CANADA PROVINCE OF QUEBEC DISTRICT OF MONTREAL Court No: 500-11-057805-208, 500-11-057804-201 File No: 41-2607510, 41-2607508

SUPERIOR COURT (Commercial Division) Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act

IN THE MATTER OF THE NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MAKE A PROPOSAL OF:

FREEMARK APPAREL BRANDS RETAIL BE INC.

and

FREEMARK APPAREL BRANDS GROUP INC.

legal persons duly incorporated under the laws of Canada, having their principal places of business at 5640 Pare Street, Mount Royal, Quebec, H3B 1M1

Petitioners / Debtors

-and-

RICHTER ADVISORY GROUP INC.

Proposal Trustee

FOURTH REPORT OF THE PROPOSAL TRUSTEE ON THE STATE OF PETITIONERS' BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS March 30, 2020

INTRODUCTION

- On January 21, 2020, each of Freemark Apparel Brands Retail BE Inc. ("FAB Retail") and Freemark Apparel Brands Group Inc. ("FAB Wholesale") (collectively with FAB Retail, the "Debtors") filed a Notice of Intention to Make a Proposal (the "NOI") pursuant to the provisions of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act ("BIA"). Richter Advisory Group Inc. ("Richter") was named Trustee.
- 2. Prior to filing the NOI, this Court authorized Richter to act as trustee to the NOI. Such an authorization was required as an entity related to Richter acts as the auditor for the Debtors.

- On or around January 27, 2020, the Debtors filed a Motion for the Issuance of an Order Authorizing a Liquidation Sale and Approving Ancillary Relief ("Liquidation Motion"). An order was rendered on January 31, 2020 approving the Liquidation Motion (the "Liquidation Order").
- 4. On January 27, 2020, the Proposal Trustee filed its First Report in support of the Liquidation Motion ("First Report").
- 5. On February 17, 2020, the Debtors filed the First Motion for the Extension of the Delay to File a Proposal (the "First Extension Motion"). On February 17, 2020, the Proposal Trustee filed its Second Report in support of the First Extension Motion ("Second Report"). The First Extension Motion was granted on February 20, 2020 providing an extension until April 3, 2020.
- 6. On March 23, 2020, the Debtors filed the Motion for the Issuance of an Order Approving a Transaction and Ordering the Assignment of Agreements (the "Transaction Motion"). On March 23, 2020, the Proposal Trustee filed its Third Report in support of the Transaction Motion ("Third Report"). The Transaction Motion was granted on March 27, 2020. The transaction is expected to close on or about March 30, 2020.
- On March 30, 2020, the Debtors filed the Second Motion for the Extension of the Delay to File a Proposal (the "Second Extension Motion").
- 8. In order to monitor the affairs and finances of the Debtors, the Proposal Trustee has been provided with access to the books, records and other important documents of the Debtors.

PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 9. The purpose of this Fourth Report is to provide this Court with information pertaining to:
 - a) The background and operations of the Debtors;
 - b) The Debtors' creditors;
 - c) Post-filing operations;
 - d) The Transaction (as defined below);
 - e) The Debtors' statement of projected cash flow for the period from February 10, 2020 to March 22, 2020 and the reported results therein;
 - f) The Debtors' request for a second extension of the statutory delay to file a proposal (the "Proposal Period") to May 15, 2020; and

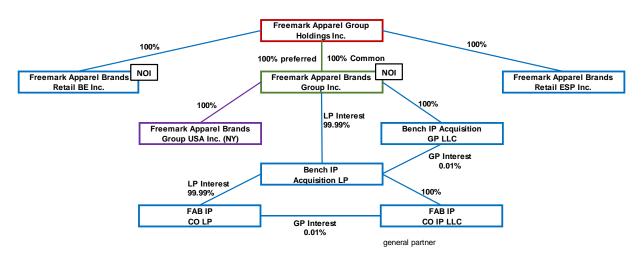
g) The Trustee's recommendation that this Court render an order approving the Second Extension Motion.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 10. In preparing this Fourth Report, the Proposal Trustee has relied upon certain unaudited financial information prepared by the Debtors' representatives, the Debtors' books and records, and discussions with the Debtors' representatives and legal counsel (the "**Information**").
- 11. Except as otherwise described in this Fourth Report, the Proposal Trustee has not audited, reviewed or otherwise attempted to verify the accuracy or completeness of the Information in a manner that would wholly or partially comply with Generally Accepted Assurance Standards ("GAAS") pursuant to the Chartered Professional Accountant of Canada Handbook and, as such, the Proposal Trustee expresses no opinion or other form of assurance contemplated under GAAS in respect of the Information.
- 12. Unless otherwise stated, all monetary amounts contained herein are expressed in Canadian dollars.

BACKGROUND AND OPERATIONS OF THE DEBTORS

- 13. The information concerning the background and operations was set out in the First Report but is being reproduced for ease of reference.
- 14. The organizational chart for the FAB group of companies (the "**FAB Group**"), which includes the two Debtors subject to the NOI proceedings, can be represented as follows:



15. The FAB Group is a retailer of branded apparel. FAB Retail conducts its operations through a chain of 25 retail stores (throughout Canada) and through an e-commerce site. FAB Wholesale sells to a

variety of customers including Costco, the Bay, Winners and other retailers. All stores were closed on March 19, 2020 as a result of the coronavirus.

- 16. The FAB Group's head office is located in Montreal as well as its warehouse and distribution center. All of the FAB Group's locations are leased from third parties.
- 17. Prior to the filing of the NOIs, the FAB Group employed approximately 340 people of which 25 were let go immediately prior to the filing. As a result of the store closures on March 19, 2020, the store employees have also been terminated as well as certain head office staff.

SECURED LENDERS

- The information concerning the secured lenders and the unsecured creditors was set out in the First Report and Second Report but is being reproduced for ease of reference and to provide up to date information.
- 19. At the time of the filing of the NOIs, the Debtors' books and records reflected amounts owing to the following secured creditors:
 - a) Accord Financial Inc. ("Accord") \$15.1 million in respect of the operating loan advances. As of March 22, 2020, the operating loan advances are approximately \$7.6 million;
 - b) Gordon Brothers Brands, LLC ("GBB") \$5.9 million (~US\$4.5 million) in respect of the balance of sale owing on the purchase of the Bench intellectual property for the Americas, which amount is to be fully repaid as part of the Transaction; and
 - c) Freemark Apparel Holdings Inc. ("FAHI") \$14.7 million in respect of shareholders loans.
- 20. As noted in the Liquidation Motion, Accord and the Debtors entered into a forbearance agreement ("**Forbearance Agreement**") by which Accord will continue to provide financing during the NOI proceedings subject to the terms of the Forbearance Agreement which requires, amongst other things, that FAB Retail liquidate all of its inventory.
- 21. The Proposal Trustee will be engaging independent legal counsel to provide the Trustee with an opinion regarding the validity and enforceability of the security granted by the Debtors to the secured creditors.

UNSECURED CREDITORS

- 22. Based on the books and records of the Debtors, unsecured creditors consisting of landlords, trade suppliers, service providers and others are owed the following amounts:
 - a) FAB Wholesale \$5.2 million;
 - b) FAB Retail \$0.7 million.
- 23. It should be noted that many of the suppliers for FAB Retail actually invoice FAB Wholesale as they are supplying products to both companies, and as such, the debts of the two companies are to some extent co-mingled.
- 24. We further note that the actual amounts owing may vary once a claims process has been put in place, in particular as landlords will have claims in respect of damages relating to the disclaimer of the various leases.

POST-FILING OPERATIONS

- 25. Subsequent to the filing of the NOIs, FAB Retail commenced the liquidation of inventory in all of its retail locations. The initial plan was for FAB Retail to complete the closure of all retail locations by the end of April 2020. However, as a result of the impact of the coronavirus, and similar to many other retailers, FAB Retail closed all of its locations effective March 19, 2020 and intends to return all retail inventory to its Montreal warehouse and the inventory will be liquidated at a later date still to be determined.
- 26. On March 20, 2020, FAB Retail issued notices of disclaimer for all of its retail locations pursuant to subsection 65.2 of the BIA. As a result of the store closures, all retail employees have been terminated (earlier than planned) although certain employees will be needed to pack the inventory for return to the Montreal warehouse.
- 27. On March 23, 2020, FAB Wholesale issued a notice of disclaimer pursuant to subsection 65.2 of the BIA in respect of the Montreal warehouse. FAB Wholesale is negotiating a short-term extension of the warehouse lease which will see it occupy less space at a reduced rent for a period of a few months failing which it will need to locate temporary premises to hold the remaining inventory to be liquidated at a later date.
- 28. FAB Wholesale has been servicing its customers in the ordinary course of business. As noted below, pursuant to the Transaction, FAB Wholesale intends to ship the Excluded Purchase Orders (as defined below). In addition, FAB Wholesale is continuing to ship ecommerce orders.

29. The Debtors are current on their payroll although as a result of the current economic environment, they have not yet paid most of the retail store rent for the period March 16 to March 30, 2020 and the cash flow in support of the Second Extension Motion does not provide for the payment of rent on April 1, 2020 for the stub period to the end of the lease disclaimer. Given the termination of operations due to COVID-19 pandemic, the various stakeholders including the landlords will not benefit from an immediate bankruptcy. To the contrary, a further extension will allow for the completion of the liquidation of the inventory at a later date and may allow for the filing of a proposal.

SALE AND INVESTMENT SOLICITATION PROCESS

- 30. As noted in the Third Report, the Debtors, with the assistance of the Proposal Trustee, launched a sale and investment solicitation process (the "SISP") on February 7, 2020 in respect of (i) certain intellectual property held by a wholly-owned subsidiary of FAB Wholesale (the "Bench Americas IP"); (ii) the current wholesale order book owned by FAB Wholesale, and (iii) the rights held by FAB Wholesale to exercise an option to purchase certain intellectual property owned by an affiliate of GBB in respect of licenses relating to the Bench brand for those territories not included in the Bench Americas IP (the "Bench ROW IP").
- 31. Only one offer was received by the March 13, 2020 deadline, being an offer from 11951432 Canada Inc. (the "**Purchaser**"), an entity related to the Debtors. Richter, in consultation with Accord, determined that the offer submitted by the Purchaser (the "**Transaction**") was in the best interest of the Debtors' stakeholders.
- 32. The Transaction was approved by the Court on March 27, 2020 and is expected to close on March 30, 2020. The Transaction excluded certain wholesale orders with shipment dates through April 26, 2020 ("Excluded Purchase Orders") which FAB Wholesale is expected to continuing shipping.

THE DEBTOR'S CASH FLOW FORECAST

33. The reported results versus the Debtors' projections for the period January 13, 2020 to March 22, 2020, which are summarized in the table below, reflect a positive net cash flow variance of approximately \$3,108K mainly attributable to variances associated with stronger than forecast retail and wholesale sales in the period (a portion of which is timing related):

Freemark Apparel Brands Inc. Reported vs Projected For the period Jan 13 to Mar 22, 2020			
(\$000's)	<u>Reported</u>	<u>Variance</u>	
Cash Receipts			
Retail	\$ 9,113	\$ 8,467	\$ 646
Wholesale	11,387	8,709	2,678
Other	50	50	0
	20,550	17,226	3,324
Disbursements			
Purchases	(6,393)	(6,544)	151
Payroll	(2,147)	(2,080)	(66)
Operational Expenses	(1,687)	(1,682)	(5)
Rent	(774)	(884)	109
Freight & Duty	(106)	(69)	(37)
Insurance	(93)	(93)	-
Sales Taxes	(173)	16	(189)
Financial Charges	(350)	(309)	(41)
Professional Fees	(730)	(592)	(138)
	(12,453)	(12,236)	(216)
Net Cash Flow	\$ 8,098	\$ 4,990	\$ 3,108

In support of the extension sought, the Debtors have prepared a statement of projected cash flow (Exhibit "A") covering the period March 23, 2020 to May 17, 2020 which we summarize as follows:

Freemark Apparel Brands Inc. Statement of Projected Cash Flow				
For the period Mar 23 to May 17, 2020		Total		
(\$000's)		(55 days)		
Collections				
Retail	\$	-		
Wholesale	Ť	667		
Other		45		
		712		
Disbursements				
Payroll		(488)		
Operational Expenses		(332)		
Rent		(64)		
Insurance		20		
Sales Taxes		(665)		
Financial Charges		(64)		
Professional Fees		(347)		
Total Disbursements		(1,940)		
Net Cash Flow	\$	(1,228)		
Opening Revolver (Net of Cash)	\$	(7,634)		
Net Cash Flow		(1,228)		
Ending Revolver (Net of Cash)		(8,862)		

- 35. The statement of projected cash flow was prepared on the basis of the following:
 - a) Collections: completion of the Excluded Purchase Orders and collection of existing accounts receivables, however, no collections are forecast for the sale of the remaining retail inventory as this is assumed to be completed outside of the extension period; and
 - b) Disbursements: payroll including the payment of incentive bonuses to certain employees which were committed to at the start of the NOI proceedings, post-filing sales taxes and professional fees, however, the only rent forecast to be paid is in respect of the head office and warehouse. As noted above, due to the termination of the liquidation sales and the immediate closure of the stores, the Debtors are not forecasting the payment of any further post-filing rent for the retail stores from March 16, 2020 to the end of the disclaimer period and believe that an immediate bankruptcy is not in the interests of the various stakeholders.

REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PROPOSAL PERIOD TO MAY 15, 2020

- 36. The Debtors are requesting the extension of the Proposal Period to May 15, 2020 (the "**Extension**").
- 37. The Proposal Trustee supports the Debtors' request for the extension for the following reasons:
 - a) This will enable an assessment of options regarding the disposition of the remaining retail inventory;
 - b) This will permit FAB Wholesale to continue the sale of the Excluded Purchaser Orders and the continued fulfillment of ecommerce orders;
 - c) This will enable the Debtors to assess whether or not they can formulate a viable proposal for the benefit of their creditors;
 - d) The Debtors are acting in good faith and with due diligence in taking steps to maximize the value of their assets for the benefit of their creditors;
 - e) It is the Proposal Trustee's view that the Extension will not materially prejudice or adversely affect any group of creditors; and
 - f) Both Accord, and FAHI have been advised of the Second Extension Motion and have confirmed their support.

CONCLUSION

38. For the reasons outlined above, the Proposal Trustee supports the issuance of the conclusions sought in paragraph 9(g) of this report.

Respectfully submitted at Montreal, this 30th day of March 2020.

Richter Advisory Group Inc.

Trustee

Andrew Adessky, CPA, CA, CIRP, LIT

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Eric Barbieri, CPA, CA, CTP, CIRP, LIT

Exhibit A

District of: Québec Division No.: 01-Montréal Court No.: 500-11-057805-208 Estate No.: 41-2607508, 41-2607510

FORM 29 Trustee's Report on Cash-Flow Statement (Paragraphs 50(6)(b) and 50.4(2)(b) of the Act)

In the Matter of the Notice of Intention to Make a Proposal of Freemark Apparel Brands Group Inc. and Freemark Apparel Brands Retail BE Inc. "Debtors" Of the City of Mont-Royal In the Province of Québec

The attached statement of projected cash flow of the Debtors, as of the 25th day of March 2020, consisting of the period from March 23, 2020 to May 17, 2020, has been prepared by the management of the insolvent person for the purpose described in the notes attached, using the probable and hypothetical assumptions set out in the notes attached.

Our review consisted of inquiries, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied to us by the management and employees of the insolvent person. Since hypothetical assumptions need not be supported, our procedures with respect to them were limited to evaluating whether they were consistent with the purpose of the projection. We have also reviewed the support provided by management for the probable assumptions and preparation and presentation of the projection.

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that, in all material respects,

- (a) the hypothetical assumptions are not consistent with the purpose of the projection;
- (b) as at the date of this report, the probable assumptions developed are not suitably supported and consistent with the plans of the insolvent person or do not provide a reasonable basis for the projection, given the hypothetical assumptions; or
- (c) the projection does not reflect the probable and hypothetical assumptions.

Since the projection is based on assumptions regarding future events, actual results will vary from the information presented even if the hypothetical assumptions occur, and the variations may be material. Accordingly, we express no assurance as to whether the projection will be achieved.

The projection has been prepared solely for the purpose described in the notes attached, and readers are cautioned that it may not be appropriate for other purposes.

Dated at the City of Montréal, in the Province of Quebec, this 30th day March 2020.

Richter Advisory Group Inc. Licensed Insolvency Trustee Per:

Andrew Adessky, MBA, CPA, CA, CIRP, LIT 1981 McGill College, 11th Floor Montréal QC H3A 0G6 Phone: (514) 934-3400 Fax: (514) 934-8603

 District of:
 Québec

 Division No.:
 01-Montréal

 Court No.:
 500-11-057805-208

 Estate No.:
 41-2607508, 41-2607510

FORM 29 – ATTACHMENT Trustee's Report on Cash-Flow Statement (Paragraphs 50(6)(b) and 50.4(2)(b) of the Act)

In the Matter of the Notice of Intention to Make a Proposal of Freemark Apparel Brands Group Inc. and Freemark Apparel Brands Retail BE Inc. "Debtors" Of the City of Mont-Royal In the Province of Québec

Purpose:

The Debtors filed a Notice of Intention to Make a Proposal on January 21, 2020. The purpose of this Statement of Projected Cash Flow is to present the estimated cash receipts and disbursements of the Debtors (the "Company"), for the period March 23, 2020 to May 17, 2020, relating to the filing of relating to the filing of a Motion to extend the delay to make a proposal.

This Statement of Projected Cash Flow has been prepared by management on March 25, 2020, based on available financial information at that date in accordance with Section 50.4(2) of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act and should be read in conjunction with the Trustee's Report on the Cash Flow Statement. Readers are cautioned that this information may not be appropriate for other purposes.

Projection Notes:

The Statement of Projected Cash Flow has been prepared using probable assumptions supported and consistent with the plans of the Company for the period March 23, 2020 to May 17, 2020, considering the economic conditions that are considered the most probable by management.

As the cash flow is based upon various assumptions regarding future events and circumstances, variances will exist and said variances may be material. Accordingly, we express no assurance as to whether the projections will be achieved.

Assumptions:

(a) Projected Cash Receipts

The projected cash receipts are estimated by management, based upon recent sales and reflect the closure of the retail stores.

(b) Projected Cash Disbursements

The projected cash disbursements are based upon historical data adjusted to reflect the current level of activity, best estimates of the Company and management's restructuring plan;

Professional fees are based on management's estimate and relate to the filing of the Notice of Intention to Make a Proposal and restructuring;

The current government remittances for source deductions and sales taxes are included in the disbursement assumptions.

The cash disbursements do not provide for the payment of arrears to unsecured creditors.

Dated at the City of Montréal in the Province of Quebec, this 30th day March 2020.

Richter Advisory Group Inc.

Licensed Insolvency Trustee Per:

Andrew Adessky, MBA, CPA. CA, CIRP, LIT 1981 McGill College, 11th Floor Montréal QC H3A 0G6 Phone: (514) 934-3400 Fax: (514) 934-8603 District of: Québec Division No.: 01-Montréal Court No.: 500-11-057805-208 Estate No.: 41-2607508, 41-2607510

- FORM 30 -

Report on Cash-Flow Statement by the Person Making the Proposal (Paragraphs 50(6)(c) and 50.4(2) (c) of the Act)

In the Matter of the Notice of Intention to Make a Proposal of Freemark Apparel Brands Group Inc. and Freemark Apparel Brands Retail BE Inc. "Debtors" Of the City of Mont-Royal In the Province of Québec

The management of the Debtors has developed the assumptions and prepared the attached statement of projected cash flow of the insolvent person, as of the 25th day of March 2020, consisting of the period from March 23, 2020 to May 17, 2020.

The hypothetical assumptions are reasonable and consistent with the purpose of the projection described in the notes attached, and the probable assumptions are suitably supported and consistent with the plans of the insolvent person and provide a reasonable basis for the projection. All such assumptions are disclosed in the notes attached.

Since the projection is based on assumptions regarding future events, actual results will vary from the information presented, and the variations may be material.

The projection has been prepared solely for the purpose described in the notes attached, using a set of hypothetical and probable assumptions set out in the notes attached. Consequently, readers are cautioned that it may not be appropriate for other purposes.

Dated at the City of Montreal in the Province of Quebec, this 30th day of March 2020.

The Debtor

Victor Levis, VP Finance Name and title of signing officer

District of: Québec Division No.: 01-Montréal Court No.: 500-11-057805-208 Estate No.: 41-2607508, 41-2607510

> - FORM 30 - Attachment Report on Cash-Flow Statement by the Person Making the Proposal (Paragraphs 50(6)(c) and 50.4(2) (c) of the Act)

In the Matter of the Notice of Intention to Make a Proposal of Freemark Apparel Brands Group Inc. and Freemark Apparel Brands Retail BE Inc. "Debtors" Of the City of Mont-Royal In the Province of Québec

Purpose:

The Debtors filed a Notice of Intention to Make a Proposal on January 21, 2020. The purpose of this Statement of Projected Cash Flow is to present the estimated cash receipts and disbursements of the Debtors (the "Company"), for the period March 23, 2020 to May 17, 2020, relating to the filing of relating to the filing of a Motion to extend the delay to make a proposal.

This Statement of Projected Cash Flow has been prepared by management on March 25, 2020 based on available financial information at that date in accordance with Section 50.4(2) of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act and should be read in conjunction with the Trustee's Report on the Cash Flow Statement. Readers are cautioned that this information may not be appropriate for other purposes.

Projection Notes:

The Statement of Projected Cash Flow has been prepared using probable assumptions supported and consistent with the plans of the Company for the period March 23, 2020 to May 17, 2020, considering the economic conditions that are considered the most probable by management.

As the cash flow is based upon various assumptions regarding future events and circumstances, variances will exist and said variances may be material. Accordingly, we express no assurance as to whether the projections will be achieved.

Assumptions:

(a) Projected Cash Receipts

The projected cash receipts are estimated by management, based upon recent sales and reflect the closure of the retail stores.

(b) Projected Cash Disbursements

The projected cash disbursements are based upon historical data adjusted to reflect the current level of activity, best estimates of the Company and management's restructuring plan;

Professional fees are based on management's estimate and relate to the filing of the Notice of Intention to Make a Proposal and restructuring;

The current government remittances for source deductions and sales taxes are included in the disbursement assumptions.

The cash disbursements do not provide for the payment of arrears to unsecured creditors.

Dated at the City of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, this 30h day of March 2020.

The Debtors

Victor Levis, VP Finance Name and title of signing officer

District of: Québec **Division No.:** Court No.: Estate No.:

01-Montréal 500-11-057805-208 41-2607508, 41-2607510

Statement of Combined Projected Cash Flows for: Freemark Apparel Brands Group Inc. Freemark Apparel Brands Retail BE Inc.

Projected Weekly Cash Flow	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Total
Week ending	29-Mar-20	5-Apr-20	12-Apr-20	19-Apr-20	26-Apr-20	3-May-20	10-May-20	17-May-20	8-Week
\$'000	(Projected)	(Projected)	(Projected)	(Projected)	(Projected) (Proj	(Projected)	(Projected) ((Projected)	(Projected)
Collections									
Retail	\$ -	\$ -	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$	\$-	\$ -	\$-
Wholesale	185	185	185	22	22	22	22	22	667
Other	-	-	-	-	45	-	-	- 11	45
	185	185	185	22	67	22	22	22	712
Disbursements									
Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- 1	-
Payroll	-	(278)	(158)	(31)	(31)	-	-		(498)
Operational Expenses	(259)	(28)	(15)	(14)	(9)	(10)	(7)	-	(343)
Rent	-	(64)	-	-	-	(20)	-	-	(84)
Freight & Duty	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-
Insurance	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	20
Sales Taxes	-	(400)		-	-	(265)	- 10.00	-	(665)
Financial Charges		(64)	-	· -	-	-	-	-	(64)
Professional Fees	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)	- 1	(347)
	(308)	(884)	(222)	(95)	(70)	(344)	(57)	-	(1,980)
Net Cash Flow	(123)	(699)	(37)	(72)	(2)	(322)	(35)	22	(1,269)
Opening Revolver (net of cash)	(7,634)	(7,757)	(8,456)	(8,493)	(8,566)	(8,568)	(8,890)	(8,925)	(7,634)
Closing Revolver (net of cash)	\$ (7,757)	\$ (8,456)	\$ (8,493)	\$ (8,566)	\$ (8,568)	\$ (8,890)	\$ (8,925)	\$ (8,902)	\$ (8,902)

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Victor Levis, CPA, CMA

Andrew Adessky, MBA, CPA, CA, CIRP, LIT

March 30 2020 Date

March 30, 2020

Date