

BIG LOTS INC
Form 10-Q
December 09, 2015
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended October 31, 2015
or

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number 1-8897

BIG LOTS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ohio

06-1119097

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or
organization)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

300 Phillipi Road, P.O. Box 28512, Columbus, Ohio

43228-5311

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

(614) 278-6800

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes☐ No○

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes☐ No○

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting

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company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes No

The number of the registrant’s common shares, \$0.01 par value, outstanding as of December 4, 2015, was 49,552,919.

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 FORM 10-Q
 FOR THE FISCAL QUARTER ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2015

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Part I. Financial Information

Item 1. Financial Statements

BIG LOTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Statements of Operations (Unaudited)

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

	Thirteen Weeks Ended		Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended		
	October 31, 2015	November 1, 2014	October 31, 2015	November 1, 2014	
Net sales	\$1,116,474	\$1,107,095	\$3,606,615	\$3,583,729	
Cost of sales (exclusive of depreciation expense shown separately below)	676,467	676,153	2,186,658	2,189,704	
Gross margin	440,007	430,942	1,419,957	1,394,025	
Selling and administrative expenses	411,994	404,732	1,246,545	1,234,420	
Depreciation expense	30,171	30,267	92,388	88,535	
Operating (loss) profit	(2,158	) (4,057	) 81,024	71,070
Interest expense	(1,272) (756) (2,737) (1,616)
Other income (expense)	(673	) —	(2,387) —	
(Loss) income from continuing operations before income taxes	(4,103	) (4,813	) 75,900	69,454
Income tax (benefit) expense	(2,400	) (1,698	) 27,584	26,776
(Loss) income from continuing operations	(1,703	) (3,115	) 48,316	42,678
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of tax (expense) benefit of \$(118), \$207, \$(10) and \$13,003, respectively	195	(326) 25	(22,833)
Net (loss) income	\$(1,508	) \$(3,441	) \$48,341	\$19,845
Earnings per common share - basic:					
Continuing operations	\$(0.03	) \$(0.06	) \$0.95	\$0.77
Discontinued operations	—	(0.01) —	(0.41)
	\$(0.03	) \$(0.06	) \$0.95	\$0.36
Earnings per common share - diluted:					
Continuing operations	\$(0.03	) \$(0.06	) \$0.94	\$0.76
Discontinued operations	—	(0.01) —	(0.41)
	\$(0.03	) \$(0.06	) \$0.94	\$0.35
Weighted-average common shares outstanding:					
Basic	49,057	54,850	50,992	55,617	
Dilutive effect of share-based awards	—	—	540	603	
Diluted	49,057	54,850	51,532	56,220	
Cash dividends declared per common share	\$0.19	\$0.17	\$0.57	\$0.34	

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

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BIG LOTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Unaudited)

(In thousands)

	Thirteen Weeks Ended		Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended	
	October 31, 2015	November 1, 2014	October 31, 2015	November 1, 2014
Net (loss) income	\$(1,508	) \$(3,441	) \$48,341	\$19,845
Other comprehensive income:				
Foreign currency translation	—	—	—	5,022
Amortization of pension, net of tax expense of \$190, \$155, \$602, and \$457, respectively	313	208	912	631
Valuation adjustment of pension, net of tax (expense) benefit of \$(2,008), \$198,3,050 \$(2,247) and \$198, respectively		(272	) 3,406	(272
Total other comprehensive income (loss)	3,363	(64	) 4,318	5,381
Comprehensive income (loss)	\$ 1,855	\$(3,505	) \$52,659	\$25,226

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

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BIG LOTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Balance Sheets

(In thousands, except par value)

	(Unaudited)	
	October 31, 2015	January 31, 2015
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$61,541	\$52,261
Inventories	1,047,322	851,669
Deferred income taxes	48,231	39,154
Other current assets	110,184	95,345
Total current assets	1,267,278	1,038,429
Property and equipment - net	576,563	550,555
Deferred income taxes	6,247	7,139
Other assets	39,209	39,768
Total assets	\$1,889,297	\$1,635,891
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$490,049	\$358,932
Property, payroll, and other taxes	81,808	76,924
Accrued operating expenses	76,761	62,955
Insurance reserves	42,661	38,824
Accrued salaries and wages	36,658	47,878
Income taxes payable	862	2,316
Total current liabilities	728,799	587,829
Long-term obligations	334,900	62,100
Deferred rent	61,418	65,930
Insurance reserves	57,527	55,606
Unrecognized tax benefits	17,809	17,888
Other liabilities	51,572	56,988
Shareholders' equity:		
Preferred shares - authorized 2,000 shares; \$0.01 par value; none issued	—	—
Common shares - authorized 298,000 shares; \$0.01 par value; issued 117,495 shares; outstanding 49,086 shares and 52,912 shares, respectively	1,175	1,175
Treasury shares - 68,409 shares and 64,583 shares, respectively, at cost	(2,063,544)	(1,878,523)
Additional paid-in capital	584,635	574,454
Retained earnings	2,125,344	2,107,100
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(10,338)	(14,656)
Total shareholders' equity	637,272	789,550
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$1,889,297	\$1,635,891

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

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BIG LOTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity (Unaudited)

(In thousands)

	Common		Treasury		Additional Paid-In Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount				
Balance - February 1, 2014	57,548	\$1,175	59,947	\$(1,670,041)	\$562,447	\$2,021,357	\$(13,511)	\$901,427
Comprehensive income	—	—	—	—	—	19,845	5,381	25,226
Dividends declared	—	—	—	—	—	(19,303)	—	(19,303)
Purchases of common shares	(5,896)	—	5,896	(240,462)	—	—	—	(240,462)
Exercise of stock options	1,249	—	(1,249)	35,378	2,174	—	—	37,552
Restricted shares vested	68	—	(68)	1,940	(1,940)	—	—	—
Performance shares vested	25	—	(25)	716	(716)	—	—	—
Tax benefit from share-based awards	—	—	—	—	1,076	—	—	1,076
Share activity related to deferred compensation plan	2	—	(2)	38	24	—	—	62
Share-based employee compensation expense	—	—	—	—	8,006	—	—	8,006
Balance - November 1, 2014	52,996	1,175	64,499	(1,872,431)	571,071	2,021,899	(8,130)	713,584
Comprehensive income	—	—	—	—	—	94,431	(6,526)	87,905
Dividends declared	—	—	—	—	—	(9,230)	—	(9,230)
Purchases of common shares	(226)	—	226	(10,209)	—	—	—	(10,209)
Exercise of stock options	140	—	(140)	4,062	992	—	—	5,054
Restricted shares vested	2	—	(2)	55	(55)	—	—	—
Performance shares vested	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tax charge from share-based awards	—	—	—	—	(82)	—	—	(82)
Share activity related to deferred compensation plan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Share-based employee compensation expense	—	—	—	—	2,528	—	—	2,528
Balance - January 31, 2015	52,912	1,175	64,583	(1,878,523)	574,454	2,107,100	(14,656)	789,550
Comprehensive income	—	—	—	—	—	48,341	4,318	52,659
Dividends declared	—	—	—	—	—	(30,097)	—	(30,097)
Purchases of common shares	(4,402)	—	4,402	(201,849)	—	—	—	(201,849)
Exercise of stock options	448	—	(448)	13,093	3,158	—	—	16,251

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Restricted shares vested	127	—	(127)	3,708	(3,708)	—	—	—
Performance shares vested	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tax benefit from share-based awards	—	—	—	—	683	—	—	683
Share activity related to deferred compensation plan	1	—	(1)	27	3	—	—	30
Share-based employee compensation expense	—	—	—	—	10,045	—	—	10,045
Balance - October 31, 2015	49,086	\$1,175	68,409	\$(2,063,544)	\$584,635	\$2,125,344	\$(10,338)	\$637,272

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

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BIG LOTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

(In thousands)

	Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended	
	October 31, 2015	November 1, 2014
Operating activities:		
Net income	\$48,341	\$19,845
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization expense	81,178	78,287
Deferred income taxes	(11,034)	)3,563
Loss on disposition of property and equipment	970	2,033
Non-cash impairment charge	—	1,424
Non-cash share-based compensation expense	10,045	8,006
Excess tax benefit from share-based awards	(1,320)	) (3,582)
Unrealized loss on fuel derivative instruments	2,224	—
Pension expense, net of contributions	(6,479)	) 1,758
Change in assets and liabilities, excluding effects of foreign currency adjustments:		
Inventories	(195,653)	) (160,424)
Accounts payable	131,117	163,997
Current income taxes	(15,403)	) (59,851)
Other current assets	(10,862)	) (1,332)
Other current liabilities	8,361	10,124
Other assets	2,551	1,402
Other liabilities	8,282	(2,872)
Net cash provided by operating activities	52,318	62,378
Investing activities:		
Capital expenditures	(111,021)	) (74,559)
Cash proceeds from sale of property and equipment	12,731	2,733
Other	(8)	) (82)
Net cash used in investing activities	(98,298)	) (71,908)
Financing activities:		
Net proceeds from borrowings under bank credit facility	272,800	206,400
Payment of capital lease obligations	(3,315)	) (703)
Dividends paid	(29,198)	) (18,823)
Proceeds from the exercise of stock options	16,251	37,552
Excess tax benefit from share-based awards	1,320	3,582
Deferred bank credit facility fees paid	(779)) —
Payment for treasury shares acquired	(201,849)	) (229,820)
Other	30	62
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	55,260	(1,750)
Impact of foreign currency on cash	—	5,139
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	9,280	(6,141)
Cash and cash equivalents:		
Beginning of period	52,261	68,629
End of period	\$61,541	\$62,488

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

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BIG LOTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

NOTE 1 – BASIS OF PRESENTATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

All references in this report to “we,” “us,” or “our” are to Big Lots, Inc. and its subsidiaries. We are a unique, non-traditional, discount retailer operating in the United States of America (“U.S.”). At October 31, 2015, we operated 1,463 stores in 47 states and the District of Columbia. We make available, free of charge, through the “Investor Relations” section of our website (www.biglots.com) under the “SEC Filings” caption, our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (“Exchange Act”), as soon as reasonably practicable after we file such material with, or furnish it to, the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). The contents of our websites are not part of this report.

The accompanying consolidated financial statements and these notes have been prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC for interim financial information. The consolidated financial statements reflect all normal recurring adjustments which management believes are necessary to present fairly our financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows for all periods presented. These consolidated financial statements, however, do not include all information necessary for a complete presentation of financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”). Interim results may not necessarily be indicative of results that may be expected for, or actually result during, any other interim period or for the year as a whole. We have historically experienced, and expect to continue to experience, seasonal fluctuations, with a larger percentage of our net sales and operating profit realized in our fourth fiscal quarter. The accompanying consolidated financial statements and these notes should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and notes included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2015 (“2014 Form 10-K”).

Fiscal Periods

Our fiscal year ends on the Saturday nearest to January 31, which results in fiscal years consisting of 52 or 53 weeks. Unless otherwise stated, references to years in this report relate to fiscal years rather than calendar years. Fiscal year 2015 (“2015”) is comprised of the 52 weeks that began on February 1, 2015 and will end on January 30, 2016. Fiscal year 2014 (“2014”) was comprised of the 52 weeks that began on February 2, 2014 and ended on January 31, 2015. The fiscal quarters ended October 31, 2015 (“third quarter of 2015”) and November 1, 2014 (“third quarter of 2014”) were both comprised of 13 weeks. The year-to-date periods ended October 31, 2015 (“year-to-date 2015”) and November 1, 2014 (“year-to-date 2014”) were both comprised of 39 weeks.

Selling and Administrative Expenses

Selling and administrative expenses include store expenses (such as payroll and occupancy costs) and costs related to warehousing, distribution, outbound transportation to our stores, advertising, purchasing, insurance, non-income taxes, and overhead. Our selling and administrative expense rates may not be comparable to those of other retailers that include distribution and outbound transportation costs in cost of sales. Distribution and outbound transportation costs included in selling and administrative expenses were \$41.0 million and \$40.9 million for the third quarter of 2015 and the third quarter of 2014, respectively, and \$120.3 million and \$119.0 million for the year-to-date 2015 and the year-to-date 2014, respectively.

Advertising Expense

Advertising costs, which are expensed as incurred, consist primarily of television and print advertising, digital or internet marketing and advertising, and in-store point-of-purchase presentations. Advertising expenses are included in selling and administrative expenses. Advertising expenses were \$15.9 million and \$16.9 million for the third quarter

of 2015 and the third quarter of 2014, respectively, and \$53.7 million and \$57.7 million for the year-to-date 2015 and the year-to-date 2014, respectively.

Derivative Instruments

We use derivative instruments to mitigate the risk of market fluctuations in diesel fuel prices. We do not enter into derivative instruments for speculative purposes. Our derivative instruments may consist of collar or swap contracts. Our current derivative instruments do not meet the requirements for cash flow hedge accounting. Instead, our derivative instruments are marked-to-market to determine their fair value and any gains or losses are recognized currently in other income (expense) on our consolidated statements of operations.

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Supplemental Cash Flow Disclosures

The following table provides supplemental cash flow information for the year-to-date 2015 and the year-to-date 2014:

(In thousands)	Thirty-Nine Weeks Ended	
	October 31, 2015	November 1, 2014
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Cash paid for interest, including capital leases	\$2,162	\$825
Cash paid for income taxes, excluding impact of refunds	55,671	69,573
Gross proceeds from borrowings under bank credit facility	1,190,900	1,131,900
Gross payments of borrowings under bank credit facility	918,100	925,500
Non-cash activity:		
Assets acquired under capital leases	9,600	11,317
Accrued property and equipment	10,700	11,557
Share repurchases payable	—	10,642
Cash flows from discontinued operations:		
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities, discontinued operations	625	(37,494)
Net cash provided by investing activities, discontinued operations	\$—	\$522

Reclassifications

Merchandise Categories

In the first quarter of 2015, we realigned select merchandise categories to be consistent with the realignment of our merchandising team and changes to our management reporting. Specifically, we reclassified our home décor and frames departments from our former Furniture & Home Décor category to our Soft Home category. Subsequently, we changed the name of our Furniture & Home Décor category to Furniture. In order to provide comparative information, we have reclassified our net sales by merchandise category into this revised alignment for all periods presented in note 9 to the consolidated financial statements.

We periodically assess, and make minor adjustments to, our product hierarchy, which can impact the roll-up of our merchandise categories. Our financial reporting process utilizes the most current product hierarchy in reporting net sales by merchandise category for all periods presented. Therefore, there may be minor reclassifications of net sales by merchandise category compared to previously reported amounts.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606). This update provides a comprehensive new revenue recognition model that requires a company to recognize revenue to depict the transfer of goods or services to a customer at an amount that reflects the consideration it expects to receive in exchange for those goods or services. Additionally, this guidance expands related disclosure requirements. The pronouncement was originally set to be effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016. In July 2015, the FASB approved a one-year deferral of the effective date from December 15, 2016 to December 15, 2017, but will allow for early adoption as of December 15, 2016. This ASU permits the use of either the retrospective or cumulative effect transition method. We are currently evaluating the impact this guidance will have on our consolidated financial statements as well as the expected adoption method.

In November 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-17, Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes. This update requires an entity to classify deferred tax liabilities and assets as noncurrent within a classified statement of financial position. ASU 2015-17 is effective for annual reporting periods, and interim periods therein, beginning after December 15, 2016. This update may be applied either prospectively to all deferred tax liabilities and assets or retrospectively to all periods presented. Early application is permitted as of the beginning of an interim or annual

reporting period. We do not expect that the adoption of this guidance will have a significant impact on our consolidated financial statements.

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NOTE 2 – BANK CREDIT FACILITY

On July 22, 2011, we entered into a \$700 million five-year unsecured credit facility, which was first amended on May 30, 2013. On May 28, 2015, we entered into an additional amendment of the credit facility that among other things extended its expiration to May 30, 2020 (as amended, the “2011 Credit Agreement”). In connection with the additional amendment of the 2011 Credit Agreement, we paid bank fees and other expenses in the amount of \$0.8 million, which are being amortized over the term of the amended agreement.

Borrowings under the 2011 Credit Agreement are available for general corporate purposes and working capital. The 2011 Credit Agreement includes a \$30 million swing loan sublimit and a \$150 million letter of credit sublimit. The interest rates, pricing and fees under the 2011 Credit Agreement fluctuate based on our debt rating. The 2011 Credit Agreement allows us to select our interest rate for each borrowing from multiple interest rate options. The interest rate options are generally derived from the prime rate or LIBOR. We may prepay revolving loans made under the 2011 Credit Agreement. The 2011 Credit Agreement contains financial and other covenants, including, but not limited to, limitations on indebtedness, liens and investments, as well as the maintenance of two financial ratios – a leverage ratio and a fixed charge coverage ratio. A violation of any of the covenants could result in a default under the 2011 Credit Agreement that would permit the lenders to restrict our ability to further access the 2011 Credit Agreement for loans and letters of credit and require the immediate repayment of any outstanding loans under the 2011 Credit Agreement. At October 31, 2015, we had \$334.9 million of borrowings outstanding under the 2011 Credit Agreement and \$10.7 million was committed to outstanding letters of credit, leaving \$354.4 million available under the 2011 Credit Agreement.

NOTE 3 – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

In connection with our nonqualified deferred compensation plan, we had mutual fund investments of \$17.7 million and \$16.9 million at October 31, 2015 and January 31, 2015, respectively, which were recorded in other assets. These investments were classified as trading securities and were recorded at their fair value. The fair values of mutual fund investments were Level 1 valuations under the fair value hierarchy because each fund’s quoted market value per share was available in an active market.

The fair values of our long-term obligations are estimated based on the quoted market prices for the same or similar issues and the current interest rates offered for similar instruments. These fair value measurements are classified as Level 2 within the fair value hierarchy. Given the variable rate features and relatively short maturity of the instruments underlying our long-term obligations, the carrying value of these instruments approximates the fair value.

The carrying value of accounts receivable, accounts payable, and accrued expenses approximates fair value because of the relatively short maturity of these items.

NOTE 4 – SHAREHOLDERS’ EQUITY

Earnings per Share

There were no adjustments required to be made to the weighted-average common shares outstanding for purposes of computing basic and diluted earnings per share and there were no securities outstanding at October 31, 2015 or November 1, 2014 which were excluded from the computation of earnings per share other than antidilutive stock options, restricted stock awards, and restricted stock units. For the third quarter of 2015 and the third quarter of 2014, 0.3 million and 0.6 million, respectively, of the stock options outstanding were antidilutive and excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share. For the year-to-date 2015 and the year-to-date 2014, 0.3 million and 1.7 million, respectively, of the stock options outstanding were antidilutive and excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share. Antidilutive stock options generally consist of outstanding stock options where the exercise price

per share is greater than the weighted-average market price per share for our common shares for each period. Antidilutive stock options, restricted stock awards, and restricted stock units are excluded from the calculation because they decrease the number of diluted shares outstanding under the treasury stock method. The restricted stock awards and restricted stock units that were antidilutive, as determined under the treasury stock method, were immaterial for all periods presented.

Share Repurchase Programs

On March 4, 2015, our Board of Directors authorized a share repurchase program providing for the repurchase of \$200 million of our common shares (“2015 Repurchase Program”). The 2015 Repurchase Program was exhausted during the second quarter of 2015.

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During the year-to-date 2015, we have acquired approximately 4.4 million of our outstanding common shares for \$200.0 million under the 2015 Repurchase Program.

Dividends

The Company declared and paid cash dividends per common share during the periods presented as follows:

	Dividends Per Share	Amount Declared	Amount Paid
2014:		(in thousands)	(in thousands)
Second quarter	\$0.17	\$9,585	\$9,366
Third quarter	0.17	9,718	9,457
Total	\$0.34	\$19,303	\$18,823
2015:		(in thousands)	(in thousands)
First quarter	\$0.19	\$10,479	\$10,197
Second quarter	0.19	10,069	9,734
Third quarter	0.19	9,549	9,267
Total	\$0.57	\$30,097	\$29,198

The amount of dividends declared may vary from the amount of dividends paid in a period based on certain instruments with restrictions on payment, including restricted stock awards, restricted stock units, and performance share units. The payment of future dividends will be at the discretion of our Board of Directors and will depend on our financial conditions, results of operations, capital requirements, compliance with applicable laws and agreements and any other factors deemed relevant by our Board of Directors.

NOTE 5 – SHARE-BASED PLANS

We have issued nonqualified stock options, restricted stock awards, restricted stock units, and performance share units under our shareholder-approved equity compensation plans. Our restricted stock awards and restricted stock units, as described below and/or in note 7 to the consolidated financial statements in our 2014 Form 10-K, are expensed and reported as nonvested shares. We recognized share-based compensation expense of \$3.2 million and \$3.0 million in the third quarter of 2015 and the third quarter of 2014, respectively, and \$10.0 million and \$8.0 million for the year-to-date 2015 and the year-to-date 2014, respectively.

The following table summarizes stock option activity for the year-to-date 2015:

	Number of Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price Per Share	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (000's)
Outstanding stock options at January 31, 2015	1,703,213	\$37.59		
Exercised	(398,098)	)37.66		
Forfeited	(56,300)	)34.95		
Outstanding stock options at May 2, 2015	1,248,815	\$37.69	3.9	\$10,538
Exercised	(5,725)	)35.95		
Forfeited	—	—		
Outstanding stock options at August 1, 2015	1,243,090	\$37.70	3.7	\$7,013
Exercised	(44,438)	)23.69		
Forfeited	(20,000)	)38.15		
Outstanding stock options at October 31, 2015	1,178,652	\$38.22	3.5	\$9,287
Vested or expected to vest at October 31, 2015	1,134,649	\$38.24	3.5	\$8,922

Exercisable at October 31, 2015	695,712	\$ 38.69	3.0	\$5,154
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The stock options granted in prior years vest in equal amounts on the first four anniversaries of the grant date and have a contractual term of seven years. The number of stock options expected to vest was based on our annual forfeiture rate assumption.

The following table summarizes the non-vested restricted stock awards and restricted stock units activity for the year-to-date 2015:

	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Grant-Date Fair Value Per Share
Outstanding non-vested restricted stock at January 31, 2015	744,805	\$38.13
Granted	189,778	49.33
Vested	(95,908)	)37.16
Forfeited	(16,122)	)34.36
Outstanding non-vested restricted stock at May 2, 2015	822,553	\$40.90
Granted	26,163	46.17
Vested	(24,551)	)43.01
Forfeited	(1,504)	)48.67
Outstanding non-vested restricted stock at August 1, 2015	822,661	\$41.02
Granted	1,676	44.56
Vested	(6,412)	)38.37
Forfeited	(23,130)	)41.80
Outstanding non-vested restricted stock at October 31, 2015	794,795	\$41.02

The non-vested restricted stock units granted in the first, second, and third quarters of 2015 generally vest, and are expensed, on a ratable basis over three years from the grant date of the award, if certain threshold financial performance objectives are achieved and the grantee remains employed by us through the vesting dates.

The non-vested restricted stock awards granted in prior years vest if certain financial performance objectives are achieved. If we meet a threshold financial performance objective and the grantee remains employed by us, the restricted stock will vest on the opening of our first trading window five years after the grant date of the award. If we meet a higher financial performance objective and the grantee remains employed by us, the restricted stock will vest on the first trading day after we file our Annual Report on Form 10-K with the SEC for the fiscal year in which the higher objective is met.

As of October 31, 2015, we estimated a five-year period for vesting, and therefore expensing, of all non-vested restricted stock awards granted in prior years, as we do not anticipate achieving the higher financial performance objective for any outstanding grants.

In 2013, in connection with his appointment as CEO and President, Mr. David J. Campisi was awarded 37,800 performance share units ("PSUs"), which vest based on the achievement of share price performance goals that had a weighted average grant-date fair value per share of \$34.68. At October 31, 2015, 12,600 PSUs remain unvested and outstanding. The PSUs have a contractual term of seven years. If the performance goals applicable to the remaining PSUs are not achieved prior to expiration, the awards will be forfeited.

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In the year-to-date 2015, we issued 238,130 PSUs, net of forfeitures, to certain members of management, which vest if certain financial performance objectives are achieved over a three-year performance period and the grantee remains employed by us during that period. At October 31, 2015, 671,480 nonvested PSUs, excluding the awards granted to Mr. Campisi at his appointment as CEO and President, were outstanding in the aggregate. The financial performance objectives for each fiscal year within the three-year performance period are approved by the Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors during the first quarter of the respective fiscal year. As a result of the process used to establish the financial performance objectives, we will only meet the requirements of establishing a grant date for the PSUs when we communicate the financial performance objectives for the third fiscal year of the award to the award recipients, which will then trigger the service inception date, the fair value of the awards, and the associated expense recognition period. Therefore, we have recognized no expense for the PSUs that have been issued in 2014 and 2015 during the year-to-date 2015. If we meet the applicable threshold financial performance objectives over the three-year performance period and the grantee remains employed by us through the end of the performance period, the PSUs will vest on the first trading day after we file our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the last fiscal year in the performance period. We expect to begin recognizing expense related to PSUs as follows:

Issue Year	Outstanding PSUs at October 31, 2015	Expected Valuation Date	Expected Expense Period
2014	389,949	March 2016	Fiscal 2016
2015	281,531	March 2017	Fiscal 2017
Total	671,480		

In the second quarter of 2015, 20,400 common shares underlying the restricted stock awards granted in 2014 to the non-employee members of our Board of Directors vested on the trading day immediately preceding our 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. These awards were part of the annual compensation granted in 2014 to the non-employee members of the Board of Directors. Additionally, in the second quarter of 2015, each non-employee elected to our Board of Directors at our 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders received an annual restricted stock award having a grant date fair value of approximately \$110,000. The 2015 restricted stock awards will vest on the earlier of (1) the trading day immediately preceding our 2016 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, or (2) the non-employee director's death or disability. However, the restricted stock award will not vest if the non-employee director ceases to serve on our Board of Directors before either vesting event occurs.

The following activity occurred under our share-based plans during the respective periods shown:

(In thousands)	Third Quarter		Year-to-Date	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Total intrinsic value of stock options exercised	\$ 1,098	\$ 11,050	\$ 5,940	\$ 16,980
Total fair value of restricted stock vested	295	1,325	6,207	2,736
Total fair value of performance shares vested	—	585	—	1,143

The total unearned compensation cost related to all share-based awards outstanding, excluding performance share units, at October 31, 2015 was approximately \$19.4 million. This compensation cost is expected to be recognized through January 2019 based on existing vesting terms with the weighted-average remaining expense recognition period being approximately 1.5 years from October 31, 2015.

NOTE 6 – EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

We maintain a qualified defined benefit pension plan (“Pension Plan”) and a nonqualified supplemental defined benefit pension plan (“Supplemental Pension Plan”) covering certain employees whose hire date occurred before April 1, 1994.

The weighted-average assumptions used to determine net periodic pension cost for our plans were as follows:

2015	2014
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Discount rate	3.3	%5.0	%
Rate of increase in compensation levels	2.8	%3.0	%
Expected long-term rate of return	5.2	%6.0	%

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The components of combined net periodic pension cost were as follows:

(In thousands)	Third Quarter		Year-to-Date	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Service cost - benefits earned in the period	\$512	\$489	\$1,536	\$1,463
Interest cost on projected benefit obligation	594	799	1,781	2,413
Expected investment return on plan assets	(653	)(804	)(1,960	)(2,414
Amortization of actuarial loss	502	380	1,507	1,123
Amortization of prior service cost	1	(9	4	(26
Curtailment loss	192	—	192	—
Settlement loss	1,363	164	1,363	164
Net periodic pension cost	\$2,511	\$1,019	\$4,423	\$2,723

From time to time, we consider the financial benefits, such as reduced regulatory fees and income tax deductions, of making a voluntary contribution to the Pension Plan. During the third quarter of 2015, we made a voluntary contribution of \$10.7 million to the Pension Plan. We currently expect no required contributions to the Pension Plan during the fourth quarter of 2015. We will contribute to the nonqualified supplemental defined benefit pension plan as benefits are paid to plan participants, if any, because the nonqualified plan is not a funded plan.

On October 31, 2015, our Board of Directors approved amendments to freeze benefits and terminate the Pension Plan. The Pension Plan will discontinue accruing benefits on December 31, 2015 and the termination will be effective January 31, 2016. As a result of executing the Pension Plan termination amendment, we recorded a curtailment loss, in our income statement, of \$0.2 million to immediately recognize all unrecognized past service credits. Additionally, the pension liability and other comprehensive loss were recalculated to reflect the elimination of future compensation increases, which resulted in a decrease of \$6.3 million, before tax, during the third quarter of 2015. Typically, the actuarial assumptions used to calculate pension costs are reviewed annually. In light of the amendment to terminate the Pension Plan, the assumptions used to calculate the net period pension costs and the projected benefit obligation were reviewed during the third quarter of 2015. The impact of the change in actuarial assumptions was an increase to our pension liability and other comprehensive loss of \$2.8 million, before tax.

It is expected to take 15 to 24 months from the date of the approved amendment to terminate the Pension Plan to complete the termination. The pension liability will be settled through either lump sum payments or purchased annuities. Currently, there is not enough information available to determine the ultimate charge for the termination. At October 31, 2015, there were approximately 800 active participants in the Pension Plan and approximately 650 terminated vested participants. The terminated vested participants can elect to begin to receive benefits at any point in the future, while the active participants will be given the opportunity to receive a lump sum at some point during 2016. All remaining participants in the Pension Plan after the lump sum distributions are completed will have their benefits placed with an annuity provider at the termination distribution date.

Subsequent to October 31, 2015, we communicated the approved amendments to the participants of the Pension Plan. Within this communication, we informed Pension Plan participants that we would provide for a one-time transition benefit to participants who were actively employed on December 31, 2015. We estimate the cost of this one-time transition benefit will range from approximately \$6.5 million to \$7.5 million, and we will incur the charge in the fourth quarter of 2015.

Lastly, on December 2, 2015, our Board of Directors approved amendments to freeze benefits and terminate the Supplemental Pension Plan. The Supplemental Pension Plan will discontinue accruing benefits on December 31, 2015 and the termination will be effective December 31, 2015. We anticipate the charge associated with the curtailment of the Supplemental Pension Plan will be immaterial.

NOTE 7 – INCOME TAXES

We have estimated the reasonably possible expected net change in unrecognized tax benefits through October 29, 2016, based on 1) expected cash and noncash settlements or payments of uncertain tax positions, and 2) lapses of the applicable statutes of limitations for unrecognized tax benefits. The estimated net decrease in unrecognized tax benefits for the next 12 months is approximately \$4.0 million. Actual results may differ materially from this estimate.

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NOTE 8 – CONTINGENCIES

On May 21, May 22 and July 2, 2012, three shareholder derivative lawsuits were filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio against us and certain of our current and former outside directors and executive officers (Jeffrey Berger, David Kollat, Brenda Lauderback, Philip Mallott, Russell Solt, Dennis Tishkoff, Robert Claxton, Joe Cooper, Steven Fishman, Charles Haubiel, Timothy Johnson, John Martin, Norman Rankin, Paul Schroeder, Robert Segal and Steven Smart). The lawsuits were consolidated, and, on August 13, 2012, plaintiffs filed a consolidated complaint, which generally alleges that the individual defendants traded in our common shares based on material, nonpublic information concerning our guidance for fiscal 2012 and the first quarter of fiscal 2012 and the director defendants failed to suspend our share repurchase program during such trading activity. The consolidated complaint asserts claims under Ohio law for breach of fiduciary duty, unjust enrichment, misappropriation of trade secrets and corporate waste and seeks declaratory relief and disgorgement to us of proceeds from any wrongful sales of our common shares, plus attorneys' fees and expenses.

The defendants filed a motion to dismiss the consolidated complaint, which was granted by the Court in an Opinion and Order dated April 14, 2015, pursuant to which plaintiffs' claims were all dismissed with prejudice, with the exception of their claim for corporate waste, which was dismissed without prejudice. On May 5, 2015, plaintiffs filed a Motion for Leave to File Verified Consolidated Amended Shareholder Derivative Complaint, which seeks to replead the claim for corporate waste that was dismissed without prejudice by the Court, as well as a Motion for Reconsideration and, in the Alternative, for Certification of Question of State Law to the Supreme Court of Ohio. Defendants' responses to both motions were filed on May 29, 2015. On August 3, 2015, the Court granted Plaintiffs' Motion for Leave to File Verified Consolidated Amended Shareholder Derivative Complaint, and Plaintiffs filed the amended complaint on the same date, asserting a claim for corporate waste. On September 30, 2015, Defendants filed an answer to the amended complaint. The case is currently in discovery.

We received a letter dated January 28, 2013, sent on behalf of a shareholder demanding that our Board of Directors investigate and take action in connection with the allegations made in the derivative and securities lawsuits described above. The shareholder indicated that he would commence a derivative lawsuit if our Board of Directors failed to take the demanded action. On March 6, 2013, our Board of Directors referred the shareholder's letter to a committee of independent directors to investigate the matter. That committee, with the assistance of independent outside counsel, investigated the allegations in the shareholder's demand letter and, on August 28, 2013, reported its findings to our Board of Directors along with its recommendation that the Board reject the shareholder's demand. Our Board of Directors unanimously accepted the recommendation of the demand investigation committee and, on September 9, 2013, outside counsel for the committee sent a letter to counsel for the shareholder informing the shareholder of the Board's determination. On October 18, 2013, the shareholder filed a derivative lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio against us and each of the current and former outside directors and executive officers named in the 2012 shareholder derivative lawsuit. The plaintiff's complaint generally alleges that the individual defendants traded in our common shares based on material, nonpublic information concerning our guidance for fiscal 2012 and the first quarter of fiscal 2012 and the director defendants failed to suspend our share repurchase program during such trading activity. The complaint asserts claims under Ohio law for breach of fiduciary duty, unjust enrichment, abuse of control, gross mismanagement, corporate waste and misappropriation of trade secrets and seeks damages, injunctive relief and disgorgement to us of proceeds from any wrongful sales of our common shares, plus attorneys' fees and expenses.

The defendants filed a motion to dismiss the complaint, which was granted by the Court in an Opinion and Order dated April 14, 2015, which dismissed the plaintiff's claims with prejudice with the exception of his claim for corporate waste and his assertion that our Board of Directors wrongfully rejected his demand to take action against the individually named defendants. On May 5, 2015, the Court so ordered the parties' stipulation, staying plaintiff's time to seek leave to amend his complaint in order to make a request to inspect the Company's books and records pursuant to

Ohio Revised Code §1701.37, and plaintiff served that request for inspection on May 8, 2015. On August 17, 2015 plaintiff filed an Amended Verified Shareholder Derivative Complaint. On September 30, 2015, defendants moved to dismiss the amended complaint. As of November 20, 2015 the motion was fully briefed and awaits decision.

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On July 9, 2012, a putative securities class action lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio on behalf of persons who acquired our common shares between February 2, 2012 and April 23, 2012. This lawsuit was filed against us, Lisa Bachmann, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Fishman and Mr. Haubiel. The complaint in the putative class action generally alleges that the defendants made statements concerning our financial performance that were false or misleading. The complaint asserts claims under sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 10b-5 and seeks damages in an unspecified amount, plus attorneys' fees and expenses. The lead plaintiff filed an amended complaint on April 4, 2013, which added Mr. Johnson as a defendant, removed Ms. Bachmann as a defendant, and extended the putative class period to August 23, 2012. The defendants have filed a motion to dismiss the putative class action complaint, and that motion is fully briefed and awaiting a decision.

On February 10, 2014, a shareholder derivative lawsuit was filed in the Franklin County Common Pleas Court in Columbus, Ohio, against us and certain of our current and former outside directors and executive officers (David Campisi, Steven Fishman, Joe Cooper, Charles Haubiel, Timothy Johnson, Robert Claxton, John Martin, Norman Rankin, Paul Schroeder, Robert Segal, Steven Smart, David Kollat, Jeffrey Berger, James Chambers, Peter Hayes, Brenda Lauderback, Philip Mallott, Russell Solt, James Tener and Dennis Tishkoff). The plaintiff's complaint generally alleges that the individual defendants traded in our common shares based on material, nonpublic information concerning our guidance for fiscal 2012 and the first quarter of fiscal 2012 and the director defendants failed to suspend our share repurchase program during such trading activity. The complaint also alleges that we and various individual defendants made false and misleading statements regarding our Canadian operations prior to our announcement on December 5, 2013 that we were exiting the Canadian market. The complaint asserts claims under Ohio law for breach of fiduciary duty, unjust enrichment, waste of corporate assets and misappropriation of insider information and seeks damages, injunctive relief and disgorgement to us of proceeds from any wrongful sales of our common shares, plus attorneys' fees and expenses. At the parties' request, the court has stayed this lawsuit until after the judge in the federal lawsuits discussed in the preceding paragraphs has ruled on the motions to dismiss pending in all those federal lawsuits.

We believe that the shareholder derivative and putative class action lawsuits are without merit, and we intend to defend ourselves vigorously against the allegations levied in these lawsuits. While a loss from these lawsuits is reasonably possible, at this time, we cannot reasonably estimate the amount of any loss that may result or whether the lawsuits will have a material impact on our financial statements.

On October 1, 2013, we received a subpoena from the District Attorney for the County of Alameda, State of California, seeking information concerning our handling of hazardous materials and hazardous waste in the State of California. We have provided information and are cooperating with the authorities from multiple counties and cities in California in connection with this ongoing matter. While a loss related to this matter is reasonably possible, at this time, we cannot reasonably estimate the possible loss or range of loss that may arise from this matter or whether this matter will have a material impact on our financial statements. In October 2014, Big Lots received a notice of a second violation from the California Air Resources Board alleging that it sold certain products that contained volatile organic compounds in excess of regulated limits (windshield washer fluid). This matter is in its early stages and settlement discussions are continuing. We anticipate that any resolution of this matter is likely to exceed \$100,000.

In 2013, we sold certain tabletop torch and citronella products manufactured by a third party. In August 2013, we recalled these products and discontinued their sale in our stores. In 2014, we were named as a defendant in a number of lawsuits relating to these products alleging personal injuries suffered as a result of negligent shelving and pairing of the products, product design, manufacturing and marketing defects and/or breach of warranties. Although we believe that we are entitled to indemnification from the third party manufacturer of the products for all of the expenses that we have incurred (and may in the future incur) with respect to these matters and that these expenses are covered by our insurance (subject to a \$1 million deductible), in the second quarter of 2015, we (1) determined that our ability to obtain any recovery from the manufacturer may be limited because, among other things, the manufacturer has

exhausted its applicable insurance coverage, is domiciled outside the United States and has been dissolved by its parent and (2) became engaged in litigation with our excess insurance carrier regarding the scope of our coverage. In the second quarter of 2015, we settled one of the lawsuits and reached an agreement in principle to settle another lawsuit, which was later finalized in the third quarter of 2015. Two additional lawsuits remain pending against Big Lots in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, respectively. Both of the outstanding lawsuits are in the initial stages of discovery. During the second quarter of 2015, we recorded a \$4.5 million charge related to these matters.

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Due to the inherent uncertainties of litigation, there can be no assurance that these lawsuits, whether as a result of adverse outcomes or as a result of significant defense costs, will not have a material effect on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows, or that additional lawsuits relating to these products will not be filed against us in the future.

We are involved in other legal actions and claims arising in the ordinary course of business. We currently believe that each such action and claim will be resolved without a material effect on our financial condition, results of operations, or liquidity. However, litigation involves an element of uncertainty. Future developments could cause these actions or claims to have a material effect on our financial condition, results of operations, and liquidity.

NOTE 9 – BUSINESS SEGMENT DATA

We use the following seven merchandise categories, which match our internal management and reporting of merchandise net sales: Food, Consumables, Soft Home, Hard Home, Furniture, Seasonal, and Electronics & Accessories. The Food category includes our beverage & grocery, candy & snacks, and specialty foods departments. The Consumables category includes our health and beauty, plastics, paper, chemical, and pet departments. The Soft Home category includes the home décor, frames, fashion bedding, utility bedding, bath, window, decorative textile, and area rugs departments. The Hard Home category includes our small appliances, table top, food preparation, stationery, greeting cards, tools, paint, and home maintenance departments. The Furniture category includes our upholstery, mattress, ready-to-assemble, and case goods departments. The Seasonal category includes our lawn & garden, summer, Christmas, toys, and other holiday departments. The Electronics & Accessories category includes the electronics, jewelry, hosiery, and infant accessories departments. In the first quarter of 2015, we realigned our merchandise categories to be consistent with the realignment of our merchandising team. See the Reclassifications section of note 1 to the consolidated financial statements for additional information.

We periodically assess, and potentially enact minor adjustments to, our product hierarchy, which can impact the roll-up of our merchandise categories. Our financial reporting process utilizes the most current product hierarchy in reporting net sales by merchandise category for all periods presented. Therefore, there may be minor reclassifications of net sales by merchandise category compared to previously reported amounts.

The following table presents net sales data by merchandise category:

(In thousands)	Third Quarter		Year-to-Date	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Furniture	\$261,415	\$244,820	\$834,060	\$769,018
Consumables	229,364	230,191	686,491	693,102
Food	206,316	202,352	602,338	584,762
Soft Home	143,566	135,714	424,952	403,332
Hard Home	110,091	115,414	325,405	349,248
Seasonal	94,373	95,942	517,524	538,139
Electronics & Accessories	71,349	82,662	215,845	246,128
Net sales	\$1,116,474	\$1,107,095	\$3,606,615	\$3,583,729

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NOTE 10 – COMPONENTS OF ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS

The following table summarizes the components of accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of tax, during 2014 and 2015:

(In thousands)	Foreign currency translation	Pension Plan	Total accumulated other comprehensive loss
Balance at February 1, 2014	\$ (5,022)	\$ (8,489)	\$ (13,511)
Other comprehensive income before reclassifications	(39)	(368)	(407)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss	5,061	727	5,788
Net period change	5,022	359	5,381
Balance at November 1, 2014	—	(8,130)	(8,130)
Other comprehensive income before reclassifications	—	(7,812)	(7,812)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss	—	1,286	1,286
Net period change	—	(6,526)	(6,526)
Balance at January 31, 2015	—	(14,656)	(14,656)
Other comprehensive income before reclassifications	—	2,469	2,469
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss	—	1,849	1,849
Net period change	—	4,318	4,318
Balance at October 31, 2015	\$—	\$ (10,338)	\$ (10,338)

The following table summarizes the components of accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of tax, during the third quarter of 2014:

(In thousands)	Foreign currency translation	Pension Plan	Total accumulated other comprehensive loss
Balance at August 2, 2014	\$—	\$ (8,066)	\$ (8,066)
Other comprehensive income before reclassifications	—	(368)	(368)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss			