest rate of 11 ¹/₈%. Changes in market interest rates will not impact cash interest payable on the Metals USA Notes. At March 2, 2012, the Metals USA Notes were traded at approximately 103.88% of face value, based on quoted market prices.

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholder of

Flag Intermediate Holdings Corporation

Fort Lauderdale, Florida

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Flag Intermediate Holdings Corporation and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholder's equity and comprehensive income (loss), and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2011. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Flag Intermediate Holdings Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2011, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

/s/ DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

Certified Public Accountants

Boca Raton, Florida

March 14, 2012

FLAG INTERMEDIATE HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in millions, except share amounts)

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 5.9	\$ 15.2
Accounts receivable, net of allowance of \$6.9 and \$5.9, respectively	212.2	149.3
Inventories	402.5	290.8
Deferred income tax asset	7.9	12.0
Prepayments and other	9.4	9.8
Total current assets	637.9	477.1
Property and equipment, net	247.8	198.8
Intangible assets, net	26.6	7.4
Goodwill	52.8	47.3
Other assets	13.5	13.5
Total assets	\$ 978.6	\$ 744.1
Liabilities and Stockholder's Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 110.0	\$ 66.6
Accrued liabilities	28.7	31.6
Payable to parent	10.2	9.6
Current portion of long-term debt	1.0	1.1
Total current liabilities	149.9	108.9
Long-term debt, less current portion	467.6	345.4
Deferred income tax liability	71.0	62.5
Due to parent	47.0	47.0
Other long-term liabilities	22.4	22.2
Total liabilities	757.9	586.0
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholder's Equity:		
Common stock, \$0.01 par value, 100 shares authorized, issued and outstanding at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively		
Additional paid-in capital	128.5	127.0
Retained earnings	91.9	30.7
Accumulated other comprehensive income	0.3	0.4
Total stockholder's equity	220.7	158.1
Total liabilities and stockholder's equity	\$ 978.6	\$ 744.1

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

FLAG INTERMEDIATE HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(in millions)

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
Net Sales	\$ 1,885.9	\$ 1,292.1	\$ 1,098.7
Operating costs and expenses:			
Cost of sales (exclusive of operating and delivery, and depreciation and amortization shown below)	1,445.7	996.7	890.1
Operating and delivery	175.7	131.9	126.7
Selling, general and administrative	108.0	81.8	85.1
Depreciation and amortization	21.2	17.8	18.9
Loss on sale of property and equipment		0.3	
Advisory agreement termination charge		3.3	
Operating income (loss)	135.3	60.3	(22.1)
Other (income) expense:			
Interest expense	42.2	37.2	44.9
Gain on extinguishment of debt			(13.6)
Other expense, net	0.1		0.3
Income (loss) before income taxes	93.0	23.1	(53.7)
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	31.8	8.2	(18.0)
Net income (loss)	\$ 61.2	\$ 14.9	\$ (35.7)

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

FLAG INTERMEDIATE HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDER S EQUITY**AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)**

(in millions, except per share amounts)

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
Common Stock (\$0.01 Par)			
Balance at beginning and end of period	\$	\$	\$
Additional Paid-in Capital			
Balance at beginning of period	\$ 127.0	\$ 125.7	\$ 126.9
Stock-based compensation	1.5	1.2	0.4
Other		0.1	(1.6)
Balance at end of period	\$ 128.5	\$ 127.0	\$ 125.7
Retained Earnings			
Balance at beginning of period	\$ 30.7	\$ 15.8	\$ 51.5
Net income (loss)	61.2	14.9	(35.7)
Balance at end of period	\$ 91.9	\$ 30.7	\$ 15.8
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)			
Foreign currency translation adjustments	\$ (0.2)	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.7
Deferred hedging gains	0.1	0.6	1.7
Deferred securities valuation gains			0.2
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of deferred income taxes	(0.1)	0.8	2.6
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) at beginning of period	0.4	(0.4)	(3.0)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) at end of period	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.4	\$ (0.4)
Comprehensive Income (Loss)			
Net income (loss)	\$ 61.2	\$ 14.9	\$ (35.7)
Other comprehensive income (loss)	(0.1)	0.8	2.6
Total comprehensive income (loss)	\$ 61.1	\$ 15.7	\$ (33.1)

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

FLAG INTERMEDIATE HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(in millions)

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income (loss)	\$ 61.2	\$ 14.9	\$ (35.7)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash (used in) provided by operating activities:			
Loss on sale of property and equipment		0.3	
Provision for bad debts	2.9	2.4	2.9
Depreciation and amortization	23.3	19.8	21.2
Gain on extinguishment of debt			(13.6)
Amortization of debt issuance costs	2.9	4.0	3.5
Deferred income taxes	15.4	1.6	4.2
Stock-based compensation	1.5	1.2	0.4
Excess tax benefit from stock-based compensation		(0.1)	
Advisory agreement termination charge		3.3	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of acquisitions:			
Accounts receivable	(48.6)	(20.5)	61.6
Inventories	(93.6)	(64.0)	206.6
Prepayments and other	0.5	(3.0)	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	17.2	8.5	(5.3)
Other operating	0.2	1.4	3.1
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	(17.1)	(30.2)	248.9
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Sales of assets	0.3	0.7	0.5
Purchases of assets	(21.8)	(4.0)	(4.1)
Acquisition costs, net of cash acquired	(88.1)	(28.0)	(4.2)
Net cash used in investing activities	(109.6)	(31.3)	(7.8)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Borrowings on credit facility	233.8	99.5	119.0
Repayments on credit facility	(112.1)	(68.5)	(412.0)
Repayments of long-term debt	(1.4)	(0.1)	(35.6)
Deferred financing costs	(2.9)	(6.8)	
Excess tax benefit from stock-based compensation		0.1	
Advances from parent		47.0	
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	117.4	71.2	(328.6)
Net (decrease) increase in cash	(9.3)	9.7	(87.5)
Cash, beginning of period	15.2	5.5	93.0
Cash, end of period	\$ 5.9	\$ 15.2	\$ 5.5
Supplemental Cash Flow Information:			
Cash paid for interest	\$ 40.8	\$ 34.6	\$ 37.0
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 21.8	\$ 1.4	\$ 3.7

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Cash received for income taxes	\$ (0.4)	\$ (9.2)	\$ (20.0)
Investments in property and equipment not paid	\$ 0.7	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.2

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

FLAG INTERMEDIATE HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(dollars in millions, except per share amounts)

1. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

Description of the Business

Flag Intermediate Holdings Corporation (Flag Intermediate) and its wholly owned subsidiary Metals USA, Inc. (Metals USA) and the wholly owned subsidiaries of Metals USA are referred to collectively herein as the Company. The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Flag Intermediate, and Metals USA and its subsidiaries. Flag Intermediate and Metals USA are wholly-owned subsidiaries of Metals USA Holdings Corp. (Metals USA Holdings). Metals USA prior to its November 30, 2005 acquisition by Apollo Management V L.P. (Apollo Management) and together with its affiliated investment entities Apollo or Apollo V (the Merger) is referred to herein as the Predecessor Company.

We believe that we are a leading provider of value-added processed carbon steel, stainless steel, aluminum and specialty metals, as well as manufactured metal components. For the year ended December 31, 2011, approximately 95% of our revenue was derived from our metals service center and processing activities, which are segmented into two groups: Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Group and Plates and Shapes Group. The remaining portion of our revenue was derived from our Building Products Group, which principally manufactures and sells aluminum products related to the residential remodeling industry. We purchase metal from primary producers that generally focus on large volume sales of unprocessed metals in standard configurations and sizes. In most cases, we perform the customized, value-added processing services required to meet the specifications provided by end-use customers. Our Plates and Shapes Group and Flat Rolled and Non-Ferrous Group customers are in the aerospace, automotive industry manufacturing, defense, heavy equipment, marine transportation, commercial construction, office furniture manufacturing, and energy and oilfield services industries. Our Building Products Group customers are primarily distributors and contractors engaged in the residential remodeling industry.

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Principles of Consolidation The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Flag Intermediate, and Metals USA and its subsidiaries. Intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in the consolidated financial statements.

Use of Estimates and Assumptions The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect (i) the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, (ii) the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities known to exist as of the date the financial statements are published, and (iii) the reported amount of net sales and expenses recognized during the periods presented. Adjustments made with respect to the use of estimates often relate to improved information not previously available. Uncertainties with respect to such estimates and assumptions are inherent in the preparation of financial statements; accordingly, actual results could differ from these estimates.

Reserves for Roofing Product Warranty Costs. Consistent with industry practice, the Company provides homeowners a manufacturer's lifetime transferable limited warranty on its roofing products manufactured by the Building Products segment. The current warranty states that each roofing panel will be free from manufacturer's defects in workmanship and materials for the lifetime of the original owner, or if transferred by the original owner 50 years from the date of installation. The warranty provides certain guarantees against weather and combustion, among other things. Depending on the facts and circumstances, the Company has various options for remedying product warranty claims including repair or replacement. Provisions for future warranty costs are recorded based on management's estimates of future warranty costs, which incorporate historical trends of claims

FLAG INTERMEDIATE HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(dollars in millions, except per share amounts)

experience, sales history of products to which such costs relate, and other factors. We utilize an independent actuarial consultant to assist management in the determination of the adequacy of reserves for roofing product warranty costs. As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, \$0.6 and \$0.5, respectively, of estimated future warranty costs were classified in accrued liabilities, and \$3.1 and \$2.8, respectively, were classified as other long-term liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts The determination of collectability of the Company's accounts receivable requires management to make frequent judgments and estimates in order to determine the appropriate amount of allowance needed for doubtful accounts. The Company's allowance for doubtful accounts is estimated to cover the risk of loss related to accounts receivable. This allowance is maintained at a level we consider appropriate based on historical and other factors that affect collectability. These factors include historical trends of write-offs, recoveries and credit losses, the careful monitoring of customer credit quality, and projected economic and market conditions. Different assumptions or changes in economic circumstances could result in changes to the allowance.

Inventories Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market. We conduct a lower of cost or market inventory valuation annually as of December 31 or more frequently if circumstances indicate potential write-downs. Our inventories are accounted for using a variety of methods including specific identification, average cost and the first-in first-out method of accounting. Inventory quantities are regularly reviewed and provisions for excess or obsolete inventory are recorded primarily based on our forecast of future demand and market conditions.

Valuation and Qualifying Accounts We provide reserves for the collection of accounts receivable. The reserves for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 are summarized below:

	Balance at Beginning of Year	Additions Charged to Costs & Expenses	Deductions	Balance at End of Year
Year Ended December 31, 2011:				
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 5.9	\$ 2.9	\$ (1.9)	\$ 6.9
Year Ended December 31, 2010:				
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 6.3	\$ 2.4	\$ (2.8)	\$ 5.9
Year Ended December 31, 2009:				
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 8.8	\$ 2.9	\$ (5.4)	\$ 6.3

Financial Derivatives We use financial derivatives to mitigate the Company's exposure to volatility in interest rates. The Company hedges only exposures in the ordinary course of business. The Company accounts for its derivative instruments in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 815 Derivatives and Hedging (ASC 815), which requires all derivatives to be carried on the balance sheet at fair value and meet certain documentary and analytical requirements to qualify for hedge accounting treatment.

We do not apply hedge accounting to our outstanding interest rate swaps. We account for gains and losses on our interest rate swap derivatives based on realized and unrealized amounts. Realized gains and losses are determined by actual derivative settlements during the period. Unrealized gains and losses are based on the periodic mark to market valuation of our derivative contracts in place. Changes in the fair value of our derivative contracts are recognized in earnings during the current period, as prescribed by ASC 815.

FLAG INTERMEDIATE HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(dollars in millions, except per share amounts)

Fair values of derivatives are determined from market observation or dealer quotations. Interest rate swap derivatives outstanding at December 31, 2011, have a remaining term of approximately six years. See Note 6 for additional information on underlying hedge categories, notional and fair values of derivatives, types and classifications of derivatives used, and gains and losses from hedging activity.

Property and Equipment Property and equipment is stated at cost, and depreciation is computed using the straight-line method, net of estimated salvage values, over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Expenditures for repairs and maintenance are charged to expense when incurred. Expenditures which extend the useful lives of existing equipment are capitalized and depreciated. Upon retirement or disposition of property and equipment, the cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the accounts and any resulting gain or loss is recognized. Leasehold improvements are capitalized and amortized over the lesser of the life of the lease or the estimated useful life of the asset.

Impairment of Long-lived Assets Long-lived assets are comprised principally of property and equipment. We review long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. Impairment losses are recorded on assets used in operations when indicators of impairment are present and the undiscounted cash flows to be generated by those assets are less than the carrying amount.

Goodwill Goodwill represents the residual between the consideration transferred in a business combination and the net of the acquisition-date amounts of identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed measured at fair value. We use estimates and judgments to measure the fair value of identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed.

Goodwill is tested for impairment on an annual basis as of October 31 and, when specific circumstances may be present, between annual tests. We test for impairment by first making a qualitative assessment of whether it is more likely than not that a reporting unit's fair value is less than its carrying amount. If we conclude that it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, we proceed to the two-step impairment test. The first step compares the fair value of a reporting unit with its carrying value, including goodwill. If the carrying val