

GENERAL CABLE CORP /DE/

Form 10-K

February 29, 2008

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**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-K**

(Mark One)

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____.

**Commission file number: 1-12983
GENERAL CABLE CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

Delaware
*(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)*

06-1398235
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

4 Tesseneer Drive
Highland Heights, KY
(Address of principal executive offices)

41076-9753
(Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (859) 572-8000
Securities Registered Pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:**

Title of each class

Name of each exchange on which registered

Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value

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 if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation of S-K (§229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the 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 Exchange Act). Yes No

The aggregate market value of the registrant's Common Stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was \$3,906.9 million at June 30, 2007 (based upon non-affiliate holdings of 51,577,134 shares and a market price of \$75.75 per share).

As of February 22, 2008, there were 52,589,874 shares of the registrant's Common Stock outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE:

Portions of the definitive Proxy Statement for the registrant's Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission within 120 days after December 31, 2007 have been incorporated by reference into Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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PART I.

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

General Cable Corporation (the Company) is a global leader in developing, designing, manufacturing, marketing, distributing and installing copper, aluminum and fiber optic wire and cable products. The Company is a Delaware corporation and was incorporated in April 1994. The Company and its predecessors have served various wire and cable markets for over 150 years. The Company's immediate predecessor was a unit of American Premier Underwriters, Inc. (American Premier), previously known as The Penn Central Corporation. American Premier acquired the Company's existing wire and cable business in 1981 and significantly expanded the business between 1988 and 1991 by acquiring Carol Cable Company, Inc. and other wire and cable businesses and facilities. In June 1994, a subsidiary of Wassall PLC acquired the predecessor by purchase of General Cable's outstanding subordinated promissory note, the General Cable common stock held by American Premier and a tender offer for the publicly-held General Cable common stock. Between May and August 1997, Wassall consummated public offerings for the sale of all of its interest in General Cable's common stock. The Company has operated as an independent public company since completion of the offerings.

On October 31, 2007, the Company purchased the worldwide wire and cable business of Freeport-McMoRan Copper and Gold, Inc., which operated as Phelps Dodge International Corporation (PDIC). The acquisition was completed as part of the Company's strategy to expand globally into energy and electrical infrastructure markets. With more than 50 years of experience in the wire and cable industry, PDIC manufactures a full range of electric utility, electrical infrastructure, construction and communication products. PDIC serves developing countries and customers in sectors that continue to grow faster than the developed world. In addition to its manufacturing capabilities, PDIC provides a global network of management, development, design, distribution, marketing assistance, technical support and engineering and purchasing services to contractors, distributors, and public and private utilities. The transaction created the need to manage operations on a geographic basis and therefore, effective November 1, 2007 the Company realigned its management structure along geographic lines.

Consistent with the new management structure of the Company, external reportable segments are reported using these same geographic lines. The Company operates in three segments: (1) North America, (2) Europe and North Africa, and (3) Rest of World (ROW), which consists of operations in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East and Asia Pacific. These segments are discussed below and additional financial information regarding the segments appears in Note 17 to the Consolidated Financial Statements. Items 1, 1A, 2, 7, and 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K give effect to the change in reportable segments and impact on historically reported results.

The Company has a strong market position in each of the segments in which it competes due to product, geographic, and customer diversity and the Company's ability to operate as a low cost provider. The Company sells a wide variety of copper, aluminum and fiber optic wire and cable products, which it believes represents one of the most diversified product lines in the industry. As a result, the Company is able to offer its customers a single source for most of their wire and cable requirements. As of December 31, 2007, the Company manufactures its product lines in 45 facilities including 3 facilities in which the Company has an equity investment and sells its products worldwide through its global operations. Technical expertise and implementation of Lean Six Sigma (Lean) strategies have contributed to the Company's ability to maintain its position as a low cost provider.

Business Segments

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 131, *Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information* (SFAS 131), establishes standards for reporting information regarding operating segments in annual financial statements and requires selected information of those segments to be presented in interim financial statements. Operating segments are identified as components of an enterprise for which separate discrete financial information is available for evaluation by the chief operating decision-maker in making decisions on how to allocate resources and assess performance and should be consistent with the management structure. Under the criteria of SFAS 131, the Company has three operating and reportable segments based on geographic regions: (1) North America, (2) Europe and North Africa, and (3) Rest of World (ROW), which consists of operations in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East and Asia Pacific. Additionally, see Note 17 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for revenue by country, long-lived assets by country and other required disclosures.

North America

The North America segment engages in the development, design, manufacturing, marketing and distribution of copper, aluminum, and fiber optic wires and cables in the United States and Canada primarily to domestic customers for use in the electric utility, electrical infrastructure and communications industries. The North America segment contributed

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approximately 49%, 56%, and 66% of the Company's consolidated revenues for 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively. In 2007, within the United States, Canada and Mexico, the Company has experienced an overall increase in sales and operating income.

Growth in the electric utility market served by the Company will be largely dependent on the investment policies of electric utilities and infrastructure improvement. The Company believes that the increase in electricity consumption in North America has outpaced the rate of utility investment in North America's energy grid. As a result, the Company believes the average age of power transmission cables has increased, the current electric transmission infrastructure needs to be upgraded and the transmission grid is near capacity. Continued investment in the energy grid stemming from historical power outages in the U.S. and Canada and published studies by the North American Electric Reliability Council emphasizing the need to upgrade the power transmission infrastructure used by electric utilities have caused an increase in demand for the Company's electric utility products. In addition, tax legislation was passed in the United States in 2004, which included the renewal of tax credits for producing power from wind. This has caused an increase in demand for the Company's products, as the Company is a significant manufacturer of wire and cable used in wind farms. The passage of energy legislation in the United States in 2005 that was aimed at improving the transmission grid infrastructure and the reliability of power availability has contributed to an increase in demand for the Company's transmission and distribution cables and is expected to continue to do so with some variability over time. While the overall long-term trend in demand for electric utility products remain strong, the Company has experienced some demand volatility, especially related to low-voltage and small gauge medium voltage cable demand within the United States. Demand for these low-voltage utility products is more closely related to new home construction, a market that has weakened in 2007. The Company expects that over time growth rates for electric utility products in North America will be highly variable depending on related product business cycles and the approval and funding cycle times for large utility projects.

The Company has strategic alliances in the United States and Canada with a number of major utility customers and is strengthening its position through these agreements. The Company utilizes a network of direct sales and authorized distributors to supply low- and medium-voltage and high-voltage bare overhead cable products. Approximately, 3,500 utility companies represent this market. A majority of the Company's electric utility customers have entered into written agreements with the Company for the purchase of wire and cable products. These agreements typically have two to four year terms and provide adjustments to selling prices to reflect fluctuations in the cost of raw materials. These agreements do not guarantee a minimum level of sales. Historically, approximately 70% of the Company's electric utility business revenues in North America are under contract prior to the start of each year.

The market for electrical infrastructure cable products in North America has many niches. Sales in North America are heavily influenced by the level of industrial construction spending as well as the level of capital equipment investment and maintenance, factory automation and mining activity. The Company experienced strengthened demand throughout 2005, 2006 and 2007 as a direct result of a strong turnaround in industrial construction spending in North America. This segment has also experienced high demand for products used in the mining, oil, gas, and petrochemical markets, and the Company expects strong demand to continue for these products into 2008 partly as a result of high oil prices, which influence drilling and coal mining activity and investment in alternatives energy sources. Recent demand has also been influenced by industrial sector maintenance spending in North America and as a result of short-term events such as the rebuilding efforts linked to the damage caused by hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005. An improved pricing environment continues to offset the historically high raw material costs experienced in recent years.

Sales of the automotive products are heavily influenced by the general overall health of the economy, ignition set complexity and ignition set design trends. Sales are often stronger during slower economic times since aftermarket ignition wire sets are used to maintain and lengthen the life of automobiles.

Over the last several years, demand for outside plant telecommunications cables has experienced a significant decline from historical levels. Overall demand for telecommunications products from the Company's traditional Regional Bell Operating Company (RBOC) customers in North America has mostly declined over the last several years. Recent RBOC merger activity, allocation of capital to fiber-to-the-home initiatives, and budgetary constraints caused partially by higher copper costs has reduced both RBOC and distributor purchasing volume in this segment. The Company

partially offset the impact of long term declining demand with the 2005 closure of its Bonham, Texas facility which is allowing the Company to better utilize its manufacturing assets. Similarly, during the fourth quarter 2007, the Company rationalized outside plant telecommunication products manufacturing capacity due to continued declines in telecommunications cable demand. The Company closed a portion of its telecommunications capacity located primarily at its Tetla, Mexico facility and has taken a pre-tax charge to write-off certain production equipment of \$6.6 million. This action will free approximately 100,000 square feet of manufacturing space, which the Company plans to utilize for other products for the Central and South American markets.

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The Company anticipates, based on recent public announcements, further deployment of fiber optic products into the telephone network. Increased spending by the telephone companies on fiber deployment negatively impacts their purchases of the Company's copper based telecommunications cable products. The Company believes the negative impact on the purchase of copper based products has been somewhat mitigated in that some of its customers have upgraded a portion of their copper network to support further investment in fiber broadband networks. Growth in the overall communications market will be largely dependent upon the level of information technology spending on network infrastructure. During the early part of this decade, sales of data communication products decreased, primarily as a result of a weak market for switching/local area networking cables. However, in the last few years, sales volume has shown improvement and the Company has benefited from the 2005 integration of its Dayville, Connecticut facility into a specialty networking manufacturing facility in Franklin, Massachusetts, acquired in March 2005, which is allowing the Company to better utilize its Networking manufacturing assets and grow specialty products in the networking market. In 2006 and 2007, the Company has benefited from increased demand for high-bandwidth data cables.

Europe and North Africa

The Europe and North Africa segment designs, manufactures, markets and distributes copper, aluminum and fiber optic cables originating in Spain, Norway, Portugal, France, and Germany and services markets throughout Europe and North Africa. This segment produces electric utility, electrical infrastructure, construction, and communications products. Additionally, the Europe and North Africa segment provides installation services for high-voltage and extra high-voltage electric utility projects around the world. The Europe and North Africa segment contributed approximately 42%, 40%, and 29% of the Company's consolidated revenues for 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively. This segment has expanded in recent years due to several key acquisitions. These acquisitions have broadened the Company's customer base and the product availability to increase its presence in the European market. These acquisitions include the purchase of Norddeutsche Seekabelwerke GmbH & Co. (NSW) in April 2007, E.C.N. Cable Group S.L. (ECN) in August 2006 and Silec Cables, S.A.S. (Silec) in December 2005. NSW is a leading global supplier of offshore communications, power and control cables as well as aerial cables for power utility communication and control networks. ECN Cable global sales consist mostly of sales of aluminum aerial high-voltage cables, low- and medium-voltage insulated power cables and bi-metallic products used in electric transmission and communications. The Silec acquisition has helped to position the Company as a global leader in cabling systems for the energy exploration, production, and transmission and distribution markets. These acquisitions demonstrate the Company's strategic initiative to expand geographic and product diversity in the European market.

Growth in the Europe and North Africa segment will be largely dependent on the investment policies of electric utilities, infrastructure improvement and the growing needs of emerging economies. The Company believes that the increase in electricity consumption in Europe has outpaced the rate of utility investment in Europe's energy grid. As a result, the Company believes the average age of power transmission cables has increased, the current electric transmission infrastructure needs to be upgraded and the transmission grid is near capacity. Capacity issues combined with periodic power outages in Europe emphasized the need to upgrade the power transmission infrastructure used by electric utilities, which has caused an increase in demand for the Company's products. Demands for medium- and high-voltage cable has increased due to the continuing rebuild of the electric utility distribution infrastructure and increasing investments throughout Europe in wind farm electricity generation, including offshore wind farms. In addition, extra-high-voltage underground cable systems continue to experience high demand with lead times often extending beyond one year.

The market for electrical infrastructure cable products has many niches. The level of residential, non-residential and industrial construction spending heavily influences sales in Europe and North Africa. The Company experienced high demand throughout 2005 and 2006 as a result of continuing strength in residential and non-residential construction spending in the region, particularly in Spain. However, demand for residential low-voltage cables and building wire has decreased during 2007 in the Spanish domestic market and may decrease further into the foreseeable future. The slowdown in construction spending in Spain is being partially offset by a strong construction market in the broader European Union. An improved pricing environment continues to offset the historically high raw material costs in this segment.

Rest of World (ROW)

The ROW segment consists of sales and manufacturing resources in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East and Asia Pacific that resulted from the PDIC acquisition and will be managed in conjunction with the Company's historical operations in the Pacific Islands, New Zealand, Australia, India and China. The ROW segment develops, designs, manufactures, markets, and distributes wire and cable products for use in the electric utility, electrical infrastructure,

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construction and communications markets as well as rod mill products, specifically copper and aluminum rod. This segment contributed approximately 9%, 4%, and 5% of the Company's consolidated net sales in 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively. It should be noted historical results only include PDIC results since October 31, 2007. The ROW segment operations are located in Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Honduras, India, New Zealand, Panama, South Africa, Thailand, Venezuela and Zambia.

This segment is expected to grow prospectively as a result of the October 31, 2007 acquisition of PDIC, which has leading market positions in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia Pacific. In 2006, the last full year before the acquisition, PDIC reported global net sales of approximately \$1,168.4 million (based on average exchange rates). This expectation is based on the fact that markets in the countries served are generally growing faster than the developed markets of North America and Europe. Additionally, throughout the region, the Company anticipates an expanded product offering will provide greater accessibility to customers as it relates to recent announcements of planned investment in electrical infrastructure, construction and electric utility throughout Central and South America.

In Brazil, political stability has contributed to several key initiatives as it relates to investment in electric utility, construction and electrical infrastructure products such as the Lights for All project, which is a program intended to expand the availability of electricity to consumers throughout the country. Political stability has also contributed to the substantial growth in the housing and various other industrial segments. In Venezuela, the centralized political structure has led to several positive implications as it relates to the Company's business such as fewer competitors, a growing construction segment and a higher level of government investment. In sub-Saharan Africa, countries such as South Africa and Zambia are expected to experience investment in construction and housing markets in preparation for the 2010 World Cup to be held in South Africa and in Zambia where the National Housing Authority has authorized a significant housing appropriations agreement. The region has also recently experienced electricity shortages as a result of historical under investment in the regional energy infrastructure. This may cause an increase in future demand for the Company's products over time.

In Asia Pacific, specifically Thailand, the country's first election since the military coup in September 2006 was held in December 2007. A coalition government has been formed, if the election results are upheld the new government is expected to stabilize the political arena and generate economic growth. Additionally, the Thai Government has dropped an earlier proposal to revise the Foreign Business Act that would have presented several investment restrictions to outside or foreign investors. The Company expects this announcement will lead to further investment in the country and over time may also increase demand for the Company's products.

Products

The various wire and cable product lines are sold and manufactured by all geographic segments except for rod mill products which are only manufactured and sold by the ROW segment and construction products which are only sold in the Europe and North Africa and ROW segments. Additionally, revenue by product line is included in Note 17 to the Consolidated Financial Statements. Products sold by the Company's three segments include the following:

Electric utility products The primary products in this grouping include low- and medium-voltage distribution cable; high- and extra-high voltage power transmission cable products and installation; and bare overhead conductor. These products are sold to electric utility and power companies and contractors. The Company is a leader in the supply of electric utility cables in North America, Latin America, Western Europe, Oceania and Southeast Asia.

The Company manufactures low- and medium-voltage aluminum and copper distribution cable, bare overhead aluminum conductor and high-voltage transmission cable. Bare transmission cables are utilized by utilities in the transmission grid to provide electric power from the power generating stations to the distribution sub-stations. Medium-voltage cables are utilized in the primary distribution infrastructure to bring power from the distribution sub-stations to the transformers. Low-voltage cables are utilized in the secondary distribution infrastructure to take the power from the transformers to the end-user.

The Company provides installation services for high-voltage and extra-high-voltage transmission cables used in certain overhead and underground applications. The underground power cables are highly engineered cables

and the installation of such requires specific expertise. Through these services, the Company has strengthened its materials science, power connectivity and systems integration expertise.

Electrical Infrastructure products This product group includes electrical infrastructure, portable cord products and transportation products and industrial harnesses. These products consist of wire and cable that are used for many applications: maintenance and repair; temporary power on construction sites; conduction of electrical current and

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signals for industrial, original equipment manufacturers, and commercial power, residential power, and control applications; and jacketed wire and cable products and harnesses for automotive and industrial applications.

These products include low- and medium-voltage industrial cables, rail and mass transit cables, shipboard cables, oil and gas cables and other industrial cables. Applications for these products include power generating stations, marine, mining, oil and gas, transit/locomotive, original equipment manufacturers, machine builders and shipboard markets. The Company's Polyra® XT marine wire and cable products also provide superior properties and performance levels that are necessary for heavy-duty industrial applications to both onshore and offshore platforms, ships and oil rigs. Many wire and cable applications require cables with exterior armor and/or jacketing materials that can endure exposure to chemicals, extreme temperatures and outside elements. The Company offers products that are specifically designed for these applications.

The portable cord products in this product group consist of a wide variety of rubber and plastic insulated cord products for power and control applications serving industrial, mining, entertainment, original equipment manufacturers, and other markets. These products are used for the distribution of electrical power but are designed and constructed to be used in dynamic and severe environmental conditions where a flexible but durable power supply is required including both standard commercial cord and cord products designed to meet customer specifications. Portable rubber-jacketed power cord, the Company's highest volume selling cord product line, is typically manufactured without a connection device at either end and is sold in standard and customer-specified lengths. The cords are also sold to original equipment manufacturers for use as power cords on their products and in other applications, in which case the cord is made to the original equipment manufacturers specifications. The Company also manufactures portable cord for use with moveable heavy equipment and machinery. The Company's portable cord products are sold primarily through electrical distributors and electrical retailers to industrial customers, original equipment manufacturers, contractors and consumers.

The transportation products consist of ignition wire sets for sale to the automotive aftermarket. These products are sold primarily to automotive parts retailers and distributors. The Company's automotive products are also sold on a private label basis to retailers and other automotive parts manufacturers. Other products include cable harnesses (assemblies) for use in industrial control applications as well as medical applications. These assemblies are used in such products as industrial machinery, diagnostic imaging and transportation equipment. These products are sold primarily to original equipment manufacturers and industrial equipment manufacturers.

Construction products This product group includes wire and cable products for construction markets. These products consist of construction cables, building wire and flexible cords. This grouping includes construction cables that meet low-smoke, zero-halogen requirements and flame retardant cables. The cables are used in the construction markets served by electrical distributors, contractors and retail home centers. The principal end users are electricians, distributors, installation and engineering contractors and do-it-yourself consumers.

Communication products The communication products include wire and cable products that transmit low-voltage signals for voice and data applications and electronic wire and cables.

One principal product category is data communication products that include high-bandwidth twisted copper and fiber optic cables and multi-conductor cables for customer premises, local area networks and telephone company central offices. Customer premise communication products are used for wiring at subscriber premises, and include computer, riser rated and plenum rated wire and cable. Riser cable runs between floors and plenum cable runs in air spaces, primarily above ceilings in non-residential structures. Local area network cables run between computers along horizontal raceways and in backbones between servers. Central office products interconnect components within central office switching systems and public branch exchanges. The

Company sells data communications products primarily through a direct sales force.

Another principal product category includes outside plant telecommunications exchange cable, which is short haul trunk, feeder or distribution cable from a telephone company's central office to the subscriber premises. The product consists of multiple paired conductors (ranging from two to 4,200 pairs) and various types of sheathing, water-proofing, foil wraps and metal jacketing. Service wire is used to connect telephone subscriber premises to curbside distribution cable. The Company sells telecommunications products primarily to telecommunications system operators through its direct sales force under supply contracts of varying lengths and to telecommunications distributors. The contracts do not guarantee a minimum level of sales.

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The Company's electronics products include multi-conductor, multi-pair, coaxial, hook-up, audio and microphone cables, speaker and television lead wire and high temperature and shielded electronic wire. Primary uses for these products are various applications within commercial, industrial instrumentation and control and residential markets. These markets require a broad range of multi-conductor products for applications involving programmable controllers, robotics, process control and computer integrated manufacturing, sensors and test equipment, as well as cable for fire alarm, smoke detection, sprinkler control, entertainment and security systems.

The Company produces and sells fiber-optic submarine communication cable systems and special cables for the offshore industry and other underwater and terrestrial applications. Products include fiber-optic submarine cables and hardware, low detection profile cables, turnkey submarine networks, and offshore systems integration.

Rod Mill products Rod Mill products include continuous cast copper and aluminum rod, which is sold to other wire and cable manufacturers. These products are only produced and sold by former PDIC operations in our ROW segment. Copper and aluminum rod are the key material used in the manufacturing of wire and cable products. Customers in this segment rely on the Company to provide just-in-time delivery of this important component.

Industry and Market Overview

The wire and cable industry is competitive, mature and cost driven. For many product offerings, there is little differentiation among industry participants from a manufacturing or technology standpoint. During recent years and continuing through 2007, the Company's end markets have continued to demonstrate recovery from the low points of demand experienced in 2003. In the past several years, there has been significant merger and acquisition activity which, the Company believes, has led to a reduction in inefficient, high cost capacity in the industry. Wire and cable products are relatively low value added, higher weight (and therefore relatively expensive to transport) and often subject to regional or country specifications. The wire and cable industry is raw materials intensive with copper and aluminum comprising the major cost components for cable products. Changes in the cost of copper and aluminum are generally passed through to the customer, although there can be timing delays of varying lengths depending on the volatility in metal prices, the type of product, competitive conditions and particular customer arrangements.

Raw Materials Sources and Availability

The principal raw materials used by General Cable in the manufacture of its wire and cable products are copper and aluminum. The price of copper and aluminum as traded on the London Metal Exchange (LME) and COMEX has historically been subject to considerable volatility and during the past few years, has been subject to an upward trend. For example, the daily selling price of copper cathode on the COMEX averaged \$3.22 per pound in 2007, \$3.09 per pound in 2006 and \$1.68 per pound in 2005 and the daily price of aluminum rod averaged \$1.23 per pound in 2007, \$1.22 per pound in 2006 and \$0.92 per pound in 2005. This copper and aluminum price volatility is representative of all reportable segments.

The Company purchases copper and aluminum from various global sources, generally through annual supply contracts. Copper and aluminum are available from many sources, however, unanticipated problems with the Company's copper or aluminum rod suppliers could negatively affect the Company's business. In North America, the Company has centralized the purchasing of its copper, aluminum and other significant raw materials to capitalize on economies of scale and to facilitate the negotiation of favorable purchase terms from suppliers. In 2007, the Company's largest supplier of copper rod accounted for approximately 84% of its North American copper purchases while the largest supplier of aluminum rod accounted for approximately 85% of its North American aluminum purchases. The Company's European operations purchases copper and aluminum rod from many suppliers or brokers with each generally providing a small percentage of the total copper and aluminum rod purchased. The Company's ROW segment internally produces the majority of its copper and aluminum rod production needs and obtains cathode and ingots from various suppliers with each supplier generally providing a small percentage.

General Cable generally passes changes in copper and aluminum prices along to its customers, although there are timing delays of varying lengths depending upon the volatility of metals prices, the type of product, competitive conditions and particular customer arrangements. A significant portion of the Company's electric utility and telecommunications business and, to a lesser extent, the Company's electrical infrastructure business has metal escalators written into customer contracts under a variety of price setting and recovery formulas. The remainder of the Company's business requires that volatility in the cost of metals be recovered through negotiated price changes with customers. In these instances, the ability to change the Company's selling prices may lag the movement in metal prices by a period of time as the customer price changes are implemented. As a result of this and a number of other practices intended to match copper and aluminum purchases with

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sales, profitability over the periods presented has not been significantly affected by changes in copper and aluminum prices. General Cable does not engage in speculative metals trading.

Other raw materials utilized by the Company include nylon, polyethylene resin and compounds and plasticizers, fluoropolymer compounds, optical fiber and a variety of filling, binding and sheathing materials. The Company believes that all of these materials are available in sufficient quantities through purchases in the open market.

Patents and Trademarks

The Company believes that the success of its business depends more on the technical competence, creativity and marketing abilities of its employees than on any individual patent, trademark or copyright. Nevertheless, the Company has a policy of seeking patents when appropriate on inventions concerning new products and product improvements as part of its ongoing research, development and manufacturing activities.

The Company owns a number of U.S. and foreign patents and has patent applications pending in the U.S. and abroad. Through the recent acquisition of PDIC, the Company acquired patents in Brazil, Canada, China, Hungary, India, Mexico, Taiwan, Thailand and in the United States relating to magnet wire. Although in the aggregate these patents are of considerable importance to the manufacturing and marketing of many of the Company's products, the Company does not consider any single patent or group of patents to be material to its business as a whole. While the Company occasionally obtains patent licenses from third parties, none are deemed to be material.

The Company also owns a number of U.S. and foreign registered trademarks and has many applications for new registrations pending. The Company acquired registered trademarks and trade names related to Phelps Dodge International Corporation and PDIC global marks and symbols. Although in the aggregate these trademarks are of considerable importance to the manufacturing and marketing of many of the Company's products, the Company does not consider any single trademark or group of trademarks to be material to its business as a whole with the exception of the recently acquired PDIC related trademarks and trade names. Trademarks which are considered to be generally important are General Cable®, Anaconda®, BICC®, Carol®, GenSpeed®, Helix/HiTemp®, NextGen®, and Silec®, Polyrad® Phelps Dodge International Corporation® and Phelps Dodge International Corporation global symbol and the Company's triad symbol. The Company believes that its products bearing these trademarks have achieved significant brand recognition within the industry.

The Company also relies on trade secret protection for its confidential and proprietary information. The Company routinely enters into confidentiality agreements with its employees. There can be no assurance, however, that others will not independently obtain similar information and techniques or otherwise gain access to the Company's trade secrets or that the Company will be able to effectively protect its trade secrets.

Seasonality

General Cable generally has experienced and expects to continue to experience certain seasonal trends in construction related product sales and customer demand. Demand for construction related products during winter months in certain geographies is generally lower than demand during spring and summer months. Additionally, the Company has historically experienced changes in demand resulting from poor or unusual weather. The Company believes that with the acquisition of PDIC the impact of seasonality of the business will be somewhat mitigated as a result of the Company's expanded geographical base.

Competition

The markets for all of the Company's products are highly competitive, and the Company experiences competition from several competitors within most markets. The Company believes that it has developed strong customer relations as a result of its ability to supply customer needs across a broad range of products, its commitment to quality control and continuous improvement, its continuing investment in information technology, its emphasis on customer service and its substantial product and distribution resources.

Although the primary competitive factors for the Company's products vary somewhat across the different product categories, the principal factors influencing competition are generally price, quality, breadth of product line, inventory availability and delivery time and customer service. Many of the Company's products are made to industry specifications, and are therefore functionally interchangeable with those of competitors. However, the Company believes that significant opportunities exist to differentiate all of its products on the basis of quality, consistent availability, conformance to manufacturer's specifications and customer service. Within some markets such as local

area networking cables, conformance to manufacturer's specifications and technological superiority are also important competitive factors.

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Advertising Expense

Advertising expense consists of expenses relating to promoting the Company's products, including trade shows, catalogs, and e-commerce promotions, and is charged to expense when incurred. Advertising expense was \$16.9 million, \$8.2 million and \$6.4 million in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Environmental Matters

The Company is subject to a variety of federal, state, local and foreign laws and regulations covering the storage, handling, emission and discharge of materials into the environment, including CERCLA, the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act (including the 1990 amendments) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

The Company's subsidiaries in the United States have been identified as potentially responsible parties with respect to several sites designated for cleanup under CERCLA or similar state laws, which impose liability for cleanup of certain waste sites and for related natural resource damages without regard to fault or the legality of waste generation or disposal. Persons liable for such costs and damages generally include the site owner or operator and persons that disposed or arranged for the disposal of hazardous substances found at those sites. Although CERCLA imposes joint and several liability on all potentially responsible parties, in application, the potentially responsible parties typically allocate the investigation and cleanup costs based upon, among other things, the volume of waste contributed by each potentially responsible party.

Settlements can often be achieved through negotiations with the appropriate environmental agency or the other potentially responsible parties. Potentially responsible parties that contributed small amounts of waste (typically less than 1% of the waste) are often given the opportunity to settle as *de minimus* parties, resolving their liability for a particular site. The Company does not own or operate any of the waste sites with respect to which it has been named as a potentially responsible party by the government. Based on the Company's review and other factors, it believes that costs to the Company relating to environmental clean-up at these sites will not have a material adverse effect on its results of operations, cash flows or financial position.

In the transaction with Wassall PLC in 1994, American Premier Underwriters, Inc. agreed to indemnify the Company against liabilities (including all environmental liabilities) arising out of the Company's or the Company's predecessors ownership or operation of the Indiana Steel & Wire Company and Marathon Manufacturing Holdings, Inc. businesses (which were divested by the predecessor prior to the 1994 Wassall transaction), without limitation as to time or amount. American Premier also agreed to indemnify the Company against 662/3% of all other environmental liabilities arising out of the Company's or the Company's predecessors ownership or operation of other properties and assets in excess of \$10 million but not in excess of \$33 million, which were identified during the seven-year period ended June 2001. Indemnifiable environmental liabilities through June 2001 were substantially below that threshold. In addition, the Company also has claims against third parties with respect to some of these liabilities.

During 1999, the Company acquired the worldwide energy cable and cable systems business of Balfour Beatty plc, previously known as BICC plc. As part of this acquisition, the seller agreed to indemnify the Company against environmental liabilities existing at the date of the closing of the purchase of the business. The indemnity was for an eight-year period that ended in 2007, while the Company operates the businesses, subject to certain sharing of losses (with BICC plc covering 95% of losses in the first three years, 80% in years four and five and 60% in the remaining three years). The indemnity is also subject to the overall indemnity limit of \$150 million, which applies to all warranty and indemnity claims in the transaction. In addition, BICC plc assumed responsibility for cleanup of certain specific conditions at various sites operated by the Company and cleanup is mostly complete at these sites. In the sale of the businesses to Pirelli in August 2000, the Company generally indemnified Pirelli against any environmental liabilities on the same basis as BICC plc indemnified it in the earlier acquisition. However, the indemnity the Company received from BICC plc relating to the European businesses sold to Pirelli terminated upon the sale of those businesses to Pirelli. In addition, the Company generally indemnified Pirelli against other claims relating to the prior operation of the business. Pirelli has asserted claims under this indemnification. The Company is continuing to investigate and defend against these claims and believes that the reserves currently included in the Company's balance sheet are adequate to cover any obligations it may have.

In connection with the sale of certain business to Southwire Company in 2001, the Company has agreed to indemnify Southwire Company against certain environmental liabilities arising out of the operation of the business it sold to

Southwire. The indemnity is for a ten-year period from the closing of the sale, which ends in the fourth quarter of 2011, and is subject to an overall limit of \$20 million. At this time, there are no claims outstanding under this indemnity.

As part of the acquisition of Silec, SAFRAN SA agreed to indemnify General Cable against environmental losses arising from breach of representations and warranties on environmental law compliance and against losses arising from costs

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General Cable could incur to remediate property acquired based on a directive of the French authorities to rehabilitate property in regard to soil, water and other underground contamination arising before the closing date of the purchase. These indemnities are for a six-year period ending in 2011 while General Cable operates the businesses subject to sharing of certain losses (with SAFRAN covering 100% of losses in year one, 75% in years two and three, 50% in year four, and 25% in years five and six). The indemnities are subject to an overall limit of 4.0 million euros. As of December 31, 2007, there were no claims outstanding under this indemnity.

In 2007, the Company acquired the worldwide wire and cable business of Freeport-McMoRan Copper and Gold Inc., which operates as PDIC. As part of this acquisition, the seller agreed to indemnify the Company for certain environmental liabilities existing at the date of the closing of the acquisition. The seller's obligation to indemnify the Company for these particular liabilities generally survives four years from the date the parties executed the definitive purchase agreement unless the Company has properly notified the seller before the expiry of the four year period. The seller also made certain representations and warranties related to environmental matters and the acquired business and agreed to indemnify the Company for breaches of those representation and warranties for a period of four years from the closing date. Indemnification claims for breach of representations and warranties are subject to an overall indemnity limit of approximately \$105 million with a deductible of \$5.0 million, which generally applies to all warranty and indemnity claims for the transaction.

While it is difficult to estimate future environmental liabilities accurately, the Company does not currently anticipate any material adverse effect on its consolidated results of operations, financial position or cash flows as a result of compliance with federal, state, local or foreign environmental laws or regulations or remediation costs of the sites discussed above.

Employees

At December 31, 2007, General Cable employed approximately 11,800 persons, and collective bargaining agreements covered approximately 6,900 employees, or 58% of total employees, at various locations around the world. During the five calendar years ended December 31, 2007, the Company experienced two strikes in North America both of which were settled on satisfactory terms. There were no other major strikes at any of the Company's facilities during the five years ended December 31, 2007. In the United States, Canada, Venezuela, Brazil and Zambia union contracts will expire at four facilities in 2008 and six facilities in 2009 representing approximately 5.5% and 10.5%, respectively, of total employees as of December 31, 2007. The Company believes it will successfully renegotiate these contracts as they come due. For countries not specifically discussed above, labor agreements are generally negotiated on an annual or bi-annual basis.

Disclosure Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements in the 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K including, without limitation, statements regarding future financial results and performance, plans and objectives, capital expenditures and our or management's beliefs, expectations or opinions, are forward-looking statements, and as such, we desire to take advantage of the safe harbor which is afforded such statements under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements are those that predict or describe future events or trends and that do not relate solely to historical matters. You can generally identify forward-looking statements as statements containing the words believe, expect, may, anticipate, intend, estimate, project, plan, assume, seek to or other similar expressions, although not all forward-looking statements contain these identifying words.

Actual results may differ materially from those discussed in forward-looking statements as a result of factors, risks and uncertainties over many of which we have no control. These factors include, without limitation, the following: economic and political consequences resulting from terrorist attacks, war and political and social unrest; economic consequences arising from natural disasters and other similar catastrophes, such as floods, earthquakes, hurricanes and tsunamis; domestic and local country price competition, particularly in certain segments of the power cable market and other competitive pressures; general economic conditions, particularly those in the construction, energy and information technology sectors; changes in customer or distributor purchasing patterns in our business segments; our ability to increase manufacturing capacity and productivity; the financial impact of any future plant closures; our ability to successfully complete and integrate acquisitions and divestitures; our ability to negotiate extensions of labor agreements on acceptable terms and to successfully deal with any labor disputes; our ability to service, and meet all

requirements under, our debt, and to maintain adequate domestic and international credit facilities and credit lines; our ability to pay dividends on our preferred stock; our ability to make payments of interest and principal under our existing and future indebtedness and to have sufficient available funds to effect conversions and repurchases from time to time; lowering of one or more debt ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations, and the adverse impact such action may have on our ability to raise capital and on our liquidity and financial conditions; the impact of unexpected future judgments or settlements of claims and litigation; our ability to achieve target returns on investments in our defined benefit plans; our ability to avoid limitations on utilization of

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net losses for income tax purposes; the cost and availability of raw materials, including copper, aluminum and petrochemicals; our ability to increase our selling prices during periods of increasing raw material costs; the impact of foreign currency fluctuations and changes in interest rates; the impact of technological changes; and other material factors. See Item 1A, Risk Factors, for a more detailed discussion on some of these risks. We do not undertake and specifically decline any obligation to update or correct any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of such statements or to reflect the occurrence of anticipated or unanticipated events.

Available Information

The Company's principal executive offices are located at 4 Tessenner Drive, Highland Heights, Kentucky 41076-9753 and its telephone number is (859) 572-8000. The Company's internet address is www.generalcable.com. General Cable's annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, are made available free of charge at www.generalcable.com as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). In addition, the Company will provide, at no cost, paper or electronic copies of our reports and other filings made with the SEC. Requests should be directed to: Investor Relations, General Cable Corporation, 4 Tessenner Drive, Highland Heights, KY 41076-9753.

The information on the website listed above is not and should not be considered part of this annual report on Form 10-K and is not incorporated by reference in this document. This website address is and is only intended to be an inactive textual reference.

Executive Officers of the Registrant

The following table sets forth certain information concerning the executive officers of General Cable on December 31, 2007.

| Name | Age | Position |
|--------------------|-----|--|
| Gregory B. Kenny | 55 | President, Chief Executive Officer and Class II Director |
| Brian J. Robinson | 39 | Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer |
| Robert J. Siverd | 59 | Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary |
| J. Michael Andrews | 43 | Executive Vice President and Group President - North American Energy Infrastructure and Technology |
| Domingo Geonaga | 66 | Executive Vice President, President and Chief Executive Officer, General Cable Europe and North Africa General Cable Corporation |
| Gregory J. Lampert | 40 | Executive Vice President and Group President - North American Electrical and Communications Infrastructure |
| Roddy Macdonald | 59 | Executive Vice President, Global Sales and Business Development |
| Mathias Sandoval | 47 | Executive Vice President, General Cable Rest of World, President and Chief Executive Officer, Phelps Dodge International Corporation |

Mr. Kenny has been one of General Cable's directors since 1997 and has been President and Chief Executive Officer since August 2001. He served as President and Chief Operating Officer from May 1999 to August 2001. He served as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of General Cable from March 1997 to May 1999. From June 1994 to March 1997, he was Executive Vice President of General Cable's immediate predecessor. He is also a director of Corn Products International, Inc. (NYSE: CPO) and Cardinal Health, Inc (NYSE: CAH).

Mr. Robinson has served as Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer since January 1, 2007 and was recently named Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer effective January 1, 2008. He has served as Senior Vice President, Controller and Treasurer from March 2006 to December 2006. He served as General Cable Controller from 2000 to February 2006 and Assistant Controller from 1999 to 2000. From 1997 until 1999, he served as an Audit Manager focused on accounting services for global companies for Deloitte & Touche LLP, and from 1991 to 1997, he served in roles of increasing responsibility with the Deloitte & Touche LLP office in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mr. Siverd has served as Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of General Cable since March 1997. From July 1994 until March 1997, he was Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of

the predecessor company.

J. Michael Andrews has served as Executive Vice President and Group President, North American Energy Infrastructure and Technology since October 2007. He served as Senior Vice President and General Manager of Energy, Industrial and Specialty Cables since January 2004. He served as Senior Vice President and General Manager of Electric Utility Business from November 1999 to January 2004. He served as Vice President Specialty Sales from September 1997 to November 1999. Mr.

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Andrews joined General Cable in January of 1996 and has worked in a number of capacities including product management, sales and business team leadership. Prior to joining General Cable, he held management positions with Andersen Consulting (Accenture), Automated Data Processing (ADP) and Fifth Third Bank.

Mr. Goenaga has served as Executive Vice President, President and Chief Executive Officer, General Cable's Europe and North Africa region since October 2007. He was President and Chief Executive Officer of General Cable Europe since 2001. Mr. Goenaga joined General Cable in 1963. Throughout his service with General Cable, Mr. Goenaga has held numerous leadership roles in both finance and general management, including Managing Director of General Cable Iberia.

Mr. Lampert has served as Executive Vice President, Group President - North America Electrical and Communications Infrastructure since October 2007. He served as Senior Vice President and General Manager - Data Communications and Carol Brand Products from August 2005 until September 2007. He served as Vice President and General Manager - Carol Brand Products from January 2004 until July 2005. He served as Vice President of Sales Electrical and Industrial Distribution from July 2000 until December 2003. He served as Product Manager - Building Wire from April 1998 until June 2000. Prior to joining General Cable, Mr. Lampert spent eight years with The Dow Chemical Company in sales and marketing roles of increasing responsibility.

Mr. Macdonald has served as Executive Vice President of Global Sales and Business Development since October 2007. He was Senior Vice President, Sales and Business Development for General Cable since September 2001. He joined the Company as Senior Vice President and General Manager, Electrical Cables in December 1999. From the period 1994 - 1999, Mr. Macdonald served as Vice President, Human Resources, Information Technology and Corporate Secretary for Commonwealth Aluminum Corporation. In 1995, Mr. Macdonald was appointed to the position of Executive Vice President, Corporate Systems for Commonwealth, and in 1997, he assumed the role of President of Alflex Corporation, a subsidiary of Commonwealth that manufactures armored cable products. He served for 25 years as an officer in the British Armed Services. In 1983 he was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire for services leading commando forces in combat in the Falkland Islands and ended his distinguished military career in 1993 as a Brigadier General.

Mr. Sandoval has served as Executive Vice President of General Cable Rest of World and President and Chief Executive Officer of Phelps Dodge International Corporation (PDIC) since October 2007. He began his 24-year career with PDIC as a process engineer in Costa Rica and has held positions in engineering, operations and management, including General Manager of PDIC's Honduras-based business, President of their Venezuelan operations, Vice President of their Global Aluminum Business Segment and Vice President of PDIC's Global Energy Segment. He became President of PDIC in 2001. He has served on Boards of Directors for joint ventures between United States companies and private- and government-owned enterprises in China, Thailand, the Philippines, Zambia, South Africa, Mexico, Honduras, Costa Rica, Panama, Venezuela, Ecuador, Brazil and Chile.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

Unless the context indicates otherwise, all references to we , us , our in this Item 1A, Risk Factors, refer to the Company. We are subject to a number of risks listed below, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and value of our securities.

Certain statements in the 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K including, without limitation, statements regarding future financial results and performance, plans and objectives, capital expenditures and our or management's beliefs, expectations or opinions, are forward-looking statements, and as such, we desire to take advantage of the safe harbor which is afforded such statements under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Our forward-looking statements should be read in conjunction with our comments in this report under the heading, Disclosure Regarding Forward-Looking Statements. Actual results may differ materially from those statements as a result of factors, risks and uncertainties over which we have no control. Such factors include, but are not limited to, the risks and uncertainties discussed below.

Risks Related to Our Business

Our net sales, net income and growth depend largely on the economic strength of the geographic markets that we serve, and if these markets become weaker, we could suffer decreased sales and net income.

Many of our customers use our products as components in their own products or in projects undertaken for their customers. Our ability to sell our products is largely dependent on general economic conditions, including how much our customers and end-users spend on power transmission and distribution infrastructures, industrial manufacturing assets, new construction and building, information technology and maintaining or reconfiguring their communications networks. In the early 2000s, many

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companies significantly reduced their capital equipment and information technology budgets, and construction activity that necessitates the building or modification of communication networks and power transmission and distribution infrastructures slowed considerably as a result of a weakening of the U.S. and foreign economies. As a result, our net sales and financial results declined significantly in those years. Beginning in 2004 and continuing through 2007, we have seen an improvement in these markets; however, if they were to weaken, we could suffer decreased sales and net income.

The markets for our products are highly competitive, and if we fail to invest in product development, productivity improvements and customer service and support, sales of our products could be adversely affected.

The markets for copper, aluminum and fiber optic wire and cable products are highly competitive, and some of our competitors may have greater financial resources than ours. We compete with at least one major competitor with respect to each of our business segments. Many of our products are made to common specifications and therefore may be fungible with competitors' products. Accordingly, we are subject to competition in many markets on the basis of price, delivery time, customer service and our ability to meet specific customer needs.

We believe that competitors will continue to improve the design and performance of their products and to introduce new products with competitive price and performance characteristics. We expect that we will be required to continue to invest in product development, productivity improvements and customer service and support in order to compete in our markets. Furthermore, an increase in imports of products competitive with our products could adversely affect our sales on a region by region basis.

Our business is subject to the economic, political and other risks of maintaining facilities and selling products in foreign countries.

During the year ended December 31, 2007, approximately 51% of our sales and approximately 73% of our assets were in markets outside North America. Our operations outside North America generated approximately \$86.5 million of our cash flows from operations and the North American operations generated approximately \$145.2 million of cash flows from operations during this period. Our financial results may be adversely affected by significant fluctuations in the value of the U.S. dollar against foreign currencies or by the enactment of exchange controls or foreign governmental or regulatory restrictions on the transfer of funds. In addition, negative tax consequences relating to repatriating certain foreign currencies, particularly cash generated by our operations in Spain, Venezuela and the Philippines, may adversely affect our cash flows.

Furthermore, our foreign operations are subject to risks inherent in maintaining operations abroad, such as economic and political destabilization, international conflicts, restrictive actions by foreign governments, nationalizations, changes in regulatory requirements, the difficulty of effectively managing diverse global operations, adverse foreign tax laws and the threat posed by potential international disease pandemics in countries that do not have the resources necessary to deal with such outbreaks. Over time, we intend to continue to expand our foreign operations, which would serve to exacerbate these risks and their potential effect on our business, financial position and results of operations. In particular, with the acquisition of PDIC, we will have significant operations in countries in Central and South America, Africa and Asia. Economic and political developments in these countries, including future economic changes or crises (such as inflation, currency devaluation or recession), government deadlock, political instability, civil strife, international conflicts, changes in laws and regulations and expropriation or nationalization of property or other resources, could impact our operations or the market value of our common stock and have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Although PDIC and its subsidiaries maintain political risk insurance related to its operations in a number of countries, any losses we may incur may not be covered by this insurance and, even if covered, such insurance may not fully cover such losses. In addition to these general risks, there are significant country specific risks including:

Brazil and other Latin American countries have historically experienced uneven periods of economic growth as well as recession, high inflation, currency devaluation and economic instability. The countries' governments have been known to intervene in their respective economies, which have involved price controls, currency devaluations, capital controls and limits on imports.

Thailand has recently experienced significant political and militant unrest in certain provinces. The country's elected government was overthrown in September 2006, with an elected government only recently restored.

In recent years, Venezuela has experienced difficult economic conditions, relatively high levels of inflation, and foreign exchange and price controls. The President of Venezuela has the authority to legislate certain areas by decree, and the Venezuelan government has nationalized or announced plans to nationalize certain industries and has sought to expropriate certain companies and property.

Table of Contents***Compliance with foreign and U.S. laws and regulations applicable to our international operations, including the FCPA, is difficult and may increase the cost of doing business in international jurisdictions.***

Various laws and regulations associated with our current international operations are complex and increase our cost of doing business. Furthermore, these laws and regulations expose us to fines and penalties if we fail to comply with them. These laws and regulations include import and export requirements, U.S. laws such as the FCPA, and local laws prohibiting corrupt payments to governmental officials. Although we have implemented policies and procedures designed to ensure compliance with these laws, there can be no assurance that our employees, contractors and agents will not take actions in violation of our policies, particularly as we expand our operations through organic growth and acquisitions. Any such violations could subject us to civil or criminal penalties, including substantial fines or prohibitions on our ability to offer our wire and cable products in one or more countries, and could also materially damage our reputation, our brand, our international expansion efforts, our business and our operating results. In addition, if we fail to address the challenges and risks associated with our international expansion and acquisition strategy, we may encounter difficulties implementing our strategy, which could impede our growth or harm our operating results.

Volatility in the price of copper and other raw materials, as well as fuel and energy, could adversely affect our businesses.

The costs of copper and aluminum, the most significant raw materials we use, have been subject to considerable volatility over the past few years. Volatility in the price of copper, aluminum, polyethylene, petrochemicals, and other raw materials, as well as fuel, natural gas and energy, may in turn lead to significant fluctuations in our cost of sales. Additionally, sharp increases in the price of copper can also reduce demand if customers decide to defer their purchases of copper wire and cable products or seek to purchase substitute products. Although we attempt to recover copper and other raw material price changes either in the selling price of our products or through our commodity hedging programs, there is no assurance that we can do so successfully or at all in the future.

Interruptions of supplies from our key suppliers may affect our results of operations and financial performance.

Interruptions of supplies from our key suppliers, including as a result of catastrophes such as hurricanes, earthquakes, floods or terrorist activities, could disrupt production or impact our ability to increase production and sales. All copper and aluminum rod used in our North American operations is externally sourced, and our largest supplier of copper rod accounted for approximately 84% of our North American purchases in 2007 while our largest supplier of aluminum rod accounted for approximately 85% of our North American purchases in 2007. The Company's European operations purchase copper and aluminum rod from many suppliers with each supplier generally providing a small percentage of the total copper and aluminum rod purchased while operations in ROW internally produce the majority of their copper and aluminum rod production needs and obtain cathode and ingots from various sources with each supplier generally providing a small percentage of the total amount of raw materials purchased. Any unanticipated problems with our copper or aluminum rod suppliers could have a material adverse effect on our business. Additionally, we use a limited number of sources for most of the other raw materials that we do not produce. We do not have long-term or volume purchase agreements with most of our suppliers, and may have limited options in the short-term for alternative supply if these suppliers fail to continue the supply of material or components for any reason, including their business failure, inability to obtain raw materials or financial difficulties. Moreover, identifying and accessing alternative sources may increase our costs.

Failure to negotiate extensions of our labor agreements as they expire may result in a disruption of our operations.

As of December 31, 2007, approximately 58% of our employees were represented by various labor unions. During the five calendar years ended December 31, 2007, we have experienced only two strikes, which were settled on satisfactory terms.

We are party to labor agreements with unions that represent employees at many of our manufacturing facilities. In the United States, Canada, Venezuela, Brazil and Zambia, union contracts will expire at four facilities in 2008 and six facilities in 2009 representing approximately 5.5% and 10.5%, respectively, of total employees as of December 31, 2007. Labor agreements are generally negotiated on an annual or bi-annual basis unless otherwise noted above and the risk exists that labor agreement may not be renewed on reasonably satisfactory terms to the Company or at all. We

cannot predict what issues may be raised by the collective bargaining units representing our employees and, if raised, whether negotiations concerning such issues will be successfully concluded. A protracted work stoppage could result in a disruption of our operations which could, in turn, adversely affect our ability to deliver certain products and our financial results.

Table of Contents***Our inability to continue to achieve productivity improvements may result in increased costs.***

Part of our business strategy is to increase our profitability by lowering costs through improving our processes and productivity. In the event we are unable to continue to implement measures improving our manufacturing techniques and processes, we may not achieve desired efficiency or productivity levels and our manufacturing costs may increase. In addition, productivity increases are related in part to factory utilization rates. Our decreased utilization rates from 2002 to 2004 adversely impacted productivity.

Changes in industry standards and regulatory requirements may adversely affect our business.

As a manufacturer and distributor of wire and cable products for customers that operate in various industries, we are subject to a number of industry standard-setting authorities, such as Underwriters Laboratories, the Telecommunications Industry Association, the Electronics Industries Association, the International Electrotechnical Commission and the Canadian Standards Association. In addition, many of our products are subject to the requirements of federal, state and local or foreign regulatory authorities. Changes in the standards and requirements imposed by such authorities could have an adverse effect on us. In the event that we are unable to meet any such new or modified standards when adopted, our business could be adversely affected.

In addition, changes in the legislative environment could affect the growth and other aspects of important markets served by us. In August 2005, President George W. Bush signed into law the Energy Policy Act of 2005. This law was enacted to establish a comprehensive, long-range national energy policy. Among other things, it provides tax credits and other incentives for the production of traditional sources of energy, as well as alternative energy sources, such as wind, wave, tidal and geothermal power generation systems. Although we believe this legislation is currently having a positive impact on us and our financial results, we cannot be certain that this impact will continue at this level over time or at all. We also cannot predict the impact, either positive or negative, that changes in laws or industry standards that may be adopted in the future could have on our financial results, cash flows or financial position.

Advancing technologies, such as fiber optic and wireless technologies, may continue to make some of our products less competitive.

Technological developments continue to have a material adverse effect on our business. For example, a continued increase in the rate of installations using fiber optic systems or an increase in the cost of copper-based systems may have a material adverse effect on our business. While we do manufacture and sell fiber optic cables, any further acceleration in the erosion of our sales of copper cables due to increased market demand for fiber optic cables would most likely not be offset by an increase in sales of our fiber optic cables.

Also, advancing wireless technologies, as they relate to network and communications systems represent an alternative to certain copper cables we manufacture and may reduce customer demand for premise wiring. Traditional telephone companies are facing increasing competition within their respective territories from, among others, providers of voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) and wireless carriers. Wireless communications depend heavily on a fiber optic backbone and do not depend as much on copper-based systems. The increased acceptance and use of VoIP and wireless technology, or introduction of new wireless or fiber-optic based technologies, continues to have a material adverse effect on the marketability of our products and our profitability. Our sales of copper premise cables currently face downward pressure from wireless and VoIP technology, and the increased acceptance and use of these technologies has heightened this pressure and the potential negative impact on our results of operations.

We are substantially dependent upon distributors and retailers for non-exclusive sales of our products and they could cease purchasing our products at any time.

During 2006 and 2007, approximately 34% and 36%, respectively, of our domestic net sales were made to independent distributors and four of our ten largest customers were distributors. Distributors accounted for a substantial portion of sales of our communications- and industrial-related products. During 2006 and 2007, approximately 10%, respectively, of our domestic net sales were to retailers, and the two largest retailers, accounted for approximately 2% and 1%, respectively, of our worldwide net sales in 2006 and 2007.

These distributors and retailers are not contractually obligated to carry our product lines exclusively or for any period of time. Therefore, these distributors and retailers may purchase products that compete with our products or cease purchasing our products at any time. The loss of one or more large distributors or retailers could have a material adverse effect on our ability

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to bring our products to end users and on our results of operations. Moreover, a downturn in the business of one or more large distributors or retailers could adversely affect our sales and could create significant credit exposure.

In each of our markets, we face pricing pressures that could adversely affect our results of operations and financial performance.

We face pricing pressures in each of our markets as a result of significant competition or over-capacity. While we continually work toward reducing our costs to respond to the pricing pressures that may continue, we may not be able to achieve proportionate reductions in costs. As a result of over-capacity and economic and industry downturn in the communications and industrial markets in particular, pricing pressures increased in 2002 and 2003, and continued into 2004. While we generally have been successful in raising prices to recover increased raw material costs since the second quarter of 2004, pricing pressures continued through 2005, 2006 and 2007, and price volatility is expected for the foreseeable future. Further pricing pressures, without offsetting cost reductions, could adversely affect our financial results.

If either our uncommitted accounts payable confirming arrangement or our accounts receivable financing arrangement for our European operations is cancelled, our liquidity will be negatively impacted.

Our Spanish operations participate in accounts payable confirming arrangements with several European financial institutions. We negotiate payment terms with suppliers of generally 180 days and submit invoices to the financial institutions with instructions for the financial institutions to transfer funds from our Spanish operations accounts on the due date (on day 180) to the receiving parties to pay the invoices in full. At December 31, 2007, the arrangements had a maximum availability limit of the equivalent of approximately \$416.1 million, of which approximately \$202.6 million was drawn. We also have approximately \$138.8 million available under uncommitted, Euro-denominated facilities in Europe, which allow us to sell at a discount, with no or limited recourse, a portion of our accounts receivable to financial institutions. As of December 31, 2007, we have drawn approximately \$46.7 million from these accounts receivable facilities. We do not have firm commitments from these institutions to purchase our accounts receivable. Should the availability under these arrangements be reduced or terminated, we would be required to repay the outstanding obligations over 180 days and seek alternative arrangements. We cannot assure you that alternate arrangements will be available on favorable terms or at all. Failure to obtain alternative arrangements in such case would negatively impact our liquidity.

As a result of market and industry conditions, we may need to close additional plants and reduce our recorded inventory values, which would result in charges against income.

In 2005, we closed our telecommunications manufacturing plant located in Bonham, Texas. At that time, we also closed our fiber optic military and premise cable manufacturing plant located in Dayville, Connecticut, and relocated production from this plant to our acquired facility in Franklin, Massachusetts, which produces copper as well as some fiber optic communications products. Total costs recorded during 2005 with respect to these closures were \$18.6 million (of which approximately \$7.5 million were cash payments), including a \$0.5 million gain from the sale of a previously closed manufacturing plant. During the fourth quarter of 2007, the Company rationalized outside plant telecommunication products manufacturing capacity due to continued declines in telecommunications cable demand. The Company closed a portion of its telecommunications capacity located primarily at its Tetla, Mexico facility and has taken a pre-tax charge to write-off certain production equipment of \$6.6 million. This action will free approximately 100,000 square feet of manufacturing space, which the Company plans to utilize for other products for the Central and South American markets.

If, as a result of volatile copper prices, we are not able to recover the LIFO value of our inventory in a period when replacement costs are lower than the LIFO value of the inventory, we would be required to take a charge to recognize on an adjustment of LIFO inventory to market value. If LIFO inventory quantities are reduced in a future period when replacement costs exceed the LIFO value of the inventory, we would experience an increase in reported earnings. Conversely, if LIFO inventory quantities are reduced in a future period when replacement costs are lower than the LIFO value of the inventory, we would experience a decline in reported earnings.

We are subject to certain asbestos litigation and unexpected judgments or settlements that could have a material adverse effect on our financial results.

There are approximately 1,275 pending non-maritime asbestos cases involving our subsidiaries. The majority of these cases involve plaintiffs alleging exposure to asbestos-containing cable manufactured by our predecessors. In addition to our subsidiaries, numerous other wire and cable manufacturers have been named as defendants in these cases. Our subsidiaries have also been named, along with numerous other product manufacturers, as defendants in approximately 33,440 suits in which plaintiffs alleged that they suffered an asbestos-related injury while working in the maritime industry. These cases are

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referred to as MARDOC cases and are currently managed under the supervision of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. On May 1, 1996, the District Court ordered that all pending MARDOC cases be administratively dismissed without prejudice and the cases cannot be reinstated, except in certain circumstances involving specific proof of injury. We cannot assure you that any judgments or settlements of the pending non-maritime and/or MARDOC asbestos cases or any cases which may be filed in the future will not have a material adverse effect on our financial results, cash flows or financial position. Moreover, certain of our insurers may become financially unstable and in the event one or more of these insurers enter into insurance liquidation proceedings, we will be required to pay a larger portion of the costs incurred in connection with these cases.

Environmental liabilities could potentially adversely impact us and our affiliates.

We are subject to federal, state, local and foreign environmental protection laws and regulations governing our operations and the use, handling, disposal and remediation of hazardous substances currently or formerly used by us and our affiliates. A risk of environmental liability is inherent in our and our affiliates' current and former manufacturing activities in the event of a release or discharge of a hazardous substance generated by us or our affiliates. Under certain environmental laws, we could be held jointly and severally responsible for the remediation of any hazardous substance contamination at our facilities and at third party waste disposal sites and could also be held liable for any consequences arising out of human exposure to such substances or other environmental damage. We and our affiliates have been named as potentially responsible parties in proceedings that involve environmental remediation. There can be no assurance that the costs of complying with environmental, health and safety laws and requirements in our current operations or the liabilities arising from past releases of, or exposure to, hazardous substances, will not result in future expenditures by us that could materially and adversely affect our financial results, cash flows or financial condition.

Growth through acquisition has been a significant part of our strategy and we may not be able to successfully identify or integrate acquisitions.

Growth through acquisition has been, and is expected to continue to be, a significant part of our strategy.

Transactions completed in 2007 include the following:

The acquisition of Jiangyin Huaming Specialty Cable Co. Ltd., a manufacturer of specialty automotive and industrial cable products based in Jiangsu province of the People's Republic of China;

The formation of joint ventures with the Plaza Cable Group, a manufacturer of low and medium voltage energy and construction cables based in New Delhi, India; and

The acquisition of Norddeutsche Seekabelwerke GmbH & Co. KG (NSW), a complete solutions provider for submarine cable systems including manufacturing, engineering, seabed mapping, project management and installation based in Nordenham, Germany.

The acquisition of PDIC, a manufacturer of a full range of electric utility, electrical infrastructure, construction, communication and rod mill products. PDIC has facilities in nine countries throughout ROW.

Transactions completed during the 2006 and 2005 fiscal years included the following:

The acquisition of E.C.N. Cable Group, S.L. (ECN Cable), a manufacturer of aluminum energy and power cables and bimetallic products based in Vitoria, Spain;

The acquisition of the Mexican ignition wire set business of Beru AG based in Cuernavaca, Mexico; and

The acquisition of Silec Cable, S.A.S. (Silec), a manufacturer of high and extra high voltage cables for the energy exploration, production, transmission and distribution markets based in Montereau, France.

We regularly evaluate possible acquisition candidates. We cannot assure you that we will be successful in identifying, financing and closing acquisitions at favorable prices and terms. Potential acquisitions may require us to issue additional shares of stock or obtain additional or new financing. The issuance of shares of our common or preferred stock in connection with potential acquisitions may dilute the value of shares held by our then existing equity holders. Further, we cannot assure you that we will be successful in integrating any such acquisitions that are completed. Integration of any such acquisitions may require substantial management, financial and other resources and may pose risks with respect to production, customer service and market share of existing operations. In addition, we may acquire businesses that are subject to technological or competitive risks, and we may not be able to realize the benefits originally expected from such acquisitions.

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We may be unable to successfully integrate the PDIC businesses we acquired into our business and operations and thus, we may not achieve the benefits sought from this acquisition.

We completed the acquisition of PDIC with the expectation that it would result in benefits to us, including, among other things, growing revenue, increasing our international wire and cable business and increasing our geographic presence in certain high-growth markets. Achieving these benefits will depend in part on our ability to integrate the acquired wire and cable operations and related personnel in a timely and efficient manner. A successful integration of this business would minimize the risk that the acquisition will result in the loss of market opportunity or key employees or the diversion of the attention of management. Factors that could affect our ability to achieve these benefits include:

the failure of the acquired operations to perform in accordance with our expectations;

any future goodwill impairment charges that we may incur with respect to the acquired assets;

failure to achieve potential revenue enhancements and potential cost savings between our wire and cable operations and those we have acquired;

failure to achieve the expected benefits of the acquisition as rapidly or to the extent anticipated by financial or industry analysts;

our ability to integrate the personnel and existing financial reporting, information technology and other logistical, technical and operational systems into ours;

the loss of any wire and cable business customers;

impact of seasonal trends as it relates to the respective locations of the acquired business; and

the loss of any of the key employees associated with the acquired business.

If the acquired business operations are not as successful as we anticipated, our business, financial condition and results of operations may be materially and negatively affected. In such cases, we may experience significant declines in our stock price.

We have assumed substantially all of the liabilities of the PDIC operations, which may expose us to additional risks and uncertainties that we would not face if the acquisition had not occurred.

As a result of the PDIC acquisition, we succeeded to substantially all of the liabilities associated with the wire and cable business we acquired, which may include, without limitation:

environmental risks and liabilities related to the operation of the acquired assets;

risks associated with these operations in various foreign countries, including in Brazil, China, Colombia, India, Thailand, Venezuela and Zambia;

existing product liability claims with respect to the acquired wire and cable products;

other existing litigation and tax liabilities involving the acquired wire and cable business;

issues relating to compliance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, including issues relating to internal control over financial reporting, or other applicable laws;

issues related to debt assumed in connection with the acquisition; and

employee and employee benefit liabilities.

In addition to the risks set forth above, we may discover additional information, risks or uncertainties about this business that may adversely affect us. An acquisition of operations in many foreign countries, such as this acquisition, makes it extremely difficult for the acquirer to discover and adequately protect itself against all potentially adverse liabilities, risks or

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uncertainties that exist or may arise. Based on all of the foregoing liabilities, risks and uncertainties, there can be no assurance that the acquisition will not, in fact, have a negative impact on our financial results.

Subject to certain limitations and exceptions, the stock purchase agreement we entered into in connection with the acquisition provides us with indemnification rights for losses we incur in connection with:

a breach by the sellers of specified representations and warranties;

a breach by the sellers of a covenant in the stock purchase agreement; or

specified environmental and tax liabilities.

Our right to seek indemnification for such losses is limited by the terms of the stock purchase agreement, which requires us to absorb specified amounts of losses before we may seek indemnification. Moreover, the maximum amount of indemnity we may seek under the stock purchase agreement is limited. Furthermore, it may be extremely difficult for us to prove that a loss we incur was caused by a specified breach of a covered representation or warranty or covenant. Except in the case of fraud and as to available equitable remedies, our right to seek indemnification will be the exclusive remedy we may pursue under the stock purchase agreement for any losses we incur in connection with the acquisition.

If we are unable to prove a breach of a representation, warranty or covenant necessary to support an indemnification claim, if a claim or loss we incur is not covered by these indemnification provisions, or if the total amount of liabilities and obligations we incur in the acquisition exceeds the amount of indemnification provided, we may be responsible to pay unforeseen additional expenses and costs. Furthermore, any claim by us for indemnification under the stock purchase agreement may be contested, which could have the effect of delaying or ultimately preventing our receipt of remuneration for such a claim. As a result, our business may be materially adversely affected and our stock price could decline.

Terrorist attacks and other attacks or acts of war may adversely affect the markets in which we operate and our profitability.

The attacks of September 11, 2001 and subsequent events, including the military actions in Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere in the Middle East, have caused and may continue to cause instability in our markets and have led and may continue to lead to, further armed hostilities or further acts of terrorism worldwide, which could cause further disruption in our markets. Acts of terrorism and those of guerilla groups or drug cartels may impact any or all of our facilities and operations, or those of our customers or suppliers and may further limit or delay purchasing decisions of our customers. Depending on their magnitude, these or similar acts could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial results, cash flows and financial position.

We carry insurance coverage on our facilities of types and in amounts that we believe are in line with coverage customarily obtained by owners of similar properties. We continue to monitor the state of the insurance market in general and the scope and cost of coverage for acts of terrorism and similar acts in particular, but we cannot anticipate what coverage will be available on commercially reasonable terms in future policy years. Currently, we do not carry terrorism insurance coverage. If we experience a loss that is uninsured or that exceeds policy limits, we could lose the capital invested in the damaged facilities, as well as the anticipated future net sales from those facilities. Depending on the specific circumstances of each affected facility, it is possible that we could be liable for indebtedness or other obligations related to the facility. Any such loss could materially and adversely affect our business, financial results, cash flows and financial position.

If we fail to retain our key employees, our business may be harmed.

Our success has been largely dependent on the skills, experience and efforts of our key employees and the loss of the services of any of our executive officers or other key employees, without a properly executed transition plan, could have an adverse effect on us. The loss of our key employees who have intimate knowledge of our manufacturing process could lead to increased competition to the extent that those employees are hired by a competitor and are able to recreate our manufacturing process. Our future success will also depend in part upon our continuing ability to attract and retain highly qualified personnel, who are in great demand.

As of December 31, 2006, we had material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting, therefore our disclosure controls and procedures were deemed ineffective.

In connection with the preparation of our 2006 Annual Report on Form 10-K, as of December 31, 2006, we concluded that control deficiencies in our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2006 constituted material weaknesses

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within the meaning of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board's Auditing Standard No. 2, *An Audit of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting Performed in Conjunction with an Audit of Financial Statements*. As we disclosed in our 2006 Annual Report on Form 10-K that we filed with the SEC on March 1, 2007, we identified material weaknesses regarding the following:

Silec was acquired by us in December 2005 and was previously a division of a large French company. In connection with management's assessment of internal control over financial reporting, management has determined that Silec did not complete implementation of adequate internal controls for the purposes of identifying, recording, and reporting Silec's financial results of operations. Specifically, as part of the transition to the Company, as of December 31, 2006, Silec had not completed a migration of systems from those provided by its former parent company. Management determined that the controls over granting and monitoring access to its financial reporting system were not adequate. Further, management's testing of business process controls identified several control deficiencies, including lack of supporting documentation and lack of timely and sufficient financial statement account reconciliation and analysis. Management determined that in the aggregate, these control deficiencies result in a more than remote likelihood that a material misstatement in the interim or annual financial statements could occur and not be prevented or detected. Due to the material weakness discussed above, we have concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was not effective as of December 31, 2006. We have also concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were not effective as of December 31, 2006, due solely to the material weakness related to our Silec subsidiary.

Management implemented the following steps to remediate this material weakness:

In February 2007, a significant portion of Silec's financial systems were migrated to the Company's existing European financial system. The majority of Silec's remaining systems were migrated to independent systems, with appropriate controls in place, as of December 31, 2007.

To ensure successful transition to a formal control structure and to address the internal control implementation issues noted above, Silec added several resources with Sarbanes-Oxley compliance experience to its financial reporting function including a Chief Accountant, a Director of Cost Accounting, a Treasurer and an IT Director.

These improvements have been fully implemented and tested, and we concluded that as of December 31, 2007, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective, within the meaning of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board's Auditing Standard No. 5, *An Audit of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting That is Integrated with An Audit of Financial Statements* which superseded Auditing Standard No. 2, *An Audit of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting Performed in Conjunction with an Audit of Financial Statements* and was effective for audits of fiscal years ending on or after November 15, 2007.

There is the risk that additional material weaknesses, within the meaning of Auditing Standard No. 5, could be identified in the future and although we have been successful at remediating material weaknesses in the past, a risk exists that we may not successfully remediate future material weaknesses.

Declining returns in the investment portfolio of our defined benefit pension plans and changes in actuarial assumptions could increase the volatility in our pension expense and require us to increase cash contributions to the plans.

We sponsor defined pension plans around the world. Pension expense for the defined benefit pension plans sponsored by us is determined based upon a number of actuarial assumptions, including an expected long-term rate of return on assets and discount rate. The use of these assumptions makes our pension expense and our cash contributions subject to year-to-year volatility. As of December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, the defined benefit pension plans were underfunded by approximately \$72.5 million, \$35.7 million and \$40.9 million, respectively, based on the actuarial methods and assumptions utilized for purposes of the applicable accounting rules and interpretations. We have experienced volatility in our pension expense and in our cash contributions to our defined benefit pension plans. In 2007, pension expense increased approximately \$0.1 million, excluding a \$3.2 million curtailment charge and a \$4.3 million settlement gain, from 2006 and cash contributions increased approximately \$8.1 million from 2006. In the event that actual results differ from the actuarial assumptions or actuarial assumptions are changed, the funded status of our defined benefit pension plans may change and any such deficiency could result in additional charges to

equity and an increase in future pension expense and cash contributions.

Table of Contents***An ownership change could result in a limitation of the use of our net operating losses.***

As of December 31, 2007, we had approximately \$10.8 million of NOL carryforwards that are subject to an annual limitation under Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code. Approximately \$5.4 million of these NOL carryforwards are scheduled to expire in each of 2008 and 2009. Our ability to utilize NOL carryforwards, including any future NOL carryforwards that may arise, may be further limited by Section 382 if we undergo an ownership change as a result of the sale of our stock by holders of our equity securities or as a result of subsequent changes in the ownership of our outstanding stock. We would undergo an ownership change if, among other things, the stockholders, or group of stockholders, who own or have owned, directly or indirectly, 5% or more of the value of our stock or are otherwise treated as 5% stockholders under Section 382 and the regulations promulgated thereunder increase their aggregate percentage ownership of our stock by more than 50 percentage points over the lowest percentage of our stock owned by these stockholders at any time during the testing period, which is generally the three-year period preceding the potential ownership change. In the event of an ownership change, Section 382 imposes an annual limitation on the amount of post-ownership change taxable income a corporation may offset with pre-ownership change NOL carryforwards and certain recognized built-in losses. The limitation imposed by Section 382 for any post-change year would be determined by multiplying the value of our stock immediately before the ownership change (subject to certain adjustments) by the applicable long-term tax-exempt rate in effect at the time of the ownership change. Any unused annual limitation may be carried over to later years, and the limitation may under certain circumstances be increased by built-in gains which may be present in assets held by us at the time of the ownership change that are recognized in the five-year period after the ownership change.

Risks Related to Our Debt***Our substantial indebtedness could adversely affect our business and financial condition.***

We have a significant amount of debt. As of December 31, 2007, we had \$1,398.8 million of debt outstanding, \$54.9 million of which was secured indebtedness, and \$266.1 million of additional borrowing capacity available under our amended senior secured credit facility (Amended Credit Facility), \$36.5 million of additional borrowing capacity under our Spanish subsidiary's revolving credit facility (Spanish Credit Facility) and approximately \$16.1 million of additional borrowing capacity under agreements related to ECN Cable and approximately \$302.2 million of additional borrowing capacity under our various credit agreements related to PDIC, subject to certain conditions. As of December 31, 2007, we had \$475.0 million 1.00% Senior Convertible Notes outstanding and \$355.0 million in 0.875% Convertible Notes and \$200.0 million of fixed-rate 7.125% Senior Notes and \$125.0 million of Senior Floating Rate Notes outstanding. Subject to the terms of the Amended Credit Facility, our Spanish subsidiary's term loan (Spanish Term Loan) and Spanish Credit Facility and the indentures governing our 1.00% Senior Convertible Notes, 0.875% Senior Convertible Notes, 7.125% Senior Notes and Senior Floating Rate Notes, we may also incur additional indebtedness, including secured debt, in the future. See Item 7 of this document for details on the various debt agreements.

The degree to which we are leveraged could have important adverse consequences to us, limiting management's choices in responding to business, economic, regulatory and other competitive conditions. In addition, our ability to generate cash flow from operations sufficient to make scheduled payments on our debts as they become due will depend on our future performance, our ability to successfully implement our business strategy and our ability to obtain other financing, which may be influenced by economic, financial, competitive, legislative, regulatory and other factors that are beyond our control. Our indebtedness could also adversely affect our financial position.

We may not have sufficient cash to pay, or may not be permitted to pay, the cash portion of the required consideration that we may need to pay if the 1.00% Senior Convertible Notes or the 0.875% Senior Convertible Notes are converted. We will be required to pay to the holder of a note a cash payment equal to the lesser of the principal amount of the notes being converted or the conversion value of those notes. This part of the payment must be made in cash, not in shares of our common stock. As a result, we may be required to pay significant amounts in cash to holders of the notes upon conversion. A failure to pay the required cash consideration would be an event of default under the indenture governing the 1.00% Senior Convertible Notes and the 0.875% Senior Convertible Notes, which could lead to cross-defaults under our other indebtedness.

In connection with the incurrence of indebtedness under our Amended Credit Facility, the lenders under that facility have received a pledge of all of the capital stock of our existing domestic subsidiaries and any future domestic subsidiaries. Additionally, these lenders have a lien on substantially all of our domestic assets, including our existing and future accounts receivables, cash, general intangibles, investment property and real property. As a result of these pledges and liens, if we fail to meet our payment or other obligations under our Amended Credit Facility, the lenders with respect to this facility would be entitled to foreclose on substantially all of our domestic assets and to liquidate these assets.

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The agreements that govern our indebtedness contain various covenants that limit our discretion in the operation of our business.

The agreements and instruments that govern our indebtedness contain various restrictive covenants that, among other things, require us to comply with or maintain certain financial tests and ratios and restrict our ability to:

incur more debt;

pay dividends, purchase company stock or make other distributions;

make certain investments and payments;

create liens;

enter into transactions with affiliates;

make acquisitions;

merge or consolidate; and

transfer or sell assets.

Our ability to comply with these covenants is subject to various risks and uncertainties. In addition, events beyond our control could affect our ability to comply with and maintain the financial tests and ratios required by this indebtedness. Any failure by us to comply with and maintain all applicable financial tests and ratios and to comply with all applicable covenants could result in an event of default with respect to, the acceleration of the maturity of, and the termination of the commitments to make further extension of credit under, a substantial portion of our debt. Even if we are able to comply with all applicable covenants, the restrictions on our ability to operate our business in our sole discretion could harm our business by, among other things, limiting our ability to take advantage of financing, mergers, acquisitions and other corporate opportunities.

Failure to comply with covenants and other provisions in our existing or future financing arrangements could result in cross-defaults under some of our financing arrangements, which cross-defaults could jeopardize our ability to satisfy our obligations.

Various risks, uncertainties and events beyond our control could affect our ability to comply with the covenants, financial tests and ratios required by the instruments governing our financing arrangements. Failure to comply with any of the covenants in our existing or future financing agreements could result in a default under those agreements and under other agreements containing cross-default provisions. A default would permit lenders to cease to make further extensions of credit, accelerate the maturity of the debt under these agreements and foreclose upon any collateral securing that debt. Under these circumstances, we might not have sufficient funds or other resources to satisfy all of our obligations. In addition, the limitations imposed by financing agreements on our ability to incur additional debt and to take other actions might significantly impair our ability to obtain other financing. We may also amend the provisions and limitations of our credit facilities from time to time.

Certain portions of our debt contain prepayment or acceleration rights at the election of the holders upon a covenant default or change in control, which acceleration rights, if exercised, could constitute an event of default under other portions of our debt. It is possible that we would be unable to fulfill all of these obligations simultaneously.

Our ability to pay principal and interest on outstanding indebtedness depends upon our receipt of dividends or other intercompany transfers from our subsidiaries, and claims of creditors of our subsidiaries that do not guarantee our indebtedness will have priority over claims you may have as for our guaranteed indebtedness with respect to the assets and earnings of those subsidiaries.

We are a holding company and substantially all of our properties and assets are owned by, and all our operations are conducted through, our subsidiaries. As a result, we are dependent upon cash dividends and distributions or other transfers from our subsidiaries to meet our debt service obligations, including payment of the interest on and principal

of our indebtedness when due, and other obligations. The ability of our subsidiaries to pay dividends and make other payments to us may be restricted by, among other things, applicable corporate, tax and other laws and regulations in the United States and

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abroad and agreements made by us and our subsidiaries, including under the terms of our existing and potentially future indebtedness.

In addition, claims of creditors, including trade creditors, of our subsidiaries will generally have priority with respect to the assets and earnings of such subsidiaries over the claims of our creditors, except to the extent the claims of our creditors are guaranteed by these subsidiaries. Certain of our indebtedness may be guaranteed by only some of our subsidiaries. In the event of our dissolution, bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization, the holders of such indebtedness will not receive any amounts from our non-guarantor subsidiaries with respect to such indebtedness until after the payment in full of the claims of the creditors of those subsidiaries.

A downgrade in our financial strength or credit ratings could limit our ability to conduct our business or offer and sell additional debt securities, and could hurt our relationships with creditors.

Nationally recognized statistical rating organizations rate the credit risk associated with certain of our debt. Ratings are not recommendations to buy or sell our securities. We may, in the future, incur indebtedness with interest rates that may be affected by changes in or other actions associated with our credit ratings. Each of the rating agencies reviews its ratings periodically, and previous ratings for our debt may not be maintained in the future. Rating agencies may also place us under review for potential downgrade in certain circumstances or if we seek to take certain actions. A downgrade of our debt ratings could affect our ability to raise additional debt with terms and conditions similar to our current debt, and accordingly, likely increase our cost of capital. In addition, a downgrade of these ratings, or other negative action, could make it more difficult for us to raise capital to refinance any maturing debt obligations, to support business growth and to maintain or improve the current financial strength of our business and operations.

The current accounting treatment applicable to our convertible notes may be rescinded.

The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) recently proposed FASB Staff Position (FSP) APB 14-a, *Accounting for Convertible Debt Instruments That May Be Settled in Cash Upon Conversion (Including Partial Cash Settlement) (FSP 14-a)*. The proposed FSP specifies that issuers of convertible debt instruments should separately account for the liability and equity components of the instrument in a manner that will reflect the entity's nonconvertible debt borrowing rate on the instrument's issuance date when interest cost is recognized in subsequent periods. We have issued convertible notes that are within the scope of FSP APB 14-a; therefore, we would be required to record the debt portions of our convertible notes at their fair value on the date of issuance and amortize the resulting discount into interest expense over the life of the debt. However, there would be no effect on our cash interest payments. The FASB is schedule to deliberate the guidance in the current proposed, FSP APB 14-a in 2008 and it remains unclear as to the final form and effective date of this proposal. We continue to monitor the status of this staff position and will evaluate the impact on our financial statements when more definitive information becomes available. If adopted in its current form, the proposed change would result in a significant increase in our reported interest expense with respect to our convertible notes.

Risks Related to Our Securities

Our stock has been and continues to be volatile, and our ability to pay dividends on our common stock is limited.

The value of our securities may fluctuate as a result of various factors, such as:

Announcements relating to significant corporate transactions;

Operating and stock price performance of companies that investors deem comparable to us;

Changes in government regulation or proposals relating thereto;

Sales or the expectation of sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market; and

General stock market fluctuations unrelated to our operating performance.

In addition, we do not expect to pay cash dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future. Payment of dividends on our common stock will depend on the earnings and cash flows of our business and that of our

subsidiaries, and on our subsidiaries ability to pay dividends or to advance or repay funds to us. Before declaring a dividend, our Board of Directors will consider factors that ordinarily affect dividend policy, such as earnings, cash flow, estimates of future earnings and cash flow, business conditions, regulatory factors, our financial condition and other matters within its discretion, as well as contractual restrictions on our ability to pay dividends. We may not be able to pay dividends in the future or, if paid, we cannot assure you that the dividends will be in the same amount or with the same frequency as in the past.

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Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, we may pay dividends, in cash or otherwise, only if we have surplus in an amount at least equal to the amount of the relevant dividend payment. Any payment of cash dividends will depend upon our financial condition, capital requirements, earnings and other factors deemed relevant by our Board of Directors. Further, our Amended Credit Facility and the indentures governing our 1.00% Senior Convertible Notes, 0.875% Senior Convertible Notes and 7.125% Senior Notes and Senior Floating Rate Notes limit our ability to pay cash dividends, including cash dividends on our common stock. In addition, the certificate of designations for our Series A preferred stock prohibits us from the payment of any cash dividends on our common stock if we are not current on dividend payments with respect to our Series A preferred stock. Agreements governing future indebtedness will likely contain restrictions on our ability to pay cash dividends.

Future issuances of shares of our common stock may depress its market price.

Sales of substantial numbers of additional shares of common stock, including shares of common stock underlying the 0.875% Convertible Notes and shares of our outstanding Series A preferred stock, as well as sales of shares that may be issued in connection with future acquisitions, or the perception that such sales could occur, may have a harmful effect on prevailing market prices for our common stock and our ability to raise additional capital in the financial markets at a time and price favorable to us. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that we have authority to issue 200 million shares of common stock. As of December 31, 2007, there were approximately 52.4 million shares of common stock outstanding (net of treasury shares), approximately 0.9 million shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of currently outstanding stock options and approximately 0.5 million shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of our outstanding Series A preferred stock. In addition, a maximum of approximately 7.2 million shares of our common stock could be issuable upon conversion of our 1.00% Senior Convertible Notes. Similarly, a maximum of approximately 9.0 million shares of common stock could be issuable upon conversion of our 0.875% Convertible Notes and approximately 7.0 million shares of common stock could be issuable due to the issuance of warrants we issued in connection with the offering of our 0.875% Convertible Notes. All of the shares of our common stock that could be issued pursuant to the conversion of our 0.875% Convertible Notes by holders who are not our affiliates would be freely tradable by such holders.

Our convertible note hedge and warrant transactions may affect the trading price of our common stock.

In connection with the issuance of our 0.875% Convertible Notes, we entered into convertible note hedge transactions with one or more of the participating underwriters or their affiliates, which we refer to as the counterparties. The convertible note hedge transactions are comprised of purchased call options and sold warrants. The purchased call options are expected to reduce our exposure to potential dilution upon the conversion of the 0.875% Convertible Notes. We also entered into warrant transactions with such counterparties. The sold warrants have an exercise price that is approximately 92.4% higher than the closing price of our common stock on the date the 0.875% Convertible Notes were priced. The warrants are expected to provide us with some protection against increases in our stock price over the conversion price per share. In connection with these transactions, the counterparties, or their affiliates:

may enter into various over-the-counter derivative transactions or purchase or sell our common stock in secondary market transactions; and

may enter into, or may unwind, various over-the-counter derivatives or purchase or sell our common stock in secondary market transactions, including during any conversion reference period with respect to a conversion of 0.875% Convertible Notes.

These activities may have the effect of increasing, or preventing a decline in, the market price of our common stock. In addition, any hedging transactions by the counterparties, or their affiliates, including during any conversion reference period, may have an adverse impact on the trading price of our common stock. The counterparties, or their affiliates, are likely to modify their hedge positions from time to time prior to conversion or maturity of the 0.875% Convertible Notes by purchasing and selling shares of our common stock, other of our securities, or other instruments, including over-the-counter derivative instruments, that they may wish to use in connection with such hedging. In addition, we intend to exercise our purchased call options whenever 0.875% Convertible Notes are converted, although we are not required to do so. In order to unwind any hedge positions with respect to our exercise of the purchased call options, the counterparties or their affiliates would expect to sell shares of common stock in secondary

market transactions or unwind various over-the-counter derivative transactions with respect to our common stock during the conversion reference period for any 0.875% Convertible Notes that may be converted.

The effect, if any, of any of these transactions and activities in connection with the 0.875% Convertible Notes on the market price of our common stock will depend in part on market conditions and cannot be ascertained at this time, but any of these activities could adversely affect the trading price of our common stock and, as a result, the number of shares and value of the

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common stock received upon conversion of our 0.875% Convertible Notes.

Issuances of additional series of preferred stock could adversely affect holders of our common stock.

Our Board of Directors is authorized to issue additional series of preferred stock without any action on the part of our stockholders. Our Board of Directors also has the power, without stockholder approval, to set the terms of any such series of preferred stock that may be issued, including voting rights, conversion rights, dividend rights, preferences over our common stock with respect to dividends or if we liquidate, dissolve or wind up our business and other terms. If we issue preferred stock in the future that has preference over our common stock with respect to the payment of dividends or upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding-up, or if we issue preferred stock with voting rights that dilute the voting power of our common stock, the rights of holders of our common stock or the market price of our common stock could be adversely affected.

Provisions in our constituent documents could make it more difficult to acquire our company.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated by-laws contain provisions that may discourage, delay or prevent a third party from acquiring us, even if doing so would be beneficial to our stockholders. Under our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, only our Board of Directors may call special meetings of stockholders, and stockholders must comply with advance notice requirements for nominating candidates for election to our Board of Directors or for proposing matters that can be acted upon by stockholders at stockholder meetings. Directors may be removed by stockholders only for cause and only by the effective vote of at least 66²/₃% of the voting power of all shares of capital stock then entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, voting together as a single class. Additionally, the severance policy applicable to our executive officers may have the effect of making a change of control more expensive and, therefore, less attractive.

Pursuant to our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, our Board of Directors may by resolution establish one or more series of preferred stock, having such number of shares, designation, relative voting rights, dividend rates, conversion rights, liquidation or other rights, preferences and limitations as may be fixed by our Board of Directors without any further stockholder approval. Such rights, preferences, privileges and limitations as may be established, as well as provisions related to our convertible notes that may entitle holders of those notes to receive make-whole or other payments upon the consummation of a change in control or other fundamental transaction, could have the further effect of impeding or discouraging the acquisition of control of our Company.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

Table of Contents**ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**

The Company's principal manufacturing facilities are listed below. The Company owns the property at its global headquarters located in Highland Heights, Kentucky and leases various distribution centers and sales and administrative offices around the world. The Company believes that its properties are generally well maintained and are adequate for the Company's current level of operations.

| Manufacturing properties by country | Square Feet | Owned or Leased |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| North America | | |
| United States 12 | 5,240,000 | 10 owned, 2 leased |
| Canada 3 | 285,000 | 3 owned |
| Mexico 3 | 321,409 | 1 owned, 2 leased |
| Europe and North Africa | | |
| Spain 4 | 1,373,000 | 4 owned |
| France 1 | 1,000,000 | 1 owned |
| Germany 1 | 511,286 | 1 owned |
| Portugal 1 | 255,000 | 1 owned |
| ROW | | |
| Thailand 2 | 1,892,832 | 3 owned |
| Venezuela 3 | 1,058,381 | 3 owned |
| Brazil 2 | 538,195 | 2 owned |
| Chile 1 | 516,667 | 1 owned |
| Honduras 1 | 458,465 | 1 owned |
| India 2 | 389,918 | 2 owned |
| New Zealand 2 | 314,000 | 2 owned |
| China 2 | 279,760 | 2 owned |
| Costa Rica 1 | 213,025 | 1 owned |
| Zambia 1 | 131,203 | |

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

General Cable is subject to numerous federal, state, local and foreign laws and regulations relating to the storage, handling, emission and discharge of materials into the environment, including CERCLA, the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act (including the 1990 amendments) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

General Cable subsidiaries have been identified as potentially responsible parties with respect to several sites designated for cleanup under CERCLA or similar state laws, which impose liability for cleanup of certain waste sites and for related natural resource damages without regard to fault or the legality of waste generation or disposal. General Cable does not own or operate any of the waste sites with respect to which it has been named as a potentially responsible party by the government. Based on its review and other factors, management believes that costs relating to environmental clean-up at these sites will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations, cash flows or financial position.

American Premier Underwriters, Inc., in connection with the 1994 Wassall PLC transaction, agreed to indemnify General Cable against liabilities (including all environmental liabilities) arising out of General Cable or its predecessors' ownership or operation of the Indiana Steel & Wire Company and Marathon Manufacturing Holdings, Inc. businesses (which were divested by the predecessor prior to the 1994 Wassall transaction), without limitation as to time or amount. American Premier also agreed to indemnify General Cable against 66 2/3% of all other environmental liabilities arising out of General Cable or its predecessors' ownership or operation of other properties and assets in excess of \$10 million but not in excess of \$33 million, which were identified during the seven-year period ended June 2001. Indemnifiable environmental liabilities through June 2001 were substantially below that threshold. In addition, General Cable also has claims against third parties with respect to some of these liabilities. While it is difficult to estimate future environmental liabilities accurately, the Company does not currently anticipate any material adverse effect on results of operations, financial condition or cash flows as a result of compliance with federal, state, local or foreign environmental laws or regulations or cleanup costs of the sites discussed above.

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As part of the BICC plc acquisition, BICC agreed to indemnify General Cable against environmental liabilities existing at the date of the closing of the purchase of the business. The indemnity is for an eight-year period ending in 2007 while the Company operates the businesses subject to certain sharing of losses (with BICC plc covering 95% of losses in the first three years, 80% in years four and five and 60% in the remaining three years). The indemnity is also subject to the overall indemnity limit of \$150 million, which applies to all warranty and indemnity claims in the transaction. In addition, BICC plc assumed responsibility for cleanup of certain specific conditions at several sites operated by General Cable and cleanup is mostly complete at those sites. In the sale of the businesses to Pirelli in August 2000, General Cable generally indemnified Pirelli against any environmental liabilities on the same basis as BICC plc indemnified the Company in the earlier acquisition. However, the indemnity General Cable received from BICC plc related to the European businesses sold to Pirelli terminated upon the sale of those businesses to Pirelli. At this time, there are no claims outstanding under the general indemnity provided by BICC plc. In addition, the Company generally indemnified Pirelli against other claims relating to the prior operation of the business. Pirelli has asserted claims under this indemnification. The Company is continuing to investigate and defend against these claims and believes that the reserves currently included in the Company's balance sheet are adequate to cover any obligations it may have.

General Cable has also agreed to indemnify Southwire Company against certain environmental liabilities arising out of the operation of the business it sold to Southwire prior to its sale. The indemnity is for a ten year period from the closing of the sale, which ends in the fourth quarter of 2011, and is subject to an overall limit of \$20 million. At this time, there are no claims outstanding under this indemnity.

As part of the acquisition of Silec, SAFRAN SA agreed to indemnify General Cable against environmental losses arising from breach of representations and warranties on environmental law compliance and against losses arising from costs General Cable could incur to remediate property acquired based on a directive of the French authorities to rehabilitate property in regard to soil, water and other underground contamination arising before the closing date of the purchase. These indemnities are for a six-year period ending in 2011 while General Cable operates the businesses subject to sharing of certain losses (with SAFRAN covering 100% of losses in year one, 75% in years two and three, 50% in year four, and 25% in years five and six). The indemnities are subject to an overall limit of 4.0 million euros. As of December 31, 2007, there were no claims outstanding under this indemnity.

In 2007, the Company acquired the worldwide wire and cable business of Freeport-McMoRan Copper and Gold Inc., which operates as PDIC. As part of this acquisition, the seller agreed to indemnify the Company for certain environmental liabilities existing at the date of the closing of the acquisition. The seller's obligation to indemnify the Company for these particular liabilities generally survives four years from the date the parties executed the definitive purchase agreement unless the Company has properly notified the seller before the expiry of the four year period. The seller also made certain representations and warranties related to environmental matters and the acquired business and agreed to indemnify the Company for breaches of those representation and warranties for a period of four years from the closing date. Indemnification claims for breach of representations and warranties are subject to an overall indemnity limit of approximately \$105 million with a deductible of \$5.0 million, which generally applies to all warranty and indemnity claims for the transaction.

General Cable has been a defendant in asbestos litigation for approximately 20 years. As of December 31, 2006, General Cable was a defendant in approximately 34,715 lawsuits. Approximately 33,440 of these lawsuits have been brought on behalf of plaintiffs by a single admiralty law firm (MARDOC) and seek unspecified damages. Plaintiffs in the MARDOC cases generally allege that they formerly worked in the maritime industry and sustained asbestos-related injuries from products that General Cable ceased manufacturing in the mid-1970s. The MARDOC cases are managed and supervised by a federal judge in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania (District Court) by reason of a transfer by the judicial panel on Multidistrict Litigation (MDL). In the MARDOC cases in the MDL, the District Court in May 1996 dismissed all pending cases filed without prejudice and placed them on an inactive administrative docket. To reinstate a MARDOC case from the inactive docket, plaintiffs' counsel must show that the plaintiff not only suffered from a recognized asbestos-related injury, but also must produce specific product identification evidence to proceed against an individual defendant. During 2002, plaintiffs' counsel requested that the District Court allow discovery in approximately 15 cases. Prior to this discovery,

plaintiffs' counsel indicated that they believed that product identification could be established as to many of the approximately 100 defendants named in these MARDOC cases. To date, in this discovery, General Cable has not been identified as a manufacturer of asbestos-containing products to which any of these plaintiffs were exposed. As of December 31, 2007, General Cable was a defendant in approximately 1,275 cases brought in various jurisdictions throughout the United States. With regards to the approximately 1,275 remaining cases, General Cable has aggressively defended these cases based upon either lack of product identification as to General Cable manufactured asbestos-containing

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product and/or lack of exposure to asbestos dust from the use of General Cable product. In the last 20 years, General Cable has had no cases proceed to verdict. In many of the cases, General Cable was dismissed as a defendant before trial for lack of product identification.

For cases outside the MDL as of December 31, 2007, Plaintiffs have asserted monetary damages in 389 cases. In 253 of these cases, plaintiffs allege only damages in excess of some dollar amount (about \$232.0 thousand per plaintiff); in these cases there are no claims for specific dollar amounts requested as to any defendant. In 135 other cases pending in state and federal district courts (outside the MDL), plaintiffs seek approximately \$236.0 million in damages from as many as 110 defendants. In five cases, plaintiffs have asserted damages related to General Cable in the amount of \$2.0 million. In addition, in relation to these 389 cases, there are claims of \$74.0 million in punitive damages from all of the defendants. However, many of the plaintiffs in these cases allege non-malignant injuries.

Based on our experience in this litigation, the amounts pleaded in the complaints are not typically meaningful as an indicator of the Company's potential liability. This is because (1) the amounts claimed usually bear no relation to the level of plaintiff's injury, if any; (2) complaints nearly always assert claims against multiple defendants (a typical complaint asserts claims against some 110 different defendants); (3) damages alleged are not attributed to individual defendants; (4) the defendants' share of liability may turn on the law of joint and several liability; (5) the amount of fault to be allocated to each defendant is different depending on each case; (6) many cases are filed against General Cable, even though the plaintiff did not use any of General Cable's products, and ultimately are withdrawn or dismissed without any payment; (7) many cases are brought on behalf of plaintiffs who have not suffered any medical injuries, and ultimately are resolved without any payment to that plaintiff; and (8) with regard to claims for punitive damages, potential liability generally is related to the amount of potential exposure to asbestos from a defendant's products. General Cable's asbestos-containing products contained only a minimal amount of fully encapsulated asbestos.

Further, as indicated above, General Cable has more than 20 years of experience in this litigation, and has, to date, resolved the claims of approximately 11,277 plaintiffs. The cumulative average settlement for these matters is less than \$235 per case. As of December 31, 2007 and 2006, the Company had accrued on its balance sheet, on a gross basis, a liability of \$5.2 million, respectively, for asbestos-related claims and had recorded insurance recoveries of approximately \$0.5 million, respectively. The net amount of \$4.7 million, as of December 31, 2007, respectively, represents the Company's best estimate in order to cover resolution of future asbestos-related claims.

In January 1994, General Cable entered into a settlement agreement with certain principal primary insurers concerning liability for the costs of defense, judgments and settlements, if any, in all of the asbestos litigation described above. Subject to the terms and conditions of the settlement agreement, the insurers are responsible for a substantial portion of the costs and expenses incurred in the defense or resolution of this litigation. In recent years one of the insurers participating in the settlement that was responsible for a significant portion of the contribution under the settlement agreement entered into insurance liquidation proceedings. As a result, the contribution of the insurers has been reduced and the Company has had to bear a larger portion of the costs relating to these lawsuits. Moreover, certain of the other insurers may be financially unstable, and if one or more of these insurers enter into insurance liquidation proceedings, General Cable will be required to pay a larger portion of the costs incurred in connection with these cases. During 2006, the Company reached an approximately \$3.0 million settlement in cash for the resolution of one of these insurers' obligations that effectively exhausted the limits of the insurance company's policies that were included in the 1994 settlement agreement.

Based on (1) the terms of the insurance settlement agreement; (2) the relative costs and expenses incurred in the disposition of past asbestos cases; (3) reserves established on our books which are believed to be reasonable; and (4) defenses available to us in the litigation, the Company believes that the resolution of the present asbestos litigation will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial results, consolidated cash flows or consolidated financial position. However, since the outcome of litigation is inherently uncertain, the Company cannot give absolute assurance regarding the future resolution of the asbestos litigation. Liabilities incurred in connection with asbestos litigation are not covered by the American Premier indemnification.

General Cable is also involved in various routine legal proceedings and administrative actions. In the opinion of the Company's management, these proceedings and actions should not, individually or in the aggregate, have a material

adverse effect on its consolidated results of operations, cash flows or financial position.

ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

No matters were submitted to a vote of security holders during the fourth quarter of 2007.

Table of Contents**PART II.****ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES****Market Information and Holders**

General Cable's common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol BGC. As of February 22, 2008, there were approximately 1,874 registered holders of the Company's common stock. The following table sets forth the high and low daily sales prices for the Company's common stock as reported on the New York Stock Exchange during the years ended December 31:

| | 2007 | | 2006 | |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | High | Low | High | Low |
| First Quarter | \$55.66 | \$42.25 | \$30.99 | \$19.58 |
| Second Quarter | 79.23 | 51.82 | 38.15 | 26.10 |
| Third Quarter | 84.95 | 48.16 | 39.85 | 28.87 |
| Fourth Quarter | 83.50 | 62.16 | 45.41 | 37.04 |

Dividends

The Company currently does not pay dividends on its common stock. The future payment of dividends on common stock is subject to the discretion of General Cable's Board of Directors, restrictions under the Series A preferred stock, restrictions under the Company's current Amended Credit Facility, the indentures governing the 1.00% Senior Convertible Notes, the 0.875% Convertible Notes, the 7.125% Senior Notes and the Senior Floating Rate Notes and the requirements of Delaware General Corporation Law, and will depend upon general business conditions, financial performance and other factors the Company's Board of Directors may consider relevant. General Cable does not expect to pay cash dividends on common stock in the foreseeable future.

Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans

Information related to the Company's securities authorized for issuance under equity compensation plans, including the tabular disclosure, is presented in Item 12, Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters.

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Performance Graph

The graph below compares the annual percentage change in cumulative total shareholder return on General Cable stock in relation to cumulative total return of the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index, and a peer group of companies (2007 Peer Group). The data shown are for the period beginning May 16, 1997, the date that General Cable (BGC) common stock began trading on the NYSE, through December 31, 2007.

- (1) Assumes the value of the investment in General Cable common stock and each index was 100 on May 16, 1997. The 2006 Peer Group consists of Belden CDT Inc. (NYSE: BDC), CommScope, Inc. (NYSE: CTV), Draka Holding, N.V. (Euronext Amsterdam Stock Exchange) and Nexans (Paris Stock Exchange). The 2007 Peer Group consists of the same companies as in 2006 and 2005. Returns in the 2007 and 2006 Peer Group are weighted by capitalization.

Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities; Use of Proceeds from Registered Securities

During the fourth quarter of 2007, the Company issued \$475.0 million 1.00% Senior Convertible Notes Due 2012, dated October 2, 2007, by and among General Cable Corporation, the subsidiary guarantors named therein, and U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee. The Notes were sold to qualified institutional buyers in reliance on Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and related information has been previously provided on the Current Report on Form 8-K as filed on October 2, 2007 (incorporated by reference herein to Exhibit 4.9).

Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchasers

The Company currently has no share repurchase program approved by the Board of Directors, and therefore, repurchased no shares under such a program during the fourth quarter of 2007. However, employees of the Company do have the right to surrender to the Company shares in payment of minimum tax obligations upon the vesting of grants of common stock under the Company's equity compensation plans. Minimal shares were surrendered during the fourth quarter of 2007. For the year ended December 31, 2007, 82,664 total shares were surrendered to the Company by employees in payment of minimum tax obligations upon the vesting of nonvested stock under the Company's equity compensation plans, and the average price paid per share was \$52.44.

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ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The selected financial data for the last five years were derived from audited consolidated financial statements. The following selected financial data should be read in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and the consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto, especially as the information pertains to 2005, 2006 and 2007 activity.

During the fourth quarter of 2003, General Cable completed a comprehensive refinancing of its then existing bank debt. The refinancing included a new senior secured revolving credit facility, which is now, as amended, referred to as the Amended Credit Facility, the private placement of seven-year 9.5% Senior Notes, the private placement of Series A preferred stock and a public offering of common stock. The net proceeds were used to repay all amounts outstanding under the Company's former senior secured revolving credit facility, senior secured term loans and accounts receivable asset-backed securitization facility and to pay fees and expenses. The results of these transactions are included in the financial data presented below.

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| | Year Ended December 31, | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | 2007 ⁽¹⁾ | 2006 ⁽²⁾ | 2005 ⁽³⁾ | 2004 | 2003 |
| | (in millions, except metal price and share data) | | | | |
| Net sales | \$4,614.8 | \$ 3,665.1 | \$ 2,380.8 | \$1,970.7 | \$1,538.4 |
| Gross profit | 662.7 | 471.0 | 270.7 | 214.7 | 173.4 |
| Operating income | 366.1 | 235.9 | 98.5 | 56.5 | 45.7 |
| Other income (expense) | (3.4) | (0.1) | (0.5) | (1.2) | 1.5 |
| Interest expense, net | (29.6) | (35.6) | (37.0) | (35.9) | (43.1) |
| Other financial costs | | | | | (6.0) |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt | (25.3) | | | | |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes | 307.8 | 200.2 | 61.0 | 19.4 | (1.9) |
| Income tax benefit (provision) | (99.4) | (64.9) | (21.8) | 18.1 | (2.9) |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations | 208.4 | 135.3 | 39.2 | 37.5 | (4.8) |
| Gain on disposal of discontinued operations | | | | 0.4 | |
| Minority interest in consolidated subsidiaries | (0.2) | | | | |
| Equity in net earnings of affiliated companies | 0.4 | | | | |
| Net income (loss) | 208.6 | 135.3 | 39.2 | 37.9 | (4.8) |
| Less: preferred stock dividends | (0.3) | (0.3) | (22.0) | (6.0) | (0.6) |
| Net income (loss) applicable to common shareholders | 208.3 | \$ 135.0 | \$ 17.2 | \$ 31.9 | \$ (5.4) |
| Earnings (loss) of continuing operations per common share-basic | \$ 4.07 | \$ 2.70 | \$ 0.42 | \$ 0.81 | \$ (0.16) |
| Earnings (loss) of continuing operations per common share-assuming dilution | \$ 3.82 | \$ 2.60 | \$ 0.41 | \$ 0.75 | \$ (0.16) |
| Earnings of discontinued operations per common share-basic | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ 0.01 | |
| Earnings of discontinued operations per common share-assuming dilution | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ 0.01 | |
| Earnings (loss) per common share-basic | \$ 4.07 | \$ 2.70 | \$ 0.42 | \$ 0.82 | \$ (0.16) |
| Earnings (loss) per common share-assuming dilution | \$ 3.82 | \$ 2.60 | \$ 0.41 | \$ 0.76 | \$ (0.16) |
| Weighted average shares outstanding-basic | 51.2 | 50.0 | 41.1 | 39.0 | 33.6 |
| Weighted average shares outstanding-assuming dilution | 54.6 | 52.0 | 41.9 | 50.3 | 33.6 |
| Other Data: | | | | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | \$ 63.5 | \$ 50.9 | \$ 51.0 | \$ 35.4 | \$ 33.4 |
| Capital expenditures | \$ 153.6 | \$ 71.1 | \$ 42.6 | \$ 37.0 | \$ 19.1 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Average daily COMEX price per pound of copper cathode | \$ 3.22 | \$ 3.09 | \$ 1.68 | \$ 1.29 | \$ 0.81 |
| Average daily price per pound of aluminum rod | \$ 1.23 | \$ 1.22 | \$ 0.92 | \$ 0.85 | \$ 0.69 |

| | 2007 | 2006 | December 31, 2005 | 2004 | 2003 |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------|
| Balance Sheet Data: | | | | | |
| Working capital ⁽⁴⁾ | \$ 712.1 | \$ 739.1 | \$ 378.6 | \$ 298.0 | \$ 236.6 |
| Total assets | 3,798.0 | 2,218.7 | 1,523.2 | 1,239.3 | 1,049.5 |
| Total debt | 1,398.8 | 740.6 | 451.6 | 374.9 | 340.4 |
| Dividends to common shareholders | | | | | |
| Shareholders equity | 651.3 | 434.4 | 293.3 | 301.4 | 240.1 |

(1) Includes operating results of PDIC since October 31, 2007 and the effects of the adoption of FASB Interpretation No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes*.

(2) This period includes the effects of the adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 123 (Revised 2004), *Share-Based Payment*, and SFAS No. 158, *Employers Accounting for Defined Benefit Pension and Other Postretirement Plans an amendment of FASB*

Statements

*No. 87, 88, 106,
and 132(R).*

- (3) This period includes the preliminary opening balance sheet figures for Silec and GC Automotriz as of December 31, 2005. Due to the purchase dates, the effects of the acquisitions on the statements of operations data were not material.

- (4) Working capital means current assets less current liabilities.

Table of Contents**ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The following Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (MD&A) is intended to help the reader understand General Cable Corporation's financial position, changes in financial condition, and results of operations. MD&A is provided as a supplement to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements and the accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Notes) and should be read in conjunction with these Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes.

Overview

General Cable is a global leader in the development, design, manufacture, marketing and distribution of copper, aluminum and fiber optic wire and cable products. The Company's operations are divided into three reportable segments: North America, Europe and North Africa and ROW.

The Company has a strong market position in each of the segments in which it competes due to product, geographic, and customer diversity and the Company's ability to operate as a low cost provider. The Company sells a wide variety of copper, aluminum and fiber optic wire and cable products, which it believes represents one of the most diversified product lines in the industry. As a result, the Company is able to offer its customers a single source for most of their wire and cable requirements. As of December 31, 2007, the Company manufactures its product lines in 45 facilities and sells its products worldwide through its global operations.

Certain statements in this report including, without limitation, statements regarding future financial results and performance, plans and objectives, capital expenditures and the Company's or management's beliefs, expectations or opinions, are forward-looking statements, and as such, General Cable desires to take advantage of the safe harbor which is afforded such statements under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The Company's forward-looking statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's comments in this report under the heading, Disclosure Regarding Forward-Looking Statements. Actual results may differ materially from those statements as a result of factors, risks and uncertainties over which the Company has no control. For a list of some of these factors, risks and uncertainties, see Item 1A.

General Cable analyzes its worldwide operations based on three geographical reportable segments: 1) North America, 2) Europe and North Africa and 3) ROW. The following table sets forth net sales and operating income by geographic group for the periods presented, in millions of dollars:

| (in millions) | Dec 31, 2007 | Year Ended Dec 31, 2006 | Dec 31, 2005 |
|-------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Net sales: | | | |
| North America | \$2,243.7 | \$2,058.6 | \$1,574.5 |
| Europe and North Africa | 1,939.7 | 1,446.8 | 682.0 |
| ROW | 431.4 | 159.7 | 124.3 |
| Total | \$4,614.8 | \$3,665.1 | \$2,380.8 |
| Operating Income: | | | |
| North America | \$ 179.4 | \$ 128.9 | \$ 36.2 |
| Europe and North Africa | 162.4 | 101.9 | 54.9 |
| ROW | 24.3 | 5.1 | 7.4 |
| Total | \$ 366.1 | \$ 235.9 | \$ 98.5 |

General Cable's reported net sales are directly influenced by the price of copper, and to a lesser extent, aluminum. The price of copper and aluminum as traded on the London Metal Exchange (LME) and COMEX has historically been subject to considerable volatility and, during the past few years, has been subject to an upward trend. For example, the

daily selling price of copper cathode on the COMEX averaged \$3.22 per pound in 2007, \$3.09 per pound in 2006 and \$1.68 per pound in 2005 and the daily price of aluminum rod averaged \$1.23 per pound in 2007, \$1.22 per pound in 2006 and \$0.92 per pound in 2005. This copper and aluminum price volatility is representative of all reportable segments.

General Cable generally passes changes in copper and aluminum prices along to its customers, although there are timing delays of varying lengths depending upon the volatility of metals prices, the type of product, competitive conditions and particular customer arrangements. A significant portion of the Company's electric utility and telecommunications business and, to a lesser extent, the Company's electrical infrastructure business has metal escalators included in customer contracts

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under a variety of price setting and recovery formulas. The remainder of the Company's business requires that volatility in the cost of metals be recovered through negotiated price changes with customers. In these instances, the ability to change the Company's selling prices may lag the movement in metal prices by a period of time as the customer price changes are implemented. As a result of this and a number of other practices intended to match copper and aluminum purchases with sales, profitability over time has historically not been significantly affected by changes in copper and aluminum prices, although 2003 and 2004 profitability was adversely impacted by rapid increases in raw material costs, including the cost of copper and aluminum. General Cable hedges metal purchases but does not engage in speculative metals trading.

The Company has also experienced significant inflationary pressure on raw materials other than copper and aluminum used in cable manufacturing, such as insulating compounds, steel and wood reels, freight costs and energy costs. The Company has increased selling prices in most of its markets in order to offset the negative effect of increased raw material prices and other costs. However, the Company's ability to ultimately realize these price increases will be influenced by competitive conditions in its markets, including manufacturing capacity utilization. In addition, a continuing rise in raw material prices, when combined with the normal lag time between an announced customer price increase and its effective date in the market, may result in the Company not fully recovering these increased costs. If the Company were not able to adequately increase selling prices in a period of rising raw material costs, the Company may experience a decrease in reported earnings.

General Cable generally has experienced and expects to continue to experience certain seasonal trends in sales and cash flow. Larger amounts of cash are generally required during winter months in order to build inventories in anticipation of higher demand during the spring and summer months, when construction activity increases. In general, receivables related to higher sales activity during the spring and summer months are collected during the fourth quarter of the year. In addition, the Company's working capital requirements increase during periods of rising raw material costs.

Current Business Environment

The wire and cable industry is competitive, mature and cost driven. For many product offerings, there is little differentiation among industry participants from a manufacturing or technology standpoint. During recent years, the Company's end markets have continued to demonstrate recovery from the low points of demand experienced in 2003; however, there are recent signs of an economic slowdown in the United States and slowing growth in some European markets. In the past several years, there has been significant merger and acquisition activity, which, the Company believes, has led to a reduction in inefficient, high cost capacity in the industry.

In addition to the factors previously mentioned, General Cable is currently being affected by the following macro-level trends:

Worldwide underlying growth trends in electric utility and infrastructure markets;

Softness in demand for low-voltage utility products in North America and Europe, particularly Spain, as a result of slow down in new home construction;

Continued decline in demand for copper based telecommunication products;

Increasing demand for natural resources, such as oil and gas, and alternative energy initiatives;

Increasing demand for further deployment of submarine power and fiber optic communication systems;

Factory utilization increases industry-wide that are driving on average higher selling prices and margin improvements; and

Continued political sensitivity in certain developing markets.

The Company's overall financial results discussed in the following MD&A demonstrate the diversification of the Company's product offering, focus on faster growing electric utility markets and global geographic coverage continue

to allow the Company to absorb market weakness in any one product grouping or region.

The Company anticipates that the following trends may affect the financial results of the Company during 2008. The Company's working capital requirements have been and are expected to be impacted by continued high raw materials costs, including metals and insulating materials as well as high freight and energy costs. Copper and aluminum prices remain high compared to historical prices and continue to be volatile. The Company expects both copper and aluminum supplies to continue to be tight globally mainly due to increased demand from emerging economies such as China and India and due to refining industry and mining labor issues.

As part of General Cable's ongoing efforts to reduce total operating costs, the Company continuously evaluates its ability to more efficiently utilize existing manufacturing capacity. Such evaluation includes the costs associated with and benefits to be derived from the combination of existing manufacturing assets into fewer plant locations and the possible outsourcing of certain manufacturing processes. During 2004, the Company completed the closure of certain of its electrical infrastructure

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manufacturing plants in North America that resulted in a \$7.4 million charge in 2004 (of which approximately \$4.7 million were cash payments). During 2004, the Company also closed its North America rod mill operation and sold certain equipment utilized in that operation which resulted in a net gain of \$0.3 million. During 2005, the Company closed certain of its manufacturing plants in North America that produced communications products. These actions resulted in an \$18.6 million charge in 2005 (of which approximately \$7.5 million were cash payments), which included a \$0.5 million gain from the sale of a previously closed manufacturing plant. During 2006 and 2007, due to high utilization rates and strong economic conditions, no facility closures occurred. However, during the fourth quarter 2007, the Company rationalized outside plant telecommunication products manufacturing capacity due to continued declines in telecommunications cable demand. The Company closed a portion of its telecommunications capacity located primarily at its Tetla, Mexico facility and has taken a pre-tax charge to write-off certain production equipment of \$6.6 million. This action will free approximately 100,000 square feet of manufacturing space, which the Company plans to utilize for other products for the Central and South American markets.

General Cable believes its global investment in Lean Six Sigma (Lean) training, coupled with effectively utilized manufacturing assets, provides a cost advantage compared to many of its competitors and generates cost savings which help offset high raw material prices and other high general economic costs over time. In addition, General Cable's customer and supplier integration capabilities, one-stop selling and geographic and product balance are sources of competitive advantage. As a result, the Company believes it is well positioned, relative to many of its competitors, in the current business environment.

In the fourth quarter of 2006, the Company issued \$355.0 million of Convertible Notes with a 0.875% fixed interest rate and used the proceeds to pay down its floating rate, LIBOR-based Amended Credit Facility while investing the excess cash. In 2007, the Company also redeemed its \$285.0 million 9.5% Senior Notes outstanding in the United States with a fixed interest rate of 9.5% with the issuance of \$200.0 million of fixed-rate 7.125% Senior Notes and \$125.0 million of Senior Floating Rate Notes with interest payable at an annual interest rate equal to the 3-month LIBOR rate plus 2.375% while investing the excess cash after funding the inducement premium and other fees and expenses. Additionally, to partially fund the PDIC acquisition, the Company issued \$475.0 million of Convertible Notes with a 1.00% fixed interest rate. The Company expects these capital structure changes will allow it to maintain a lower average interest rate on outstanding debt when compared to prior years as the Company has exchanged higher fixed rate debt with lower fixed and variable rate debt that based on current and anticipated future interest rates in the United States is expected to result in a reduction of interest expense.

Acquisitions and Divestitures

General Cable actively seeks to identify key trends in the industry to capitalize on expanding markets and new niche markets or exit declining or non-strategic markets in order to achieve better returns. The Company also sets aggressive performance targets for its business and intends to refocus or divest those activities, which fail to meet targets or do not fit long-term strategies.

On October 31, 2007, the Company acquired the worldwide wire and cable business of Freeport-McMoRan Copper and Gold, Inc., which operates as Phelps Dodge International (PDIC), located principally in Latin America, sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia. PDIC has manufacturing, distribution and sales facilities in 19 countries and nearly 3,000 employees. With more than 50 years of experience in the wire and cable industry, PDIC manufactures a full range of electric utility, electrical infrastructure, construction and communication products. The Company paid approximately \$707.6 million in cash to the sellers in consideration for PDIC and \$8.5 million in fees and expenses related to the acquisition. In 2006, the last full year before the acquisition, PDIC reported global net sales of approximately \$1,168.4 million (based on average exchange rates). Certain pro forma information has been provided in Note 3 to the Consolidated Financial Statements. Additionally, pro forma information and PDIC audited financial statements were previously provided on Current Reports on Form 8-K/A filed on November 1, 2007 and amended on January 14, 2008.

On April 30, 2007, the Company acquired Norddeutsche Seekabelwerke GmbH & Co. KG (NSW), located in Nordenham, Germany from Corning Incorporated. As a result of the transaction, the Company assumed liabilities in excess of the assets acquired, including approximately \$40.1 million of pension liabilities (based on the prevailing exchange rate at April 30, 2007). The Company recorded proceeds of \$28.0 million, net of \$0.8 million fees and

expenses, which included \$12.3 million of cash acquired and \$5.5 million for settlement of accounts receivable. NSW had revenues of approximately \$120 million in 2006 (based on 2006 average exchange rates) and has approximately 400 employees. NSW offers complete solutions for submarine cable systems including manufacturing, engineering, seabed mapping, project management, and installation for the offshore communications, energy exploration, transmission, distribution, and alternative energy markets. Pro forma results of the NSW acquisition are not material.

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On August 31, 2006, the Company completed the acquisition of E.C.N. Cable Group, S.L. (ECN Cable) for a final purchase price of \$13.2 million in cash and the assumption of \$38.6 million in ECN Cable debt (at prevailing exchange rates during the period), including fees and expenses and net of cash acquired. ECN Cable is based in Bilbao, Spain and employs approximately 200 associates. In 2005, the last full year prior to acquisition, ECN Cable reported global sales of approximately \$71.5 million (based on 2005 average exchange rates) mostly on sales of aluminum aerial high-voltage and extra-high-voltage cables, low- and medium-voltage insulated power cables and bimetallic products used in electric transmission and communications. Pro forma results of the ECN Cable acquisition are not material.

On December 22, 2005, the Company completed its purchase of the shares of the wire and cable manufacturing business of SAFRAN SA, a diverse, global high technology company. The acquired business is known under the name Silec Cable, S.A.S. (Silec) and is based in Montereau, France. In 2005, prior to the acquisition date, Silec reported global sales of approximately \$282.7 million (based on 2005 average exchange rates) of which about 52% were linked to electric utility and electrical infrastructure. The original consideration paid for the acquisition was approximately \$82.8 million (at prevailing exchange rates during that period) including fees and expenses and net of cash acquired at closing. The Company acquired Silec primarily as the latest step in the positioning of the Company as a global leader in cabling systems for the energy exploration, production, and transmission and distribution markets. A final purchase price allocation, pro forma financial information and other relevant information related to this acquisition are set forth in Note 3 in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

The results of operations of the acquired businesses discussed above have been included in the consolidated financial statements since the respective dates of acquisition.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The Company's consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. A summary of significant accounting policies is provided in Note 2 to the Consolidated Financial Statements. The application of these policies requires management to make estimates and judgments that affect the amounts reflected in the financial statements. Management bases its estimates and judgments on historical experience, information that is available to management about current events and actions the Company may take in the future and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. The most critical judgments impacting the financial statements include those policies described below. In addition, significant estimates and judgments are also involved in the valuation allowances for sales incentives and accounts receivable; warranty, settled tax positions, legal, environmental, asbestos and customer reel deposit liabilities; assets and obligations related to other postretirement benefits; and self-insured workers' compensation and health insurance reserves. Management believes these judgments have been materially accurate in the past and the basis for these judgments should not change significantly in the future. Management periodically evaluates and updates the estimates used in the application of its accounting policies, adjusts amounts in the consolidated financial statements as necessary and has discussed the development, selection and disclosure of these estimates with the Audit Committee of the Company's Board of Directors.

Inventory Costing and Valuation

General Cable utilizes the LIFO method of inventory accounting for its metals inventory. The Company's use of the LIFO method results in its consolidated statement of operations reflecting the current costs of metals, while metals inventories in the balance sheet are valued at historical costs as the LIFO layers were created. If LIFO inventory quantities are reduced in a period when replacement costs exceed the LIFO value of the inventory, the Company would experience an increase in reported earnings. Conversely, if LIFO inventory quantities are reduced in a period when replacement costs are lower than the LIFO value of the inventory, the Company would experience a decline in reported earnings. If the Company were not able to recover the LIFO value of its inventory in some future period when replacement costs were lower than the LIFO value of the inventory, the Company would be required to take a charge to recognize in its consolidated statement of operations an adjustment of LIFO inventory to market value. The Company periodically evaluates the realizability of its inventory. In circumstances where inventory levels are in excess of anticipated market demand, where inventory is deemed to be technologically obsolete or not saleable due to

its condition or where inventory costs exceed net realizable value, the Company records a charge to cost of sales and reduces the inventory to its net realizable value.

Table of Contents*Pension Accounting*

General Cable provides retirement benefits through contributory and non-contributory qualified and non-qualified defined benefit pension plans covering eligible domestic and international employees as well as through defined contribution plans and other postretirement benefits. Benefits under General Cable's qualified U.S. defined benefit pension plan generally are based on years of service multiplied by a specific fixed dollar amount, and benefits under the Company's qualified non-U.S. defined benefit pension plans generally are based on years of service and a variety of other factors that can include a specific fixed dollar amount or a percentage of either current salary or average salary over a specific period of time. The amounts funded for any plan year for the qualified U.S. defined benefit pension plan are neither less than the minimum required under federal law nor more than the maximum amount deductible for federal income tax purposes. General Cable's non-qualified unfunded U.S. defined benefit pension plans include a plan that provides defined benefits to select senior management employees beyond those benefits provided by other programs. The Company's non-qualified unfunded non-U.S. defined benefit pension plans include plans that provide retirement indemnities to employees within the Company's European business. Pension obligations for the non-qualified unfunded defined benefit pension plans are provided for by book reserves and are based on local practices and regulations of the respective countries. General Cable makes cash contributions for the costs of the non-qualified unfunded defined benefit pension plans as the benefits are paid.

On June 27, 2007, the Board of Directors of the Company approved amendments to the General Cable Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (SERP) and the General Cable Corporation Deferred Compensation Plan (DCP) and the merger of the SERP into the DCP. The Company received written acknowledgement and acceptance of the SERP amendments and merger from each participant in the SERP. The amendments and merger were made in order to simplify, limit and better align these specific compensation plans with the Company's compensation policies, which are described in the Company's 2008 Proxy Statement, which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission within 120 days of December 31, 2007.

Benefit costs for the defined benefit pension plans sponsored by General Cable are determined based principally upon certain actuarial assumptions, including the discount rate and the expected long-term rate of return on assets. The weighted-average discount rate used to determine the net pension cost for 2007 was 6.00% for the U.S. defined benefit pension plans. The weighted-average discount rate as of December 31, 2007 that was used to determine benefit obligations was 6.00% for the U.S. defined benefit pension plans, and was determined based on a review of long-term bonds that receive one of the two highest ratings given by a recognized rating agency which are expected to be available during the period to maturity of the projected pension benefit obligations and based on information received from actuaries. The weighted-average discount rate used to determine the net pension cost for 2007 was 4.99% for the non-U.S. defined benefit pension plans. Non-U.S. defined benefit pension plans followed a similar evaluation process based on financial markets in those countries where General Cable provides a defined benefit pension plan, and the weighted-average discount rate used to determine benefit obligations for General Cable's non-U.S. defined benefit pension plans was 5.62% as of December 31, 2007. General Cable's expense under both U.S. and non-U.S. defined benefit pension plans is determined using the discount rate as of the beginning of the fiscal year, so 2008 expense for the defined benefit pension plans will be based on the weighted-average discount rate of 6.00% for U.S. plans and 4.99% for non-U.S. plans.

The weighted-average long-term expected rate of return on assets is assumed to be 7.80% for 2008, reflecting an 8.50% weighted-average rate for the U.S. plans. The weighted-average long-term expected rate of return on assets is based on input from actuaries, including their review of historical 10-year, 20-year, and 25-year rates of inflation and real rates of return on various broad equity and bond indices in conjunction with the diversification of the asset portfolio. The expected long-term rate of return on assets for the qualified U.S. defined benefit pension plan is based on an asset allocation assumption of 65% allocated to equity investments, with an expected real rate of return of 7%, and 35% to fixed-income investments, with an expected real rate of return of 3%, and an assumed long-term rate of inflation of 3%. The actual asset allocations were 60% of equity investments and 40% of fixed-income investments at December 31, 2007 and 64% of equity investments and 36% of fixed-income investments at December 31, 2006. The expected long-term rate of return on assets for qualified non-U.S. defined benefit plans is based on a weighted-average asset allocation assumption of 54% allocated to equity investments, 42% to fixed-income investments and 4% to other

investments. The actual weighted-average asset allocations were 52% of equity investments, 43% of fixed-income investments and 5% of other investments at December 31, 2007 and 56% of equity investments, 40% of fixed-income investments and 4% of other investments at December 31, 2006. Management believes that long-term asset allocations on average and by location will approximate the Company's assumptions and that the long-term rate of return used by each country that is included in the weighted-average long-term expected rate of return on assets is a reasonable assumption.

The determination of pension expense for the qualified defined benefit pension plans is based on the fair market value of assets as of the measurement date. Investment gains and losses are recognized in the measurement of assets immediately.

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Such gains and losses will be amortized and recognized as part of the annual benefit cost to the extent that unrecognized net gains and losses from all sources exceed 10% of the greater of the projected benefit obligation or the market value of assets.

General Cable evaluates its actuarial assumptions at least annually, and adjusts them as necessary. The Company uses a measurement date of December 31 for all of its defined benefit pension plans. In 2007, pension expense for the Company's defined benefit pension plans was \$5.3 million. Based on a weighted-average expected rate of return on plan assets of 7.80%, a weighted-average discount rate of 5.60% and various other assumptions, the Company estimates its 2008 pension expense for its defined benefit pension plans will increase approximately \$0.8 million from 2007, excluding curtailment and settlement activity in 2007. A 1% decrease in the assumed discount rate would increase pension expense by approximately \$1.9 million. Future pension expense will depend on future investment performance, changes in future discount rates and various other factors related to the populations participating in the plans. In the event that actual results differ from the actuarial assumptions, the funded status of the defined benefit pension plans may change and any such change could result in a charge or credit to equity and an increase or decrease in future pension expense and cash contributions.

Income Taxes

The Company provides for income taxes on all transactions that have been recognized in the Consolidated Financial Statements in accordance with SFAS No. 109. Under SFAS 109, deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on the differences between the financial statement basis and tax basis of assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse. The effect of a change in tax rates on deferred tax assets and liabilities is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date.

The Company records a valuation allowance to reduce deferred tax assets to the amount that it believes is more likely than not to be realized. The valuation of the deferred tax asset is dependent on, among other things, the ability of the Company to generate a sufficient level of future taxable income. In estimating future taxable income, the Company has considered both positive and negative evidence, such as historical and forecasted results of operations, including prior losses, and has considered the implementation of prudent and feasible tax planning strategies. At December 31, 2007, the Company had recorded a net deferred tax asset of \$59.6 million (\$135.5 million current deferred tax asset less \$75.9 million long term deferred tax liability). The Company has and will continue to review on a quarterly basis its assumptions and tax planning strategies, and, if the amount of the estimated realizable net deferred tax asset is less than the amount currently on the balance sheet, the Company would reduce its deferred tax asset, recognizing a non-cash charge against reported earnings. Likewise, if the Company determines that a valuation allowance against a deferred tax asset is no longer appropriate, the adjustment to the valuation allowance would reduce income tax expense. In 2007 and 2006, the Company determined that improved business performance, expectations of future profitability, and other relevant factors constituted sufficient positive evidence to recognize certain foreign and state deferred tax assets. Accordingly, the Company released certain valuation allowances and recognized income tax benefits of approximately \$12.2 million in 2007 and \$6.3 million in 2006.

In July 2006, FASB Interpretation No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes*, was issued. This Interpretation clarifies accounting for uncertain tax positions in accordance with SFAS No. 109. FIN 48 prescribes a recognition threshold that a tax position is required to meet before being recognized in the financial statements and provides guidance on derecognition, measurement, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition issues. This Interpretation is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The adoption of Interpretation 48 decreased shareholders' equity as of January 1, 2007 by approximately \$18.8 million. See Note 12 for additional information.

The Company recognizes interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits within the income tax expense line in the accompanying consolidated statement of operations. Accrued interest and penalties are included within the related tax liability line item in the consolidated balance sheet.

In December 2007, the FASB issued Statement No. 141R, *Business Combinations*. Statement No. 141R establishes principles and requirements for how the acquirer of a business recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed and any noncontrolling interest in the acquiree. The statement also provides guidance for recognizing and measuring goodwill acquired in the business combination and determines what

information to disclose to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination. Statement No. 141R is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 31, 2008. Accordingly, any business combination the Company engages in will be recorded and disclosed following existing GAAP until January 1, 2009. The Company expects Statement No. 141R will have an impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements when effective, but the nature and magnitude of the specific effects will depend upon the nature, terms and size of the acquisitions consummated after the effective date. \$2.6 million of the \$57.8 million liability for unrecognized tax benefits as of December 31, 2007 relate to tax positions of acquired entities taken prior to their acquisition

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by the Company for which the reversal of any such liability prior to the adoption of SFAS 141R will affect goodwill. If such liabilities reverse subsequent to the adoption of Statement 141R, such reversals will affect the income tax provision in the period of the reversal.

Revenue Recognition

The majority of the Company's revenue is recognized when goods are shipped to the customer, title and risk of loss are transferred, pricing is fixed and determinable and collectibility is reasonably assured. Most revenue transactions represent sales of inventory. A provision for payment discounts, product returns, warranty and customer rebates is estimated based upon historical experience and other relevant factors and is recorded within the same period that the revenue is recognized. The Company has a portion of long-term product installation contract revenue that is recognized based on the percentage-of-completion method generally based on the cost-to-cost method if there are reasonably reliable estimates of total revenue, total cost, and the extent of progress toward completion; and there is an enforceable agreement between parties who can fulfill their contractual obligations. The Company reviews contract price and cost estimates periodically as the work progresses and reflects adjustments proportionate to the percentage-of-completion to income in the period when those estimates are revised. For these contracts, if a current estimate of total contract cost indicates a loss on a contract, the projected loss is recognized in full when determined. The Company also has a few projects with multiple deliverables. Based on the guidance in EITF 00-21, Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Deliverables, the multiple deliverables in these revenue arrangements are divided into separate units of accounting because (i) the delivered item(s) have value to the customer on a stand-alone basis; (ii) there is objective and reliable evidence of the fair value of the undelivered item(s); and (iii) to the extent that a right of return exists relative to the delivered item, delivery or performance of the undelivered item(s) is considered probable and substantially in the control of the Company. Revenue arrangements of this type are generally contracts where the Company is hired to both produce and install a certain product. In these arrangements, the majority of the customer acceptance provisions do not require complete product delivery and installation for the amount related to the production of the item(s) to be recognized as revenue, but the requirement of successful installation does exist for the amount related to the installation to be recognized as revenue. Therefore, based on these facts and other considerations such as the short-term nature of the contracts and the existence of a separate service component for installation, revenue is recognized for the product upon delivery to the customer but revenue on installation is not recognized until the installation is complete.

Business Combination Accounting

Acquisitions entered into by the Company are accounted for using the purchase method of accounting. The purchase method requires management to make significant estimates. Management must determine the cost of the acquired entity based on the fair value of the consideration paid or the fair value of the net assets acquired, whichever is more clearly evident. The cost is then allocated to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on their estimated fair values at the acquisition date. In addition, management must identify and estimate the fair values of intangible assets that should be recognized as assets apart from goodwill as well as the fair value of tangible property, plant and equipment and intangible assets acquired.

Long-Lived Assets

The valuation and classification of long-lived assets and the assignment of useful depreciable lives and salvage values involve significant judgments and the use of estimates. The testing of these long-lived assets for impairment also requires a significant amount of judgment and assumptions, particularly as it relates to identification of asset groups and the determination of fair market value. The Company periodically evaluates the recoverability of the carrying amount of long-lived assets whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be fully recoverable. The Company evaluates events or changes in circumstances based mostly on actual historical operating results, but business plans, forecasts, general and industry trends and anticipated cash flows are also considered. Impairment is assessed when the undiscounted expected future cash flows derived from an asset are less than its carrying amount. Impairment losses are measured as the amount by which the carrying value of an asset exceeds its fair value and are recognized in earnings. The Company also continually evaluates the estimated useful lives of all long-lived assets and, when warranted, revises such estimates based on current events.

Share-Based Compensation

There are certain employees with various forms of share-based payment awards for which the Company recognizes compensation costs for these awards based on their fair values. The fair values of certain awards are estimated on the grant date using the Black-Scholes option pricing formula, which incorporates certain assumptions regarding the expected term of an award and expected stock price volatility. The Company will develop the expected term assumption based on the vesting period and contractual term of an award, historical exercise and post-vesting cancellation experience, stock price history, plan provisions that require exercise or cancellation of awards after employees terminate, and the extent to which currently available information indicates that the future is reasonably expected to differ from past experience. The Company develops the expected volatility assumptions based on the monthly historical price data from the Company's common stock and other

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economic data trended into future years. After calculating the aggregate fair value of an award, the Company uses an estimated forfeiture rate to discount the amount of share-based compensation costs to be recognized in the operating results over the service period of the award. The Company develops the forfeiture assumption based on its historical pre-vesting cancellation experience. Key assumptions are described in further detail in Note 15 to the consolidated financial statements.

New Accounting Standards

In December 2007, the FASB issued Statement No. 141 (revised 2007), *Business Combinations*, and Statement No. 160, *Non-controlling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements*. Statement No. 141 (revised 2007) requires an acquirer to measure the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed and any non-controlling interest in the acquiree at their fair values on the acquisition date, with goodwill being the excess value over the net identifiable assets acquired. This standard also requires the fair value measurement of certain other assets and liabilities related to the acquisition such as contingencies and research and development. Statement No. 160 clarifies that a non-controlling interest in a subsidiary should be reported at fair value as equity in the consolidated financial statements. Consolidated net income should include the net income for both the parent and the non-controlling interest with disclosure of both amounts on the consolidated statement of income. The calculation of earnings per share will continue to be based on income amounts attributable to the parent. The Statements are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008. The Company has currently not determined the potential effects on the consolidated financial statements.

In February 2007, SFAS No. 159, *The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities Including an Amendment of FASB Statement No. 115*, was issued. This statement provides companies an irrevocable option to carry the majority of financial assets and liabilities at fair value, with changes in fair value recorded in earnings. The election of the fair value option is applied on an instrument-by-instrument basis to entire financial assets and liabilities that are individually transferable in their current form. The statement will require extensive disclosures, including reporting assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value separately on the face of the balance sheet. SFAS No. 159 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting SFAS No. 159 on its consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

In May 2007, FASB Staff Position (FSP) FIN 48-1, *Definition of Settlement in FASB Interpretation No. 48*, was issued. FSP FIN 48-1 provides guidance on how to determine whether a tax position is effectively settled for the purpose of recognizing previously unrecognized tax benefits. FSP FIN 48-1 is effective retroactively to January 1, 2007. The implementation of this standard did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

In September 2006, SFAS No. 157, *Fair Value Measurements*, was issued. This statement provides a new definition of fair value that serves to replace and unify old fair value definitions so that consistency on the definition is achieved, and the definition provided acts as a modification of the current accounting presumption that a transaction price of an asset or liability equals its initial fair value. The statement also provides a fair value hierarchy used to classify source information used in fair value measurements that places higher importance on market based sources. New disclosures of assets and liabilities measured at fair value based on their level in the fair value hierarchy are required by this statement. SFAS No. 157 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. Two FASB Staff Positions on SFAS No. 157 were subsequently issued. On February 12, 2007, FSP No. 157-2 delayed the effective date of this SFAS No. 157 for non-financial assets and non-financial liabilities that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a nonrecurring basis. This FSP is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008. On February 14, 2007, FSP No. 157-1 excluded FASB No. 13 *Accounting for Leases* and other accounting pronouncements that address fair value measurements for purposes of lease classification or measurement under FASB No. 13. However, this scope exception does not apply to assets acquired and liabilities assumed in a business combination that are required to be measured at fair value under FASB Statement No. 141, *Business Combinations* or FASB No. 141R, *Business Combinations*. This FSP is effective upon initial adoption of SFAS no. 157. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting SFAS No. 157 on its consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

Results of Operations

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, statement of operations data in millions of dollars and as a percentage of net sales. Percentages may not add due to rounding.

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| | 2007 | | Year Ended December 31, 2006 | | 2005 | |
|---|------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------|------------|--------|
| | Amount | % | Amount | % | Amount | % |
| Net sales | \$ 4,614.8 | 100.0% | \$ 3,665.1 | 100.0% | \$ 2,380.8 | 100.0% |
| Cost of sales | 3,952.1 | 85.6% | 3,194.1 | 87.1% | 2,110.1 | 88.6% |
| Gross profit | 662.7 | 14.4% | 471.0 | 12.9% | 270.7 | 11.4% |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 296.6 | 6.4% | 235.1 | 6.4% | 172.2 | 7.2% |
| Operating income | 366.1 | 7.9% | 235.9 | 6.4% | 98.5 | 4.1% |
| Other expense | (3.4) | (0.1)% | (0.1) | % | (0.5) | % |
| Interest expense, net | (29.6) | (0.6)% | (35.6) | (1.0)% | (37.0) | (1.6)% |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt | (25.3) | (0.5)% | | % | | % |
| Income before income taxes | 307.8 | 6.7% | 200.2 | 5.5% | 61.0 | 2.6% |
| Income tax provision | (99.4) | (2.1)% | (64.9) | (1.8)% | (21.8) | (0.9)% |
| Minority interests in consolidated subsidiaries | (0.2) | % | | % | | % |
| Equity in net earnings of affiliated companies | 0.4 | % | | % | | % |
| Net income | 208.6 | 4.5% | 135.3 | 3.7% | 39.2 | 1.6% |
| Less: preferred stock dividends | (0.3) | % | (0.3) | % | (22.0) | (0.9)% |
| Net income applicable to common shareholders | \$ 208.3 | 4.5% | \$ 135.0 | 3.7% | \$ 17.2 | 0.7% |

Year Ended December 31, 2007 Compared with Year Ended December 31, 2006

The net income applicable to common shareholders was \$208.3 million in 2007 compared to net income applicable to common shareholders of \$135.0 million in 2006. The net income applicable to common shareholders for 2007 included a \$0.3 million dividend on the Series A preferred stock, a pre-tax \$4.5 million lower of cost or market charge related to PDIC raw material inventory, a pre-tax \$5.3 million benefit from the favorable resolution of customer project performance obligations, \$2.0 million in additional compensation expense from adopting SFAS 123(R), a \$6.6 million pre-tax charge related to the write-off of certain telecommunication production equipment, a pre-tax \$25.3 million loss on extinguishment of debt related to the tender offer on our \$285 million 9.5% Senior Notes and a benefit of \$5.7 million due to a state deferred tax valuation allowance release. Additionally, the 2007 net income available to common shareholders includes the benefit of two months of operations for the PDIC business acquired on October 31, 2007.

The net income applicable to common shareholders for 2006 included a \$0.3 million dividend on the Series A preferred stock, \$1.1 million in additional compensation expense from adopting SFAS 123(R), a pre-tax charge of \$1.0 million to settle a patent dispute with a competitor and a benefit of \$6.3 million due to deferred tax valuation allowance releases.

Net Sales

The following tables set forth net sales, metal-adjusted net sales and metal pounds sold by segment, in millions. For the metal-adjusted net sales results, net sales for 2006 have been adjusted to reflect the 2007 copper COMEX average

price of \$3.22 per pound (a \$0.13 increase compared to the prior period) and the aluminum rod average price of \$1.23 per pound (a \$0.01 increase compared to the prior period). Metal-adjusted net sales, a non-GAAP financial measure, are provided herein in order to eliminate the effect of metal price volatility from the comparison of revenues from one period to another. The comparable GAAP financial measure is set forth above. See previous discussion of metal price volatility in the Overview section.

| | Net Sales | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------|------------|------|
| | Year Ended December 31, | | | |
| | 2007 | | 2006 | |
| | Amount | % | Amount | % |
| North America | \$ 2,243.7 | 49% | \$ 2,058.6 | 56% |
| Europe and North Africa | 1,939.7 | 42% | 1,446.8 | 40% |
| ROW | 431.4 | 9% | 159.7 | 4% |
| Total net sales | \$ 4,614.8 | 100% | \$ 3,665.1 | 100% |

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| | Metal-Adjusted Net Sales | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------|------------|------|
| | Year Ended December 31, | | | |
| | 2007 | | 2006 | |
| | Amount | % | Amount | % |
| North America | \$ 2,243.7 | 49% | \$ 2,100.4 | 56% |
| Europe and North Africa | 1,939.7 | 42% | 1,475.5 | 40% |
| ROW | 431.4 | 9% | 164.5 | 4% |
| Total metal-adjusted net sales | \$ 4,614.8 | 100% | 3,740.4 | 100% |
| Metal adjustment | | | (75.3) | |
| Total net sales | \$ 4,614.8 | | \$ 3,665.1 | |

| | Metal Pounds Sold | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----|--------|-----|
| | Year Ended December 31, | | | |
| | 2007 | | 2006 | |
| | Pounds | % | Pounds | % |
| North America | 404.8 | 49% | 428.2 | 56% |
| Europe and North Africa | 336.8 | 40% | 307.9 | |