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Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

As of September 27, 2008, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including the Senior Chairman of the Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's "disclosure controls and procedures" (as defined in Rules 13a–15(e) and 15d–15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act")). Based on that evaluation, the Company's management, including the Senior Chairman of the Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, concluded the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms, and that information we are required to disclose in our reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Senior Chairman of the Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

In connection with the evaluation described above, the Company's management, including the Senior Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, identified no other change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the Company's quarter ended September 27, 2008 and that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

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MANAGEMENT'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

Pilgrim's Pride Corporation's ("PPC") management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a–15(f). PPC's internal control system is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Under the supervision and with the participation of management, including its principal executive officer and principal financial officer, PPC's management assessed the design and operating effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of September 27, 2008 based on the framework set forth in Internal Control–Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organization of the Treadway Commission.

Based on this assessment, management concluded that PPC's internal control over financial reporting was effective as of September 27, 2008. Ernst & Young LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, has issued an attestation report on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of September 27, 2008. That report is included herein.

/s/ Lonnie "Bo" Pilgrim Lonnie "Bo" Pilgrim Senior Chairman of the Board of Directors

/s/ J. Clinton Rivers J. Clinton Rivers President, Chief Executive Officer Director

/s/ Richard A. Cogdill Richard A. Cogdill Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer Director Case 08-45664-dml11 Doc 3767-8 Filed 10/19/09 Entered 10/19/09 10:06:12 Desc Exhibit C part 3 Page 3 of 40

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

The Board of Directors and Stockholders Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

We have audited Pilgrim's Pride Corporation's internal control over financial reporting as of September 27, 2008, based on criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the COSO criteria). Pilgrim's Pride Corporation's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, Pilgrim's Pride Corporation maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of September 27, 2008, based on the COSO criteria.

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We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation as of September 27, 2008 and September 29, 2007, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended September 27, 2008, of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, and our report dated December 10, 2008, expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

Ernst & Young LLP

Dallas, Texas December 10, 2008

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Item 9B. Other Information

Not applicable.

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PART III

Item 10. Directors and Executive Officers and Corporate Governance

Certain information regarding our executive officers has been presented under "Executive Officers" included in Item 1. "Business," above.

Reference is made to the section entitled "Election of Directors" of the Company's Proxy Statement for its 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which section is incorporated herein by reference.

Reference is made to the section entitled "Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance" of the Company's Proxy Statement for its 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which section is incorporated herein by reference.

We have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, which applies to all employees, including our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer. The full text of our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is published on our website, at www.pilgrimspride.com, under the "Investors—Corporate Governance" caption. We intend to disclose future amendments to, or waivers from, certain provisions of this Code on our website within four business days following the date of such amendment or waiver.

See Item 13. "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence."

Item 11. Executive Compensation

See Item 13. "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence."

Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters

See Item 13. "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence."

As of September 27, 2008, the Company did not have any compensation plans (including individual compensation arrangements) under which equity securities of the Company are authorized for issuance by the Company.

Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence

Additional information responsive to Items 10, 11, 12 and 13 is incorporated by reference from the sections entitled "Security Ownership," "Board of Directors Independence," "Committees of the Board of Directors," "Election of Directors," "Report of the Compensation Committee," "Compensation Discussion and Analysis," "Executive Compensation," "Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation" and "Certain Transactions" of the Company's Proxy Statement for its 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

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Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services

The information required by this item is incorporated herein by reference from the section entitled "Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm Fee Information" of the Company's Proxy Statement for its 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

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PART IV

| Item 15. | Exhibits and | d Financial Statement Schedules |
|----------------|--|--|
| (a) | | Financial Statements |
| | (1) | The financial statements and schedules listed in the index to financial statements and schedules on page 3 of this report are filed as part of this report. |
| | (2) | All other schedules for which provision is made in the applicable accounting regulations of the SEC are not required under the related instructions or are not applicable and therefore have been omitted. |
| | (3) | The financial statements schedule entitled "Valuation and Qualifying Accounts and Reserves" is filed as part of this report on page 151. |
| (b) | | Exhibits |
| Exhibit Number | er | |
| 2.1 | Agreement and Plan of Reorganization dated September 15, 1986, by and among Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, a Texas corporation Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, a Delaware corporation; and Doris Pilgrim Julian, Aubrey Hal Pilgrim, Paulette Pilgrim Rolston, Evan Pilgrim, Lonnie "Bo" Pilgrim, Lonnie Ken Pilgrim, Greta Pilgrim Owens and Patrick Wayne Pilgrim (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 2.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (No. 33–8805) effective November 14, 1986). | |
| 2.2 | | Plan of Merger dated September 27, 2000 (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 2 of WLR Foods, Inc.'s Current Report No. 000–17060) dated September 28, 2000). |
| 2.3 | Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of December 3, 2006, by and among the Company, Protein Acquisition Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, and Gold Kist Inc. (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 99.(D)(1) to Amendment No. 11 to the Company's Tender Offer Statement on Schedule TO filed on December 5, 2006). | |
| 3.1 | Certificate of Incorporation of the Company, as amended (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 3.1 of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10–K for the year ended October 2, 2004). | |
| 3.2 | | Restated Corporate Bylaws of the Company (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 4.4 of the Company's Registration orm S–8 (No. 333–111929) filed on January 15, 2004). |
| 4.1 | Certificate of In | acorporation of the Company, as amended (included as Exhibit 3.1). |
| 4.2 | Amended and R | Restated Corporate Bylaws of the Company (included as Exhibit 3.2). |
| | | |

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| 4.3 | Indenture, dated November 21, 2003, between Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and The Bank of New York as Trustee relating to Pilgrim's Pride's 9 1/4% Senior Notes due 2013 (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 4.1 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S–4 (No. 333–111975) filed on January 16, 2004). |
|------|---|
| 4.4 | Form of 9 1/4% Note due 2013 (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 4.3 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S–4 (No. 333–111975) filed on January 16, 2004). |
| 4.5 | Senior Debt Securities Indenture dated as of January 24, 2007, by and between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on January 24, 2007). |
| 4.6 | First Supplemental Indenture to the Senior Debt Securities Indenture dated as of January 24, 2007, by and between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on January 24, 2007). |
| 4.7 | Form of 7 5/8% Senior Note due 2015 (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 4.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on January 24, 2007). |
| 4.8 | Senior Subordinated Debt Securities Indenture dated as of January 24, 2007, by and between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 4.4 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on January 24, 2007). |
| 4.9 | First Supplemental Indenture to the Senior Subordinated Debt Securities Indenture dated as of January 24, 2007, by and between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 4.5 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on January 24, 2007). |
| 4.10 | Form of 8 3/8% Subordinated Note due 2017 (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 4.6 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on January 24, 2007). |
| 10.1 | Pilgrim's Industries, Inc. Profit Sharing Retirement Plan, restated as of July 1, 1987 (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Form 8–K filed on July 1, 1992). ⑤ |
| 10.2 | Senior Executive Performance Bonus Plan of the Company (incorporated by reference from Exhibit A in the Company's Proxy Statement dated December 13, 1999). ⑤ |
| 10.3 | Aircraft Lease Extension Agreement between B.P. Leasing Co. (L.A. Pilgrim, individually) and Pilgrim's Pride Corporation (formerly Pilgrim's Industries, Inc.) effective November 15, 1992 (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.48 of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10–Q for the three months ended March 29, 1997). |

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| 10.4 10.5 | Broiler Grower Contract dated May 6, 1997 between Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and Lonnie "Bo" Pilgrim (Farm 30) (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.49 of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10–Q for the three months ended March 29, 1997). Commercial Egg Grower Contract dated May 7, 1997 between Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and Pilgrim Poultry G.P. (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.50 of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10–Q for the three months ended March 29, 1997). |
|--------------|---|
| 10.6 | Agreement dated October 15, 1996 between Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and Pilgrim Poultry G.P. (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.23 of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10–Q for the three months ended January 2, 1999). |
| 10.7 | Heavy Breeder Contract dated May 7, 1997 between Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and Lonnie "Bo" Pilgrim (Farms 44, 45 & 46) (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.51 of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10–Q for the three months ended March 29, 1997). |
| 10.8 | Broiler Grower Contract dated January 9, 1997 by and between Pilgrim's Pride and O.B. Goolsby, Jr. (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.25 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S–1 (No. 333–29163) effective June 27, 1997). |
| 10.9 | Broiler Grower Contract dated January 15, 1997 by and between Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and B.J.M. Farms (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.26 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (No. 333–29163) effective June 27, 1997). |
| 10.10 | Broiler Grower Agreement dated January 29, 1997 by and between Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and Clifford E. Butler (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.27 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (No. 333–29163) effective June 27, 1997). |
| 10.11 | Purchase and Contribution Agreement dated as of June 26, 1998 between Pilgrim's Pride Funding Corporation and Pilgrim's Pride Corporation (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.34 of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10–Q for the three months ended June 27, 1998). |
| 10.12 | Guaranty Fee Agreement between Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and Pilgrim Interests, Ltd., dated June 11, 1999 (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.24 of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10–K for the year ended October 2, 1999). |
| 10.13 | Commercial Property Lease dated December 29, 2000 between Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and Pilgrim Poultry G.P. (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.30 of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10–Q for the three months ended December 30, 2000). |

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| 10.14 | Amendment No. 1 dated as of December 31, 2003 to Purchase and Contribution Agreement dated as of June 26, 1998, between Pilgrim's Pride Funding Corporation and Pilgrim's Pride Corporation (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.5 of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10–Q filed February 4, 2004). |
|-------|--|
| 10.15 | Employee Stock Investment Plan of the Company (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 4.1 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form $S-8$ (No. $333-111929$) filed on January 15 , 2004). $©$ |
| 10.16 | 2005 Deferred Compensation Plan of the Company (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Current Report on Form $8-K$ dated December 27, 2004). $\ \odot$ |
| 10.17 | Vendor Service Agreement dated effective December 28, 2005 between Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and Pat Pilgrim (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K dated January 6, 2006). |
| 10.18 | Transportation Agreement dated effective December 28, 2005 between Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and Pat Pilgrim (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.3 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K dated January 6, 2006). |
| 10.19 | Credit Agreement by and among the Avícola Pilgrim's Pride de México, S. de R.L. de C.V. (the "Borrower"), Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, certain Mexico subsidiaries of the Borrower, ING Capital LLC, and the lenders signatory thereto dated as of September 25, 2006 (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on September 28, 2006). |
| 10.20 | 2006 Amended and Restated Credit Agreement by and among CoBank, ACB, Agriland, FCS and the Company dated as of September 21, 2006 (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on September 28, 2006). |
| 10.21 | First Amendment to the Pilgrim's Pride Corporation Amended and Restated 2005 Deferred Compensation Plan Trust, dated as of November 29, 2006 (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.03 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on December 05, 2006). ⑤ |
| 10.22 | Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of December 3, 2006, by and among the Company, Protein Acquisition Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, and Gold Kist Inc. (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 99.(D)(1) to Amendment No. 11 to the Company's Tender Offer Statement on Schedule TO filed on December 5, 2006). |
| 10.23 | First Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of December 13, 2006, by and among the Company, as borrower, CoBank, ACB, as lead arranger and co–syndication agent, and sole book runner, and as administrative, documentation and collateral agent, Agriland, FCS, as co–syndication agent, and as a syndication party, and the other syndication parties signatory thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.01 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on December 19, 2006). |

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| 10.24 | Second Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of January 4, 2007, by and among the Company, as borrower, CoBank, ACB, as lead arranger and co-syndication agent, and sole book runner, and as administrative, documentation and collateral agent, Agriland, FCS, as co-syndication agent, and as a syndication party, and the other syndication parties signatory thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.01 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 9, 2007). |
|-------|--|
| 10.25 | Fourth Amended and Restated Secured Credit Agreement, dated as of February 8, 2007, by and among the Company, To–Ricos, Ltd., To–Ricos Distribution, Ltd., Bank of Montreal, as agent, SunTrust Bank, as syndication agent, U.S. Bank National Association and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as co–documentation agents, BMO Capital Market, as lead arranger, and the other lenders signatory thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.01 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K dated February 12, 2007). |
| 10.26 | Third Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of February 7, 2007, by and among the Company as borrower, CoBank, ACB, as lead arranger and co-syndication agent, and the sole book runner, and as administrative, documentation and collateral agent, Agriland, FCS, as co-syndication agent, and as a syndication party, and the other syndication parties signatory thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.02 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K dated February 12, 2007). |
| 10.27 | First Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of March 15, 2007, by and among the Borrower, the Company, the Subsidiary Guarantors, ING Capital LLC, and the Lenders (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.01 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K dated March 20, 2007). |
| 10.28 | Fourth Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of July 3, 2007, by and among the Company as borrower, CoBank, ACB, as lead arranger and co-syndication agent, and the sole book runner, and as administrative, documentation and collateral agent, Agriland, FCS, as co-syndication agent, and as syndication party, and the other syndication parties signatory thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10–Q filed July 31, 2007). |
| 10.29 | Retirement and Consulting Agreement dated as of October 10, 2007, between the Company and Clifford E. Butler (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K dated October 10, 2007). ⑤ |
| 10.30 | Fifth Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of August 7, 2007, by and among the Company as borrower, CoBank, ACB, as lead arranger and co–syndication agent, and the sole book runner, and as administrative, documentation and collateral agent, Agriland, FCS, as co–syndication agent, and as syndication party, and the other syndication parties signatory thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.39 of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10–K filed on November 19, 2007). |
| | |

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| 10.31 | Sixth Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of November 7, 2007, by and among the Company as borrower, CoBank, ACB, as administrative agent, and the other syndication parties signatory thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K dated November 13, 2007). |
|-------|---|
| 10.32 | Ground Lease Agreement effective February 1, 2008 between Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and Pat Pilgrim (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K dated February 1, 2008). |
| 10.33 | Seventh Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of March 10, 2008, by and among the Company as borrower, CoBank, ACB, as administrative agent, and the other syndication parties signatory thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on February 20, 2008). |
| 10.34 | First Amendment to the Fourth Amended and Restated Secured Credit Agreement, dated as of March 11, 2008, by and among the Company, To–Ricos, Ltd., To–Ricos Distribution, Ltd., Bank of Montreal, as administrative agent, and the other lenders signatory thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on February 20, 2008). |
| 10.35 | Eighth Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of April 30, 2008, by and among the Company as borrower, CoBank, ACB, as administrative agent, and the other syndication parties signatory thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on May 5, 2008). |
| 10.36 | Second Amendment to the Fourth Amended and Restated Secured Credit Agreement, dated as of April 30, 2008, by and among the Company, To–Ricos, Ltd., To–Ricos Distribution, Ltd., Bank of Montreal, as administrative agent, and the other lenders signatory thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on May 5, 2008). |
| 10.37 | Change to Company Contribution Amount Under the Amended and Restated 2005 Deferred Compensation Plan of the Company (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10–Q filed July 30, 2008). ⑤ |
| 10.38 | Limited Duration Waiver of Potential Defaults and Events of Default under Credit Agreement dated September 26, 2008 by and among Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, as borrower, CoBank, ACB, as administrative agent, and the other syndication parties signatory thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on September 29, 2008). |
| 10.39 | Limited Duration Waiver Agreement dated as of September 26, 2008 by and among Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, as borrower, Bank of Montreal, as administrative agent, and certain other bank parties thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on September 29, 2008). |

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| 10.40 | Limited Duration Waiver Agreement dated as of September 26, 2008 by and among Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, Pilgrim's Pride Funding Corporation, BMO Capital Markets Corp., as administrator, and Fairway Finance Company, LLC (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on September 29, 2008). |
|-------|--|
| 10.41 | Amended and Restated Receivables Purchase Agreement dated as of September 26, 2008 among Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, Pilgrim's Pride Funding Corporation, BMO Capital Markets Corp., as administrator, and the various purchasers and purchaser agents from time to time parties thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on September 29, 2008). |
| 10.42 | Amendment No. 1 dated as of October 10, 2008 to Amended and Restated Receivables Purchase Agreement, dated as of September 26, 2008 among Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, Pilgrim's Pride Funding Corporation, BMO Capital Markets Corp., as administrator, and the various purchasers and purchaser agents from time to time parties thereto.* |
| 10.43 | Amendment No. 2 to Purchase and Contribution Agreement dated as of September 26, 2008 among Pilgrim's Pride Funding Corporation and Pilgrim's Pride Corporation (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on September 29, 2008). |
| 10.44 | Limited Duration Waiver of Potential Defaults and Events of Default under Credit Agreement dated October 26, 2008 by and among Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, as borrower, CoBank, ACB, as administrative agent, and the other syndication parties signatory thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on October 27, 2008). |
| 10.45 | Limited Duration Waiver Agreement dated as of October 26, 2008 by and among Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, as borrower, Bank of Montreal, as administrative agent, and certain other bank parties thereto (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on October 27, 2008). |
| 10.46 | Limited Duration Waiver Agreement dated as of October 26, 2008 by and among Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, Pilgrim's Pride Funding Corporation, BMO Capital Markets Corp., as administrator, and Fairway Finance Company, LLC (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on October 27, 2008). |
| 10.47 | Form of Change in Control Agreement dated as of October 21, 2008 between the Company and certain of its executive officers (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8–K filed on October 27, 2008). |
| 10.48 | First Amendment to Limited Duration Waiver of Potential Defaults and Events of Default under Credit Agreement dated November 25, 2008 by and among Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, as borrower, CoBank, ACB, as administrative agent, and the other syndication parties signatory thereto.* |

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| 10.49 | First Amendment to Limited Duration Waiver Agreement dated as of November 25, 2008 by and among Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, as borrower, Bank of Montreal, as administrative agent, and certain other bank parties thereto.* |
|-------|--|
| 10.50 | First Amendment to Limited Duration Waiver Agreement dated as of November 25, 2008 by and among Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, Pilgrim's Pride Funding Corporation, BMO Capital Markets Corp., as administrator, and Fairway Finance Company, LLC. * |
| 10.51 | Waiver Agreement and Second Amendment to Credit Agreement dated November 30, 2008, by and among the Company and certain non-debtor Mexico subsidiaries of the Company, ING Capital LLC, as agent, and the lenders signatory thereto.* |
| 10.52 | Post-Petition Credit Agreement dated December 2, 2008 by and among the Company, as borrower, the US Subsidiaries, as guarantors, Bank of Montreal, as agent, and the lenders party thereto.* |
| 12 | Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges for the years ended September 27, 2008, September 29, 2007, September 30, 2006, October 1, 2005, October 2, 2004, and September 27, 2003.* |
| 21 | Subsidiaries of Registrant.* |
| 23 | Consent of Ernst & Young LLP.* |
| 31.1 | Certification of Co-Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.* |
| 31.2 | Certification of Co-Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.* |
| 31.3 | Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.* |
| 32.1 | Certification of Co-Principal Executive Officer of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.* |
| 32.2 | Certification of Co-Principal Executive Officer of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.* |
| 32.3 | Certification of Chief Financial Officer of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.* |
| | *Filed herewith |
| | ©Represents a management contract or compensation plan arrangement |

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PILGRIM'S PRIDE CORPORATION
September 27, 2008

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) 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 on the 11th day of December 2008.

PILGRIM'S PRIDE CORPORATION

By:/s/ Richard A. Cogdill

Richard A. Cogdill Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

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Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the date indicated.

| Signature | Title | Date |
|---|---|----------|
| /s/ Lonnie "Bo" Pilgrim Lonnie "Bo" Pilgrim | Senior Chairman of the Board | 12/11/08 |
| /s/ Lonnie Ken Pilgrim Lonnie Ken Pilgrim | Chairman of the Board | 12/11/08 |
| /s/ J. Clinton Rivers J. Clinton Rivers | President Chief Executive Officer and Director | 12/11/08 |
| /s/ Richard A. Cogdill Richard A. Cogdill | Chief Financial Officer, Secretary, Treasurer and Director (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer) | 12/11/08 |
| /s/ Charles L. Black Charles L. Black | Director | 12/11/08 |
| /s/ Linda Chavez Linda Chavez | Director | 12/11/08 |
| /s/ S. Key Coker S. Key Coker | Director | 12/11/08 |
| /s/ Keith W. Hughes Keith W. Hughes | Director | 12/11/08 |
| /s/ Blake D. Lovette Blake D. Lovette | Director | 12/11/08 |
| | 94 | |

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| Signature | Title | | Date |
|---|----------|----|----------|
| /s/ Vance C. Miller, Sr. Vance C. Miller, Sr. | Director | | 12/11/08 |
| /s/ James G. Vetter, Jr. James G. Vetter, Jr. | Director | | 12/11/08 |
| /s/ Donald L. Wass, Ph.D. Donald L. Wass, Ph.D. | Director | | 12/11/08 |
| | | | |
| | | 95 | |

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Stockholders Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation (the "Company") as of September 27, 2008 and September 29, 2007, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended September 27, 2008. Our audits also include the financial statement schedule listed in the index at Item 15(a). These financial statements and schedule are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and schedule based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation at September 27, 2008 and September 29, 2007, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended September 27, 2008, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Also, in our opinion, the related financial statement schedule, when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared assuming that Pilgrim's Pride Corporation will continue as a going concern. As more fully described in Note A, the Company filed for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code on December 1, 2008. This, and the other business environment factors discussed, raise substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. Management's plans in regard to this matter are also described in Note A. The accompanying consolidated financial statements do not include any adjustments to reflect the possible future effects on the recoverability and classification of assets or the amounts and classification of liabilities that may result from the outcome of this uncertainty.

As discussed in Note M to the consolidated financial statements, Pilgrim's Pride Corporation adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes – an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109," effective September 30, 2007.

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We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), Pilgrim's Pride Corporation's internal control over financial reporting as of September 27, 2008, based on criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated December 10, 2008, expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

Ernst & Young LLP

Dallas, Texas December 10, 2008

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Consolidated Balance Sheets Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

| | Se | ptember 27, 2008 | Se | ptember 29, 2007 |
|---|-----|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | (In | thousands, e | ccept shares and | |
| Assets | ` | per sha | | |
| Current assets: | | r | | / |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ | 61.553 | \$ | 66,168 |
| Investment in available-for-sale securities | _ | 10,439 | | 8,153 |
| Trade accounts and other receivables, less | | , | | 0,200 |
| allowance for doubtful accounts | | 144,156 | | 114,678 |
| Inventories | | 1,036,163 | | 925,340 |
| Income taxes receivable | | 21,656 | | 61,901 |
| Current deferred taxes | | 54.312 | | 8.095 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | | 71.552 | | 47,959 |
| Assets held for sale | | 17.370 | | 15,534 |
| Assets of discontinued business | | 33,519 | | 53,232 |
| Assets of discontinued dusiness | | 33,317 | | 33,232 |
| Total current assets | | 1,450,720 | | 1,301,060 |
| Investment in available–for–sale securities | | 55,854 | | 46.035 |
| Other assets | | 51.768 | | 60,113 |
| Identified intangible assets, net | | 67,363 | | 78,433 |
| Goodwill | | | | 505,166 |
| Property, plant and equipment, net | | 1,673,004 | | 1,783,429 |
| roperty, plant and equipment, not | | 1,075,001 | | 1,703,127 |
| | \$ | 3,298,709 | \$ | 3,774,236 |
| Liabilities and stockholders' equity | | | | |
| Current liabilities: | | | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ | 378,887 | \$ | 398,512 |
| Accrued expenses | , | 448,823 | - | 497,262 |
| Current maturities of long-term debt | | 1,874,469 | | 2,872 |
| Liabilities of discontinued business | | 10,783 | | 6,556 |
| | | 10,702 | | 0,220 |
| Total current liabilities | | 2,712,962 | | 905,202 |
| Long-term debt, less current maturities | | 67,514 | | 1,318,558 |
| Deferred income taxes | | 80.755 | | 326,570 |
| Other long-term liabilities | | 85,737 | | 51,685 |
| Commitments and contingencies | | | | |
| Stockholders' equity: | | | | |
| Preferred stock, \$.01 par value, 5,000,000 shares authorized; no shares issued | | _ | | _ |
| Common stock, \$.01 par value, 160,000,000 shares authorized; 74,055,733 and 66,555,733 shares issued and | | | | |
| outstanding at year end 2008 and 2007, respectively | | 740 | | 665 |
| Additional paid—in capital | | 646,922 | | 469.779 |
| Accumulated earnings (deficit) | | (317,082) | | 687,775 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income | | 21,161 | | 14,002 |
| recommend only comprehensive media | | 21,101 | | 17,002 |
| Total stockholders' equity | | 351,741 | | 1,172,221 |
| | | | | |
| | \$ | 3,298,709 | \$ | 3,774,236 |

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

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Consolidated Statements of Operations Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

| | | Three Years Ended September 27, 2008 | | | | |
|--|----|---------------------------------------|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | 2008 2007 2006 | | | | |
| | | (In thousands, except per share data) | | | | |
| Net sales | \$ | 8,525,112 | \$ | 7,498,612 | \$ | 5,152,729 |
| Costs and expenses: | _ | -,, | 7 | .,, | Ť | 0,102,12 |
| Cost of sales | | 8,675,524 | | 6,905,882 | | 4,855,646 |
| Operational restructuring charges | | 13,083 | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Gross profit (loss) | | (163,495) | | 592,730 | | 297,083 |
| | | | | | | |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | | 376,599 | | 355,539 | | 285,978 |
| Goodwill impairment | | 501,446 | | _ | | _ |
| Administrative restructuring charges | | 16,156 | | | | _ |
| Total costs and expenses | | 9,582,808 | | 7,261,421 | | 5,141,624 |
| Total costs and expenses | | 9,362,606 | _ | 7,201,421 | | 3,141,024 |
| Operating income (loss) | | (1,057,696) | | 237,191 | | 11,105 |
| Operating income (loss) | | (1,037,090) | | 237,191 | | 11,103 |
| Other expenses (income): | | | | | | |
| Interest expense | | 134,220 | | 123,183 | | 49.013 |
| Interest income | | (2,593) | | (4,641) | | (10,048) |
| Loss on early extinguishment of debt | | | | 26,463 | | |
| Miscellaneous, net | | (2,230) | | (6,649) | | (1,234) |
| | | | | | | |
| | | 129,397 | | 138,356 | | 37,731 |
| | | | | | | _ |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes | | (1,187,093) | | 98,835 | | (26,626) |
| Income tax expense (benefit) | | (194,921) | | 47,319 | | 1,573 |
| | | | | | | |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations | | (992,172) | | 51,516 | | (28,199) |
| Income (loss) from operations of discontinued business, net of tax | | (7,312) | | (4,499) | | (6,033) |
| Gain on disposal of discontinued business, net of tax | | 903 | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Net income (loss) | \$ | (998,581) | \$ | 47.017 | \$ | (34.232) |
| | | | | | | |
| Net income (loss) per common share—basic and | | | | | | |
| diluted: | | | | | | |
| Continuing operations | \$ | (14.31) | \$ | 0.77 | \$ | (0.42) |
| Discontinued business | | (0.09) | | (0.06) | | (0.09) |
| | | | | | | |
| Net income (loss) | \$ | (14.40) | \$ | 0.71 | <u>\$</u> | (0.51) |
| | | | | | | |

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

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Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

| | | | | Additional | Accumulated | Accumulated Other | | |
|---|------------|----------|--------------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------|-----------------|
| | | on Stock | | Paid–In | Earnings | Comprehensive | Treasury | |
| _ | Shares | Value | | Capital | (Deficit) | Income (Loss) | Stock | Total |
| Balance at October 1, | | | | (In thousands | , except shares and | per share data) | | |
| 2005 | 66,826,833 | \$ 66 | 8 \$ | 471,344 | \$ 753,527 | \$ (373) | \$ (1,568) | \$ 1,223,598 |
| Net loss | | | | | (34,232) | | | (34,232) |
| Other comprehensive income | | | | | | 507 | | 507 |
| Total comprehensive loss | | | | | | | | (33,725) |
| Cancellation of treasury stock | (271,100) | (| 3) | (1,565) | | | 1,568 | _ |
| Cash dividends declared (\$1.09 per share) | | ` | | | (72,545) | | | (72,545) |
| Dalanca at Cantambar | | | | | | | | |
| Balance at September 30, 2006 | 66,555,733 | 66 | 5 | 469,779 | 646,750 | 134 | _ | 1,117,328 |
| Net income | | | | | 47,017 | | | 47,017 |
| Other comprehensive income | | | | | | 13,868 | | 13,868 |
| Total comprehensive income | | | | | | | | 60,885 |
| Cash dividends declared (\$.09 per share) | | | | | (5,992) | | | (5,992) |
| Balance at September 29, 2007 | 66,555,733 | 66 | 5 | 469,779 | 687,775 | 14,002 | _ | 1,172,221 |
| Net loss | | | | | (998,581) | | | (998,581) |
| Other comprehensive income | | | | | (990,301) | 7,159 | | 7,159 |
| Total comprehensive loss | | | | | | | | (991,422) |
| Sale of common stock | 7,500,000 | 7 | 5 | 177,143 | | | | 177,218 |
| Cash dividends declared (\$.09 per share) Other | | | | | (6,328) 52 | | | (6,328) 52 |
| D.1 | | | | | | | | |
| Balance at September 27, 2008 | 74.055,733 | \$ 74 | <u>0</u> <u>\$</u> | 646.922 | \$ (317.082) | \$ 21.161 | <u> </u> | \$ 351.741 |

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

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Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

| | Three Years Ended September 27, 2008 | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------|-----|--------------|----|-----------|
| | - | 2008 | | 2007 | | 2006 |
| | | | (Ir | n thousands) | | |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | ¢. | (000 501) | Φ | 47.017 | Φ | (24.222) |
| Net income (loss) | \$ | (998,581) | \$ | 47,017 | \$ | (34,232) |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to cash provided by (used in) operating activities Depreciation and amortization | | 240,305 | | 204,903 | | 135,133 |
| Non-cash loss on early extinguishment of debt | | 240,303 | | 9,543 | | 155,155 |
| Tangible asset impairment | | 13.184 | | 9,543 | | 3.767 |
| Goodwill impairment | | 501,446 | | | | 3,707 |
| Loss (gain) on property disposals | | (14,850) | | (446) | | 1,781 |
| Deferred income taxes | | (195,944) | | 83,884 | | 20,455 |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of the effect of business acquired | | (1/3,/44) | | 05,004 | | 20,433 |
| Accounts and other receivables | | (19,864) | | 247,217 | | 31.121 |
| Income taxes payable/receivable | | (1,552) | | 5,570 | | (55,363) |
| Inventories | | (103,937) | | (129,645) | | (58,612) |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | | (23,392) | | (2,981) | | (6,594) |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | | (71,293) | | (5,097) | | (3,501) |
| Other | | (6,248) | | 4,045 | | (3,626) |
| Omer | | (0,240) | _ | 4,043 | | (3,020) |
| Cash provided by (used in) operating activities | | (680,726) | | 464,010 | | 30,329 |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | | | | | |
| Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment | | (152,501) | | (172,323) | | (143,882) |
| Purchase of investment securities | | (38,043) | | (125,045) | | (318,266) |
| Proceeds from sale or maturity of investment securities | | 27,545 | | 208,676 | | 490,764 |
| Business acquisition, net of cash acquired | | _ | | (1,102,069) | | _ |
| Proceeds from property disposals | | 41,367 | | 6,286 | | 4,148 |
| Other, net | | | | | | (506) |
| Cash provided by (used in) investing activities | | (121,632) | | (1,184,475) | | 32,258 |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | | | | | |
| Proceeds from notes payable to banks | | | | | | 270,500 |
| Repayments on notes payable to banks | | _ | | _ | | (270,500) |
| Proceeds from long-term debt | | 2,264,912 | | 1,981,255 | | 74,683 |
| Payments on long—term debt | | (1,646,028) | | (1,368,700) | | (36,950) |
| Changes in cash management obligations | | 13,558 | | 39,231 | | |
| Sale of common stock | | 177,218 | | _ | | _ |
| Debt issue costs | | (5,589) | | (15,565) | | (3,938) |
| Cash dividends paid | | (6,328) | | (5,992) | | (72,545) |
| Cash provided by (used in) financing activities | | 797,743 | | 630,229 | | (38,750) |
| Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | | (4.615) | | (90,236) | | 23.837 |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year | | 66,168 | | 156,404 | | 132,567 |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year | | 00,100 | | 130,404 | | 132,307 |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of year | \$ | 61,553 | \$ | 66,168 | \$ | 156,404 |
| Supplemental Disclosure Information: | | | | | | |
| Cash paid during the year for: | | | | | | |
| Interest (net of amount capitalized) | \$ | 142,339 | \$ | 104,394 | \$ | 48,590 |
| Income taxes paid | \$ | 6,411 | \$ | 11,164 | \$ | 37,813 |
| | | | | | | |

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE A—BUSINESS, CHAPTER 11 BANKRUPTCY FILINGS AND PROCESS, AND GOING CONCERN MATTERS

Business

Pilgrim's Pride Corporation (referred to herein as "the Company," "we," "us," "our," or similar terms) is one of the largest chicken companies in the United States ("US"), Mexico and Puerto Rico. Our fresh chicken retail line is sold in the southeastern, central, southwestern and western regions of the US, throughout Puerto Rico, and in the northern and central regions of Mexico. Our prepared—foods products meet the needs of some of the largest customers in the food service industry across the US. Additionally, the Company exports commodity chicken products to 80 countries. As a vertically integrated company, we control every phase of the production of our products. We operate feed mills, hatcheries, processing plants and distribution centers in 14 US states, Puerto Rico and Mexico.

Our fresh chicken products consist of refrigerated (non-frozen) whole or cut-up chicken, either pre-marinated or non-marinated, and pre-packaged chicken in various combinations of freshly refrigerated, whole chickens and chicken parts. Our prepared chicken products include portion-controlled breast fillets, tenderloins and strips, delicatessen products, salads, formed nuggets and patties and bone-in chicken parts. These products are sold either refrigerated or frozen and may be fully cooked, partially cooked or raw. In addition, these products are breaded or non-breaded and either pre-marinated or non-marinated.

We reported a net loss of \$998.6 million, or \$14.40 per common share, for the year, which included a negative gross margin of \$163.5 million. As of September 27, 2008, the Company's accumulated deficit aggregated \$317.1 million. During 2008, the Company used \$680.7 million of cash in operations. At September 27, 2008, we had cash and cash equivalents totaling \$61.6 million. The following factors contributed to this performance:

- Feed ingredient costs increased substantially between the first quarter of 2007 and the end of 2008. While chicken selling prices generally improved over the same period, prices did not improve sufficiently to offset the higher costs of feed ingredients. More recently, prices have actually declined as the result of weak demand for breast meat and a general oversupply of chicken in the US.
- The Company recognized losses on derivative financial instruments, primarily futures contracts and options on corn and soybean meal, during 2008 totaling \$38.3 million. In the fourth quarter of 2008, it recognized losses on derivative financial instruments totaling \$155.7 million. In late June and July of 2008, management executed various derivative financial instruments for August and September soybean meal and corn prices. After entering into these positions, the prices of the commodities decreased significantly in July and August of 2008 creating these losses.

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- The Company evaluated the carrying amount of its goodwill for potential impairment at September 27, 2008. We obtained valuation reports as of September 27, 2008 that indicated the carrying amount of our goodwill should be fully impaired based on current conditions. As a result, we recognized a pretax impairment charge of \$501.4 million during 2008.
- The Company assessed the realizability of its net deferred tax assets position and increased its valuation allowance and recognized additional income tax expense of approximately \$71.2 million during 2008.

In September 2008, the Company entered into agreements with its lenders to temporarily waive the fixed-charge coverage ratio covenant under its credit facilities. The lenders agreed to continue to provide liquidity under the credit facilities during the thirty-day period ended October 28, 2008. On October 27, 2008, the Company entered into further agreements with its lenders to temporarily waive the fixed-charge coverage ratio and leverage ratio covenants under its credit facilities. The lenders agreed to continue to provide liquidity under the credit facilities during the thirty-day period ended November 26, 2008. On that same day, the Company also announced its intention to exercise its 30-day grace period in making a \$25.7 million interest payment due on November 3, 2008 under its 8 3/8% senior subordinated notes and its 7 5/8% senior notes. On November 17, 2008, the Company exercised its 30-day grace period in making a \$0.3 million interest payment due on November 17, 2008 under its 9 1/4% senior subordinated notes. On November 26, 2008, the Company entered into further agreements with its lenders to extend the temporary waivers until December 1, 2008.

Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Filings

On December 1, 2008 (the "Petition Date"), the Company and certain of its subsidiaries (collectively, the "Debtors") filed voluntary petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, Fort Worth Division (the "Bankruptcy Court"). The cases are being jointly administered under Case No. 08–45664. The Company's operations in Mexico and certain operations in the US were not included in the filing (the "Non–filing Subsidiaries) and will continue to operate outside the Chapter 11 process.

Subject to certain exceptions under the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtors' Chapter 11 filing automatically enjoined, or stayed, the continuation of any judicial or administrative proceedings or other actions against the Debtors or their property to recover on, collect or secure a claim arising prior to the Petition Date. Thus, for example, most creditor actions to obtain possession of property from the Debtors, or to create, perfect or enforce any lien against the property of the Debtors, or to collect on monies owed or otherwise exercise rights or remedies with respect to a pre–petition claim are enjoined unless and until the Bankruptcy Court lifts the automatic stay.

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The filing of the Chapter 11 petitions constituted an event of default under certain of our debt obligations, and those debt obligations became automatically and immediately due and payable, subject to an automatic stay of any action to collect, assert, or recover a claim against the Company and the application of applicable bankruptcy law. As a result, the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheet as of September 27, 2008 includes a reclassification of \$1,872.1 million to reflect as current certain long—term debt under its credit facilities that, absent the stay, would have become automatically and immediately due and payable.

Chapter 11 Process

The Debtors are currently operating as "debtors in possession" under the jurisdiction of the Bankruptcy Court and in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code and orders of the Bankruptcy Court. In general, as debtors in possession, we are authorized under Chapter 11 to continue to operate as an ongoing business, but may not engage in transactions outside the ordinary course of business without the prior approval of the Bankruptcy Court

On December 2, 2008, the Bankruptcy Court granted interim approval authorizing the Company and the Subsidiaries organized in the United States (the "US Subsidiaries") to enter into that certain Post–Petition Credit Agreement (the "DIP Credit Agreement") among the Company, as borrower, the US Subsidiaries, as guarantors, Bank of Montreal, as agent (the "DIP Agent"), and the lenders party thereto. On December 2, 2008, the Company, the US Subsidiaries and the other parties entered into the DIP Credit Agreement, subject to final approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

The DIP Credit Agreement provides for an aggregate commitment of up to \$450 million, which permits borrowings on a revolving basis. The Company received interim approval to access \$365 million of the commitment pending issuance of the final order by the Bankruptcy Court. Outstanding borrowings under the DIP Credit Agreement will bear interest at a per annum rate equal to 8.0% plus the greatest of (i) the prime rate as established by the DIP agent from time to time, (ii) the average federal funds rate plus 0.5%, or (iii) the LIBOR rate plus 1.0%, payable monthly. The loans under the DIP Credit Agreement were used to repurchase all receivables sold under the Company's Receivables Purchase Agreement ("RPA") and may be used to fund the working capital requirements of the Company and its subsidiaries according to a budget as approved by the required lenders under the DIP Credit Agreement. For additional information on the RPA, see Note F—Accounts Receivable.

Actual borrowings by the Company under the DIP Credit Agreement are subject to a borrowing base, which is a formula based on certain eligible inventory and eligible receivables. The borrowing base formula is reduced by pre–petition obligations under the Fourth Amended and Restated Secured Credit Agreement dated as of February 8, 2007, among the Company and certain of its subsidiaries, Bank of Montreal, as administrative agent, and the lenders parties thereto, as amended, administrative and professional expenses, and the amount owed by the Company and the Debtor Subsidiaries to any person on account of the purchase price of agricultural products or services (including poultry and livestock) if that person is entitled to any grower's or producer's lien or other security arrangement. The borrowing base is also limited to 2.22 times the formula amount of total eligible receivables. As of December 6, 2008, the applicable borrowing base was \$324.8 million and the amount available for borrowings under the DIP Credit Agreement was \$210.9 million.

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The principal amount of outstanding loans under the DIP Credit Agreement, together with accrued and unpaid interest thereon, are payable in full at maturity on December 1, 2009, subject to extension for an additional six months with the approval of all lenders thereunder. All obligations under the DIP Credit Agreement are unconditionally guaranteed by the US Subsidiaries and are secured by a first priority priming lien on substantially all of the assets of the Company and the US Subsidiaries, subject to specified permitted liens in the DIP Credit Agreement.

The DIP Credit Agreement allows the Company to provide advances to the Non-filing Subsidiaries of up to approximately \$25 million at any time outstanding. Management believes that all of the Non-filing Subsidiaries, including the Company's Mexican subsidiaries, will be able to operate within this limitation.

For additional information on the DIP Credit Agreement, see Note L-Notes Payable and Long-Term Debt.

The Bankruptcy Court has approved payment of certain of the Debtors' pre-petition obligations, including, among other things, employee wages, salaries and benefits, and the Bankruptcy Court has approved the Company's payment of vendors and other providers in the ordinary course for goods and services received from and after the Petition Date and other business-related payments necessary to maintain the operation of our businesses. The Debtors have retained, subject to Bankruptcy Court approval, legal and financial professionals to advise the Debtors on the bankruptcy proceedings and certain other "ordinary course" professionals. From time to time, the Debtors may seek Bankruptcy Court approval for the retention of additional professionals.

Shortly after the Petition Date, the Debtors began notifying all known current or potential creditors of the Chapter 11 filing. Subject to certain exceptions under the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtors' Chapter 11 filing automatically enjoined, or stayed, the continuation of any judicial or administrative proceedings or other actions against the Debtors or their property to recover on, collect or secure a claim arising prior to the Petition Date. Thus, for example, most creditor actions to obtain possession of property from the Debtors, or to create, perfect or enforce any lien against the property of the Debtors, or to collect on monies owed or otherwise exercise rights or remedies with respect to a pre–petition claim are enjoined unless and until the Bankruptcy Court lifts the automatic stay. Vendors are being paid for goods furnished and services provided after the Petition Date in the ordinary course of business.

As required by the Bankruptcy Code, the United States Trustee for the Northern District of Texas appointed an official committee of unsecured creditors (the "Creditors' Committee"). The Creditors' Committee and its legal representatives have a right to be heard on all matters that come before the Bankruptcy Court with respect to the Debtors. There can be no assurance that the Creditors' Committee will support the Debtors' positions on matters to be presented to the Bankruptcy Court in the future or on any plan of reorganization, once proposed. Disagreements between the Debtors and the Creditors' Committee could protract the Chapter 11 proceedings, negatively impact the Debtors' ability to operate and delay the Debtors' emergence from the Chapter 11 proceedings.

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Under Section 365 and other relevant sections of the Bankruptcy Code, we may assume, assume and assign, or reject certain executory contracts and unexpired leases, including, without limitation, leases of real property and equipment, subject to the approval of the Bankruptcy Court and certain other conditions. Any description of an executory contract or unexpired lease in this report, including where applicable our express termination rights or a quantification of our obligations, must be read in conjunction with, and is qualified by, any overriding rejection rights we have under Section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code.

In order to successfully exit Chapter 11, the Debtors will need to propose, and obtain confirmation by the Bankruptcy Court of a plan of reorganization that satisfies the requirements of the Bankruptcy Code. A plan of reorganization would, among other things, resolve the Debtors' pre-petition obligations, set forth the revised capital structure of the newly reorganized entity and provide for corporate governance subsequent to exit from bankruptcy.

The Debtors have the exclusive right for 120 days after the Petition Date to file a plan of reorganization and, if we do so, 60 additional days to obtain necessary acceptances of our plan. We will likely file one or more motions to request extensions of these time periods. If the Debtors' exclusivity period lapsed, any party in interest would be able to file a plan of reorganization for any of the Debtors. In addition to being voted on by holders of impaired claims and equity interests, a plan of reorganization must satisfy certain requirements of the Bankruptcy Code and must be approved, or confirmed, by the Bankruptcy Court in order to become effective.

The timing of filing a plan of reorganization by us will depend on the timing and outcome of numerous other ongoing matters in the Chapter 11 proceedings. There can be no assurance at this time that a plan of reorganization will be confirmed by the Bankruptcy Court or that any such plan will be implemented successfully.

We have incurred and will continue to incur significant costs associated with our reorganization. The amount of these costs, which are being expensed as incurred commencing in November 2008, are expected to significantly affect our results of operations.

Under the priority scheme established by the Bankruptcy Code, unless creditors agree otherwise, pre–petition liabilities and post–petition liabilities must be satisfied in full before stockholders are entitled to receive any distribution or retain any property under a plan of reorganization. The ultimate recovery to creditors and/or stockholders, if any, will not be determined until confirmation of a plan or plans of reorganization. No assurance can be given as to what values, if any, will be ascribed in the Chapter 11 cases to each of these constituencies or what types or amounts of distributions, if any, they would receive. A plan of reorganization could result in holders of our liabilities and/or securities, including our common stock, receiving no distribution on account of their interests and cancellation of their holdings. Because of such possibilities, the value of our liabilities and securities, including our common stock, is highly speculative. Appropriate caution should be exercised with respect to existing and future investments in any of the liabilities and/or securities of the Debtors. At this time there is no assurance we will be able to restructure as a going concern or successfully propose or implement a plan of reorganization.

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Going Concern Matters

The accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared assuming that the Company will continue as a going concern. However, there is substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern based on the factors previously discussed. The Consolidated Financial Statements do not include any adjustments related to the recoverability and classification of recorded assets or the amounts and classification of liabilities or any other adjustments that might be necessary should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern. The Company's ability to continue as a going concern is dependent upon the ability of the Company to return to historic levels of profitability and, in the near term, restructure its obligations in a manner that allows it to obtain confirmation of a plan of reorganization by the Bankruptcy Court.

Management is addressing the Company's ability to return to profitability by conducting profitability reviews at certain facilities in an effort to reduce inefficiencies and manufacturing costs. The Company reduced production capacity in the near term by closing two production complexes and consolidating operations at a third production complex into its other facilities. This action resulted in a headcount reduction of approximately 2,300 production employees. Subsequent to September 27, 2008, the Company also reduced headcount by 335 non-production employees.

On November 7, 2008, the Board of Directors appointed a Chief Restructuring Officer ("CRO") for the Company. The appointment of a CRO was a requirement included in the waivers received from the Company's lenders on October 27, 2008. The CRO will assist the Company with cost reduction initiatives, restructuring plans development and long–term liquidity improvement. The CRO reports to the Board of Directors of the Company.

In order to emerge from bankruptcy, the Company will need to obtain alternative financing to replace the DIP Credit Agreement and to satisfy the secured claims of its pre-bankruptcy creditors.

NOTE B—SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and its majority owned subsidiaries. We eliminate all significant affiliate accounts and transactions upon consolidation.

The Company reports on the basis of a 52/53-week year that ends on the Saturday closest to September 30. As a result, 2008, 2007, and 2006 each had 52 weeks

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The Company re-measures the financial statements of its Mexico subsidiaries as if the US dollar were the functional currency. Accordingly, we translate assets and liabilities, other than non-monetary assets, of the Mexico subsidiaries at current exchange rates. We translate non-monetary assets using the historical exchange rate in effect on the date of each asset's acquisition. We translate income and expenses at average exchange rates in effect during the period. Currency exchange gains or losses are included in the line item Other Expenses (Income) in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Accounting Adjustments and Reclassifications

In 2006, the Company recognized tax-effected costs totaling \$4.6 million related to events that occurred prior to 2006 affecting the Pilgrim's Pride Retirement Plan for Union Employees and certain postretirement obligations in Mexico. The Company believes these costs, considered individually and in the aggregate, are not material to our Consolidated Financial Statements for 2006.

We have made certain reclassifications to the 2007 and 2006 Consolidated Financial Statements with no impact to reported net income (loss) in order to conform to the 2008 presentation.

Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognized upon shipment and transfer of ownership of the product to the customer and is recorded net of estimated incentive offerings including special pricing agreements, promotions and other volume-based incentives. Revisions to these estimates are charged back to net sales in the period in which the facts that give rise to the revision become known.

Shipping and Handling Costs

Costs associated with the products shipped to customers are recognized in cost of sales.

Cash Equivalents

The Company considers highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

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Current and Long-Term Investments

The Company's current and long-term investments consist primarily of investment-grade debt and equity securities, bond and equity mutual funds, and insurance contracts. The investment-grade debt and equity securities as well as the bond and equity mutual funds are classified as available-for-sale. These securities are recorded at fair value, and unrealized holding gains and losses are recorded, net of tax, as a separate component of accumulated other comprehensive income. Debt securities with remaining maturities of less than one year and those identified by management at the time of purchase for funding operations in less than one year are classified as current. Debt securities with remaining maturities greater than one year that management has not identified at the time of purchase for funding operations in less than one year are classified as long-term. All equity securities are classified as long-term. Unrealized losses are charged against net earnings when a decline in fair value is determined to be other than temporary. Management reviews several factors to determine whether a loss is other than temporary, such as the length of time a security is in an unrealized loss position, the extent to which fair value is less than amortized cost, the impact of changing interest rates in the short and long term, and the Company's intent and ability to hold the security for a period of time sufficient to allow for any anticipated recovery in fair value. The Company determines the cost of each security sold and each amount reclassified out of accumulated other comprehensive income into earnings using the specific identification method. Purchases and sales are recorded on a trade date basis. The insurance contracts are held in the Company's deferred compensation trusts. They are recorded at fair value with the gains and losses resulting from changes in fair value immediately recognized in earnings.

Investments in joint ventures and entities in which the Company has an ownership interest greater than 50% and exercises control over the venture are consolidated in the Consolidated Financial Statements. Minority interests in the years presented, amounts of which are not material, are included in the line item Other Long—Term Liabilities in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Investments in joint ventures and entities in which the Company has an ownership interest between 20% and 50% and exercises significant influence are accounted for using the equity method. The Company owns a 49% interest in Merit Provisions LLC ("Merit") that it consolidates because the Company provided financial support to the entity that owns a 51% interest in Merit. The operations of Merit are not significant to the Company as a whole at this time. The Company invests from time to time in ventures in which it sownership interest is less than 20% and over which it does not exercise significant influence. Such investments are accounted for under the cost method. The fair values for investments not traded on a quoted exchange are estimated based upon the historical performance of the ventures, the ventures' forecasted financial performance and management's evaluation of the ventures' viability and business models. To the extent the book value of an investment exceeds its assessed fair value, the Company will record an appropriate impairment charge. Thus, the carrying value of the Company's investments approximates fair value.

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Accounts Receivable

The Company records accounts receivable upon shipment and transfer of ownership of its products to customers. We record an allowance for doubtful accounts, reducing our receivables balance to an amount we estimate is collectible from our customers. Estimates used in determining the allowance for doubtful accounts are based on historical collection experience, current trends, aging of accounts receivable, and periodic credit evaluations of our customers' financial condition. We write off accounts receivable when it becomes apparent, based upon age or customer circumstances, that such amounts will not be collected. Generally, the Company does not require collateral for its accounts receivable.

Inventories

Live poultry inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market and breeder hens at the lower of cost, less accumulated amortization, or market. The costs associated with breeder hens are accumulated up to the production stage and amortized over the productive lives using the unit-of-production method. Finished poultry products, feed, eggs and other inventories are stated at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out method) or market. We record valuations and adjustments for our inventory and for estimated obsolescence at or equal to the difference between the cost of inventory and the estimated market value based upon known conditions affecting the inventory's obsolescence, including significantly aged products, discontinued product lines, or damaged or obsolete products. We allocate meat costs between our various finished poultry products based on a by-product costing technique that reduces the cost of the whole bird by estimated yields and amounts to be recovered for certain by-product parts, primarily including leg quarters, wings, tenders and offal, which are carried in inventory at the estimated recovery amounts, with the remaining amount being reflected as our breast meat cost. Generally, the Company performs an evaluation of whether any lower-of-cost-or-market adjustments are required at the segment level based on a number of factors, including (i) pools of related inventory, (ii) product age, condition and continuation or discontinuation, (iii) estimated market selling prices and (iv) expected distribution channels. If actual market conditions or other factors are less favorable than those projected by management, additional inventory adjustments may be required.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost, and repair and maintenance costs are expensed as incurred. Depreciation is computed using the straight–line method over the estimated useful lives of these assets. Estimated useful lives for building, machinery and equipment are 5 years to 33 years and for automobiles and trucks are 3 years to 10 years. The charge to income resulting from amortization of assets recorded under capital leases is included with depreciation expense.

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The Company recognizes impairment charges on long—lived assets used in operations when events and circumstances indicate that the assets may be impaired and the undiscounted cash flows estimated to be generated by those assets are less than the carrying amount of those assets. The impairment charge is determined based upon the amount the net book value of the assets exceeds their fair market value. In making these determinations, the Company utilizes certain assumptions, including, but not limited to (i) future cash flows estimates expected to be generated by these assets, which are based on additional assumptions such as asset utilization, remaining length of service and estimated salvage values; (ii) estimated fair market value of the assets; and facilities

Given the interdependency of the Company's individual facilities during the production process, which operate as a vertically integrated network, and the fact that the Company does not price transfers of inventory between its vertically integrated facilities at market prices, it evaluates impairment of assets held and used at the country level (i.e., the US and Mexico) within each segment. Management believes this is the lowest level of identifiable cash flows for its assets that are held and used in production activities. At the present time, the Company's forecasts indicate that it can recover the carrying value of its assets based on the projected cash flows of the operations. A key assumption in management's forecast is that the Company's sales volumes will return to historical margins as supply and demand between commodities and chicken and other animal—based proteins become more balanced. However, the exact timing of the return to historical margins is not certain, and if the return to historical margins is delayed, impairment charges could become necessary in the future.

Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

Our intangible assets consist of goodwill and assets subject to amortization such as trade names, customer relationships and non-compete agreements. We calculate amortization of those assets that are subject to amortization on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the related assets. The useful lives range from three years for trade names and non-compete agreements to thirteen years for customer relationships.

We evaluate goodwill for impairment annually or at other times if events have occurred or circumstances exist that indicate the carrying value of goodwill may no longer be recoverable. We compare the fair value of each reporting unit to its carrying value. We determine the fair value using a weighted average of results derived from both the income approach and the market approach. Under the income approach, we calculate the fair value of a reporting unit based on the present value of estimated future cash flows. Under the market approach, we calculate the fair value of a reporting unit based on the market values of key competitors. If the fair value of the reporting unit exceeds the carrying value of the net assets including goodwill assigned to that unit, goodwill is not impaired. If the carrying value of the reporting unit's net assets including goodwill exceeds the fair value of the reporting unit, then we determine the implied fair value of the reporting unit's goodwill. If the carrying value of a reporting unit's goodwill exceeds its implied fair value, then an impairment of goodwill has occurred and we recognize an impairment loss for the difference between the carrying amount and the implied fair value of goodwill as a component of operating income.

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We review intangible assets subject to amortization for impairment whenever an event or change in circumstances indicates the carrying values of the assets may not be recoverable. We test intangible assets subject to amortization for impairment and estimate their fair values using the same assumptions and techniques we employ on property, plant and equipment.

Litigation and Contingent Liabilities

The Company is subject to lawsuits, investigations and other claims related to employment, environmental, product, and other matters. The Company is required to assess the likelihood of any adverse judgments or outcomes, as well as potential ranges of probable losses, to these matters. The Company estimates the amount of reserves required, including anticipated cost of defense, if any, for these contingencies when losses are determined to be probable and after considerable analysis of each individual issue. With respect to our environmental remediation obligations, the accrual for environmental remediation liabilities is measured on an undiscounted basis. These reserves may change in the future due to changes in the Company's assumptions, the effectiveness of strategies, or other factors beyond the Company's control.

Accrued Self Insurance

Insurance expense for casualty claims and employee—related health care benefits are estimated using historical and current experience and actuarial estimates. Stop—loss coverage is maintained with third—party insurers to limit the Company's total exposure. Certain categories of claim liabilities are actuarially determined. The assumption used to arrive at periodic expenses is reviewed regularly by management. However, actual expenses could differ from these estimates and could result in adjustments to be recognized.

Income Taxes

The provision for income taxes has been determined using the asset and liability approach of accounting for income taxes. Under this approach, deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effect of temporary differences between the book and tax bases of recorded assets and liabilities, net operating losses and tax credit carry forwards. The amount of deferred tax on these temporary differences is determined using the tax rates expected to apply to the period when the asset is realized or the liability is settled, as applicable, based on the tax rates and laws in the respective tax jurisdiction enacted as of the balance sheet date.

The Company reviews its deferred tax assets for recoverability and establishes a valuation allowance based on historical taxable income, projected future taxable income, applicable tax strategies, and the expected timing of the reversals of existing temporary differences. A valuation allowance is provided when it is more likely than not that some or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. Valuation allowances have been established primarily for US federal and state net operating loss carry forwards and Mexico net operating loss carry forwards. See Note M—Income Taxes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

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Taxes are provided for foreign subsidiaries based on the assumption that their earnings will be indefinitely reinvested. As such, US deferred income taxes have not been provided on these earnings. If such earnings were not considered indefinitely reinvested, certain deferred foreign and US income taxes would be provided.

On September 30, 2007, and effective for our year ended 2008, we adopted the provisions of FASB Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes – an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 ("FIN 48"). FIN 48 provides a recognition threshold and measurement criteria for the financial statement recognition of a tax benefit taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. Tax benefits are recognized only when it is more likely than not, based on the technical merits, that the benefits will be sustained on examination. Tax benefits that meet the more–likely–than–not recognition threshold are measured using a probability weighting of the largest amount of tax benefit that is greater than 50% likely of being realized upon settlement. Whether the more–likely–than–not recognition threshold is met for a particular tax benefit is a matter of judgment based on the individual facts and circumstances evaluated in light of all available evidence as of the balance sheet date. See Note M—Income Taxes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Pension and Other Postretirement Benefits

Our pension and other postretirement benefit costs and obligations are dependent on the various actuarial assumptions used in calculating such amounts. These assumptions relate to discount rates, salary growth, long-term return on plan assets, health care cost trend rates and other factors. We base the discount rate assumptions on current investment yields on high-quality corporate long-term bonds. The salary growth assumptions reflect our long-term actual experience and future or near-term outlook. We determine the long-term return on plan assets based on historical portfolio results and management's expectation of the future economic environment. Our health care cost trend assumptions are developed based on historical cost data, the near-term outlook and an assessment of likely long-term trends. Actual results that differ from our assumptions are accumulated and, if in excess of the lesser of 10% of the projected benefit obligation or the fair market value of plan assets, amortized over the estimated future working life of the plan participants.

Business Combinations

The Company allocates the total purchase price in connection with acquisitions to assets and liabilities based upon their estimated fair values. For significant acquisitions, the Company has historically relied upon the use of third–party valuation experts to assist in the estimation of the fair values of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets other than goodwill. Historically, the carrying value of acquired accounts receivable, inventory and accounts payable have approximated their fair value as of the date of acquisition, though adjustments are made within purchase price accounting to the extent needed to record such assets and liabilities at fair value. With respect to accrued liabilities, the Company uses all available information to make its best estimate of the fair value of the acquired liabilities and, when necessary, may rely upon the use of third–party actuarial experts to assist in the estimation of fair value for certain liabilities, primarily pension and self–insurance accruals.

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Operating Leases

Rent expense for operating leases is recorded on a straight—line basis over the lease term unless the lease contains an escalation clause which is not fixed and determinable. The lease term begins when we have the right to control the use of the leased property, which is typically before rent payments are due under the terms of the lease. If a lease has a fixed and determinable escalation clause, the difference between rent expense and rent paid is recorded as deferred rent and is included in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Rent for operating leases that do not have an escalation clause or where escalation is based on an inflation index is expensed over the lease term as it is payable.

Derivative Financial Instruments

The Company attempts to mitigate certain financial exposures, including commodity purchase exposures and interest rate risk, through a program of risk management that includes the use of derivative financial instruments. We recognize all derivative financial instruments in the Consolidated Balance Sheets at fair value.

We have elected not to designate derivative financial instruments executed to mitigate commodity purchase exposures as hedges of forecasted transactions or of the variability of cash flows to be received or paid related to recognized assets or liabilities ("cash flow hedges"). Therefore, we recognize changes in the fair value of these derivative financial instruments immediately in earnings. Gains or losses related to these derivative financial instruments are included in the line item Cost of sales in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. We generally do not attempt to mitigate price change exposure on anticipated commodities transactions beyond 18 months.

We occasionally execute derivative financial instruments to manage exposure to interest rate risk. In particular, we executed a Treasury lock instrument in 2007 to "lock in", or secure, the Treasury rate that served as the basis for the pricing of a prospective public debt issue. A "treasury lock" is a synthetic forward sale of a US Treasury note or bond that is settled in cash based upon the difference between an agreed upon Treasury rate and the prevailing Treasury rate at settlement. We designated the lock instrument as a cash flow hedge and recognized changes in the fair value of the instrument in accumulated other comprehensive income until the prospective public debt issue occurred. Once the public debt was issued, we began recognizing the change in the fair value of the lock instrument as an adjustment to interest expense over the term of the related debt.

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Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The asset (liability) amounts recorded in the Consolidated Balance Sheet (carrying amounts) and the estimated fair values of financial instruments at September 27, 2008 consisted of the following:

| | Carrying Amount | Fair Value | Reference |
|--|-----------------|------------|-----------|
| | (In thou | isands) | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 61,553 | \$ 61,553 | |
| Investments in available–for–sale securities | 66,293 | 66,293 | Note H |
| Accounts receivable | 144,156 | 144,156 | Note F |
| Derivative financial instruments | (17,968) | (17,968) | Note O |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | (827,710) | (827,710) | Note K |
| Public debt obligations | (656,996) | (371,206) | Note L |
| Non-public credit facilities | (1.284.987) | (a) | Note L |

(a) Management also expects that the fair value of our non-public credit facilities has also decreased, but cannot reliably estimate the fair value at this time.

The carrying amounts of our cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and certain other liabilities approximate their fair values due to their relatively short maturities. The Company adjusts its investments to fair value based on quoted market prices. Derivative financial instruments are adjusted to fair value at least once each quarter using inputs that are readily available in public markets or can be derived from information available in public markets.

Concentrations of Various Risks

The Company's financial instruments that are exposed to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of cash equivalents, investment securities, derivative financial instruments and trade accounts receivable. The Company's cash equivalents and investment securities are high–quality debt and equity securities placed with major banks and financial institutions. Our derivative financial instruments are generally exchange–traded futures or options contracts placed with major financial institutions. The Company's trade accounts receivable are generally unsecured. Credit evaluations are performed on all significant customers and updated as circumstances dictate. Concentrations of credit risk with respect to trade accounts receivable are limited due to the large number of customers and their dispersion across geographic areas. With the exception of one customer that accounts for approximately 13% of trade accounts receivable at September 27, 2008 and approximately 11% of net sales for 2008 primarily related to our chicken segment, the Company does not believe it has significant concentrations of credit risk in its trade accounts receivable.

At September 27, 2008, approximately 33% of the Company's employees were covered under collective bargaining agreements and approximately 26% of the employees covered under collective bargaining agreements are covered under agreements that will expire in 2009. We have not experienced any work stoppage at any location in over five years. We believe our relations with our employees are satisfactory. At any given time, we will be in some stage of contract negotiation with various collective bargaining units.

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Net Income (Loss) per Common Share

Net income (loss) per common share is based on the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the year. The weighted average number of shares outstanding (basic and diluted) included herein were 69,337,326 shares in 2008 and 66,555,733 shares in both 2007 and 2006.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the US requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. We make significant estimates in regard to receivables collectibility; inventory valuation; realization of deferred tax assets; valuation of long—lived assets, including goodwill; valuation of contingent liabilities and self insurance liabilities; valuation of pension and other postretirement benefits obligations; and valuation of acquired businesses.

Pending Adoption of Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 157, Fair Value Measurements. This Statement defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS No. 157 does not require any new fair value measurements. However, for some enterprises, the application of this Statement will change current practice. The Company must adopt SFAS No. 157 in the first quarter of fiscal 2009. The adoption of SFAS No. 157 will not require material modification of our fair value measurements and will be substantially limited to expanded disclosures in the notes to our Consolidated Financial Statements.

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In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141(R), Business Combinations. This Statement improves the relevance, representational faithfulness, and comparability of the information that a reporting entity provides in its financial reports about a business combination and its effects by establishing principles and requirements for how the acquirer (i) recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any noncontrolling interest in the acquiree, (ii) recognizes and measures the goodwill acquired in the business combination or a gain from a bargain purchase, and (iii) determines what information to disclose to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination. The Company must apply prospectively SFAS No. 141(R) to business combinations for which the acquisition date occurs during or subsequent to the first quarter of 2010. The impact that adoption of SFAS No. 141(R) will have on the Company's financial condition, results of operations and cash flows is dependent upon many factors. Such factors would include, among others, the fair values of the assets acquired and the liabilities assumed in any applicable business combination, the amount of any costs the Company would incur as the result of any applicable business combination. Thus, we cannot accurately predict the effect SFAS No. 141(R) will have on future acquisitions at this time.

In December 2007, the FASB also issued SFAS No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements—an amendment of ARB No. 51. This Statement improves the relevance, comparability, and transparency of the financial information that a reporting entity provides in its consolidated financial statements by establishing accounting and reporting standards for how that reporting entity (i) identifies, labels and presents in its consolidated statement of financial position the ownership interests in subsidiaries held by parties other than itself, (ii) identifies and presents on the face of its consolidated statement of operations the amount of consolidated net income attributable to itself and to the noncontrolling interest, (iii) accounts for changes in its ownership interest while it retains a controlling financial interest in a subsidiary, (iv) initially measures any retained noncontrolling equity investment in a subsidiary that is deconsolidated, and (v) discloses other information about its interests and the interests of the noncontrolling owners. The Company must apply prospectively the accounting requirements of SFAS No. 160 in the first quarter of 2010. The Company should also apply retroactively the presentation and disclosure requirements of the Statement for all periods presented at that time. The Company does not expect the adoption of SFAS No. 160 will have a material impact on its financial position, financial performance or cash flows.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161, Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities—an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133. This Statement changes the disclosure requirements for derivative instruments and hedging activities. Entities are required to provide enhanced disclosures about (i) how and why an entity uses derivative instruments, (ii) how derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for under Statement 133 and its related interpretations, and (iii) how derivative instruments and related hedged items affect an entity's financial position, financial performance, and cash flows. The Company must apply the requirements of SFAS No. 161 in the first quarter of 2010. The Company does not expect the adoption of SFAS No. 161 will have a material impact on its financial position, financial performance or cash flows.