

DEERE & CO  
Form 10-K  
December 19, 2014  
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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 10-K**

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ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)  
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2014

Commission file number 1-4121

**DEERE & COMPANY**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State of incorporation)

**36-2382580**  
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**One John Deere Place, Moline, Illinois**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**61265**  
(Zip Code)

**(309) 765-8000**  
(Telephone Number)

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OF THE ACT

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Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common stock, \$1 par value	New York Stock Exchange
8-1/2% Debentures Due 2022	New York Stock Exchange
6.55% Debentures Due 2028	New York Stock Exchange

**SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(g) OF THE ACT: NONE**

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act.

Yes  No

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

Yes  No

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

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

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

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer   
Non-accelerated filer  Smaller reporting company   
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

Yes  No

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The aggregate quoted market price of voting stock of registrant held by non-affiliates at April 30, 2014 was \$33,868,403,039. At November 30, 2014, 344,295,604 shares of common stock, \$1 par value, of the registrant were outstanding. *Documents Incorporated by Reference*. Portions of the proxy statement for the annual meeting of stockholders to be held on February 25, 2015 are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K.

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ITEM 1. BUSINESS.

**Products**

Deere & Company (the Company) and its subsidiaries (collectively, John Deere) have operations that are categorized into three major business segments.

The *agriculture and turf* segment primarily manufactures and distributes a full line of agriculture and turf equipment and related service parts including large, medium and utility tractors; loaders; combines, corn pickers, cotton and sugarcane harvesters and related front-end equipment and sugarcane loaders; tillage, seeding and application equipment, including sprayers, nutrient management and soil preparation machinery; hay and forage equipment, including self-propelled forage harvesters and attachments, balers and mowers; turf and utility equipment, including riding lawn equipment and walk-behind mowers, golf course equipment, utility vehicles, and commercial mowing equipment, along with a broad line of associated implements; integrated agricultural management systems technology and solutions; and other outdoor power products.

The *construction and forestry* segment primarily manufactures and distributes a broad range of machines and service parts used in construction, earthmoving, material handling and timber harvesting including backhoe loaders; crawler dozers and loaders; four-wheel-drive loaders; excavators; motor graders; articulated dump trucks; landscape loaders; skid-steer loaders; and log skidders, feller bunchers, log loaders, log forwarders, log harvesters and related attachments.

The products and services produced by the segments above are marketed primarily through independent retail dealer networks and major retail outlets.

The *financial services* segment primarily finances sales and leases by John Deere dealers of new and used agriculture and turf equipment and construction and forestry equipment. In addition, the financial services segment provides wholesale financing to dealers of the foregoing equipment, finances retail revolving charge accounts and offers crop risk-mitigation products and extended equipment warranties.

John Deere's worldwide agriculture and turf operations and construction and forestry operations are sometimes collectively referred to as the equipment operations. The financial services segment is sometimes referred to as the financial services operations.

Additional information is presented in the discussion of business segment and geographic area results on page 22. The John Deere enterprise has manufactured agricultural machinery since 1837. The present Company was incorporated under the laws of Delaware in 1958.

The Company's internet address is <http://www.JohnDeere.com>. Through that address, the Company's annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports are available free of charge as soon as reasonably

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practicable after they are filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (Securities and Exchange Commission or Commission). The information contained on the Company's website is not included in, or incorporated by reference into, this annual report on Form 10-K.

### **Market Conditions and Outlook**

The Company's equipment sales are projected to decrease about 15 percent for fiscal year 2015 and decrease about 21 percent for the first quarter, compared with the same periods of 2014. For fiscal year 2015, net income attributable to Deere & Company is anticipated to be about \$1.9 billion.

*Agriculture & Turf.* The Company's worldwide sales of agriculture and turf equipment are forecast to decrease by about 20 percent for fiscal year 2015 as a result of weaker conditions in the global farm economy. Lower commodity prices and falling farm incomes are putting pressure on demand for agricultural machinery, especially for larger models. Conditions are more positive in the U.S. livestock sector, providing support to the sale of smaller sizes of equipment. Based on these factors, industry sales for agricultural machinery in the U.S. and Canada are forecast to be down 25 to 30 percent for 2015.

Industry sales in the European Union (EU) 28 nations are forecast to decrease about 10 percent due to lower crop prices and farm incomes as well as potential pressure on the dairy sector. In South America, industry sales of tractors and combines are projected to decrease about 10 percent as a result of the headwinds affecting agricultural producers. Industry sales in the Commonwealth of Independent States are expected to deteriorate further due in part to tight credit conditions. Asian sales are projected to decrease slightly, with most of the decline centered in China.

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U.S. and Canada industry sales of turf and utility equipment are expected to be the same to up 5 percent for 2015, benefitting from general economic growth.

*Construction & Forestry.* The Company's worldwide sales of construction and forestry equipment are forecast to increase by about 5 percent for 2015. The gain reflects further economic recovery and higher housing starts in the U.S. as well as sales increases outside the U.S. and Canada. Global forestry sales are expected to be about the same as the attractive levels of 2014.

*Financial Services.* Fiscal-year 2015 net income attributable to Deere & Company for the financial services operations is expected to be approximately \$610 million. The outlook reflects a decline from 2014 due primarily to an expected increase in the provision for credit losses, versus the low level of 2014, and a less favorable tax rate. These factors are projected to be partially offset by growth in the credit portfolio and higher crop insurance margins.

**2014 Consolidated Results Compared with 2013**

Worldwide net income attributable to Deere & Company in 2014 was \$3,162 million, or \$8.63 per share diluted (\$8.71 basic), compared with \$3,537 million, or \$9.09 per share diluted (\$9.18 basic), in 2013. Net sales and revenues decreased 5 percent to \$36,067 million in 2014, compared with \$37,795 million in 2013. Net sales of the equipment operations decreased 6 percent in 2014 to \$32,961 million from \$34,998 million last year. The sales decrease was largely due to lower shipment volumes and an unfavorable foreign currency translation effect of 1 percent, partially offset by price realization of 2 percent. Net sales in the U.S. and Canada decreased 8 percent in 2014. Net sales outside the U.S. and Canada decreased 3 percent in 2014, which included an unfavorable effect of 1 percent for foreign currency translation.

Worldwide equipment operations had an operating profit of \$4,297 million in 2014, compared with \$5,058 million in 2013. The operating profit decline was due primarily to the impact of lower shipment and production volumes, a less favorable product mix, the unfavorable effects of foreign currency exchange and higher production costs primarily related to the impact of engine emission programs. The decline was partially offset by price realization. Last year's results were also affected by impairment charges for the company's John Deere Landscapes and John Deere Water operations.

The equipment operations' net income was \$2,548 million in 2014, compared with \$2,974 million in 2013. The same operating factors mentioned above affected these results.

Net income of the financial services operations attributable to Deere & Company in 2014 increased to \$624 million, compared with \$565 million in 2013. The improvement was due primarily to growth in the credit portfolio, a more favorable effective tax rate, partially offset by lower crop insurance margins, higher selling, administrative and general expenses and a higher provision for credit losses. Additional information is presented in the discussion of the Worldwide Financial Services Operations on page 22.

The cost of sales to net sales ratio for 2014 was 75.2 percent, compared with 73.3 percent last year. The increase was due primarily to a less favorable product mix, the unfavorable effects of foreign currency exchange and higher production costs largely related to engine emission

requirements, partially offset by price realization.

Additional information on 2014 results is presented on pages 21-23.

## **EQUIPMENT OPERATIONS**

### **Agriculture and Turf**

The John Deere agriculture and turf segment manufactures and distributes a full line of agriculture and turf equipment and related service parts. The segment's global operating model is designed to enable faster geographic growth and increase the segment's competitiveness. Under this model, the segment consolidates all markets into four geographical customer focus areas to facilitate deep customer understanding and deliver better customer service. The segment's equipment operations are consolidated into five product platforms—crop harvesting (combines, corn pickers, cotton and sugarcane harvesters and related front-end equipment and sugarcane loaders); turf and utility (utility vehicles, riding lawn equipment, walk-behind mowers, commercial mowing equipment, golf course equipment, implements for mowing, tilling, snow and debris handling, aerating and many other residential, commercial, golf and sports turf care applications and other outdoor power products); hay and forage (self-propelled forage harvesters and attachments, balers and mowers); crop care (tillage, seeding and application equipment, including sprayers, nutrient management and soil preparation machinery); and tractors (loaders and large, medium and utility tractors and related attachments). John Deere also purchases certain products from other manufacturers for resale.



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The segment also provides integrated agricultural business and equipment management systems. John Deere has developed a comprehensive agricultural management systems approach using advanced communications, data collection and global satellite positioning technologies to enable farmers to better control input costs and yields, improve soil conservation, minimize chemical use, and to gather information. John Deere's advanced telematics systems remotely connect agricultural equipment owners, business managers and dealers to agricultural equipment in the field, providing real-time alerts and information about equipment location, utilization, performance and maintenance to improve productivity and efficiency.

In addition to the John Deere brand, the agriculture and turf segment purchases and sells a variety of equipment attachments under the Frontier, Kemper and Green Systems brand names, and manufactures and sells walk-behind mowers and scarifiers in select European countries under the SABO brand name. John Deere manufactures its agriculture and turf equipment for sale primarily through independent retail dealer networks, and also builds products for sale by mass retailers, including The Home Depot and Lowe's.

Sales of agricultural equipment are affected by total farm cash receipts, which reflect levels of farm commodity prices, acreage planted, crop yields and government policies, including the amount and timing of government payments. Sales are also influenced by general economic conditions, farm land prices, farmers' debt levels and access to financing, interest and exchange rates, agricultural trends, including the production of and demand for renewable fuels, labor availability and costs, energy costs and other input costs associated with farming. Other important factors affecting new agricultural equipment sales are the value and level of used equipment, including tractors, harvesting equipment, self-propelled sprayers, hay and forage equipment and seeding equipment. Weather and climatic conditions can also affect buying decisions of agricultural equipment purchasers.

Innovations in machinery and technology also influence agricultural equipment purchasing. For example, larger, more productive equipment is well accepted where farmers are striving for more efficiency in their operations. Large, cost-efficient, highly-mechanized agricultural operations account for an important share of worldwide farm output. The large-size agricultural equipment used on such farms has been particularly important to John Deere. A large proportion of the equipment operations' total agricultural equipment sales in the U.S. and Canada, and a growing proportion of sales in many countries outside the U.S. and Canada, comprises tractors over 100 horsepower, self-propelled combines, self-propelled cotton pickers, self-propelled forage harvesters, self-propelled sprayers and seeding equipment. However, as John Deere expands its business globally, especially in developing countries where demand for smaller equipment is greater, John Deere's sales of small tractors below 100 horsepower are increasing, and John Deere offers a number of harvesting solutions to support development of the mechanized harvesting of grain, oilseeds, cotton, sugar and biomass.

Retail sales of lawn and garden tractors, compact utility tractors, residential and commercial mowers, utility vehicles, and golf and turf equipment are influenced by weather conditions, consumer spending patterns and general economic conditions.

*Seasonality.* Seasonal patterns in retail demand for agricultural equipment result in substantial variations in the volume and mix of products sold to retail customers during the year. Seasonal demand must be estimated in advance, and equipment must be manufactured in anticipation of such demand in order to achieve efficient utilization of manpower and facilities throughout the year. For certain equipment, John Deere offers early order discounts to retail customers. Production schedules are based, in part, on these early order programs. The segment incurs substantial seasonal variation in cash flows to finance production and inventory of agricultural equipment. The segment also incurs costs to finance sales to dealers in advance of seasonal demand. New combine and cotton harvesting equipment has been sold under early order programs with waivers of retail finance charges available to customers who take delivery of machines during off-season periods. In Australia, Canada and the U.S., there are typically several used equipment trade-in transactions as part of most new agricultural equipment sales. To provide support to its dealers for these used equipment trade-ins, John Deere provides dealers in these countries with a pool of funds, awarded to dealers as a percentage of the dealer cost for eligible new equipment sales. Dealers can use these funds to defray the costs of carrying or marketing used equipment inventory or to provide financing incentives to customers purchasing the used equipment.

Retail demand for turf and utility equipment is normally higher in the second and third fiscal quarters. John Deere has pursued a strategy of building and shipping such equipment as close to retail demand as possible. Consequently, to increase asset turnover and reduce the average level of field inventories through the year, production and shipment schedules of these product lines are normally proportionately higher in the second and third fiscal quarters of each year, corresponding closely to the seasonal pattern of retail sales.

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**Construction and Forestry**

John Deere's construction and forestry equipment includes a broad range of backhoe loaders, crawler dozers and loaders, four-wheel-drive loaders, excavators, motor graders, articulated dump trucks, landscape loaders, skid-steer loaders, log skidders, log feller bunchers, log loaders, log forwarders, log harvesters and a variety of attachments. John Deere provides a broad line of construction equipment and the most complete line of forestry machines and attachments available in the world. The construction and forestry machines are distributed under the John Deere brand name, and forestry attachments are distributed under the John Deere and Waratah brand names. In addition to the equipment manufactured by the construction and forestry segment, John Deere purchases certain products from other manufacturers for resale. The segment also provides comprehensive fleet management telematics solutions designed to improve customer productivity and efficiency through access to fleet location, utilization and maintenance information.

The prevailing levels of residential, commercial and public construction and the condition of the forestry products industry influence retail sales of John Deere construction, earthmoving, material handling and forestry equipment. General economic conditions, the level of interest rates, the availability of credit and certain commodity prices such as those applicable to pulp, paper and saw logs also influence sales.

Pursuant to agreements between John Deere and Bell Equipment Limited (Bell), Bell licenses John Deere to manufacture articulated dump trucks in the U.S. for John Deere's distribution under the John Deere brand name in North, Central and South America. John Deere licenses Bell to manufacture and sell certain John Deere-designed construction equipment in specified territories of Africa. Bell is also the distributor of certain John Deere-manufactured construction equipment under the Bell brand and forestry equipment under the John Deere brand in certain territories of Africa. Bell and John Deere have agreed to terminate the articulated dump truck manufacturing and license agreements over the next few years.

John Deere and Hitachi Construction Machinery Co. (Hitachi) have a joint venture for the manufacture of hydraulic excavators and tracked forestry equipment and loaders in the U.S. and Canada and a joint venture for the manufacture of excavators in Brazil. John Deere distributes Hitachi brands of construction and mining equipment in North, Central and South America. John Deere also has supply agreements with Hitachi under which a range of construction, earthmoving, material handling and forestry equipment manufactured by John Deere in the U.S., Finland and New Zealand is distributed by Hitachi in certain Asian markets.

In India, the construction and forestry division manufactures construction equipment branded Leyland Deere through its joint venture with Ashok Leyland Limited, known as Ashok Leyland John Deere Construction Equipment Company Private Limited (ALJD). The division has also established manufacturing capacity for construction equipment in China and Brazil.

The segment has a number of initiatives in the rent-to-rent, or short-term rental, market for construction, earthmoving and material handling equipment. These include specially designed rental programs for John Deere dealers and expanded cooperation with major, national equipment rental companies.

John Deere also owns Nortrax, Inc. that in turn owns Nortrax Canada Inc. that in turn owns Nortrax Quebec Inc. (collectively called Nortrax). Nortrax is an authorized John Deere dealer for construction, earthmoving, material handling and forestry equipment in a variety of markets in the U.S. and Canada. John Deere also owns retail forestry sales operations in Australia, Brazil, Finland, Ireland, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden

and the United Kingdom.

### **Competition**

The equipment operations sell products and services into a variety of highly competitive global and regional markets. The principal competitive factors in all markets include product performance, innovation and quality, distribution, customer service and price. In North America and many other parts of the world, John Deere's brand recognition is a competitive factor.

The competitive environment for the agriculture and turf segment includes some global competitors, including AGCO Corporation, CLAAS KGaA mbH, CNH Global N.V., Kubota Tractor Corporation and The Toro Company and many regional and local competitors. These competitors have varying numbers of product lines competing with the segment's products and each has varying degrees of regional focus. An important part of the competition within the agricultural equipment industry during the past decade has come from a variety of short-line and specialty manufacturers, as well as indigenous regional competitors, with differing manufacturing and marketing methods. Because of industry conditions, including the merger of certain large integrated competitors and the emergence and expanding global capability of many competitors, particularly in emerging and high potential markets such as Brazil, China and India where John Deere seeks to increase market share, the agricultural equipment business continues to undergo significant change and is becoming even more competitive. John Deere has continued to increase its global manufacturing capacity to compete in these markets. The segment's turf equipment is sold primarily in the highly competitive North American and Western European markets. The agriculture and turf segment's global operating model is designed to enhance the segment's competitive

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position by reducing complexity, implementing standard processes and increasing customer focus, speed and flexibility while building on the segment's broad global reach and deep understanding of the agriculture and turf care markets.

The construction and forestry segment operates in highly competitive North American and global markets and is seeking to grow its competitive position in other parts of the world, including Brazil, China, India and Russia. Global competitors of the construction and forestry segment include Caterpillar Inc., Komatsu Ltd., Volvo Construction Equipment (part of Volvo Group AB), CNH Global N.V., Tigercat Industries Inc. and Ponsse Plc. The segment manufactures construction, earthmoving and material handling equipment for over 90 percent of the types of construction equipment used in the U.S. and Canada.

**Engineering and Research**

John Deere invests heavily in engineering and research to improve the quality and performance of its products, to develop new products and to comply with government regulations. Such expenditures were \$1,452 million, or 4.4 percent of net sales, in 2014, \$1,477 million, or 4.2 percent of net sales, in 2013 and \$1,434 million, or 4.3 percent of net sales, in 2012.

**Manufacturing**

*Manufacturing Plants.* In the U.S. and Canada, the equipment operations own and operate 20 factory locations and lease and operate another three locations, which contain approximately 28.3 million square feet of floor space. Of these 23 factories, 14 are devoted primarily to agriculture and turf equipment, four to construction and forestry equipment, one to engines, two to engine and component remanufacturing and two to hydraulic and power train components. Outside the U.S. and Canada, the equipment operations own or lease and operate: agriculture and turf equipment factories in Brazil, China, France, Germany, India, Israel, Mexico, the Netherlands, Russia and Spain; construction equipment factories in Brazil and China; engine factories in Argentina, China, France, India and Mexico; and forestry equipment factories in Finland and New Zealand. These factories and manufacturing operations outside the U.S. and Canada contain approximately 19.5 million square feet of floor space. The engine factories referred to above manufacture non-road, heavy duty diesel engines, a majority of which are manufactured for John Deere's equipment operations. The remaining engines are sold to other regional and global original equipment manufacturers.

The equipment operations also have financial interests in other manufacturing organizations, which include agricultural equipment manufacturers in the U.S., Bell in South Africa, the Hitachi joint venture that builds hydraulic excavators and track log loaders in the U.S. and Canada and the Hitachi joint venture that builds hydraulic excavators in Brazil, the ALJD joint venture that builds backhoes in India and ventures that manufacture transaxles and transmissions used in certain agriculture and turf segment products.

John Deere's facilities are well maintained, in good operating condition and suitable for their present purposes. These facilities, together with both short-term and long-term planned capital expenditures, are expected to meet John Deere's manufacturing needs in the foreseeable future.

Existing capacity is adequate to satisfy John Deere's current expectations for retail market demand. The equipment operations' manufacturing strategy involves the implementation of appropriate levels of technology and automation to allow manufacturing processes to remain profitable

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at varying production levels. Operations are also designed to be flexible enough to accommodate the product design changes required to meet market conditions and changing customer requirements. Common manufacturing facilities and techniques are employed in the production of components for agriculture and turf equipment and construction and forestry equipment.

In order to utilize manufacturing facilities and technology more effectively, the equipment operations pursue continuous improvements in manufacturing processes. These include steps to streamline manufacturing processes and enhance responsiveness to customers. John Deere has implemented flexible assembly lines that can accommodate a wider product mix and deliver products in line with dealer and customer demand. Additionally, considerable effort is being directed to manufacturing cost reduction through process improvement, product design, advanced manufacturing technology, enhanced environmental management systems, supply management and logistics as well as compensation incentives related to productivity and organizational structure. In past years, John Deere has experienced volatility in the price of many raw materials. John Deere has responded to cost pressures by implementing the cost-reduction measures described above and by increasing prices. Significant cost increases, if they occur, could have an adverse effect on the Company's operating results. The equipment operations also pursue external sales of selected parts and components that can be manufactured and supplied to third parties on a competitive basis.

*Capital Expenditures.* The equipment operations' capital expenditures totaled \$1,001 million in 2014, compared with \$1,129 million in 2013 and \$1,357 million in 2012. Provisions for depreciation applicable to these operations' property and equipment during these years were \$690 million, \$630 million and \$549 million, respectively. Capital expenditures for the equipment operations in 2015 are currently estimated to be approximately \$875 million. The 2015 expenditures will relate primarily to the modernization and

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restructuring of key manufacturing facilities, U.S. Tier 4 emission requirements, the construction of new manufacturing facilities and the development of new products. Future levels of capital expenditures will depend on business conditions.

**Patents and Trademarks**

John Deere owns a significant number of patents, trade secrets, licenses and trademarks related to John Deere products and services, and expects the number to grow as John Deere continues to pursue technological innovations. John Deere's policy is to further its competitive position by filing patent applications in the U.S. and internationally to protect technology and improvements considered important to the business. John Deere believes that, in the aggregate, the rights under these patents and licenses are generally important to its operations and competitive position, but does not regard any of its businesses as being dependent upon any single patent or group of patents. However, certain John Deere trademarks, which contribute to John Deere's identity and the recognition of its products and services, including but not limited to the John Deere mark, the leaping deer logo, the "Nothing Runs Like a Deere" slogan, the prefix "JD" associated with many products and green and yellow equipment colors, are an integral part of John Deere's business, and their loss could have a material adverse effect on the Company.

**Marketing**

In the U.S. and Canada, the equipment operations distribute equipment and service parts through the following facilities: two agriculture and turf equipment sales and administration offices located in Olathe, Kansas and Cary, North Carolina and one sales branch located in Grimsby, Ontario; and one construction, earthmoving, material handling and forestry equipment sales and administration office located in Moline, Illinois. In addition, the equipment operations operate a centralized parts distribution warehouse in coordination with eight regional parts depots and distribution centers in the U.S. and Canada.

Through these U.S. and Canadian facilities, John Deere markets products to approximately 2,416 dealer locations, most of which are independently owned and operated. Of these, approximately 1,539 sell agricultural equipment, while approximately 426 sell construction, earthmoving, material handling and/or forestry equipment. Nortrax owns some of the 426 dealer locations. Turf equipment is sold at most John Deere agricultural equipment locations, a few construction, earthmoving, material handling and forestry equipment locations and about 451 turf-only locations, many of which also sell dissimilar lines of non-John Deere products. In addition, certain lawn and garden product lines are sold through The Home Depot and Lowes.

Outside the U.S. and Canada, John Deere agriculture and turf equipment is sold to distributors and dealers for resale in over 100 countries. Sales and administrative offices are located in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, China, France, Germany, India, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom and an administrative office is located in Kenya. Associated companies doing business in China also sell agricultural equipment. Turf equipment sales outside the U.S. and Canada occur primarily in Europe and Australia. Construction, earthmoving, material handling and forestry equipment is sold to distributors and dealers primarily by sales offices located in Australia, Brazil, Finland, Ireland, New Zealand, Russia and Singapore. Some of these dealers are independently owned while John Deere owns others. The equipment operations operate centralized parts distribution warehouses in Brazil, Germany and Russia in coordination with regional parts depots and distribution centers in Argentina, Australia, China, India, Mexico, South Africa, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

John Deere engines are marketed worldwide through select sales branches to large original equipment manufacturers and independently owned engine distributors.

**Raw Materials**

John Deere purchases raw materials and some manufactured components and replacement parts for its equipment, engines and other products from leading suppliers both domestically and internationally. These materials and components include a variety of steel products, steel and iron castings, forgings, plastics, electronics and ready-to-assemble components made to certain specifications. John Deere also purchases various goods and services used in production, logistics, offices and research and development processes. John Deere maintains strategic sourcing models to meet its production needs and build upon long-term supplier relationships. John Deere uses a variety of agreements with suppliers intended to drive innovation, ensure availability and delivery of industry-leading quality raw materials and components, manage costs on a globally competitive basis, protect John Deere's intellectual property and minimize other supply-related risks. Supply chain risks monitored by John Deere to minimize the likelihood of the supply base causing business disruption include supplier financial viability, capacity, business continuity, quality and delivery and weather-related events including natural disasters. In fiscal year 2014, John Deere experienced no significant work stoppages as a result of shortages of raw materials or other commodities.



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**Backlog Orders**

The dollar amount of backlog orders for the agriculture and turf segment believed to be firm was approximately \$3.9 billion at October 31, 2014, compared with \$6.3 billion at October 31, 2013. The agriculture and turf backlog is generally highest in the second and third quarters due to seasonal buying trends in these industries. John Deere generally produces and ships its construction and forestry equipment on average within approximately 60 days after an order is deemed to become firm. Therefore, no significant amount of construction and forestry backlog orders accumulates during any period.

**Trade Accounts and Notes Receivable**

Trade accounts and notes receivable arise primarily from sales of goods to independent dealers. Most trade receivables originated by the equipment operations are purchased by the financial services operations. The equipment operations compensate the financial services operations at approximate market rates of interest for these receivables. Additional information appears in Note 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**

*U.S. and Canada.* The financial services segment primarily provides and administers financing for retail purchases from John Deere dealers of new equipment manufactured by John Deere's agriculture and turf and construction and forestry segments and used equipment taken in trade for this equipment.

The Company and John Deere Construction & Forestry Company (a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company) are referred to as the sales companies. John Deere Capital Corporation (Capital Corporation), a U.S. financial services subsidiary, generally purchases retail installment sales and loan contracts (retail notes) from the sales companies. These retail notes are acquired by the sales companies through John Deere retail dealers in the U.S. John Deere Financial Inc., a Canadian financial services subsidiary, purchases and finances retail notes acquired by John Deere Canada ULC, the Company's Canadian sales branch. The terms of retail notes and the basis on which the financial services operations acquire retail notes from the sales companies are governed by agreements with the sales companies. The financial services segment also finances and services revolving charge accounts, in most cases acquired from and offered through merchants in the agriculture and turf and construction and forestry markets (revolving charge accounts). Additionally, the financial services operations provide wholesale financing for inventories of John Deere agriculture and turf equipment and construction and forestry equipment owned by dealers of those products (wholesale notes). The various financing options offered by the financial services operations are designed to enhance sales of John Deere products and generate financing income for the financial services operations. In the U.S., certain subsidiaries included in the financial services segment offer crop risk mitigation products and certain subsidiaries offer extended equipment warranties. The Company signed an agreement in December 2014 to sell the stock of the Crop Insurance operations (see Note 30).

Retail notes acquired by the sales companies are immediately sold to the financial services operations. The equipment operations are the financial services operations' major source of business, but many retail purchasers of John Deere products finance their purchases outside the John Deere organization through a variety of sources, including commercial banks and finance and leasing companies.

The financial services operations offer retail leases to equipment users in the U.S. A small number of leases are executed with units of local government. Leases are usually written for periods of four months to sixty months, and typically contain an option permitting the customer to purchase the equipment at the end of the lease term. Retail leases are also offered in a generally similar manner to customers in Canada through John Deere Financial Inc. and John Deere Canada ULC.

The financial services operations' terms for financing equipment retail sales (other than smaller items financed with unsecured revolving charge accounts) generally provide for retention of a security interest in the equipment financed. The financial services operations' guidelines for minimum down payments, which vary with the types of equipment and repayment provisions, are generally 10 percent to 30 percent. Finance charges are sometimes waived for specified periods or reduced on certain John Deere products sold or leased in advance of the season of use or in other sales promotions. The financial services operations generally receive compensation from the sales companies at approximate market interest rates for periods during which finance charges are waived or reduced on the retail notes or leases. The cost is accounted for as a deduction in arriving at net sales by the equipment operations.

The Company has an agreement with Capital Corporation to make payments to Capital Corporation such that its ratio of earnings to fixed charges is not less than 1.05 to 1 for any fiscal quarter. For 2014 and 2013, Capital Corporation's ratios were 3.81 to 1 and 3.04 to 1, respectively, and never less than 3.32 to 1 and 2.75 to 1 for any fiscal quarter of 2014 and 2013, respectively. The Company has also committed to continue to own, directly or through one or more wholly-owned subsidiaries, at least 51 percent of the voting shares of capital stock of Capital Corporation and to maintain Capital Corporation's consolidated tangible net worth at not less than \$50 million. The Company's obligations to make payments to Capital Corporation under the agreement are independent of whether Capital

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Corporation is in default on its indebtedness, obligations or other liabilities. Further, the Company's obligations under the agreement are not measured by the amount of Capital Corporation's indebtedness, obligations or other liabilities. The Company's obligations to make payments under this agreement are expressly stated not to be a guaranty of any specific indebtedness, obligation or liability of Capital Corporation and are enforceable only by or in the name of Capital Corporation. No payments were required under this agreement in 2014 or 2013.

*Outside the U.S. and Canada.* The financial services operations also offer financing, primarily for John Deere products, in Australia, Brazil, China, India, New Zealand, Russia, Thailand and in several other countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. In certain areas, financing is offered through cooperation agreements or joint ventures. The manner in which the financial services operations offer financing in these countries is affected by a variety of country specific laws, regulations and customs, including those governing property rights and debtor obligations, that are subject to change and that may introduce greater risk to the financial services operations.

The financial services operations also offer to select customers and dealers credit enhanced international export financing for the purchase of John Deere products.

Additional information on the financial services operations appears on pages 22, 23, 25 and 27.

**ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

John Deere is subject to a wide variety of local, state and federal environmental laws and regulations in the U.S., as well as the environmental laws and regulations of other countries in which John Deere conducts business. John Deere strives to comply and believes it is in compliance in all material respects with applicable laws and regulations. However, failure to comply with these regulations could lead to fines and other penalties. John Deere is involved in the evaluation and clean-up of a limited number of sites but does not expect that these matters or other expenses or liabilities John Deere may incur in connection with any noncompliance with environmental laws or regulations or the cleanup of any additional properties, will have a material adverse effect on the consolidated financial position, results of operations, cash flows or competitive position of John Deere. With respect to acquired properties and businesses or properties and businesses acquired in the future, John Deere conducts due diligence into potential exposure to environmental liabilities, but cannot be certain that it has identified or will identify all adverse environmental conditions. Compliance with these laws and regulations has added, and will continue to add, to the cost of John Deere's products.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has issued increasingly stringent regulations concerning permissible emissions of off-road engines, and governmental agencies throughout the world are similarly enacting more stringent laws to reduce off-road engine emissions. John Deere has achieved and plans to continue to achieve compliance with these regulations through significant investments in the development of new engine technologies and after-treatment systems. Compliance with emissions regulations has added and will continue to add to the cost of John Deere's products.

**EMPLOYEES**

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At October 31, 2014, John Deere had approximately 59,600 full-time employees, including approximately 29,000 employees in the U.S. and Canada. John Deere also retains consultants, independent contractors, and temporary and part-time workers. Unions are certified as bargaining agents for approximately 86 percent of John Deere's U.S. production and maintenance employees. Approximately 11,000 of John Deere's U.S. production and maintenance workers are covered by a collective bargaining agreement with the United Auto Workers (UAW), with an expiration date of October 1, 2015.

Unions also represent the majority of employees at John Deere manufacturing facilities outside the U.S.

### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT

Following are the names and ages of the executive officers of the Company, their positions with the Company and summaries of their backgrounds and business experience. All executive officers are elected or appointed by the Board of Directors and hold office until the annual meeting of the Board of Directors following the annual meeting of stockholders in each year.

<b>Name, age and office (at December 1, 2014), and year elected to office</b>			<b>Principal occupation during last five years other than office of the Company currently held</b>
Samuel R. Allen	61	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer	2010 2009 2010 President and Chief Executive Officer; 2009 President and Chief Operating Officer; 2005 2009 President, Worldwide Construction & Forestry

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James M. Field	51	President, Agriculture & Turf Division-Global Harvesting & Turf Platforms, Americas and Australia	2012	Division and John Deere Power Systems 2009 - 2012, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer; 2007 - 2009 President, Worldwide Commercial & Consumer Equipment Division
Jean H. Gilles	57	Senior Vice President, John Deere Power Systems, Worldwide Parts Services, Advanced Technology & Engineering and Global Supply Management and Logistics	2010	2009 - 2010 Senior Vice President, John Deere Power Systems, John Deere Intelligent Solutions Group and Advanced Technology and Engineering; 2005 - 2009 Senior Vice President, John Deere Power Systems
Max A. Guinn	56	President, Worldwide Construction & Forestry, Global Labor Relations and Security	2014	2012 - 2014 Senior Vice President, Human Resources, Communications, Public Affairs and Labor Relations; 2009 - 2012 Senior Vice President Agriculture & Turf Division, Global Platform, Crop Harvesting; 2006 - 2009 Senior Vice President, Manufacturing & Engineering, Harvesting Equipment
Mary K.W. Jones	46	Senior Vice President and General Counsel	2013	2010 - 2013 Vice President Global Human Resources; 2009 - 2010 Director, Global Human Resources Deployment; 2008 - 2009 Director, Regional Human Resources and Shared Services
Rajesh Kalathur	46	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	2012	2012 Assistant Financial Officer; 2009 - 2012 Vice President, Sales & Marketing, China/India/South and East Asia/Sub-Saharan and South Africa, Agriculture & Turf Division; 2006 - 2009 Managing Director and CEO, John Deere India Private Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company
Michael J. Mack, Jr.	58	Group President, John Deere Financial Services, Global Human Resources and Public Affairs	2014	2009 - 2014 President, Worldwide Construction & Forestry Division; 2006 - 2009 Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
John C. May	45	President, Agricultural Solutions & Chief Information Officer	2012	2009 - 2012 Vice President, Agriculture & Turf Global Platform, Turf & Utility; 2007 - 2009 Factory Manager, John Deere Dubuque Works
Markwart von Pentz	51	President, Agriculture & Turf Division-Europe, Asia, Africa, and Global Tractor Platform	2012	2009 - 2012 President, Agriculture & Turf Division-Europe, CIS, Northern Africa, Middle East, Latin America, and Global Harvesting, Crop Care, Hay & Forage Products; 2007 - 2009 President, Agricultural Division - Europe, Africa, South America and Global Harvesting Equipment Sourcing

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ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS.

The following risks are considered the most significant to John Deere's business based upon current knowledge, information and assumptions. This discussion of risk factors should be considered closely in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis beginning on page 21, including the risks and uncertainties described in the Safe Harbor Statement on pages 23 through 24, and the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements beginning on page 36. These risk factors and other forward-looking statements that relate to future events, expectations, trends and operating periods involve certain factors that are subject to change, and important risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially. Some of these risks and uncertainties could affect particular lines of business, while others could affect all of the Company's businesses. Although each risk is discussed separately, many are interrelated. The Company, except as required by law, undertakes no obligation to update or revise this risk factors discussion, whether as a result of new developments or otherwise. The risks described in this Annual Report on Form 10-K and the Safe Harbor Statement in this report are not the only risks faced by the Company. Additional risks and uncertainties may also materially affect the Company's business, financial condition or operating results. You should not consider these risk factors to be a complete discussion of risks, uncertainties and assumptions.

*International, national and regional trade laws, regulations and policies (particularly those related to or restricting global trade) and government farm programs and policies could significantly impair John Deere's profitability and growth prospects.*

International, national and regional laws, regulations and policies directly or indirectly related to or restricting the import and export of John Deere's products, services and technology, including protectionist policies in particular jurisdictions or for the benefit of favored industries or sectors, could harm John Deere's multinational business and subject John Deere to civil and criminal sanctions. John Deere's profitability and growth prospects are tied directly to the global marketplace. Restricted access to global markets impairs John Deere's ability to export goods and services from its various manufacturing locations around the world, and limits the ability to access raw materials and high quality parts and components at competitive prices on a timely basis. Trade restrictions could limit John Deere's ability to capitalize on current and future growth opportunities in international markets and impair John Deere's ability to expand the business by offering new technologies, products and services. These restrictions may affect John Deere's competitive position. Furthermore, the ability to export agricultural and forestry commodities is critical to John Deere's agricultural and forestry customers. Policies impacting exchange rates and commodity prices or those limiting the export or import of commodities could have a material adverse effect on the international flow of agricultural and other commodities that may result in a corresponding negative effect on the demand for agricultural and forestry equipment in many areas of the world. John Deere's agricultural equipment sales could be especially harmed because farm income strongly influences sales of agricultural equipment around the world. Furthermore, trade restrictions could impede those in developing countries from achieving a higher standard of living, which could negatively impact John Deere's future growth opportunities arising from increasing global demand for food, fuel and infrastructure. Additionally, changes in government farm programs and policies, including direct payment and other subsidies, can significantly influence demand for agricultural equipment. Furthermore, embargoes and sanctions imposed by the US and other governments restricting or prohibiting sales or transactions to specific persons, including financial institutions, or countries or based on product classification expose John Deere to potential criminal and civil sanctions. Although John Deere has a compliance program in place designed to reduce the likelihood of potential violations of import and export laws and sanctions, these laws and sanctions, particularly with respect to eastern Europe, are changing rapidly. Violations of these laws could have an adverse effect on John Deere's reputation, business and results of operations and financial condition.

*Changes in government banking, monetary and fiscal policies could have a negative effect on John Deere.*

Policies of the U.S. and other governments regarding banking, monetary and fiscal policies intended to promote or maintain liquidity, stabilize financial markets and/or address local deficit or structural economic issues may not be effective and could have a material impact on John Deere's customers and markets. John Deere's operations and results could also be impacted by financial regulatory reform that could have an adverse effect on the financial services segment and on John Deere's customers by limiting their ability to enter into hedging transactions or to

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finance purchases of John Deere products. Government policies on taxes and spending can also affect John Deere, especially the construction and forestry segment due to the impact of government spending on infrastructure development.

*Changing worldwide demand for food and different forms of bio-energy could have an effect on the price of farm commodities and consequently the demand for certain John Deere equipment and could also result in higher research and development costs related to changing machine fuel requirements.*

Changing worldwide demand for farm outputs to meet the world's growing food and bio-energy demands, driven in part by government policies and a growing world population, are likely to result in fluctuating agricultural commodity prices, which directly affect sales of agricultural equipment. While higher commodity prices benefit John Deere's crop-producing agricultural equipment customers, higher commodity prices also could result in greater feed costs for livestock and poultry producers which in turn may result in lower levels of equipment purchased by these customers. Furthermore, changing bio-fuel demands may cause farmers to change the

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types or quantities of the crops they raise, with corresponding changes in equipment demands. Finally, changes in governmental policies regulating bio-fuel utilization could affect demand for John Deere's gasoline- or diesel-fueled equipment and result in higher research and development costs related to equipment fuel standards.

*As John Deere seeks to expand its business globally, growth opportunities may be impacted by greater political, economic and social uncertainty and the continuing and accelerating globalization of businesses could significantly change the dynamics of John Deere's competition, customer base and product offerings.*

John Deere's efforts to grow its businesses depend to a large extent upon access to and its success in developing market share and operating profitably in additional geographic markets including but not limited to Brazil, China, India and Russia. In some cases, these countries have greater political and economic volatility, greater vulnerability to infrastructure and labor disruptions and differing local customer product preferences and requirements than John Deere's other markets. Operating and seeking to expand business in a number of different regions and countries exposes John Deere to multiple and potentially conflicting cultural practices, business practices and legal and regulatory requirements that are subject to change, including those related to tariffs and trade barriers, investments, property ownership rights, taxation, sanctions requirements and repatriation of earnings and advanced technologies. Expanding business operations globally also increases exposure to currency fluctuations which can materially affect the Company's financial results. As these emerging geographic markets become more important to John Deere, its competitors are also seeking to expand their production capacities and sales in these same markets. While John Deere maintains a positive corporate image and the John Deere brand is widely recognized and valued in its traditional markets, the brand is less well known in some emerging markets which could impede John Deere's efforts to successfully compete in these markets. Although John Deere is taking measures to adapt to these changing circumstances, John Deere's reputation and/or business results could be negatively affected should these efforts prove unsuccessful.

*John Deere operates in highly competitive markets.*

John Deere operates in a variety of highly competitive global and regional markets. John Deere competes worldwide with a number of other manufacturers and distributors that produce and sell similar products. John Deere competes on the basis of product performance, innovation and quality, distribution, customer service and price. Aggressive pricing or other strategies pursued by competitors, unanticipated product or manufacturing delays or John Deere's failure to price its products competitively could adversely affect John Deere's business, results of operations and financial condition.

*John Deere is subject to extensive anti-corruption laws and regulations.*

John Deere's global operations must comply with all applicable laws, which may include the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), the UK Bribery Act or other anti-corruption laws. These anti-corruption laws generally prohibit companies and their intermediaries from making improper payments or providing anything of value to improperly influence government officials or private individuals for the purpose of obtaining or retaining a business advantage regardless of whether those practices are legal or culturally expected in a particular jurisdiction. Recently, there has been a substantial increase in the global enforcement of anti-corruption laws. Although John Deere has a compliance program in place designed to reduce the likelihood of potential violations of such laws, violations of these laws could result in criminal or civil sanctions and have an adverse effect on John Deere's reputation, business and results of operations and financial condition.



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*Negative economic conditions and outlook can materially weaken demand for John Deere's equipment and services, limit access to funding and result in higher funding costs.*

The demand for John Deere's products and services can be significantly reduced in an economic environment characterized by high unemployment, cautious consumer spending, lower corporate earnings, U.S. budget issues and lower business investment. Negative or uncertain economic conditions causing John Deere's customers to lack confidence in the general economic outlook can significantly reduce their likelihood of purchasing John Deere's equipment. Sustained negative economic conditions and outlook affect housing starts and other construction which dampens demand for certain construction equipment. John Deere's turf operations and its construction and forestry business are dependent on construction activity and general economic conditions. Failure of increases in construction activity and housing starts to continue and be sustained could have a material adverse effect on John Deere's results of operations. If negative economic conditions affect the overall farm economy, there could be a similar effect on John Deere's agricultural equipment sales. In addition, uncertain or negative outlook with respect to ongoing U.S. budget issues as well as general economic conditions and outlook can cause significant changes in market liquidity conditions. Such changes could impact access to funding and associated funding costs, which could reduce the Company's earnings and cash flows. Additionally, the Company's investment management activities could be adversely affected by changes in the equity and bond markets, which would negatively affect earnings.

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In addition, demand for John Deere's products and services can be significantly reduced by concerns regarding the diverse economic and political circumstances of the individual countries in the eurozone, the debt burden of certain eurozone countries and their ability to meet future financial obligations, and the long term stability of the euro as a single common currency. Persistent disparity with respect to the widely varying economic conditions within the individual countries in the eurozone, and its implications for the euro as well as market perceptions concerning these and related issues, could adversely affect the value of the Company's euro-denominated assets and obligations, have an adverse effect on demand for John Deere's products and services in the eurozone and have an adverse effect on financial markets in Europe and globally. More specifically, it could affect the ability of John Deere's customers, suppliers and lenders to finance their respective businesses, to access liquidity at acceptable financing costs, if at all, the availability of supplies and materials and on the demand for John Deere's products.

*The Company's consolidated financial results are reported in U.S. dollars while certain assets and other reported items are denominated in the currencies of other countries, creating currency translation risk.*

John Deere operates in many areas of the world, involving transactions denominated in a variety of currencies. John Deere is subject to currency exchange risk to the extent that its costs are denominated in currencies other than those in which John Deere earns revenues. Additionally, the reporting currency for the Company's consolidated financial statements is the U.S. dollar. Certain of John Deere's assets, liabilities, expenses and revenues are denominated in other countries' currencies. Those assets, liabilities, expenses and revenues are translated into U.S. dollars at the applicable exchange rates to prepare the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Therefore, increases or decreases in exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and those other currencies affect the value of those items as reflected in the Company's consolidated financial statements, even if their value remains unchanged in their original currency. Substantial fluctuations in the value of the U.S. dollar could have a significant impact on John Deere's results.

*Because the financial services segment provides financing for a significant portion of John Deere's sales worldwide, John Deere's operations and financial results could be impacted materially should negative economic conditions affect the financial industry.*

In recent years, negative economic conditions have frequently had an adverse effect on the financial industry in which the financial services segment operates. The financial services segment provides financing for a significant portion of John Deere's sales worldwide. The financial services segment is exposed to the risk that customers and others will default on contractual obligations. The financial services segment may experience credit losses that exceed its expectations and adversely affect its financial condition and results of operations. The financial services segment's inability to access funds at cost-effective rates to support its financing activities could have a material adverse effect on John Deere's business. The financial services segment's liquidity and ongoing profitability depend largely on timely access to capital in order to meet future cash flow requirements and to fund operations and costs associated with engaging in diversified funding activities. Additionally, negative market conditions could reduce customer confidence levels, resulting in declines in credit applications and increases in delinquencies and default rates, which could materially impact the financial services segment's write-offs and provision for credit losses.

*The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Act) and the regulations implementing the Act impose additional supervisory, financial and reporting requirements and compliance costs on John Deere and John Deere's financial services operations and could therefore adversely affect John Deere and its financial services segment.*

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The Act was enacted on July 21, 2010 to broadly reform practices in the financial services industry, including equipment financing and securitizations. The Act directs federal agencies, including the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and others, to adopt rules to regulate depository institutions, non-bank financial institutions, thrift holding companies, the consumer finance industry and the capital markets, including certain commercial transactions such as derivatives contracts. Although the effects of the Act on the capital markets and the financial industry are not fully known until all the regulations have been finalized and implemented, the Act and its regulations impose additional reporting requirements, stress testing requirements, leverage, liquidity requirements, capital and other supervisory and financial standards and restrictions that increase regulatory-related compliance costs for John Deere and John Deere's financial services operations and could adversely affect John Deere and its financial services segment's funding activities, liquidity, structure (including relationships with affiliates), operations and performance. Moreover, John Deere's operations, including those outside of the United States, will also be impacted by non-U.S. regulatory reforms, including Basel III, being implemented to further regulate non-U.S. financial institutions and markets.

*John Deere's business results depend largely on its ability to understand its customers' specific preferences and requirements, and to develop, manufacture and market products that meet customer demand.*

John Deere's ability to match new product offerings to diverse global customers' anticipated preferences for different types and sizes of equipment and various equipment features and functionality, at affordable prices, is critical to its success. This requires a thorough

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understanding of John Deere's existing and potential customers on a global basis, particularly in potentially high-growth markets, including Brazil, China, India and Russia. Failure to deliver quality products that meet customer needs at competitive prices ahead of competitors could have a significant adverse effect on John Deere's business.

*John Deere's business may be directly and indirectly affected by unfavorable weather conditions or natural disasters that reduce agricultural production and demand for agriculture and turf equipment.*

Poor or unusual weather conditions, particularly during the planting and early growing season, can significantly affect the purchasing decisions of John Deere's customers, particularly the purchasers of agriculture and turf equipment. The timing and quantity of rainfall are two of the most important factors in agricultural production. Insufficient levels of rain prevent farmers from planting new crops and may cause growing crops to die or result in lower yields. Excessive rain or flooding can prevent planting from occurring at optimal times, and may cause crop loss through increased disease or mold growth. Temperatures outside normal ranges can also cause crop failure or decreased yields, and may also affect disease incidence. Temperature affects the rate of growth, crop maturity and crop quality. Natural calamities such as regional floods, hurricanes or other storms, and droughts can have significant negative effects on agricultural and livestock production. The resulting negative impact on farm income can strongly affect demand for agricultural equipment. In addition, poor or unusual weather conditions at critical periods in the planting, growing or harvesting seasons can impact the profitability of crop risk mitigation products. Sales of turf equipment, particularly during the important spring selling season, can be dramatically impacted by weather. Adverse weather conditions in a particular geographic region may adversely affect sales of some turf equipment. Drought conditions can adversely affect sales of certain mowing equipment and unusually rainy weather can similarly cause lower sales volumes.

*Changes in the availability and price of certain raw materials, components and whole goods could result in production disruptions or increased costs and lower profits on sales of John Deere products.*

John Deere requires access to various raw materials, components and whole goods at competitive prices to manufacture and distribute its products. Changes in the availability and price of these raw materials, components and whole goods, which have fluctuated significantly in the past and are more likely to fluctuate during times of economic volatility, can significantly increase the costs of production which could have a material negative effect on the profitability of the business, particularly if John Deere, due to pricing considerations or other factors, is unable to recover the increased costs from its customers. John Deere relies on suppliers to acquire raw materials, components and whole goods required to manufacture its products. Certain components and parts used in John Deere's products are available from a single supplier and cannot be re-sourced quickly. Supply chain disruptions due to supplier financial distress, capacity constraints, business continuity, quality, delivery or disruptions due to weather-related or natural disaster events could affect John Deere's operations and profitability.

*John Deere's equipment operations and financial services segment are subject to interest rate risks. Changes in interest rates can reduce demand for equipment, adversely affect interest margins and limit the ability to access capital markets while increasing borrowing costs.*

Rising interest rates could have a dampening effect on overall economic activity and/or the financial condition of John Deere's customers, either or both of which could negatively affect customer demand for John Deere equipment and customers' ability to repay obligations to John Deere. In addition, credit market dislocations could have an impact on funding costs which are very important to John Deere's financial services segment because such costs affect the segment's ability to offer customers competitive financing rates. In addition, changing interest rates could have an adverse effect on the Company's net interest rate margin—the difference between the yield the Company earns on its assets and the interest rates the Company pays for funding, which could in turn affect the Company's net interest income and earnings. Actions by credit rating agencies, such as downgrades or negative changes to ratings outlooks, can affect the availability and cost of funding for the Company and can

increase the Company's cost of capital and hurt its competitive position.

*John Deere's operations, suppliers and customers are subject to and affected by increasingly rigorous environmental, health and safety laws and regulations of federal, state and local authorities in the U.S. and various regulatory authorities with jurisdiction over John Deere's international operations. In addition, private civil litigation on these subjects has increased, primarily in the U.S.*

Enforcement actions arising from violations of environmental, health and safety laws or regulations can lead to investigation and defense costs, and result in significant fines or penalties. In addition, new or more stringent requirements of governmental authorities could prevent or restrict John Deere's operations, or those of our suppliers and customers, require significant expenditures to achieve compliance and/or give rise to civil or criminal liability. There can be no assurance that violations of such legislation and/or regulations, or private civil claims for damages to property or personal injury arising from the environmental, health or safety impacts of John Deere's operations, or those of our suppliers and customers, would not have consequences that result in a material adverse effect on John Deere's business, financial condition or results of operations.

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*Increasingly stringent engine emission standards could impact John Deere's ability to manufacture and distribute certain engines or equipment, which could negatively affect business results.*

John Deere's equipment operations must meet increasingly stringent engine emission reduction standards, including USEPA, Interim Tier 4/Stage IIIb and Final Tier 4/Stage IV non-road diesel emission requirements in the U.S. and European Union. These standards are applicable to many engines manufactured by John Deere and used in many models of John Deere agriculture and construction and forestry equipment. John Deere has incurred and continues to incur substantial research and development costs and is introducing many new equipment models, largely due to the implementation of these more rigorous standards. While John Deere has developed and is executing comprehensive plans to meet these requirements and does not currently foresee significant obstacles that would prevent timely compliance, these plans are subject to many variables that could delay or otherwise affect John Deere's ability to manufacture and distribute certain equipment or engines, which could negatively impact business results.

*Security breaches and other disruptions to John Deere's information technology infrastructure could interfere with John Deere's operations and could compromise John Deere's and its customers' and suppliers' information, exposing John Deere to liability that would cause John Deere's business and reputation to suffer.*

In the ordinary course of business, John Deere relies upon information technology networks and systems, some of which are managed by third parties, to process, transmit and store electronic information, and to manage or support a variety of business processes and activities, including supply chain, manufacturing, distribution, invoicing and collection of payments from dealers or other purchasers of John Deere equipment and from customers of John Deere's financial services operations. John Deere uses information technology systems to record, process and summarize financial information and results of operations for internal reporting purposes and to comply with regulatory financial reporting, legal and tax requirements. Additionally, John Deere collects and stores sensitive data, including intellectual property, proprietary business information and the proprietary business information of John Deere's customers and suppliers, as well as personally identifiable information of John Deere's customers and employees, in data centers and on information technology networks. The secure operation of these information technology networks and the processing and maintenance of this information is critical to John Deere's business operations and strategy. Despite security measures and business continuity plans, John Deere's information technology networks and infrastructure may be vulnerable to damage, disruptions or shutdowns due to attacks by hackers or breaches due to employee error or malfeasance or other disruptions during the process of upgrading or replacing computer software or hardware, power outages, computer viruses, telecommunication or utility failures or natural disasters or other catastrophic events. The occurrence of any of these events could compromise John Deere's networks, and the information stored there could be accessed, publicly disclosed, lost or stolen. Any such access, disclosure or other loss of information could result in legal claims or proceedings, liability or regulatory penalties under laws protecting the privacy of personal information, disrupt operations, and damage John Deere's reputation, which could adversely affect John Deere's business.

*John Deere may incur increased costs due to new or more stringent greenhouse gas emission standards designed to address climate change and could be further impacted by physical effects attributed to climate change on its facilities, suppliers and customers.*

There is a growing political and scientific consensus that emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) continue to alter the composition of Earth's atmosphere in ways that are affecting and are expected to continue to affect the global climate. These considerations may lead to international, national, regional or local legislative or regulatory responses in the future. Various stakeholders, including legislators and regulators, shareholders and non-governmental organizations, as well as companies in many business sectors, including John Deere, are considering ways to reduce GHG emissions. The regulation of GHG emissions from certain stationary or mobile sources could result in additional costs to John Deere in the form of taxes or emission allowances, facilities improvements and energy costs, which would increase John Deere's operating costs through higher utility, transportation and materials costs. Increased input costs, such as fuel and fertilizer, and compliance-related costs could also impact customer operations and demand for John Deere equipment. Because the impact of any future GHG legislative, regulatory or

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product standard requirements on John Deere's global businesses and products is dependent on the timing and design of mandates or standards, John Deere is unable to predict its potential impact at this time.

Furthermore, the potential physical impacts of climate change on John Deere's facilities, suppliers and customers and therefore on John Deere's operations are highly uncertain and will be particular to the circumstances developing in various geographical regions. These may include long-term changes in temperature levels and water availability. These potential physical effects may adversely impact the demand for John Deere's products and the cost, production, sales and financial performance of John Deere's operations.

*Sustained increases in funding obligations under the Company's pension plans may impair the Company's liquidity or financial condition.*

The Company maintains certain defined benefit pension plans for certain employees, which impose on us funding obligations. The

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Company uses many assumptions in calculating its future payment obligations under the plans. Significant adverse changes in credit or market conditions could result in actual rates of returns on pension investments being lower than expected. The Company may be required to make significant contributions to its pension plans in the future. These factors could significantly increase the Company's payment obligations under the plans and adversely affect its business, results of operations and financial condition.

*The reallocation of radio frequency (RF) spectrums could disrupt or degrade the reliability of John Deere's high precision augmented Global Positioning System (GPS) technology, which could impair John Deere's ability to develop and market GPS-based technology solutions as well as significantly reduce agricultural and construction customers' profitability.*

John Deere's current and planned integrated agricultural business and equipment management systems, as well as its fleet management telematics solutions for construction equipment, depend upon the use of RF signals. These signals include, but are not limited to, GPS signals, other GPS-like satellite signals, augmented GPS services and other RF equipment which link equipment, operations, owners, dealers and technicians. These radio services depend on frequency allocations governed by international and national agencies. Any international or national reallocation of frequency bands, including frequency bands segmentation and band spectrum sharing, or other modifications concerning the regulation of frequency bands, could significantly disrupt or degrade the utility and reliability of John Deere's GPS-based products, which could negatively affect John Deere's ability to develop and market GPS-based technology solutions. For John Deere's agricultural customers, the inability to use high-precision augmented GPS signals or other RF signals could result in lower crop yields and higher equipment maintenance, seed, fertilizer, fuel and wage costs. For construction customers, disrupting GPS or RF applications could result in higher fuel and equipment maintenance costs, as well as lower construction design and project management efficiencies. These cost increases could significantly reduce customers' profitability and demand for John Deere products.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS.

None.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES.

See Manufacturing in Item 1.

The equipment operations own or lease nine facilities housing one centralized parts distribution center and eight regional parts depots and distribution centers throughout the U.S. and Canada. These facilities contain approximately 4.7 million square feet of floor space. Outside the U.S. and Canada, the equipment operations also own or lease and occupy buildings housing three centralized parts distribution centers in Brazil, Germany and Russia and regional parts depots and distribution centers in Argentina, Australia, China, India, Mexico, South Africa, Sweden and the United Kingdom. These facilities contain approximately 2.8 million square feet of floor space. John Deere also owns facilities for the manufacture and distribution of other brands of replacement parts containing approximately 1.4 million square feet. John Deere has projects underway currently to increase parts facilities floor space in India and Brazil.



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The Company's administrative offices and research facilities, which are owned and leased by John Deere, contain about 3.7 million square feet of floor space globally and miscellaneous other facilities total 3.9 million square feet globally.

Overall, John Deere owns approximately 57.7 million square feet of facilities and leases approximately 14.2 million additional square feet in various locations.

### ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

John Deere is subject to various unresolved legal actions which arise in the normal course of its business, the most prevalent of which relate to product liability (including asbestos-related liability), retail credit, software licensing, patent, trademark and environmental matters. John Deere believes the reasonably possible range of losses for these unresolved legal actions in addition to the amounts accrued would not have a material effect on its financial statements.

### ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES.

Not applicable.

## PART II

### ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES.

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(a) The Company's common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange. See the information concerning quoted prices of the Company's common stock, the number of stockholders and the data on dividends declared and paid per share in Notes 29 and 30 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) The Company's purchases of its common stock during the fourth quarter of 2014 were as follows:

ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased (thousands)	Average Price Paid Per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs(1) (thousands)	Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased under the Plans or Programs (1) (millions)
Aug 1 to Aug 31	2,629	\$ 85.64	2,629	83.1
Sept 1 to Sept 30	6,485	83.27	6,485	76.7
Oct 1 to Oct 31	4,058	82.50	4,058	72.8
Total	13,172		13,172	

(1) During the fourth quarter of 2014, the Company had a share repurchase plan that was announced in December 2013 to purchase up to \$8,000 million of shares of the Company's common stock. The maximum number of shares above that may yet be purchased under the \$8,000 million plan was based on the October 31, 2014 closing share price of \$85.54 per share. At October 31, 2014, \$6,230 million of common stock remains to be purchased under this plan.

ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA.

Financial Summary

(Millions of dollars except per share amounts)	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
For the Year Ended October 31:					
Total net sales and revenues	\$ 36,067	\$ 37,795	\$ 36,157	\$ 32,013	\$ 26,005

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Income from continuing operations and net income attributable to Deere & Company	\$	3,162	\$	3,537	\$	3,065	\$	2,800	\$	1,865
Net income per share basic	\$	8.71	\$	9.18	\$	7.72	\$	6.71	\$	4.40
Net income per share diluted	\$	8.63	\$	9.09	\$	7.63	\$	6.63	\$	4.35
Dividends declared per share	\$	2.22	\$	1.99	\$	1.79	\$	1.52	\$	1.16
At October 31:										
Total assets	\$	61,336	\$	59,521	\$	56,266	\$	48,207	\$	43,267
Long-term borrowings	\$	24,381	\$	21,578	\$	22,453	\$	16,960	\$	16,815

### ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

See the information under the caption "Management's Discussion and Analysis" on pages 21 - 30.

### ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK.

The Company is exposed to a variety of market risks, including interest rates and currency exchange rates. The Company attempts to actively manage these risks. See the information under "Management's Discussion and Analysis" beginning on page 21 and in Note 27 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

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ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA.

See the Consolidated Financial Statements and notes thereto and supplementary data on pages 31 - 68.

ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

Not applicable.

ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

**Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

The Company's principal executive officer and its principal financial officer have concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act)) were effective as of October 31, 2014, based on the evaluation of these controls and procedures required by Rule 13a-15(b) or 15d-15(b) of the Exchange Act.

The company implemented a new system for the worldwide financial consolidation and reporting. The company began using this system to combine worldwide results for the fiscal year beginning on November 1, 2014. The new system is integrated with most of the company's general ledger systems, improves analytical capabilities and updates the system technology to a more sustainable environment. During fiscal year 2014, there were no other changes in the company's internal controls over financial reporting that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect the company's internal control over financial reporting.

**Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

The Company's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. The Company's internal control system was designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the preparation and fair presentation of published financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

All internal control systems, no matter how well designed, have inherent limitations. Therefore, even those systems determined to be effective can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and presentation in accordance with generally accepted

accounting principles.

Management assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of October 31, 2014, using the criteria set forth in Internal Control - Integrated Framework (1992) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on that assessment, management believes that, as of October 31, 2014, the Company's internal control over financial reporting was effective.

The Company's independent registered public accounting firm has issued an audit report on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. That report is included herein.

ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION.

Not applicable.

**PART III**

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE.

The information regarding directors in the preliminary proxy statement expected to be filed December 19, 2014 and the definitive proxy statement expected to be filed no later than January 16, 2015 (proxy statement), under the captions Election of Directors, and in the second bullet point in the Audit Review Committee item under the caption Board Committees, is incorporated herein by reference. Information regarding executive officers is presented in Item 1 of this report under the caption Executive Officers of the Registrant.

The Company has adopted a code of ethics that applies to its principal executive officer, principal financial officer and principal accounting officer. This code of ethics and the Company's corporate governance policies are posted on the Company's website at

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<http://www.JohnDeere.com>. The Company intends to satisfy disclosure requirements regarding amendments to or waivers from its code of ethics by posting such information on this website. The charters of the Audit Review, Corporate Governance, Compensation and Pension Plan Oversight committees of the Company's Board of Directors are available on the Company's website as well. This information is also available in print free of charge to any person who requests it.

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION.

The information in the proxy statement under the captions Compensation of Directors, Compensation Discussion & Analysis, Compensation Committee Report and Executive Compensation Tables is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS.

(a) *Securities authorized for issuance under equity compensation plans.*

Equity compensation plan information in the proxy statement under the caption Equity Compensation Plan Information is incorporated herein by reference.

(b) *Security ownership of certain beneficial owners.*

The information on the security ownership of certain beneficial owners in the proxy statement under the caption Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management is incorporated herein by reference.

(c) *Security ownership of management.*

The information on shares of common stock of the Company beneficially owned by, and under option to (i) each director, (ii) certain named executive officers and (iii) the directors and officers as a group, contained in the proxy statement under the captions Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Executive Compensation Tables - Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal 2014 Year-End is incorporated herein by reference.

(d) *Change in control.*

None.

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE.

The information in the proxy statement under the captions Our Values, Director Independence and Review and Approval of Related Person Transactions is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES.

The information in the proxy statement under the caption Fees Paid to the Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm is incorporated herein by reference.

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**PART IV**

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES.

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(1)	
	<i>Financial Statements</i>
	<u>Statement of Consolidated Income for the years ended October 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012</u> 31
	<u>Statement of Consolidated Comprehensive Income for the years ended October 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012</u> 32
	<u>Consolidated Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2014 and 2013</u> 33
	<u>Statement of Consolidated Cash Flows for the years ended October 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012</u> 34
	<u>Statement of Changes in Consolidated Stockholders' Equity for the years ended October 31, 2012, 2013 and 2014</u> 35
	<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u> 36
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	<i>Schedule to Consolidated Financial Statements</i>
	<u>Schedule II - Valuation and Qualifying Accounts for the years ended October 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012</u> 72
(3)	
	<i>Exhibits</i>
	<b>See the <u>Index to Exhibits</u> on pages 73 - 75 of this report</b>
	Certain instruments relating to long-term borrowings, constituting less than 10 percent of registrant's total assets, are not filed as exhibits herewith pursuant to Item 601(b)4(iii)(A) of Regulation S-K. Registrant agrees to file copies of such instruments upon request of the Commission.

**Financial Statement Schedules Omitted**

The following schedules for the Company and consolidated subsidiaries are omitted because of the absence of the conditions under which they are required: I, III, IV and V.



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**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEARS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2014, 2013 AND 2012

### OVERVIEW

#### Organization

The company's equipment operations generate revenues and cash primarily from the sale of equipment to John Deere dealers and distributors. The equipment operations manufacture and distribute a full line of agricultural equipment; a variety of commercial and consumer equipment; and a broad range of equipment for construction and forestry. The company's financial services primarily provide credit services, which mainly finance sales and leases of equipment by John Deere dealers and trade receivables purchased from the equipment operations. In addition, financial services offer crop risk mitigation products and extended equipment warranties. The information in the following discussion is presented in a format that includes information grouped as consolidated, equipment operations and financial services. The company also views its operations as consisting of two geographic areas, the U.S. and Canada, and outside the U.S. and Canada. The company's operating segments consist of agriculture and turf, construction and forestry, and financial services.

#### Trends and Economic Conditions

The company's agriculture and turf equipment sales decreased 9 percent in 2014 and are forecast to decrease by about 20 percent for 2015. Industry agricultural machinery sales in the U.S. and Canada for 2015 are forecast to decrease 25 to 30 percent, compared to 2014. Industry sales in the European Union (EU)28 nations are forecast to decrease about 10 percent in 2015, while South American industry sales are projected to decrease about 10 percent from 2014 levels. Industry sales in the Commonwealth of Independent States are expected to decrease. Asian sales are projected to decrease slightly in 2015. Industry sales of turf and utility equipment in the U.S. and Canada are expected to be approximately the same to 5 percent higher. The company's construction and forestry sales increased 12 percent in 2014 and are forecast to increase by about 5 percent in 2015. Global forestry sales are expected to be approximately the same as the attractive levels of 2014. Net income of the company's financial services operations attributable to Deere & Company in 2015 is expected to be approximately \$610 million.

Items of concern include the uncertainty of the effectiveness of governmental actions in respect to monetary and fiscal policies, the global economic recovery, the impact of sovereign and state debt, eurozone issues, capital market disruptions, trade agreements and geopolitical events. Significant volatility in the price of many commodities could also impact the company's results. Designing and producing products with engines that continue to meet high performance standards and increasingly stringent emissions regulations is one of the company's major priorities.

The company completed a year of solid performance and produced healthy levels of cash flow in spite of weaker conditions in the global farm sector. Even with a significant decline in sales and continued pullback in the global agriculture sector, the company expects to remain solidly profitable in 2015.

Longer term, the company believes it is well positioned to earn solid returns throughout the business cycle and realize substantial benefits from the world's growing need for food, shelter and infrastructure.

#### 2014 COMPARED WITH 2013

## CONSOLIDATED RESULTS

Worldwide net income attributable to Deere & Company in 2014 was \$3,162 million, or \$8.63 per share diluted (\$8.71 basic), compared with \$3,537 million, or \$9.09 per share diluted (\$9.18 basic), in 2013. Net sales and revenues decreased 5 percent to \$36,067 million in 2014, compared with \$37,795 million in 2013. Net sales of the equipment operations decreased 6 percent in 2014 to \$32,961 million from \$34,998 million last year. The sales decrease was largely due to lower shipment volumes and an unfavorable foreign currency translation effect of 1 percent, partially offset by price realization of 2 percent. Net sales in the U.S. and Canada decreased 8 percent in 2014. Net sales outside the U.S. and Canada decreased 3 percent in 2014, which included an unfavorable effect of 1 percent for foreign currency translation.

Worldwide equipment operations had an operating profit of \$4,297 million in 2014, compared with \$5,058 million in 2013. The operating profit decline was due primarily to the impact of lower shipment and production volumes, a less favorable product mix, the unfavorable effects of foreign currency exchange and higher production costs primarily related to the impact of engine emission programs. The decline was partially offset by price realization. Last year's results were also affected by impairment charges for the company's John Deere Landscapes and John Deere Water operations (see Notes 4 and 5).

The equipment operations' net income was \$2,548 million in 2014, compared with \$2,974 million in 2013. The same operating factors mentioned above affected these results.

Net income of the financial services operations attributable to Deere & Company in 2014 increased to \$624 million, compared with \$565 million in 2013. The improvement was due primarily to growth in the credit portfolio, a more favorable effective tax rate, partially offset by lower crop insurance margins, higher selling, administrative and general expenses and a higher provision for credit losses. Additional information is presented in the following discussion of the Worldwide Financial Services Operations.

The cost of sales to net sales ratio for 2014 was 75.2 percent, compared with 73.3 percent last year. The increase was due primarily to a less favorable product mix, the unfavorable effects of foreign currency exchange and higher production costs largely related to engine emission requirements, partially offset by price realization.

Finance and interest income increased this year due to a larger average credit portfolio, partially offset by lower average financing rates. Other income increased due primarily to higher insurance premiums and service revenue. Research and development costs decreased primarily due to the completion of certain product developments in 2014 compared to last year. Selling, administrative and general expenses decreased due primarily to the deconsolidation of Landscapes and the sale of



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the Water operations (see Note 4). Interest expense decreased due to lower average borrowing rates, partially offset by higher average borrowings. Other operating expenses increased due primarily to higher depreciation of equipment on operating leases, higher insurance claims and the write-down to realizable value and sale of the Water operations, partially offset by impairment charges in 2013 for the Landscapes operations (see Notes 4 and 5).

The company has several defined benefit pension plans and defined benefit health care and life insurance plans. The company's postretirement benefit costs for these plans in 2014 were \$432 million, compared with \$575 million in 2013. The long-term expected return on plan assets, which is reflected in these costs, was an expected gain of 7.5 percent in 2014 and 7.8 percent in 2013, or \$848 million in 2014 and \$862 million in 2013. The actual return was a gain of \$1,213 million in 2014 and \$1,470 million in 2013. In 2015, the expected return will be approximately 7.3 percent. The company's postretirement costs in 2015 are expected to increase approximately \$85 million. The company makes any required contributions to the plan assets under applicable regulations and voluntary contributions from time to time based on the company's liquidity and ability to make tax-deductible contributions. Total company contributions to the plans were \$138 million in 2014 and \$338 million in 2013, which include direct benefit payments for unfunded plans. These contributions also included voluntary contributions to plan assets of \$5 million in 2014 and \$227 million in 2013. Total company contributions in 2015 are expected to be approximately \$104 million, which are primarily direct benefit payments for unfunded plans. The company has no significant required contributions to pension plan assets in 2015 under applicable funding regulations. See the following discussion of Critical Accounting Policies for more information about postretirement benefit obligations.

## **BUSINESS SEGMENT AND GEOGRAPHIC AREA RESULTS**

The following discussion relates to operating results by reportable segment and geographic area. Operating profit is income before certain external interest expense, certain foreign exchange gains or losses, income taxes and corporate expenses. However, operating profit of the financial services segment includes the effect of interest expense and foreign currency exchange gains or losses.

### **Worldwide Agriculture and Turf Operations**

The agriculture and turf segment had an operating profit of \$3,649 million in 2014, compared with \$4,680 million in 2013. Net sales decreased 9 percent this year due largely to lower shipment volumes, the previously announced sales of the company's Landscapes and Water operations and the unfavorable effects of currency translation. Partially offsetting these factors was price realization. The decrease in operating profit was driven mainly by lower shipment and production volumes, a less favorable product mix, the unfavorable effects of foreign currency exchange and higher production costs primarily related to engine emission programs. The decline was partially offset by price realization. As previously noted, last year also was affected by impairment charges for the Landscapes and Water operations (see Notes 4 and 5).

### **Worldwide Construction and Forestry Operations**

The construction and forestry segment had an operating profit of \$648 million in 2014, compared with \$378 million in 2013. Net sales increased 12 percent for the year mainly as a result of higher shipment volumes and price realization, partially offset by the unfavorable effect of currency translation. Operating profit benefited in 2014 from higher shipment volumes, lower selling, administrative and general expenses and price realization, partially offset by the unfavorable effects of foreign currency exchange.

### **Worldwide Financial Services Operations**

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The operating profit of the financial services segment was \$921 million in 2014, compared with \$870 million in 2013. The results were higher due primarily to growth in the credit portfolio, partially offset by lower crop insurance margins, higher selling, administrative and general expenses and a higher provision for credit losses. Total revenues of the financial services operations, including intercompany revenues, increased 9 percent in 2014, primarily reflecting the larger portfolio. The average balance of receivables and leases financed was 13 percent higher in 2014, compared with 2013. Interest expense decreased 12 percent in 2014 as a result of lower average borrowing rates, partially offset by higher average borrowings. The financial services operations' ratio of earnings to fixed charges was 3.37 to 1 in 2014, compared with 2.90 to 1 in 2013.

### **Equipment Operations in U.S. and Canada**

The equipment operations in the U.S. and Canada had an operating profit of \$3,311 million in 2014, compared with \$4,062 million in 2013. The decline was due primarily to the impact of lower shipment and production volumes, a less favorable product mix and higher production costs primarily related to engine emission programs. The decline was partially offset by price realization. Results in 2013 were also affected by impairment charges for the Landscapes and Water operations. Net sales decreased 8 percent due primarily to lower shipment volumes, partially offset by price realization. The physical volume of sales decreased 9 percent, compared with 2013.

### **Equipment Operations outside U.S. and Canada**

The equipment operations outside the U.S. and Canada had an operating profit of \$986 million in 2014, compared with \$996 million in 2013. The decrease was due primarily to the impact of lower shipment and production volumes, a less favorable product mix, the unfavorable effects of foreign currency exchange, higher production costs and an impairment charge for the China operations (see Note 5), partially offset by price realization. Results in 2013 were also affected by impairment charges for the Water operations. Net sales were 3 percent lower primarily reflecting decreased shipment volumes and the effect of foreign currency translation, partially offset by price realization. The physical volume of sales decreased 5 percent, compared with 2013.

## **MARKET CONDITIONS AND OUTLOOK**

Company equipment sales are projected to decrease about 15 percent for fiscal year 2015 and decrease about 21 percent for the first quarter, compared with the same periods in 2014.





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For fiscal year 2015, net income attributable to Deere & Company is anticipated to be about \$1.9 billion.

**Agriculture and Turf.** The company's worldwide sales of agriculture and turf equipment are forecast to decrease by about 20 percent for fiscal year 2015 as a result of weaker conditions in the global farm economy. Lower commodity prices and falling farm incomes are putting pressure on demand for agricultural machinery, especially for larger models. Conditions are more positive in the U.S. livestock sector, providing support to the sale of smaller sizes of equipment. Based on these factors, industry sales for agricultural machinery in the U.S. and Canada are forecast to be down 25 to 30 percent for 2015. Fiscal year industry sales in the EU28 are forecast to decrease about 10 percent due to lower crop prices and farm incomes as well as potential pressure on the dairy sector. In South America, industry sales of tractors and combines are projected to decrease about 10 percent as a result of the headwinds affecting agricultural producers. Industry sales in the Commonwealth of Independent States are expected to deteriorate further due in part to tight credit conditions. Asian sales are projected to decrease slightly, with most of the decline centered in China. Industry sales of turf and utility equipment in the U.S. and Canada are expected to be about the same to 5 percent higher, benefiting from general economic growth.

**Construction and Forestry.** The company's worldwide sales of construction and forestry equipment are forecast to increase by about 5 percent for 2015. The gain reflects further economic recovery and higher housing starts in the U.S. as well as sales increases outside the U.S. and Canada. Global forestry sales are expected to be about the same as the attractive levels of 2014.

**Financial Services.** Fiscal year 2015 net income attributable to Deere & Company for the financial services operations is expected to be approximately \$610 million. The outlook reflects a decline from 2014 due primarily to an expected increase in the provision for credit losses, versus the low level of 2014, and a less favorable tax rate. These factors are projected to be partially offset by growth in the credit portfolio and higher crop insurance margins.

### SAFE HARBOR STATEMENT

*Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995:* Statements under Overview, Market Conditions and Outlook, and other forward-looking statements herein that relate to future events, expectations, trends and operating periods involve certain factors that are subject to change, and important risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially. Some of these risks and uncertainties could affect particular lines of business, while others could affect all of the company's businesses.

The company's agricultural equipment business is subject to a number of uncertainties including the many interrelated factors that affect farmers confidence. These factors include worldwide economic conditions, demand for agricultural products, world grain stocks, weather conditions (including its effects on timely planting and harvesting), soil conditions (including low subsoil moisture), harvest yields, prices for commodities and livestock, crop and livestock production

expenses, availability of transport for crops, the growth and sustainability of non-food uses for some crops (including ethanol and biodiesel production), real estate values, available acreage for farming, the land ownership policies of various governments, changes in government farm programs and policies (including those in Argentina, Brazil, China, the European Union, India, Russia and the U.S.), international reaction to such programs, changes in and effects of crop insurance programs, global trade agreements, animal diseases and their effects on poultry, beef and pork consumption and prices, crop pests and diseases, and the level of farm product exports (including concerns about genetically modified organisms).

Factors affecting the outlook for the company's turf and utility equipment include general economic conditions, consumer confidence, weather conditions, customer profitability, consumer borrowing patterns, consumer purchasing preferences, housing starts, infrastructure investment,

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spending by municipalities and golf courses, and consumable input costs.

General economic conditions, consumer spending patterns, real estate and housing prices, the number of housing starts and interest rates are especially important to sales of the company's construction and forestry equipment. The levels of public and non-residential construction also impact the results of the company's construction and forestry segment. Prices for pulp, paper, lumber and structural panels are important to sales of forestry equipment.

All of the company's businesses and its reported results are affected by general economic conditions in the global markets in which the company operates, especially material changes in economic activity in these markets; customer confidence in general economic conditions; foreign currency exchange rates and their volatility, especially fluctuations in the value of the U.S. dollar; interest rates; and inflation and deflation rates. Government spending and taxing could adversely affect the economy, employment, consumer and corporate spending, and company results.

Customer and company operations and results could be affected by changes in weather patterns (including the effects of drought conditions in parts of the U.S. and drier than normal conditions in certain other markets); the political and social stability of the global markets in which the company operates; the effects of, or response to, terrorism and security threats; wars and other conflicts and the threat thereof and the response thereto; and the spread of major epidemics.

Significant changes in market liquidity conditions and any failure to comply with financial covenants in credit agreements could impact access to funding and funding costs, which could reduce the company's earnings and cash flows. Financial market conditions could also negatively impact customer access to capital for purchases of the company's products and customer confidence and purchase decisions; borrowing and repayment practices; and the number and size of customer loan delinquencies and defaults. A debt crisis, in Europe or elsewhere, could negatively impact currencies, global financial markets, social and political stability, funding sources and costs, asset and obligation values, customers, suppliers, and company operations and results.



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State debt crises also could negatively impact customers, suppliers, demand for equipment, and company operations and results. The company's investment management activities could be impaired by changes in the equity, bond and other financial markets, which would negatively affect earnings.

Additional factors that could materially affect the company's operations, access to capital, expenses and results include changes in and the impact of governmental trade, banking, monetary and fiscal policies, including financial regulatory reform and its effects on the consumer finance industry, derivatives, funding costs and other areas, and governmental programs, policies, tariffs and sanctions in particular jurisdictions or for the benefit of certain industries or sectors (including protectionist, economic, punitive and expropriation policies and trade and licensing restrictions that could disrupt international commerce); actions by the U.S. Federal Reserve Board and other central banks; actions by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission and other financial regulators; actions by environmental, health and safety regulatory agencies, including those related to engine emissions (in particular Interim Tier 4/Stage IIIb and Final Tier 4/Stage IV non-road diesel emission requirements in the U.S. and European Union), carbon and other greenhouse gas emissions, noise and the effects of climate change; changes in labor regulations; changes to accounting standards; changes in tax rates, estimates, and regulations and company actions related thereto; compliance with U.S. and foreign laws when expanding to new markets and otherwise; and actions by other regulatory bodies including changes in laws and regulations affecting the sectors in which the company operates. Trade, financial and other sanctions imposed by the U.S., the European Union, Russia and other countries could negatively impact company assets, operations, sales, forecasts and results. Customer and company operations and results also could be affected by changes to GPS radio frequency bands or their permitted uses.

Other factors that could materially affect results include production, design and technological innovations and difficulties, including capacity and supply constraints and prices; the availability and prices of strategically sourced materials, components and whole goods; delays or disruptions in the company's supply chain or the loss of liquidity by suppliers; the failure of suppliers to comply with laws, regulations and company policy pertaining to employment, human rights, health, safety, the environment and other ethical business practices; events that damage the company's reputation or brand; start-up of new plants and new products; the success of new product initiatives and customer acceptance of new products; changes in customer product preferences and sales mix whether as a result of changes in equipment design to meet government regulations or for other reasons; gaps or limitations in rural broadband coverage, capacity and speed needed to support technology solutions; oil and energy prices and supplies; the availability and cost of freight; actions of competitors in the various industries in which the company competes, particularly price discounting; dealer practices especially as to levels of new and used field inventories; labor relations; acquisitions and

divestitures of businesses; the integration of new businesses; the implementation of organizational changes; difficulties related to the conversion and implementation of enterprise resource planning systems that disrupt business, negatively impact supply or distribution relationships or create higher than expected costs; security breaches and other disruptions to the company's information technology infrastructure; and changes in company declared dividends and common stock issuances and repurchases.

Company results are also affected by changes in the level and funding of employee retirement benefits, changes in market values of investment assets, the level of interest and discount rates, and compensation, retirement and mortality rates which impact retirement benefit costs, and significant changes in health care costs including those which may result from governmental action.

The liquidity and ongoing profitability of John Deere Capital Corporation and other credit subsidiaries depend largely on timely access to capital in order to meet future cash flow requirements, to fund operations and costs associated with engaging in diversified funding activities, and to fund purchases of the company's products. If general economic conditions deteriorate or capital markets become volatile, funding could be unavailable or insufficient. Additionally, customer confidence levels may result in declines in credit applications and increases in delinquencies and default rates, which could materially impact write-offs and provisions for credit losses. The failure of reinsurers of the company's insurance business also could materially affect results.

The company's outlook is based upon assumptions relating to the factors described above, which are sometimes based upon estimates and data prepared by government agencies. Such estimates and data are often revised. The company, except as required by law, undertakes no obligation to update or revise its outlook, whether as a result of new developments or otherwise. Further information concerning the company and its

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businesses, including factors that potentially could materially affect the company's financial results, is included in the company's other filings with the SEC.

### 2013 COMPARED WITH 2012

#### CONSOLIDATED RESULTS

Worldwide net income attributable to Deere & Company in 2013 was \$3,537 million, or \$9.09 per share diluted (\$9.18 basic), compared with \$3,065 million, or \$7.63 per share diluted (\$7.72 basic), in 2012. Net sales and revenues increased 5 percent to \$37,795 million in 2013, compared with \$36,157 million in 2012. Net sales of the equipment operations increased 4 percent in 2013 to \$34,998 million from \$33,501 million in 2012. The sales increase included improved price realization of 3 percent and an unfavorable foreign currency translation effect of 1 percent. Net sales in the U.S. and Canada increased 5 percent in 2013. Net sales outside the U.S. and Canada increased by 4 percent in 2013, which included an unfavorable effect of 3 percent for foreign currency translation.

Worldwide equipment operations had an operating profit of \$5,058 million in 2013, compared with \$4,397 million





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in 2012. The higher operating profit was due primarily to the impact of improved price realization and higher shipment volumes, partially offset by the unfavorable effects of foreign currency exchange, increased production costs, higher selling, administrative and general expenses and increased warranty costs. The increased production costs were due primarily to higher manufacturing overhead expenses in support of growth, new products and engine emission requirements, partially offset by lower raw material costs. The results were also affected by impairment charges for long-lived assets related to the Water operations and a write down to realizable value of the assets being held for sale for the Landscapes operations (see Notes 4 and 5).

The equipment operations net income was \$2,974 million in 2013, compared with \$2,616 million in 2012. The same operating factors mentioned above, as well as an increase in interest expense due to higher average borrowings and a higher effective tax rate affected these results.

Net income of the financial services operations attributable to Deere & Company in 2013 increased to \$565 million, compared with \$460 million in 2012. The results were higher primarily due to growth in the credit portfolio and higher crop insurance margins, partially offset by higher selling, administrative and general expenses. In addition, results in 2012 benefited from revenue related to wind energy credits. Additional information is presented in the following discussion of the Worldwide Financial Services Operations.

The cost of sales to net sales ratio for 2013 was 73.3 percent, compared with 74.6 percent in 2012. The improvement was primarily due to the increase in price realization, partially offset by the unfavorable effects of foreign currency exchange, higher production costs and increased warranty costs.

Finance and interest income increased in 2013 due to a larger average credit portfolio, partially offset by lower average financing rates. Research and development costs increased primarily as a result of increased spending in support of new products and more stringent engine emission requirements. Selling, administrative and general expenses increased primarily due to growth. Interest expense decreased due to lower average borrowing rates, partially offset by higher average borrowings. Other operating expenses increased primarily due to higher depreciation of equipment on operating leases and the impairment charge for the write-down to realizable value of assets being held for sale (see Note 5).

The company has several defined benefit pension plans and defined benefit health care and life insurance plans. The company's postretirement benefit costs for these plans in 2013 were \$575 million, compared with \$511 million in 2012. The long-term expected return on plan assets, which is reflected in these costs, was an expected gain of 7.8 percent in 2013 and 8.0 percent in 2012, or \$862 million in 2013 and \$887 million in 2012. The actual return was a gain of \$1,470 million in 2013 and \$849 million in 2012. Total company contributions to the plans were \$338 million in 2013 and \$478 million in 2012, which include direct benefit payments for unfunded plans. These contributions also included voluntary contributions to plan assets of \$227 million in 2013.

## **BUSINESS SEGMENT AND GEOGRAPHIC AREA RESULTS**

### **Worldwide Agriculture and Turf Operations**

The agriculture and turf segment had an operating profit of \$4,680 million in 2013, compared with \$3,921 million in 2012. Net sales increased 7 percent in 2013 primarily due to higher shipment volumes and improved price realization, partially offset by the unfavorable effects of foreign currency translation. The increase in operating profit was primarily due to improved price realization and higher shipment volumes, partially offset by the unfavorable effects of foreign currency exchange, increased production costs, higher selling, administrative and general expenses and increased warranty costs. The increased production costs were due primarily to higher manufacturing overhead expenses in support of growth, new products and engine emission requirements, partially offset by lower raw material costs. The results were also affected by the

previously mentioned impairment charges for the Water and Landscapes operations.

### **Worldwide Construction and Forestry Operations**

The construction and forestry segment had an operating profit of \$378 million in 2013, compared with \$476 million in 2012. Net sales decreased 8 percent in 2013 primarily due to lower shipment volumes, partially offset by price realization. The decline in operating profit in 2013 was primarily due to lower shipment volumes, an unfavorable product mix, increases in production costs and higher selling, administrative and general expenses, partially offset by improved price realization.

### **Worldwide Financial Services Operations**

The operating profit of the financial services segment was \$870 million in 2013, compared with \$712 million in 2012. The results were higher primarily due to growth in the credit portfolio and higher crop insurance margins, partially offset by increased selling, administrative and general expenses. In addition, results in 2012 benefited from revenue related to wind energy credits. Total revenues of the financial services operations, including intercompany revenues, increased 5 percent in 2013, primarily reflecting the larger portfolio. The average balance of receivables and leases financed was 16 percent higher in 2013, compared with 2012. Interest expense decreased 18 percent in 2013 as a result of lower average borrowing rates, partially offset by higher average borrowings. The financial services operations ratio of earnings to fixed charges was 2.90 to 1 in 2013, compared with 2.25 to 1 in 2012.

### **Equipment Operations in U.S. and Canada**

The equipment operations in the U.S. and Canada had an operating profit of \$4,062 million in 2013, compared with \$3,836 million in 2012. The increase was due primarily to improved price realization and higher shipment volumes, partially offset by higher production costs, increased warranty costs and higher selling, administrative and general expenses. The results were also affected by impairment charges for the Landscapes and Water operations. Net sales increased 5 percent due primarily to price realization and higher shipment volumes. The physical volume of sales increased 1 percent, compared with 2012.



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## Equipment Operations outside U.S. and Canada

The equipment operations outside the U.S. and Canada had an operating profit of \$996 million in 2013, compared with \$561 million in 2012. The increase was due primarily to the effects of improved price realization and higher shipment volumes, partially offset by the unfavorable effects of foreign currency exchange, higher selling, administrative and general expenses, increased production costs and higher warranty costs. The results were also affected by impairment charges for the Water operations. Net sales were 4 percent higher primarily reflecting price realization and increased shipment volumes, partially offset by the effect of foreign currency translation. The physical volume of sales increased 3 percent, compared with 2012.

## CAPITAL RESOURCES AND LIQUIDITY

The discussion of capital resources and liquidity has been organized to review separately, where appropriate, the company's consolidated totals, equipment operations and financial services operations.

## CONSOLIDATED

Positive cash flows from consolidated operating activities in 2014 were \$3,526 million. This resulted primarily from net income adjusted for non-cash provisions, a change in accrued income taxes payable/receivable and a change in the retirement benefits, which were partially offset by increases in receivables related to sales, inventories and insurance receivables. Cash outflows from investing activities were \$2,881 million in 2014, due primarily to the cost of receivables (excluding receivables related to sales) and cost of equipment on operating leases exceeding the collections of receivables and the proceeds from sales of equipment on operating leases by \$2,441 million, purchases of property and equipment of \$1,048 million, partially offset by proceeds from maturities and sales exceeding purchases of marketable securities by \$408 million. Cash outflows from financing activities were \$288 million in 2014 due primarily to repurchases of common stock of \$2,731 million and dividends paid of \$786 million, partially offset by an increase in borrowings of \$3,112 million. Cash and cash equivalents increased \$283 million during 2014.

Over the last three years, operating activities have provided an aggregate of \$7,948 million in cash. In addition, increases in borrowings were \$11,778 million, proceeds from sales of businesses were \$398 million and proceeds from issuance of common stock (resulting from the exercise of stock options) were \$385 million. The aggregate amount of these cash flows was used mainly to acquire receivables (excluding receivables related to sales) and equipment on operating leases that exceeded collections of receivables and the proceeds from sales of equipment on operating leases by \$7,721 million, repurchase common stock of \$5,850 million, purchase property and equipment of \$3,526 million, pay dividends of \$2,237 million and purchase marketable securities that exceeded proceeds from maturities and sales by \$456 million. Cash and cash equivalents increased \$140 million over the three-year period.

The company has access to most global markets at reasonable costs and expects to have sufficient sources of global

funding and liquidity to meet its funding needs. The company's exposures to receivables from customers in European countries experiencing economic strains are not significant. Sources of liquidity for the company include cash and cash equivalents, marketable securities, funds from operations, the issuance of commercial paper and term debt, the securitization of retail notes (both public and private markets) and committed and uncommitted bank lines of credit. The company's commercial paper outstanding at October 31, 2014 and 2013 was \$2,633 million and \$3,162 million, respectively, while the total cash and cash equivalents and marketable securities position was \$5,002 million and \$5,129 million, respectively. The amount of the total cash and cash equivalents and marketable securities held by foreign subsidiaries, in which earnings are considered indefinitely reinvested, was \$1,025 million and \$559 million at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

**Lines of Credit.** The company also has access to bank lines of credit with various banks throughout the world. Worldwide lines of credit totaled \$6,413 million at October 31, 2014, \$3,367 million of which were unused. For the purpose of computing unused credit lines, commercial paper and short-term bank borrowings, excluding secured borrowings and the current portion of long-term borrowings, were primarily considered to constitute utilization. Included in the total credit lines at October 31, 2014 were long-term credit facility agreements of \$2,500 million, expiring in April 2018, and \$2,500 million, expiring in April 2019. These credit agreements require John Deere Capital Corporation (Capital Corporation) to maintain its consolidated ratio of earnings to fixed charges at not less than 1.05 to 1 for each fiscal quarter and the ratio of senior debt, excluding securitization indebtedness, to capital base (total subordinated debt and stockholder's equity excluding accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)) at not more than 11 to 1 at the end of any fiscal quarter. The credit agreements also require the equipment operations to maintain a ratio of total debt to total capital (total debt and stockholders' equity excluding accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)) of 65 percent or less at the end of each fiscal quarter. Under this provision, the company's excess equity capacity and retained earnings balance free of restriction at October 31, 2014 was \$10,115 million. Alternatively under this provision, the equipment operations had the capacity to incur additional debt of \$18,785 million at October 31, 2014. All of these requirements of the credit agreements have been met during the periods included in the consolidated financial statements.

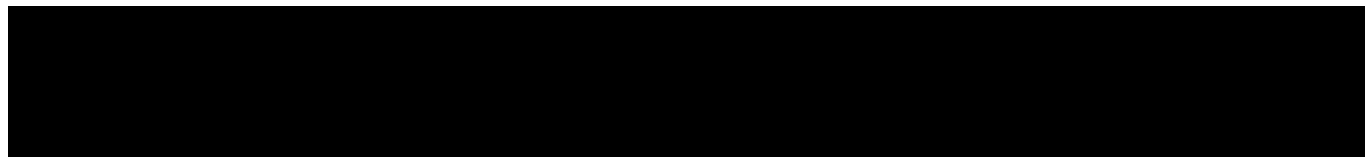
**Debt Ratings.** To access public debt capital markets, the company relies on credit rating agencies to assign short-term and long-term credit ratings to the company's securities as an indicator of credit quality for fixed income investors. A security rating is not a recommendation by the rating agency to buy, sell or hold company securities. A credit rating agency may change or withdraw company ratings based on its assessment of the company's current and future ability to meet interest and principal repayment obligations. Each agency's rating should be evaluated independently of any other rating. Lower credit ratings generally result in higher borrowing costs, including costs of derivative transactions, and reduced access to debt.





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capital markets. The senior long-term and short-term debt ratings and outlook currently assigned to unsecured company securities by the rating agencies engaged by the company are as follows:



Trade accounts and notes receivable primarily arise from sales of goods to independent dealers. Trade receivables decreased by \$481 million in 2014 due primarily to lower agriculture and turf shipment volumes, and the sale of the Water operations (see Note 4). The ratio of trade accounts and notes receivable at October 31 to fiscal year net sales was 10 percent in 2014 and 11 percent in 2013. Total worldwide agriculture and turf receivables decreased \$495 million and construction and forestry receivables increased \$14 million. The collection period for trade receivables averages less than 12 months. The percentage of trade receivables outstanding for a period exceeding 12 months was 1 percent at both October 31, 2014 and 2013.

Deere & Company's stockholders' equity was \$9,063 million at October 31, 2014, compared with \$10,266 million at October 31, 2013. The decrease of \$1,203 million resulted from an increase in treasury stock of \$2,623 million, dividends declared of \$803 million, a change in the retirement benefits adjustment of \$684 million and a change in the cumulative translation adjustment of \$416 million, which were partially offset by net income attributable to Deere & Company of \$3,162 million and an increase in common stock of \$151 million.

## **EQUIPMENT OPERATIONS**

The company's equipment businesses are capital intensive and are subject to seasonal variations in financing requirements for inventories and certain receivables from dealers. The equipment operations sell a significant portion of their trade receivables to financial services. To the extent necessary, funds provided from operations are supplemented by external financing sources.

Cash provided by operating activities of the equipment operations during 2014, including intercompany cash flows, was \$4,532 million due primarily to net income adjusted for non-cash provisions, a decrease in inventories and trade receivables, a change in accrued income taxes payable/receivable and a change in the retirement benefits, partially offset by a decrease in accounts payable and accrued expenses.

Over the last three years, these operating activities, including intercompany cash flows, have provided an aggregate of \$12,149 million in cash.

Trade receivables held by the equipment operations decreased by \$356 million during 2014. The equipment operations sell a significant portion of their trade receivables to financial services (see previous consolidated discussion).

Inventories decreased by \$725 million in 2014 due primarily to lower agriculture and turf shipment and production volumes and the sale of the Water operations (see Note 4). Most of these inventories are valued on the last-in, first-out (LIFO) method.

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The ratios of inventories on a first-in, first-out (FIFO) basis (see Note 15), which approximates current cost, to fiscal year cost of sales were 23 percent and 25 percent at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Total interest-bearing debt of the equipment operations was \$5,077 million at the end of 2014, compared with \$5,951 million at the end of 2013 and \$5,870 million at the end of 2012. The ratio of total debt to total capital (total interest-bearing debt and stockholders' equity) at the end of 2014, 2013 and 2012 was 36 percent, 37 percent and 46 percent, respectively.

Property and equipment cash expenditures for the equipment operations in 2014 were \$1,045 million, compared with \$1,155 million in 2013. Capital expenditures in 2015 are estimated to be \$875 million.

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

The financial services operations rely on their ability to raise substantial amounts of funds to finance their receivable and lease portfolios. Their primary sources of funds for this purpose are a combination of commercial paper, term debt, securitization of retail notes, equity capital and borrowings from Deere & Company.

The cash provided by operating activities and financing activities was used primarily for investing activities. Cash flows from the financial services' operating activities, including intercompany cash flows, were \$1,321 million in 2014. Cash used by investing activities totaled \$4,756 million in 2014, due primarily to the cost of receivables (excluding trade and wholesale) and cost of equipment on operating leases exceeding collections of these receivables and the proceeds from sales of equipment on operating leases by \$3,836 million and an increase in trade receivables and wholesale notes of \$782 million. Cash provided by financing activities totaled \$4,185 million in 2014, representing primarily an increase in external borrowings of \$3,936 million, borrowings from Deere & Company of \$368 million and capital investment from Deere & Company of \$67 million, partially offset by dividends paid of \$150 million to Deere & Company. Cash and cash equivalents increased \$737 million.

Over the last three years, the operating activities, including intercompany cash flows, have provided \$3,442 million in cash. In addition, an increase in total borrowings of \$12,539 million and capital investment from Deere & Company of \$453 million provided cash inflows. These amounts have been used mainly to fund receivables (excluding trade and wholesale) and equipment on operating lease acquisitions, which exceeded collections and the proceeds from sales of equipment on operating leases by \$11,531 million, fund an increase in trade receivables and wholesale notes of \$3,453 million, pay dividends to Deere & Company of \$380 million and purchase marketable securities that exceeded proceeds from maturities and sales by \$239 million. Cash and cash equivalents increased \$758 million over the three-year period.

Receivables and equipment on operating leases increased by \$3,099 million in 2014, compared with 2013. Total acquisition volumes of receivables (excluding trade and wholesale notes) and cost of equipment on operating leases increased 4 percent in 2014, compared with 2013. The volumes of operating leases, financing leases and revolving charge accounts increased



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approximately 27 percent, 6 percent and 3 percent, respectively, while retail note volumes were about the same. The amount of wholesale notes increased 11 percent and trade receivables increased 1 percent during 2014. At October 31, 2014 and 2013, net receivables and leases administered, which include receivables administered but not owned, were \$39,629 million and \$36,559 million, respectively.

Total external interest-bearing debt of the financial services operations was \$31,882 million at the end of 2014, compared with \$28,524 million at the end of 2013 and \$26,551 million at the end of 2012. Total external borrowings have changed generally corresponding with the level of the receivable and lease portfolio, the level of cash and cash equivalents, the change in payables owed to Deere & Company and the change in investment from Deere & Company. The financial services operations' ratio of total interest-bearing debt to total stockholders' equity was to 7.4 to 1 at the end of 2014, 7.3 to 1 at the end of 2013 and 7.2 to 1 at the end of 2012.

The Capital Corporation has a revolving credit agreement to utilize bank conduit facilities to securitize retail notes (see Note 13). At October 31, 2014, the facility had a total capacity, or financing limit, of up to \$3,000 million of secured financings at any time. The facility was renewed in November 2014 with a capacity of \$3,500 million. After a three-year revolving period, unless the banks and Capital Corporation agree to renew, Capital Corporation would liquidate the secured borrowings over time as payments on the retail notes are collected. At October 31, 2014, \$1,617 million of short-term securitization borrowings was outstanding under the agreement.

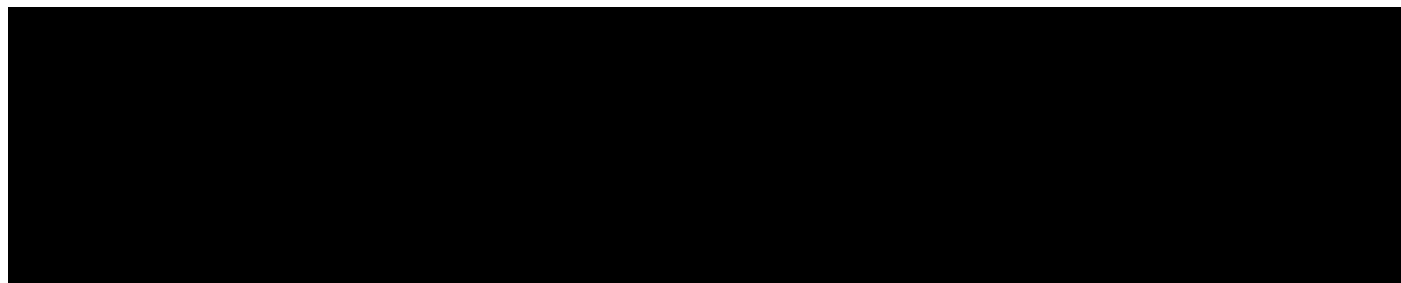
During 2014, the financial services operations issued \$3,014 million and retired \$2,565 million of retail note securitization borrowings. During 2014, the financial services operations also issued \$8,171 million and retired \$4,390 million of long-term borrowings, which were primarily medium-term notes.

#### **OFF-BALANCE-SHEET ARRANGEMENTS**

At October 31, 2014, the company had approximately \$210 million of guarantees issued primarily to banks outside the U.S. related to third-party receivables for the retail financing of John Deere equipment. The company may recover a portion of any required payments incurred under these agreements from repossession of the equipment collateralizing the receivables. The maximum remaining term of the receivables guaranteed at October 31, 2014 was approximately six years.

#### **AGGREGATE CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS**

The payment schedule for the company's contractual obligations at October 31, 2014 in millions of dollars is as follows:



(continued)

- \* Principal payments.
- \*\* Securitization borrowings of \$4,559 million classified as short-term on the balance sheet related to the securitization of retail notes are included in this table based on the expected payment schedule (see Note 18).
- \*\*\* Includes projected payments related to interest rate swaps.

The previous table does not include unrecognized tax benefit liabilities of approximately \$213 million at October 31, 2014, since the timing of future payments is not reasonably estimable at this time (see Note 8). For additional information regarding pension and other postretirement employee benefit obligations, short-term borrowings, long-term borrowings and lease obligations, see Notes 7, 18, 20 and 21, respectively.

## CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The preparation of the company's consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses. Changes in these estimates and assumptions could have a significant effect on the financial statements. The accounting policies below are those management believes are the most critical to the preparation of the company's financial statements and require the most difficult, subjective or complex judgments. The company's other accounting policies are described in the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

### Sales Incentives

At the time a sale to a dealer is recognized, the company records an estimate of the future sales incentive costs for allowances and financing programs that will be due when the dealer sells the equipment to a retail customer. The estimate is based on historical data, announced incentive programs, field inventory levels and retail sales volumes. The final cost of these programs and the amount of accrual required for a specific sale are fully determined when the dealer sells the equipment to the retail customer. This is due to numerous programs available at any particular time and new programs that may be announced after the company records the sale. Changes in the mix and types of programs affect these estimates, which are reviewed quarterly.

The sales incentive accruals at October 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 were \$1,573 million, \$1,531 million and \$1,453 million, respectively. The increase in 2014 was due primarily to higher sales incentive accruals related to the U.S. and Canada operations. The increase in 2013 was due primarily to higher sales volumes.

The estimation of the sales incentive accrual is impacted by many assumptions. One of the key assumptions is the historical percent of sales incentive costs to retail sales





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from dealers. Over the last five fiscal years, this percent has varied by an average of approximately plus or minus .5 percent, compared to the average sales incentive costs to retail sales percent during that period. Holding other assumptions constant, if this estimated cost experience percent were to increase or decrease .5 percent, the sales incentive accrual at October 31, 2014 would increase or decrease by approximately \$40 million.

### **Product Warranties**

At the time a sale to a dealer is recognized, the company records the estimated future warranty costs. The company generally determines its total warranty liability by applying historical claims rate experience to the estimated amount of equipment that has been sold and is still under warranty based on dealer inventories and retail sales. The historical claims rate is primarily determined by a review of five-year claims costs and consideration of current quality developments. Variances in claims experience and the type of warranty programs affect these estimates, which are reviewed quarterly.

The product warranty accruals, excluding extended warranty unamortized premiums, at October 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 were \$809 million, \$822 million and \$733 million, respectively. The changes were due primarily to lower sales volumes in 2014 and higher sales volumes in 2013.

Estimates used to determine the product warranty accruals are significantly affected by the historical percent of warranty claims costs to sales. Over the last five fiscal years, this percent has varied by an average of approximately plus or minus .08 percent, compared to the average warranty costs to sales percent during that period. Holding other assumptions constant, if this estimated cost experience percent were to increase or decrease .08 percent, the warranty accrual at October 31, 2014 would increase or decrease by approximately \$35 million.

### **Postretirement Benefit Obligations**

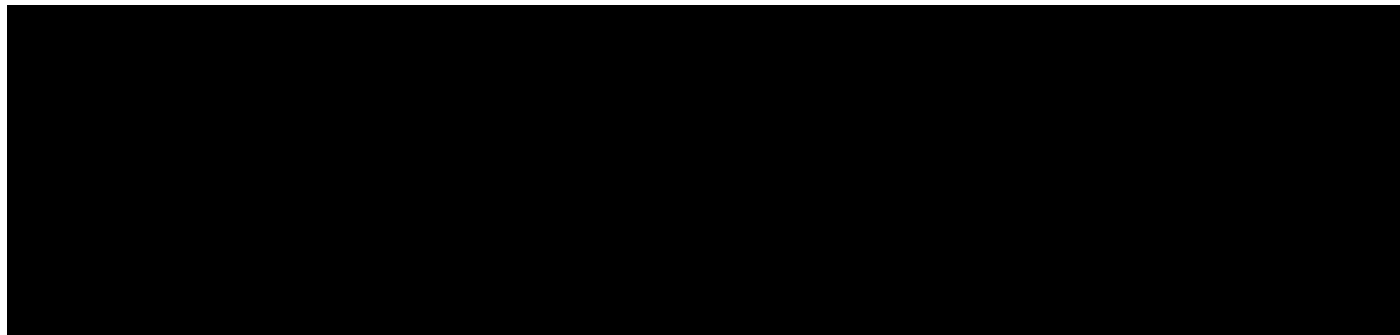
Pension obligations and other postretirement employee benefit (OPEB) obligations are based on various assumptions used by the company's actuaries in calculating these amounts. These assumptions include discount rates, health care cost trend rates, expected return on plan assets, compensation increases, retirement rates, mortality rates and other factors. Actual results that differ from the assumptions and changes in assumptions affect future expenses and obligations.

The pension liabilities, net of pension assets, recognized on the balance sheet at October 31, 2014 and 2012 were \$743 million and \$1,817 million, respectively. The pension assets, net of pension liabilities, at October 31, 2013 were \$40 million. The increase in pension net liabilities in 2014 was due primarily to decreases in discount rates and updated mortality assumptions based on the Society of Actuaries (SOA) RP-2000 base table and mortality projection scale BB. The increase in pension net assets in 2013 was due primarily to the return on plan assets and increases in discount rates, partially offset by interest on the liabilities. The OPEB liabilities, net of OPEB assets, at October 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 were \$5,347 million, \$4,769 million and \$5,736 million, respectively. The increase in 2014 was due primarily to the change in the mortality assumptions mentioned above and decreases in discount rates, partially offset by a change in the retiree medical credit plan (see Note 7). The decrease

in 2013 was due primarily to increases in discount rates and favorable claims experience, partially offset by interest on the liabilities. In October 2014, the SOA finalized new mortality tables (RP-2014) and mortality improvement scale (MP-2014). The company does not expect the effects of the new mortality tables on its mortality assumptions and resulting effects on the consolidated financial statements to be significant when adopted.

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The effect of hypothetical changes to selected assumptions on the company's major U.S. retirement benefit plans would be as follows in millions of dollars:



\* Projected benefit obligation (PBO) for pension plans and accumulated postretirement benefit obligation (APBO) for OPEB plans.

\*\* Pretax impact on service cost, interest cost and amortization of gains or losses.

### Goodwill

Goodwill is not amortized and is tested for impairment annually and when events or circumstances change such that it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is reduced below its carrying amount. The end of the fiscal third quarter is the annual measurement date. To test for goodwill impairment, the carrying value of each reporting unit is compared with its fair value. If the carrying value of the goodwill is considered impaired, a loss is recognized based on the amount by which the carrying value exceeds the implied fair value of the goodwill.

An estimate of the fair value of the reporting unit is determined through a combination of comparable market values for similar businesses and discounted cash flows. These estimates can change significantly based on such factors as the reporting unit's financial performance, economic conditions, interest rates, growth rates, pricing, changes in business strategies and competition.

Based on this testing, the company identified a reporting unit in 2012 for which the goodwill was impaired. None were impaired in 2014 and 2013. In the fourth quarter of 2012, the company recorded a non-cash charge in cost of sales of \$33 million pretax, or \$31 million after-tax. The charge was associated with a reporting unit included in the agriculture and turf operating segment. The key factor contributing to the impairment was a decline in the reporting unit's forecasted financial performance (see Note 5).

A 10 percent decrease in the estimated fair value of the company's reporting units would have had no impact on the carrying value of goodwill at the annual measurement date in 2014.



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### **Allowance for Credit Losses**

The allowance for credit losses represents an estimate of the losses inherent in the company's receivable portfolio. The level of the allowance is based on many quantitative and qualitative factors, including historical loss experience by product category, portfolio duration, delinquency trends, economic conditions and credit risk quality. The adequacy of the allowance is assessed quarterly. Different assumptions or changes in economic conditions would result in changes to the allowance for credit losses and the provision for credit losses.

The total allowance for credit losses at October 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 was \$230 million, \$240 million and \$243 million, respectively. The allowance decreased in 2014, compared to 2013, due primarily to foreign currency translation, and was approximately the same in 2013 compared to 2012.

The assumptions used in evaluating the company's exposure to credit losses involve estimates and significant judgment. The historical loss experience on the receivable portfolio represents one of the key assumptions involved in determining the allowance for credit losses. Over the last five fiscal years, this percent has varied by an average of approximately plus or minus .16 percent, compared to the average loss experience percent during that period. Holding other assumptions constant, if this estimated loss experience on the receivable portfolio were to increase or decrease .16 percent, the allowance for credit losses at October 31, 2014 would increase or decrease by approximately \$60 million.

### **Operating Lease Residual Values**

The carrying value of equipment on operating leases is affected by the estimated fair values of the equipment at the end of the lease (residual values). Upon termination of the lease, the equipment is either purchased by the lessee or sold to a third party, in which case the company may record a gain or a loss for the difference between the estimated residual value and the sales price. The residual values are dependent on current economic conditions and are reviewed quarterly. Changes in residual value assumptions would affect the amount of depreciation expense and the amount of investment in equipment on operating leases.

The total operating lease residual values at October 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 were \$2,786 million, \$2,115 million and \$1,676 million, respectively. The changes in 2014 and 2013 were due primarily to the increasing levels of operating leases.

Estimates used in determining end of lease market values for equipment on operating leases significantly impact the amount and timing of depreciation expense. If future market values for this equipment were to decrease 10 percent from the company's present estimates, the total impact would be to increase the company's annual depreciation for equipment on operating leases by approximately \$125 million.

### **FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT MARKET RISK INFORMATION**

The company is naturally exposed to various interest rate and foreign currency risks. As a result, the company enters into derivative transactions to manage certain of these exposures that arise in the normal course of business and not for the purpose of creating speculative positions or trading. The company's

financial services operations manage the relationship of the types and amounts of their funding sources to their receivable and lease portfolio in an effort to diminish risk due to interest rate and foreign currency fluctuations, while responding to favorable financing opportunities.

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Accordingly, from time to time, these operations enter into interest rate swap agreements to manage their interest rate exposure. The company also has foreign currency exposures at some of its foreign and domestic operations related to buying, selling and financing in currencies other than the functional currencies. The company has entered into agreements related to the management of these foreign currency transaction risks.

### **Interest Rate Risk**

Quarterly, the company uses a combination of cash flow models to assess the sensitivity of its financial instruments with interest rate exposure to changes in market interest rates. The models calculate the effect of adjusting interest rates as follows. Cash flows for financing receivables are discounted at the current prevailing rate for each receivable portfolio. Cash flows for marketable securities are primarily discounted at the applicable benchmark yield curve plus market credit spreads. Cash flows for unsecured borrowings are discounted at the applicable benchmark yield curve plus market credit spreads for similarly rated borrowers. Cash flows for securitized borrowings are discounted at the swap yield curve plus a market credit spread for similarly rated borrowers. Cash flows for interest rate swaps are projected and discounted using forward rates from the swap yield curve at the repricing dates. The net loss in these financial instruments' fair values which would be caused by decreasing the interest rates by 10 percent from the market rates at October 31, 2014 would have been approximately \$18 million. The net loss from decreasing the interest rates by 10 percent at October 31, 2013 would have been approximately \$14 million.

### **Foreign Currency Risk**

In the equipment operations, the company's practice is to hedge significant currency exposures. Worldwide foreign currency exposures are reviewed quarterly. Based on the equipment operations' anticipated and committed foreign currency cash inflows, outflows and hedging policy for the next twelve months, the company estimates that a hypothetical 10 percent weakening of the U.S. dollar relative to other currencies through 2015 would decrease the 2015 expected net cash inflows by \$16 million. At October 31, 2013, a hypothetical 10 percent weakening of the U.S. dollar under similar assumptions and calculations indicated a potential \$10 million adverse effect on the 2014 net cash inflows.

In the financial services operations, the company's policy is to hedge the foreign currency risk if the currency of the borrowings does not match the currency of the receivable portfolio. As a result, a hypothetical 10 percent adverse change in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to all other foreign currencies would not have a material effect on the financial services cash flows.





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DEERE &amp; COMPANY

**STATEMENT OF CONSOLIDATED INCOME****For the Years Ended October 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012**

(In millions of dollars)

	2014	2013	2012
<b>Net Sales and Revenues</b>			
Net sales	\$ 32,960.6	\$ 34,997.9	\$ 33,500.9
Finance and interest income	2,282.1	2,115.1	1,981.3
Other income	824.2	682.4	674.9
Total	36,066.9	37,795.4	36,157.1
<b>Costs and Expenses</b>			
Cost of sales	24,775.8	25,667.3	25,007.8
Research and development expenses	1,452.0	1,477.3	1,433.6
Selling, administrative and general expenses	3,284.4	3,605.5	3,417.0
Interest expense	664.0	741.3	782.8
Other operating expenses	1,093.3	820.6	781.5
Total	31,269.5	32,312.0	31,422.7
<b>Income of Consolidated Group before Income Taxes</b>			
	4,797.4	5,483.4	4,734.4
Provision for income taxes	1,626.5	1,945.9	1,659.4
<b>Income of Consolidated Group</b>			
	3,170.9	3,537.5	3,075.0
Equity in income (loss) of unconsolidated affiliates	(7.6)	.1	(3.4)
<b>Net Income</b>			
	3,163.3	3,537.6	3,071.6
Less: Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	1.6	.3	6.9
<b>Net Income Attributable to Deere &amp; Company</b>	<b>\$ 3,161.7</b>	<b>\$ 3,537.3</b>	<b>\$ 3,064.7</b>
<b>Per Share Data</b>			
Basic	\$ 8.71	\$ 9.18	\$ 7.72
Diluted	\$ 8.63	\$ 9.09	\$ 7.63
Dividends declared	\$ 2.22	\$ 1.99	\$ 1.79
<b>Average Shares Outstanding</b>			
Basic	363.0	385.3	397.1
Diluted	366.1	389.2	401.5

The notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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DEERE &amp; COMPANY

**STATEMENT OF CONSOLIDATED COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

For the Years Ended October 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012

(In millions of dollars)

	2014	2013	2012
<b>Net Income</b>	\$ 3,163.3	\$ 3,537.6	\$ 3,071.6
<b>Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), Net of Income Taxes</b>			
Retirement benefits adjustment	(684.4)	1,950.0	(623.6)
Cumulative translation adjustment	(415.5)	(70.9)	(270.0)
Unrealized gain (loss) on derivatives	2.8	10.7	(5.1)
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	6.9	(11.3)	4.9
<b>Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), Net of Income Taxes</b>	<b>(1,090.2)</b>	<b>1,878.5</b>	<b>(893.8)</b>
<b>Comprehensive Income of Consolidated Group</b>	<b>2,073.1</b>	<b>5,416.1</b>	<b>2,177.8</b>
Less: Comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interests	1.3	.4	6.6
<b>Comprehensive Income Attributable to Deere &amp; Company</b>	<b>\$ 2,071.8</b>	<b>\$ 5,415.7</b>	<b>\$ 2,171.2</b>

The notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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DEERE &amp; COMPANY

**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET****As of October 31, 2014 and 2013**

(In millions of dollars except per share amounts)

	2014	2013
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,787.0	\$ 3,504.0
Marketable securities	1,215.1	1,624.8
Receivables from unconsolidated affiliates	30.2	31.2
Trade accounts and notes receivable - net	3,277.6	3,758.2
Financing receivables - net	27,422.2	25,632.7
Financing receivables securitized - net	4,602.3	4,153.1
Other receivables	1,500.3	1,464.0
Equipment on operating leases - net	4,015.5	3,152.2
Inventories	4,209.7	4,934.7
Property and equipment - net	5,577.8	5,466.9
Investments in unconsolidated affiliates	303.2	221.4
Goodwill	791.2	844.8
Other intangible assets - net	68.8	77.1
Retirement benefits	262.0	551.1
Deferred income taxes	2,776.6	2,325.4
Other assets	1,496.9	1,274.7
Assets held for sale		505.0
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 61,336.4</b>	<b>\$ 59,521.3</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>		
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Short-term borrowings	\$ 8,019.2	\$ 8,788.9
Short-term securitization borrowings	4,558.5	4,109.1
Payables to unconsolidated affiliates	101.0	106.9
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	8,554.1	8,973.6
Deferred income taxes	160.9	160.3
Long-term borrowings	24,380.7	21,577.7
Retirement benefits and other liabilities	6,496.5	5,416.7
Liabilities held for sale		120.4
Total liabilities	52,270.9	49,253.6
Commitments and contingencies (Note 22)		
<b>STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>		
Common stock, \$1 par value (authorized 1,200,000,000 shares; issued 536,431,204 shares in 2014 and 2013), at paid-in amount	3,675.4	3,524.2
Common stock in treasury, 190,926,805 shares in 2014 and 162,628,440 shares in 2013, at cost	(12,834.2)	(10,210.9)
Retained earnings	22,004.4	19,645.6
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	(3,783.0)	(2,693.1)
Total Deere & Company stockholders' equity	9,062.6	10,265.8
Noncontrolling interests	2.9	1.9
Total stockholders' equity	9,065.5	10,267.7
<b>Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</b>	<b>\$ 61,336.4</b>	<b>\$ 59,521.3</b>

The notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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DEERE &amp; COMPANY

**STATEMENT OF CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOWS****For the Years Ended October 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012**

(In millions of dollars)

	2014	2013	2012
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>			
Net income	\$ 3,163.3	\$ 3,537.6	\$ 3,071.6
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Provision for credit losses	38.1	20.5	5.1
Provision for depreciation and amortization	1,306.5	1,140.3	1,004.2
Impairment charges	95.9	102.0	33.4
Share-based compensation expense	78.5	80.7	74.5
Undistributed earnings of unconsolidated affiliates	9.3	9.1	1.8
Credit for deferred income taxes	(280.1)	(172.6)	(91.8)
Changes in assets and liabilities:			
Trade, notes and financing receivables related to sales	(749.0)	(1,510.2)	(1,901.6)
Insurance receivables	(149.9)	263.4	(338.5)
Inventories	(297.9)	(728.4)	(1,510.2)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(137.1)	217.1	1,061.8
Accrued income taxes payable/receivable	342.6	80.4	(72.3)
Retirement benefits	336.9	262.0	63.3
Other	(231.2)	(47.6)	(233.6)
Net cash provided by operating activities	3,525.9	3,254.3	1,167.7
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>			
Collections of receivables (excluding receivables related to sales)	15,319.1	14,088.0	13,064.9
Proceeds from maturities and sales of marketable securities	1,022.5	843.9	240.3
Proceeds from sales of equipment on operating leases	1,091.5	936.7	799.5
Proceeds from sales of businesses, net of cash sold	345.8	22.0	30.2
Cost of receivables acquired (excluding receivables related to sales)	(17,240.4)	(17,011.7)	(15,139.0)
Purchases of marketable securities	(614.6)	(1,026.3)	(922.2)
Purchases of property and equipment	(1,048.3)	(1,158.4)	(1,319.2)
Cost of equipment on operating leases acquired	(1,611.0)	(1,216.9)	(801.8)
Acquisitions of businesses, net of cash acquired		(83.5)	
Other	(145.6)	(214.5)	43.2
Net cash used for investing activities	(2,881.0)	(4,820.7)	(4,004.1)
<b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>			
Increase in total short-term borrowings	89.2	2,749.4	894.9
Proceeds from long-term borrowings	8,232.0	4,734.0	10,642.0
Payments of long-term borrowings	(5,209.1)	(4,958.5)	(5,396.0)
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	149.5	174.5	61.0
Repurchases of common stock	(2,731.1)	(1,531.4)	(1,587.7)
Dividends paid	(786.0)	(752.9)	(697.9)
Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation	30.8	50.7	30.1
Other	(63.6)	(59.3)	(66.2)
Net cash provided by (used for) financing activities	(288.3)	406.5	3,880.2

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<b>Effect of Exchange Rate Changes on Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	(73.6)	11.7	(38.8)
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	283.0	(1,148.2)	1,005.0
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year</b>	3,504.0	4,652.2	3,647.2
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year</b>	\$ 3,787.0	\$ 3,504.0	\$ 4,652.2

The notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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DEERE &amp; COMPANY

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN CONSOLIDATED STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY****For the Years Ended October 31, 2012, 2013 and 2014**

(In millions of dollars)

	<b>Deere &amp; Company Stockholders</b>					
	<b>Total Stockholders Equity</b>	<b>Common Stock</b>	<b>Treasury Stock</b>	<b>Retained Earnings</b>	<b>Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)</b>	<b>Non- controlling Interests</b>
<b>Balance October 31, 2011</b>	\$ 6,814.9	\$ 3,251.7	\$ (7,292.8)	\$ 14,519.4	\$ (3,678.0)	\$ 14.6
Net income	3,071.6			3,064.7		6.9
Other comprehensive loss	(893.8)				(893.5)	(.3)
Repurchases of common stock	(1,587.7)		(1,587.7)			
Treasury shares reissued	66.7		66.7			
Dividends declared	(709.2)			(708.9)		(.3)
Stock options and other	99.5	100.5				(1.0)
<b>Balance October 31, 2012</b>	6,862.0	3,352.2	(8,813.8)	16,875.2	(4,571.5)	19.9
Net income	3,537.6			3,537.3		.3
Other comprehensive income	1,878.5				1,878.4	.1
Repurchases of common stock	(1,531.4)		(1,531.4)			
Treasury shares reissued	134.3		134.3			
Dividends declared	(774.5)			(766.6)		(7.9)
Deconsolidation of variable interest entity	(10.6)					(10.6)
Stock options and other	171.8	172.0		(.3)		.1
<b>Balance October 31, 2013</b>	10,267.7	3,524.2	(10,210.9)	19,645.6	(2,693.1)	1.9
Net income	3,163.3			3,161.7		1.6
Other comprehensive loss	(1,090.2)				(1,089.9)	(.3)
Repurchases of common stock	(2,731.1)		(2,731.1)			
Treasury shares reissued	107.8		107.8			
Dividends declared	(803.7)			(803.4)		(.3)
Stock options and other	151.7	151.2		.5		
<b>Balance October 31, 2014</b>	\$ 9,065.5	\$ 3,675.4	\$ (12,834.2)	\$ 22,004.4	\$ (3,783.0)	\$ 2.9

The notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of this statement.





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**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

## 1. ORGANIZATION AND CONSOLIDATION

### Structure of Operations

The information in the notes and related commentary are presented in a format which includes data grouped as follows:

*Equipment Operations* Includes the company's agriculture and turf operations and construction and forestry operations with financial services reflected on the equity basis.

*Financial Services* Includes primarily the company's financing operations.

*Consolidated* Represents the consolidation of the equipment operations and financial services. References to Deere & Company or the company refer to the entire enterprise.

### Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements represent primarily the consolidation of all companies in which Deere & Company has a controlling interest. Certain variable interest entities (VIEs) are consolidated since the company has both the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact the VIEs' economic performance and the obligation to absorb losses or the right to receive benefits that could potentially be significant to the VIEs. Deere & Company records its investment in each unconsolidated affiliated company (generally 20 to 50 percent ownership) at its related equity in the net assets of such affiliate (see Note 10). Other investments (less than 20 percent ownership) are recorded at cost.

### Variable Interest Entities

See Note 13 for VIEs related to securitization of financing receivables.

## 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following are significant accounting policies in addition to those included in other notes to the consolidated financial statements.

### Use of Estimates in Financial Statements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts and related disclosures. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### **Revenue Recognition**

Sales of equipment and service parts are recorded when the sales price is determinable and the risks and rewards of ownership are transferred to independent parties based on the sales agreements in effect. In the U.S. and most international locations, this transfer occurs primarily when goods are shipped. In Canada and some other international locations, certain goods are shipped to dealers on a consignment basis under which the risks and rewards of ownership are not transferred to the dealer. Accordingly, in these locations, sales are not recorded until a retail customer has purchased the goods. In all cases, when a sale is recorded by the company, no significant uncertainty exists surrounding the purchaser's obligation to pay. No right of return exists on sales of equipment. Service parts and certain attachments returns are estimable and accrued at the time a sale is recognized.

The company makes appropriate provisions based on experience for costs such as doubtful receivables, sales incentives and product warranty.

Financing revenue is recorded over the lives of related receivables using the interest method. Insurance premiums recorded in other income are generally recognized in proportion to the costs expected to be incurred over the contract period. Deferred costs on the origination of financing receivables are recognized as a reduction in finance revenue over the expected lives of the receivables using the interest method. Income and deferred costs on the origination of operating leases are recognized on a straight-line basis over the scheduled lease terms in finance revenue.

### **Sales Incentives**

At the time a sale is recognized, the company records an estimate of the future sales incentive costs for allowances and financing programs that will be due when a dealer sells the equipment to a retail customer. The estimate is based on historical data, announced incentive programs, field inventory levels and retail sales volumes.

### **Product Warranties**

At the time a sale is recognized, the company records the estimated future warranty costs. These costs are usually estimated based on historical warranty claims (see Note 22).

### **Sales Taxes**

The company collects and remits taxes assessed by different governmental authorities that are both imposed on and concurrent with revenue producing transactions between the company and its customers. These taxes may include sales, use, value-added and some excise taxes. The company reports the collection of these taxes on a net basis (excluded from revenues).

### **Shipping and Handling Costs**

Shipping and handling costs related to the sales of the company's equipment are included in cost of sales.

### **Advertising Costs**

Advertising costs are charged to expense as incurred. This expense was \$174 million in 2014, \$183 million in 2013 and \$177 million in 2012.

### **Depreciation and Amortization**

Property and equipment, capitalized software and other intangible assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation or amortization. These assets are depreciated over their estimated useful lives generally using the straight-line method. Equipment on operating leases is depreciated over the terms of the leases using the straight-line method. Property and equipment expenditures for new and revised products, increased capacity and the replacement or major renewal of significant items are capitalized. Expenditures for maintenance, repairs and minor renewals are generally charged to expense as incurred.

### **Securitization of Receivables**

Certain financing receivables are periodically transferred to special purpose entities (SPEs) in securitization transactions (see Note 13). These securitizations qualify as collateral for secured borrowings and no gains or losses are recognized at the time of securitization. The receivables remain on the balance



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sheet and are classified as Financing receivables securitized - net. The company recognizes finance income over the lives of these receivables using the interest method.

### **Receivables and Allowances**

All financing and trade receivables are reported on the balance sheet at outstanding principal adjusted for any charge-offs, the allowance for credit losses, and any deferred fees or costs on originated financing receivables. Allowances for credit losses are maintained in amounts considered to be appropriate in relation to the receivables outstanding based on collection experience, economic conditions and credit risk quality. Receivables are written-off to the allowance when the account is considered uncollectible.

### **Impairment of Long-Lived Assets, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets**

The company evaluates the carrying value of long-lived assets (including property and equipment, goodwill and other intangible assets) when events or circumstances warrant such a review. Goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives are tested for impairment annually at the end of the third fiscal quarter each year, or more often if events or circumstances indicate a reduction in the fair value below the carrying value. Goodwill is allocated and reviewed for impairment by reporting units, which consist primarily of the operating segments and certain other reporting units. The goodwill is allocated to the reporting unit in which the business that created the goodwill resides. To test for goodwill impairment, the carrying value of each reporting unit is compared with its fair value. If the carrying value of the goodwill or long-lived asset is considered impaired, a loss is recognized based on the amount by which the carrying value exceeds the fair value of the asset (see Note 5).

### **Derivative Financial Instruments**

It is the company's policy that derivative transactions are executed only to manage exposures arising in the normal course of business and not for the purpose of creating speculative positions or trading. The company's financial services manage the relationship of the types and amounts of their funding sources to their receivable and lease portfolio in an effort to diminish risk due to interest rate and foreign currency fluctuations, while responding to favorable financing opportunities. The company also has foreign currency exposures at some of its foreign and domestic operations related to buying, selling and financing in currencies other than the functional currencies.

All derivatives are recorded at fair value on the balance sheet. Cash collateral received or paid is not offset against the derivative fair values on the balance sheet. Each derivative is designated as either a cash flow hedge, a fair value hedge, or remains undesignated. Changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and effective as cash flow hedges are recorded in other comprehensive income and reclassified to the income statement when the effects of the item being hedged are recognized in the income statement. Changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and effective as fair value hedges are recognized currently in net income. These changes are offset in net income to the extent the hedge was effective by fair value changes related to the risk being hedged on the hedged item.

Changes in the fair value of undesignated hedges are recognized currently in the income statement. All ineffective changes in derivative fair values are recognized currently in net income.

All designated hedges are formally documented as to the relationship with the hedged item as well as the risk-management strategy. Both at inception and on an ongoing basis the hedging instrument is assessed as to its effectiveness. If and when a derivative is determined not to be highly effective as a hedge, or the underlying hedged transaction is no longer likely to occur, or the hedge designation is removed, or the derivative is terminated, the hedge accounting discussed above is discontinued (see Note 27).

## Foreign Currency Translation

The functional currencies for most of the company's foreign operations are their respective local currencies. The assets and liabilities of these operations are translated into U.S. dollars at the end of the period exchange rates. The revenues and expenses are translated at weighted-average rates for the period. The gains or losses from these translations are recorded in other comprehensive income. Gains or losses from transactions denominated in a currency other than the functional currency of the subsidiary involved and foreign exchange forward contracts are included in net income. The pretax net losses for foreign exchange in 2014, 2013 and 2012 were \$47 million, \$26 million and \$96 million, respectively.

## 3. NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

### New Accounting Standards Adopted

In the first quarter of 2014, the company adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2011-11, Disclosures about Offsetting Assets and Liabilities, which amends Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 210, Balance Sheet. This ASU requires entities to disclose gross and net information about both instruments and transactions eligible for offset in the statement of financial position and those subject to an agreement similar to a master netting arrangement. This includes derivatives and other financial securities arrangements. The adoption did not have a material effect on the company's consolidated financial statements.

In the first quarter of 2014, the company adopted FASB ASU No. 2013-02, Reporting of Amounts Reclassified Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income, which amends ASC 220, Comprehensive Income. This ASU requires the disclosure of amounts reclassified out of accumulated other comprehensive income by component and by net income line item. The disclosure may be provided either parenthetically on the face of the financial statements or in the notes. The company provided the disclosure in the notes. The adoption did not have a material effect on the company's consolidated financial statements.

In April 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-08, Reporting Discontinued Operations and Disclosures of Disposals of Components of an Entity, which amends ASC 205, Presentation of Financial Statements, and ASC 360, Property, Plant and Equipment. This ASU defines a discontinued





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operation as a component or group of components that is disposed of or meets the criteria as held for sale and represents a strategic shift that has or will have a major effect on an entity's operations and financial results. This ASU requires additional disclosures about discontinued operations and new disclosures for components of an entity that are held for sale or disposed of and are individually significant but do not qualify for presentation as a discontinued operation. Early adoption is permitted for items that have not been reported as disposals or as held for sale in previously issued financial statements. The company early adopted this standard in the second quarter of 2014. As a result, disposals that did not or will not meet the criteria for reporting in discontinued operations are presented in continuing operations.

#### **New Accounting Standards to be Adopted**

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606), which supersedes the revenue recognition requirements in ASC 605, Revenue Recognition. This ASU is based on the principle that revenue is recognized to depict the transfer of goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The ASU also requires additional disclosure about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from customer contracts, including significant judgments and changes in judgments and assets recognized from costs incurred to obtain or fulfill a contract. The effective date will be the first quarter of fiscal year 2018 using one of two retrospective application methods. The company has not determined the potential effects on the consolidated financial statements.

In June 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-12, Accounting for Share-Based Payments When the Terms of an Award Provide That a Performance Target Could Be Achieved after the Requisite Service Period, which amends ASC 718, Compensation - Stock Compensation. This ASU requires that a performance target that affects vesting and that could be achieved after the requisite service period be treated as a performance condition. Therefore, the performance target should not be reflected in estimating the grant-date fair value of the award. Compensation cost should be recognized in the period in which it becomes probable that the performance target will be achieved and should represent the compensation cost attributable to the periods for which the requisite service has already been rendered. The total compensation cost recognized during and after the requisite service period should reflect the number of awards that are expected to vest and should be adjusted to reflect those awards that ultimately vest. The effective date will be the first quarter of fiscal year 2017. The adoption will not have a material effect on the company's consolidated financial statements.

#### **4. ACQUISITIONS AND DISPOSITIONS**

In December 2013, the company closed the sale of 60 percent of its subsidiary John Deere Landscapes, LLC (Landscapes) to a private equity investment firm affiliated with Clayton, Dubilier & Rice, LLC (CD&R). CD&R acquired newly created shares of cumulative convertible participating preferred stock initially representing 60 percent of the outstanding capital stock of Landscapes on an as-converted basis.

At October 31, 2013, the total assets of \$505 million and liabilities of \$120 million for these operations were classified as held for sale in the consolidated financial statements and written down to realizable value, which consisted of \$153 million of trade receivables, \$219 million of inventories, \$37 million of property and equipment, \$106 million of goodwill, \$25 million of other intangible assets and \$10 million of other assets less a \$45 million asset impairment. The related liabilities held for sale consisted of accounts payable and accrued expenses. The total amount of proceeds from the sale at closing was approximately \$305 million with no significant gain or loss, which consisted of \$174 million equity contribution and third party debt raised by Landscapes.

The equity contribution was in the form of newly issued cumulative convertible participating preferred units representing 60 percent of the voting rights (on an as converted basis), which will rank senior to the company's common stock as to dividends. The preferred units have an initial liquidation preference of \$174 million and accrue dividends at a rate of 12 percent per annum. The liquidation preference is subject to the company's rights under the stockholders agreement. Due to preferred dividend payment in additional preferred shares over the first two years, CD&R's ownership will increase over the two-year period.

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The company initially retained 40 percent of the Landscapes business in the form of common stock. As of January 2014, the company deconsolidated Landscapes and began reporting the results as an equity investment in unconsolidated affiliates. The fair value of the company's retained equity investment was approximately \$80 million at closing. The fair value was determined using an implied equity value approach. This approach used an option pricing model to determine the value of Landscapes' total equity based on the liquidation preference of the preferred units of \$174 million, as well as the preferred stock's conversion feature and dividend rights. The value of the company's common stock of Landscapes was the difference between the total fair value of the Landscapes' equity and the value of CD&R's preferred stock. The significant unobservable inputs were the expected term of the investment, assumptions about the form of preferred dividend payments and the assumed volatility of the Landscapes enterprise during the term of the investment. Due to the company's continuing involvement through its initial 40 percent interest, Landscapes' historical operating results are presented in continuing operations.



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In May 2014, the company closed the sale of the stock and certain assets of the entities that compose the company's Water operations to FIMI Opportunity Funds. The sale was the result of the company's intention to invest its resources in growing core businesses. At April 30, 2014, the total assets of \$85 million and liabilities of \$50 million were classified as held for sale in the consolidated financial statements, which consisted of \$57 million of trade receivables, \$10 million of other receivables, \$49 million of inventories and \$5 million of other assets less a \$36 million asset impairment. The related liabilities held for sale consisted of accounts payable and accrued expenses of \$47 million and retirement benefits and other liabilities of \$3 million. The total amount of proceeds from the sale was approximately \$35 million with a loss recorded in other operating expenses of \$10 million pretax and after-tax in addition to the impairments recorded (see Note 5). The company provides certain business services for a fee during a transition period.

In September 2013, the company acquired Bauer Built Manufacturing Inc., a manufacturer of planters located in Paton, Iowa, for approximately \$84 million. The fair values assigned to the assets and liabilities related to the acquired entity were approximately \$9 million of receivables, \$11 million of inventories, \$25 million of property and equipment, \$13 million of goodwill, \$26 million of identifiable intangible assets, \$1 million of other assets and \$1 million of liabilities. The identifiable intangibles were primarily related to technology, a non-compete contract, customer relationships and a trademark, which have amortization periods with a weighted-average of seven years. The entity was consolidated and the results of these operations have been included in the company's consolidated financial statements in the agriculture and turf operating segment since the date of acquisition. The pro forma results of operations as if the acquisition had occurred at the beginning of 2013 or comparative fiscal year would not differ significantly from the reported results.

## 5. SPECIAL ITEMS

### Impairments

In the fourth quarter of 2014, the company recorded non-cash charges in cost of sales for the impairment of long-lived assets of \$18 million and other assets of \$16 million pretax and after-tax. The assets are part of the company's agriculture and turf operations in China. The impairment is the result of a decline in forecasted financial performance that indicated it was probable the future cash flows would not cover the carrying amount of assets used to manufacture agricultural equipment in that country (see Note 26).

In 2014, the company recorded non-cash charges of \$62 million pretax, or \$30 million after-tax, related to the Water operations. In the first quarter, a \$26 million pretax and after-tax loss was recorded in cost of sales for the impairment of long-lived assets. In the second quarter, an additional non-cash charge of \$36 million pretax, or \$4 million after-tax, was recorded in other operating expenses for an impairment to write the Water operations down to fair value less costs to sell.

The tax benefits recognized resulted primarily from a change in valuation allowances of the Water operations. These operations were included in the company's agriculture and turf operating segment (see Note 26).

In 2013, the company recorded a non-cash charge for the impairment of long-lived assets of \$57 million pretax, or \$51 million after-tax. This consists of \$50 million pretax, or \$44 million after-tax, in the third quarter and \$7 million pretax and after-tax in the fourth quarter, related to the company's Water operations, which were included in the agriculture and turf operating segment. The total pretax impairment loss consisted of \$50 million recorded in cost of sales and \$7 million in selling, administrative and general expenses. The impairments were due to a decline in the forecasted financial performance and a review of strategic options for the business (see Note 26).

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In the fourth quarter of 2013, the company recorded a non-cash charge of \$45 million pretax and after-tax in other operating expenses for an impairment to write the Landscapes operations down to realizable value. These operations were included in the agriculture and turf operating segment and classified as held for sale at October 31, 2013 (see Note 4).

In the fourth quarter of 2012, the company recorded a non-cash charge in cost of sales for the impairment of goodwill of \$33 million pretax, or \$31 million after-tax, related to the company's Water operations. The goodwill impairment in 2012 was due to a decline in the forecasted financial performance as a result of more complex integration activities. The goodwill in this reporting unit was completely written off in 2012 (see Note 26).

### 6. CASH FLOW INFORMATION

For purposes of the statement of consolidated cash flows, the company considers investments with purchased maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Substantially all of the company's short-term borrowings, excluding the current maturities of long-term borrowings, mature or may require payment within three months or less.

The equipment operations sell a significant portion of their trade receivables to financial services. These intercompany cash flows are eliminated in the consolidated cash flows.

All cash flows from the changes in trade accounts and notes receivable (see Note 12) are classified as operating activities in the statement of consolidated cash flows as these receivables arise from sales to the company's customers. Cash flows from financing receivables that are related to sales to the company's customers (see Note 12) are also included in operating activities. The remaining financing receivables are related to the financing of equipment sold by independent dealers and are included in investing activities.

The company had the following non-cash operating and investing activities that were not included in the statement of consolidated cash flows. The company transferred inventory to equipment on operating leases of \$794 million, \$659 million and \$563 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The company also had accounts payable related to purchases of property and equipment of \$128 million, \$198 million and \$185 million at October 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.





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Cash payments for interest and income taxes consisted of the following in millions of dollars:

	2014		2013		2012
<b>Interest:</b>					
Equipment operations	\$ 506	\$	511	\$	420
Financial services	454		502		638
Intercompany eliminations	(268)		(247)		(248)
<b>Consolidated</b>	<b>\$ 692</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>810</b>
<b>Income taxes:</b>					
Equipment operations	\$ 1,640	\$	1,863	\$	1,704
Financial services	333		270		207
Intercompany eliminations	(253)		(179)		(167)
<b>Consolidated</b>	<b>\$ 1,720</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,954</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,744</b>

### 7. PENSION AND OTHER POSTRETIREMENT BENEFITS

The company has several defined benefit pension plans and postretirement health care and life insurance plans covering its U.S. employees and employees in certain foreign countries. The company uses an October 31 measurement date for these plans.

The components of net periodic pension cost and the assumptions related to the cost consisted of the following in millions of dollars and in percents:

	2014		2013		2012
<b>Pensions</b>					
Service cost	\$ 244	\$	273	\$	220
Interest cost	480		439		465
Expected return on plan assets	(776)		(778)		(787)
Amortization of actuarial loss	177		265		202
Amortization of prior service cost	25		12		47
Early-retirement benefits					3
Other postemployment benefits	5				
Settlements/curtailments	9		2		10
<b>Net cost</b>	<b>\$ 164</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>160</b>
<b>Weighted-average assumptions</b>					
Discount rates	4.5%		3.8%		4.4%
Rate of compensation increase	3.8%		3.9%		3.9%
Expected long-term rates of return	7.5%		7.8%		8.0%

The components of net periodic postretirement benefits cost and the assumptions related to the cost consisted of the following in millions of dollars and in percents:

	2014		2013		2012
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**Health care and life insurance**

Service cost	\$	44	\$	58	\$	49
Interest cost		267		255		281
Expected return on plan assets		(72)		(84)		(100)
Amortization of actuarial loss		33		141		136
Amortization of prior service credit		(3)		(8)		(15)
Settlements/curtailments		(1)				
<b>Net cost</b>	\$	268	\$	362	\$	351
<b>Weighted-average assumptions</b>						
Discount rates		4.7%		3.8%		4.4%
Expected long-term rates of return		7.2%		7.5%		7.7%

For fiscal year 2012, the participants in one of the company's postretirement health care plans became almost all inactive as described by the applicable accounting standards due to additional retirements. As a result, beginning in 2012, the net actuarial loss for this plan in the table above is being amortized over the longer period for the average remaining life expectancy of the inactive participants rather than the average remaining service period of the active participants. The amortization of actuarial loss also decreased in 2012 due to lower expected costs from the prescription drug plan to provide group benefits under Medicare Part D as an alternative to collecting the retiree drug subsidy.

The previous pension cost in net income and other changes in plan assets and benefit obligations in other comprehensive income in millions of dollars were as follows:

		2014		2013		2012
<b>Pensions</b>						
Net cost	\$	164	\$	213	\$	160
Retirement benefit adjustments included in other comprehensive (income) loss:						
Net actuarial (gain) loss		940		(1,481)		999
Prior service (credit) cost				(26)		5
Amortization of actuarial loss		(177)		(265)		(202)
Amortization of prior service cost		(25)		(12)		(47)
Settlements/curtailments		(9)		(2)		(10)
Total (gain) loss recognized in other comprehensive (income) loss		729		(1,786)		745
Total recognized in comprehensive (income) loss	\$	893	\$	(1,573)	\$	905

The previous postretirement benefits cost in net income and other changes in plan assets and benefit obligations in other comprehensive income in millions of dollars were as follows:

		2014		2013		2012
<b>Health care and life insurance</b>						
Net cost	\$	268	\$	362	\$	351
Retirement benefit adjustments included in other comprehensive (income) loss:						
Net actuarial (gain) loss		748		(1,165)		335
Prior service (credit) cost		(370)		(2)		2
Amortization of actuarial loss		(33)		(141)		(136)
Amortization of prior service credit		3		8		15
Settlements/curtailments		1				
Total (gain) loss recognized in other comprehensive (income) loss		349		(1,300)		216
Total recognized in comprehensive (income) loss	\$	617	\$	(938)	\$	567





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The benefit plan obligations, funded status and the assumptions related to the obligations at October 31 in millions of dollars follow:

	Pensions		Health Care and Life Insurance	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
<b>Change in benefit obligations</b>				
Beginning of year balance	\$ (10,968)	\$ (11,834)	\$ (5,926)	\$ (7,023)
Service cost	(244)	(273)	(44)	(58)
Interest cost	(480)	(439)	(267)	(255)
Actuarial gain (loss)	(1,306)	951	(757)	1,092
Amendments		26	370	2
Benefits paid	675	655	336	329
Health care subsidies			(22)	(16)
Other postemployment benefits	(5)			
Settlements/curtailments	2	3		
Foreign exchange and other	136	(57)	6	3
End of year balance	(12,190)	(10,968)	(6,304)	(5,926)
<b>Change in plan assets (fair value)</b>				
Beginning of year balance	11,008	10,017	1,157	1,287
Actual return on plan assets	1,132	1,312	81	158
Employer contribution	87	301	51	37
Benefits paid	(675)	(655)	(336)	(329)
Settlements/curtailments	(2)	(3)		
Foreign exchange and other	(103)	36	4	4
End of year balance	11,447	11,008	957	1,157
<b>Funded status</b>	\$ (743)	\$ 40	\$ (5,347)	\$ (4,769)
<b>Weighted-average assumptions</b>				
Discount rates	4.0%	4.5%	4.2%	4.7%
Rate of compensation increase	3.8%	3.8%		

For Medicare eligible salaried retirees that primarily retire after July 1, 1993 and are eligible for postretirement medical benefits, the company's postretirement benefit plan consists of annual Retiree Medical Credits (RMCs). The RMC is a monetary amount provided to the retirees annually to assist with their medical costs. In October 2014, the RMC plan was modified to change the annual cost sharing provisions. For 2015, the annual RMC amount will not increase and the rate of future changes will continue to be set each year by the company. The net effect of this change on the accumulated postretirement benefit obligation was a decrease of \$367 million, which was recognized as a prior service credit in other comprehensive income and will be amortized as a reduction to expense over the active participants' remaining years of service to full eligibility.

The amounts recognized at October 31 in millions of dollars consist of the following:

	Pensions		Health Care and Life Insurance	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
<b>Amounts recognized in balance sheet</b>				
Noncurrent asset	\$ 262	\$ 551		
Current liability	(51)	(58)	\$ (21)	\$ (21)
Noncurrent liability	(954)	(453)	(5,326)	(4,748)
Total	\$ (743)	\$ 40	\$ (5,347)	\$ (4,769)
<b>Amounts recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income pretax</b>				
Net actuarial loss	\$ 4,266	\$ 3,512	\$ 1,675	\$ 960



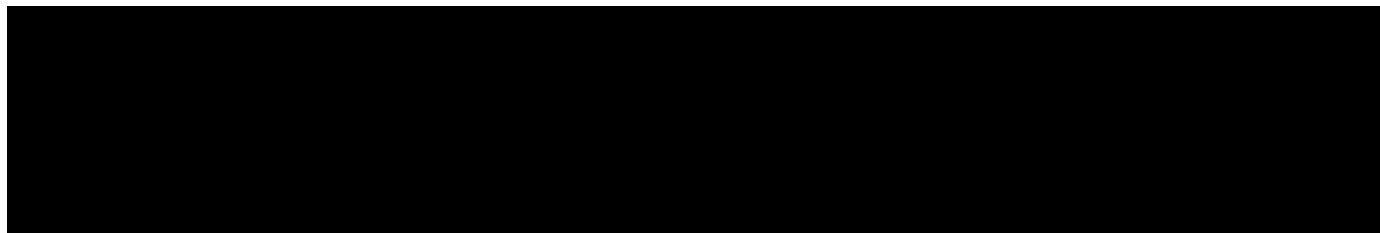
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Prior service cost (credit)		42		67		(407)		(41)
Total	\$	4,308	\$	3,579	\$	1,268	\$	919

The total accumulated benefit obligations for all pension plans at October 31, 2014 and 2013 was \$11,425 million and \$10,352 million, respectively.

The accumulated benefit obligations and fair value of plan assets for pension plans with accumulated benefit obligations in excess of plan assets were \$1,381 million and \$916 million, respectively, at October 31, 2014 and \$680 million and \$267 million, respectively, at October 31, 2013. The projected benefit obligations and fair value of plan assets for pension plans with projected benefit obligations in excess of plan assets were \$8,213 million and \$7,208 million, respectively, at October 31, 2014 and \$1,340 million and \$829 million, respectively, at October 31, 2013.

The amounts in accumulated other comprehensive income that are expected to be amortized as net expense (income) during fiscal 2015 in millions of dollars follow:



Actuarial gains and losses are recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss). To the extent unamortized gains and losses exceed 10% of the higher of the market-related value of assets or the benefit obligation, the excess is amortized as a component of net periodic cost over the remaining service period of the active participants. For plans in which all or almost all of the plan's participants are inactive, the amortization period is the remaining life expectancy of the inactive participants.

The company expects to contribute approximately \$78 million to its pension plans and approximately \$26 million to its health care and life insurance plans in 2015, which are primarily direct benefit payments for unfunded plans.



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The benefits expected to be paid from the benefit plans, which reflect expected future years of service, are as follows in millions of dollars:

\* Net of prescription drug group benefit subsidy under Medicare Part D.

The annual rates of increase in the per capita cost of covered health care benefits (the health care cost trend rates) used to determine accumulated postretirement benefit obligations were based on the trends for medical and prescription drug claims for pre- and post-65 age groups due to the effects of Medicare. At October 31, 2014, the weighted-average composite trend rates for these obligations were assumed to be a 6.2 percent increase from 2014 to 2015, gradually decreasing to 5 percent from 2022 to 2023 and all future years. The obligations at October 31, 2013 and the cost in 2014 assumed a 6.5 percent increase from 2013 to 2014, gradually decreasing to 5 percent from 2021 to 2022 and all future years. An increase of one percentage point in the assumed health care cost trend rate would increase the accumulated postretirement benefit obligations by \$859 million and the aggregate of service and interest cost component of net periodic postretirement benefits cost for the year by \$47 million. A decrease of one percentage point would decrease the obligations by \$658 million and the cost by \$35 million.

The discount rate assumptions used to determine the postretirement obligations at October 31, 2014 and 2013 were based on hypothetical AA yield curves represented by a series of annualized individual discount rates. These discount rates represent the rates at which the company's benefit obligations could effectively be settled at the October 31 measurement dates.

Fair value measurement levels in the following tables are defined in Note 26.

The fair values of the pension plan assets at October 31, 2014 follow in millions of dollars:

	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 1,085	\$ 426	\$ 659	
Equity:				
U.S. equity securities	3,084	3,084		
U.S. equity funds	42	4	38	
International equity securities	1,972	1,972		
International equity funds	456	74	382	
Fixed Income:				
Government and agency securities	436	412	24	
Corporate debt securities	324	1	323	
Mortgage-backed securities	96	11	85	

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Fixed income funds	1,080	127	953	
Real estate	574	132	8	\$ 434
Private equity/venture capital	1,578			1,578
Hedge funds	593			593
Other investments	324	3	321	
Derivative contracts - assets*	322	14	308	
Derivative contracts - liabilities**	(39)	(9)	(30)	
Receivables, payables and other	(3)	(3)		
Securities lending collateral	847		847	
Securities lending liability	(847)		(847)	
Securities sold short	(477)	(477)		
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$ 11,447</b>	<b>\$ 5,771</b>	<b>\$ 3,071</b>	<b>\$ 2,605</b>

\* Includes contracts for interest rates of \$246 million, foreign currency of \$61 million, equity of \$11 million and other of \$4 million.

\*\* Includes contracts for interest rates of \$6 million, foreign currency of \$25 million and other of \$8 million.

The fair values of the health care assets at October 31, 2014 follow in millions of dollars:

	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 55	\$ 37	\$ 18	
Equity:				
U.S. equity securities	223	223		
U.S. equity funds	87	87		
International equity securities	57	57		
International equity funds	121		121	
Fixed Income:				
Government and agency securities	164	159	5	
Corporate debt securities	33		33	
Mortgage-backed securities	13		13	
Fixed income funds	70	1	69	
Real estate	17	5		\$ 12
Private equity/venture capital	44			44
Hedge funds	72		56	16
Other investments	9		9	
Derivative contracts - assets*	5		5	
Derivative contracts - liabilities**	(1)		(1)	
Receivables, payables and other	1	1		
Securities lending collateral	126		126	
Securities lending liability	(126)		(126)	
Securities sold short	(13)	(13)		
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$ 957</b>	<b>\$ 557</b>	<b>\$ 328</b>	<b>\$ 72</b>

\* Includes contracts for interest rates of \$3 million and foreign currency of \$2 million.

\*\* Includes contracts for foreign currency of \$1 million.



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The fair values of the pension plan assets at October 31, 2013 follow in millions of dollars:

	Total		Level 1		Level 2		Level 3
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 1,190	\$	317	\$	873		
Equity:							
U.S. equity securities	3,321		3,321				
U.S. equity funds	47		5		42		
International equity securities	1,953		1,953				
International equity funds	481		68		413		
Fixed Income:							
Government and agency securities	391		370		21		
Corporate debt securities	278				278		
Mortgage-backed securities	106		14		92		
Fixed income funds	601		91		510		
Real estate	550		110		12	\$	428
Private equity/venture capital	1,416						1,416
Hedge funds	529				379		150
Other investments	389		3		386		
Derivative contracts - assets*	769		10		759		
Derivative contracts - liabilities**	(591)		(6)		(585)		
Receivables, payables and other	14		14				
Securities lending collateral	716				716		
Securities lending liability	(716)				(716)		
Securities sold short	(436)		(436)				
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$ 11,008</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,834</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,180</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,994</b>

\* Includes contracts for interest rates of \$749 million, foreign currency of \$10 million, equity of \$9 million and other of \$1 million.

\*\* Includes contracts for interest rates of \$563 million, foreign currency of \$22 million and other of \$6 million.

The fair values of the health care assets at October 31, 2013 follow in millions of dollars:

	Total		Level 1		Level 2		Level 3
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 58	\$	29	\$	29		
Equity:							
U.S. equity securities	298		298				
U.S. equity funds	84		84				
International equity securities	71		71				
International equity funds	187				187		
Fixed Income:							
Government and agency securities	184		180		4		
Corporate debt securities	33				33		
Mortgage-backed securities	11				11		
Fixed income funds	58				58		
Real estate	52		6		31	\$	15
Private equity/venture capital	48						48
Hedge funds	71				66		5
Other investments	13				13		
Derivative contracts - assets*	4				4		
Derivative contracts - liabilities**	(1)				(1)		
Receivables, payables and other	1		1				
Securities lending collateral	109				109		



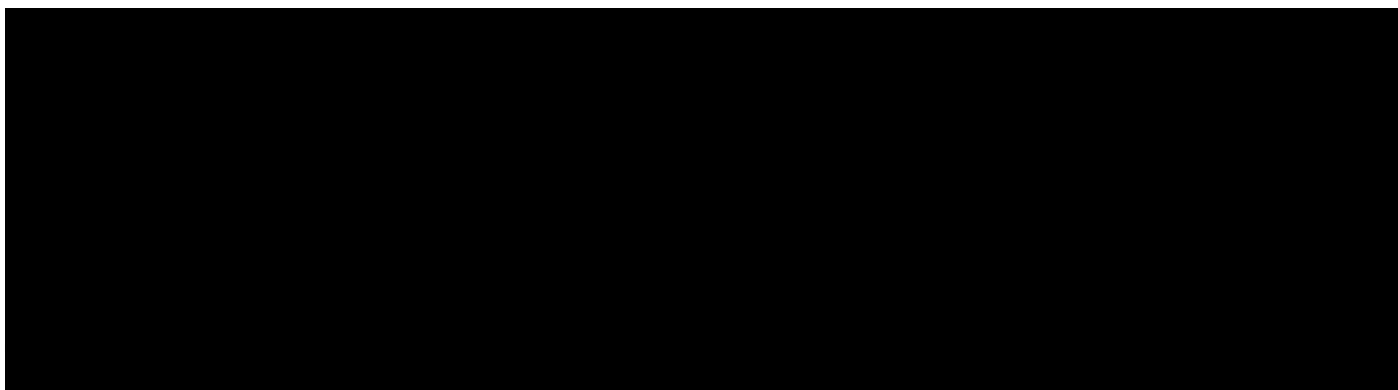
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Securities lending liability		(109)		(109)	
Securities sold short		(15)		(15)	
<b>Total net assets</b>	\$	1,157	\$	654	\$ 435 68

\* Includes contracts for interest rates of \$3 million and foreign currency of \$1 million.

\*\* Includes contracts for foreign currency of \$1 million.

A reconciliation of Level 3 pension and health care asset fair value measurements in millions of dollars follows:



\* Health care Level 3 assets represent approximately 3 percent to 4 percent of the reconciliation amounts for 2014, 2013 and 2012.

Fair values are determined as follows:

**Cash and Short-Term Investments** Includes accounts that are valued based on the account value, which approximates fair value, and investment funds that are valued on the fund's net asset value (NAV) based on the fair value of the underlying securities. Also included are securities that are valued using a market approach (matrix pricing model) in which all significant inputs are observable or can be derived from or corroborated by observable market data.

**Equity Securities and Funds** The values are determined primarily by closing prices in the active market in which the equity investment trades, or the fund's NAV, based on the fair value of the underlying securities.

**Fixed Income Securities and Funds** The securities are valued using either a market approach (matrix pricing model) in which all significant inputs are observable or can be derived from or corroborated by observable market data such as interest rates, yield curves, volatilities, credit risk and prepayment speeds, or they are valued using the closing prices in the active market in which the fixed income investment trades. Fixed

income funds are valued using the NAV, based on the fair value of the underlying securities.

***Real Estate, Venture Capital, Private Equity, Hedge Funds and Other*** Certain of the investments, which are structured as limited partnerships, are valued at estimated fair value based on their proportionate share of the limited partnership's fair value that is determined by the general partner. The general partner values these investments using a combination of NAV, an income approach (primarily estimated cash flows discounted over the expected holding period), or market approach (primarily the valuation of similar securities and properties). Real estate investment trusts are valued at the closing prices in the active markets in which the investment trades. Real estate investment funds, certain hedge funds and other investments are valued at NAV, based on the fair value of the underlying securities.



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**Interest Rate, Foreign Currency and Other Derivative Instruments** The derivatives are valued using either an income approach (discounted cash flow) using market observable inputs, including swap curves and both forward and spot exchange rates, or a market approach (closing prices in the active market in which the derivative instrument trades).

The primary investment objective for the pension plan assets is to maximize the growth of these assets to meet the projected obligations to the beneficiaries over a long period of time, and to do so in a manner that is consistent with the company's earnings strength and risk tolerance. The primary investment objective for the health care plan assets is to provide the company with the financial flexibility to pay the projected obligations to beneficiaries. The asset allocation policy is the most important decision in managing the assets and it is reviewed regularly. The asset allocation policy considers the company's financial strength and long-term asset class risk/return expectations since the obligations are long-term in nature. The current target allocations for pension assets are approximately 48 percent for equity securities, 24 percent for debt securities, 5 percent for real estate and 23 percent for other investments. The target allocations for health care assets are approximately 54 percent for equity securities, 28 percent for debt securities, 3 percent for real estate and 15 percent for other investments. The allocation percentages above include the effects of combining derivatives with other investments to manage asset allocations and exposures to interest rates and foreign currency exchange. The assets are well diversified and are managed by professional investment firms as well as by investment professionals who are company employees. As a result of the company's diversified investment policy, there were no significant concentrations of risk.

The expected long-term rate of return on plan assets reflects management's expectations of long-term average rates of return on funds invested to provide for benefits included in the projected benefit obligations. A market related value of plan assets is used to calculate the expected return on assets. The market related value recognizes changes in the fair value of pension plan assets systematically over a five-year period. The market related value of the health care and life insurance plan assets equal fair value. The expected return is based on the outlook for inflation and for returns in multiple asset classes, while also considering historical returns, asset allocation and investment strategy. The company's approach has emphasized the long-term nature of the return estimate such that the return assumption is not changed significantly unless there are fundamental changes in capital markets that affect the company's expectations for returns over an extended period of time (i.e., 10 to 20 years). The average annual return of the company's U.S. pension fund was approximately 8.8 percent during the past ten years and approximately 9.7 percent during the past 20 years. Since return premiums over inflation and total returns for major asset classes vary widely even over ten-year periods, recent history is not necessarily indicative of long-term future expected returns. The company's systematic methodology for

determining the long-term rate of return for the company's investment strategies supports the long-term expected return assumptions.

The company has created certain Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association trusts (VEBAs) for the funding of postretirement health care benefits. The future expected asset returns for these VEBAs are lower than the expected return on the other pension and health care plan assets due to investment in a higher proportion of liquid securities. These assets are in addition to the other postretirement health care plan assets that have been funded under Section 401(h) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and maintained in a separate account in the company's pension plan trust.

The company has defined contribution plans related to employee investment and savings plans primarily in the U.S. The company's contributions and costs under these plans were \$184 million in 2014, \$178 million in 2013 and \$155 million in 2012. The contribution rate varies primarily based on the company's performance in the prior year and employee participation in the plans.

## 8. INCOME TAXES

The provision for income taxes by taxing jurisdiction and by significant component consisted of the following in millions of dollars:



Based upon the location of the company's operations, the consolidated income before income taxes in the U.S. in 2014, 2013 and 2012 was \$3,219 million, \$4,124 million and \$3,582 million, respectively, and in foreign countries was \$1,578 million, \$1,359 million and \$1,152 million, respectively. Certain foreign operations are branches of Deere & Company and are subject to U.S. as well as foreign income tax regulations. The pretax income by location and the preceding analysis of the income tax provision by taxing jurisdiction are not directly related.



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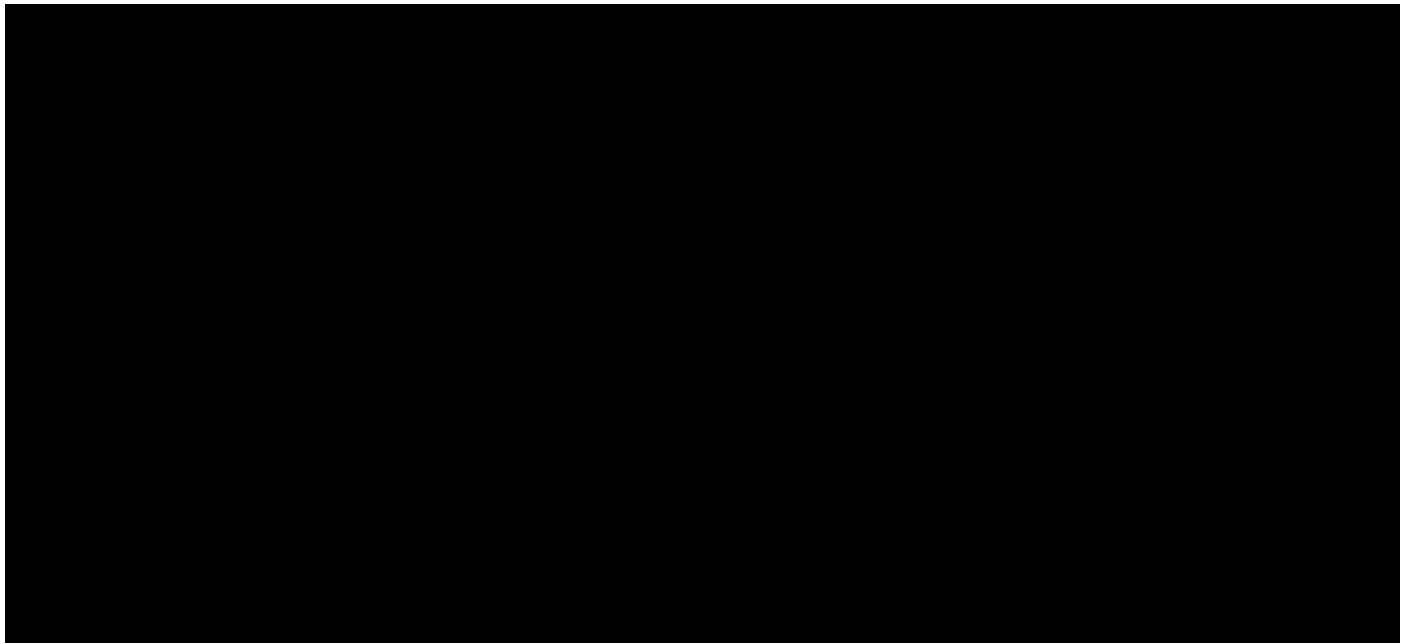


A comparison of the statutory and effective income tax provision and reasons for related differences in millions of dollars follow:



At October 31, 2014, accumulated earnings in certain subsidiaries outside the U.S. totaled \$4,677 million for which no provision for U.S. income taxes or foreign withholding taxes has been made, because it is expected that such earnings will be reinvested outside the U.S. indefinitely. Determination of the amount of unrecognized deferred tax liability on these unremitted earnings is not practicable. At October 31, 2014, the amount of cash and cash equivalents and marketable securities held by these foreign subsidiaries was \$1,025 million.

Deferred income taxes arise because there are certain items that are treated differently for financial accounting than for income tax reporting purposes. An analysis of the deferred income tax assets and liabilities at October 31 in millions of dollars follows:



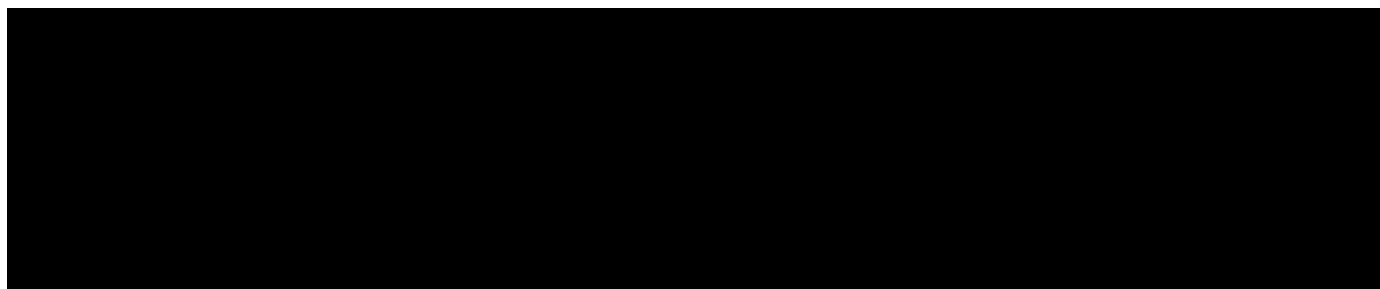
Deere & Company files a consolidated federal income tax return in the U.S., which includes the wholly-owned financial services subsidiaries. These subsidiaries account for income taxes generally as if they filed separate income tax returns.

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At October 31, 2014, certain tax loss and tax credit carryforwards of \$514 million, of which \$101 million are capital losses, were available with \$207 million expiring from 2015 through 2034 and \$307 million with an indefinite carryforward period.

In March 2013, the company changed the corporate structure of most of its German operations from a branch to a subsidiary of Deere & Company. The change provides the company increased flexibility and efficiency in funding growth in international operations. As a result, the tax status of these operations has changed. Formerly, as a branch these earnings were taxable in the U.S. as earned. As a subsidiary, these earnings will now be taxable in the U.S. if they are distributed to Deere & Company as dividends, which is the same as the company's other foreign subsidiaries. The earnings of the new German subsidiary remain taxable in Germany. Due to the change in tax status and the expectation that the German subsidiary's earnings are indefinitely reinvested, the deferred tax assets and liabilities related to U.S. taxable temporary differences for the previous German branch were written off. The effect of this write-off was a decrease in net deferred tax assets and a charge to the income tax provision of \$56 million during the second fiscal quarter of 2013.

A reconciliation of the total amounts of unrecognized tax benefits at October 31 in millions of dollars follows:



The amount of unrecognized tax benefits at October 31, 2014 that would affect the effective tax rate if the tax benefits were recognized was \$71 million. The remaining liability was related to tax positions for which there are offsetting tax receivables, or the uncertainty was only related to timing. The company expects that any reasonably possible change in the amounts of unrecognized tax benefits in the next twelve months would not be significant.



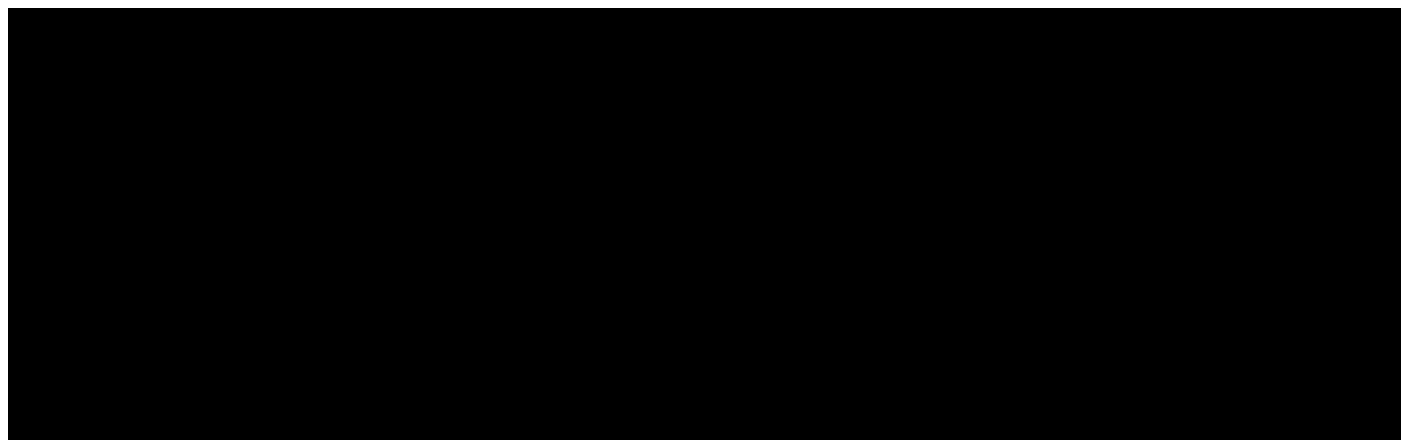
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The company files its tax returns according to the tax laws of the jurisdictions in which it operates, which includes the U.S. federal jurisdiction, and various state and foreign jurisdictions. The U.S. Internal Revenue Service has completed the examination of the company's federal income tax returns for periods prior to 2009. The years 2009 through 2012 federal income tax returns are currently under examination. Various state and foreign income tax returns, including major tax jurisdictions in Canada and Germany, also remain subject to examination by taxing authorities.

The company's policy is to recognize interest related to income taxes in interest expense and interest income, and recognize penalties in selling, administrative and general expenses. During 2014, 2013 and 2012, the total amount of expense from interest and penalties was \$11 million, \$9 million and \$6 million and the interest income was \$4 million, \$4 million and \$1 million, respectively. At October 31, 2014 and 2013, the liability for accrued interest and penalties totaled \$54 million and \$49 million and the receivable for interest was \$2 million and \$2 million, respectively.

## 9. OTHER INCOME AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES

The major components of other income and other operating expenses consisted of the following in millions of dollars:



The company issues insurance policies for crop insurance and extended equipment warranties. The crop insurance subsidiary utilizes reinsurance to limit its losses and reduce its exposure to claims. Although reinsurance contracts permit recovery of certain claims from reinsurers, the insurance subsidiary is not relieved of its primary obligation to the policyholders. The premiums ceded by the crop insurance subsidiary in 2014, 2013 and 2012 were \$288 million, \$337 million and \$251 million, and claims recoveries on the ceded business were \$304 million, \$294 million and \$493 million, respectively. The amounts from reinsurance are netted against the insurance premiums and fees earned and the insurance claims and expenses in the table above.

## 10. UNCONSOLIDATED AFFILIATED COMPANIES

Unconsolidated affiliated companies are companies in which Deere & Company generally owns 20 percent to 50 percent of the outstanding voting shares. Deere & Company does not control these companies and accounts for its investments in them on the equity basis. The investments in these companies primarily consist of Bell Equipment Limited (32 percent ownership), Deere-Hitachi Construction Machinery Corporation (50 percent ownership), Ashok Leyland John Deere Construction Equipment Company Private Limited (50 percent ownership), Deere-Hitachi Maquinas de Construcao do Brasil S.A. (50 percent ownership) and John Deere Landscapes, LLC (38 percent ownership). The unconsolidated affiliated companies primarily manufacture or market equipment and landscapes products. Deere & Company's share of the income or loss of these companies is reported in the consolidated income statement under Equity in income (loss) of unconsolidated affiliates. The investment in these companies is reported in the consolidated balance sheet under Investments in unconsolidated affiliates.

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Combined financial information of the unconsolidated affiliated companies in millions of dollars follows:

<b>Operations</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
			

<b>Financial Position</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
		

Consolidated retained earnings at October 31, 2014 include undistributed earnings of the unconsolidated affiliates of \$152 million. Dividends from unconsolidated affiliates were \$1 million in 2014, \$10 million in 2013 and \$.2 million in 2012.



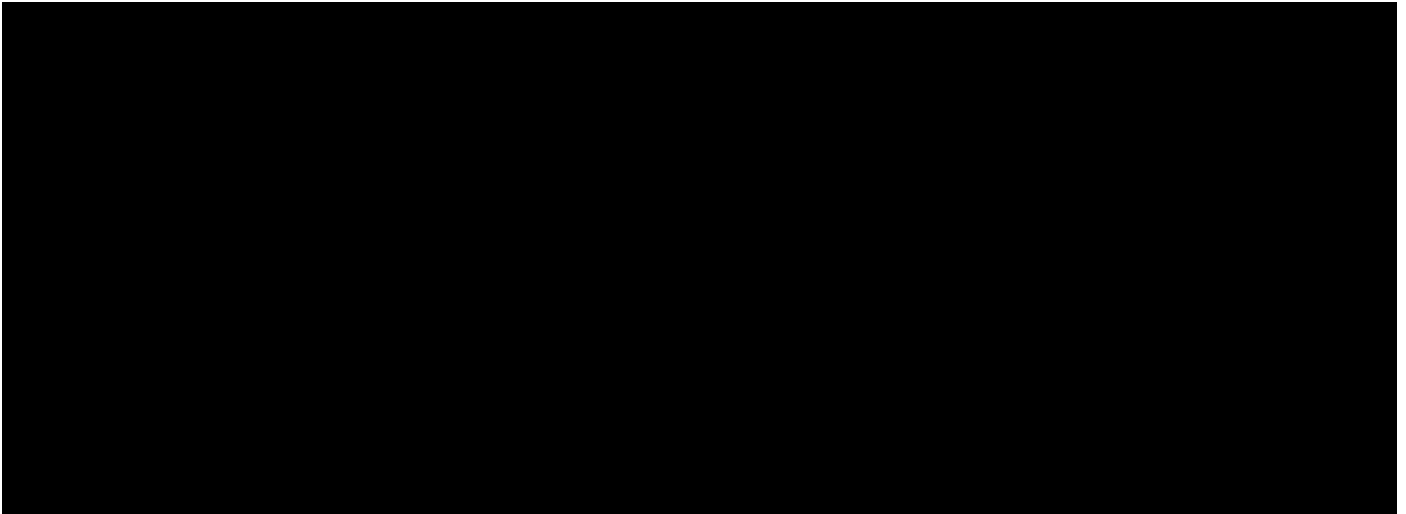
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**11. MARKETABLE SECURITIES**

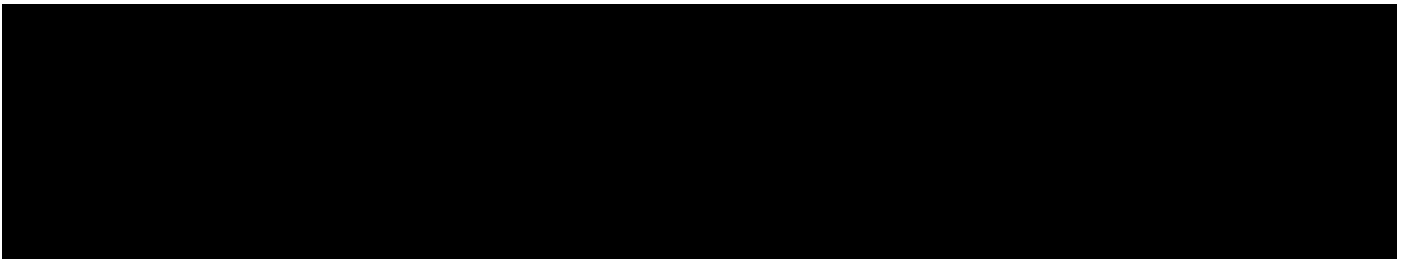
All marketable securities are classified as available-for-sale, with unrealized gains and losses shown as a component of stockholders' equity. Realized gains or losses from the sales of marketable securities are based on the specific identification method.

The amortized cost and fair value of marketable securities at October 31 in millions of dollars follow:

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\* Primarily issued by U.S. government sponsored enterprises.

The contractual maturities of debt securities at October 31, 2014 in millions of dollars follow:

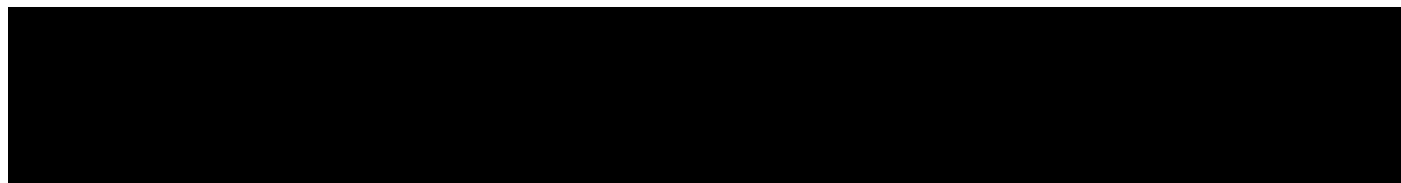
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Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities because some securities may be called or prepaid. Because of the potential for prepayment on mortgage-backed securities, they are not categorized by contractual maturity. Proceeds from the sales of available-for-sale securities were \$6 million in 2014, \$7 million in 2013 and \$7 million in 2012. Realized gains, realized losses, the increase (decrease) in net unrealized gains or losses and unrealized losses that have been continuous for over twelve months were not significant in 2014, 2013 and 2012. Unrealized losses at October 31, 2014 and 2013 were primarily the result of an increase in interest rates and were not recognized in income due to the ability and intent to hold to maturity. There were no impairment write-downs in the periods reported.

## 12. RECEIVABLES

### Trade Accounts and Notes Receivable

Trade accounts and notes receivable at October 31 consisted of the following in millions of dollars:



At October 31, 2014 and 2013, dealer notes included in the previous table were \$61 million and \$75 million, and the allowance for credit losses was \$55 million and \$67 million, respectively.

The equipment operations sell a significant portion of their trade receivables to financial services and provide compensation to these operations at approximate market rates of interest.

Trade accounts and notes receivable primarily arise from sales of goods to independent dealers. Under the terms of the sales to dealers, interest is primarily charged to dealers on outstanding balances, from the earlier of the date when goods are sold to retail customers by the dealer or the expiration of certain interest-free periods granted at the time of the sale to the dealer, until payment is received by the company. Dealers cannot cancel purchases after the equipment is shipped and are responsible for payment even if the equipment is not sold to retail customers. The interest-free periods are determined based on the type of equipment sold and the time of year of the sale. These periods range from one to twelve months for most equipment. Interest-free periods may not be extended. Interest charged may not be forgiven and the past due interest rates exceed market rates. The company evaluates and assesses dealers on an ongoing basis as to their creditworthiness and generally retains a security interest in the goods associated with the trade receivables. The company is obligated to repurchase goods sold to a dealer upon cancellation or termination of the dealer's contract for such causes as change in ownership and closeout of the business.

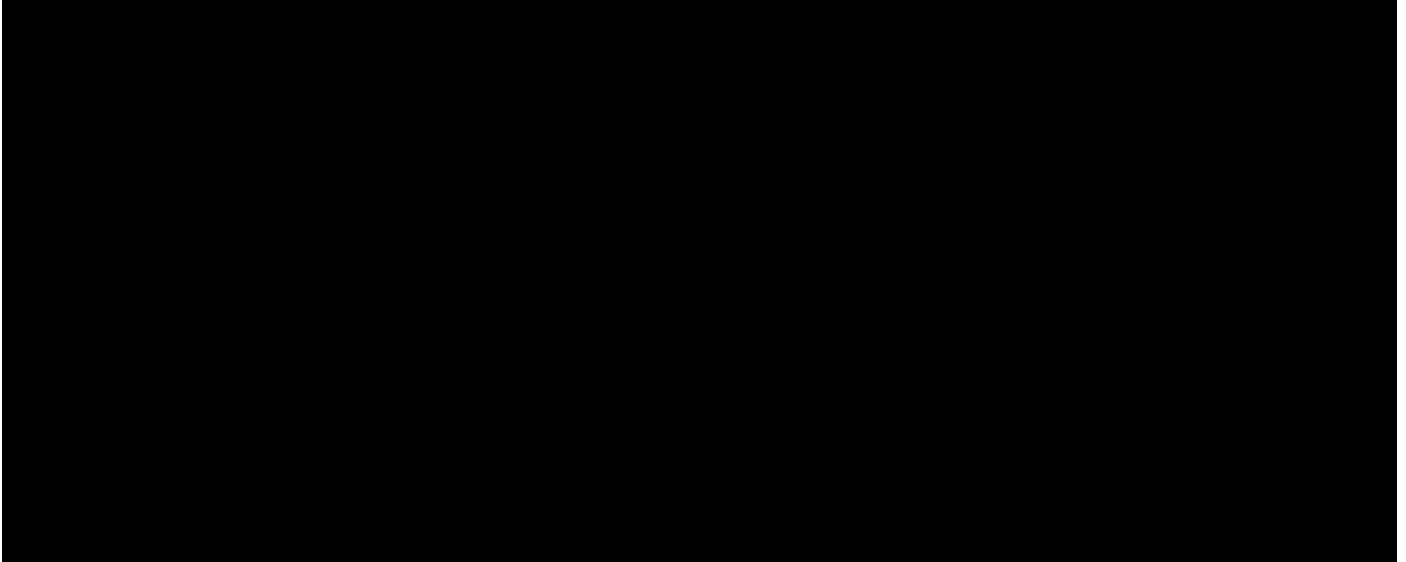
Trade accounts and notes receivable have significant concentrations of credit risk in the agriculture and turf sector and construction and forestry sector as shown in the previous table. On a geographic basis, there is not a disproportionate concentration of credit risk in any area.



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**Financing Receivables**

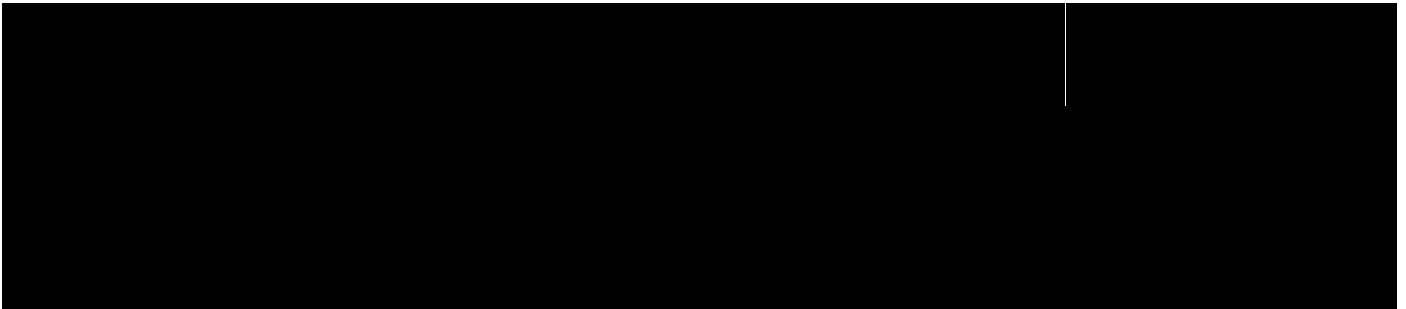
Financing receivables at October 31 consisted of the following in millions of dollars:

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The residual values for investments in financing leases at October 31, 2014 and 2013 totaled \$112 million and \$94 million, respectively.

Financing receivables have significant concentrations of credit risk in the agriculture and turf sector and construction and forestry sector as shown in the previous table. On a geographic basis, there is not a disproportionate concentration of credit risk in any area. The company generally retains as collateral a security interest in the equipment associated with retail notes, wholesale notes and financing leases.

Financing receivables at October 31 related to the company's sales of equipment that were included in the table above consisted of the following in millions of dollars:

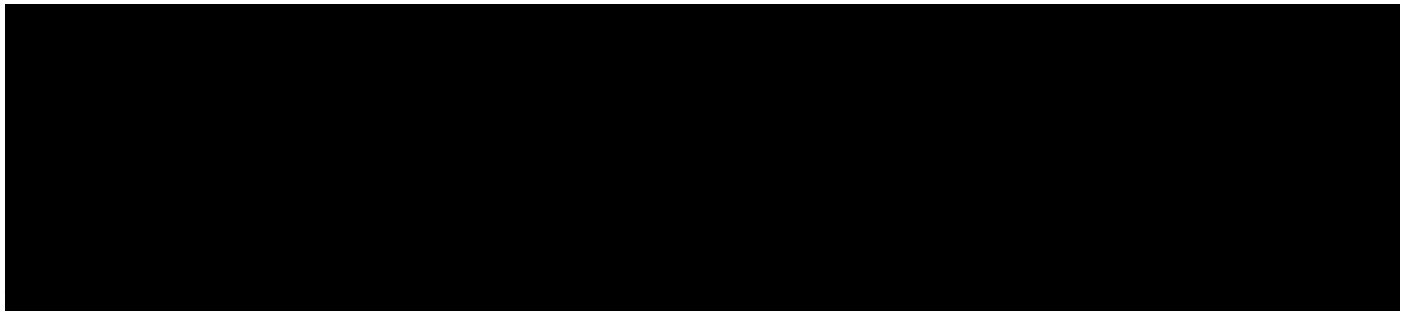
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\* These retail notes generally arise from sales of equipment by company-owned dealers or through direct sales.

(continued)



Financing receivable installments, including unearned finance income, at October 31 are scheduled as follows in millions of dollars:



The maximum terms for retail notes are generally seven years for agriculture and turf equipment and five years for construction and forestry equipment. The maximum term for financing leases is generally five years, while the average term for wholesale notes is less than twelve months.

At October 31, 2014 and 2013, the unpaid balances of receivables administered but not owned were \$54 million and \$82 million, respectively. At October 31, 2014 and 2013, worldwide financing receivables administered, which include financing receivables administered but not owned, totaled \$32,078 million and \$29,868 million, respectively.

Past due balances of financing receivables still accruing finance income represent the total balance held (principal plus accrued interest) with any payment amounts 30 days or more past the contractual payment due date. Non-performing financing receivables represent loans for which the company has ceased accruing finance income. These receivables are generally 120 days delinquent and the estimated uncollectible amount, after charging the dealer's withholding account, has been written off to the allowance for credit losses. Finance income for non-performing receivables is recognized on a cash basis. Accrual of finance income is generally resumed when the receivable becomes contractually current and collections are reasonably assured.

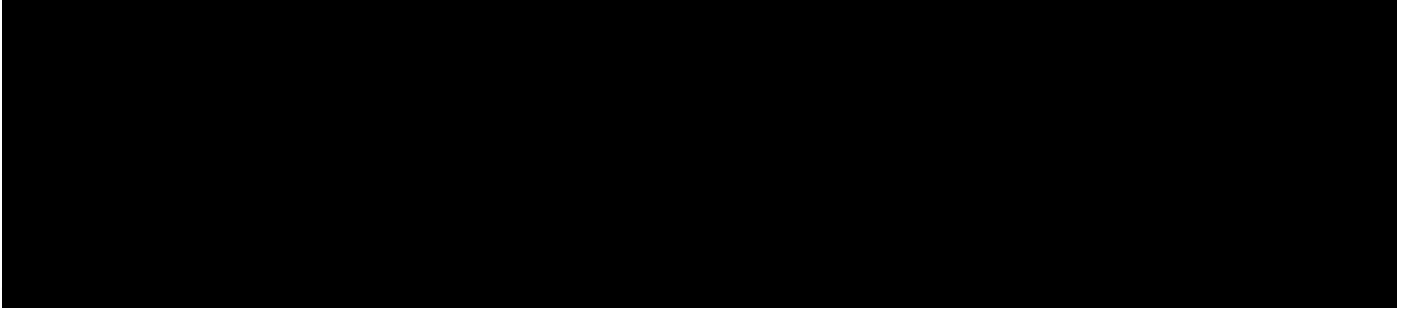
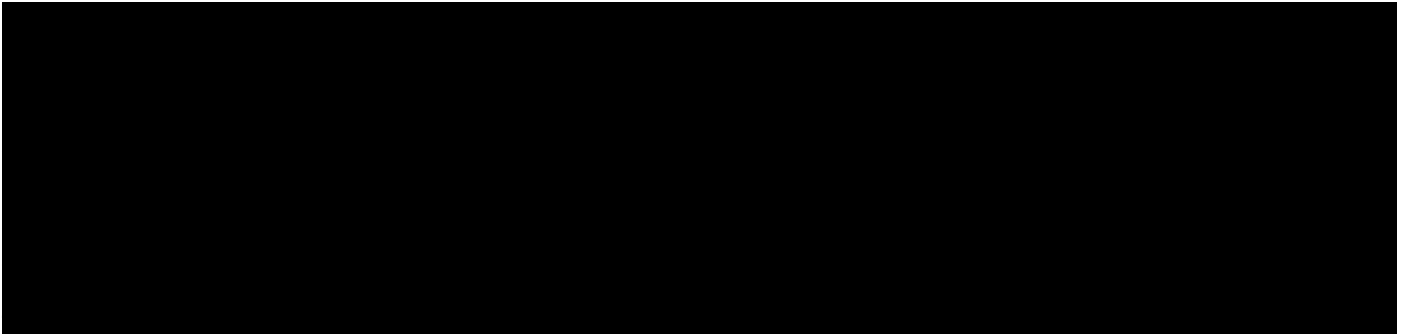


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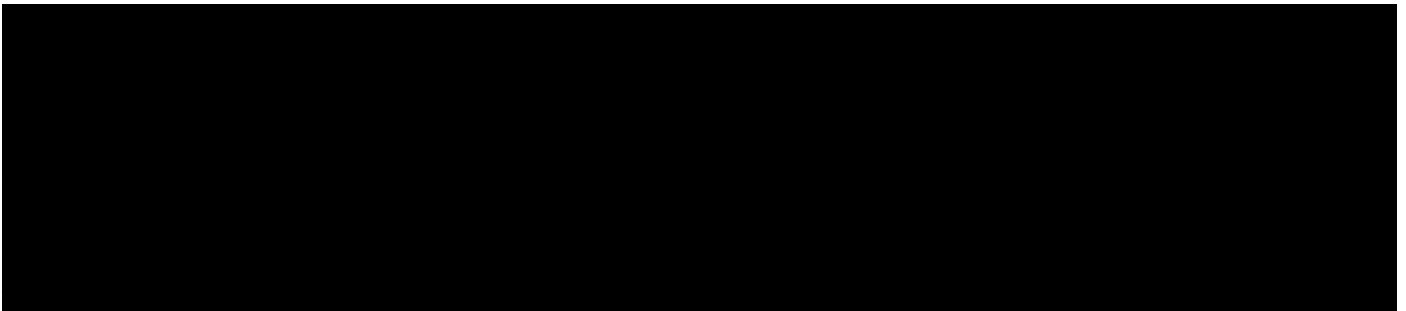


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An age analysis of past due financing receivables that are still accruing interest and non-performing financing receivables at October 31, 2014 follows in millions of dollars:

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An age analysis of past due financing receivables that are still accruing interest and non-performing financing receivables at October 31, 2013 follows in millions of dollars:

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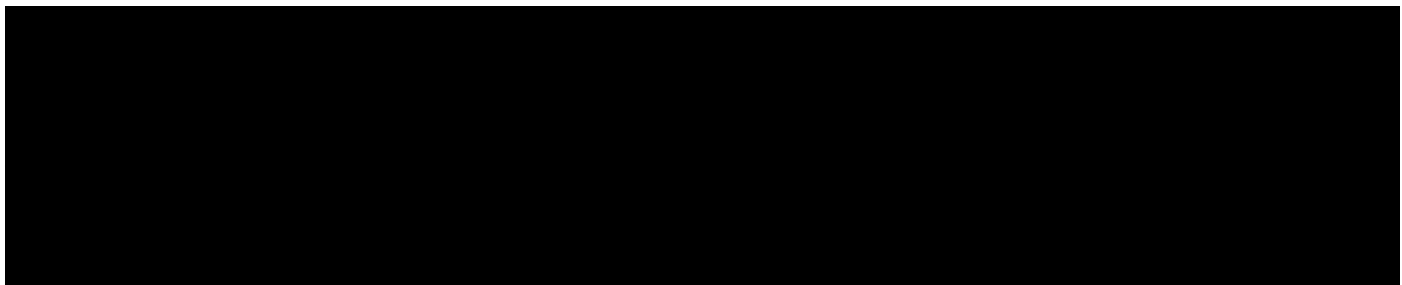
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An analysis of the allowance for credit losses and investment in financing receivables follows in millions of dollars:



\* Individual allowances were not significant.

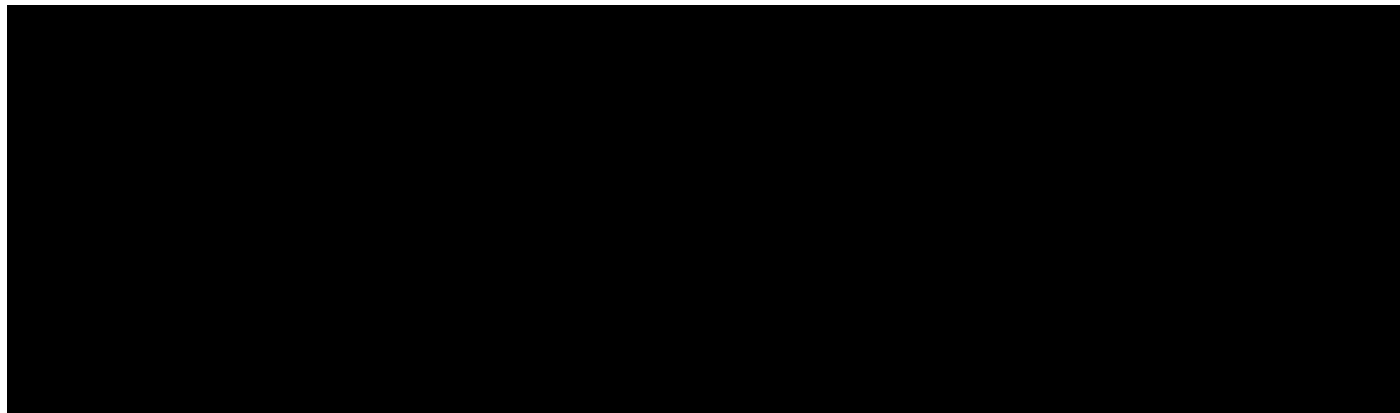


\* Individual allowances were not significant.

(continued)



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\* Individual allowances were not significant.

Past-due amounts over 30 days represented .90 percent and .82 percent of the receivables financed at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The allowance for credit losses represented .54 percent and .58 percent of financing receivables outstanding at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. In addition, at October 31, 2014 and 2013, the company's financial services operations had \$196 million and \$197 million, respectively, of deposits withheld from dealers and merchants available for potential credit losses.

Financing receivables are considered impaired when it is probable the company will be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms. Receivables reviewed for impairment generally include those that are either past due, or have provided bankruptcy notification, or require significant collection efforts. Receivables, which are impaired, are generally classified as non-performing.

An analysis of the impaired financing receivables at October 31 follows in millions of dollars:

	Recorded Investment	Unpaid Principal Balance	Specific Allowance	Average Recorded Investment

(continued)

	Recorded Investment	Unpaid Principal Balance	Specific Allowance	Average Recorded Investment

\* Finance income recognized was not material.

\*\* Primarily operating loans and retail notes.

\*\*\* Primarily retail notes.

A troubled debt restructuring is generally the modification of debt in which a creditor grants a concession it would not otherwise consider to a debtor that is experiencing financial difficulties. These modifications may include a reduction of the stated interest rate, an extension of the maturity dates, a reduction of the face amount or maturity amount of the debt, or a reduction of accrued interest. During 2014, 2013 and 2012, the company identified 66, 92 and 138 financing receivable contracts, primarily operating loans and retail notes, as troubled debt restructurings with aggregate balances of \$3 million, \$16 million and \$5 million pre-modification and \$2 million, \$15 million and \$4 million post-modification, respectively. During these same periods, there were no significant troubled debt restructurings that subsequently defaulted and were written off. At October 31, 2014, the company had no commitments to lend additional funds to borrowers whose accounts were modified in troubled debt restructurings.

**Other Receivables**

Other receivables at October 31 consisted of the following in millions of dollars:

	2014	2013
[REDACTED]		
[REDACTED]		

Reinsurance and insurance premium receivables are associated with the financial services crop insurance subsidiary (see Note 9).



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### 13. SECURITIZATION OF FINANCING RECEIVABLES

The company, as a part of its overall funding strategy, periodically transfers certain financing receivables (retail notes) into variable interest entities (VIEs) that are special purpose entities (SPEs), or a non-VIE banking operation, as part of its asset-backed securities programs (securitizations). The structure of these transactions is such that the transfer of the retail notes did not meet the criteria of sales of receivables, and is, therefore, accounted for as a secured borrowing. SPEs utilized in securitizations of retail notes differ from other entities included in the company's consolidated statements because the assets they hold are legally isolated. Use of the assets held by the SPEs or the non-VIE is restricted by terms of the documents governing the securitization transactions.


In securitizations of retail notes related to secured borrowings, the retail notes are transferred to certain SPEs or to a non-VIE banking operation, which in turn issue debt to investors. The resulting secured borrowings are recorded as "Short-term securitization borrowings" on the balance sheet. The securitized retail notes are recorded as "Financing receivables securitized - net" on the balance sheet. The total restricted assets on the balance sheet related to these securitizations include the financing receivables securitized less an allowance for credit losses, and other assets primarily representing restricted cash. For those securitizations in which retail notes are transferred into SPEs, the SPEs supporting the secured borrowings are consolidated unless the company does not have both the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact the SPEs economic performance and the obligation to absorb losses or the right to receive benefits that could potentially be significant to the SPEs. No additional support to these SPEs beyond what was previously contractually required has been provided during the reporting periods.

In certain securitizations, the company consolidates the SPEs since it has both the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact the SPEs' economic performance through its role as servicer of all the receivables held by the SPEs, and the obligation through variable interests in the SPEs to absorb losses or receive benefits that could potentially be significant to the SPEs. The restricted assets (retail notes securitized, allowance for credit losses and other assets) of the consolidated SPEs totaled \$3,011 million and \$2,626 million at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The liabilities (short-term securitization borrowings and accrued interest) of these SPEs totaled \$2,942 million and \$2,547 million at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The credit holders of these SPEs do not have legal recourse to the company's general credit.

In certain securitizations, the company transfers retail notes to a non-VIE banking operation, which is not consolidated since the company does not have a controlling interest in the entity. The company's carrying values and interests related to the securitizations with the unconsolidated non-VIE were restricted assets (retail notes securitized, allowance for credit losses and other assets) of \$368 million and \$353 million at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The liabilities (short-term securitization borrowings and accrued interest) were \$351 million and \$338 million at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

In certain securitizations, the company transfers retail notes into bank-sponsored, multi-seller, commercial paper conduits, which are SPEs that are not consolidated. The company does not service a significant portion of the conduits' receivables, and therefore, does not have the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact the conduits' economic performance. These conduits provide a funding source to the company (as well as other transferors into the conduit) as they fund the retail notes through the issuance of commercial paper. The company's carrying values and variable interest related to these conduits were restricted assets (retail notes securitized, allowance for credit losses and other assets) of \$1,331 million and \$1,274 million at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The liabilities (short-term securitization borrowings and accrued interest) related to these conduits were \$1,267 million and \$1,225 million at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

The company's carrying amount of the liabilities to the unconsolidated conduits, compared to the maximum exposure to loss related to these conduits, which would only be incurred in the event of a complete loss on the restricted assets, was as follows at October 31 in millions of dollars:



The total assets of unconsolidated VIEs related to securitizations were approximately \$40 billion at October 31, 2014.

The components of consolidated restricted assets related to secured borrowings in securitization transactions at October 31 were as follows in millions of dollars:

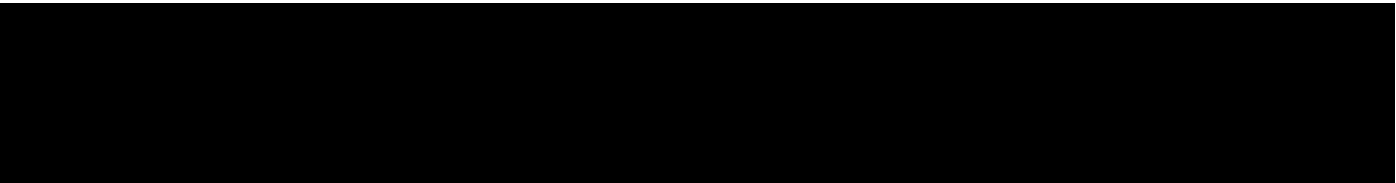
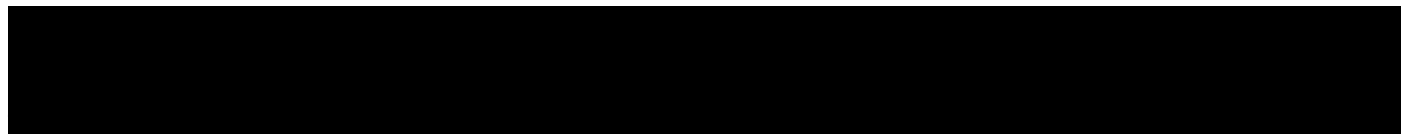




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The components of consolidated secured borrowings and other liabilities related to securitizations at October 31 were as follows in millions of dollars:



The secured borrowings related to these restricted securitized retail notes are obligations that are payable as the retail notes are liquidated. Repayment of the secured borrowings depends primarily on cash flows generated by the restricted assets. Due to the company's short-term credit rating, cash collections from these restricted assets are not required to be placed into a segregated collection account until immediately prior to the time payment is required to the secured creditors. At October 31, 2014, the maximum remaining term of all securitized retail notes was approximately six years.

**14. EQUIPMENT ON OPERATING LEASES**

Operating leases arise primarily from the leasing of John Deere equipment to retail customers. Initial lease terms generally range from four to 60 months. Net equipment on operating leases totaled \$4,016 million and \$3,152 million at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the terms of the lease. The accumulated depreciation on this equipment was \$634 million and \$545 million at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The corresponding depreciation expense was \$494 million in 2014, \$389 million in 2013 and \$339 million in 2012.

Future payments to be received on operating leases totaled \$1,553 million at October 31, 2014 and are scheduled in millions of dollars as follows: 2015 \$635, 2016 \$448, 2017 \$280, 2018 \$155 and 2019 \$35.

**15. INVENTORIES**

Most inventories owned by Deere & Company and its U.S. equipment subsidiaries are valued at cost, on the last-in, first-out (LIFO) basis. Remaining inventories are generally valued at the lower of cost, on the first-in, first-out (FIFO) basis, or market. The value of gross inventories on the LIFO basis represented 65 percent and 63 percent of worldwide gross inventories at FIFO value at October 31, 2014 and 2013 respectively. The pretax favorable income effect from the liquidation of LIFO inventory during 2014 was approximately \$13 million. If all inventories had been valued on a FIFO basis, estimated inventories by major classification at October 31 in millions of dollars would have been as follows:

2014	2013
------	------



**16. PROPERTY AND DEPRECIATION**

A summary of property and equipment at October 31 in millions of dollars follows:

	Useful Lives* (Years)	2014	2013
[REDACTED]			

\* Weighted-averages

Total property and equipment additions in 2014, 2013 and 2012 were \$1,016 million, \$1,158 million and \$1,376 million and depreciation was \$696 million, \$637 million and \$555 million, respectively. Capitalized interest was \$6 million, \$13 million and \$7 million in the same periods, respectively. The cost of leased property and equipment under capital leases of \$36 million and \$58 million and accumulated depreciation of \$15 million and \$29 million at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, is included in property and equipment.

Capitalized software has an estimated useful life of three years. The amounts of total capitalized software costs, including purchased and internally developed software, classified as Other Assets at October 31, 2014 and 2013 were \$912 million and \$778 million, less accumulated amortization of \$656 million and \$584 million, respectively. Amortization of these software costs was \$106 million in 2014, \$93 million in 2013 and \$89 million in 2012. The cost of leased software assets under capital leases amounting to \$77 million and \$46 million at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, is included in other assets.

The cost of compliance with foreseeable environmental requirements has been accrued and did not have a material effect on the company's consolidated financial statements.

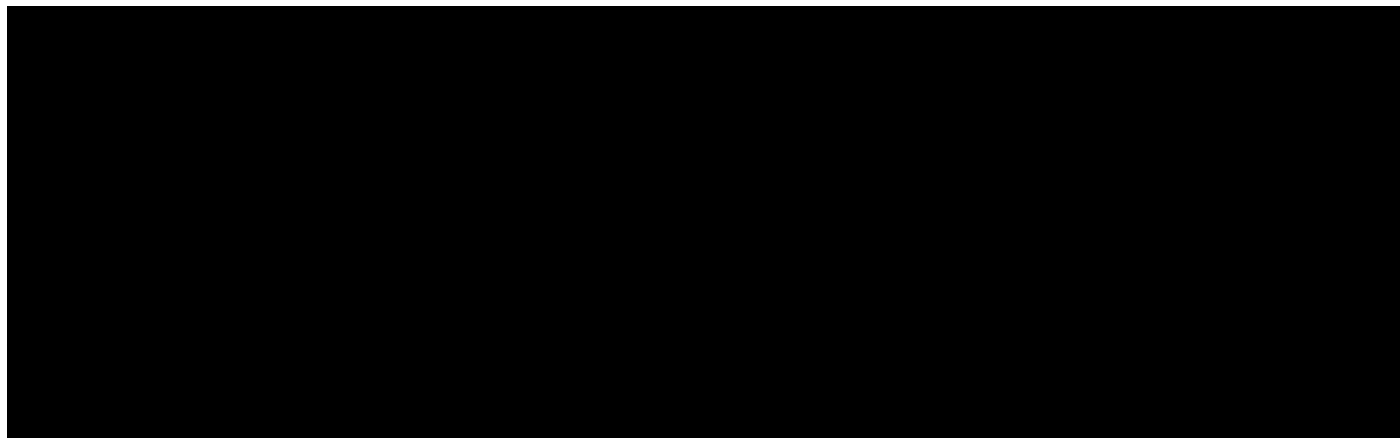


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**17. GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS-NET**

The changes in amounts of goodwill by operating segments were as follows in millions of dollars:



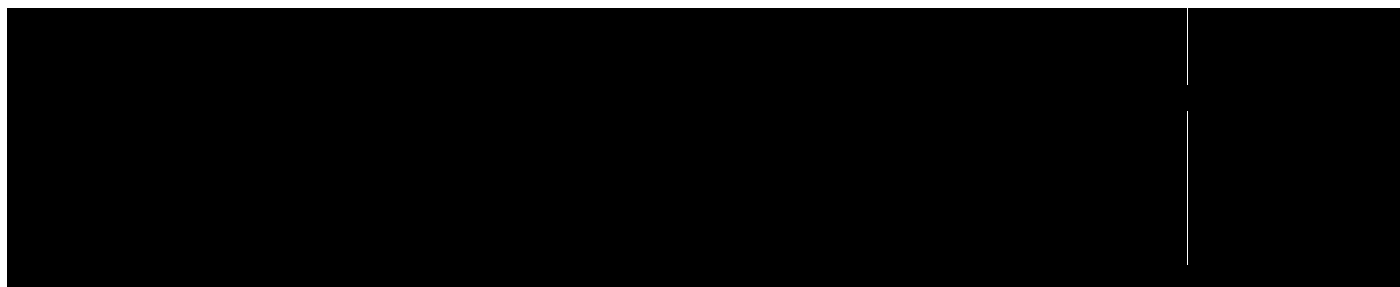
\* See Note 4.

\*\* Accumulated impairment losses were also reduced by \$289 million related to Landscapes reclassification to held for sale (see Note 4).

\*\*\* Accumulated impairment losses were also reduced by \$60 million related to the sale of the Water operations (see Note 4).



The components of other intangible assets are as follows in millions of dollars:



\* Weighted-averages

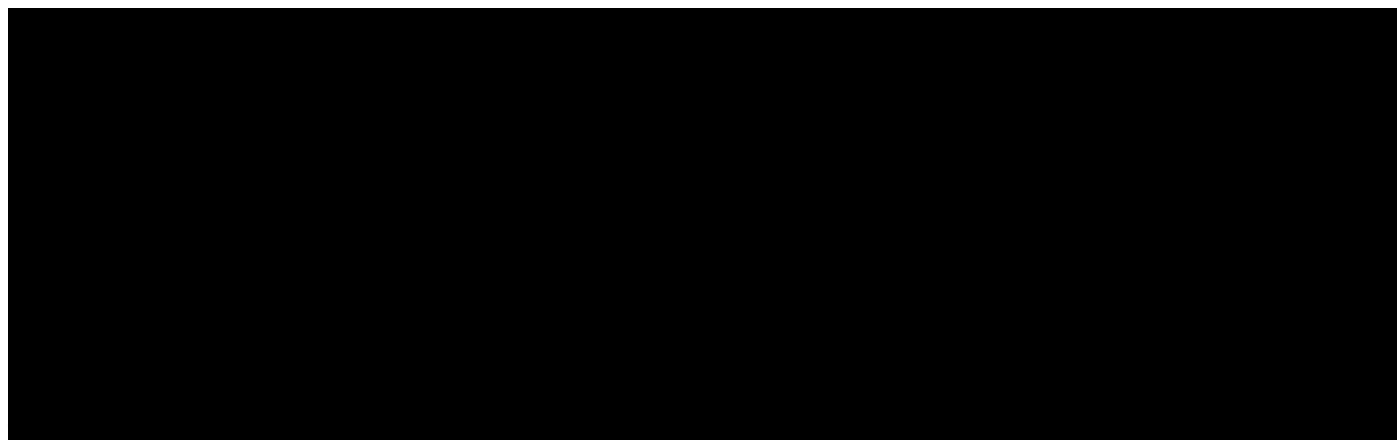
\*\* Accumulated amortization at 2014 and 2013 for customer lists and relationships was \$9 million and \$8 million and technology, patents, trademarks and other was \$36 million and \$27 million, respectively.




Other intangible assets are stated at cost less accumulated amortization. The amortization of other intangible assets in 2014, 2013 and 2012 was \$11 million, \$22 million and \$21 million, respectively. The estimated amortization expense for the next five years is as follows in millions of dollars: 2015 - \$10, 2016 - \$9, 2017 - \$9, 2018 \$5 and 2019 - \$5.

## 18. TOTAL SHORT-TERM BORROWINGS

Total short-term borrowings at October 31 consisted of the following in millions of dollars:



\* Includes unamortized fair value adjustments related to interest rate swaps.



The short-term securitization borrowings for financial services are secured by financing receivables (retail notes) on the balance sheet (see Note 13). Although these securitization borrowings are classified as short-term since payment is required if the retail notes are liquidated early, the payment schedule for these borrowings of \$4,559 million at October 31, 2014 based on the expected liquidation of the retail notes in millions of dollars is as follows: 2015 - \$2,383, 2016 - \$1,342, 2017 - \$636, 2018 - \$176, 2019 - \$21 and 2020 - \$1.

The weighted-average interest rates on total short-term borrowings, excluding current maturities of long-term borrowings, at October 31, 2014 and 2013 were 1.0 percent and .8 percent, respectively.

Lines of credit available from U.S. and foreign banks were \$6,413 million at October 31, 2014. At October 31, 2014, \$3,367 million of these worldwide lines of credit were unused. For the purpose of computing the unused credit lines, commercial paper and short-term bank borrowings, excluding secured borrowings and the current portion of long-term borrowings, were primarily considered to constitute utilization. Included in the above lines of credit were long-term credit facility agreements for \$2,500 million, expiring in April 2018, and \$2,500 million, expiring in April 2019. The agreements are mutually extendable and the annual facility fees are not significant. These credit agreements require Capital Corporation



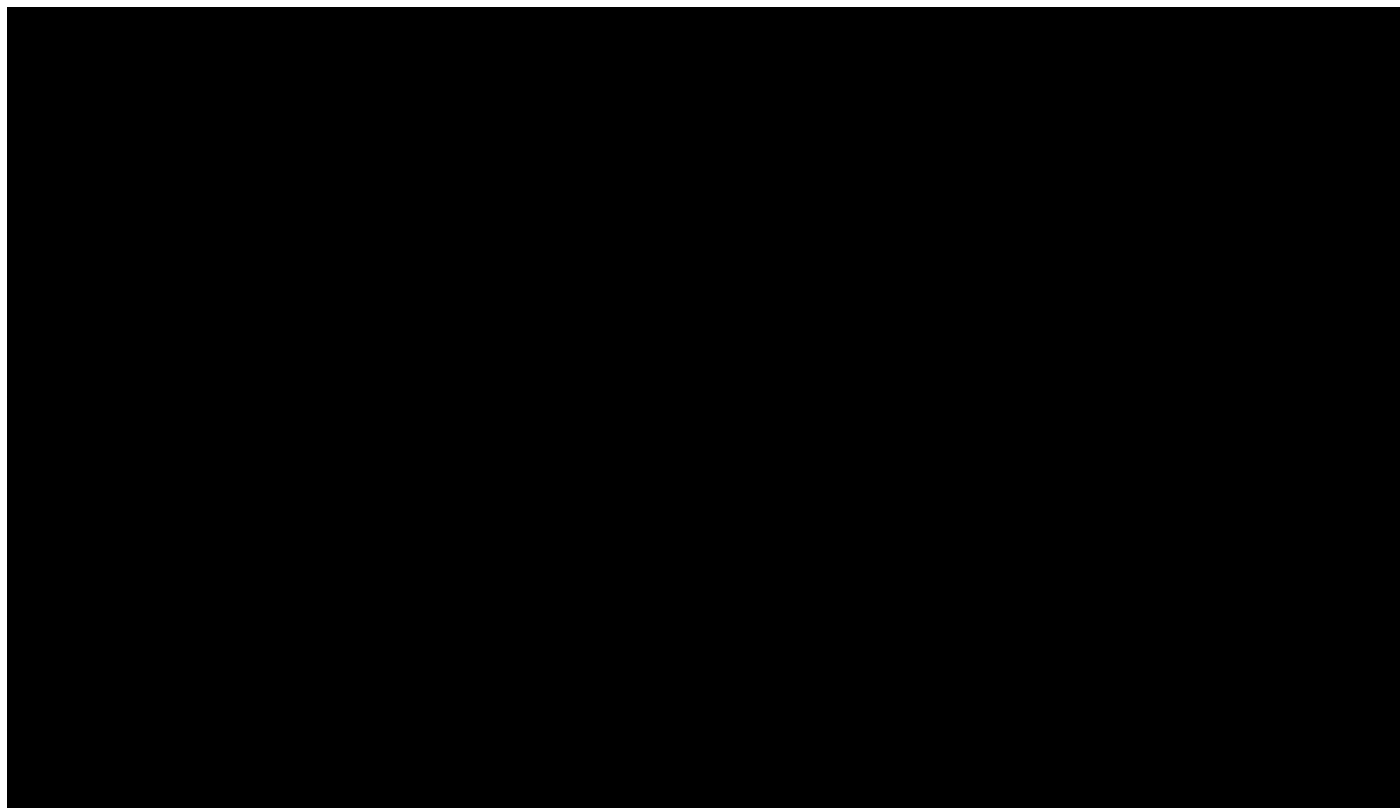
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to maintain its consolidated ratio of earnings to fixed charges at not less than 1.05 to 1 for each fiscal quarter and the ratio of senior debt, excluding securitization indebtedness, to capital base (total subordinated debt and stockholder's equity excluding accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)) at not more than 11 to 1 at the end of any fiscal quarter. The credit agreements also require the equipment operations to maintain a ratio of total debt to total capital (total debt and stockholders' equity excluding accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)) of 65 percent or less at the end of each fiscal quarter. Under this provision, the company's excess equity capacity and retained earnings balance free of restriction at October 31, 2014 was \$10,115 million. Alternatively under this provision, the equipment operations had the capacity to incur additional debt of \$18,785 million at October 31, 2014. All of these requirements of the credit agreements have been met during the periods included in the consolidated financial statements.

Deere & Company has an agreement with Capital Corporation pursuant to which it has agreed to continue to own, directly or through one or more wholly-owned subsidiaries, at least 51 percent of the voting shares of capital stock of Capital Corporation and to maintain Capital Corporation's consolidated tangible net worth at not less than \$50 million. This agreement also obligates Deere & Company to make payments to Capital Corporation such that its consolidated ratio of earnings to fixed charges is not less than 1.05 to 1 for each fiscal quarter. Deere & Company's obligations to make payments to Capital Corporation under the agreement are independent of whether Capital Corporation is in default on its indebtedness, obligations or other liabilities. Further, Deere & Company's obligations under the agreement are not measured by the amount of Capital Corporation's indebtedness, obligations or other liabilities. Deere & Company's obligations to make payments under this agreement are expressly stated not to be a guaranty of any specific indebtedness, obligation or liability of Capital Corporation and are enforceable only by or in the name of Capital Corporation. No payments were required under this agreement during the periods included in the consolidated financial statements.

#### **19. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED EXPENSES**

Accounts payable and accrued expenses at October 31 consisted of the following in millions of dollars:

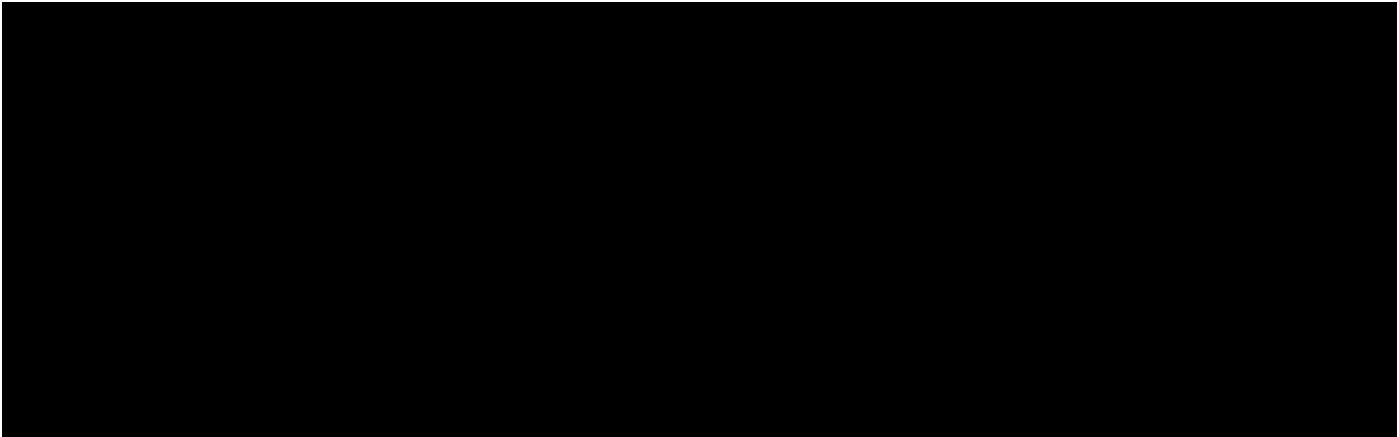




- \* See Note 9.
- \*\* Primarily trade receivable valuation accounts which are reclassified as accrued expenses by the equipment operations as a result of their trade receivables being sold to financial services.

## 20. LONG-TERM BORROWINGS

Long-term borrowings at October 31 consisted of the following in millions of dollars:

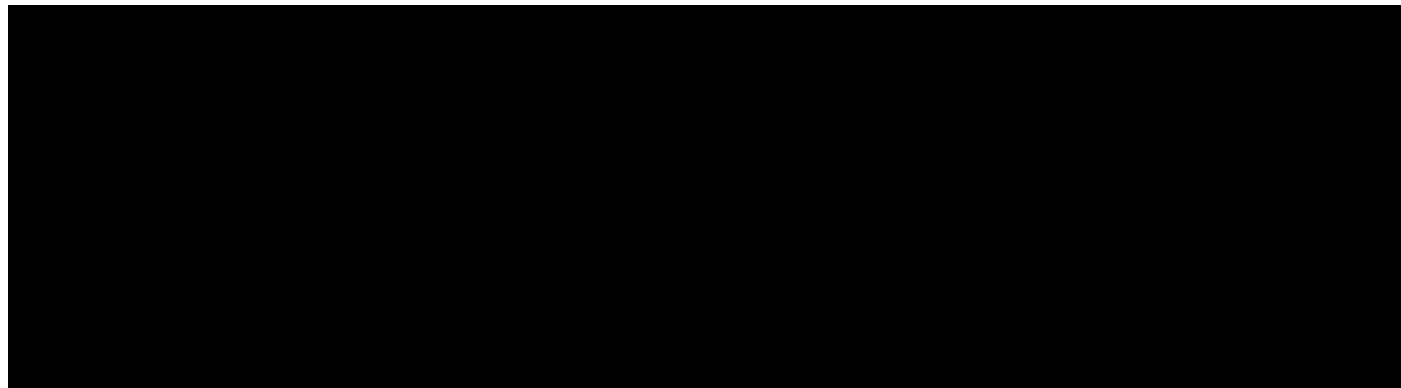


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\* Includes unamortized fair value adjustments related to interest rate swaps.

\*\* All interest rates are as of year end.

The approximate principal amounts of the equipment operations long-term borrowings maturing in each of the next five years in millions of dollars are as follows: 2015 \$243, 2016 \$197, 2017 \$73, 2018 \$24 and 2019 \$751. The approximate principal amounts of the financial services long-term borrowings maturing in each of the next five years in millions of dollars are as follows: 2015 \$4,724, 2016 \$5,220, 2017 \$4,279, 2018 \$3,432 and 2019 \$2,949.

## 21. LEASES


At October 31, 2014, future minimum lease payments under capital leases amounted to \$87 million as follows: 2015 \$39, 2016 \$32, 2017 \$10, 2018 \$3, 2019 \$1, and later years \$2. Total rental expense for operating leases was \$205 million in 2014, \$237 million in 2013 and \$215 million in 2012. At October 31, 2014, future minimum lease payments under operating leases amounted to \$371 million as follows: 2015 \$121, 2016 \$79, 2017 \$55, 2018 \$38, 2019 \$32, and later years \$46.

## 22. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The company generally determines its warranty liability by applying historical claims rate experience to the estimated amount of equipment that has been sold and is still under warranty based on dealer inventories and retail sales. The historical claims rate is primarily determined by a review of five-year claims costs and current quality developments.

The premiums for the company's extended warranties are primarily recognized in income in proportion to the costs expected to be incurred over the contract period. The unamortized extended warranty premiums (deferred revenue) included in the following table totaled \$425 million and \$342 million at October 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

A reconciliation of the changes in the warranty liability and unearned premiums in millions of dollars follows:



At October 31, 2014, the company had approximately \$210 million of guarantees issued primarily to banks outside the U.S. related to third-party receivables for the retail financing of John Deere equipment. The company may recover a portion of any required payments incurred under these agreements from repossession of the equipment collateralizing the receivables. At October 31, 2014, the company had accrued losses of approximately \$7 million under these agreements. The maximum remaining term of the receivables guaranteed at October 31, 2014 was approximately six years.

At October 31, 2014, the company had commitments of approximately \$237 million for the construction and acquisition of property and equipment. At October 31, 2014, the company also had pledged or restricted assets of \$102 million, primarily as collateral for borrowings and restricted other assets. In addition, see Note 13 for restricted assets associated with borrowings related to securitizations.

The company also had other miscellaneous contingencies totaling approximately \$70 million at October 31, 2014, for which it believes the probability for payment is substantially remote. The accrued liability for these contingencies was not material at October 31, 2014.

The company is subject to various unresolved legal actions which arise in the normal course of its business, the most prevalent of which relate to product liability (including asbestos related liability), retail credit, software licensing, patent, trademark and environmental matters. The company believes the reasonably possible range of losses for these unresolved legal actions in addition to the amounts accrued would not have a material effect on its financial statements.

### **23. CAPITAL STOCK**

Changes in the common stock account in millions were as follows:



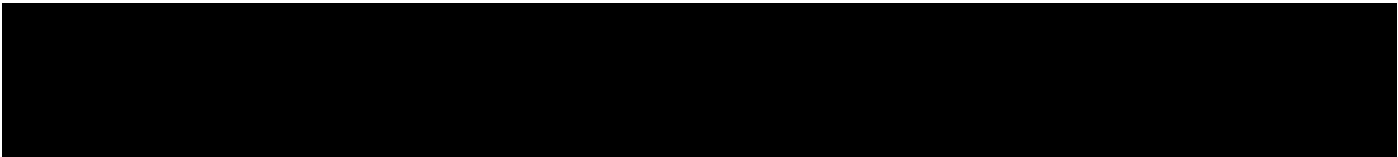




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The number of common shares the company is authorized to issue is 1,200 million. The number of authorized preferred shares, none of which has been issued, is nine million.

The Board of Directors at its meeting in December 2013 authorized the repurchase of up to \$8,000 million of additional common stock (93.5 million shares based on the October 31, 2014 closing common stock price of \$85.54 per share). At October 31, 2014, this repurchase program had \$6,230 million (72.8 million shares at the same price) remaining to be repurchased. Repurchases of the company's common stock under this plan will be made from time to time, at the company's discretion, in the open market.

A reconciliation of basic and diluted net income per share attributable to Deere & Company follows in millions, except per share amounts:

	2014		2013		2012
Net income attributable to Deere & Company	\$ 3,161.7	\$	3,537.3	\$	3,064.7
Less income allocable to participating securities	1.0		.9		.8
Income allocable to common stock	\$ 3,160.7	\$	3,536.4	\$	3,063.9
Average shares outstanding	363.0		385.3		397.1
<b>Basic per share</b>	\$ 8.71	\$	9.18	\$	7.72
Average shares outstanding	363.0		385.3		397.1
Effect of dilutive stock options	3.1		3.9		4.4
Total potential shares outstanding	366.1		389.2		401.5
<b>Diluted per share</b>	\$ 8.63	\$	9.09	\$	7.63

All stock options outstanding were included in the computation during 2014, 2013 and 2012, except 2.4 million options in 2014, 2.4 million in 2013 and 1.8 million in 2012 that had an antidilutive effect under the treasury stock method.

### 24. STOCK OPTION AND RESTRICTED STOCK AWARDS

The company issues stock options and restricted stock awards to key employees under plans approved by stockholders. Restricted stock is also issued to nonemployee directors for their services as directors under a plan approved by stockholders. Options are awarded with the exercise price equal to the market price and become exercisable in one to three years after grant. Options expire ten years after the date of grant. Restricted stock awards generally vest after three years. The compensation cost for stock options, service based restricted stock units and market/service based restricted stock units, which is based on the fair value at the grant date, is recognized on a straight-line basis over the requisite period the employee is required to render service. The compensation cost for performance/service based units, which is based on the fair value at the grant date, is recognized over the employees' requisite service period and periodically adjusted for the probable number of shares to be awarded. According to these plans at October 31, 2014, the company is authorized to grant an additional 7.2 million shares related to stock options or restricted stock.

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The fair value of each option award was estimated on the date of grant using a binomial lattice option valuation model. Expected volatilities are based on implied volatilities from

traded call options on the company's stock. The expected volatilities are constructed from the following three components: the starting implied volatility of short-term call options traded within a few days of the valuation date; the predicted implied volatility of long-term call options; and the trend in implied volatilities over the span of the call options' time to maturity. The company uses historical data to estimate option exercise behavior and employee termination within the valuation model. The expected term of options granted is derived from the output of the option valuation model and represents the period of time that options granted are expected to be outstanding. The risk-free rates utilized for periods throughout the contractual life of the options are based on U.S. Treasury security yields at the time of grant.

The assumptions used for the binomial lattice model to determine the fair value of options follow:

	2014	2013	2012
Risk-free interest rate	.03% - 2.9%	.04% - 1.7%	.01% - 2.0%
Expected dividends	2.3%	2.3%	1.9%
Expected volatility	25.9% - 32.0%	26.6% - 32.5%	34.1% - 41.9%
Weighted-average volatility	31.9%	32.4%	33.6%
Expected term (in years)	7.3 - 7.4	7.3 - 7.9	6.8 - 7.8

Stock option activity at October 31, 2014 and changes during 2014 in millions of dollars and shares follow:

	Shares	Exercise Price*	Remaining Contractual Term (Years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
<b>Outstanding at beginning of year</b>	15.7	\$ 64.82		
Granted	2.4	87.46		