

Celanese Corp
Form 10-Q
April 23, 2019
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 10-Q
 QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2019

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

(Commission File Number) 001-32410

CELANESE CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware 98-0420726

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization) (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

222 W. Las Colinas Blvd., Suite 900N 75039-5421
Irving, TX (Zip Code)

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(972) 443-4000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes No

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

Large accelerated filer 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 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

The number of outstanding shares of the registrant's common stock, \$0.0001 par value, as of April 18, 2019 was 126,612,492.

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CELANESE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

Form 10-Q

For the Quarterly Period Ended March 31, 2019

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Item 1. Financial Statements

CELANESE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|--|--|-------------|
| | 2019 | 2018 |
| | (In \$ millions, except share and per share data) | |
| Net sales | 1,687 | 1,851 |
| Cost of sales | (1,234 |) (1,336 |
| Gross profit | 453 | 515 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | (120 |) (147 |
| Amortization of intangible assets | (6 |) (6 |
| Research and development expenses | (16 |) (18 |
| Other (charges) gains, net | 4 | — |
| Foreign exchange gain (loss), net | 5 | (1 |
| Gain (loss) on disposition of businesses and assets, net | — | — |
| Operating profit (loss) | 320 | 343 |
| Equity in net earnings (loss) of affiliates | 50 | 58 |
| Non-operating pension and other postretirement employee benefit (expense) income | 17 | 26 |
| Interest expense | (31 |) (33 |
| Interest income | 1 | 2 |
| Dividend income - equity investments | 32 | 32 |
| Other income (expense), net | (4 |) 4 |
| Earnings (loss) from continuing operations before tax | 385 | 432 |
| Income tax (provision) benefit | (46 |) (65 |
| Earnings (loss) from continuing operations | 339 | 367 |
| Earnings (loss) from operation of discontinued operations | (1 |) (2 |
| Income tax (provision) benefit from discontinued operations | — | — |
| Earnings (loss) from discontinued operations | (1 |) (2 |
| Net earnings (loss) | 338 | 365 |
| Net (earnings) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests | (1 |) (2 |
| Net earnings (loss) attributable to Celanese Corporation | 337 | 363 |
| Amounts attributable to Celanese Corporation | | |
| Earnings (loss) from continuing operations | 338 | 365 |
| Earnings (loss) from discontinued operations | (1 |) (2 |
| Net earnings (loss) | 337 | 363 |
| Earnings (loss) per common share - basic | | |
| Continuing operations | 2.65 | 2.69 |
| Discontinued operations | (0.01 |) (0.02 |
| Net earnings (loss) - basic | 2.64 | 2.67 |
| Earnings (loss) per common share - diluted | | |
| Continuing operations | 2.64 | 2.68 |
| Discontinued operations | (0.01 |) (0.02 |
| Net earnings (loss) - diluted | 2.63 | 2.66 |
| Weighted average shares - basic | 127,542,328 | 135,916,446 |
| Weighted average shares - diluted | 128,215,700 | 136,383,735 |

See the accompanying notes to the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements.

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CELANESE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
 UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF
 COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 2018 (In \$ millions) | |
|--|---|------|
| Net earnings (loss) | 338 | 365 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax | | |
| Foreign currency translation gain (loss) | 7 | 49 |
| Gain (loss) on cash flow hedges | (3) | (1) |
| Pension and postretirement benefits gain (loss) | — | 1 |
| Total other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax | 4 | 49 |
| Total comprehensive income (loss), net of tax | 342 | 414 |
| Comprehensive (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests | (1) | (2) |
| Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to Celanese Corporation | 341 | 412 |

See the accompanying notes to the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements.

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CELANESE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
 UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

| | As of March 31, 2019 | As of December 31, 2018 |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| | (In \$ millions, except share data) | |
| ASSETS | | |
| Current Assets | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents (variable interest entity restricted - 2019: \$23; 2018: \$24) | 441 | 439 |
| Trade receivables - third party and affiliates (net of allowance for doubtful accounts - 2019: \$10; 2018: \$10; variable interest entity restricted - 2019: \$5; 2018: \$6) | 1,015 | 1,017 |
| Non-trade receivables, net | 343 | 301 |
| Inventories | 1,009 | 1,046 |
| Marketable securities, at fair value | 29 | 31 |
| Other assets | 47 | 40 |
| Total current assets | 2,884 | 2,874 |
| Investments in affiliates | 950 | 979 |
| Property, plant and equipment (net of accumulated depreciation - 2019: \$2,871; 2018: \$2,803; variable interest entity restricted - 2019: \$650; 2018: \$659) | 3,721 | 3,719 |
| Operating lease right-of-use assets | 210 | — |
| Deferred income taxes | 93 | 84 |
| Other assets (variable interest entity restricted - 2019: \$4; 2018: \$5) | 309 | 290 |
| Goodwill | 1,075 | 1,057 |
| Intangible assets (variable interest entity restricted - 2019: \$23; 2018: \$23) | 332 | 310 |
| Total assets | 9,574 | 9,313 |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | | |
| Current Liabilities | | |
| Short-term borrowings and current installments of long-term debt - third party and affiliates | 743 | 561 |
| Trade payables - third party and affiliates | 699 | 819 |
| Other liabilities | 311 | 343 |
| Income taxes payable | 69 | 56 |
| Total current liabilities | 1,822 | 1,779 |
| Long-term debt, net of unamortized deferred financing costs | 2,933 | 2,970 |
| Deferred income taxes | 273 | 255 |
| Uncertain tax positions | 162 | 158 |
| Benefit obligations | 550 | 564 |
| Operating lease liabilities | 193 | — |
| Other liabilities | 202 | 208 |
| Commitments and Contingencies | | |
| Stockholders' Equity | | |
| Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized (2019 and 2018: 0 issued and outstanding) | — | — |
| Common stock, \$0.0001 par value, 400,000,000 shares authorized (2019: 168,897,951 issued and 126,612,492 outstanding; 2018: 168,418,954 issued and 128,095,849 outstanding) | — | — |
| Treasury stock, at cost (2019: 42,285,459 shares; 2018: 40,323,105 shares) | (3,048) | (2,849) |
| Additional paid-in capital | 224 | 233 |
| Retained earnings | 6,114 | 5,847 |

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| | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net | (243) | (247) |
| Total Celanese Corporation stockholders' equity | 3,047 | 2,984 |
| Noncontrolling interests | 392 | 395 |
| Total equity | 3,439 | 3,379 |
| Total liabilities and equity | 9,574 | 9,313 |

See the accompanying notes to the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements.

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CELANESE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
 UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| | 2019 | | 2018 | |
| | Shares | Amount | Shares | Amount |
| | (In \$ millions, except share data) | | | |
| Common Stock | | | | |
| Balance as of the beginning of the period | 128,095,849 | — | 135,769,256 | — |
| Stock option exercises | 9,937 | — | — | — |
| Purchases of treasury stock | (1,972,291) | — | — | — |
| Stock awards | 478,997 | — | 86,454 | — |
| Balance as of the end of the period | 126,612,492 | — | 135,855,710 | — |
| Treasury Stock | | | | |
| Balance as of the beginning of the period | 40,323,105 | (2,849) | 32,387,713 | (2,031) |
| Purchases of treasury stock, including related fees | 1,972,291 | (200) | — | — |
| Issuance of treasury stock for stock option exercises | (9,937) | 1 | — | — |
| Balance as of the end of the period | 42,285,459 | (3,048) | 32,387,713 | (2,031) |
| Additional Paid-In Capital | | | | |
| Balance as of the beginning of the period | | 233 | | 175 |
| Stock-based compensation, net of tax | | (8) | | 17 |
| Stock option exercises, net of tax | | (1) | | — |
| Balance as of the end of the period | | 224 | | 192 |
| Retained Earnings | | | | |
| Balance as of the beginning of the period | | 5,847 | | 4,920 |
| Net earnings (loss) attributable to Celanese Corporation | | 337 | | 363 |
| Common stock dividends | | (70) | | (63) |
| Balance as of the end of the period | | 6,114 | | 5,220 |
| Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), Net | | | | |
| Balance as of the beginning of the period | | (247) | | (177) |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax | | 4 | | 49 |
| Balance as of the end of the period | | (243) | | (128) |
| Total Celanese Corporation stockholders' equity | | 3,047 | | 3,253 |
| Noncontrolling Interests | | | | |
| Balance as of the beginning of the period | | 395 | | 412 |
| Net earnings (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests | | 1 | | 2 |
| (Distributions to) contributions from noncontrolling interests | | (4) | | (2) |
| Balance as of the end of the period | | 392 | | 412 |
| Total equity | | 3,439 | | 3,665 |

See the accompanying notes to the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements.

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CELANESE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
 UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 2018 (In \$ millions) | |
|---|---|-------|
| Operating Activities | | |
| Net earnings (loss) | 338 | 365 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net earnings (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities | | |
| Depreciation, amortization and accretion | 84 | 80 |
| Pension and postretirement net periodic benefit cost | (15) | (24) |
| Pension and postretirement contributions | (12) | (12) |
| Deferred income taxes, net | (5) | (4) |
| (Gain) loss on disposition of businesses and assets, net | — | 1 |
| Stock-based compensation | 14 | 22 |
| Undistributed earnings in unconsolidated affiliates | 21 | 19 |
| Other, net | 6 | 5 |
| Operating cash provided by (used in) discontinued operations | — | — |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities | | |
| Trade receivables - third party and affiliates, net | 6 | (190) |
| Inventories | 40 | (27) |
| Other assets | (23) | (29) |
| Trade payables - third party and affiliates | (81) | — |
| Other liabilities | (66) | (63) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities | 307 | 143 |
| Investing Activities | | |
| Capital expenditures on property, plant and equipment | (79) | (86) |
| Acquisitions, net of cash acquired | (91) | (144) |
| Proceeds from sale of businesses and assets, net | — | 9 |
| Other, net | (7) | (14) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities | (177) | (235) |
| Financing Activities | | |
| Net change in short-term borrowings with maturities of 3 months or less | 197 | 101 |
| Proceeds from short-term borrowings | — | 36 |
| Repayments of short-term borrowings | (12) | (38) |
| Proceeds from long-term debt | — | — |
| Repayments of long-term debt | (7) | (31) |
| Purchases of treasury stock, including related fees | (212) | — |
| Stock option exercises | — | — |
| Common stock dividends | (70) | (63) |
| (Distributions to) contributions from noncontrolling interests | (4) | (2) |
| Other, net | (22) | (5) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities | (130) | (2) |
| Exchange rate effects on cash and cash equivalents | 2 | 8 |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | 2 | (86) |
| Cash and cash equivalents as of beginning of period | 439 | 576 |

Cash and cash equivalents as of end of period

441 490

See the accompanying notes to the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements.

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CELANESE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Description of the Company and Basis of Presentation

Description of the Company

Celanese Corporation and its subsidiaries (collectively, the "Company") is a global chemical and specialty materials company. The Company produces high performance engineered polymers that are used in a variety of high-value applications, as well as acetyl products, which are intermediate chemicals, for nearly all major industries. The Company also engineers and manufactures a wide variety of products essential to everyday living. The Company's broad product portfolio serves a diverse set of end-use applications including automotive, chemical additives, construction, consumer and industrial adhesives, consumer and medical, energy storage, filtration, food and beverage, paints and coatings, paper and packaging, performance industrial and textiles.

Definitions

In this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q ("Quarterly Report"), the term "Celanese" refers to Celanese Corporation, a Delaware corporation, and not its subsidiaries. The term "Celanese US" refers to the Company's subsidiary, Celanese US Holdings LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and not its subsidiaries.

Basis of Presentation

The unaudited interim consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2019 and 2018 contained in this Quarterly Report were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("US GAAP") for all periods presented and include the accounts of the Company, its majority owned subsidiaries over which the Company exercises control and, when applicable, variable interest entities in which the Company is the primary beneficiary. The unaudited interim consolidated financial statements and other financial information included in this Quarterly Report, unless otherwise specified, have been presented to separately show the effects of discontinued operations.

In the opinion of management, the accompanying unaudited consolidated balance sheets and related unaudited interim consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income (loss), cash flows and equity include all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring items necessary for their fair presentation in conformity with US GAAP. Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with US GAAP have been condensed or omitted in accordance with rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). These unaudited interim consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2018, filed on February 7, 2019 with the SEC as part of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Operating results for the three months ended March 31, 2019 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the entire year.

In the ordinary course of business, the Company enters into contracts and agreements relative to a number of topics, including acquisitions, dispositions, joint ventures, supply agreements, product sales and other arrangements. The Company endeavors to describe those contracts or agreements that are material to its business, results of operations or financial position. The Company may also describe some arrangements that are not material but in which the Company believes investors may have an interest or which may have been included in a Form 8-K filing. Investors should not assume the Company has described all contracts and agreements relative to the Company's business in this Quarterly Report.

For those consolidated ventures in which the Company owns or is exposed to less than 100% of the economics, the outside stockholders' interests are shown as noncontrolling interests.

The Company has reclassified certain prior period amounts to conform to the presentation of the Company's current reportable segments.

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Estimates and Assumptions

The preparation of unaudited interim consolidated financial statements in conformity with US GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of Net sales, expenses and allocated charges during the reporting period. Significant estimates pertain to impairments of goodwill, intangible assets and other long-lived assets, purchase price allocations, restructuring costs and other (charges) gains, net, income taxes, pension and other postretirement benefits, asset retirement obligations, environmental liabilities and loss contingencies, among others. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

2. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

The following table provides a brief description of recent Accounting Standard Updates ("ASU") issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB"):

| Standard | Description | Effective Date | Effect on the Financial Statements or Other Significant Matters |
|--|--|---|--|
| In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-14, Disclosure Framework - Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Defined Benefit Plans. | The new guidance modifies the disclosure requirements for employers that sponsor defined benefit pension or other postretirement plans by removing disclosures that no longer are considered cost beneficial, clarifying the specific requirements of disclosures and adding disclosure requirements identified as relevant. | January 1, 2020. Early adoption is permitted. | The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adoption on its financial statement disclosures. |
| In February 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-02, Reclassification of Certain Tax Effects from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income. | The new guidance allows a reclassification from accumulated other comprehensive income to retained earnings for stranded tax effects resulting from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and will improve the usefulness of information reported to financial statement users. | January 1, 2019. | The Company adopted the new guidance effective January 1, 2019. The adoption of the new guidance did not have a material impact on the Company. |
| In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, Leases. Since that date, the FASB has issued additional ASUs clarifying certain aspects of ASU 2016-02. | The new guidance supersedes the lease guidance under FASB Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 840, Leases, resulting in the creation of FASB ASC Topic 842, Leases. The guidance requires a lessee to recognize in the statement of financial position a liability to make lease payments and a right-of-use asset representing its right to use the underlying asset for the lease term for both finance and operating leases. Subsequent guidance issued after February 2016 did not change the core principle of ASU 2016-02. | January 1, 2019. | The Company adopted the new guidance effective January 1, 2019, using the modified retrospective transition method, which did not require the Company to adjust comparative periods. See the Adoption of ASU 2016-02 section below for additional information. |

Adoption of ASU 2016-02, Leases

The Company adopted ASU 2016-02 as of January 1, 2019, using the modified retrospective approach. Prior period amounts have not been adjusted. In addition, the Company elected the following practical expedients:

- the package of practical expedients permitted under the transition guidance within the new standard, which among other things, allowed the Company to carry forward the historical lease classification;

the land easements practical expedient, which allowed the Company to carry forward the accounting treatment for land easements on existing agreements;

- the short-term lease practical expedient, which allowed the Company to exclude short-term leases from recognition in the unaudited consolidated balance sheets; and

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the bifurcation of lease and non-lease components practical expedient, which did not require the Company to bifurcate lease and non-lease components for all classes of assets.

The adoption of this accounting standard resulted in the recording of Operating lease right-of-use ("ROU") assets and Operating lease liabilities of \$223 million and \$240 million, respectively, as of January 1, 2019. The difference between the operating lease assets and liabilities was recorded as an adjustment to Other liabilities, primarily related to deferred rent (lease incentives). The adoption of ASU 2016-02 had no impact on Retained earnings.

See Note 16 for additional information.

3. Acquisitions, Dispositions and Plant Closures

Acquisitions

Omni Plastics

In February 2018, using cash on hand and borrowings under the Company's senior unsecured revolving credit facility, the Company acquired 100% of the ownership interests of Omni Plastics, L.L.C. and its subsidiaries ("Omni Plastics"). Omni Plastics specializes in custom compounding of various engineered thermoplastic materials. The acquisition further strengthens the Company's global asset base by adding compounding capacity in the Americas. The acquisition was accounted for as a business combination and the acquired operations are included in the Engineered Materials segment. The Company allocated the purchase price of the acquisition to identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on their estimated fair values as of the acquisition date. During the measurement period, there were no adjustments that materially impacted the Company's goodwill initially recorded.

4. Ventures and Variable Interest Entities

Consolidated Variable Interest Entities

The Company has a joint venture, Fairway Methanol LLC ("Fairway"), with Mitsui & Co., Ltd., of Tokyo, Japan ("Mitsui"), in which the Company owns 50% of Fairway, for the production of methanol at the Company's integrated chemical plant in Clear Lake, Texas. The methanol unit utilizes natural gas in the US Gulf Coast region as a feedstock and benefits from the existing infrastructure at the Company's Clear Lake facility. Both Mitsui and the Company supply their own natural gas to Fairway in exchange for methanol tolling under a cost-plus off-take arrangement. The Company determined that Fairway is a variable interest entity ("VIE") in which the Company is the primary beneficiary. Under the terms of the joint venture agreements, the Company provides site services and day-to-day operations for the methanol facility. In addition, the joint venture agreements provide that the Company indemnifies Mitsui for environmental obligations that exceed a specified threshold, as well as an equity option between the partners. Accordingly, the Company consolidates the venture and records a noncontrolling interest for the share of the venture owned by Mitsui. Fairway is included in the Company's Acetyl Chain segment.

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The carrying amount of the assets and liabilities associated with Fairway included in the unaudited consolidated balance sheets are as follows:

| | As of March 31, 2019 | As of December 31, 2018 |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | (In \$ millions) | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 23 | 24 |
| Trade receivables, net - third party and affiliates | 10 | 11 |
| Property, plant and equipment (net of accumulated depreciation - 2019: \$140; 2018: \$130) | 650 | 659 |
| Intangible assets (net of accumulated amortization - 2019: \$3; 2018: \$3) | 23 | 23 |
| Other assets | 4 | 5 |
| Total assets ⁽¹⁾ | 710 | 722 |
| Trade payables | 8 | 16 |
| Other liabilities ⁽²⁾ | 7 | 4 |
| Total debt | 4 | 5 |
| Deferred income taxes | 3 | 3 |
| Total liabilities | 22 | 28 |

⁽¹⁾ Assets can only be used to settle the obligations of Fairway.

⁽²⁾ Primarily represents amounts owed by Fairway to the Company for reimbursement of expenditures.

Nonconsolidated Variable Interest Entities

The Company holds variable interests in entities that supply certain raw materials and services to the Company. The variable interests primarily relate to cost-plus contractual arrangements with the suppliers and recovery of capital expenditures for certain plant assets plus a rate of return on such assets. Liabilities for such supplier recoveries of capital expenditures have been recorded as finance lease obligations. The entities are not consolidated because the Company is not the primary beneficiary of the entities as it does not have the power to direct the activities of the entities that most significantly impact the entities' economic performance. The Company's maximum exposure to loss as a result of its involvement with these VIEs as of March 31, 2019, relates primarily to the recovery of capital expenditures for certain property, plant and equipment.

The carrying amount of the assets and liabilities associated with the obligations to nonconsolidated VIEs, as well as the maximum exposure to loss relating to these nonconsolidated VIEs are as follows:

| | As of March 31, 2019 | As of December 31, 2018 |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | (In \$ millions) | |
| Property, plant and equipment, net | 39 | 42 |
| Trade payables | 23 | 27 |
| Current installments of long-term debt | 15 | 14 |
| Long-term debt | 54 | 57 |
| Total liabilities | 92 | 98 |
| Maximum exposure to loss | 125 | 133 |

The difference between the total liabilities associated with obligations to nonconsolidated VIEs and the maximum exposure to loss primarily represents take-or-pay obligations for services included in the Company's unconditional purchase obligations (Note 19).

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5. Marketable Securities

The Company's nonqualified trusts hold available-for-sale securities for funding requirements of the Company's nonqualified pension plans. Available-for-sale securities as of March 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018 were \$29 million and \$31 million, respectively, and were recorded at amortized cost, which approximates fair value.

6. Inventories

| | As of March 31, 2019 | As of December 31, 2018 |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | (In \$ millions) | |
| Finished goods | 678 | 697 |
| Work-in-process | 67 | 70 |
| Raw materials and supplies | 264 | 279 |
| Total | 1,009 | 1,046 |

7. Goodwill and Intangible Assets, Net

Goodwill

| | Engine Materials | Acrylate Polysw | Acetyl Chain | Total |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------|
| | (In \$ millions) | | | |
| As of December 31, 2018 | 707 | 148 | 202 | 1,057 |
| Acquisitions | 29 | — | — | 29 |
| Exchange rate changes | (8) | — | (3) | (11) |
| As of March 31, 2019 ⁽¹⁾ | 728 | 148 | 199 | 1,075 |

⁽¹⁾ There were \$0 million of accumulated impairment losses as of March 31, 2019.

Intangible Assets, Net

Finite-lived intangible assets are as follows:

| | Licenses | Customer- Related Intangible Assets | Developed Technology | Covenants Not to Compete and Other | Total |
|--------------------------|------------------|--|-------------------------|---|-------------------|
| | (In \$ millions) | | | | |
| Gross Asset Value | | | | | |
| As of December 31, 2018 | 42 | 651 | 44 | 56 | 793 |
| Acquisitions | — | 25 | — | — | 25 ⁽¹⁾ |
| Exchange rate changes | 1 | (7) | — | — | (6) |
| As of March 31, 2019 | 43 | 669 | 44 | 56 | 812 |
| Accumulated Amortization | | | | | |
| As of December 31, 2018 | (33) | (495) | (32) | (35) | (595) |
| Amortization | — | (4) | (1) | (1) | (6) |
| Exchange rate changes | (1) | 7 | — | — | 6 |
| As of March 31, 2019 | (34) | (492) | (33) | (36) | (595) |
| Net book value | 9 | 177 | 11 | 20 | 217 |

⁽¹⁾ Represents intangible assets acquired related to Next Polymers Ltd. with a weighted average amortization period of 13 years.

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Indefinite-lived intangible assets are as follows:

| | Trademarks and Trade Names (In \$ millions) |
|-------------------------------|---|
| As of December 31, 2018 | 112 |
| Acquisitions | 4 |
| Accumulated impairment losses | — |
| Exchange rate changes | (1) |
| As of March 31, 2019 | 115 |

For the three months ended March 31, 2019, the Company did not renew or extend any intangible assets. Estimated amortization expense for the succeeding five fiscal years is as follows:

| (In \$ millions) |
|---------------------|
| 2020 22 |
| 2021 21 |
| 2022 19 |
| 2023 17 |
| 2024 16 |

8. Current Other Liabilities

| | As of March 31, 2019 | As of December 31, 2018 |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | (In \$ millions) | |
| Asset retirement obligations | 3 | 3 |
| Benefit obligations (<u>Note 11</u>) | 30 | 30 |
| Customer rebates (<u>Note 21</u>) | 46 | 76 |
| Derivatives (<u>Note 17</u>) | 4 | 7 |
| Environmental (<u>Note 12</u>) | 20 | 20 |
| Insurance | 4 | 4 |
| Interest | 23 | 21 |
| Operating leases (<u>Note 16</u>) | 32 | — |
| Restructuring (<u>Note 14</u>) | 1 | 4 |
| Salaries and benefits | 64 | 119 |
| Sales and use tax/foreign withholding tax payable | 39 | 22 |
| Other | 45 | 37 |
| Total | 311 | 343 |

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9. Noncurrent Other Liabilities

| | As of March 31, 2019 | As of December 31, 2018 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| (In \$ millions) | | |
| Asset retirement obligations | 13 | 13 |
| Deferred proceeds | 43 | 44 |
| Deferred revenue (<u>Note 21</u>) | 7 | 7 |
| Derivatives (<u>Note 17</u>) | 21 | 11 |
| Environmental (<u>Note 12</u>) | 45 | 49 |
| Insurance | 39 | 37 |
| Other | 34 | 47 |
| Total | 202 | 208 |

10. Debt

| | As of March 31, 2019 | As of December 31, 2018 |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| (In \$ millions) | | |
| Short-Term Borrowings and Current Installments of Long-Term Debt - Third Party and Affiliates | | |
| Current installments of long-term debt | 363 | 367 |
| Short-term borrowings, including amounts due to affiliates ⁽¹⁾ | 56 | 77 |
| Revolving credit facility ⁽²⁾ | 247 | 40 |
| Accounts receivable securitization facility ⁽³⁾ | 77 | 77 |
| Total | 743 | 561 |

(1) The weighted average interest rate was 3.0% and 3.2% as of March 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively.

(2) The weighted average interest rate was 1.5% and 6.0% as of March 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively.

(3) The weighted average interest rate was 3.4% and 3.1% as of March 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively.

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| | As of March 31, 2019 (In \$ millions) | As of December 31, 2018 |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Long-Term Debt | | |
| Senior unsecured notes due 2019, interest rate of 3.250% | 337 | 343 |
| Senior unsecured notes due 2021, interest rate of 5.875% | 400 | 400 |
| Senior unsecured notes due 2022, interest rate of 4.625% | 500 | 500 |
| Senior unsecured notes due 2023, interest rate of 1.125% | 841 | 857 |
| Senior unsecured notes due 2025, interest rate of 1.250% | 337 | 343 |
| Senior unsecured notes due 2027, interest rate of 2.125% | 558 | 568 |
| Pollution control and industrial revenue bonds due at various dates through 2030, interest rates ranging from 4.05% to 5.00% | 167 | 167 |
| Nilit bank loans due at various dates through 2026 ⁽¹⁾ | 10 | 10 |
| Obligations under finance leases due at various dates through 2054 | 163 | 167 |
| Subtotal | 3,313 | 3,355 |
| Unamortized debt issuance costs ⁽²⁾ | (17) | (18) |
| Current installments of long-term debt | (363) | (367) |
| Total | 2,933 | 2,970 |

⁽¹⁾ The weighted average interest rate was 1.3% and 1.3% as of March 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively.

⁽²⁾ Related to the Company's long-term debt, excluding obligations under finance leases.

Senior Credit Facilities

On January 7, 2019, Celanese, Celanese US and certain subsidiary borrowers entered into a new senior credit agreement (the "Credit Agreement") consisting of a \$1.25 billion senior unsecured revolving credit facility (with a letter of credit sublimit), maturing in 2024. The Credit Agreement is guaranteed by Celanese, Celanese US and substantially all of its domestic subsidiaries ("the Subsidiary Guarantors").

The Company's debt balances and amounts available for borrowing under its senior unsecured revolving credit facility are as follows:

| | As of March 31, 2019 (In \$ millions) |
|--|--|
| Revolving Credit Facility | |
| Borrowings outstanding ⁽¹⁾ | 247 |
| Letters of credit issued | — |
| Available for borrowing ⁽²⁾ | 1,003 |

⁽¹⁾ The Company borrowed \$371 million and repaid \$161 million under its senior unsecured revolving credit facility during the three months ended March 31, 2019.

⁽²⁾ The margin for borrowings under the senior unsecured revolving credit facility was 1.5% above LIBOR or EURIBOR at current Company credit ratings.

Senior Notes

The Company has outstanding senior unsecured notes, issued in public offerings registered under the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act"), as amended (collectively, the "Senior Notes"). The Senior Notes were issued by Celanese US and are guaranteed on a senior unsecured basis by Celanese and the Subsidiary Guarantors.

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Accounts Receivable Securitization Facility

The Company has a US accounts receivable securitization facility involving receivables of certain of its domestic subsidiaries of the Company transferred to a wholly-owned, "bankruptcy remote" special purpose subsidiary of the Company ("SPE"). The securitization facility, which permits cash borrowings and letters of credit, expires in July 2019. All of the SPE's assets have been pledged to the administrative agent in support of the SPE's obligations under the facility.

The Company's debt balances and amounts available for borrowing under its securitization facility are as follows:

| | As of March 31, 2019 (In \$ millions) |
|--|--|
| Accounts Receivable Securitization Facility | |
| Borrowings outstanding | 77 |
| Letters of credit issued | 29 |
| Available for borrowing | 3 |
| Total borrowing base | 109 |
| Maximum borrowing base ⁽¹⁾ | 120 |

⁽¹⁾ Outstanding accounts receivable transferred to the SPE was \$188 million.

Other Financing Arrangements

In June 2018, the Company entered into a factoring agreement with a global financial institution to sell certain accounts receivable on a non-recourse basis. These transactions are treated as a sale and are accounted for as a reduction in accounts receivable because the agreement transfers effective control over and risk related to the receivables to the buyer. The Company has no continuing involvement in the transferred receivables, other than collection and administrative responsibilities and, once sold, the accounts receivable are no longer available to satisfy creditors in the event of bankruptcy. The Company de-recognized \$72 million of accounts receivable during the three months ended March 31, 2019.

Covenants

The Company's material financing arrangements contain customary covenants, including the maintenance of certain financial ratios, events of default and change of control provisions. Failure to comply with these covenants, or the occurrence of any other event of default, could result in acceleration of the borrowings and other financial obligations. The Company is in compliance with all of the covenants related to its debt agreements as of March 31, 2019.

11. Benefit Obligations

The components of net periodic benefit cost are as follows:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 2019 | 2018 |
| | Pension Benefits | Post-retirement Benefits |
| | (In \$ millions) | |
| Service cost | 2 | — |
| Interest cost | 29 | — |
| Expected return on plan assets | (46) | — |
| Total | (15) | — |

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Benefit obligation funding is as follows:

| | As of Total March 31, 2019 2019 (In \$ millions) | Expected |
|---|--|----------|
| Cash contributions to defined benefit pension plans | 6 | 22 |
| Benefit payments to nonqualified pension plans | 5 | 21 |
| Benefit payments to other postretirement benefit plans | 1 | 5 |
| Cash contributions to German multiemployer defined benefit pension plans ⁽¹⁾ | 2 | 9 |

⁽¹⁾ The Company makes contributions based on specified percentages of employee contributions.

The Company's estimates of its US defined benefit pension plan contributions reflect the provisions of the Pension Protection Act of 2006.

12. Environmental

The Company is subject to environmental laws and regulations worldwide that impose limitations on the discharge of pollutants into the air and water, establish standards for the treatment, storage and disposal of solid and hazardous wastes, and impose record keeping and notification requirements. Failure to timely comply with these laws and regulations may expose the Company to penalties. The Company believes that it is in substantial compliance with all applicable environmental laws and regulations and engages in an ongoing process of updating its controls to mitigate compliance risks. The Company is also subject to retained environmental obligations specified in various contractual agreements arising from the divestiture of certain businesses by the Company or one of its predecessor companies. The components of environmental remediation liabilities are as follows:

| | As of March 31, 2019 (In \$ millions) | As of December 31, 2018 |
|---|--|----------------------------------|
| Demerger obligations (<u>Note 19</u>) | 25 | 26 |
| Divestiture obligations (<u>Note 19</u>) | 14 | 16 |
| Active sites | 13 | 14 |
| US Superfund sites | 11 | 11 |
| Other environmental remediation liabilities | 2 | 2 |
| Total | 65 | 69 |

Remediation

Due to its industrial history and through retained contractual and legal obligations, the Company has the obligation to remediate specific areas on its own sites as well as on divested, demerger, orphan or US Superfund sites (as defined below). In addition, as part of the demerger agreement between the Company and Hoechst AG ("Hoechst"), a specified portion of the responsibility for environmental liabilities from a number of Hoechst divestitures was transferred to the Company (Note 19). Certain of these sites, at which the Company maintains continuing involvement, were and continue to be designated as discontinued operations. The Company provides for such obligations when the event of loss is probable and reasonably estimable. The Company believes that environmental remediation costs will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the Company, but may have a material adverse effect on the results of operations or cash flows in any given period.

US Superfund Sites

In the US, the Company may be subject to substantial claims brought by US federal or state regulatory agencies or private individuals pursuant to statutory authority or common law. In particular, the Company has a potential liability under the US Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, and related state laws (collectively referred to as "Superfund") for investigation and cleanup costs at certain sites. At most of these sites, numerous companies, including the Company, or one of its predecessor companies, have been notified that the US Environmental

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Protection Agency ("EPA"), state governing bodies or private individuals consider such companies to be potentially responsible parties ("PRP") under Superfund or related laws. The proceedings relating to these sites are in various stages. The cleanup process has not been completed at most sites, and the status of the insurance coverage for some of these proceedings is uncertain. Consequently, the Company cannot accurately determine its ultimate liability for investigation or cleanup costs at these sites.

As events progress at each site for which it has been named a PRP, the Company accrues, as appropriate, a liability for site cleanup. Such liabilities include all costs that are probable and can be reasonably estimated. In establishing these liabilities, the Company considers the contaminants of concern, the potential impact thereof, the relationship of the contaminants of concern to its current and historic operations, its shipment of waste to a site, its percentage of total waste shipped to the site, the types of wastes involved, the conclusions of any studies, the magnitude of any remedial actions that may be necessary and the number and viability of other PRPs. Often the Company joins with other PRPs to sign joint defense agreements that settle, among PRPs, each party's percentage allocation of costs at the site. Although the ultimate liability may differ from the estimate, the Company routinely reviews the liabilities and revises the estimate, as appropriate, based on the most current information available.

One such site is the Diamond Alkali Superfund Site, which is comprised of a number of sub-sites, including the Lower Passaic River Study Area ("LPRSA"), which is the lower 17-mile stretch of the Passaic River ("Lower Passaic River Site"), and the Newark Bay Area. The Company and 70 other companies are parties to a May 2007 Administrative Order on Consent with the EPA to perform a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study ("RI/FS") at the Lower Passaic River Site in order to identify the levels of contaminants and potential cleanup actions, including the potential migration of contaminants between the Lower Passaic River Site and the Newark Bay Area. Work on the RI/FS is ongoing.

In March 2016, the EPA issued its final Record of Decision concerning the remediation of the lower 8.3 miles of the Lower Passaic River Site ("Lower 8.3 Miles"). Pursuant to the EPA's Record of Decision, the Lower 8.3 Miles must be dredged bank to bank and an engineered cap must be installed at an EPA estimated cost of approximately \$1.4 billion. The Company owned and/or operated facilities in the vicinity of the Lower 8.3 Miles, but has found no evidence that it contributed any of the contaminants of concern to the Passaic River. On June 30, 2018, Occidental Chemical Corporation ("OCC"), the successor to the Diamond Alkali Company, sued a subsidiary of the Company and 119 other parties alleging claims for joint and several damages, contribution and declaratory relief under Section 107 and 113 of Superfund for costs to clean up the LPRSA portion of the Diamond Alkali Superfund Site, Occidental Chemical Corporation v. 21st Century Fox America, Inc., et al, No. 2:18-CV-11273-JLL-JAD (U.S. District Court New Jersey), alleging that each of the defendants owned or operated a facility that contributed contamination to the LPRSA. With respect to the Company, the OCC lawsuit is limited to the former Celanese facility that Essex County, New Jersey has agreed to indemnify the Company for and does not change the Company's estimated liability for LPRSA cleanup costs. The Company is vigorously defending these matters and currently believes that its ultimate allocable share of the cleanup costs with respect to the Lower Passaic River Site, estimated at less than 1%, will not be material to the Company's results of operations, cash flows or financial position.

13. Stockholders' Equity

Common Stock

The Company's Board of Directors follows a policy of declaring, subject to legally available funds, a quarterly cash dividend on each share of the Company's Common Stock, unless the Company's Board of Directors, in its sole discretion, determines otherwise. The amount available to the Company to pay cash dividends is not currently restricted by its existing senior credit facility and its indentures governing its senior unsecured notes. Any decision to declare and pay dividends in the future will be made at the discretion of the Company's Board of Directors and will depend on, among other things, the results of operations, cash requirements, financial condition, contractual restrictions and other factors that the Company's Board of Directors may deem relevant.

The Company's Board of Directors approved increases in the Company's Common Stock cash dividend rates as follows:

| Increase | Quarterly Common Stock Cash Dividend | Annual Common Stock Cash Dividend | Effective Date |
|----------|---|--------------------------------------|----------------|
|----------|---|--------------------------------------|----------------|

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| | (In percentages) | (In \$ per share) | |
|------------|------------------|-------------------|----------|
| April 2018 | 17 | 0.54 | 2.16 |
| | | | May 2018 |

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As of March 31, 2019

(229) (11) (3) (243)

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14. Other (Charges) Gains, Net

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|------|
| | 2019 | 2018 |
| | (In \$ millions) | |
| Restructuring | 1 | — |
| Plant/office closures (1) | — | — |
| Commercial disputes | 4 | — |
| Total | 4 | — |

During the three months ended March 31, 2019, the Company recorded a \$15 million gain within commercial disputes related to a settlement from a previous acquisition that was included within the Engineered Materials segment. The Company also recorded an \$11 million loss within commercial disputes related to a settlement by the Company's captive insurer with a former third-party customer, which was included within the Other Activities segment.

15. Income Taxes

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|------|
| | 2019 | 2018 |
| | (In percentages) | |
| Effective income tax rate | 12 | 15 |

The lower effective income tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to the same period in 2018 was primarily due to partial release of a valuation allowance on the net deferred tax asset for foreign tax credit carryforwards in the US due to revised forecasts of taxable income expected to be generated during the carryforward period.

The Company evaluates its deferred tax assets on a quarterly basis to determine whether a valuation allowance is necessary. Realization of deferred tax assets ultimately depends on the existence of sufficient taxable income in the applicable carryback or carryforward periods. Changes in the Company's estimates of future taxable income and prudent and feasible tax planning strategies will affect the estimate of the realization of the tax benefits of these foreign tax credit carryforwards. Due to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("TCJA") and uncertainty as to future sources of general limitation foreign source income to allow for the utilization of these credits, the Company recorded a valuation allowance on a substantial portion of its foreign tax credits upon the enactment of the TCJA in December 2017. The Company is currently evaluating tax planning strategies that utilize the Company's recorded foreign tax credit carryforwards. Implementation of these strategies in future periods could reduce the level of valuation allowance that is needed, thereby decreasing the Company's effective tax rate.

On March 6, 2019, the US Department of Treasury issued proposed regulations clarifying the deduction for Foreign-Derived Intangible Income ("FDII") and Global Intangible Low-Taxed Income ("GILTI"), which was enacted as part of the TCJA. The Company currently does not expect these regulations to have a material impact on tax expense upon final adoption and will evaluate the impact of final guidance once it is released.

In connection with the Company's US federal income tax audit for 2009 and 2010, the Company entered into a closing agreement during the three months ended March 31, 2019, which did not impact any previously recorded amounts based on settlement discussions prior to the formal closing agreement.

In January 2018, the Company received proposed pre-tax adjustments for its 2011 and 2012 audit cycle in the amount of \$198 million. In the event the Company is wholly unsuccessful in its defense and absent expected offsetting adjustments from foreign tax authorities, the proposed adjustments would result in the consumption of approximately \$69 million of prior foreign tax credit carryforwards, which are substantially offset with a valuation allowance due to uncertain recoverability. The Company believes these proposed adjustments to be without merit and is vigorously

defending its position.

16. Leases

The Company leases certain real estate, fleet assets, warehouses and equipment. Leases with an initial term of 12 months or less ("short-term leases") are not recorded on the unaudited consolidated balance sheet; the Company recognizes lease expense for these leases on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The Company determines if an arrangement is a lease at inception.

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Operating lease right-of-use ("ROU") assets and operating lease liabilities are recognized based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term at commencement date. Because most of the Company's leases do not provide an implicit rate of return, the Company uses its imputed collateralized rate based on the information available at commencement date in determining the present value of lease payments. Operating lease ROU assets are comprised of the lease liability plus prepaid rents and are reduced by lease incentives or deferred rents. The Company has lease agreements with non-lease components which are not bifurcated.

Most leases include one or more options to renew, with renewal terms that can extend the lease term from one to 30 years. The exercise of a lease renewal option typically occurs at the discretion of both parties. Certain leases also include options to purchase the leased property. For purposes of calculating operating lease liabilities, lease terms are deemed not to include options to extend the lease termination until it is reasonably certain that the Company will exercise that option. Certain of the Company's lease agreements include payments adjusted periodically for inflation based on the consumer price index. The Company's lease agreements do not contain any material residual value guarantees or material restrictive covenants.

The components of lease expense are as follows:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 (In \$ millions) | Statement of Operations Classification |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Lease Cost | | |
| Operating lease cost | 10 | Cost of sales / Selling, general and administrative expenses |
| Short-term lease cost | 5 | Cost of sales / Selling, general and administrative expenses |
| Variable lease cost | 2 | Cost of sales / Selling, general and administrative expenses |
| Finance lease cost | | |
| Amortization of leased assets | 5 | Cost of sales |
| Interest on lease liabilities | 5 | Interest expense |
| Sublease income | — | Other income (expense), net |
| Total net lease cost | 27 | |

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Supplemental unaudited consolidated balance sheet information related to leases is as follows:

| | As of March 31, 2019 (In \$ millions) | Balance Sheet Classification |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Leases | | |
| Assets | | |
| Operating lease assets | 210 | Operating lease ROU assets |
| Finance lease assets | 101 | Property, plant and equipment, net |
| Total leased assets | 311 | |
| Liabilities | | |
| Current | | |
| Operating | 32 | Current Other liabilities |
| Finance | 24 | Short-term borrowings and current installments of long-term debt |
| Noncurrent | | |
| Operating | 193 | Operating lease liabilities |
| Finance | 139 | Long-term debt |
| Total lease liabilities | 388 | |

| | As of March 31, 2019 |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Weighted-Average Remaining Lease Term (years) | |
| Operating leases | 15.1 |
| Finance leases | 7.2 |

| Weighted-Average Discount Rate | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Operating leases | 2.7 % |
| Finance leases | 11.7 % |

Supplemental unaudited interim consolidated cash flow information related to leases is as follows:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 (In \$ millions) |
|--|--|
| Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities | |
| Operating cash flows from operating leases | 10 |
| Operating cash flows from finance leases | 5 |
| Financing cash flows from finance leases | 6 |
| ROU assets obtained in exchange for new finance lease liabilities | — |
| ROU assets obtained in exchange for new operating lease liabilities | — |

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Maturities of lease liabilities are as follows:

| | As of March 31, 2019 | |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | Operating Leases | Financing Leases |
| | (In \$ millions) | |
| 2019 | 29 | 31 |
| 2020 | 34 | 43 |
| 2021 | 25 | 41 |
| 2022 | 21 | 32 |
| 2023 | 19 | 23 |
| Later years | 147 | 88 |
| Sublease income | — | — |
| Total lease payments | 275 | 258 |
| Less amounts representing interest (50) (95) | | |
| Total lease obligations | 225 | 163 |

As of March 31, 2019, there were no additional operating or financing lease commitments that have not yet commenced.

Disclosures related to periods prior to adoption of ASU 2016-02

Operating lease rent expense was approximately \$96 million for the year ended December 31, 2018. Future minimum lease payments under non-cancelable rental and lease agreements which had initial or remaining terms in excess of one year are as follows:

| | As of December 31, 2018 | |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| | Operating Leases | Capital Leases |
| | (In \$ millions) | |
| 2019 | 43 | 42 |
| 2020 | 34 | 42 |
| 2021 | 25 | 40 |
| 2022 | 23 | 32 |
| 2023 | 21 | 23 |
| Later years | 130 | 88 |
| Sublease income | — | — |
| Minimum lease commitments | 276 | 267 |
| Less amounts representing interest (100) | | |
| Present value of net minimum lease obligations | 167 | |

17. Derivative Financial Instruments

Derivatives Designated As Hedges

Net Investment Hedges

The Company uses derivative instruments, such as foreign currency forwards, and non-derivative financial instruments, such as foreign currency denominated debt, that may give rise to foreign currency transaction gains or losses to hedge the foreign currency exposure of net investments in foreign operations. Accordingly, the effective portion of gains and losses from remeasurement of derivative and non-derivative financial instruments is included in foreign currency translation within Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net in the unaudited consolidated balance sheets. Gains and losses are reclassified to earnings in the period the hedged investment is sold or liquidated.

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The total notional amount of foreign currency denominated debt designated as a net investment hedge of net investments in foreign operations are as follows:

| | | |
|-------|-----------------|----------|
| | As of | As of |
| | March | December |
| | 31, | 31, |
| | 2019 | 2018 |
| | (In € millions) | |
| Total | 1,130 | 1,550 |

Cash Flow Hedges

The total notional amount of the forward-starting interest rate swap designated as a cash flow hedge is as follows:

| | | |
|-------|------------------|----------|
| | As | As of |
| | of | December |
| | March | 31, |
| | 31, | 2018 |
| | 2019 | |
| | (In \$ millions) | |
| Total | 400 | 400 |

Derivatives Not Designated As Hedges

Foreign Currency Forwards and Swaps

Gross notional values of the foreign currency forwards and swaps not designated as hedges are as follows:

| | | |
|-------|------------------|----------|
| | As | As of |
| | of | December |
| | March | 31, |
| | 31, | 2018 |
| | 2019 | |
| | (In \$ millions) | |
| Total | 737 | 1,071 |

Information regarding changes in the fair value of the Company's derivative and non-derivative instruments is as follows:

| | Gain (Loss) Recognized in Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 2018 | Gain (Loss) Recognized in Earnings (Loss) | Statement of Operations Classification |
|--|---|--|--|
| | (In \$ millions) | | |
| Designated as Cash Flow Hedges | | | |
| Commodity swaps | 10 (2) 2 | — | Cost of sales |
| Interest rate swaps | (11) — — | — | Interest expense |
| Total | (1) (2) 2 | — | |
| Designated as Net Investment Hedges | | | |
| Foreign currency denominated debt (Note 10) | 39 (35) — | — | N/A |

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Total 39 (35) — —

Not Designated as Hedges

Foreign currency forwards and swaps — — (3) (4) Foreign exchange gain (loss), net; Other income (expense), net

Total — — (3) (4)

See Note 18 for additional information regarding the fair value of the Company's derivative instruments.

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Certain of the Company's commodity swaps, interest rate swaps and foreign currency forwards and swaps permit the Company to net settle all contracts with the counterparty through a single payment in an agreed upon currency in the event of default or early termination of the contract, similar to a master netting arrangement.

Information regarding the gross amounts of the Company's derivative instruments and the amounts offset in the unaudited consolidated balance sheets is as follows:

| | As of March 31, 2019 | As of December 31, 2018 |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| (In \$ millions) | | |
| Derivative Assets | | |
| Gross amount recognized | 19 | 11 |
| Gross amount offset in the consolidated balance sheets | 6 | 2 |
| Net amount presented in the consolidated balance sheets | 13 | 9 |
| Gross amount not offset in the consolidated balance sheets | 1 | 3 |
| Net amount | 12 | 6 |

| | As of March 31, 2019 | As of December 31, 2018 |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| (In \$ millions) | | |
| Derivative Liabilities | | |
| Gross amount recognized | 31 | 20 |
| Gross amount offset in the consolidated balance sheets | 6 | 2 |
| Net amount presented in the consolidated balance sheets | 25 | 18 |
| Gross amount not offset in the consolidated balance sheets | 1 | 3 |
| Net amount | 24 | 15 |

18. Fair Value Measurements

The Company's financial assets and liabilities are measured at fair value on a recurring basis as follows:

Derivatives. Derivative financial instruments include interest rate swaps, commodity swaps and foreign currency forwards and swaps and are valued in the market using discounted cash flow techniques. These techniques incorporate Level 1 and Level 2 fair value measurement inputs such as interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates. These market inputs are utilized in the discounted cash flow calculation considering the instrument's term, notional amount, discount rate and credit risk. Significant inputs to the derivative valuation for interest rate swaps, commodity swaps and foreign currency forwards and swaps are observable in the active markets and are classified as Level 2 in the fair value measurement hierarchy.

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| | Fair Value Measurement | | | |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | Quoted Prices in Significant Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) | Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Total | Balance Sheet Classification |
| | (In \$ millions) | | | |
| As of March 31, 2019 | | | | |
| Derivatives Designated as Cash Flow Hedges | | | | |
| Commodity swaps | −7 | 7 | | Current Other assets |
| Commodity swaps | −2 | 2 | | Noncurrent Other assets |
| Derivatives Not Designated as Hedges | | | | |
| Foreign currency forwards and swaps | −4 | 4 | | Current Other assets |
| Total assets | −13 | 13 | | |
| Derivatives Designated as Cash Flow Hedges | | | | |
| Interest rate swap | −(21) | (21) | | Noncurrent Other liabilities |
| Derivatives Not Designated as Hedges | | | | |
| Foreign currency forwards and swaps | −(4) | (4) | | Current Other liabilities |
| Total liabilities | −(25) | (25) | | |
| As of December 31, 2018 | | | | |
| Derivatives Designated as Cash Flow Hedges | | | | |
| Commodity swaps | −4 | 1 | | Current Other assets |
| Derivatives Not Designated as Hedges | | | | |
| Foreign currency forwards and swaps | −8 | 8 | | Current Other assets |
| Total assets | −9 | 9 | | |
| Derivatives Designated as Cash Flow Hedges | | | | |
| Commodity swaps | −(1) | (1) | | Noncurrent Other liabilities |
| Interest rate swaps | −(10) | (10) | | Noncurrent Other liabilities |
| Derivatives Not Designated as Hedges | | | | |
| Foreign currency forwards and swaps | −(7) | (7) | | Current Other liabilities |
| Total liabilities | −(18) | (18) | | |
| Carrying values and fair values of financial instruments that are not carried at fair value are as follows: | | | | |
| | Carrying Amount | Fair Value Measurement Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) | Total |
| | (In \$ millions) | | | |
| As of March 31, 2019 | | | | |
| Equity investments without readily determinable fair values | 170 | — | — | — |
| Insurance contracts in nonqualified trusts | 35 | 35 | — | 35 |

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| | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-----|-------|
| Long-term debt, including current installments of long-term debt As of December 31, 2018 | 3,313 | 3,227 | 163 | 3,390 |
| Equity investments without readily determinable fair values | 164 | — | — | — |
| Insurance contracts in nonqualified trusts | 37 | 37 | — | 37 |
| Long-term debt, including current installments of long-term debt | 3,355 | 3,204 | 167 | 3,371 |

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In general, the equity investments included in the table above are not publicly traded and their fair values are not readily determinable. The Company believes the carrying values approximate fair value. Insurance contracts in nonqualified trusts consist of long-term fixed income securities, which are valued using independent vendor pricing models with observable inputs in the active market and therefore represent a Level 2 fair value measurement. The fair value of long-term debt is based on valuations from third-party banks and market quotations and is classified as Level 2 in the fair value measurement hierarchy. The fair value of obligations under finance leases, which are included in long-term debt, is based on lease payments and discount rates, which are not observable in the market and therefore represents a Level 3 fair value measurement.

As of March 31, 2019, and December 31, 2018, the fair values of cash and cash equivalents, receivables, trade payables, short-term borrowings and the current installments of long-term debt approximate carrying values due to the short-term nature of these instruments. These items have been excluded from the table with the exception of the current installments of long-term debt.

19. Commitments and Contingencies

Commitments

Guarantees

The Company has agreed to guarantee or indemnify third parties for environmental and other liabilities pursuant to a variety of agreements, including asset and business divestiture agreements, leases, settlement agreements and various agreements with affiliated companies. Although many of these obligations contain monetary and/or time limitations, others do not provide such limitations. The Company has accrued for all probable and reasonably estimable losses associated with all known matters or claims. These known obligations include the following:

Demerger Obligations

In connection with the Hoechst demerger, the Company agreed to indemnify Hoechst, and its legal successors, for various liabilities under the demerger agreement, including for environmental liabilities associated with contamination arising either from environmental damage in general ("Category A") or under 19 divestiture agreements entered into by Hoechst prior to the demerger ("Category B") (Note 12).

The Company's obligation to indemnify Hoechst, and its legal successors, is capped under Category B at €250 million. If and to the extent the environmental damage should exceed €750 million in aggregate, the Company's obligation to indemnify Hoechst and its legal successors applies, but is then limited to 33.33% of the remediation cost without further limitations. Cumulative payments under the divestiture agreements as of March 31, 2019, are \$90 million. Though the Company is significantly under its obligation cap under Category B, most of the divestiture agreements have become time barred and/or any notified environmental damage claims have been partially settled.

The Company has also undertaken in the demerger agreement to indemnify Hoechst and its legal successors for (i) 33.33% of any and all Category A liabilities that result from Hoechst being held as the responsible party pursuant to public law or current or future environmental law or by third parties pursuant to private or public law related to contamination and (ii) liabilities that Hoechst is required to discharge, including tax liabilities, which are associated with businesses that were included in the demerger but were not demerged due to legal restrictions on the transfers of such items. These indemnities do not provide for any monetary or time limitations. The Company has not been requested by Hoechst to make any payments in connection with this indemnification. Accordingly, the Company has not made any payments to Hoechst and its legal successors.

Based on the Company's evaluation of currently available information, including the lack of requests for indemnification, the Company cannot estimate the remaining demerger obligations, if any, in excess of amounts accrued.

Divestiture Obligations

The Company and its predecessor companies agreed to indemnify third-party purchasers of former businesses and assets for various pre-closing conditions, as well as for breaches of representations, warranties and covenants. Such liabilities also include environmental liability, product liability, antitrust and other liabilities. These indemnifications and guarantees represent standard contractual terms associated with typical divestiture agreements and, other than environmental liabilities, the Company does not believe that they expose the Company to significant risk (Note 12).

The Company has divested numerous businesses, investments and facilities through agreements containing indemnifications or guarantees to the purchasers. Many of the obligations contain monetary and/or time limitations, which extend through 2037.

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The aggregate amount of outstanding indemnifications and guarantees provided for under these agreements is \$116 million as of March 31, 2019. Other agreements do not provide for any monetary or time limitations.

Based on the Company's evaluation of currently available information, including the number of requests for indemnification or other payment received by the Company, the Company cannot estimate the remaining divestiture obligations, if any, in excess of amounts accrued.

Purchase Obligations

In the normal course of business, the Company enters into various purchase commitments for goods and services. The Company maintains a number of "take-or-pay" contracts for purchases of raw materials, utilities and other services. Certain of the contracts contain a contract termination buy-out provision that allows for the Company to exit the contracts for amounts less than the remaining take-or-pay obligations. Additionally, the Company has other outstanding commitments representing maintenance and service agreements, energy and utility agreements, consulting contracts and software agreements. As of March 31, 2019, the Company had unconditional purchase obligations of \$1.3 billion, which extend through 2036.

Contingencies

The Company is involved in legal and regulatory proceedings, lawsuits, claims and investigations incidental to the normal conduct of business, relating to such matters as product liability, land disputes, insurance coverage disputes, contracts, employment, antitrust or competition compliance, intellectual property, personal injury and other actions in tort, workers' compensation, chemical exposure, asbestos exposure, taxes, trade compliance, acquisitions and divestitures, claims of legacy stockholders, past waste disposal practices and release of chemicals into the environment. The Company is actively defending those matters where the Company is named as a defendant and, based on the current facts, does not believe the outcomes from these matters would be material to the Company's results of operations, cash flows or financial position.

European Commission Investigation

In May 2017, the Company learned that the European Commission opened a competition law investigation involving certain subsidiaries of the Company with respect to certain ethylene purchases. The Company is cooperating with the European Commission. Because the investigation is on-going, and the many uncertainties and variables involved, the Company is unable at this time to determine the outcome of this investigation and whether, and in what amount, any potential fines would be assessed.

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20. Segment Information

| | Engineered Materials | Acetate Low | Acetyl Chain | Other Activities | Eliminations | Consolidated |
|---|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| (In \$ millions) | | | | | | |
| Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 | | | | | | |
| Net sales | 663 | 166 | 889 | — | (31) | (1) 1,687 |
| Other (charges) gains, net (Note 14) | 15 | — | — | (11) | — | 4 |
| Operating profit (loss) | 144 | 40 | 202 | (66) | — | 320 |
| Equity in net earnings (loss) of affiliates | 46 | — | 1 | 3 | — | 50 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 32 | 10 | 38 | 3 | — | 83 |
| Capital expenditures | 16 | 8 | 26 | 4 | — | 54 (2) |
| As of March 31, 2019 | | | | | | |
| Goodwill and intangible assets, net | 1,018 | 153 | 236 | — | — | 1,407 |
| Total assets | 3,578 | 1,046 | 3,520 | 1,430 | — | 9,574 |
| Three Months Ended March 31, 2018 | | | | | | |
| Net sales | 665 | 168 | 1,051 | — | (33) | (1) 1,851 |
| Other (charges) gains, net (Note 14) | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Operating profit (loss) | 127 | 46 | 253 | (83) | — | 343 |
| Equity in net earnings (loss) of affiliates | 54 | — | 1 | 3 | — | 58 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 32 | 10 | 35 | 2 | — | 79 |
| Capital expenditures | 21 | — | 34 | 2 | — | 57 (2) |
| As of December 31, 2018 | | | | | | |
| Goodwill and intangible assets, net | 974 | 153 | 240 | — | — | 1,367 |
| Total assets | 4,012 | 1,032 | 3,471 | 798 | — | 9,313 |

(1) Includes intersegment sales primarily related to the Acetyl Chain.

(2) Includes a decrease in accrued capital expenditures of \$25 million and \$29 million for the three months ended March 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

21. Revenue Recognition

The Company has certain contracts that represent take-or-pay revenue arrangements in which the Company's performance obligations extend over multiple years. As of March 31, 2019, the Company had \$750 million of remaining performance obligations related to take-or-pay contracts. The Company expects to recognize approximately \$194 million of its remaining performance obligations as Net sales in 2019, \$203 million in 2020, \$152 million in 2021 and the balance thereafter.

Contract Balances

Contract liabilities primarily relate to advances or deposits received from the Company's customers before revenue is recognized. These amounts are recorded as deferred revenue and are included in Noncurrent Other liabilities in the unaudited consolidated balance sheets (Note 9).

The Company does not have any material contract assets as of March 31, 2019.

Disaggregated Revenue

In general, the Company's business segmentation is aligned according to the nature and economic characteristics of its products and customer relationships and provides meaningful disaggregation of each business segment's results of operations.

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The Company manages its Engineered Materials business segment through its project management pipeline, which is comprised of a broad range of projects which are solutions-based and are tailored to each customers' unique needs. Projects are identified and selected based on success rate and may involve a number of different polymers per project for use in multiple end-use applications. Therefore, the Company is agnostic toward products and end-use markets for the Engineered Materials business segment.

Within the Acetate Tow business segment, the Company's primary product is acetate tow, which is managed through contracts with a few major tobacco companies and accounts for a significant amount of filters used in cigarette production worldwide.

The Company manages its Acetyl Chain business segment by leveraging its ability to sell chemicals externally to end-use markets or downstream to its emulsion polymers business. Decisions to sell externally and geographically or downstream and along the Acetyl Chain are based on market demand, trade flows and maximizing the value of its chemicals. Therefore, the Company's strategic focus is on executing within this integrated chain model and less on driving product-specific revenue.

Further disaggregation of Net sales by business segment and geographic destination is as follows:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 | 2018 |
|----------------------|---|-------|
| | (In \$ millions) | |
| Engineered Materials | | |
| North America | 196 | 179 |
| Europe and Africa | 302 | 337 |
| Asia-Pacific | 148 | 132 |
| South America | 17 | 17 |
| Total | 663 | 665 |
| Acetate Tow | | |
| North America | 34 | 35 |
| Europe and Africa | 63 | 70 |
| Asia-Pacific | 60 | 51 |
| South America | 9 | 12 |
| Total | 166 | 168 |
| Acetyl Chain | | |
| North America | 286 | 290 |
| Europe and Africa | 294 | 317 |
| Asia-Pacific | 256 | 378 |
| South America | 22 | 33 |
| Total ⁽¹⁾ | 858 | 1,018 |

(1) Excludes intersegment sales of \$31 million and \$33 million for the three months ended March 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

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22. Earnings (Loss) Per Share

| | Three Months Ended | |
|--|-------------------------------------|------|
| | March 31, | |
| | 2019 | 2018 |
| | (In \$ millions, except share data) | |
| Amounts attributable to Celanese Corporation | | |
| Earnings (loss) from continuing operations | 338 | 365 |
| Earnings (loss) from discontinued operations | (1 |) (2 |
| Net earnings (loss) | 337 | 363 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Weighted average shares - basic | 127,542,328 | 135,916,446 |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Incremental shares attributable to equity awards | 673,372 | 467,289 |
|--|---------|---------|

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Weighted average shares - diluted | 128,215,700 | 136,383,735 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|

During the three months ended March 31, 2019 and 2018, there were no anti-dilutive equity awards excluded from the computation of diluted net earnings per share.

23. Consolidating Guarantor Financial Information

The Senior Notes were issued by Celanese US ("Issuer") and are guaranteed by Celanese Corporation ("Parent Guarantor") and the Subsidiary Guarantors ([Note 10](#)). The Issuer and Subsidiary Guarantors are 100% owned subsidiaries of the Parent Guarantor. The Parent Guarantor and Subsidiary Guarantors have guaranteed the Notes fully and unconditionally and jointly and severally.

For cash management purposes, the Company transfers cash between the Parent Guarantor, Issuer, Subsidiary Guarantors and non-guarantors through intercompany financing arrangements, contributions or declaration of dividends between the respective parent and its subsidiaries. The transfer of cash under these activities facilitates the ability of the recipient to make specified third-party payments for principal and interest on the Company's outstanding debt, Common Stock dividends and Common Stock repurchases. The unaudited interim consolidating statements of cash flows for the three months ended March 31, 2019 and 2018 present such intercompany financing activities, contributions and dividends consistent with how such activity would be presented in a stand-alone statement of cash flows.

The Company has not presented separate financial information and other disclosures for each of its Subsidiary Guarantors because it believes such financial information and other disclosures would not provide investors with any additional information that would be material in evaluating the sufficiency of the guarantees.

The unaudited interim consolidating financial statements for the Parent Guarantor, the Issuer, the Subsidiary Guarantors and the non-guarantors are as follows:

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CELANESE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 | | | | | Consolidated |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------|
| | Parent Guarantor | Issuer | Subsidiary Guarantors | Non- Guarantors | Elimination | |
| | (In \$ millions) | | | | | |
| Net sales | — | — | 624 | 1,373 | (310) | 1,687 |
| Cost of sales | — | — | (458) | (1,077) | 301 | (1,234) |
| Gross profit | — | — | 166 | 296 | (9) | 453 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | — | — | (40) | (80) | — | (120) |
| Amortization of intangible assets | — | — | (2) | (4) | — | (6) |
| Research and development expenses | — | — | (6) | (10) | — | (16) |
| Other (charges) gains, net | — | — | — | 4 | — | 4 |
| Foreign exchange gain (loss), net | — | — | — | 5 | — | 5 |
| Gain (loss) on disposition of businesses and assets, net | — | — | (2) | 2 | — | — |
| Operating profit (loss) | — | — | 116 | 213 | (9) | 320 |
| Equity in net earnings (loss) of affiliates | 337 | 337 | 217 | 43 | (884) | 50 |
| Non-operating pension and other postretirement employee benefit (expense) income | — | — | 15 | 2 | — | 17 |
| Interest expense | — | (10) | (31) | (7) | 17 | (31) |
| Interest income | — | 13 | 2 | 3 | (17) | 1 |
| Dividend income - equity investments | — | — | — | 32 | — | 32 |
| Other income (expense), net | — | 1 | — | (5) | — | (4) |
| Earnings (loss) from continuing operations before tax | 337 | 341 | 319 | 281 | (893) | 385 |
| Income tax (provision) benefit | — | (4) | (7) | (36) | 1 | (46) |
| Earnings (loss) from continuing operations | 337 | 337 | 312 | 245 | (892) | 339 |
| Earnings (loss) from operation of discontinued operations | — | — | (1) | — | — | (1) |
| Income tax (provision) benefit from discontinued operations | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Earnings (loss) from discontinued operations | — | — | (1) | — | — | (1) |
| Net earnings (loss) | 337 | 337 | 311 | 245 | (892) | 338 |
| Net (earnings) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests | — | — | — | (1) | — | (1) |
| Net earnings (loss) attributable to Celanese Corporation | 337 | 337 | 311 | 244 | (892) | 337 |

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CELANESE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2018 | | | | | Consolidated |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------|
| | Parent Guarantor | Issuer | Subsidiary Guarantors | Non- Guarantors | Elimination | |
| | (In \$ millions) | | | | | |
| Net sales | — | — | 600 | 1,554 | (303) | 1,851 |
| Cost of sales | — | — | (464) | (1,178) | 306 | (1,336) |
| Gross profit | — | — | 136 | 376 | 3 | 515 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | — | — | (60) | (87) | — | (147) |
| Amortization of intangible assets | — | — | (2) | (4) | — | (6) |
| Research and development expenses | — | — | (8) | (10) | — | (18) |
| Other (charges) gains, net | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Foreign exchange gain (loss), net | — | — | — | (1) | — | (1) |
| Gain (loss) on disposition of businesses and assets, net | — | — | (2) | 2 | — | — |
| Operating profit (loss) | — | — | 64 | 276 | 3 | 343 |
| Equity in net earnings (loss) of affiliates | 363 | 360 | 267 | 53 | (985) | 58 |
| Non-operating pension and other postretirement employee benefit (expense) income | — | — | 23 | 3 | — | 26 |
| Interest expense | — | (5) | (29) | (9) | 10 | (33) |
| Interest income | — | 8 | 2 | 2 | (10) | 2 |
| Dividend income - equity investments | — | — | — | 32 | — | 32 |
| Other income (expense), net | — | 1 | 1 | 2 | — | 4 |
| Earnings (loss) from continuing operations before tax | 363 | 364 | 328 | 359 | (982) | 432 |
| Income tax (provision) benefit | — | (1) | (37) | (27) | — | (65) |
| Earnings (loss) from continuing operations | 363 | 363 | 291 | 332 | (982) | 367 |
| Earnings (loss) from operation of discontinued operations | — | — | — | (2) | — | (2) |
| Income tax (provision) benefit from discontinued operations | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Earnings (loss) from discontinued operations | — | — | — | (2) | — | (2) |
| Net earnings (loss) | 363 | 363 | 291 | 330 | (982) | 365 |
| Net (earnings) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests | — | — | — | (2) | — | (2) |
| Net earnings (loss) attributable to Celanese Corporation | 363 | 363 | 291 | 328 | (982) | 363 |

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CELANESE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

Three Months Ended March 31, 2019

| | Parent Guarantor | Issuer | Subsidiary Guarantors | Non- Guarantors | Eliminations | Consolidated |
|--|---------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | (In \$ millions) | | | | | |
| Net earnings (loss) | 337 | 337 | 311 | 245 | (892) |) 338 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax | | | | | | |
| Foreign currency translation gain (loss) | 7 | 7 | (18) |) (24) |) 35 | 7 |
| Gain (loss) on cash flow hedges | (3) |) (3) |) 6 | 8 | (11) |) (3) |
| Total other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax | 4 | 4 | (12) |) (16) |) 24 | 4 |
| Total comprehensive income (loss), net of tax | 341 | 341 | 299 | 229 | (868) |) 342 |
| Comprehensive (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests | — | — | — | (1) |) — | (1) |
| Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to Celanese Corporation | 341 | 341 | 299 | 228 | (868) |) 341 |

Three Months Ended March 31, 2018

| | Parent Guarantor | Issuer | Subsidiary Guarantors | Non- Guarantors | Eliminations | Consolidated |
|--|---------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | (In \$ millions) | | | | | |
| Net earnings (loss) | 363 | 363 | 291 | 330 | (982) |) 365 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax | | | | | | |
| Foreign currency translation gain (loss) | 49 | 49 | 63 | 74 | (186) |) 49 |
| Gain (loss) on cash flow hedges | (1) |) (1) |) (1) |) (1) |) 3 | (1) |
| Pension and postretirement benefits gain (loss) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | (3) |) 1 |
| Total other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax | 49 | 49 | 63 | 74 | (186) |) 49 |
| Total comprehensive income (loss), net of tax | 412 | 412 | 354 | 404 | (1,168) |) 414 |
| Comprehensive (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests | — | — | — | (2) |) — | (2) |
| Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to Celanese Corporation | 412 | 412 | 354 | 402 | (1,168) |) 412 |

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CELANESE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
 UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEET

As of March 31, 2019
 Parent Issuer Subsidiary Non- Eliminations Consolidated
 Guarantor Guarantors Guarantors Guarantors
 (In \$ millions)

ASSETS

Current Assets

| | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|-------|
| Cash and cash equivalents | — | — | 69 | 372 | — | 441 |
| Trade receivables - third party and affiliates | — | — | 119 | 1,033 | (137) | 1,015 |
| Non-trade receivables, net | 311 | 958 | 1,713 | 606 | (3,245) | 343 |
| Inventories, net | — | — | 316 | 750 | (57) | 1,009 |
| Marketable securities, at fair value | — | — | 29 | — | — | 29 |
| Other assets | 1 | 14 | 10 | 46 | (24) | 47 |
| Total current assets | 312 | 972 | 2,256 | 2,807 | (3,463) | 2,884 |
| Investments in affiliates | 3,563 | 4,718 | 4,022 | 828 | (12,181) | 950 |
| Property, plant and equipment, net | — | — | 1,328 | 2,393 | — | 3,721 |
| Operating lease right-of-use assets | — | — | 59 | 151 | — | 210 |
| Deferred income taxes | — | — | — | 114 | (21) | 93 |
| Other assets | — | 1,659 | 158 | 455 | (1,963) | 309 |
| Goodwill | — | — | 399 | 676 | — | 1,075 |
| Intangible assets, net | — | — | 131 | 201 | — | 332 |
| Total assets | 3,875 | 7,349 | 8,353 | 7,625 | (17,628) | 9,574 |

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current Liabilities

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-------|-------|---------|-------|
| Short-term borrowings and current installments of long-term debt - third party and affiliates | 826 | 635 | 994 | 904 | (2,616) | 743 |
| Trade payables - third party and affiliates | — | 1 | 254 | 581 | (137) | 699 |
| Other liabilities | 1 | 36 | 139 | 283 | (148) | 311 |
| Income taxes payable | — | — | 461 | 114 | (506) | 69 |
| Total current liabilities | 827 | 672 | 1,848 | 1,882 | (3,407) | 1,822 |

Noncurrent Liabilities

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|-------|
| Long-term debt | — | 3,067 | 1,679 | 121 | (1,934) | 2,933 |
| Deferred income taxes | — | 24 | 104 | 166 | (21) | 273 |
| Uncertain tax positions | — | 2 | 6 | 154 | — | 162 |
| Benefit obligations | — | — | 246 | 304 | — | 550 |
| Operating lease liabilities | — | — | 48 | 145 | — | 193 |
| Other liabilities | 1 | 21 | 93 | 126 | (39) | 202 |
| Total noncurrent liabilities | 1 | 3,114 | 2,176 | 1,016 | (1,994) | 4,313 |
| Total Celanese Corporation stockholders' equity | 3,047 | 3,563 | 4,329 | 4,335 | (12,227) | 3,047 |
| Noncontrolling interests | — | — | — | 392 | — | 392 |
| Total equity | 3,047 | 3,563 | 4,329 | 4,727 | (12,227) | 3,439 |
| Total liabilities and equity | 3,875 | 7,349 | 8,353 | 7,625 | (17,628) | 9,574 |

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CELANESE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 2018
Parent Issuer Subsidiary Non- Eliminations Consolidated
Guarantor Guarantors Guarantors
(In \$ millions)

ASSETS

Current Assets

| | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|-------|
| Cash and cash equivalents | — | — | 30 | 409 | — | 439 |
| Trade receivables - third party and affiliates | — | — | 96 | 1,040 | (119) | 1,017 |
| Non-trade receivables, net | 40 | 551 | 797 | 697 | (1,784) | 301 |
| Inventories, net | — | — | 329 | 765 | (48) | 1,046 |
| Marketable securities, at fair value | — | — | 31 | — | — | 31 |
| Other assets | — | 24 | 10 | 37 | (31) | 40 |
| Total current assets | 40 | 575 | 1,293 | 2,948 | (1,982) | 2,874 |
| Investments in affiliates | 3,503 | 4,820 | 4,678 | 855 | (12,877) | 979 |
| Property, plant and equipment, net | — | — | 1,289 | 2,430 | — | 3,719 |
| Deferred income taxes | — | — | — | 86 | (2) | 84 |
| Other assets | — | 1,658 | 142 | 461 | (1,971) | 290 |
| Goodwill | — | — | 399 | 658 | — | 1,057 |
| Intangible assets, net | — | — | 132 | 178 | — | 310 |
| Total assets | 3,543 | 7,053 | 7,933 | 7,616 | (16,832) | 9,313 |

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current Liabilities

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-------|-------|---------|-------|
| Short-term borrowings and current installments of long-term debt - third party and affiliates | 544 | 333 | 465 | 258 | (1,039) | 561 |
| Trade payables - third party and affiliates | 13 | 1 | 342 | 583 | (120) | 819 |
| Other liabilities | 1 | 87 | 267 | 258 | (270) | 343 |
| Income taxes payable | — | — | 475 | 88 | (507) | 56 |
| Total current liabilities | 558 | 421 | 1,549 | 1,187 | (1,936) | 1,779 |

Noncurrent Liabilities

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|-------|
| Long-term debt | — | 3,104 | 1,679 | 127 | (1,940) | 2,970 |
| Deferred income taxes | — | 15 | 85 | 157 | (2) | 255 |
| Uncertain tax positions | — | — | 6 | 152 | — | 158 |
| Benefit obligations | — | — | 250 | 314 | — | 564 |
| Other liabilities | 1 | 10 | 99 | 138 | (40) | 208 |
| Total noncurrent liabilities | 1 | 3,129 | 2,119 | 888 | (1,982) | 4,155 |
| Total Celanese Corporation stockholders' equity | 2,984 | 3,503 | 4,265 | 5,146 | (12,914) | 2,984 |
| Noncontrolling interests | — | — | — | 395 | — | 395 |
| Total equity | 2,984 | 3,503 | 4,265 | 5,541 | (12,914) | 3,379 |
| Total liabilities and equity | 3,543 | 7,053 | 7,933 | 7,616 | (16,832) | 9,313 |

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CELANESE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Three Months Ended March 31, 2019

| | Parent Guarantor | Issuer | Subsidiary Guarantors | Non- Guarantors | Eliminations | Consolidated |
|---|---------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | (In \$ millions) | | | | | |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities | 282 | 26 | 1,032 | 528 | (1,561) |) 307 |
| Investing Activities | | | | | | |
| Capital expenditures on property, plant and equipment | — | — | (42) |) (37) |) — | (79) |
| Acquisitions, net of cash acquired | — | — | (31) |) (60) |) — | (91) |
| Return of capital from subsidiary | — | — | 4 | — | (4) |) — |
| Intercompany loan receipts (disbursements) | — | — | (646) |) — | 646 | — |
| Other, net | — | — | 2 | (9) |) — | (7) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities | — | — | (713) |) (106) |) 642 | (177) |
| Financing Activities | | | | | | |
| Net change in short-term borrowings with maturities of 3 months or less | — | 246 | (9) |) (4) |) (36) |) 197 |
| Proceeds from short-term borrowings | — | — | — | 610 | (610) |) — |
| Repayments of short-term borrowings | — | — | — | (12) |) — | (12) |
| Repayments of long-term debt | — | — | — | (7) |) — | (7) |
| Purchases of treasury stock, including related fees | (212) | — | — | — | — | (212) |
| Dividends to parent | — | (272) | (251) |) (1,038) |) 1,561 | — |
| Common stock dividends | (70) |) — | — | — | — | (70) |
| Return of capital to parent | — | — | — | (4) |) 4 | — |
| (Distributions to) contributions from noncontrolling interests | — | — | — | (4) |) — | (4) |
| Other, net | — | — | (20) |) (2) |) — | (22) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities | (282) | (26) |) (280) |) (461) |) 919 | (130) |
| Exchange rate effects on cash and cash equivalents | — | — | — | 2 | — | 2 |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | — | — | 39 | (37) |) — | 2 |
| Cash and cash equivalents as of beginning of period | — | — | 30 | 409 | — | 439 |
| Cash and cash equivalents as of end of period | — | — | 69 | 372 | — | 441 |

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CELANESE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2018 | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Parent Guarantor | Issuer | Subsidiary Guarantors | Non- Guarantors | Eliminations | Consolidated |
| | (In \$ millions) | | | | | |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities | 63 | 277 | (33) | 170 | (334) | 143 |
| Investing Activities | | | | | | |
| Capital expenditures on property, plant and equipment | — | — | (54) | (32) | — | (86) |
| Acquisitions, net of cash acquired | — | — | (144) | — | — | (144) |
| Proceeds from sale of businesses and assets, net | — | — | — | 9 | — | 9 |
| Return of capital from subsidiary | — | — | 211 | — | (211) | — |
| Contributions to subsidiary | — | — | (16) | — | 16 | — |
| Intercompany loan receipts (disbursements) | — | (222) | (15) | — | 237 | — |
| Other, net | — | — | (3) | (11) | — | (14) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities | — | (222) | (21) | (34) | 42 | (235) |
| Financing Activities | | | | | | |
| Net change in short-term borrowings with maturities of 3 months or less | — | 15 | 2 | 99 | (15) | 101 |
| Proceeds from short-term borrowings | — | — | — | 36 | — | 36 |
| Repayments of short-term borrowings | — | — | — | (38) | — | (38) |
| Proceeds from long-term debt | — | — | 222 | — | (222) | — |
| Repayments of long-term debt | — | (6) | (12) | (13) | — | (31) |
| Dividends to parent | — | (62) | (272) | — | 334 | — |
| Contributions from parent | — | — | — | 16 | (16) | — |
| Common stock dividends | (63) | — | — | — | — | (63) |
| Return of capital to parent | — | — | — | (211) | 211 | — |
| (Distributions to) contributions from noncontrolling interests | — | — | — | (2) | — | (2) |
| Other, net | — | — | (5) | — | — | (5) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities | (63) | (53) | (65) | (113) | 292 | (2) |
| Exchange rate effects on cash and cash equivalents | — | — | — | 8 | — | 8 |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | — | 2 | (119) | 31 | — | (86) |
| Cash and cash equivalents as of beginning of period | — | — | 230 | 346 | — | 576 |
| Cash and cash equivalents as of end of period | — | 2 | 111 | 377 | — | 490 |

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

In this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q ("Quarterly Report"), the term "Celanese" refers to Celanese Corporation, a Delaware corporation, and not its subsidiaries. The terms the "Company," "we," "our" and "us," refer to Celanese and its subsidiaries on a consolidated basis. The term "Celanese US" refers to the Company's subsidiary, Celanese US Holdings LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and not its subsidiaries.

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the Celanese Corporation and Subsidiaries consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2018 filed on February 7, 2019 with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") as part of the Company's Annual Reporting on Form 10-K ("2018 Form 10-K") and the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements and notes to the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements, which are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("US GAAP").

Investors are cautioned that the forward-looking statements contained in this section and other parts of this Quarterly Report involve both risk and uncertainty. Several important factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated by these statements. Many of these statements are macroeconomic in nature and are, therefore, beyond the control of management. See "Forward-Looking Statements" below and at the beginning of our 2018 Form 10-K.

Forward-Looking Statements

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations ("MD&A") and other parts of this Quarterly Report contain certain forward-looking statements and information relating to us that are based on the beliefs of our management as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, us. Generally, words such as "believe," "expect," "intend," "estimate," "anticipate," "project," "plan," "may," "can," "could," "might," and "will," and similar expressions, as they relate to us are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current views and beliefs with respect to future events at the time that the statements are made, are not historical facts or guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict and many of which are outside of our control. Further, certain forward-looking statements are based upon assumptions as to future events that may not prove to be accurate. All forward-looking statements made in this Quarterly Report are made as of the date hereof, and the risk that actual results will differ materially from expectations expressed in this Quarterly Report will increase with the passage of time. We undertake no obligation, and disclaim any duty, to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, changes in our expectations or otherwise.

Risk Factors

See Part I - Item 1A. Risk Factors of our 2018 Form 10-K and subsequent periodic filings we make with the SEC for a description of certain risk factors that you should consider which could significantly affect our financial results. In addition, the following factors could cause our actual results to differ materially from those results, performance or achievements that may be expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. These factors include, among other things:

- changes in general economic, business, political and regulatory conditions in the countries or regions in which we operate;
- the length and depth of product and industry business cycles particularly in the automotive, electrical, textiles, electronics and construction industries;
- changes in the price and availability of raw materials, particularly changes in the demand for, supply of, and market prices of ethylene, methanol, natural gas, wood pulp and fuel oil and the prices for electricity and other energy sources;
- the ability to pass increases in raw material prices on to customers or otherwise improve margins through price increases;
- the ability to maintain plant utilization rates and to implement planned capacity additions, expansions and maintenance;
- the ability to reduce or maintain current levels of production costs and to improve productivity by implementing technological improvements to existing plants;

increased price competition and the introduction of competing products by other companies;
the ability to identify desirable potential acquisition targets and to consummate acquisition or investment transactions,
including obtaining regulatory approvals, consistent with our strategy;

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market acceptance of our technology;

the ability to obtain governmental approvals and to construct facilities on terms and schedules acceptable to us;

changes in tariffs, tax rates or legislation throughout the world including, but not limited to, adjustments, changes in estimates or interpretations that may impact recorded or future tax impacts associated with the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the "TCJA") enacted in December 2017;

changes in the degree of intellectual property and other legal protection afforded to our products or technologies, or the theft of such intellectual property;

compliance and other costs and potential disruption or interruption of production or operations due to accidents, interruptions in sources of raw materials, cyber security incidents, terrorism or political unrest, or other unforeseen events or delays in construction or operation of facilities, including as a result of geopolitical conditions, the occurrence of acts of war or terrorist incidents or as a result of weather or natural disasters;

potential liability for remedial actions and increased costs under existing or future environmental regulations, including those relating to climate change;

potential liability resulting from pending or future claims or litigation, including investigations or enforcement actions, or from changes in the laws, regulations or policies of governments or other governmental activities, in the countries in which we operate;

changes in currency exchange rates and interest rates;

our level of indebtedness, which could diminish our ability to raise additional capital to fund operations or limit our ability to react to changes in the economy or the chemicals industry; and

various other factors, both referenced and not referenced in this Quarterly Report.

Many of these factors are macroeconomic in nature and are, therefore, beyond our control. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, our actual results, performance or achievements may vary materially from those described in this Quarterly Report as anticipated, believed, estimated, expected, intended, planned or projected. We neither intend nor assume any obligation to update these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of their dates.

Overview

We are a global chemical and specialty materials company. We are a leading global producer of high performance engineered polymers that are used in a variety of high-value applications, as well as one of the world's largest producers of acetyl products, which are intermediate chemicals, for nearly all major industries. As a recognized innovator in the chemicals industry, we engineer and manufacture a wide variety of products essential to everyday living. Our broad product portfolio serves a diverse set of end-use applications including automotive, chemical additives, construction, consumer and industrial adhesives, consumer and medical, energy storage, filtration, food and beverage, paints and coatings, paper and packaging, performance industrial and textiles. Our products enjoy leading global positions due to our differentiated business models, large global production capacity, operating efficiencies, proprietary technology and competitive cost structures.

Our large and diverse global customer base primarily consists of major companies in a broad array of industries. We hold geographically balanced global positions and participate in diversified end-use applications. We combine a demonstrated track record of execution, strong performance built on differentiated business models and a clear focus on growth and value creation. Known for operational excellence, reliability and execution of our business strategies, we partner with our customers around the globe to deliver best-in-class technologies and solutions.

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Results of Operations

Financial Highlights

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 2018 Change (unaudited) (In \$ millions, except percentages) | | |
|--|--|--------|--------|
| Statement of Operations Data | | | |
| Net sales | 1,687 | 1,851 | (164) |
| Gross profit | 453 | 515 | (62) |
| Selling, general and administrative ("SG&A") expenses | (120) | (147) | 27 |
| Other (charges) gains, net | 4 | — | 4 |
| Operating profit (loss) | 320 | 343 | (23) |
| Equity in net earnings (loss) of affiliates | 50 | 58 | (8) |
| Non-operating pension and other postretirement employee benefit (expense) income | 17 | 26 | (9) |
| Interest expense | (31) | (33) | 2 |
| Dividend income - equity investments | 32 | 32 | — |
| Earnings (loss) from continuing operations before tax | 385 | 432 | (47) |
| Earnings (loss) from continuing operations | 339 | 367 | (28) |
| Earnings (loss) from discontinued operations | (1) | (2) | 1 |
| Net earnings (loss) | 338 | 365 | (27) |
| Net earnings (loss) attributable to Celanese Corporation | 337 | 363 | (26) |
| Other Data | | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 83 | 79 | 4 |
| SG&A expenses as a percentage of Net sales | 7.1 % | 7.9 % | |
| Operating margin ⁽¹⁾ | 19.0 % | 18.5 % | |
| Other (charges) gains, net | | | |
| Restructuring | 1 | — | 1 |
| Plant/office closures | (1) | — | (1) |
| Commercial disputes | 4 | — | 4 |
| Total Other (charges) gains, net | 4 | — | 4 |

⁽¹⁾ Defined as Operating profit (loss) divided by Net sales.

| | As of March 31, 2019 (unaudited) (In \$ millions) | As of December 31, 2018 (unaudited) |
|---|--|---|
| Balance Sheet Data | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 441 | 439 |
| Short-term borrowings and current installments of long-term debt - third party and affiliates | 743 | 561 |
| Long-term debt, net of unamortized deferred financing costs | 2,933 | 2,970 |
| Total debt | 3,676 | 3,531 |

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Factors Affecting Business Segment Net Sales

The percentage increase (decrease) in Net sales attributable to each of the factors indicated for each of our business segments is as follows:

Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 Compared to Three Months Ended March 31, 2018

| | Volume | Pricing | Currency | Other | Total |
|----------------------|------------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|
| | (unaudited) | | | | |
| | (In percentages) | | | | |
| Engineered Materials | (3) | 7 | (4) |) | — |
| Acetate Tow | (1) | — | — |) | (1) |
| Acetyl Chain | (4) | (8) | (3) |) | (15) |
| Total Company | (3) | (2) | (4) |) | (9) |

Consolidated Results

Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 Compared to Three Months Ended March 31, 2018

Net sales decreased \$164 million, or 9%, for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to the same period in 2018 primarily due to:

- lower pricing in our Acetyl Chain segment primarily due to reduced customer demand in Asia and an overall deflationary environment for raw materials;
 - an unfavorable currency impact within our Acetyl Chain and Engineered Materials segments resulting from a weaker Euro relative to the US dollar; and
 - lower volume across all of our segments primarily due to slower global economic conditions;
- partially offset by:
- higher pricing in our Engineered Materials segment primarily due to pricing efforts to align with rising raw material and distribution costs, as well as product mix.

Operating profit decreased \$23 million, or 7%, for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to the same period in 2018 primarily due to:

- lower Net sales across all of our segments; and
 - higher raw material costs, primarily for polymers, within our Engineered Materials segment;
- partially offset by:
- lower raw material costs, primarily methanol and ethylene, within our Acetyl Chain segment;
 - and
 - lower project spending and incentive compensation costs of \$16 million.

Our effective income tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2019 was 12% compared to 15% for the same period in 2018. The lower effective income tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to the same period in 2018 was primarily due to partial release of a valuation allowance on the net deferred tax asset for foreign tax credit carryforwards in the US due to revised forecasts of taxable income expected to be generated during the carryforward period.

See Note 15 - Income Taxes in the accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements for further information.

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Business Segments

Engineered Materials

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 | | 2018 | | Change | % Change |
|---|--|-----|------|---|--------|-------------|
| | (unaudited) | | | | | |
| | (In \$ millions, except percentages) | | | | | |
| Net sales | 663 | 665 | (2 |) | (0.3 |)% |
| Net Sales Variance | | | | | | |
| Volume | (3 |)% | | | | |
| Price | 7 | % | | | | |
| Currency | (4 |)% | | | | |
| Other | — | % | | | | |
| Other (charges) gains, net | 15 | — | 15 | | 100.0 | % |
| Operating profit (loss) | 144 | 127 | 17 | | 13.4 | % |
| Operating margin | 21.7 | % | 19.1 | % | | |
| Equity in net earnings (loss) of affiliates | 46 | 54 | (8 |) | (14.8 |)% |
| Depreciation and amortization | 32 | 32 | — | | — | % |

Our Engineered Materials segment includes our engineered materials business, our food ingredients business and certain strategic affiliates. Our engineered materials business develops, produces and supplies a broad portfolio of high performance specialty polymers for automotive and medical applications, as well as industrial products and consumer electronics. Together with our strategic affiliates, our engineered materials business is a leading participant in the global specialty polymers industry. Our food ingredients business is a leading global supplier of acesulfame potassium for the food and beverage industry and is a leading producer of food protection ingredients, such as potassium sorbate and sorbic acid.

The pricing of products within the Engineered Materials segment is primarily based on the value of the material we produce and is generally independent of changes in the cost of raw materials. Therefore, in general, margins may expand or contract in response to changes in raw material costs.

Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 Compared to Three Months Ended March 31, 2018

Net sales decreased for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to the same period in 2018 primarily due to:

- an unfavorable currency impact resulting from a weaker Euro relative to the US dollar; and
- lower volume within our base business driven by slower global economic conditions;

partially offset by:

- higher pricing for most of our products, primarily due to pricing efforts to align with rising raw material and distribution costs, as well as product mix.

Operating profit increased for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to the same period in 2018 primarily due to:

- a favorable pricing impact within Net sales; and

- a favorable impact to Other (charges) gains, net. During the three months ended March 31, 2019, we recorded a \$15 million gain related to a settlement of a commercial dispute from a previous acquisition. See Note 14 - Other (Charges) Gains, Net in the accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements for further information;

partially offset by:

- an unfavorable volume and currency impact within Net sales; and

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higher raw material costs, primarily for polymers.

Equity in net earnings (loss) of affiliates decreased for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to the same period in 2018 primarily due to:

a decrease in equity investment in earnings of \$9 million from our Polyplastics Co., Ltd. strategic affiliates as a result of lower demand in China.

Acetate Tow

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 | | 2018 | | Change | % Change |
|--------------------------------------|--|-----|------|---|--------|-------------|
| | (unaudited) | | | | | |
| | (In \$ millions, except percentages) | | | | | |
| Net sales | 166 | 168 | (2 |) | (1.2 |)% |
| Net Sales Variance | | | | | | |
| Volume | (1 |)% | | | | |
| Price | — | % | | | | |
| Currency | — | % | | | | |
| Other | — | % | | | | |
| Other (charges) gains, net | — | — | — | — | % | |
| Operating profit (loss) | 40 | 46 | (6 |) | (13.0) | % |
| Operating margin | 24.1 | % | 27.4 | % | | |
| Dividend income - equity investments | 32 | 32 | — | — | % | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 10 | 10 | — | — | % | |

Our Acetate Tow segment serves consumer-driven applications. We are a leading global producer and supplier of acetate tow and acetate flake, primarily used in filter products applications.

The pricing of products within the Acetate Tow segment is sensitive to demand and is primarily based on the value of the material we produce. Many sales in this business are conducted under contracts with pricing for one or more years. As a result, margins may expand or contract in response to changes in raw material costs over these similar periods, and we may be unable to adjust pricing also due to other factors, such as the intense level of competition in the industry.

Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 Compared to Three Months Ended March 31, 2018

Net sales decreased for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to the same period in 2018 primarily due to: lower acetate tow volume due to lower global industry utilization.

Operating profit decreased for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to the same period in 2018 primarily due to:

lower Net sales; and

higher raw material costs, primarily related to acetic acid.

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Acetyl Chain

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | Change | % Change |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|--------|-------------|
| | 2019 | 2018 | | |
| | (unaudited) | | | |
| | (In \$ millions, except percentages) | | | |
| Net sales | 889 | 1,051 | (162) | (15.4)% |
| Net Sales Variance | | | | |
| Volume | (4) | | | % |
| Price | (8) | | | % |
| Currency | (3) | | | % |
| Other | — | | | % |
| Other (charges) gains, net | — | — | — | % |
| Operating profit (loss) | 202 | 253 | (51) | (20.2)% |
| Operating margin | 22.7 % | 24.1 % | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 38 | 35 | 3 | 8.6 % |

Our Acetyl Chain segment includes the integrated chain of intermediate chemistry, emulsion polymers and ethylene vinyl acetate ("EVA") polymers businesses. Our intermediate chemistry business produces and supplies acetyl products, including acetic acid, vinyl acetate monomer ("VAM"), acetic anhydride and acetate esters. These products are generally used as starting materials for colorants, paints, adhesives, coatings and pharmaceuticals. It also produces organic solvents and intermediates for pharmaceutical, agricultural and chemical products. Our emulsion polymers business is a leading global producer of vinyl acetate-based emulsions and develops products and application technologies to improve performance, create value and drive innovation in applications such as paints and coatings, adhesives, construction, glass fiber, textiles and paper. Our EVA polymers business is a leading North American manufacturer of a full range of specialty EVA resins and compounds, as well as select grades of low-density polyethylene. Our EVA polymers products are used in many applications, including flexible packaging films, lamination film products, hot melt adhesives, automotive parts and carpeting.

The pricing of products within the Acetyl Chain is influenced by industry utilization rates and changes in the cost of raw materials. Therefore, in general, there is a directional correlation between these factors and our Net sales for most Acetyl Chain products. This impact to pricing typically lags changes in raw material costs over months or quarters.

Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 Compared to Three Months Ended March 31, 2018

Net sales decreased for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to the same period in 2018 primarily due to: lower pricing for most of our products, primarily due to reduced customer demand in Asia and an overall deflationary environment for raw materials;

lower volume for acetic acid and VAM, which represents all of the decrease in volume, due to slower global economic conditions as well as geographic and product mix as we pursued higher margin commercial opportunities; and

an unfavorable currency impact resulting from a weaker Euro relative to the US dollar.

Operating profit decreased for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to the same period in 2018 primarily due to:

lower Net sales;

partially offset by:

lower raw material costs, primarily methanol and ethylene, which combined represents approximately three-fourths of the decrease.

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Other Activities

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | Change | % Change | |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------|--------|----------|---|
| | 2019 | 2018 | | | |
| | (unaudited) | | | | |
| | (In \$ millions, except percentages) | | | | |
| Other (charges) gains, net | (11) | — | (11) | (100.0) | % |
| Operating profit (loss) | (66) | (83) | 17 | 20.5 | % |
| Equity in net earnings (loss) of affiliates | 3 | 3 | — | — | % |
| Non-operating pension and other postretirement employee benefit (expense) income | 17 | 26 | (9) | (34.6) | % |
| Depreciation and amortization | 3 | 2 | 1 | 50.0 | % |

Other Activities primarily consists of corporate center costs, including administrative activities such as finance, information technology and human resource functions, interest income and expense associated with financing activities and results of our captive insurance companies. Other Activities also includes the components of net periodic benefit cost (interest cost, expected return on assets and net actuarial gains and losses) for our defined benefit pension plans and other postretirement plans not allocated to our business segments.

Three Months Ended March 31, 2019 Compared to Three Months Ended March 31, 2018

Operating loss decreased for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to the same period in 2018 primarily due to:

• lower project spending and incentive compensation costs of \$16 million; and

• a favorable currency impact of \$6 million resulting from a weaker Euro relative to the US dollar;

largely offset by:

an unfavorable impact to Other (charges) gains, net. During the three months ended March 31, 2019 we recorded an \$11 million loss related to a settlement by our captive insurer with a former third-party customer. See Note 14 - Other (Charges) Gains, Net in the accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements for further information.

Non-operating pension and other postretirement employee benefit income decreased for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to the same period in 2018 primarily due to:

• lower expected return on plan assets.

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Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our primary source of liquidity is cash generated from operations, available cash and cash equivalents and dividends from our portfolio of strategic investments. In addition, as of March 31, 2019, we have \$1.0 billion available for borrowing under our senior unsecured revolving credit facility and \$3 million available under our accounts receivable securitization facility to assist, if required, in meeting our working capital needs and other contractual obligations. While our contractual obligations, commitments and debt service requirements over the next several years are significant, we continue to believe we will have available resources to meet our liquidity requirements, including debt service, for the next twelve months. If our cash flow from operations is insufficient to fund our debt service and other obligations, we may be required to use other means available to us such as increasing our borrowings, reducing or delaying capital expenditures, seeking additional capital or seeking to restructure or refinance our indebtedness. There can be no assurance, however, that we will continue to generate cash flows at or above current levels.

Total cash outflows for capital expenditures are expected to be in the range of \$350 million to \$400 million in 2019 primarily due to additional investments in growth opportunities in our Engineered Materials and the Acetyl Chain segments.

On a stand-alone basis, Celanese and its immediate 100% owned subsidiary, Celanese US, have no material assets other than the stock of their subsidiaries and no independent external operations of their own. Accordingly, they generally depend on the cash flow of their subsidiaries and their ability to pay dividends and make other distributions to Celanese and Celanese US in order to meet their obligations, including their obligations under senior credit facilities and senior notes and to pay dividends on our Common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share ("Common Stock").

We are subject to capital controls and exchange restrictions imposed by the local governments in certain jurisdictions where we operate, such as China, India and Indonesia. Capital controls impose limitations on our ability to exchange currencies, repatriate earnings or capital, lend via intercompany loans or create cross-border cash pooling arrangements. Our largest exposure to a country with capital controls is in China. Pursuant to applicable regulations, foreign-invested enterprises in China may pay dividends only out of their accumulated profits, if any, determined in accordance with Chinese accounting standards and regulations. In addition, the Chinese government imposes certain currency exchange controls on cash transfers out of China, puts certain limitations on duration, purpose and amount of intercompany loans, and restricts cross-border cash pooling.

Cash Flows

Cash and cash equivalents increased \$2 million to \$441 million as of March 31, 2019 compared to December 31, 2018. As of March 31, 2019, \$333 million of the \$441 million of cash and cash equivalents was held by our foreign subsidiaries. These funds are largely accessible, if needed in the US to fund operations. Under the TCJA, we have incurred a charge associated with the deemed repatriation of previously unremitted foreign earnings, including foreign held cash. See Note 15 - Income Taxes in the accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements for further information.

Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities increased \$164 million to \$307 million for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to \$143 million for the same period in 2018. Net cash provided by operating activities for the three months ended March 31, 2019 increased primarily due to:

- favorable trade working capital of \$182 million primarily due to timing of trade receivable collections.

Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities decreased \$58 million to \$177 million for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to \$235 million for the same period in 2018, primarily due to:

- a net cash outflow of \$144 million related to the acquisition of Omni Plastics, L.L.C. and its subsidiaries in February 2018, which did not recur this year;

partially offset by:

- a net cash outflow of \$91 million primarily related to the acquisition of Next Polymers Ltd. in January 2019.

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Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities

Net cash used in financing activities increased \$128 million to \$130 million for the three months ended March 31, 2019 compared to \$2 million for the same period in 2018, primarily due to:

an increase of \$212 million in share repurchases of our Common Stock during the three months ended March 31, 2019;

partially offset by:

an increase in net borrowings on short-term debt of \$86 million, primarily as a result of higher borrowings under our revolving credit facility during the three months ended March 31, 2019 related to the timing of share repurchases of our Common Stock.

Debt and Other Obligations

On January 7, 2019, Celanese, Celanese US and certain subsidiary borrowers entered into a new senior credit agreement (the "Credit Agreement") consisting of a \$1.25 billion senior unsecured revolving credit facility (with a letter of credit sublimit), maturing in 2024. The Credit Agreement is guaranteed by Celanese, Celanese US and substantially all of its domestic subsidiaries.

There have been no material changes to our debt or other obligations described in our 2018 Form 10-K other than those disclosed above and in Note 10 - Debt in the accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements.

Other Financing Arrangements

In June 2018, we entered into a factoring agreement with a global financial institution to sell certain accounts receivable on a non-recourse basis. These transactions are treated as a sale and are accounted for as a reduction in accounts receivable because the agreement transfers effective control over and risk related to the receivables to the buyer. We have no continuing involvement in the transferred receivables, other than collection and administrative responsibilities and, once sold, the accounts receivable are no longer available to satisfy creditors in the event of bankruptcy. We de-recognized \$72 million of accounts receivable during the three months ended March 31, 2019.

Share Capital

On April 18, 2019, our Board of Directors approved a \$1.5 billion increase in our Common Stock repurchase authorization. As of March 31, 2019, we had \$513 million remaining under the previous authorization. We also declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.62 per share on our Common Stock on April 18, 2019, amounting to \$78 million. The cash dividend will be paid on May 9, 2019 to holders of record as of April 29, 2019.

There have been no material changes to our share capital described in our 2018 Form 10-K other than those disclosed above and in Note 13 - Stockholders' Equity in the accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements.

Contractual Obligations

Except as otherwise described in this report, there have been no material revisions outside the ordinary course of business to our contractual obligations as described in our 2018 Form 10-K.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We have not entered into any material off-balance sheet arrangements.

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Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Our unaudited interim consolidated financial statements are based on the selection and application of significant accounting policies. The preparation of unaudited interim consolidated financial statements in conformity with US GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of net sales, expenses and allocated charges during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. However, we are not currently aware of any reasonably likely events or circumstances that would result in materially different results.

We describe our significant accounting policies in Note 2 - Summary of Accounting Policies, of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in our 2018 Form 10-K. We discuss our critical accounting policies and estimates in MD&A in our 2018 Form 10-K.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 2 - Recent Accounting Pronouncements in the accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements included in this Quarterly Report for information regarding recent accounting pronouncements.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

Market risk for the Company has not changed materially from the foreign exchange, interest rate and commodity risks disclosed in Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk in our 2018 Form 10-K. See also Note 17 - Derivative Financial Instruments in the accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements for further discussion of our market risk management and the related impact on the Company's financial position and results of operations.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, we have evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Rule 13a-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on that evaluation, as of March 31, 2019, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

During the period covered by this report, there were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

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PART II — OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

The Company is involved in legal and regulatory proceedings, lawsuits, claims and investigations incidental to the normal conduct of its business, relating to such matters as product liability, land disputes, insurance coverage disputes, contracts, employment, antitrust and competition, intellectual property, personal injury and other actions in tort, workers' compensation, chemical exposure, asbestos exposure, taxes, trade compliance, acquisitions and divestitures, claims of legacy stockholders, past waste disposal practices and release of chemicals into the environment. The Company is actively defending those matters where it is named as a defendant. Due to the inherent subjectivity of assessments and unpredictability of outcomes of legal proceedings, the Company's litigation accruals and estimates of possible loss or range of possible loss may not represent the ultimate loss to the Company from legal proceedings. See Note 12 - Environmental and Note 19 - Commitments and Contingencies in the accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements for a discussion of material environmental matters and material commitments and contingencies related to legal and regulatory proceedings. There have been no significant developments in the "Legal Proceedings" described in our 2018 Form 10-K other than those disclosed in Note 12 - Environmental and Note 19 - Commitments and Contingencies in the accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements. See Part I - Item 1A. Risk Factors of our 2018 Form 10-K for certain risk factors relating to these legal proceedings.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no material changes to the risk factors under Part I, Item 1A of our 2018 Form 10-K.

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

Repurchases of our Common Stock during the three months ended March 31, 2019 are as follows:

| Period | Total Number of Shares Purchased ⁽¹⁾ | Average Price Paid per Share | Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Program | Approximate Dollar Value of Shares Remaining that may be Purchased Under the Program ⁽²⁾ |
|---------------------|--|--|--|---|
| | (unaudited) | | | |
| January 1-31, 2019 | — | \$— | — | \$713,000,000 |
| February 1-28, 2019 | 1,523,340 | \$101.37 | 1,523,340 | \$559,000,000 |
| March 1-31, 2019 | 448,951 | \$101.53 | 448,951 | \$513,000,000 |
| Total | 1,972,291 | | 1,972,291 | |

(1) May include shares withheld from employees to cover their withholding requirements for personal income taxes related to the vesting of restricted stock.

As of March 31, 2019, our Board of Directors has authorized the repurchase of \$3.9 billion of our Common Stock (2) since February 2008. On April 18, 2019, our Board of Directors approved a \$1.5 billion increase in our Common Stock repurchase authorization.

See Note 13 - Stockholders' Equity in the accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements for further information.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

None.

Item 5. Other Information

None.

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Item 6. Exhibits⁽¹⁾

Exhibit

Number Description

- 3.1 Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on October 18, 2016).
- 3.1(a) Certificate of Amendment to the Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Celanese Corporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 22, 2016).
- 3.1(b) Certificate of Amendment to the Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Celanese Corporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on September 17, 2018).
- 3.2 Fifth Amended and Restated By-laws, amended effective July 16, 2018 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on July 18, 2018).
- 10.1*‡ Form of 2019 Performance-Based Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement.
- 10.2*‡ Form of 2019 Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement for Chief Executive Officer.
- 10.3*‡ Form of 2019 Time-Based Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement.
- 10.4*‡ Agreement and General Release, dated November 5, 2018, between Celanese Corporation and Peter G. Edwards.
- 10.5*‡ Agreement and General Release, dated January 7, 2019, between Celanese Corporation and Scott M. Sutton.
- 10.6*‡ Offer Letter, dated December 12, 2018, between Celanese Corporation and A. Lynne Puckett.
- 31.1* Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2* Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1* Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2* Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 101.INS* XBRL Instance Document.
- 101.SCH* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.
- 101.CAL* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document.
- 101.DEF* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document.
- 101.LAB* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document.

101.PRE* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document.

*Filed herewith.

‡Indicates a management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

The Company and its subsidiaries have in the past issued, and may in the future issue from time to time, long-term debt. The Company may not file with the applicable report copies of the instruments defining the rights of holders of long-term debt to the extent that the aggregate principal amount of the debt instruments of any one series of such debt instruments for which the instruments have not been filed has not exceeded or will not exceed 10% of the assets of the Company at any pertinent time. The Company hereby agrees to furnish a copy of any such instrument(s) to the SEC upon request.

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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.

CELANESE
CORPORATION

By: /s/ MARK C.
ROHR
Mark C. Rohr
Chairman of the
Board of Directors
and
Chief Executive
Officer

Date: April 23, 2019

By: /s/ SCOTT A.
RICHARDSON
Scott A. Richardson
Senior Vice
President and
Chief Financial
Officer

Date: April 23, 2019