
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 September 30, 2018
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 001-34903

TOWER INTERNATIONAL, INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

27-3679414

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

17672 Laurel Park Drive North Suite 400 E
Livonia, Michigan

(Address of principal executive offices)

48152

(Zip Code)

(248) 675-6000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

N/A

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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, and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files).

Yes ☒ No ☐

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

Large Accelerated Filer ☐ Accelerated Filer ☒ Non-Accelerated Filer ☐
Smaller Reporting Company ☐ Emerging growth company ☐

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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

Yes ☐ No ☒

As of October 22, 2018, there were 20,606,736 shares of the registrant's common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, outstanding.

Tower International, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
<u>PART I. Financial Information</u>	
Item 1. <u>Financial Statements (unaudited):</u>	
<u>Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets at September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017</u>	1
<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 and 2017</u>	2
<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 and 2017</u>	3
<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 and 2017</u>	4
<u>Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	5
Item 2. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	24
Item 3. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	37
Item 4. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	38
<u>PART II. Other Information</u>	
Item 1A. <u>Risk Factors</u>	39
Item 2. <u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	39
Item 6. <u>Exhibits</u>	40
<u>Signatures</u>	41

PART 1 — FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. Financial Statements.

TOWER INTERNATIONAL, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Amounts in thousands, except share data - unaudited)

	September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 47,744	\$ 123,688
Accounts receivable, net of allowance of \$1,387 and \$1,385	280,973	239,319
Inventories (Note 4)	93,655	78,745
Assets held for sale (Note 5)	28,686	44,250
Prepaid tooling, notes receivable, and other	48,212	78,481
Total current assets	499,270	564,483
Property, plant, and equipment, net	547,127	535,272
Goodwill (Note 7)	62,164	63,665
Deferred tax asset	74,410	83,035
Other assets, net	27,809	13,642
Total assets	\$ 1,210,780	\$ 1,260,097
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Short-term debt and current maturities of capital lease obligations (Note 9)	\$ 23,136	\$ 42,048
Accounts payable	303,016	323,271
Accrued liabilities	121,532	113,949
Liabilities held for sale (Note 5)	12,667	17,336
Total current liabilities	460,351	496,604
Long-term debt, net of current maturities (Note 9)	294,300	344,738
Deferred tax liability	4,629	4,807
Pension liability (Note 12)	39,749	47,813
Other non-current liabilities	93,843	96,263
Total non-current liabilities	432,521	493,621
Total liabilities	892,872	990,225
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, 50,000,000 authorized and 0 issued and outstanding	\$ -	\$ -
Common stock, \$0.01 par value, 350,000,000 authorized, 22,400,074 issued and 20,606,736 outstanding at September 30, 2018, and 22,317,671 issued and 20,542,397 outstanding at December 31, 2017	224	223
Additional paid in capital	346,915	344,153
Treasury stock, at cost, 1,793,338 and 1,775,274 shares as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017	(36,882)	(36,408)
Retained earnings	80,711	29,712
Accumulated other comprehensive loss (Note 13)	(73,060)	(67,808)
Total Tower International, Inc.'s stockholders' equity	317,908	269,872
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 1,210,780	\$ 1,260,097

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

TOWER INTERNATIONAL, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(Amounts in thousands, except share and per share amounts - unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Revenues (Note 3)	\$ 524,566	\$ 462,372	\$ 1,644,079	\$ 1,449,887
Cost of sales	462,941	404,332	1,458,549	1,274,429
Gross profit	61,625	58,040	185,530	175,458
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	29,954	29,667	93,057	87,899
Amortization expense (Note 7)	110	117	330	333
Restructuring and asset impairment charges, net (Note 8)	491	1,131	2,308	8,379
Operating income	31,070	27,125	89,835	78,847
Interest expense	6,048	5,673	16,465	7,933
Interest income	93	64	362	197
Net periodic benefit income (Note 12)	558	713	1,675	1,671
Other expense	-	-	977	575
Income before provision for income taxes and income from discontinued operations	25,673	22,229	74,430	72,207
Provision for income taxes (Note 11)	3,996	8,002	14,602	22,170
Income from continuing operations	21,677	14,227	59,828	50,037
Income from discontinued operations, net of tax (Note 5)	903	704	2,428	1,565
Net income	22,580	14,931	62,256	51,602
Less: Net income attributable to the noncontrolling interests	-	-	-	110
Net income attributable to Tower International, Inc.	\$ 22,580	\$ 14,931	\$ 62,256	\$ 51,492
Weighted average basic shares outstanding	20,605,168	20,522,001	20,586,599	20,485,722
Weighted average diluted shares outstanding	21,035,802	20,787,405	20,991,606	20,804,441
Basic income per share attributable to Tower International, Inc.:				
Income per share from continuing operations (Note 14)	\$ 1.05	\$ 0.69	\$ 2.91	\$ 2.44
Income per share from discontinued operations (Note 14)	0.04	0.03	0.12	0.08
Income per share (Note 14)	1.10	0.73	3.02	2.51
Diluted income per share attributable to Tower International, Inc.:				
Income per share from continuing operations (Note 14)	\$ 1.03	\$ 0.68	\$ 2.85	\$ 2.40
Income per share from discontinued operations (Note 14)	0.04	0.03	0.12	0.08
Income per share (Note 14)	1.07	0.72	2.97	2.48
Dividends declared per share	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.33

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

TOWER INTERNATIONAL, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
(Amounts in thousands - unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Net income	\$ 22,580	\$ 14,931	\$ 62,256	\$ 51,602
Other comprehensive income / (loss), net of tax:				
Foreign currency translation adjustments, net of tax expense / (benefit) of \$0.1 million, (\$2.6 million), \$1.5 million, and (\$8.5 million)	(2,212)	6,578	(12,349)	19,867
Unrealized gain / (loss) on qualifying cash flow hedge, net of tax expense / (benefit) of \$0.5 million, (\$0.8 million), \$2.4 million, and (\$3.6 million)	1,374	(1,283)	7,097	(5,896)
Other comprehensive income / (loss), net of tax	(838)	5,295	(5,252)	13,971
Comprehensive income	21,742	20,226	57,004	65,573
Less: Comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interests	-	-	-	162
Comprehensive income attributable to Tower International, Inc.	\$ 21,742	\$ 20,226	\$ 57,004	\$ 65,411

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

TOWER INTERNATIONAL, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(Amounts in thousands - unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017
OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Net income	\$ 62,256	\$ 51,602
Less: Income from discontinued operations, net of tax	2,428	1,565
Income from continuing operations	59,828	50,037
Adjustments required to reconcile income from continuing operations to net cash provided by continuing operating activities:		
Deferred income tax provision	9,334	15,367
Depreciation and amortization	62,485	54,853
Non-cash share-based compensation	2,512	1,657
Pension income, net of contributions	(8,063)	(9,906)
Change in working capital and other operating items	(50,484)	(76,095)
Net cash provided by continuing operating activities	\$ 75,612	\$ 35,913
INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Cash disbursed for purchases of property, plant, and equipment, net	\$ (93,765)	\$ (76,687)
Proceeds from disposition of joint venture, net	4,314	15,944
Net proceeds from sale of property, plant, and equipment	14,883	-
Net cash used in investing activities	\$ (74,568)	\$ (60,743)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds from borrowings	\$ 137,696	\$ 535,926
Repayments of borrowings	(156,423)	(522,029)
Voluntary repayments on Term Loan Credit Facility	(50,000)	-
Debt financing costs	-	(4,747)
Original issuance discount	-	(1,808)
Dividend payment to Tower shareholders	(7,409)	(6,756)
Proceeds from stock options exercised	251	1,094
Purchase of treasury stock	(474)	(763)
Net cash provided by / (used in) continuing financing activities	\$ (76,359)	\$ 917
Discontinued operations:		
Net cash from / (used in) discontinued operating activities	\$ 7,327	\$ (322)
Net cash used in discontinued investing activities	(2,771)	(1,251)
Net cash from / (used in) discontinued financing activities	(2,642)	1,137
Net cash from / (used in) discontinued operations	\$ 1,914	\$ (436)
Effect of exchange rate changes on continuing cash and cash equivalents	\$ (2,543)	\$ 5,158
NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	\$ (75,944)	\$ (19,191)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS:		
Beginning of period	\$ 123,688	\$ 62,788
End of period	\$ 47,744	\$ 43,597
Supplemental Cash Flow Information:		
Interest paid, net of amounts capitalized	\$ 15,998	\$ 16,842
Income taxes paid	6,011	5,265
Non-cash Investing Activities:		
Capital expenditures in liabilities for purchases of property, plant, and equipment	\$ 16,030	\$ 13,877

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

TOWER INTERNATIONAL, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

Note 1. Organization and Basis of Presentation

Tower International, Inc. and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as the “Company” or “Tower International”), is a leading integrated global manufacturer of engineered automotive structural metal components and assemblies, primarily serving original equipment manufacturers (“OEMs”), including Ford, Volkswagen Group, Fiat-Chrysler, Volvo, Nissan, Daimler, Toyota, BMW, and Honda. Products include body structures, assemblies and other chassis structures, and lower vehicle systems and suspension components for small and large cars, crossovers, pickups, and sport utility vehicles (“SUVs”). The Company has strategically located production facilities in the United States, Germany, Belgium, Slovakia, Italy, Poland, Mexico, and the Czech Republic, supported by engineering and sales locations in the United States, Germany, Italy, Japan, China and India.

The accompanying Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared by the Company, without audit, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). The information furnished in the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements includes normal recurring adjustments and reflects all adjustments which are, in the opinion of management, necessary for the fair presentation of such financial statements. Certain information and disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States have been condensed or omitted pursuant to the rules and regulations of the SEC. Although the Company believes that the disclosures are adequate to make the information presented not misleading, these Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the audited year-end financial statements and the notes thereto included in the most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K filed by the Company with the SEC. The interim results for the periods presented may not be indicative of the Company’s actual annual results.

Principles of Consolidation

The Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of the Company and all subsidiaries over which the Company exercises control. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated upon consolidation.

Note 2. New Accounting Pronouncements

Recently Adopted

Revenue Recognition

On May 28, 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued Accounting Standard Update (“ASU”) No. 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)*. This ASU outlines a single comprehensive model for entities to utilize to recognize revenue when it transfers goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration that will be received in exchange for the goods and services. Additional disclosures are also required to enable users to understand the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from contracts with customers. In 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-08, ASU No. 2016-10, ASU No. 2016-12, and ASU No. 2016-20, all of which amend the implementation guidance and illustrations in the new revenue standard.

The Company implemented the new standard effective January 1, 2018 using the modified retrospective approach. Implementation of the standard did not have a material impact on the Company’s Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements as the Company’s method for recognizing revenue subsequent to the implementation of Accounting Standard Codification (“ASC”) No. 606 does not vary significantly from its revenue recognition practices under the prior revenue standard. The Company has included the additional disclosures required by the ASUs above (See Note 3 of the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements).

Retirement Benefits

On March 10, 2017, the FASB issued ASU No. 2017-07, *Improving the Presentation of Net Periodic Pension Cost and Net Periodic Postretirement Benefit Cost*. This ASU is designed to increase the transparency and usefulness of information about defined benefit costs for pension plans and other post-retirement benefit plans presented in employer financial statements. Effective October 1, 2006, the Company’s pension plan was frozen and the Company ceased accruing any additional benefits. The Company adopted the new standard effective January 1, 2018 and applied the guidance retrospectively, as required. As a result of adoption, the Company’s net periodic pension cost and net periodic postretirement benefit cost are reported within net periodic benefit income on the Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations. The Company has included the disclosures required by ASU No. 2017-07.

Hedge Accounting

On August 28, 2017, the FASB issued ASU No. 2017-12, *Targeted Improvements to Accounting for Hedging Activities*. This ASU is designed to better align hedge accounting with an organization's risk management activities in the financial statements. In addition, this ASU simplifies the application of hedge accounting guidance in areas where practice issues exist. The Company early adopted this ASU as of January 1, 2018. Upon adoption, the Company recorded a cumulative effect adjustment of \$5.1 million and corresponding tax effect adjustment of \$1.3 million to Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income ("AOCI") from accumulated earnings. This adjustment is intended to ensure that the resulting AOCI balance represents the cumulative change in the hedging instruments' fair value since hedge inception, less any amounts that should have been recognized in earnings under this ASU. Going forward, the earnings effect of the hedged items will be recorded in the same line item in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations in which the earnings effect of the hedged item is reported when the hedged item affects earnings.

Pending Adoption

Leases

On February 25, 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-02, *Leases*. This ASU introduces a lessee model that brings most leases on the balance sheet. The new standard establishes a right-of-use ("ROU") model that requires a lessee to recognize an ROU asset and lease liability on the balance sheet for all leases with a term longer than 12 months. Leases will be classified as financing or operating, with balance sheet classification affecting the pattern and classification of expense recognition in the income statement.

This ASU is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2018, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company expects to adopt the new standard on its effective date. A modified retrospective transition approach is required for leases existing at, or entered into after, the beginning of the earliest comparative period presented in the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, with certain practical expedients available.

The Company expects that this standard will have a material effect on its Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements. The Company is currently evaluating significant contracts and assessing the potential impacts. Based on the assessments performed thus far, the Company believes that it has certain manufacturing equipment leases currently classified as operating leases that will be classified as finance leases under the new standard. As of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, the Company estimates that the ROU asset and liability associated with these leases would be approximately \$143 million and \$72 million, respectively. This estimate is based upon the present value of the remaining minimum lease payments for equipment that is subject to lease agreements as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017.

In addition, the Company has numerous real estate and equipment leases currently classified as operating leases that the Company believes will continue to be classified as operating leases under the new standard. The Company expects that the ROU assets and liabilities associated with these leases will be material, but has not yet quantified the total balance sheet impact for these leases.

Goodwill Impairment

On January 26, 2017, the FASB issued ASU No. 2017-04, *Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment*. This ASU simplifies the accounting for goodwill impairments by eliminating step 2 from the goodwill impairment test, and is effective for annual and any interim impairment tests for periods beginning after December 15, 2019. Early adoption of the ASU is allowed for all entities beginning with any goodwill impairment test occurring and performed after January 1, 2017. The Company does not expect a material financial statement impact related to the adoption of this ASU.

Stock Compensation

On June 20, 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-07, *Improvements to Nonemployee Share-Based Payment Accounting*. This ASU simplifies the accounting for share based payments granted to nonemployees for goods and services. Under the ASU, most of the guidance on such payments to nonemployees would be aligned with the requirements for share-based payments granted to employees. This ASU is effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2018 and early adoption is permitted. The Company does not expect a material financial statement impact related to the adoption of this ASU.

Fair Value Measurement

On August 28, 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-13, *Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Fair Value Measurement*. This ASU modifies the disclosure requirements on fair value measurements. This ASU is effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2019 and early adoption is permitted. The Company does not expect a material financial statement impact related to the adoption of this ASU.

Retirement Benefits

On August 28, 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-14, *Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Defined Benefit Plans*. This ASU modifies the disclosure requirements related to defined benefit pension or other postretirement benefit plans. This ASU is effective for annual and interim

periods beginning after December 15, 2020 and early adoption is permitted. The Company does not expect a material financial statement impact related to the adoption of this ASU.

Note 3. Revenue

On January 1, 2018, the Company adopted FASB ASC No. 606, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*, using the modified retrospective method as applied to customer contracts that were not completed as of January 1, 2018. As a result, financial information for reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018 are presented in accordance with FASB ASC No. 606, while comparative financial information has not been adjusted and continues to be reported in accordance with the Company's revenue recognition policies prior to the adoption of FASB ASC No. 606.

The Company enters into contracts with its customers that create enforceable rights and obligations. Each such contract requires the Company to supply products for specific vehicle programs. The Company has determined that each unit produced represents a separate performance obligation. The Company satisfies its performance obligations and recognizes revenue at a point in time when the customer has obtained control of the unit. Determining when control transfers requires management to make judgments that affect the timing of revenue recognized. The Company has determined that control has transferred when its products are shipped to its customers because the Company has a present right to payment at that time, legal title and risk of loss have passed to the customer and the customer is able to direct the use of, and obtain substantially all of the benefits from, the products. Invoices are generated upon shipment to the customer and are based on contractually agreed upon unit prices. The Company has payment terms with its customers that generally require payment within 30 to 60 days of invoice date. FASB ASC No. 606 provides a practical expedient that allows companies to exclude from the transaction price any amounts collected from customers for all sales (and other similar) taxes. We do not include sales and other taxes in our transaction price and thus do not recognize these amounts as revenue. Shipping and handling costs are accounted for as fulfillment costs and are included in cost of sales.

It is common for the Company to negotiate pricing with its customers on an annual basis which can result in price adjustments over the program lives or other variable consideration adjustments. Based on extensive historical experience, the Company has concluded its estimate of variable consideration is not constrained. Therefore the Company accrues for these items using the most likely amount method in accordance with FASB ASC No. 606-10-32 and records adjustments to revenue throughout the year as negotiations progress and are finalized. In certain cases, the Company provides lump sum payments to its customers that are directly related to awarded programs. These payments are expected to be recovered over the life of the associated program; therefore, the Company capitalizes these payments and amortizes them into revenue over the life of the associated program.

The Company participates in certain of its customers' steel repurchase programs, under which it purchases steel directly from a customer's designated steel supplier, for use in manufacturing products for that customer. The Company takes delivery and title to such steel and bears the risk of loss and obsolescence. The Company invoices its customers based upon annually negotiated selling prices, which inherently include a component for steel under such repurchase programs. Under guidance provided in FASB ASC No. 606-10-55, *Principal versus Agent Considerations*, the Company has risks and rewards of a principal and therefore, for sales transactions in which the Company participates in a customer's steel resale program, revenue is recognized on a gross basis for the entire amount of the sales, including the component for purchases under that customer's steel resale program. The purchases through customer resale programs have buffered the impact of price swings associated with the procurement of these metals. The remainder of the Company's steel and aluminum purchasing requirements are met through contracts with mills, in which the Company negotiates its own price and seeks to pass through price increases and decreases to the Company's customers.

The Company enters into agreements to produce products for its customers at the beginning of a given vehicle program's life. Once such agreements are entered into by the Company, it is obligated to fulfill the customers' purchasing requirements for the entire production period of the vehicle programs, which range from three to ten years, and generally, the Company has no provisions to terminate such contracts. These contracts may be terminated by the Company's customers at any time. Historically, terminations of these contracts have been minimal.

Additionally, the Company monitors the aging of uncollected billings and adjusts its accounts receivable allowance on a quarterly basis, as necessary, based upon its evaluation of the probability of collection. The adjustments made by the Company due to the write-off of uncollectible amounts have been immaterial for all periods presented. At September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017 the Company's accounts receivable, net of allowances, were \$281 million and \$239.3 million, respectively. The Company did not have any material unbilled or deferred revenue recorded on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2018, or December 31, 2017.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, revenue recognized from performance obligations related to prior periods (for example, due to changes in transaction price) was not material.

Revenue expected to be recognized in any future period related to remaining performance obligations, excluding revenue pertaining to contracts that have an original expected duration of one year or less or contracts where revenue is recognized as invoiced, is not material.

See Note 16 for disaggregation of revenue by reportable segment. The following table summarizes the Company's vehicle platform mix as a percent of revenues by segment for the three months ended September 30, 2018:

	North America	Europe	Consolidated
SUV (sport-utility vehicles)	54%	27%	46%
Pickup	28%	0%	21%
Small Car	2%	36%	11%
Van	4%	22%	9%
Large Car	7%	9%	7%
MPV (multi-purpose vehicles)	1%	1%	1%
All Other	4%	5%	5%
	100%	100%	100%

The following table summarizes the Company's vehicle platform mix as a percent of revenues by segment for the nine months ended September 30, 2018:

	North America	Europe	Consolidated
SUV (sport-utility vehicles)	54%	25%	45%
Pickup	28%	0%	20%
Small Car	3%	37%	13%
Van	4%	22%	9%
Large Car	7%	8%	7%
MPV (multi-purpose vehicles)	1%	1%	2%
All Other	3%	7%	4%
	100%	100%	100%

Note 4. Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or net realizable value. Cost is determined by the first-in, first-out method. Maintenance, repair, and non-productive inventory, which are considered consumables, are expensed when acquired and included in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations as cost of sales. Inventories consist of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
Raw materials	\$ 45,438	\$ 33,929
Work in process	18,116	16,112
Finished goods	30,101	28,704
Total inventory	\$ 93,655	\$ 78,745

Note 5. Discontinued Operations and Assets Held for Sale

The Company's Board of Directors has approved a plan to sell the Company's remaining business operations in Brazil and China. At September 30, 2018, the Chinese business operations have been sold and the Brazilian business operation is considered held for sale in accordance with FASB ASC No. 360, *Property, Plant, and Equipment*, and presented as discontinued operations in the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, in accordance with FASB ASC No. 205, *Discontinued Operations*. At December 31, 2017, both of the Brazilian and Chinese business operations were held for sale and presented as discontinued operations.

The following table discloses select financial information of the discontinued operations of the Company's Brazilian and Chinese business operations (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Revenues	\$ 13,047	\$ 14,597	\$ 42,158	\$ 63,373
Loss from sale of Wuhu discontinued operation	-	-	-	(2,596)
Income from discontinued operations:				
Income before provision for income taxes	1,242	1,199	3,127	4,867
Provision for income taxes	339	495	699	706
Income from discontinued operations	\$ 903	\$ 704	\$ 2,428	\$ 1,565

China Joint Ventures

In October of 2016, the Company entered into an agreement to sell its joint venture in Wuhu, China: Tower Automotive Company, Ltd ("Wuhu"). The sale agreement provided for the purchase of the Company's equity in the joint venture for approximately \$21 million, net of tax. The Company received proceeds of \$4.5 million in the fourth quarter of 2016. On May 9, 2017, the Company completed the sale of its equity interest in Wuhu. During the second quarter of 2017, the Company received total net proceeds of \$15.9 million related to the sale, which resulted in a total sales price that was less than the carrying value of the net assets of Wuhu. In addition, the Company incurred certain transaction related costs; therefore, a net loss of \$2.6 million was recorded in the second quarter of 2017.

Also, in October of 2016, the Company entered into an agreement to sell its joint venture in Ningbo, China: Tower DIT Automotive Products Co., Ltd ("Ningbo"). The sale agreement provided for purchase of the Company's equity in the joint venture for approximately \$4 million, net of tax. The Company completed the sale of Ningbo during the second quarter of 2018 and received proceeds of \$4.3 million, net of tax.

Wuhu and Ningbo have been presented as discontinued operations in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements, in accordance with FASB ASC No. 205.

Brazil Operations

The Company's Board of Directors has approved a plan to sell the Company's remaining business operations in Brazil. At September 30, 2018, the remaining Brazilian business operations are considered held for sale in accordance with FASB ASC No. 360 and presented as discontinued operations in the Consolidated Financial Statements, in accordance with FASB ASC No. 205.

The assets and liabilities held for sale are recorded at the lower of carrying value or fair value less costs to sell and are summarized by category in the following table (in thousands):

	September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
ASSETS		
Current assets	\$ 18,785	\$ 24,024
Property, plant, and equipment, net	23,418	29,239
Other assets, net	1,483	9,387
Fair value adjustment	(15,000)	(18,400)
Total assets held for sale	\$ 28,686	\$ 44,250
LIABILITIES		
Short-term debt and current maturities of capital lease obligations	\$ 598	\$ 1,129
Accounts payable	9,701	11,877
Total current liabilities	10,299	13,006
Long-term debt, net of current maturities	600	1,223
Other non-current liabilities	1,768	3,107
Total non-current liabilities	2,368	4,330
Total liabilities held for sale	\$ 12,667	\$ 17,336

Note 6. Tooling

Tooling represents costs incurred by the Company in the development of new tooling used in the manufacture of the Company's products. All pre-production tooling costs incurred for tools that the Company will not own and that will be used in producing products supplied under long-term supply agreements are expensed as incurred, unless the supply agreement provides the Company with the noncancellable right to use the tools or the reimbursement of such costs is contractually guaranteed by the customer. Generally, the customer agrees to reimburse the Company for certain of its tooling costs at the time the customer awards a contract to the Company.

When the part for which tooling has been developed reaches a production-ready status, the Company is reimbursed by its customer for the cost of the tooling, at which time the tooling becomes the property of the customer. The Company has certain other tooling costs related to tools the Company has the contractual right to use during the life of the supply arrangement, which are capitalized and amortized over the life of the related product program. Customer-owned tooling is included in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets in prepaid tooling, notes receivable, and other, while Company-owned and other tooling is included in other assets, net.

The components of capitalized tooling costs are as follows (in thousands):

	September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
Customer-owned tooling, net	\$ 33,454	\$ 63,456
Company-owned tooling	327	277
Total tooling, net	<u>\$ 33,781</u>	<u>\$ 63,733</u>

Note 7. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*Goodwill*

The change in the carrying amount of goodwill is set forth below by reportable segment and on a consolidated basis (in thousands):

	Europe	North America	Consolidated
Balance at December 31, 2017	\$ 56,241	\$ 7,424	\$ 63,665
Currency translation adjustment	(1,865)	364	(1,501)
Balance at September 30, 2018	<u>\$ 54,376</u>	<u>\$ 7,788</u>	<u>\$ 62,164</u>

Intangibles

In the North America segment, an intangible asset of \$3.6 million related to customer relationships was recorded in 2015, as part of the acquisition of a facility in Mexico. This intangible asset has a definite life and will be amortized on a straight-line basis over seven years, the estimated life of the related asset, which approximates the recognition of related revenues.

The Company incurred amortization expense of \$0.1 million and \$0.3 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, respectively. The Company incurred amortization expense of \$0.1 million and \$0.3 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, respectively.

Note 8. Restructuring and Asset Impairment Charges

As of September 30, 2018, the Company has executed various restructuring plans and may execute additional plans in the future to reduce corporate overhead, to realign manufacturing capacity to prevailing global automotive production levels, and to improve the utilization of remaining facilities. Estimates of restructuring charges are based on information available at the time such charges are recorded. Due to the inherent uncertainty involved in estimating restructuring expenses, actual amounts paid for such activities may differ from amounts initially recorded. Accordingly, the Company may record revisions of previous estimates by adjusting previously established reserves.

Restructuring and Asset Impairment Charges

Net restructuring and asset impairment charges for each of the Company's segments include the following (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Europe	\$ 398	\$ 199	\$ 1,326	\$ 943
North America	93	932	982	7,436
Consolidated	<u>\$ 491</u>	<u>\$ 1,131</u>	<u>\$ 2,308</u>	<u>\$ 8,379</u>

The following table sets forth the Company's net restructuring and asset impairment charges by type for the periods presented (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Employee termination costs	\$ 473	\$ 690	\$ 2,207	\$ 7,557
Other exit costs	18	441	101	822
Total restructuring expense	\$ 491	\$ 1,131	\$ 2,308	\$ 8,379

The charges incurred during the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 related primarily to the following actions:

2018 Actions

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, the charges incurred in the North America and Europe segments related to severance charges and ongoing maintenance expense of facilities closed as a result of prior actions. During the second quarter of 2018, the Company amended the lease agreements related to closed facilities which resulted in a \$0.3 million adjustment to the liability previously recorded. As a result of these amendments, the Company will no longer record material restructuring expense related to closed facilities.

2017 Actions

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, the charges incurred in the North America and Europe segments related to severance charges to reduce corporate overhead and ongoing maintenance expense of facilities closed as a result of prior actions.

Restructuring Reserve

The table below summarizes the activity in the restructuring reserve by segment, reflected in accrued liabilities and other non-current liabilities, for the above-mentioned actions through September 30, 2018 (in thousands):

	Europe	North America	Consolidated
Balance at December 31, 2017	\$ 977	\$ 4,070	\$ 5,047
Payments	(1,806)	(4,179)	(5,985)
Increase in liability	1,326	881	2,207
Balance at September 30, 2018	\$ 497	\$ 772	\$ 1,269

Except as disclosed in the table above, the Company does not anticipate incurring additional material cash charges associated with the actions described above. The changes in the restructuring reserve set forth in the table above do not agree with the restructuring charges for the period, as certain items are expensed as incurred related to the actions described.

The restructuring reserve decreased during the nine months ended September 30, 2018, reflecting primarily payments related to prior accruals and 2018 restructuring actions, offset partially by accruals for severance.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Company incurred payments in Europe of \$1.8 million and in North America of \$4.2 million related to prior accruals and 2018 restructuring actions described above.

Note 9. Debt

Short-Term Debt

Short-term debt consists of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
Current maturities of debts (excluding capital leases)	\$ 23,136	\$ 36,500
Current maturities of capital leases	-	5,548
Total short-term debt	\$ 23,136	\$ 42,048

Long-Term Debt

Long-term debt consists of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
Term Loan Credit Facility (net of discount of \$1,731 and \$2,288)	\$ 304,346	\$ 356,501
Amended Revolving Credit Facility	-	-
Other foreign subsidiary indebtedness	19,521	32,885
Debt issue costs	(6,431)	(8,148)
Total debt	317,436	381,238
Less: Current maturities of debts (excluding capital leases)	(23,136)	(36,500)
Total long-term debt	\$ 294,300	\$ 344,738

Term Loan Credit Facility

On March 7, 2017, the Company amended the Term Loan Credit Agreement by entering into the Third Refinancing Term Loan Amendment and Restatement Agreement ("Third Term Loan Amendment"), pursuant to which, among other things, the outstanding term loans under the Term Loan Credit Agreement were refinanced in full. There were no additional borrowings associated with this refinancing. The aggregate principal amount of \$358.9 million was outstanding under the Term Loan Credit Agreement upon amendment. The maturity date of the Term Loan Credit Facility is March 7, 2024 and the Term Loans bear interest at (i) the Alternate Base Rate plus a margin of 1.75% or (ii) the Adjusted LIBO Rate (calculated by multiplying the applicable LIBOR rate by a statutory reserve rate) plus a margin of 2.75%.

The Term Loan Borrower's obligations under the Term Loan Credit Facility are guaranteed by the Company on an unsecured basis and guaranteed by Term Loan Holdco and certain of the Company's other direct and indirect domestic subsidiaries on a secured basis (the "Subsidiary Guarantors"). The Term Loan Credit Facility is secured by (i) a first priority security interest in certain assets of the Term Loan Borrower and the Subsidiary Guarantors, other than, inter alia, accounts, chattel paper, inventory, cash deposit accounts, securities accounts, machinery, equipment and real property and all contract rights, and records and proceeds relating to the foregoing and (ii) on a second priority basis to all other assets of the Term Loan Borrower and the Subsidiary Guarantor which have been pledged on a first priority basis to the agent for the benefit of the lenders under the Amended Revolving Credit Facility described below.

The Term Loan Credit Agreement includes customary covenants applicable to certain of the Company's subsidiaries and includes customary events of default and amounts due thereunder may be accelerated upon the occurrence of an event of default.

On July 27, 2018, the Company made a \$50 million voluntary repayment on its Term Loan Credit Facility. In connection with this prepayment, the Company accelerated the amortization of the original issue discount and the associated debt issue costs by \$1 million.

As of September 30, 2018, the outstanding principal balance of the Term Loan Credit Facility was \$304.3 million (net of a \$1.7 million original issue discount) and the effective interest rate was 4.875% per annum.

Amended Revolving Credit Facility

On March 7, 2017, the Company entered into a Fourth Amended and Restated Revolving Credit and Guaranty Agreement ("Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement"), by and among Tower Automotive Holdings USA, LLC, the Company, Tower Automotive Holdings I, LLC, Tower Automotive Holdings II(a), LLC, the subsidiary guarantors named therein, the financial institutions from time to time party thereto as Lenders, and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. as Issuing Lender, as Swing Line Lender, and as Administrative Agent for the Lenders. The Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement amended and restated, in its entirety, the Third Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement, dated as of September 17, 2014, by and among Tower Automotive Holdings USA, LLC ("the Borrower"), its domestic affiliate and domestic subsidiary guarantors named therein, and the lenders party thereto, and the Agent.

The Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement provides for a cash flow revolving credit facility in the aggregate amount of up to \$200 million. The Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement also provides for the issuance of letters of credit in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$30 million, provided that the total amount of credit (inclusive of revolving loans and letters of credit) extended under the Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement is subject to an overall cap, on any date, of \$200 million. The Company may request the issuance of Letters of Credit denominated in Dollars or Euros. The expiration date for the Amended Revolving Credit Facility is March 7, 2022.

Advances under the Amended Revolving Credit Facility bear interest at an alternate base rate plus a base rate margin or LIBOR plus a Eurodollar margin. The applicable margins are determined by the Company's Total Net Leverage Ratio (as defined in the Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement). As of September 30, 2018, the applicable margins were 2.25% per annum for LIBOR based borrowings and 1.25% per annum for base rate borrowings. The Company will pay a commitment fee at a rate equal to 0.50% per annum on the average daily unused total revolving credit commitment.

The Amended Revolving Credit Facility is guaranteed by the Company on an unsecured basis and is guaranteed by certain of the Company's other direct and indirect domestic subsidiaries on a secured basis. The Amended Revolving Credit Facility is secured (i) by a first priority security interest in certain assets of the Borrower and the Subsidiary Guarantors, including accounts, inventory, chattel paper, cash, deposit accounts, securities accounts, machinery, equipment and real property and all contract rights, and records and proceeds relating to the foregoing and (ii) on a second priority basis to all other assets of the Borrower and the Subsidiary Guarantors. The Borrower's and each Subsidiary Guarantor's pledge of such assets as security for the obligations under the Amended Revolving Credit Facility is evidenced by a Revolving Credit Security Agreement dated as of March 17, 2017, among the Borrower, the guarantors party thereto, and the Agent.

The Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement contains customary covenants applicable to certain of the Company's subsidiaries and includes customary events of default and amounts due there under may be accelerated upon the occurrence of an event of default.

As of September 30, 2018, there was \$191.8 million of unutilized borrowing availability under the Amended Revolving Credit Facility. At that date, there were no borrowings and \$8.2 million of letters of credit outstanding under the Amended Revolving Credit Facility.

Other Foreign Subsidiary Indebtedness

As of September 30, 2018, other foreign subsidiary indebtedness of \$19.5 million consisted of receivables factoring in Europe.

The change in foreign subsidiary indebtedness from December 31, 2017 to September 30, 2018 is explained by the following (in thousands):

	Europe	
Balance at December 31, 2017	\$	32,885
Change in borrowings on credit facilities, net		(12,274)
Foreign exchange impact		(1,090)
Balance at September 30, 2018	\$	19,521

Generally, borrowings of foreign subsidiaries are made under credit agreements with commercial lenders and are used to fund working capital and other operating requirements.

As of September 30, 2018, the receivables factoring facilities balance available to the Company was \$19.5 million (€16.8 million), of which the entire amount was drawn. These are uncommitted, demand facilities which are subject to termination at the discretion of the banks and bear interest rates based on the average three month EURIBOR plus a spread ranging from 2.50% to 3.00%. The effective annual interest rates as of September 30, 2018 ranged from 2.18% to 2.68%, with a weighted average interest rate of 2.52% per annum. Any receivables factoring under these facilities is with recourse and is secured by the accounts receivable factored. These receivables factoring transactions are recorded in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets in short-term debt and current maturities of capital lease obligations.

As of September 30, 2018, the secured line of credit balance available to the Company was \$10.2 million (€8.8 million), of which no borrowings were outstanding. The facility bears an interest rate based on the EURIBOR plus a spread of 1.15% and matures in October 2018. The Company expects to renew the facility under similar terms. The facilities are secured by certain accounts receivable related to customer-owned tooling, real estate, and other assets, and are subject to negotiated prepayments upon the receipt of funds from completed customer projects.

As of September 30, 2018, the Company's European subsidiaries had an asset-based revolving credit facility balance available to the Company of \$40.6 million (€35 million), of which no borrowings were outstanding. Advances under this facility bear interest at the three month EURIBOR plus a margin or at EONIA plus a margin. The applicable margin is determined by the Company's total net leverage ratio as defined in the debt agreement. The applicable margin as of September 30, 2018 was 1.95%. The Company is required to pay a commitment fee at a rate equal to 0.6825% per annum on the average daily unused total revolving credit commitment. This facility has a maturity date of November 2022. Availability on the credit facility is determined based upon the appraised value of certain machinery, equipment, and real estate, subject to a borrowing base availability limitation and customary covenants.

Covenants

As of September 30, 2018, the Company was in compliance with the financial covenants that govern its credit agreements.

Capital Leases

The Company had capital lease obligations of \$0 and \$5.5 million as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively. These obligations are presented within short-term debt and current maturities of capital lease obligations in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

The Company's capital lease obligation as of December 31, 2017 related to a manufacturing facility in Europe. The original term of the capital lease ended on March 31, 2018 and the Company completed the purchase of the facility utilizing the end of the lease term purchase option during the second quarter of 2018.

Debt Issue Costs

The Company had debt issuance costs, net of amortization, of \$6.4 million and \$8.2 million as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively. These amounts are reflected in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as a direct deduction from long-term debt, net of current maturities.

The Company incurred interest expense related to the amortization of debt issue costs of \$1 million and \$1.8 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, respectively. The Company incurred interest expense related to the amortization of debt issue costs of \$0.5 million and \$1.8 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, respectively.

Note 10. Derivative Financial Instruments

The Company's derivative financial instruments include interest rate and cross currency swaps. The Company does not enter into derivative financial instruments for trading or speculative purposes. On an on-going basis, the Company monitors counterparty credit ratings. The Company considers credit non-performance risk to be low because the Company enters into agreements with commercial institutions that have at least an S&P, or equivalent, investment grade credit rating. On October 17, 2014, the Company entered into a \$200 million variable rate to fixed rate interest rate swap for a portion of the Company's Term Loan and a €157.1 million cross currency swap based on the U.S. dollar / Euro exchange spot rate of \$1.2733 which was the prevailing rate at the time of the transaction. The maturity date for both swap instruments was April 16, 2020. During the year ended December 31, 2015, the Company reduced the notional amount of the interest rate swap from \$200 million to \$186.1 million and increased the notional amount on the cross currency swap from €157.1 million to €178 million.

On March 7, 2017, the Company amended the variable rate to fixed rate interest rate swap, for a portion of the Company's Term Loan. The U.S. dollar notional amount remained the same at \$186.1 million, the fixed interest rate was changed from 5.09% to 5.628% per annum, and the maturity date was extended from April 16, 2020 to March 7, 2024.

Also on March 7, 2017, the Company amended the cross currency swap which hedges its net investment in Europe, based on the U.S. dollar / Euro exchange spot rate of \$1.04795. The Euro notional amount remained the same at €178 million, the interest rate was lowered from 3.40% to 2.85%, and the maturity date was extended from April 16, 2020 to March 7, 2024.

Both swaps were amended and restated in conjunction with the March 7, 2017 amendment to the Company's Term Loan Credit Agreement.

On August 31, 2017, the Company amended certain of its variable rate to fixed rate interest rate swaps, for a portion of the Company's Term Loan. The U.S. dollar notional amount remained the same at \$186.1 million, the fixed interest rate was changed from 5.628% to 5.878% per annum for certain swaps, and the maturity date remained at March 7, 2024. The fair value of the swap will fluctuate with changes in interest rates. This amendment was considered a termination event per FASB ASC No. 815, *Derivatives and Hedging*; therefore, the balance within AOCI will be frozen and recognized in results of operations over the remaining term of the hedged transaction. As of September 30, 2018, \$6.2 million was recorded in AOCI, and \$0.3 million and \$0.8 million were recognized in interest expense during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, respectively.

At September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, the U.S. dollar / Euro exchange spot rate was \$1.1612 and \$1.2009, respectively. The following amounts were recorded in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as being payable to counterparties under FASB ASC No. 815 (in thousands):

	Location	September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
Cross currency swap	Other non-current liabilities	\$ 25,054	\$ 27,001
Interest rate swap	Other non-current liabilities	1,284	8,918

All derivative instruments are recorded at fair value. Effectiveness for net investment and cash flow hedges is initially assessed at the inception of the hedging relationship and on a quarterly basis thereafter. The change in fair value of the hedging instruments are recorded in other comprehensive income. The earnings effect of the hedged items is recorded in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations as interest expense when the hedged item affects earnings. The cross currency swap qualifies as a net investment hedge of the Company's European subsidiaries. The interest rate swap qualifies as a cash flow hedge of the interest payments related to the Company's Term Loan. Prior to March 7, 2017, the Company had not accounted for the interest rate swap as a cash flow hedge, and all changes in fair value were recognized in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations as interest expense, net.

The following table presents the deferred gain / (loss) reported in AOCI at September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

	Deferred gain in AOCI	
	September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
Cross currency swap	\$ 15,948	\$ 9,849
Interest rate swap	1,922	(7,537)
Total	\$ 17,870	\$ 2,312

The following table presents the total amounts reported in interest expense (income) in the Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations and the effects of hedging on those line items:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2018	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018
Interest expense	\$ 6,048	\$ 16,465
Effect of hedging	(467)	(958)

Note 11. Income Taxes

During the three months ended September 30, 2018, the Company recorded income tax expense of \$4 million on \$25.7 million of pre-tax profit from continuing operations – for a consolidated effective tax rate of 15.6%. Included in the \$4 million of worldwide tax expense was \$2.7 million of deferred tax expense attributable to U.S. operations. The consolidated effective rate for the year 2018 decreased primarily due to the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the “TCJA”) on December 22, 2017.

The TCJA includes significant changes to the U.S. corporate income tax system. Among other items, the TCJA lowers the corporate income tax rate from 35% to 21% and creates a new modified territorial tax system exempting foreign profits from U.S. taxation with some exceptions. It also requires a one-time deemed repatriation of accumulated foreign earnings for the year ended December 31, 2017. To determine the amount of the deemed repatriation and any associated repatriation tax, the Company must determine, in addition to other factors, the amount of post-1986 profits or losses of each foreign subsidiary, as well as the amount of foreign income taxes paid on such profits or losses. The Company has filed its 2017 federal income tax return and has determined that no transition tax inclusion is necessary. Based on current law and guidelines issued by the Internal Revenue Service, the Company does not believe that a measurement-period adjustment is required.

During the three months ended September 30, 2017, the Company recorded income tax expense of \$8 million on \$22.2 million of pre-tax profit from continuing operations – for a consolidated effective tax rate of 36%. During the quarter, the Company booked a one-time deferred tax expense of \$3.5 million for one of its European affiliates to establish a deferred tax valuation allowance and reverse tax benefits booked on losses generated during the first two quarters of 2017.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Company recorded income tax expense of \$14.6 million on \$74.4 million of pre-tax profit from continuing operations – for a consolidated effective tax rate of 19.6%. Included in the \$14.6 million of consolidated tax expense was \$9.2 million of deferred tax expense attributable to U.S. operations. The consolidated effective rate and expense for the year 2018 decreased primarily due to the TCJA.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2017, the Company recorded income tax expense of \$22.2 million on \$72.2 million of pre-tax profit from continuing operations – for a consolidated effective tax rate of 30.7%. Included in the \$22.2 million of consolidated tax expense was an expense of \$3.5 million for one of its European affiliates to establish a deferred tax valuation allowance and also reverse tax benefits booked on losses generated during the first two quarters of 2017.

Note 12. Retirement Plans

The Company sponsors a pension and various other postretirement benefit plans for its employees. Each plan serves a defined group of employees and has varying levels of Company contributions. The Company's contributions to certain plans may be required by the terms of the Company's collective bargaining agreements. The components of net periodic benefit cost are included within net periodic benefit income on the Consolidated Statement of Operations.

The following tables provide the components of net periodic pension benefit cost and other post-retirement benefit cost (in thousands):

	Pension Benefits		Other Benefits	
	Three Months Ended September 30,		Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Service cost	\$ 5	\$ 4	\$ 2	\$ 2
Interest cost	1,835	1,772	128	136
Expected return on plan assets (a)	(2,537)	(2,637)	-	-
Amortization of prior service credit	(24)	(23)	33	33
Net periodic benefit cost / (income)	<u>\$ (721)</u>	<u>\$ (884)</u>	<u>\$ 163</u>	<u>\$ 171</u>

	Pension Benefits		Other Benefits	
	Nine Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Service cost	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 4	\$ 6
Interest cost	5,507	5,620	384	408
Expected return on plan assets (a)	(7,612)	(7,747)	-	-
Amortization of prior service credit	(71)	(71)	99	99
Net periodic benefit cost / (income)	<u>\$ (2,162)</u>	<u>\$ (2,184)</u>	<u>\$ 487</u>	<u>\$ 513</u>

(a) Expected rate of return on plan assets is 7.40% for 2018 and was 7.40% for 2017

The Company expects its minimum pension funding requirements to be \$6.1 million during 2018. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Company made contributions of \$2.7 million and \$5.9 million, respectively.

Additionally, during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Company contributed \$1.8 million and \$5.1 million, respectively, to its defined contribution retirement plans.

Note 13. Stockholders' Equity and Noncontrolling Interests

The table below provides a reconciliation of the carrying amount of total stockholders' equity, including stockholders' equity attributable to Tower International, Inc. ("Tower") and equity attributable to the noncontrolling interests ("NCI") (in thousands):

	Nine Months Ended September 30,					
	2018			2017		
	Tower	NCI	Total	Tower	NCI	Total
Stockholders' equity beginning balance	\$ 269,872	\$ -	\$ 269,872	\$ 207,795	\$ 6,144	\$ 213,939
Net income	62,256	-	62,256	51,492	110	51,602
Other comprehensive income:						
Foreign currency translation adjustments	(12,349)	-	(12,349)	19,815	52	19,867
Unrealized loss on qualifying cash flow hedge	7,097	-	7,097	(5,896)	-	(5,896)
Total comprehensive income	57,004	-	57,004	65,411	162	65,573
Vesting of RSUs	-	-	-	2	-	2
Treasury stock	(474)	-	(474)	(763)	-	(763)
Share based compensation expense	2,512	-	2,512	1,657	-	1,657
Proceeds from stock options exercised	251	-	251	1,094	-	1,094
Dividend paid	(7,409)	-	(7,409)	(6,756)	-	(6,756)
Cumulative effect of the adoption of ASU No. 2016-09	-	-	-	5,329	-	5,329
Cumulative effect of the adoption of ASU No. 2017-12, net of tax of \$1.3 million	(3,848)	-	(3,848)	-	-	-
Noncontrolling interest sold	-	-	-	-	(6,306)	(6,306)
Stockholders' equity ending balance	\$ 317,908	\$ -	\$ 317,908	\$ 273,769	\$ -	\$ 273,769

On June 17, 2016, the Company announced its Board of Directors' authorization to repurchase up to \$100 million of the Company's issued and outstanding common stock from time to time in the open market, or in privately negotiated transactions. The Company expects to fund such repurchases from cash flow from operations, cash on hand, asset dispositions, and borrowings under its revolving credit facility. Through September 30, 2018, the Company repurchased a total of 829,648 shares of common stock at an aggregate cost of \$18.9 million under this repurchase program. During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, no shares have been repurchased under this repurchase program.

The following table presents the components of accumulated other comprehensive loss (in thousands):

	As of September 30, 2018	As of December 31, 2017	Change
Foreign currency translation adjustments, net of tax expense of \$1.6 million and \$0.1 million	\$ (37,210)	\$ (24,861)	\$ (12,349)
Defined benefit plans, net of tax expense of \$15 million and \$15 million	(38,249)	(38,249)	-
Unrealized loss on qualifying cash flow hedge, net of tax (benefit) of (\$0.5) million and (\$2.8) million	2,399	(4,698)	7,097
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	\$ (73,060)	\$ (67,808)	\$ (5,252)

The following table presents the changes in accumulated other comprehensive loss by component (in thousands) for the three months ended September 30, 2018:

	Unrealized loss on Qualifying cash flow Hedge	Defined Benefit Plan	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments	Total
Balance at June 30, 2018	\$ 1,025	\$ (38,249)	\$ (34,998)	\$ (72,222)
Other comprehensive income before reclassification	1,374	-	(2,212)	(838)
Net current-period other comprehensive income	1,374	-	(2,212)	(838)
Balance at September 30, 2018	\$ 2,399	\$ (38,249)	\$ (37,210)	\$ (73,060)

The following table presents the changes in accumulated other comprehensive loss by component (in thousands) for the three months ended September 30, 2017:

	Unrealized loss on Qualifying cash flow Hedge	Defined Benefit Plan	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments	Total
Balance at June 30, 2017	\$ (4,613)	\$ (38,972)	\$ (31,174)	\$ (74,759)
Other comprehensive loss before reclassification	(1,283)	-	6,578	5,295
Net current-period other comprehensive loss	(1,283)	-	6,578	5,295
Balance at September 30, 2017	\$ (5,896)	\$ (38,972)	\$ (24,596)	\$ (69,464)

The following table presents the changes in accumulated other comprehensive loss by component (in thousands) for the nine months ended September 30, 2018:

	Unrealized loss on Qualifying cash flow Hedge	Defined Benefit Plan	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments	Total
Balance at December 31, 2017	\$ (4,698)	\$ (38,249)	\$ (24,861)	\$ (67,808)
Other comprehensive income before reclassification	7,097	-	(12,349)	(5,252)
Net current-period other comprehensive income	7,097	-	(12,349)	(5,252)
Balance at September 30, 2018	\$ 2,399	\$ (38,249)	\$ (37,210)	\$ (73,060)

The following table presents the changes in accumulated other comprehensive loss by component (in thousands) for the nine months ended September 30, 2017:

	Unrealized loss on Qualifying cash flow Hedge	Defined Benefit Plan	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments	Total
Balance at December 31, 2016	\$ -	\$ (38,972)	\$ (44,411)	\$ (83,383)
Other comprehensive loss before reclassification	(5,896)	-	19,815	13,919
Net current-period other comprehensive loss	(5,896)	-	19,815	13,919
Balance at September 30, 2017	\$ (5,896)	\$ (38,972)	\$ (24,596)	\$ (69,464)

Note 14. Earnings per Share (“EPS”)

Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing the net income attributable to Tower International, Inc. by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding.

The share count for diluted earnings per share is computed on the basis of the weighted average number of common shares outstanding plus the effects of dilutive common stock equivalents (“CSEs”) outstanding during the period. CSEs, which are securities that may entitle the holder to obtain common stock, include outstanding stock options and restricted stock units. When the average price of the common stock during the period exceeds the exercise price of a stock option, the options are considered potentially dilutive CSEs. When there is a loss from continuing operations, potentially dilutive shares are excluded from the computation of earnings per share, as their effect would be anti-dilutive.

The Company included the effects of all dilutive shares for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 and September 30, 2017.

A summary of the information used to compute basic and diluted net income per share attributable to Tower International, Inc. is shown below (in thousands – except share and per share amounts):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Income from continuing operations	\$ 21,677	\$ 14,227	\$ 59,828	\$ 50,037
Income from discontinued operations, net of tax	903	704	2,428	1,565
Net income	22,580	14,931	62,256	51,602
Less: Net income attributable to the noncontrolling interests	-	-	-	110
Net income attributable to Tower International, Inc.	\$ 22,580	\$ 14,931	\$ 62,256	\$ 51,492
Basic income per share:				
Continuing operations	\$ 1.05	\$ 0.69	\$ 2.91	\$ 2.44
Discontinued operations	0.04	0.03	0.12	0.08
Net income attributable to Tower International, Inc.	1.10	0.73	3.02	2.51
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	20,605,168	20,522,001	20,586,599	20,485,722
Diluted income per share:				
Continuing operations	\$ 1.03	\$ 0.68	\$ 2.85	\$ 2.40
Discontinued operations	0.04	0.03	0.12	0.08
Net income attributable to Tower International, Inc.	1.07	0.72	2.97	2.48
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	21,035,802	20,787,405	20,991,606	20,804,441

Note 15. Share-Based and Long-Term Compensation

Share-Based Compensation

2010 Equity Incentive Plan (“the Plan”)

The Company adopted an equity incentive plan in connection with its 2010 initial public offering that allows for the grant of stock options, restricted stock awards, other equity-based awards, and certain cash-based awards to be made pursuant to the Plan. The eligibility requirements and terms governing the allocation of any common stock and the receipt of other consideration under the Plan are determined by the Board of Directors and/or its Compensation Committee.

At September 30, 2018, 586,508 shares were available for future grants of options and other types of awards under the Plan.

The following table summarizes the Company’s award activity during the nine months ended September 30, 2018:

	Options		Restricted Stock Units	
	Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Outstanding at:				
December 31, 2017	365,677	\$ 12.22	213,022	\$ 26.30
Granted	-	-	240,925	26.32
Options exercised or RSUs vested	(20,178)	12.45	(62,225)	26.32
Forfeited	(4,155)	12.04	(4,896)	26.21
September 30, 2018	341,344	\$ 12.21	386,826	\$ 26.31

Stock Options

The exercise price of each stock option equals the market price of the Company’s common stock on the grant date. Compensation expense is recorded at the grant date fair value and is recognized on a straight-line basis over the applicable vesting periods. The Company’s stock options generally vest over three years, with a maximum term of ten years.

The Company calculates the weighted average grant date fair value of each option granted using a Black-Scholes valuation model. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 the Company did not recognize any expense relating to the options as all of the expense associated with these options had been fully recognized in previous periods.

As of September 30, 2018, the Company had an aggregate of 341,344 stock options that had been granted, but had not yet been exercised. As of September 30, 2018, the remaining average contractual life for these options is approximately three years. During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, 20,178 options were exercised, which had an aggregate intrinsic value of \$0.4 million. As of September 30, 2018, 341,344

stock options were exercisable, which had an aggregate intrinsic value of \$6.2 million. During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, 4,155 options were forfeited and no options were granted.

Restricted Stock Units (“RSUs”)

The grant date fair value of each RSU equals the market price of the Company’s common stock on its date of grant. Compensation expense is recorded at the grant date fair value, less an estimated forfeiture amount, and is recognized on a straight-line basis over the applicable vesting periods. The Company’s RSUs generally vest over a three year period.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Company recognized expense relating to the RSUs of \$0.9 million and \$2.5 million, respectively. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, the Company recognized expense relating to the RSUs of \$0.6 million and \$1.7 million, respectively. As of September 30, 2018, the Company had \$5.8 million of unrecognized compensation expense associated with these RSUs, which will be amortized on a straight-line basis over the next 18 months, on a weighted average basis.

As of September 30, 2018, the Company had an aggregate of 386,826 RSUs that had been granted, but had not yet vested. During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, 240,925 RSUs were granted and 4,896 RSUs were forfeited.

During the first nine months of 2018, a total of 62,225 RSUs vested, resulting in the issuance of 62,225 shares. The fair value of these shares was \$1.6 million. This total was reduced by shares repurchased to provide payment for certain individuals’ minimum statutory withholding tax. After offsets for withholding taxes, a total of 44,161 shares of common stock were issued. The Company paid \$0.5 million to acquire 18,064 vested shares to cover the minimum statutory withholding taxes.

Long-Term Compensation

Amended and Restated CEO Employment Agreement

On July 28, 2014, Mark M. Malcolm, the Company’s former President and Chief Executive Officer, entered into an amended and restated employment agreement (the “Agreement”), by which Mr. Malcolm’s employment was extended through December 31, 2016 (the “Retirement Date”). Mr. Malcolm retired from the Company on the Retirement Date. The Agreement provided for a \$3 million transition bonus, for the successful delivery to Tower’s Board of Directors of a comprehensive chief executive officer succession and transition plan, and a \$3 million retention bonus. These bonus awards were paid in cash on July 14, 2017, and fall under the guidance of FASB ASC No. 450, *Contingencies*. The Company has no liability remaining relating to these awards.

Performance Award Agreements

Under the provisions of the 2010 Equity Incentive Plan, the Company grants certain awards annually in March pursuant to Performance Award Agreements to approximately 80 executives. These awards are designed to provide the executives with an incentive to participate in the long-term success and growth of the Company. The Performance Award Agreements provide for cash-based awards that vest upon payment. Pursuant to meeting the performance conditions set forth in the Performance Award Agreements, each award will be paid three years after it is granted. These awards are also subject to payment upon a change in control or termination of employment, if certain criteria are met. These awards represent unfunded, unsecured obligations of the Company.

2015 Awards

One half of the awards granted in 2015 were based upon the Company’s Adjusted EPS Growth Rate, which is defined as the Company’s cumulative Adjusted EPS for the performance period of the awards, stated in terms of a percentage growth rate. The Company’s EPS was adjusted to exclude the effect of unusual, and/or nonrecurring items and then was divided by the number of fiscal years in the specified period, stated in terms of a percentage growth rate. The other half of the awards were based upon the Company’s percentile ranking of total shareholder return, compared to a peer group of companies, for the performance period.

Pursuant to meeting the performance conditions set forth in the Performance Award Agreements, the awards granted in 2015 were paid in the first quarter of 2018.

2016 and 2017 Awards

One half of the awards granted in 2016 and 2017 will be based upon the Company’s Adjusted EBIT Growth Rate, which is defined as the Company’s cumulative Adjusted EBIT (earnings before interest and taxes) for the performance period of the awards, stated in terms of a percentage growth rate. The Company’s EBIT will be adjusted to exclude the effect of extraordinary, unusual, and/or nonrecurring items and then will be divided by the number of fiscal years in the specified period, stated in terms of a percentage growth rate. The other half of the awards will be based upon the Company’s percentile ranking of total shareholder return, compared to a peer group of companies, for the performance period.

2018 Awards

One half of the awards granted in 2018 will be based upon the Company’s Adjusted EBITDA Growth Rate, which is defined as the Company’s cumulative Adjusted EBITDA for the performance period of the awards, stated in terms of a percentage growth rate. The other half of the awards

will be based upon the Company's percentile ranking of total shareholder return, compared to a peer group of companies, for the performance period.

The performance period of the awards granted in 2016 is January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018. The performance period of the awards granted in 2017 is January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019. The performance period of the awards granted in 2018 is January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Company recorded expense related to all performance awards of \$1.8 million and \$3.6 million, respectively. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, the Company recorded expense related to all performance awards of \$0.9 million and \$2.2 million, respectively. At September 30, 2018, the Company had a liability of \$ 6 million related to these awards, of which \$2.9 million is payable in March 2019 and is presented as other current liabilities in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet, while the remaining \$3.1 million is presented as other non-current liabilities in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet.

Note 16. Segment Information

The Company defines its operating segments as components of its business where separate financial information is available. The Company's operating segments are routinely evaluated by management. The Company's chief operating decision maker ("CODM") is its Chief Executive Officer.

The Company produces engineered structural metal components and assemblies primarily serving the global automotive industry. The Company's operations have similar economic characteristics and share fundamental characteristics, including the nature of the products, production processes, margins, customers, and distribution channels. The Company's products include body structures stampings, chassis structures (including frames), and complex welded assemblies for small and large cars, crossovers, pickups, and SUVs. The Company is comprised of two operating and reportable segments: Europe and North America.

The Company measures segment operating performance based on Adjusted EBITDA. The Company uses segment Adjusted EBITDA as the basis for the CODM to evaluate the performance of each of the Company's reportable segments.

The following is a summary of select data for each of the Company's reportable segments (in thousands):

	Europe	North America	Total
Three Months Ended September 30, 2018:			
Revenues	\$ 146,192	\$ 378,374	\$ 524,566
Adjusted EBITDA	7,583	49,534	57,117
Capital Expenditures	7,268	17,916	25,184
Total Assets (a)	480,288	730,492	1,210,780
Three Months Ended September 30, 2017:			
Revenues	\$ 146,559	\$ 315,813	\$ 462,372
Adjusted EBITDA	8,219	40,262	48,481
Capital Expenditures	10,870	21,656	32,526
Total Assets (a)	521,116	745,977	1,267,093
Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018:			
Revenues	\$ 491,655	1,152,424	1,644,079
Adjusted EBITDA	26,774	141,671	168,445
Capital Expenditures	40,518	53,247	93,765
Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017:			
Revenues	\$ 466,956	982,931	1,449,887
Adjusted EBITDA	33,019	113,952	146,971
Capital Expenditures	23,421	53,266	76,687

(a) As of September 30, 2018 and 2017, total assets include assets held for sale.

Inter-segment sales are not significant for any period presented.

The following is a reconciliation of income before provision for income taxes and income from discontinued operations to Adjusted EBITDA (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Income before provision for income taxes and income from discontinued operations	\$ 25,673	22,229	74,430	72,207
Restructuring and asset impairment charges, net	491	1,131	2,308	8,379
Depreciation and amortization	20,334	18,321	62,485	54,853
Acquisition costs and other	114	90	415	273
Long-term compensation expense	2,677	1,814	6,071	4,619
Interest expense, net	5,955	5,609	16,103	7,736
Net periodic benefit income	(558)	(713)	(1,675)	(1,671)
Lease expenses (a)	2,431	-	7,332	-
Other expense (b)	-	-	977	575
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 57,117	\$ 48,481	\$ 168,445	\$ 146,971

- (a) Represents lease expense incurred related to certain manufacturing equipment that is being leased. Beginning in 2019, FASB ASC No. 842, *Leases*, will change the financial reporting for leases. Certain of the Company's manufacturing equipment leases currently classified as operating leases will be considered financing leases under the new standard which will require the Company to record the right of use asset as additional property, plant, and equipment and the associated liability as lease debt.
- (b) Represents costs incurred during the nine months ended September 30, 2018 related to the investigation of an acquisition that did not transpire, and costs incurred during the nine months ended September 30, 2017 to support the refinancing of the Company's term debt.

Note 17. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

FASB ASC No. 820, *Fair Value Measurements*, defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset, or paid to transfer a liability, in an orderly transaction between market participants, at the measurement date under current market conditions (an exit price). The exit price is based upon the amount that the holder of the asset or liability would receive or need to pay in an actual transaction or in a hypothetical transaction if an actual transaction does not exist, at the measurement date. In some circumstances, the entry and exit price may be the same; however, they are conceptually different.

Fair value is generally determined based upon quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. If quoted market prices are not available, we use valuation techniques that place greater reliance on observable inputs and less reliance on unobservable inputs. In measuring fair value, we may make adjustments for risks and uncertainties, if a market participant would include such an adjustment in its pricing.

FASB ASC No. 820 establishes a fair value hierarchy that distinguishes between assumptions based upon market data, referred to as observable inputs, and the Company's assumptions, referred to as unobservable inputs. Determining where an asset or liability falls within that hierarchy depends on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole. An adjustment to the pricing method used within either Level 1 or Level 2 inputs could generate a fair value measurement that effectively falls in a lower level in the hierarchy. The hierarchy consists of three broad levels as follows:

- Level 1: Quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities;
- Level 2: Inputs, other than Level 1 inputs, that are either directly or indirectly observable; and
- Level 3: Unobservable inputs developed using estimates and assumptions that reflect those that market participants would use.

At September 30, 2018, the carrying value and estimated fair value of the Company's total debt was \$323.9 million and \$326.9 million, respectively. At December 31, 2017, the carrying value and estimated fair value of the Company's total debt was \$389.4 million and \$392.1 million, respectively. The majority of the Company's debt at September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017 was comprised of the Term Loan Credit Facility, which can be traded between financial institutions. Accordingly, this debt has been classified as Level 2. The fair value was determined based upon quoted values. The remainder of the Company's debt, primarily consisting of foreign subsidiary indebtedness, is asset-backed and is classified as Level 3. As this debt carries variable rates and minimal credit risk, the book value approximates the fair values.

The Company has foreign currency exchange hedges and an interest rate swap that were measured at fair value on a recurring basis at September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017. These instruments are recorded in other non-current liabilities in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets and the fair value is measured using Level 2 observable inputs such as foreign currency exchange rates, swap rates, cross currency basis swap spreads and interest rate spreads. At September 30, 2018, the foreign currency exchange hedge (net investment hedge of the Company's European subsidiaries) and the interest rate swap had liability fair values of \$25.1 million and \$1.3 million, respectively.

There were no nonrecurring items that occurred during the nine months ended September 30, 2018 that required the re-measurement of fair value. The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable, and accrued liabilities approximate fair value because of the short maturity of these instruments.

Note 18. Commitments and Contingencies

Environmental Matters

The Company owns properties which have been affected by environmental releases. The Company is actively involved in investigation and/or remediation at several of these locations.

Accruals for environmental matters are recorded when it is probable that a liability has been incurred and the amount of the liability can be reasonably estimated. The established liability for environmental matters is based upon management's best estimates, on an undiscounted basis, of expected investigation/ remediation costs related to environmental contamination. It is possible that actual costs associated with these matters will exceed the environmental reserves established by the Company. Inherent uncertainties exist in the estimates, primarily due to unknown environmental conditions, changing governmental regulations, and legal standards regarding liability and evolving technologies for handling site remediation and restoration. At September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, the Company had \$1.3 million accrued for environmental matters.

Contingent Matters

The Company will establish an accrual for matters in which losses are probable and can be reasonably estimated. These types of matters may involve additional claims that, if granted, could require the Company to pay penalties or make other expenditures in amounts that will not be estimable at the time of discovery of the matter. In these cases, a liability will be recorded at the low end of the range if no amount within the range is a better estimate in accordance with FASB ASC No. 450, *Accounting for Contingencies*.

Litigation

The Company is subject to various legal actions and claims incidental to its business, including potential lawsuits with customers or suppliers. Litigation is subject to many uncertainties and the outcome of individual litigated matters is not probable or estimable. After discussions with counsel litigating these matters, it is the opinion of management that the outcome of such matters will not have a material impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

Commitments

On September 21, 2018, the Company completed the sale of one of its manufacturing facilities for \$14.9 million. Simultaneously, the Company entered into a lease for the same facility for continued use in the Company's ongoing operations. The lease agreement is for a term of approximately 15 years. The Company recorded a deferred gain of \$5.4 million, as the sale price was in excess of the Company's net book value, which will be recognized over the lease term.

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

Company Overview

We are a leading global manufacturer of engineered automotive structural metal components and assemblies primarily serving original equipment manufacturers ("OEMs"). We offer our automotive customers a broad product portfolio, supplying body-structure stampings, frame and other chassis structures, and complex welded assemblies, for small and large cars, crossovers, pickups, and sport utility vehicles. Our products are manufactured at 23 facilities strategically located near our customers in North America and Europe. We support our manufacturing operations through six engineering and sales locations around the world. Our products are offered on a diverse mix of vehicle platforms, reflecting the balanced portfolio approach of our business model and the breadth of our product capabilities. We supply products to approximately 130 vehicle models globally to 11 of the 12 largest OEMs based on 2017 production volumes.

We believe that our engineering, manufacturing, and program management capabilities, our competitive cost, our financial discipline, and our colleague engagement position us for long-term success.

Recent Trends

Production Volumes

During the first nine months of 2018, industry production volumes increased from 2017 in Europe and decreased in North America. According to IHS Automotive ("IHS"), full year industry production in 2018 is projected to increase in Europe by 1% and remain flat in North America.

Factors Affecting our Industry, Revenues, and Expenses

For information regarding factors that affect our industry, revenues, and expenses, see "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017.

Adjusted EBITDA

We use the term Adjusted EBITDA throughout this report. We define Adjusted EBITDA as net income / (loss) before interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization, restructuring items, and other adjustments described in the reconciliations provided in this report. Adjusted EBITDA is not a measure of performance defined in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("U.S. GAAP" or "GAAP"). We use Adjusted EBITDA as a supplement to our GAAP results in evaluating our business.

Adjusted EBITDA is included in this Report because it is one of the principal factors upon which our management assesses performance. Our Chief Executive Officer measures the performance of our segments on the basis of Adjusted EBITDA. As an analytical tool, Adjusted EBITDA assists us in comparing our performance over various reporting periods on a consistent basis because it excludes items that we do not believe reflect our core operating performance.

We believe that Adjusted EBITDA is useful in evaluating our performance as it is a commonly used financial metric for measuring and comparing the operating performance of companies in our industry. We believe that the disclosure of Adjusted EBITDA offers an additional financial metric that, when coupled with the GAAP results and the reconciliation to GAAP results, provides a more complete understanding of our results of operations and the factors and trends affecting our business.

Adjusted EBITDA should not be considered as an alternative to net income / (loss) as an indicator of our performance, as an alternative to net cash provided by operating activities as a measure of liquidity, or as an alternative to any other measure prescribed by GAAP. There are limitations to using non-GAAP measures such as Adjusted EBITDA. Although we believe that Adjusted EBITDA may make an evaluation of our operating performance more consistent because it removes items that do not reflect our core operations, other companies in our industry may define Adjusted EBITDA differently than we do and, as a result, it may not be comparable to similarly titled measures used by other companies in our industry, and Adjusted EBITDA excludes certain financial information that some may consider important in evaluating our performance.

We compensate for these limitations by providing disclosure of the differences between Adjusted EBITDA and GAAP results, including a reconciliation of Adjusted EBITDA to GAAP results, to enable investors to perform their own analysis of our operating results. For a reconciliation of consolidated Adjusted EBITDA to its most directly comparable GAAP measure, net income / (loss), see "Results of Operations" below.

Because of these limitations, Adjusted EBITDA should not be considered as a measure of the income generated by our business or discretionary cash available to us to invest in the growth of our business. Our management compensates for these limitations by analyzing both our GAAP results and Adjusted EBITDA.

Results of Operations—Three Months Ended September 30, 2018 Compared with the Three Months Ended September 30, 2017

The following table presents production volumes in specified regions, according to the IHS September 2018 issue, for the three months ended September 30, 2018 compared to the three months ended September 30, 2017 (in millions of units produced):

	Europe	North America
Three Months Ended September 30, 2018	4.8	4.1
Three Months Ended September 30, 2017	4.9	4.0
Increase / (Decrease)	(0.1)	0.1
Percentage change	(2.6)%	3.2%

The following table presents select financial information for the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 (in millions):

	Europe		North America		Consolidated	
	Three Months Ended September 30,		Three Months Ended September 30,		Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
Revenues	\$ 146.2	\$ 146.6	\$ 378.4	\$ 315.8	\$ 524.6	\$ 462.4
Cost of sales	134.8	133.4	328.1	270.9	462.9	404.3
Gross profit	11.4	13.2	50.3	44.9	61.7	58.1
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	7.5	10.4	22.5	19.3	30.0	29.7
Amortization expense	-	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Restructuring and asset impairment charges, net	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.9	0.5	1.1
Operating income	\$ 3.5	\$ 2.6	\$ 27.6	\$ 24.6	\$ 31.1	\$ 27.2
Interest expense, net					6.0	5.6
Net periodic benefit income					0.6	0.7
Provision for income taxes					4.0	8.0
Income from discontinued operations, net of tax					0.9	0.7
Net income attributable to Tower International, Inc.					\$ 22.6	\$ 14.9

Comparison of Periods – GAAP Analysis of Consolidated Results

Revenues

Total revenues increased during the three months ended September 30, 2018 by \$62.2 million, or 13.5%, from the three months ended September 30, 2017, reflecting higher volume (\$62.8 million) and favorable pricing (\$1.9 million), which is related primarily to higher steel prices, offset partially by unfavorable foreign exchange (\$2.5 million).

Gross Profit

When we analyze our total gross profit, we separately categorize external factors—volume, product mix, and foreign exchange—from all other factors that impact gross profit, which we refer to as “other factors”. When we refer to “mix” we are referring to the relative composition of revenues and profitability of the products we sell in any given period. When we refer to “pricing and economics” we are referring to (i) the impact of adjustments in the pricing of particular products, which we refer to as product pricing; (ii) the impact of steel price changes, taking into account the component of our product pricing attributable to steel, the cost of steel included in our cost of sales, and the amounts recovered on the sale of offal, which in total we refer to as the net steel impact; and (iii) the impact of inflation and changes in operating costs, such as labor, utilities, and fuel, which we refer to as economics.

Total gross profit increased by \$3.6 million, or 6.2%, from the three months ended September 30, 2017 to the three months ended September 30, 2018, and our gross profit margin decreased from 12.6% during the 2017 period to 11.8% during the 2018 period. Gross profit was positively impacted by higher volume (\$14.5 million) offset partially by higher fixed costs to support new programs (\$2.7 million), unfavorable mix (\$1.1 million), and unfavorable foreign exchange (\$0.6 million excluding the impact on depreciation). All other factors were net unfavorable (\$6.5 million). Unfavorable pricing and economics (\$10 million), lease expense related to certain manufacturing equipment (\$2.5 million), and higher depreciation (\$1.9 million), were offset partially by lower launch costs (\$6 million), favorable efficiencies (\$0.9 million), and favorable timing of commercial and vendor settlements. The increase in depreciation was due to increased levels of capital spending in 2017 and 2018 and the strengthening of the Euro against the U.S. dollar. The decrease in gross profit margin was attributable primarily to higher steel prices which have an immaterial impact on earnings.

Selling, General, and Administrative Expenses (“SG&A”)

Total SG&A increased \$0.3 million, or 1.0%, from the three months ended September 30, 2017.

Restructuring and Asset Impairment Expense

Total restructuring expense decreased \$0.6 million from the three months ended September 30, 2017. During the third quarter of 2018, we recorded \$0.5 million related primarily to severance charges in Europe to reduce fixed costs. During the third quarter of 2017, we recorded \$1.1 million related primarily to severance charges incurred in the North America and Europe segments to reduce corporate overhead.

Net periodic benefit income

Net periodic benefit income decreased \$0.1 million from the three months ended September 30, 2017. As discussed in Note 2 to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, we adopted ASU No. 2017-07 on January 1, 2018. The new standard requires that net periodic pension cost and net periodic postretirement benefit cost be reported within net periodic benefit income in the Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations.

Interest Expense, net

Interest expense, net, increased \$0.4 million from the three months ended September 30, 2017, reflecting primarily the acceleration of the amortization of debt issue costs and original issue discount of \$1 million in connection with the \$50 million payment on the Term Loan Credit Facility, offset by the non-recurrence of non-cash mark-to-market expense of \$1 million on our derivative financial instruments in 2017. As discussed in Note 2 to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, we elected to early adopt ASU No. 2017-12 on January 1, 2018; therefore, a portion of the mark-to-market changes will no longer be recorded within interest expense.

Provision for Income Taxes

Income tax expense from continued operations decreased \$4 million from the three months ended September 30, 2017. The decrease in tax expense is primarily attributable to the lower U.S. Corporate tax rate that was enacted in December 2017. Our income tax expense and rate varies each period depending on the level and mix of income and losses generated in the various jurisdictions in which we do business. We believe our available net operating loss carryforwards and tax credits coupled with favorable expensing provisions under the new U.S. tax law will enable us to eliminate a material U.S. cash tax liability until at least 2022. For information regarding the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the "TCJA") adopted in December 2017, see "Results of Operations – Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 Compared with the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017 – Comparison of Periods – GAAP Analysis of Consolidated Results – Provision for Income Taxes."

Income from Discontinued Operations

Our Board of Directors has approved a plan to sell our remaining business operations in Brazil and China. At September 30, 2018, the Chinese business operations have been sold and the Brazilian business operation is considered held for sale in accordance with FASB ASC No. 360, *Property, Plant, and Equipment*, and presented as discontinued operations in the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, in accordance with FASB ASC No. 205, *Discontinued Operations*. At December 31, 2017, both of the Brazilian and Chinese business operations were held for sale and presented as discontinued operations.

We recorded income from discontinued operations, net of tax, of \$0.9 million during the three months ended September 30, 2018, as compared with income of \$0.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017.

Comparison of Periods—Non-GAAP Analysis of Adjusted EBITDA

A reconciliation of net income attributable to Tower International, Inc. to Adjusted EBITDA for the periods presented is set forth below (in millions):

	Consolidated		Europe		North America	
	Three Months Ended September 30,		Three Months Ended September 30,		Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
Net income attributable to Tower International, Inc.	\$ 22.6	\$ 14.9				
Interest expense, net	6.0	5.6				
Net periodic benefit income	(0.6)	(0.7)				
Provision for income taxes	4.0	8.0				
Income from discontinued operations, net of tax	(0.9)	(0.7)				
Operating income	31.1	27.2	\$ 3.5	\$ 2.6	\$ 27.6	\$ 24.6
Intercompany charges	-	-	(4.1)	(2.0)	4.1	2.0
Restructuring and asset impairments	0.5	1.1	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.9
Depreciation and amortization	20.3	18.3	7.7	7.5	12.6	10.8
Acquisition costs and other	0.1	0.1	0.1	(0.1)	-	0.2
Long-term compensation expense (a)	2.7	1.8	-	-	2.7	1.8
Lease expenses (b)	2.4	-	-	-	2.4	-
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 57.1	\$ 48.5	\$ 7.6	\$ 8.2	\$ 49.5	\$ 40.3

- (a) Represents the compensation expense related to stock options, restricted stock units, and accruals from certain compensation programs intended to benefit our long-term success and growth. The compensation charges are incurred during the applicable vesting periods of each program.
- (b) Represents lease expense incurred related to certain manufacturing equipment that is being leased. Beginning in 2019, FASB ASC No. 842, *Leases*, will change the financial reporting for leases. Certain of our manufacturing equipment leases currently classified as operating leases will be considered financing leases under the new standard which will require us to record the right of use asset as additional property, plant, and equipment and the associated liability as lease debt.

The following table presents revenues (a GAAP measure) and Adjusted EBITDA (a non-GAAP measure) for the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 (in millions), as well as an explanation of variances:

	Europe		North America		Consolidated	
	Revenues	Adjusted EBITDA(c)	Revenues	Adjusted EBITDA(c)	Revenues	Adjusted EBITDA(c)
Three Months Ended September 30, 2018 results	\$ 146.2	\$ 7.6	\$ 378.4	\$ 49.5	\$ 524.6	\$ 57.1
Three Months Ended September 30, 2017 results	146.6	8.2	315.8	40.3	462.4	48.5
Variance	\$ (0.4)	\$ (0.6)	\$ 62.6	\$ 9.2	\$ 62.2	\$ 8.6
Variance attributable to:						
Volume and mix	\$ 1.9	\$ (0.1)	\$ 60.9	\$ 10.8	\$ 62.8	\$ 10.7
Foreign exchange	(1.7)	(0.1)	(0.8)	(0.1)	(2.5)	(0.2)
Pricing and economics	(0.6)	(5.6)	2.5	(4.3)	1.9	(9.9)
Efficiencies	-	2.4	-	(1.5)	-	0.9
Selling, general, and administrative expenses and other items (d)	-	2.8	-	4.3	-	7.1
Total	\$ (0.4)	\$ (0.6)	\$ 62.6	\$ 9.2	\$ 62.2	\$ 8.6

- (c) We have presented a reconciliation of net income attributable to Tower International, Inc. to Adjusted EBITDA above.
- (d) When we refer to “selling, general, and administrative expenses and other items”, the “other items” refer to (i) savings which we generate after implementing restructuring actions, (ii) the costs associated with launching new products, and (iii) one-time items which may include reimbursement of costs.

Adjusted EBITDA

When we analyze Adjusted EBITDA, we separately categorize external factors—volume, product mix, and foreign exchange—and all other factors which impact Adjusted EBITDA, which we refer to as “other factors.”

Consolidated Company: Consolidated Adjusted EBITDA increased by \$8.6 million, or 17.7%, from the three months ended September 30, 2017, reflecting higher volume and mix (\$10.7 million) offset partially by unfavorable foreign exchange (\$0.2 million). Volume and mix consisted of higher volume (\$14.5 million) offset partially by higher fixed costs to support new programs (\$2.7 million) and unfavorable mix (\$1.1 million). All other factors were net unfavorable (\$1.9 million). Unfavorable pricing and economics (\$9.9 million) were offset partially by favorable SG&A expenses and other items (\$7.1 million) and favorable efficiencies (\$0.9 million). SG&A expenses and other items reflected primarily lower launch costs (\$6 million).

Europe Segment: In our Europe segment, Adjusted EBITDA decreased by \$0.6 million, or 7.3%, from the three months ended September 30, 2017, reflecting lower volume and mix (\$0.1 million) and unfavorable foreign exchange (\$0.1 million). Volume and mix consisted of unfavorable mix (\$0.3 million) offset partially by higher volume (\$0.2 million). All other factors were net unfavorable (\$0.4 million). Unfavorable pricing and economics (\$5.6 million), principally product pricing and labor costs, were offset partially by favorable SG&A expenses and other items (\$2.8 million) and favorable efficiencies (\$2.4 million). SG&A expenses and other items reflected primarily lower launch costs (\$3 million).

North America Segment: In our North America segment, Adjusted EBITDA increased by \$9.2 million, or 22.8%, from the three months ended September 30, 2017, reflecting higher volume and mix (\$10.8 million) offset partially by unfavorable foreign exchange (\$0.1 million). Volume and mix consisted of higher volume (\$14.3 million) offset partially by higher fixed costs to support new programs (\$2.4 million) and unfavorable mix (\$1.1 million). All other factors were net unfavorable (\$1.5 million). Unfavorable pricing and economics (\$4.3 million), principally product pricing and labor costs, and unfavorable efficiencies (\$1.5 million) were offset partially by favorable SG&A expense and other items (\$4.3 million). SG&A expense and other items reflected primarily lower launch costs (\$3 million).

Results of Operations—Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 Compared with the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017

The following table presents production volumes in specified regions, according to the IHS September 2018 issue, for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2017 (in millions of units produced):

	Europe	North America
Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018	16.7	12.8
Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017	16.5	13.0
Increase / (Decrease)	0.2	(0.1)
Percentage change	1.0%	(0.9)%

The following table presents select financial information for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 (in millions):

	Europe		North America		Consolidated	
	Nine Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
Revenues	\$ 491.7	\$ 467.0	\$ 1,152.4	\$ 982.9	\$ 1,644.1	\$ 1,449.9
Cost of sales	451.4	420.8	1,007.1	853.7	1,458.5	1,274.5
Gross profit	40.3	46.2	145.3	129.2	185.6	175.4
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	26.8	29.9	66.3	58.0	93.1	87.9
Amortization expense	-	-	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Restructuring and asset impairment charges, net	1.3	0.9	1.0	7.5	2.3	8.4
Operating income	\$ 12.2	\$ 15.4	\$ 77.7	\$ 63.4	89.9	78.8
Interest expense, net					16.1	7.7
Net periodic benefit income					1.7	1.7
Other expense					1.0	0.6
Provision for income taxes					14.6	22.2
Income from discontinued operations, net of tax					2.4	1.6
Noncontrolling interest, net of taxes					-	0.1
Net income attributable to Tower International, Inc.					\$ 62.3	\$ 51.5

Comparison of Periods – GAAP Analysis of Consolidated Results

Revenues

Total revenues increased during the nine months ended September 30, 2018 by \$194.2 million, or 13.4%, from the nine months ended September 30, 2017 reflecting higher volume (\$134.5 million), favorable foreign exchange (\$34.3 million) and favorable pricing (\$25.4 million), which is related primarily to higher steel prices.

Gross Profit

Total gross profit increased by \$10.2 million, or 5.8%, from the nine months ended September 30, 2017 to the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and our gross profit margin decreased from 12.1% during the 2017 period to 11.3% during the 2018 period. Gross profit was positively impacted by higher volume (\$33.4 million) and favorable foreign exchange (\$5.2 million, excluding the impact on depreciation), offset partially by higher fixed costs to support new programs (\$9.6 million) and unfavorable mix (\$1.1 million). All other factors were net unfavorable (\$17.7 million). Unfavorable pricing and economics (\$23.8 million), higher depreciation (\$7.3 million), lease expense related to certain manufacturing equipment (\$7.4 million), and higher launch costs (\$4.1 million), were offset partially by favorable efficiencies (\$13.2 million) and favorable timing of commercial and vendor settlements. The increase in depreciation was due to increased levels of capital spending in 2017 and 2018 and the strengthening of the Euro against the U.S. dollar. The decrease in gross profit margin was attributable primarily to higher steel prices which have an immaterial impact on earnings.

Selling, General, and Administrative Expense

Total SG&A increased \$5.2 million, or 5.9%, from the nine months ended September 30, 2017, reflecting primarily higher compensation expense and the strengthening of the Euro against the U.S. dollar.

Restructuring and Asset Impairment Expense

Total restructuring expense decreased \$6.1 million from the nine months ended September 30, 2017. During the nine months ended September 30, 2018, we recorded \$2.3 million related primarily to severance charges in North America and Europe to reduce fixed costs and the adjustment of a liability related to closed plants. During the nine months ended September 30, 2017, we recorded \$8.4 million related primarily to severance charges incurred in the North America and Europe segments to reduce corporate overhead.

Interest Expense, net

Interest expense, net, increased \$8.4 million from the nine months ended September 30, 2017, reflecting primarily the non-recurrence of non-cash mark-to-market income of \$5.8 million on our derivative financial instruments in 2017, the acceleration of the amortization of debt issue costs and original issue discount of \$1 million in connection with the \$50 million payment on the Term Loan Credit Facility, and \$0.8 million of expense related to the recognition of amounts previously recorded to AOCI due to the amendment of our derivatives in August 2017. As discussed in Note 2 to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, we elected to early adopt ASU No. 2017-12 on January 1, 2018; therefore, a portion of the mark-to-market changes will no longer be recorded within interest expense.

Net periodic benefit income

Net periodic benefit income remained consistent from the nine months ended September 30, 2017. As discussed in Note 2 to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, we adopted ASU No. 2017-07 on January 1, 2018. The new standard requires that net periodic pension cost and net periodic postretirement benefit cost be reported within net periodic benefit income in the Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations.

Other Expense

Other expense increased \$0.4 million from the nine months ended September 30, 2017, reflecting \$1 million in costs incurred during the nine month period ended September 30, 2018 to support the investigation of a potential acquisition that did not transpire. Costs of \$0.6 million were incurred during the nine month period ended September 30, 2017 to support the refinancing of the Company's long-term debt.

Provision for Income Taxes

Income tax expense from continued operations decreased \$7.6 million from the nine months ended September 30, 2017. The decrease in tax expense is primarily attributable to the lower U.S. Corporate tax rate that was enacted in December 2017. Our income tax expense and rate varies each period depending on the level and mix of income and losses generated in the various jurisdictions in which we do business. We believe our available net operating loss carryforwards and tax credits coupled with favorable expensing provisions under the new U.S. tax law will enable us to eliminate a material U.S. cash tax liability until at least 2022.

On December 22, 2017, the TCJA was enacted into federal law. The new law includes significant changes to the U.S. corporate income tax system. Among other items, the TCJA lowers the corporate income tax rate from 35% to 21% and creates a new modified territorial tax system exempting foreign profits from U.S. taxation with some exceptions. It also requires a one-time deemed repatriation of accumulated foreign earnings for the year ended December 31, 2017. To determine the amount of the deemed repatriation and any associated repatriation tax, we must determine, in addition to other factors, the amount of post-1986 profits or losses of each foreign subsidiary, as well as the amount of foreign income taxes paid on such profits or losses. We have filed our 2017 federal income tax return and have determined that no transition tax inclusion is necessary. Based on current law and guidelines issued by the Internal Revenue Service, we do not believe a measurement-period adjustment related to this item is required.

Income from Discontinued Operations

As noted above, our Board of Directors has approved a plan to sell our remaining business operations in Brazil and China. At September 30, 2018, the Chinese business operations have been sold and the Brazilian business operation is considered held for sale in accordance with FASB ASC No. 360, *Property, Plant, and Equipment*, and presented as discontinued operations in the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements,

in accordance with FASB ASC No. 205, *Discontinued Operations*. At December 31, 2017, both of the Brazilian and Chinese business operations were held for sale and presented as discontinued operations.

We recorded income from discontinued operations, net of tax, of \$2.4 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2018, as compared with income of \$1.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017.

Comparison of Periods—Non-GAAP Analysis of Adjusted EBITDA

A reconciliation of net income attributable to Tower International, Inc. to Adjusted EBITDA for the periods presented is set forth below (in millions):

	Consolidated		Europe		North America	
	Nine Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
Net income attributable to Tower International, Inc.	\$ 62.3	\$ 51.5				
Interest expense, net	16.1	7.7				
Net periodic benefit income	(1.7)	(1.7)				
Other expense	1.0	0.6				
Provision for income taxes	14.6	22.2				
Income from discontinued operations, net of tax	(2.4)	(1.6)				
Noncontrolling interest, net of taxes	-	0.1				
Operating income	89.9	78.8	\$ 12.2	\$ 15.4	\$ 77.7	\$ 63.4
Intercompany charges	-	-	(10.6)	(5.9)	10.6	5.9
Restructuring and asset impairments	2.3	8.4	1.3	0.9	1.0	7.5
Depreciation and amortization	62.5	54.8	23.1	22.0	39.4	32.8
Acquisition costs and other	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.1	-	0.3
Long-term compensation expense (a)	6.1	4.6	0.4	0.5	5.7	4.1
Lease expenses (b)	7.3	-	-	-	7.3	-
Adjusted EBITDA	<u>\$ 168.5</u>	<u>\$ 147.0</u>	<u>\$ 26.8</u>	<u>\$ 33.0</u>	<u>\$ 141.7</u>	<u>\$ 114.0</u>

- (a) Represents the compensation expense related to stock options, restricted stock units, and accruals from certain compensation programs intended to benefit our long-term success and growth. The compensation charges are incurred during the applicable vesting periods of each program.
- (b) Represents lease expense incurred related to certain manufacturing equipment that is being leased. Beginning in 2019, FASB ASC No. 842, *Leases*, will change the financial reporting for leases. Certain of our manufacturing equipment leases currently classified as operating leases will be considered financing leases under the new standard which will require us to record the right of use asset as additional property, plant, and equipment and the associated liability as lease debt.

The following table presents revenues (a GAAP measure) and Adjusted EBITDA (a non-GAAP measure) for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 (in millions), as well as an explanation of variances:

	Europe		North America		Consolidated	
	Revenues	Adjusted EBITDA(c)	Revenues	Adjusted EBITDA(c)	Revenues	Adjusted EBITDA(c)
Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 results	\$ 491.7	\$ 26.8	\$ 1,152.4	\$ 141.7	\$ 1,644.1	\$ 168.5
Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017 results	467.0	33.0	982.9	114.0	1,449.9	147.0
Variance	\$ 24.7	\$ (6.2)	\$ 169.5	\$ 27.7	\$ 194.2	\$ 21.5
Variance attributable to:						
Volume and mix	\$ (30.1)	\$ (3.2)	\$ 164.6	\$ 25.9	\$ 134.5	\$ 22.7
Foreign exchange	34.7	2.9	(0.4)	(0.2)	34.3	2.7
Pricing and economics	20.1	(13.9)	5.3	(11.3)	25.4	(25.2)
Efficiencies	-	5.8	-	7.4	-	13.2
Selling, general, and administrative expenses and other items (d)	-	2.2	-	5.9	-	8.1
Total	\$ 24.7	\$ (6.2)	\$ 169.5	\$ 27.7	\$ 194.2	\$ 21.5

(c) We have presented a reconciliation of net income attributable to Tower International, Inc. to Adjusted EBITDA above.

(d) When we refer to “selling, general, and administrative expenses and other items”, the “other items” refer to (i) savings which generate after implementing restructuring actions, (ii) the costs associated with launching new products, and (iii) one-time items which may include reimbursement of costs.

Adjusted EBITDA

Consolidated Company: Consolidated Adjusted EBITDA increased by \$21.5 million, or 14.6%, from the nine months ended September 30, 2017, reflecting higher volume and mix (\$22.7 million) and favorable foreign exchange (\$2.7 million). Volume and mix consisted of higher volume (\$33.4 million) offset partially by higher fixed costs to support new programs (\$9.6 million) and unfavorable mix (\$1.1 million). All other factors were net unfavorable (\$3.8 million). Unfavorable pricing and economics (\$25.2 million) were offset partially by favorable efficiencies (\$13.2 million) and favorable SG&A expenses and other items (\$8.1 million). SG&A expenses and other items reflected primarily favorable commercial and vendor settlements offset partially by higher launch costs (\$4.1 million).

Europe Segment: In our Europe segment, Adjusted EBITDA decreased by \$6.2 million, or 18.8%, from the nine months ended September 30, 2017, reflecting lower volume and mix (\$3.2 million) offset partially by favorable foreign exchange (\$2.9 million). Volume and mix consisted of lower volume (\$6 million) and higher fixed costs to support new programs (\$1 million), offset partially by favorable mix (\$3.8 million). All other factors were net unfavorable (\$5.8 million). Unfavorable pricing and economics (\$13.9 million), principally product pricing and labor costs, were offset partially by favorable efficiencies (\$5.8 million) and favorable SG&A expenses and other items (\$2.2 million). SG&A expenses and other items reflected primarily lower launch costs (\$2 million).

North America Segment: In our North America segment, Adjusted EBITDA increased by \$27.7 million, or 24.3%, from the nine months ended September 30, 2017, reflecting higher volume and mix (\$25.9 million) offset partially by unfavorable foreign exchange (\$0.2 million). Volume and mix consisted of higher volume (\$39.4 million) offset partially by higher fixed costs to support new programs (\$8.6 million) and unfavorable mix (\$4.9 million). All other factors were net favorable (\$2 million). Favorable efficiencies (\$7.4 million) and favorable SG&A expense and other items (\$5.9 million) were offset partially by unfavorable pricing and economics (\$11.3 million), principally product pricing and labor costs. SG&A expense and other items reflected primarily favorable commercial and vendor settlements offset partially by higher launch costs (\$6.1 million).

Restructuring

The following table sets forth our net restructuring and asset impairment charges by type for the periods presented (in millions):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Employee termination costs	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.7	\$ 2.2	\$ 7.6
Other exit costs	-	0.4	0.1	0.8
Total restructuring charges, net	\$ 0.5	\$ 1.1	\$ 2.3	\$ 8.4

We restructure our global operations in an effort to align our capacity with demand and to reduce our costs. Restructuring costs include employee termination benefits and other incremental costs resulting from restructuring activities. These incremental costs principally include equipment

and personnel relocation costs. Restructuring costs are recognized in our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements in accordance with FASB ASC No. 420, *Exit or Disposal Obligations*, and are presented in our Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations as restructuring and asset impairment charges, net. We believe the restructuring actions discussed below will help our efficiency and results of operations on a going forward basis.

The charges incurred during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 related to severance charges to reduce fixed costs and ongoing maintenance expense of facilities closed as a result of prior actions. During the second quarter of 2018, we amended certain lease agreements in the U.S. related to closed facilities which resulted in a \$0.3 million adjustment to the liability previously recorded. As a result of these amendments, we will no longer record material restructuring expense related to closed facilities.

We expect to continue to incur additional restructuring expense in 2018 related primarily to previously announced restructuring actions; however, we do not anticipate any additional expense that will be significant, with respect to previously announced actions. We may engage in new actions if business conditions warrant further actions.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

General

We generally expect to fund expenditures for operations, administrative expenses, capital expenditures, dividend payments, and debt service obligations with internally generated funds from operations and we generally expect to satisfy working capital needs from time-to-time with borrowings under our revolving credit facility or cash on hand. As of September 30, 2018, we had available liquidity of \$290.3 million, which we believe is adequate to fund our working capital requirements for at least the next twelve months. We believe that we will be able to meet our debt service obligations and fund operating requirements for at least the next twelve months with cash flow from operations, cash on hand, potential operating lease arrangements, and borrowings under our revolving credit facility.

On June 17, 2016, we announced our Board of Directors' authorization to repurchase up to \$100 million of the Company's issued and outstanding common stock from time to time in the open market, or in privately negotiated transactions. We expect to fund such repurchases from cash flow from operations, cash on hand, asset dispositions, and borrowings under our revolving credit facility. To date, the Company repurchased a total of 829,648 shares of common stock at an aggregate cost of \$18.9 million, all of which repurchases occurred during the year ended December 31, 2016.

Cash Flows and Working Capital

The following table shows the components of our cash flows from continuing operations for the periods presented (in millions):

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017
Net cash provided by / (used in):		
Operating activities	\$ 75.6	\$ 35.9
Investing activities	(74.6)	(60.7)
Financing activities	(76.4)	0.9

Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$75.6 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2018, compared to \$35.9 million generated during the nine months ended September 30, 2017. The \$39.7 million increase of cash generated was attributable primarily to higher earnings and favorable net tooling position.

Net Cash Used in Investing Activities

Net cash utilized in investing activities was \$74.6 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2018, compared to \$60.7 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2017. The \$13.9 million increase in cash utilized was attributable primarily to higher capital expenditures for new programs and lower proceeds received from the sale of our Chinese joint ventures in the second quarter of 2018 compared to 2017, offset partially by the net proceeds received for the sale-leaseback of one of our manufacturing facilities.

Net Cash Used in Financing Activities

Net cash utilized from financing activities was \$76.4 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2018, compared to \$0.9 million generated during the nine months ended September 30, 2017. This \$77.3 million change of cash utilized was attributable primarily to the \$50 million repayment of our Term Loan Credit Facility and lower borrowings on our other debt instruments in 2018.

Working Capital

We manage our working capital by monitoring key metrics principally associated with inventory, accounts receivable, and accounts payable. Our quarterly average inventory days on hand increased to 19 days during the third quarter of 2018 from 17 days during the fourth quarter of 2017.

and our inventory levels increased from \$78.7 million at December 31, 2017 to \$93.7 million at September 30, 2018, primarily due to the ramp up of production on recently awarded business.

Our accounts receivable balance increased from \$239.3 million as of December 31, 2017 to \$281 million as of September 30, 2018. The increase reflects higher trade accounts receivable due to the ramp up of production, the timing of customer payments consistent with normal seasonality, and increased accounts receivable related to customer-owned tooling.

Our accounts payable balance decreased from \$323.3 million as of December 31, 2017 to \$303 million as of September 30, 2018. The change reflects primarily the increase of trade accounts payable, resulting from the matching of terms with our customers and vendors, which was more than offset by a decrease due to the timing of payments related to capital expenditures and customer-owned tooling.

Our working capital usage is seasonal in nature. During the first half of the year, production and sales typically increase substantially, which causes our working capital to increase because our accounts receivable and inventory increase. In addition, we make our annual incentive bonus plan payments during the second quarter. In the second half of the year, production and sales typically decline as a result of scheduled customer shutdowns. The lower production and sales generally result in a reduction of accounts receivables and inventory, which decreases our working capital.

Our working capital is also impacted by our net position in regard to tooling owned by our customers. Tooling costs represent costs incurred by us in the development of new tooling used in the manufacture of our products. Generally, when a customer awards a contract to us, the customer agrees to reimburse us for certain of our tooling costs. As the tooling is developed, we experience cash outflows because we bear the costs and we typically do not receive reimbursement from our customers until the manufacture of the particular program commences. This timing delay causes our working capital to fluctuate between periods due to the timing of the cash inflows and outflows. We define our net tooling position as tooling in progress (see Note 6) plus accounts receivable related to tooling less accounts payable related to tooling. During the nine months of 2018 our net tooling position increased by \$1.7 million from \$35.6 million at December 31, 2017 to \$37.3 million at September 30, 2018.

On September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017 we had working capital balances (excluding discontinued operations held for sale) of \$22.9 million and \$41 million, respectively.

Sources and Uses of Liquidity

Our available liquidity at September 30, 2018 was \$290.3 million, which consisted of \$47.7 million of cash on hand, and unutilized borrowing availability under our U.S. and foreign credit facilities of \$191.8 million and \$50.8 million, respectively. A portion of our cash balance is located at foreign subsidiaries and is presently being used to fund operations at and investment in those locations. As of December 31, 2017 we had available liquidity of \$369.7 million.

As of September 30, 2018, we had short-term debt of \$23.1 million, of which \$19.5 million related to receivables factoring in Europe and \$3.6 million related to current maturities of our Term Loan Credit Facility. The receivables factoring in Europe consists of uncommitted demand facilities, which are subject to termination at the discretion of the banks, although we have not experienced any terminations by the banks. We believe that we will be able to continue the receivables factoring in Europe.

We are currently experiencing organic growth well above industry average as a result of major new business awards primarily in North America. To fund this growth, we continue to incur significant capital investment requirements for the purchase and installation of the machinery and equipment necessary to manufacture the awarded products. We have entered into operating leases to assist with a portion of the funding requirements for the related capital investments. We believe that these operating leases provide a diversified capital source for financing the capital investment requirements at competitive rates in relation to our existing debt arrangements and help to maintain our strong liquidity profile. These leasing arrangements bear a weighted average fixed interest rate of 5.6%.

Pursuant to the Board of Directors' declaration on October 16, 2015, the Company commenced payment of a quarterly dividend of \$0.10 per common share. This dividend was raised to \$0.11 per common share on October 21, 2016 and to \$0.12 per common share on October 20, 2017. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, the Company paid dividends of \$2.5 million and \$7.4 million, respectively.

As noted above, on June 17, 2016, the Company announced its Board of Directors' authorization to repurchase up to \$100 million of the Company's issued and outstanding common stock from time to time in the open market, or in privately negotiated transactions. As of September 30, 2018, 829,648 shares have been purchased under the Repurchase Program at an aggregate cost of \$18.9 million with no additional shares being purchased under that program during the nine months ended September 30, 2018.

Free Cash Flow

Free cash flow is a non-GAAP measure. Free cash flow is defined as cash provided by continuing operating activities less cash disbursed for purchases of property, plant, and equipment. We believe this metric provides useful information to our investors because management regularly reviews this metric as an important indicator of how much cash is generated by our normal business operations, net of capital expenditures, and makes decisions based upon them. Management also views this metric as a measure of cash available to reduce debt and grow the business. Free cash flow is calculated as follows (in millions).

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017
Net cash provided by continuing operating activities	\$ 75.6	\$ 35.9
Cash disbursed for purchases of property, plant, and equipment, net	(93.8)	(76.7)
Free cash flow ⁽¹⁾	\$ (18.2)	\$ (40.8)

- (1) Net cash disbursed for customer-owned tooling is included in free cash flow. Net cash disbursed for customer-owned tooling during the nine months ended September 30, 2018 was \$1.7 million compared to net cash disbursed of \$21 million for customer-owned tooling during the nine months ended September 30, 2017.

Free cash flow was negative \$18.2 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2018, compared to negative \$40.8 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2017. The improvement reflected favorable working capital, related primarily to the timing of payments for customer-owned tooling, and higher Adjusted EBITDA, offset partially by higher capital expenditures.

Debt

As of September 30, 2018, we had outstanding indebtedness, excluding capital lease obligations and net of debt issue cost, of approximately \$317.4 million, which consisted of the following:

- \$304.3 million (net of a \$1.7 million original issue discount) indebtedness outstanding under our Term Loan Credit Facility
- \$0 million indebtedness outstanding under our Amended Credit Revolving Facility
- \$19.5 million of foreign subsidiary indebtedness
- Less \$6.4 million of debt issue costs netted against our indebtedness

On July 27, 2018, we made a \$50 million voluntary repayment on the Term Loan Credit Facility, which is reflected in the amounts set forth above.

Term Loan Credit Facility

On March 7, 2017, we amended the Term Loan Credit Agreement by entering into the Third Refinancing Term Loan Amendment and Restatement Agreement ("Third Term Loan Amendment"), pursuant to which, among other things, the outstanding term loans under the Term Loan Credit Agreement were refinanced in full. There were no additional borrowings associated with this refinancing. The aggregate principal amount of \$358.9 million was outstanding under the Term Loan Credit Agreement upon amendment. The maturity date of the Term Loan Credit Facility is March 7, 2024 and the Term Loans bear interest at (i) the Alternate Base Rate plus a margin of 1.75% or (ii) the Adjusted LIBO Rate (calculated by multiplying the applicable LIBOR rate by a statutory reserve rate) plus a margin of 2.75%.

Our Term Loan Credit Facility contains customary covenants applicable to certain of our subsidiaries, including a financial covenant (the "Total Net Leverage Ratio") based on the ratio of Total Net Debt to Consolidated EBITDA (each as defined in the Term Loan Credit Agreement). As of the last day of each fiscal quarter, we are required to maintain a Total Net Leverage Ratio of not more than 3.75 to 1.00 on a rolling four quarter basis. Our financial condition and liquidity would be adversely impacted by the violation of any of our covenants.

Amended Revolving Credit Facility

On March 7, 2017, we entered into a Fourth Amended and Restated Revolving Credit and Guaranty Agreement ("Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement"), by and among Tower Automotive Holdings USA, LLC, the Company, Tower Automotive Holdings I, LLC, Tower Automotive Holdings II(a), LLC, the subsidiary guarantors named therein, the financial institutions from time to time party thereto as Lenders, and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. as Issuing Lender, as Swing Line Lender, and as Administrative Agent for the Lenders.

The Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement amended and restated, in its entirety, the Third Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement, dated as of September 17, 2014, by and among the Borrower, its domestic affiliate and domestic subsidiary guarantors named therein, and the lenders party thereto, and the Agent. The Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement provides for a cash flow revolving credit facility (the "Amended Revolving Credit Facility") in the aggregate amount of up to \$200 million. The Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement also provides for the issuance of letters of credit in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$30 million, provided that the total amount of credit (inclusive of revolving loans and letters of credit) extended under the Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement is subject to an overall cap, on any date, of \$200 million. We may request the issuance of Letters of Credit denominated in Dollars or Euros. As of September 30, 2018, we had no borrowings outstanding under our Amended Revolving Credit Facility and \$8.2 million of letters of credit outstanding under the Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement. Thus, we could have borrowed an additional \$191.8 million under the Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement as of September 30, 2018, calculated as follows (in millions):

Total Revolving Credit Commitment	\$	200.0
Borrowings on Amended Revolving Credit Facility		-
Letter of credit outstanding		(8.2)
Availability on Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement	\$	191.8

Advances under the Amended Revolving Credit Facility bear interest at an alternate base rate plus a base rate margin or LIBOR plus a Eurodollar margin. The applicable margins are determined by the Company's Total Net Leverage Ratio (as defined in the Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement). As of September 30, 2018, the applicable margins were 1.25% per annum and 2.25% per annum for base rate and LIBOR based borrowings, respectively. Borrowings outstanding under our Amended Revolving Credit Facility may vary significantly from time to time, depending on our cash needs at any given time. Our Amended Revolving Credit Facility matures on March 7, 2022.

Our Amended Revolving Credit Facility Agreement contains customary covenants applicable to certain of our subsidiaries, including financial maintenance covenant ratios requiring the Borrower and the Guarantors to maintain a ratio, as of the last day of any fiscal quarter, of (i) consolidated adjusted EBITDA to consolidated interest charges of not less than 2.75 to 1.00 on a rolling four quarter basis; and (ii) total net debt to consolidated adjusted EBITDA not to exceed 3.50 to 1.00 on a rolling four quarter basis.

As of September 30, 2018, we were in compliance with the financial covenants that govern our credit agreements.

Foreign Subsidiary Indebtedness

Our foreign subsidiary indebtedness consists primarily of receivables factoring in Europe, which is described above.

Capital and Operating Leases

We have several operating leases, including leases for office and manufacturing facilities, as well as certain equipment, with lease terms expiring between the years 2018 and 2026.

As of December 31, 2017, our total future operating lease payments amounted to \$170.1 million and the present value of minimum lease payments under our capital leases amounted to \$5.5 million. As of December 31, 2017, we were committed to making lease payments during 2018 of not less than \$35.1 million on our operating leases and not less than \$5.6 million on our capital leases.

On September 21, 2018, we completed the sale of one of our manufacturing facilities for \$14.9 million. Simultaneously, we entered into a lease for the same facility for continued use in our ongoing operations. The lease agreement is for a term of approximately 15 years. We recorded a deferred gain of \$5.4 million, as the sale price was in excess of our net book value, which will be recognized over the lease term.

Beginning in 2019, FASB ASC No. 842, *Leases*, will change the financial reporting for leases. Certain of our manufacturing equipment leases currently classified as operating leases will be considered financing leases under the new standard which will require us to record the right of use asset as additional property, plant, and equipment and the associated liability as lease debt. As of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, the associated liability from these leases would have been approximately \$143 million and \$72 million, respectively.

In addition, we have numerous real estate and equipment leases currently classified as operating that we believe will continue to be classified as operating under the new standard. We expect that the right of use assets and liabilities associated with these leases will be material, but have not yet quantified the total balance sheet impact for these leases.

Off-Balance Sheet Obligations

In addition to the operating leases described above, our off-balance sheet obligations consist of obligations under our Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility. As of September 30, 2018, letters of credit outstanding were \$8.2 million under the Fourth Amended Revolving Credit Facility.

Net Debt

Net debt is a non-GAAP financial measure that represents total debt less cash and cash equivalents. We believe that the presentation of net debt provides useful information because we understand that our investors perceive net debt as part of the management of our overall liquidity, financial flexibility, capital structure and leverage. Furthermore, certain debt rating agencies, creditors and credit analysts monitor our net debt as part of their assessments of our business. Net debt is used by management to help assess our exposure to its funding sources and to evaluate future needs for additional liquidity. Our use of the term "net debt" should not be understood to mean that we will use any cash on hand to repay debt. Net debt is calculated as follows (in millions):

	As of September 30, 2018	As of December 31, 2017
Total debt, including capital leases and net of debt issue costs	\$ 317.4	\$ 386.8
Less: Cash and cash equivalents	(47.7)	(123.7)
Net debt	\$ 269.7	\$ 263.1

As of September 30, 2018, our net debt was \$269.7 million, compared to \$263.1 million as of December 31, 2017. The \$6.6 million change reflects primarily negative free cash flow for the period, offset partially by the cash received from the sale-leaseback of one of our manufacturing facilities.

Disclosure Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This report contains statements which constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including but not limited to statements relating to trends in the operations, financial results, business and products of our Company, and anticipated production trends. The forward-looking statements can be identified by words such as “anticipate”, “believe”, “plan”, “estimate”, “expect”, “intend”, “project”, and other similar expressions and statements regarding our intent, belief, current plans, or expectations. Our forward looking statements also include, without limitation, statements regarding our anticipated future financial condition, operating results, free cash flows, net debt leverage, Adjusted EBITDA, and business and financing plans and models. Forward-looking statements are made as of the date of this report and are based upon management’s current expectations and beliefs concerning future developments and their potential effects on us. Such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance. The following important factors, as well as those important factors described elsewhere in this report or in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, could cause our actual results to differ materially from estimates or expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements:

- global automobile production volumes;
- the financial condition of our customers and suppliers;
- our ability to make scheduled payments of principal or interest on our indebtedness and comply with the covenants and restrictions contained in the instruments governing our indebtedness;
- our ability to refinance our indebtedness;
- risks associated with non-U.S. operations, including foreign exchange risks and economic uncertainty in some regions;
- any increase in the expense and funding requirements of our pension and postretirement benefits;
- our customers’ ability to obtain equity and debt financing for their businesses;
- our dependence on our large customers;
- pricing pressure from our customers;
- changes to U.S. trade and tariff policies and the reaction of other countries thereto;
- our ability to integrate acquired businesses;
- our ability to take advantage of emerging secular trends relating to lightweighting; outsourcing, replacement, electrification and autonomous vehicles;
- risks associated with business divestitures including volatility in the capital markets, the capacity of potential bidders to finance transactions and the difficulty of predicting the outcome of negotiations; and
- costs or liabilities related to environmental and safety regulations.

Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made, and we undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which the statement is made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

This report also contains estimates and other statistical data made by independent parties and by us relating to market size and growth and other data about our industry. This data involves a number of assumptions and limitations, and you are cautioned not to give undue weight to such estimates. We have not independently verified the statistical and other industry data generated by independent parties that are contained in this report and, accordingly, we cannot assure you of the accuracy or completeness of such data. In addition, projections, assumptions, and estimates of our future performance and the future performance of the industries in which we operate are necessarily subject to a high degree of uncertainty and risk.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk.

Market risk is the potential loss arising from adverse changes in market rates and prices. We are exposed to market risk throughout the normal course of our business operations due to our purchases of steel, our sales of scrap steel, our ongoing investing and financing activities, and our exposure to foreign currency exchange rates. We have established policies and procedures to govern our management of market risks.

Commodity Pricing Risk

Steel is the primary raw material that we use. We purchase a portion of our steel from certain of our customers through various OEM resale programs. The purchases through customer resale programs have buffered the impact of price swings associated with the procurement of steel. The remainder of our steel purchasing requirements are met through contracts with steel mills. At times, we may be unable to either avoid increases in steel prices or pass through any price increases to our customers. We refer to the “net steel impact” as the combination of the change in steel prices that are reflected in the price of our products, the change in the cost to procure steel from the mill, and the change in our recovery of offal. Our strategy is to be economically neutral to steel pricing by having these factors offset each other. While we strive to achieve a neutral net steel impact, we are not always successful in achieving that goal, in large part due to timing differences. The timing of a change in the price of steel may occur in separate periods and if a change occurs, that change may have a disproportionate effect, within any fiscal period, on our product pricing. Depending upon when a steel price change or offal price change occurs, that change may have a disproportionate effect, within any particular fiscal period, on our product pricing, our steel costs and the results of our sales of offal. Net imbalances in any one particular fiscal period may be reversed in a subsequent fiscal period, although we cannot provide assurances that, or when, these reversals will occur. Over the past several years, we have not experienced a material net impact from these factors.

Interest Rate Risk

At September 30, 2018, we had total debt, excluding capital leases, of \$317.4 million (net of a \$1.7 million discount and \$6.4 million of debt issue costs), consisting of variable rate debt of \$131.3 million (41%) and fixed rate debt of \$186.1 million (59%), after taking into account our \$186.1 million variable rate to fixed rate swap. Assuming no changes in the monthly average variable rate debt levels of \$174.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018, we estimate that a hypothetical change of 100 basis points in the LIBOR and alternative base rate would not have a significant impact on interest expense due to the LIBOR floor in our Term Loan.

In addition, we have certain manufacturing equipment leases currently classified as operating leases that will be considered financing leases upon adoption of FASB ASC No. 842, *Leases*. As of September 30, 2018, the associated lease debt from these leases would have been approximately \$143 million. Including this amount, our fixed rate debt would have been approximately 72% and our variable rate debt would have been approximately 28%.

Foreign Exchange Risk

A significant portion of our revenues is derived from manufacturing operations in Europe. The results of operations and financial condition of our non-United States businesses are principally measured in their respective local currency and translated into U.S. dollars. The effects of foreign currency fluctuations in Europe are mitigated by the fact that expenses are generally incurred in the same currency in which revenues are generated, since we strive to manufacture our products in close proximity to our customers. Nevertheless, the reported income of our foreign subsidiaries will be higher or lower depending on a weakening or strengthening of the U.S. dollar against the respective foreign currencies.

Assets located in our foreign facilities are translated into U.S. dollars at foreign currency exchange rates in effect as of the end of each reporting period. The effect of such translations is reflected as a separate component of consolidated stockholders' equity. As a result, our consolidated stockholders' equity will fluctuate, depending upon the weakening or strengthening of the U.S. dollar against the respective foreign currencies.

Our strategy for managing currency risk relies primarily upon conducting business in a foreign country in that country's currency. We may, from time to time, also participate in hedging programs intended to reduce our exposure to currency fluctuations. We believe that the effect of a 100 basis point movement in foreign currency rates against the U.S. dollar would not have materially impacted the results of our operations, our cash flows, or our stockholders' equity for the nine months ended September 30, 2018.

Inflation

Over time, we may experience a rise in inflationary pressures impacting certain commodities, such as petroleum-based products, ferrous metals, base metals, and certain chemicals. Additionally, because we purchase various types of equipment, raw materials, and component parts from our suppliers, we may be adversely impacted by their inability to adequately mitigate inflationary, industry, or economic pressures. The overall condition of our supply base may possibly lead to delivery delays, production issues, or delivery of non-conforming products by our suppliers in the future. As such, we continue to monitor our vendor base for the best sources of supply and we continue to work with those vendors and customers to mitigate the impact of inflationary pressures.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures.*Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures*

As required by Rule 13a-15 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”), management, with the participation of the Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) and Chief Financial Officer (“CFO”), evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of September 30, 2018. Based upon that evaluation, the CEO and the CFO have concluded that, as of September 30, 2018, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms. These disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports we file or submit is accumulated and communicated to management, including the CEO and CFO, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There has not been any change in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended September 30, 2018 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II — OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1A. Risk Factors.

There have been no material changes in our risk factors disclosed in Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

Purchases of Equity Securities

The following table presents information regarding shares of our common stock repurchased during each month in the quarter ended September 30, 2018.

Period	Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased	Weighted Average Price Paid per Share (or Unit)	Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plan or Program	Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under Plan or Program (1)
July 1 to July 31, 2018	-	\$ -	-	\$ 81,056,732
August 1 to August 31, 2018	-	\$ -	-	\$ 81,056,732
September 1 to September 30, 2018	-	\$ -	-	\$ 81,056,732
Total	-	\$ -	-	

- (1) This column includes the approximate dollar value of shares that remain authorized for repurchase under the Company's Repurchase Program announced on June 17, 2016. Subject to applicable legal restrictions, shares may be repurchased in open market transactions, privately negotiated transactions, or in such other manner as shall be determined by the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Financial Officer (the "Proper Officers"), or their designee. The timing, manner, price, and amount of repurchases will be determined at the Proper Officer's discretion and the Repurchase Program shall terminate on the earlier of (i) the first date on which a total of \$100 million of the Company's shares of common stock shall have been purchased and (ii) such other date as shall be determined by the Company's Board of Directors.

Item 6. Exhibits.

- 31.1 [Rule 13a-14\(a\) Certification of the Chief Executive Officer](#)
- 31.2 [Rule 13a-14\(a\) Certification of the Chief Financial Officer](#)
- 32.1 [Section 1350 Certification of the Chief Executive Officer *](#)
- 32.2 [Section 1350 Certification of the Chief Financial Officer *](#)
- 101.INS XBRL Instance Document
- 101.SCH XBRL Taxonomy Extension Scheme Document
- 101.CAL XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
- 101.DEF XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
- 101.LAB XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
- 101.PRE XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

* Furnished, not filed

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Tower International, Inc.

Date: October 29, 2018

/s/ Jeffrey Kersten
Jeffrey Kersten
Chief Financial Officer

CERTIFICATION

I, James C. Gouin, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 of Tower International, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15 (e) and 15d-15 (e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: October 29, 2018

/s/James C. Gouin
James C. Gouin
Chief Executive Officer

CERTIFICATION

I, Jeffrey L. Kersten, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 of Tower International, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15 (e) and 15d-15 (e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: October 29, 2018

/s/ Jeffrey L. Kersten
 Jeffrey L. Kersten
 Chief Financial Officer

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350**

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 of Tower International, Inc. (the "Company") as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, James C. Gouin, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to my knowledge:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: October 29, 2018

/s/James C. Gouin

James C. Gouin
Chief Executive Officer

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350**

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 of Tower International, Inc. (the "Company") as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Jeffrey L. Kersten, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to my knowledge:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: October 29, 2018

/s/ Jeffrey L. Kersten
Jeffrey L. Kersten
Chief Financial Officer