

HERSHEY CO
Form 10-Q
August 08, 2012

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended July 1, 2012

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 1-183

THE HERSHEY COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

23-0691590

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation
or organization)

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

100 Crystal A Drive, Hershey, PA

17033

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

717-534-4200

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark 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 (Do not check if a smaller reporting
company)

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

Edgar Filing: HERSHEY CO - Form 10-Q

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Common Stock, \$1 par value – 165,711,584 shares, as of July 20, 2012. Class B Common Stock, \$1 par value – 60,629,917 shares, as of July 20, 2012.

THE HERSHEY COMPANY
INDEX

| Part I. Financial Information | Page Number |
|---|-------------|
| Item 1. Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited) | <u>3</u> |
| Consolidated Statements of Income Three months ended July 1, 2012 and July 3, 2011 | <u>3</u> |
| Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income Three months ended July 1, 2012 and July 3, 2011 | <u>4</u> |
| Consolidated Statements of Income Six months ended July 1, 2012 and July 3, 2011 | <u>5</u> |
| Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income Six months ended July 1, 2012 and July 3, 2011 | <u>6</u> |
| Consolidated Balance Sheets July 1, 2012 and December 31, 2011 | <u>7</u> |
| Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows Six months ended July 1, 2012 and July 3, 2011 | <u>8</u> |
| Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements | <u>9</u> |
| Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations and Financial Condition | <u>23</u> |
| Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk | <u>31</u> |
| Item 4. Controls and Procedures | <u>31</u> |
| Part II. Other Information | |
| Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds | <u>32</u> |
| Item 5. Other Information | <u>32</u> |
| Item 6. Exhibits | <u>33</u> |

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

THE HERSHEY COMPANY

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(in thousands except per share amounts)

| | For the Three Months Ended | |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------|
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 |
| Net Sales | \$1,414,444 | \$1,325,171 |
| Costs and Expenses: | | |
| Cost of Sales | 795,923 | 760,851 |
| Selling, marketing and administrative | 391,405 | 345,918 |
| Business realignment and impairment charges (credits), net | 4,845 | (9,952) |
| Total costs and expenses | 1,192,173 | 1,096,817 |
| Income before Interest and Income Taxes | 222,271 | 228,354 |
| Interest expense, net | 24,344 | 23,351 |
| Income before Income Taxes | 197,927 | 205,003 |
| Provision for income taxes | 62,242 | 74,984 |
| Net Income | \$135,685 | \$130,019 |
| Earnings Per Share - Basic - Class B Common Stock | \$.56 | \$.53 |
| Earnings Per Share - Diluted - Class B Common Stock | \$.55 | \$.53 |
| Earnings Per Share - Basic - Common Stock | \$.62 | \$.59 |
| Earnings Per Share - Diluted - Common Stock | \$.59 | \$.56 |
| Average Shares Outstanding - Basic - Common Stock | 165,021 | 166,302 |
| Average Shares Outstanding - Basic - Class B Common Stock | 60,630 | 60,632 |
| Average Shares Outstanding - Diluted | 228,853 | 230,301 |
| Cash Dividends Paid Per Share: | | |
| Common Stock | \$.380 | \$.3450 |
| Class B Common Stock | \$.344 | \$.3125 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

THE HERSHEY COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
(in thousands of dollars)

| | For the Three Months Ended | | |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------|---|
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 | |
| Net Income | \$135,685 | \$130,019 | |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax: | | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | (11,077 |) 3,729 | |
| Pension and post-retirement benefit plans | 6,615 | 4,393 | |
| Cash flow hedges: | | | |
| Losses on cash flow hedging derivatives | (10,774 |) (3,312 |) |
| Reclassification adjustments | 16,012 | (4,892 |) |
| Total other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax | 776 | (82 |) |
| Comprehensive Income | \$136,461 | \$129,937 | |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

THE HERSHEY COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(in thousands except per share amounts)

| | For the Six Months Ended | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 |
| Net Sales | \$3,146,508 | \$2,889,394 |
| Costs and Expenses: | | |
| Cost of Sales | 1,784,591 | 1,668,889 |
| Selling, marketing and administrative | 796,967 | 723,716 |
| Business realignment and impairment charges (credits), net | 8,149 | (8,114) |
| Total costs and expenses | 2,589,707 | 2,384,491 |
| Income before Interest and Income Taxes | 556,801 | 504,903 |
| Interest expense, net | 48,368 | 47,828 |
| Income before Income Taxes | 508,433 | 457,075 |
| Provision for income taxes | 174,097 | 166,941 |
| Net Income | \$334,336 | \$290,134 |
| Earnings Per Share - Basic - Class B Common Stock | \$1.38 | \$1.19 |
| Earnings Per Share - Diluted - Class B Common Stock | \$1.37 | \$1.18 |
| Earnings Per Share - Basic - Common Stock | \$1.52 | \$1.31 |
| Earnings Per Share - Diluted - Common Stock | \$1.46 | \$1.26 |
| Average Shares Outstanding - Basic - Common Stock | 164,810 | 166,372 |
| Average Shares Outstanding - Basic - Class B Common Stock | 60,630 | 60,657 |
| Average Shares Outstanding - Diluted | 228,752 | 230,243 |
| Cash Dividends Paid Per Share: | | |
| Common Stock | \$.760 | \$.690 |
| Class B Common Stock | \$.688 | \$.625 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

THE HERSHEY COMPANY
 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

(in thousands of dollars)

| | For the Six Months Ended | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 |
| Net Income | \$334,336 | 290,134 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax: | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | 1,662 | 13,607 |
| Pension and post-retirement benefit plans | 12,608 | 8,056 |
| Cash flow hedges: | | |
| Losses on cash flow hedging derivatives | (769 |) (4,286 |
| Reclassification adjustments | 33,303 | (8,132 |
| Total other comprehensive income, net of tax | 46,804 | 9,245 |
| Comprehensive Income | \$381,140 | \$299,379 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

THE HERSHEY COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in thousands of dollars)

| ASSETS | July 1, 2012 | December 31, 2011 |
|---|-----------------|----------------------|
| Current Assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$589,782 | \$693,686 |
| Accounts receivable - trade | 353,337 | 399,499 |
| Inventories | 791,805 | 648,953 |
| Deferred income taxes | 121,192 | 136,861 |
| Prepaid expenses and other | 237,457 | 167,559 |
| Total current assets | 2,093,573 | 2,046,558 |
| Property, Plant and Equipment, at cost | 3,564,028 | 3,588,558 |
| Less-accumulated depreciation and amortization | (1,980,724 |) (2,028,841 |
| Net property, plant and equipment | 1,583,304 | 1,559,717 |
| Goodwill | 589,464 | 516,745 |
| Other Intangibles | 219,028 | 111,913 |
| Deferred Income Taxes | 28,072 | 38,544 |
| Other Assets | 154,531 | 138,722 |
| Total assets | \$4,667,972 | \$4,412,199 |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Current Liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable | \$388,472 | \$420,017 |
| Accrued liabilities | 569,902 | 612,186 |
| Accrued income taxes | 1,930 | 1,899 |
| Short-term debt | 139,356 | 42,080 |
| Current portion of long-term debt | 347,312 | 97,593 |
| Total current liabilities | 1,446,972 | 1,173,775 |
| Long-term Debt | 1,498,669 | 1,748,500 |
| Other Long-term Liabilities | 608,664 | 617,276 |
| Deferred Income Taxes | 27,696 | — |
| Total liabilities | 3,582,001 | 3,539,551 |
| Stockholders' Equity: | | |
| The Hershey Company Stockholders' Equity | | |
| Preferred Stock, shares issued: none in 2012 and 2011 | — | — |
| Common Stock, shares issued: 299,271,827 in 2012 and 299,269,702 in 2011 | 299,271 | 299,269 |
| Class B Common Stock, shares issued: 60,629,917 in 2012 and 60,632,042 in 2011 | 60,630 | 60,632 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 557,392 | 490,817 |
| Retained earnings | 4,866,839 | 4,699,597 |
| Treasury-Common Stock shares at cost: 133,771,908 in 2012 and 134,695,826 in 2011 | (4,324,278 |) (4,258,962 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (395,527 |) (442,331 |
| The Hershey Company stockholders' equity | 1,064,327 | 849,022 |
| Noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries | 21,644 | 23,626 |
| Total stockholders' equity | 1,085,971 | 872,648 |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | \$4,667,972 | \$4,412,199 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated balance sheets.

THE HERSHEY COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(in thousands of dollars)

| | For the Six Months Ended | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 |
| Cash Flows Provided from (Used by) Operating Activities | | |
| Net Income | \$334,336 | \$290,134 |
| Adjustments to Reconcile Net Income to Net Cash Provided from Operations: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 109,635 | 102,792 |
| Stock-based compensation expense, net of tax of \$8,486 and \$8,730, respectively | 16,110 | 15,189 |
| Excess tax benefits from exercise of stock options | (23,849 |) (7,117 |
| Deferred income taxes | 1,999 | (4,956 |
| Business realignment and impairment charges, net of tax of \$15,561 and \$2,782, respectively | 27,022 | 5,138 |
| Contributions to pension plans | (1,765 |) (2,595 |
| Changes in assets and liabilities, net of effects from business acquisitions: | | |
| Accounts receivable - trade | 57,487 | 93,115 |
| Inventories | (170,215 |) (118,202 |
| Accounts payable | (8,605 |) 21,472 |
| Other assets and liabilities | (27,997 |) (108,278 |
| Net Cash Flows Provided from Operating Activities | 314,158 | 286,692 |
| Cash Flows Provided from (Used by) Investing Activities | | |
| Capital additions | (139,488 |) (171,046 |
| Capitalized software additions | (8,319 |) (8,933 |
| Proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment | 76 | 209 |
| Loan to affiliate | (16,000 |) — |
| Business acquisitions | (172,856 |) (5,750 |
| Net Cash Flows (Used by) Investing Activities | (336,587 |) (185,520 |
| Cash Flows Provided from (Used by) Financing Activities | | |
| Net increase in short-term debt | 95,130 | 10,658 |
| Long-term borrowings | 49 | 478 |
| Repayment of long-term debt | (2,134 |) (3,172 |
| Cash dividends paid | (167,094 |) (152,689 |
| Exercise of stock options | 185,600 | 135,040 |
| Excess tax benefits from exercise of stock options | 23,849 | 7,117 |
| Contributions from noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries | 1,470 | — |
| Repurchase of Common Stock | (218,345 |) (192,949 |
| Net Cash Flows (Used by) Financing Activities | (81,475 |) (195,517 |
| Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents | (103,904 |) (94,345 |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents, beginning of period | 693,686 | 884,642 |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents, end of period | \$589,782 | \$790,297 |
| Interest Paid | \$49,151 | \$47,726 |
| Income Taxes Paid | \$218,246 | \$193,698 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

THE HERSHEY COMPANY
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Our unaudited consolidated financial statements provided in this report include the accounts of the Company and our majority-owned subsidiaries and entities in which we have a controlling financial interest after the elimination of intercompany accounts and transactions. We have a controlling financial interest if we own a majority of the outstanding voting common stock and the noncontrolling shareholders do not have substantive participating rights, or we have significant control over an entity through contractual or economic interests in which we are the primary beneficiary. We prepared these statements in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-Q. The financial statements were prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") for interim reporting. These statements do not include all of the information and footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. Our significant interim accounting policies include the recognition of a pro-rata share of certain estimated annual amounts primarily for raw material purchase price variances, advertising expense, incentive compensation expenses and the effective income tax rate.

We included all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring accruals) which we believe were considered necessary for a fair presentation. We reclassified certain prior year amounts to conform to the 2012 presentation. Operating results for the six months ended July 1, 2012 may not be indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2012, because of the seasonal effects of our business. For more information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and notes included in our 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

2. BUSINESS ACQUISITIONS

Acquisitions of businesses are accounted for as purchases and, accordingly, their results of operations have been included in the consolidated financial statements since the respective dates of the acquisitions. The purchase price for each of the acquisitions is allocated to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed.

In January 2012, we acquired all of the outstanding stock of Brookside Foods Ltd. ("Brookside"), a privately held confectionery company based in Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada. Brookside has two production facilities located in British Columbia and Quebec. The Brookside product line is primarily sold in the U.S. and Canada in a take home re-sealable pack type. Annual net sales of the business are approximately \$90 million. The business complements our position in North America and we expect to make investments in manufacturing capabilities and conduct market research that will enable future growth.

Our financial statements reflect the preliminary accounting for the Brookside acquisition. The purchase price for the acquisition was approximately \$172.9 million. The preliminary purchase price allocation of the Brookside acquisition is as follows:

| In thousands of dollars | Purchase Price Allocation ⁽¹⁾ | Estimated Useful Life |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| Goodwill | \$66,239 | Indefinite |
| Trademarks | 60,253 | 25 Years |
| Other intangibles ⁽²⁾ | 50,928 | 6 to 17 Years |
| Other assets, net of liabilities assumed | 23,781 | |
| Non-current deferred tax liabilities | (28,345) | |
| Purchase Price | \$172,856 | |

The purchase price allocation is preliminary due to ongoing analysis to determine the fair value of acquired (1) intangibles, property plant and equipment, working capital adjustments and the tax basis of acquired assets and liabilities. We expect to finalize the purchase price allocation by the end of 2012.

(2) Includes customer relationships, patents and covenants not to compete.

The excess purchase price over the estimated value of the net tangible and identifiable intangible assets was recorded to

goodwill. The goodwill is not expected to be deductible for tax purposes.

In February 2011, we acquired a 49% interest in Tri-US, Inc. of Boulder, Colorado, a company that manufactures, markets and sells nutritional beverages under the “mix1” brand name. We invested \$5.8 million and accounted for this investment using the equity method until January 2012. In January 2012, we made an additional investment of \$6.0 million in Tri-US, Inc., resulting in a controlling ownership interest of approximately 69%. Our financial statements reflect the preliminary accounting for the acquisition of the controlling interest in Tri-US, Inc. Total liabilities recorded were \$1.3 million. The preliminary amounts of goodwill and other intangibles acquired were \$7.2 million and \$1.4 million, respectively.

We included results subsequent to the acquisition dates in the consolidated financial statements. If we had included the results of the acquisitions in the consolidated financial statements for each of the periods presented, the effect would not have been material.

3. NONCONTROLLING INTERESTS IN SUBSIDIARIES

The decrease in noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries from \$23.6 million as of December 31, 2011 to \$21.6 million as of July 1, 2012, reflected the noncontrolling interests' share of losses of the entities, partially offset by the adjustment to record the additional investment in Tri-US, Inc. in January 2012. The noncontrolling interests' share of losses in subsidiaries increased income by \$6.9 million for the six months ended July 1, 2012 and by \$2.8 million for the six months ended July 3, 2011 and was included in selling, marketing and administrative expenses.

4. STOCK COMPENSATION PLANS

The Hershey Company Equity and Incentive Compensation Plan (“EICP”) is the plan under which grants using shares for compensation and incentive purposes are made. The following table summarizes our stock compensation costs:

| In millions of dollars | For the Three Months Ended | | For the Six Months Ended | |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 |
| Total compensation amount charged against income for stock options, performance stock units (“PSUs”) and restricted stock units (“RSUs”) | \$13.1 | \$8.9 | \$24.6 | \$24.0 |
| Total income tax benefit recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Income for share-based compensation | \$4.4 | \$3.2 | \$8.5 | \$8.7 |

The increase in share-based compensation expense for the second quarter and first six months of 2012 resulted primarily from the forfeiture of unvested awards due to participant changes during the second quarter of 2011. This was offset to some extent by certain adjustments associated with accounting for performance stock units for the second quarter and first six months of 2012.

Stock Options

A summary of the status of our stock options as of July 1, 2012, and the change during 2012 is presented below:

| Stock Options | Shares | For the Six Months Ended July 1, 2012 | |
|--|-------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| | | Weighted-Average Exercise Price | Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Term |
| Outstanding at beginning of the period | 14,540,442 | \$44.86 | 5.7 years |
| Granted | 2,073,480 | \$60.69 | |
| Exercised | (4,208,781) |)\$44.14 | |
| Forfeited | (171,219) |)\$51.90 | |
| Outstanding as of July 1, 2012 | 12,233,922 | \$47.69 | 6.4 years |
| Options exercisable as of July 1, 2012 | 6,897,713 | \$45.73 | 4.8 years |

| | For the Six Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 |
| Weighted-average fair value of options granted (per share) | \$10.57 | \$9.97 |
| Intrinsic value of options exercised (in millions of dollars) | \$86.2 | \$58.4 |

We estimated the fair value of each stock option grant on the date of the grant using a Black-Scholes option-pricing model and the weighted-average assumptions set forth in the following table:

| | For the Six Months Ended | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 |
| Dividend yields | 2.4% | 2.7% |
| Expected volatility | 22.4% | 22.6% |
| Risk-free interest rates | 1.5% | 2.8% |
| Expected lives in years | 6.6 | 6.6 |

As of July 1, 2012, the aggregate intrinsic value of options outstanding was \$253.3 million and the aggregate intrinsic value of options exercisable was \$156.3 million.

As of July 1, 2012, there was \$26.3 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested stock option compensation arrangements granted under our stock option plans. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.3 years.

Performance Stock Units and Restricted Stock Units

A summary of the status of our PSUs and RSUs as of July 1, 2012, and the change during 2012 is presented below:

| Performance Stock Units and Restricted Stock Units | For the Six Months Ended July 1, 2012 | Weighted-average grant date fair value for equity awards or market value for liability awards |
|--|---|--|
| Outstanding at beginning of year | 1,740,479 | \$48.70 |
| Granted | 394,290 | \$63.09 |
| Performance assumption change | 207,582 | \$58.91 |
| Vested | (560,856) |)\$42.30 |
| Forfeited | (74,549) |)\$56.40 |
| Outstanding as of July 1, 2012 | 1,706,946 | \$55.41 |

The table above excludes PSU awards for 71,676 units as of December 31, 2011 and 41,064 units as of July 1, 2012 for which the measurement date has not yet occurred for accounting purposes.

For the first six months of 2012, we estimated the fair value of the market-based total shareholder return component of the PSUs using a Monte Carlo simulation model on the date of grant. The Monte Carlo assumptions included \$35.62 for the estimated value which was based on dividend yields of 2.5% and expected volatility of 20.0%. For performance-based components of the PSUs, we used the closing market price of the Company's Common Stock on the date of grant. For the first six months of 2011, we estimated the fair value of PSUs based on the closing market price of the Company's Common Stock on the date of grant. In the third quarter of 2011, we recorded an adjustment associated with the accounting for PSUs to reflect the market-based and performance-based conditions.

As of July 1, 2012, there was \$46.9 million of unrecognized compensation cost relating to non-vested PSUs and RSUs. We expect to recognize that cost over a weighted-average period of 2.1 years.

| | For the Six Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 |
| Intrinsic value of share-based liabilities paid, combined with the fair value of shares vested (in millions of dollars) | \$33.3 | \$33.0 |

Deferred performance stock units, deferred restricted stock units, and directors' fees and accumulated dividend amounts representing deferred stock units totaled 621,718 units as of July 1, 2012. Each unit is equivalent to one share of the Company's Common Stock.

No stock appreciation rights were outstanding as of July 1, 2012.

For more information on our stock compensation plans, refer to the consolidated financial statements and notes included in our 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K and our proxy statement for the 2012 annual meeting of stockholders.

5. INTEREST EXPENSE

Net interest expense consisted of the following:

| In thousands of dollars | For the Six Months Ended | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 |
| Interest expense | \$53,874 | \$52,457 |
| Interest income | (1,350) | (1,380) |
| Capitalized interest | (4,156) | (3,249) |
| Interest expense, net | \$48,368 | \$47,828 |

6. BUSINESS REALIGNMENT AND IMPAIRMENT CHARGES

In June 2010, we announced Project Next Century (the "Next Century program") as part of our ongoing efforts to create an advantaged supply chain and competitive cost structure. As part of the program, production was to transition from the Company's century-old facility at 19 East Chocolate Avenue in Hershey, Pennsylvania, to an expanded West Hershey facility, which was built in 1992. Production from the 19 East Chocolate Avenue plant, as well as a portion of the workforce, has substantially transitioned to the West Hershey facility.

The forecast for the Next Century program pre-tax charges and non-recurring project implementation costs has been increased from a range of \$150 million to \$160 million to a range of \$160 million to \$180 million due to revised estimates of possible higher disposition costs for the Company's 19 East Chocolate Avenue facility. This estimate includes \$140 million to \$160 million in pre-tax business realignment and impairment charges and approximately \$20 million in project implementation and start-up costs. Total costs of \$43.4 million were recorded in 2011 and \$53.9 million were recorded in 2010.

A certain former manufacturing facility with a carrying value of \$4.0 million was being held for sale as of July 1, 2012. The fair value of this facility was estimated based on expected sales proceeds.

Edgar Filing: HERSHEY CO - Form 10-Q

Business realignment and impairment charges and credits recorded during the three-month and six-month periods ended July 1, 2012 and July 3, 2011 were as follows:

| | For the Three Months Ended | | For the Six Months Ended | |
|--|----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 |
| In thousands of dollars | | | | |
| Cost of sales – Next Century program | \$13,429 | \$7,023 | \$32,883 | \$13,882 |
| Selling, marketing and administrative – Next Century program | 738 | 1,138 | 1,551 | 2,152 |
| Business realignment and impairment charges (credits), net | | | | |
| Next Century program | | | | |
| Plant closure expenses | 4,745 | 1,246 | 7,235 | 2127 |
| Employee separation costs (credits) | 100 | (11,198) | 914 | (10,241) |
| Total business realignment and impairment charges (credits), net | 4,845 | (9,952) | 8,149 | (8,114) |
| Total business realignment and impairment charges (credits) | \$19,012 | \$(1,791) | \$42,583 | \$7,920 |

Next Century Program

A charge of \$13.4 million was recorded in cost of sales during the second quarter of 2012 related primarily to the accelerated depreciation of fixed assets over a reduced remaining useful life and start-up costs associated with the Next Century program. A charge of \$0.7 million was recorded in selling, marketing and administrative expenses in the second quarter of 2012 related primarily to project administration for the Next Century program. Plant closure expenses of \$4.7 million were recorded in the second quarter of 2012 primarily related to costs associated with the relocation of production lines. Employee separation costs were \$0.1 million for the Next Century program in the second quarter of 2012, reflecting costs related to voluntary and involuntary terminations.

A charge of \$32.9 million was recorded in cost of sales during the first six months of 2012 related primarily to the accelerated depreciation of fixed assets over a reduced estimated remaining useful life and start-up costs associated with the Next Century program. A charge of \$1.6 million was recorded in selling, marketing and administrative expenses in the first six months of 2012 related primarily to project administration for the Next Century program. Plant closure expenses of \$7.2 million were recorded during the first six months of 2012 primarily related to costs associated with the relocation of production lines. Employee separation costs of \$0.9 million for the Next Century program in the first six months of 2012 were related to expected voluntary and involuntary terminations.

A charge of \$7.0 million was recorded in cost of sales during the second quarter of 2011 related primarily to the accelerated depreciation of fixed assets over a reduced remaining useful life and start-up costs associated with the Next Century program. A charge of \$1.1 million was recorded in selling, marketing and administrative expenses in the second quarter of 2011 related primarily to project administration for the Next Century program. Plant closure expenses of \$1.2 million were recorded in the second quarter of 2011 primarily related to costs associated with the relocation of production lines. Employee separation costs were reduced by \$11.2 million for the Next Century program in the second quarter of 2011 which consisted of a \$12.9 million credit reflecting lower expected costs related to voluntary and involuntary terminations and a net benefits curtailment loss of \$1.7 million also related to the employee terminations.

A charge of \$13.9 million was recorded in cost of sales during the first six months of 2011 related to accelerated depreciation of fixed assets over a reduced remaining useful life associated with the Next Century program. A charge of \$2.2 million was recorded in selling, marketing and administrative expenses during the first six months of 2011 for project administration. Plant closure expenses of \$2.1 million were recorded during the first six months of 2011 primarily related to costs associated with the relocation of production lines. Employee separation costs were reduced by \$10.2 million during the first six months of 2011 which consisted of an \$11.9 million credit reflecting lower expected costs related to voluntary and involuntary terminations at the two manufacturing facilities and a net benefits curtailment loss of \$1.7 million also related to the employee terminations.

The July 1, 2012 liability balance relating to the Next Century program was \$14.8 million for estimated employee separation costs which were recorded in 2010 and 2011 and will be paid in 2012 as production transitions to the expanded West

Hershey facility. During the first six months of 2012, we made payments against the liabilities of \$5.6 million related to employee separation costs.

7. EARNINGS PER SHARE

We compute Basic and Diluted Earnings Per Share based on the weighted-average number of shares of the Common Stock and the Class B Common Stock outstanding as follows:

| | For the Three Months Ended | | For the Six Months Ended | |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 |
| In thousands except per share amounts | | | | |
| Net income | \$ 135,685 | \$ 130,019 | \$ 334,336 | \$ 290,134 |
| Weighted average shares - Basic | | | | |
| Common Stock | 165,021 | 166,302 | 164,810 | 166,372 |
| Class B Common Stock | 60,630 | 60,632 | 60,630 | 60,657 |
| Total weighted average shares - Basic | 225,651 | 226,934 | 225,440 | 227,029 |
| Effect of dilutive securities: | | | | |
| Employee stock options | 2,619 | 2,750 | 2,641 | 2,557 |
| Performance and restricted stock units | 583 | 617 | 671 | 657 |
| Weighted-average shares - Diluted | 228,853 | 230,301 | 228,752 | 230,243 |
| Earnings Per Share - Basic | | | | |
| Class B Common Stock | \$ 0.56 | \$ 0.53 | \$ 1.38 | \$ 1.19 |
| Common Stock | \$ 0.62 | \$ 0.59 | \$ 1.52 | \$ 1.31 |
| Earnings Per Share - Diluted | | | | |
| Class B Common Stock | \$ 0.55 | \$ 0.53 | \$ 1.37 | \$ 1.18 |
| Common Stock | \$ 0.59 | \$ 0.56 | \$ 1.46 | \$ 1.26 |

The Class B Common Stock is convertible into Common Stock on a share for share basis at any time. The calculation of earnings per share-diluted for the Class B Common Stock was performed using the two-class method and the calculation of earnings per share-diluted for the Common Stock was performed using the if-converted method.

| | For the Three Months Ended | | For the Six Months Ended | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 |
| In millions | | | | |
| Stock options excluded from diluted earnings per share calculations because the effect would have been antidilutive | 2.1 | 3.6 | 3.5 | 6.9 |

8. DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS AND HEDGING ACTIVITIES

We account for derivative instruments in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board accounting standards which require us to recognize all derivative instruments at fair value. We classify derivatives as assets or liabilities on the balance sheet. As of July 1, 2012 and December 31, 2011, all of our derivative instruments were classified as cash flow hedges.

The fair value of derivative instruments in the Consolidated Balance Sheet as of July 1, 2012 was as follows:

| Balance Sheet Caption | Interest Rate Swap Agreements | Foreign Exchange Forward Contracts and Options | Commodities Futures and Options Contracts |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| In thousands of dollars | | | |
| Prepaid expense and other current assets | \$— | \$1,334 | \$11,620 |
| Accrued liabilities | \$9,931 | \$1,991 | \$3,861 |
| Other long-term liabilities | \$1,707 | \$— | \$— |

The fair value of derivative instruments in the Consolidated Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2011 was as follows:

| Balance Sheet Caption | Foreign Exchange Forward Contracts and Options | Commodities Futures and Options Contracts |
|--|--|---|
| In thousands of dollars | | |
| Prepaid expense and other current assets | \$3,954 | \$3,929 |
| Accrued liabilities | \$5,297 | \$2,103 |
| Other long-term liabilities | \$12 | \$— |

The fair value of the interest rate swap agreements represents the difference in the present values of cash flows calculated at the contracted interest rates and at current market interest rates at the end of the period. We calculate the fair value of interest rate swap agreements quarterly based on the quoted market price for the same or similar financial instruments.

The fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts and options is the amount of the difference between the contracted and current market foreign currency exchange rates at the end of the period. We estimate the fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts and options on a quarterly basis by obtaining market quotes of spot and forward rates for contracts with similar terms, adjusted where necessary for maturity differences. As of July 1, 2012, the fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts with gains totaled \$1.3 million and the fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts with losses totaled \$2.0 million.

As of July 1, 2012, prepaid expense and other current assets associated with commodities futures and options contracts were associated with cash transfers receivable on commodities futures contracts reflecting the change in quoted market prices on the last trading day for the period. We make or receive cash transfers to or from commodity futures brokers on a daily basis reflecting changes in the value of futures contracts on the IntercontinentalExchange or various other exchanges. These changes in value represent unrealized gains and losses.

As of July 1, 2012, accrued liabilities associated with commodities futures and options contracts were related to the fair value of commodity derivative instruments.

The effect of derivative instruments on the Consolidated Statements of Income for the six months ended July 1, 2012 was as follows:

| Cash Flow Hedging Derivatives | Interest Rate Swap Agreements | Foreign Exchange Forward Contracts and Options | Commodities Futures and Options Contracts |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| In thousands of dollars | | | |
| Gains (losses) recognized in other comprehensive income (“OCI”) (effective portion) | \$(11,638 |) \$736 | \$10,007 |
| Gains (losses) reclassified from accumulated OCI into income (effective portion) (a) | \$(1,835 |) \$(1,741 |) \$(50,400 |
| Gains (losses) recognized in income (ineffective portion) (b) | \$— | \$— | \$1,030 |

The effect of derivative instruments on the Consolidated Statements of Income for the six months ended July 3, 2011 was as follows:

| Cash Flow Hedging Derivatives | Interest Rate Swap Agreements | Foreign Exchange Forward Contracts and Options | Commodities Futures and Options Contracts |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| In thousands of dollars | | | |
| Gains (losses) recognized in other comprehensive income (“OCI”) (effective portion) | \$(6,370 |) \$62 | \$844 |
| Gains (losses) reclassified from accumulated OCI into income (effective portion) (a) | \$1,018 | \$459 | \$11,700 |
| Gains (losses) recognized in income (ineffective portion) (b) | \$— | \$— | \$155 |

Gains (losses) reclassified from accumulated OCI into earnings were included in cost of sales for commodities futures and options contracts and for foreign exchange forward contracts and options designated as hedges of (a) intercompany purchases of inventory. Other gains and losses for foreign exchange forward contracts and options were included in selling, marketing and administrative expenses. Gains (losses) reclassified from accumulated OCI into earnings were included in interest expense for interest rate swap agreements.

(b) Gains (losses) recognized in earnings were included in cost of sales.

All gains (losses) recognized in earnings were related to the ineffective portion of the hedging relationship. We recognized no components of gains and losses on cash flow hedging derivatives in income due to excluding such components from the hedge effectiveness assessment.

The amount of net losses on cash flow hedging derivatives, including interest rate swap agreements, foreign exchange forward contracts and options and commodities futures and options contracts, expected to be reclassified into earnings in the next twelve months was approximately \$37.0 million after tax as of July 1, 2012. This amount was primarily associated with commodities futures and options contracts.

For more information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and notes included in our 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

9. COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

A summary of the components of comprehensive income (loss) is as follows:

| | For the Three Months Ended July 1, 2012 | | |
|---|--|--------------------------|---------------------|
| | Pre-Tax Amount | Tax (Expense) Benefit | After-Tax Amount |
| In thousands of dollars | | | |
| Net income | | | \$ 135,685 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss): | | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | \$(11,077 |) — | (11,077) |
| Pension and post-retirement benefit plans | 10,655 | (4,040 |) 6,615 |
| Cash flow hedges: | | | |
| Losses on cash flow hedging derivatives | (17,389 |) 6,615 | (10,774) |
| Reclassification adjustments | 25,952 | (9,940 |) 16,012 |
| Total other comprehensive income | \$8,141 | \$(7,365 |) 776 |
| Comprehensive income | | | \$ 136,461 |
| | For the Three Months Ended July 3, 2011 | | |
| | Pre-Tax Amount | Tax (Expense) Benefit | After-Tax Amount |
| In thousands of dollars | | | |
| Net income | | | \$ 130,019 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss): | | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | \$3,729 | \$— | 3,729 |
| Pension and post-retirement benefit plans | 7,126 | (2,733 |) 4,393 |
| Cash flow hedges: | | | |
| Losses on cash flow hedging derivatives | (4,264 |) 952 | (3,312) |
| Reclassification adjustments | (7,930 |) 3,038 | (4,892) |
| Total other comprehensive loss | \$(1,339 |) \$1,257 | (82) |
| Comprehensive income | | | \$ 129,937 |
| | For the Six Months Ended July 1, 2012 | | |
| | Pre-Tax Amount | Tax (Expense) Benefit | After-Tax Amount |
| In thousands of dollars | | | |
| Net income | | | \$ 334,336 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss): | | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | \$1,662 | \$— | 1,662 |
| Pension and post-retirement benefit plans | 20,383 | (7,775 |) 12,608 |
| Cash flow hedges: | | | |
| Losses on cash flow hedging derivatives | (895 |) 126 | (769) |
| Reclassification adjustments | 53,976 | (20,673 |) 33,303 |
| Total other comprehensive income | \$75,126 | \$(28,322 |) 46,804 |
| Comprehensive income | | | \$ 381,140 |

| | For the Six Months Ended | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| | July 3, 2011 | | |
| | Pre-Tax Amount | Tax (Expense) Benefit | After-Tax Amount |
| In thousands of dollars | | | |
| Net income | | | \$290,134 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss): | | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | \$13,607 | \$— | 13,607 |
| Pension and post-retirement benefit plans | 13,492 | (5,436) |) 8,056 |
| Cash flow hedges: | | | |
| Losses on cash flow hedging derivatives | (5,464) |) 1,178 | (4,286) |
| Reclassification adjustments | (13,177) |) 5,045 | (8,132) |
| Total other comprehensive income | \$8,458 | \$787 | 9,245 |
| Comprehensive income | | | \$299,379 |

The components of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) as shown on the Consolidated Balance Sheets are as follows:

| | July 1, 2012 | December 31, 2011 |
|---|-----------------|----------------------|
| In thousands of dollars | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | \$3,121 | \$1,459 |
| Pension and post-retirement benefit plans, net of tax | (343,795) |) (356,403) |
| Cash flow hedges, net of tax | (54,853) |) (87,387) |
| Total accumulated other comprehensive loss | \$(395,527) |) \$(442,331) |

10. INVENTORIES

We value the majority of our inventories under the last-in, first-out (“LIFO”) method and the remaining inventories at the lower of first-in, first-out (“FIFO”) cost or market. Inventories were as follows:

| | July 1, 2012 | December 31, 2011 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| In thousands of dollars | | |
| Raw materials | \$312,686 | \$241,812 |
| Goods in process | 99,438 | 91,956 |
| Finished goods | 589,731 | 482,095 |
| Inventories at FIFO | 1,001,855 | 815,863 |
| Adjustment to LIFO | (210,050) |) (166,910) |
| Total inventories | \$791,805 | \$648,953 |

The increase in raw material inventories as of July 1, 2012 reflected higher ingredients costs in 2012 and the seasonal timing of deliveries to support manufacturing requirements. Finished goods inventories were higher as of July 1, 2012 due to higher costs in 2012 and increases to support anticipated sales levels of everyday and seasonal items, in addition to the introduction of new products.

11. SHORT-TERM DEBT

As a source of short-term financing, we utilize cash on hand and commercial paper or bank loans with an original maturity of three months or less. Our five-year unsecured revolving credit agreement contains certain financial and other covenants, customary representations, warranties and events of default. As of July 1, 2012, we complied with all covenants pertaining to the credit agreement. There were no significant compensating balance agreements that legally restricted these funds. For more information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and notes included in our 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

12. LONG-TERM DEBT

In May 2009, we filed a shelf registration statement on Form S-3 that registered an indeterminate amount of debt securities. This registration statement was effective immediately upon filing under Securities and Exchange Commission regulations governing “well-known seasoned issuers” (the “WKSI Registration Statement”). In September 2011, we repaid \$250 million of 5.3% Notes due in 2011. In November 2011, we issued \$250 million of 1.5% Notes due in 2016. The Notes were issued under the WKSI Registration Statement.

The May 2009 WKSI Registration Statement expired in May 2012. Accordingly, in May 2012, we filed a new registration statement on Form S-3 to replace the May 2009 WKSI Registration Statement. The May 2012 WKSI Registration Statement registered an indeterminate amount of debt securities and was effective immediately.

13. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The carrying amounts of financial instruments including cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and short-term debt approximated fair value as of July 1, 2012 and December 31, 2011, because of the relatively short maturity of these instruments.

The carrying value of long-term debt, including the current portion, was \$1,846.0 million as of July 1, 2012, compared with a fair value of \$2,158.4 million, based on quoted market prices for the same or similar debt issues.

Interest Rate Swaps

In order to minimize financing costs and to manage interest rate exposure, the Company, from time to time, enters into interest rate swap agreements. In April 2012, the Company entered into forward starting interest rate swap agreements to hedge interest rate exposure related to the anticipated \$250 million of term financing expected to be executed during 2013 to repay \$250 million of 5.0% Notes maturing in April 2013. The weighted-average fixed rate on these forward starting swap agreements was 2.4%. In May 2012, the Company entered into forward starting interest rate swap agreements to hedge interest rate exposure related to the anticipated \$250 million of term financing expected to be executed during 2015 to repay \$250 million of 4.85% Notes maturing in August 2015. The weighted-average fixed rate on the forward starting swap agreements was 2.7%.

The fair value of interest rate swap agreements was a liability of \$11.6 million as of July 1, 2012. The Company's risk related to interest rate swap agreements is limited to the cost of replacing such agreements at prevailing market rates. For more information, see Note 8. Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities.

Foreign Exchange Forward Contracts

The following table summarizes our foreign exchange activity:

| | July 1, 2012 | |
|---|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| In millions of dollars | Contract Amount | Primary Currencies |
| Foreign exchange forward contracts to purchase foreign currencies | \$30.9 | Euros British pound sterling |
| Foreign exchange forward contracts to sell foreign currencies | \$31.8 | Canadian dollars |

Our foreign exchange forward contracts mature in 2012 and 2013. For more information, see Note 8. Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities.

14. FAIR VALUE ACCOUNTING

We use certain derivative instruments, from time to time, to manage interest rate, foreign currency exchange rate and commodity market price risk exposures, all of which are recorded at fair value based on quoted market prices or rates. A summary of our cash flow hedging derivative assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of July 1, 2012, is as follows:

| Description | Fair Value as of July 1, 2012 | Quoted Prices in Active Markets of Identical Assets (Level 1) | Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---|---|
| In thousands of dollars | | | | |
| Assets | | | | |
| Cash flow hedging derivatives | \$12,954 | \$11,620 | \$1,334 | \$— |
| Liabilities | | | | |
| Cash flow hedging derivatives | \$17,490 | \$3,861 | \$13,629 | \$— |

As of July 1, 2012, cash flow hedging derivative Level 1 assets were related to cash transfers receivable on commodities futures contracts reflecting the change in quoted market prices on the last trading day for the period. We make or receive cash transfers to or from commodity futures brokers on a daily basis reflecting changes in the value of futures contracts on the IntercontinentalExchange or various other exchanges. These changes in value represent unrealized gains and losses. Cash flow hedging derivative Level 1 liabilities were related to the fair value of commodity derivative instruments.

As of July 1, 2012, cash flow hedging derivative Level 2 assets were related to the fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts with gains. Cash flow hedging Level 2 liabilities were related to the fair value of interest rate swap agreements and foreign exchange forward contracts with losses. The fair value of the interest rate swap agreements represents the difference in the present values of cash flows calculated at the contracted interest rates and at current market interest rates at the end of the period. We calculate the fair value of interest rate swap agreements quarterly based on the quoted market price for the same or similar financial instruments. We define the fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts as the amount of the difference between the contracted and current market foreign currency exchange rates at the end of the period. We estimate the fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts on a quarterly basis by obtaining market quotes of spot and forward rates for contracts with similar terms, adjusted where necessary for maturity differences. For more information, see Note 8. Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities and refer to the consolidated financial statements and notes included in our 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

A summary of our cash flow hedging derivative assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2011, is as follows:

| Description | Fair Value as of December 31, 2011 | Quoted Prices in Active Markets of Identical Assets (Level 1) | Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| In thousands of dollars | | | | |
| Assets | | | | |
| Cash flow hedging derivatives | \$7,883 | \$3,929 | \$3,954 | \$— |
| Liabilities | | | | |
| Cash flow hedging derivatives | \$7,412 | \$2,103 | \$5,309 | \$— |

As of December 31, 2011, cash flow hedging derivative Level 1 assets were primarily related to cash transfers receivable on commodities futures contracts reflecting the change in quoted market prices on the last trading day for the period. We make or receive cash transfers to or from commodity futures brokers on a daily basis reflecting changes in the value of futures contracts on the IntercontinentalExchange or various other exchanges. These changes in value represent unrealized gains and losses. As of December 31, 2011, cash flow hedging derivative Level 1 liabilities were related to the fair value of commodity derivative instruments.

As of December 31, 2011, cash flow hedging derivative Level 2 assets were related to the fair value of foreign exchange

forward contracts and options with gains. Cash flow hedging Level 2 liabilities were related to foreign exchange forward contracts and options with losses. The fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts and options is the amount of the difference between the contracted and current market foreign currency exchange rates at the end of the period. We estimate the fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts and options on a quarterly basis by obtaining market quotes of spot and forward rates for contracts with similar terms, adjusted where necessary for maturity differences.

15. INCOME TAXES

The number of years with open tax audits varies depending on the tax jurisdiction. Our major taxing jurisdictions include the United States (federal and state), Canada and Mexico. During the fourth quarter 2009, the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) commenced its audit of our U.S. income tax returns for 2007 and 2008 which was concluded during the second quarter of 2012. Tax examinations by various state taxing authorities could generally be conducted for years beginning in 2007. We are no longer subject to Canadian federal income tax examinations by the Canada Revenue Agency (“CRA”) and Mexican federal income tax examinations by Servicio de Administracion Tributaria (“SAT”) for years before 2004. During the third quarter of 2010, the CRA commenced its audit of our Canadian income tax returns for 2006 through 2009. U.S., Canadian and Mexican federal audit issues typically involve the timing of deductions and transfer pricing adjustments. We work with the IRS, the CRA and the SAT to resolve proposed audit adjustments and to minimize the amount of adjustments. We do not anticipate that any potential tax adjustments will have a significant impact on our financial position or results of operations.

During the second quarter of 2012, liabilities associated with income tax contingencies were reduced by approximately \$17.9 million, including interest, upon the completion of various tax examinations, resulting in a net tax benefit of approximately \$11.5 million in the second quarter of 2012. We reasonably expect reductions in the liability for unrecognized tax benefits of approximately \$10.1 million within the next 12 months because of the expiration of statutes of limitations and settlements of tax audits.

16. PENSION AND OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFIT PLANS

Components of net periodic benefit cost consisted of the following:

| | Pension Benefits | | Other Benefits | |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | For the Three Months Ended | | | |
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 |
| In thousands of dollars | | | | |
| Service cost | \$7,378 | \$7,500 | \$305 | \$348 |
| Interest cost | 12,711 | 13,650 | 3,202 | 3,723 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (18,182 |) (20,110 |) — | — |
| Amortization of prior service cost (credit) | 180 | 207 | 154 | (59 |
| Recognized net actuarial loss (gain) | 10,001 | 6,817 | (33 |) (30 |
| Administrative expenses | 162 | 276 | 64 | 42 |
| Net periodic benefit cost | 12,250 | 8,340 | 3,692 | 4,024 |
| Curtailment loss (credit) | — | 1,833 | — | (174 |
| Total amount reflected in earnings | \$12,250 | \$10,173 | \$3,692 | \$3,850 |

We made contributions of \$0.7 million and \$5.8 million to the pension plans and other benefits plans, respectively, during the second quarter of 2012. In the second quarter of 2011, we made contributions of \$1.3 million and \$5.6 million to our pension and other benefits plans, respectively. The contributions in 2012 and 2011 also included benefit payments from our non-qualified pension plans and post-retirement benefit plans.

The pension curtailment loss and other benefits curtailment credit recorded in the second quarter of 2011 related to the Next Century program.

Components of net periodic benefit cost consisted of the following:

| | Pension Benefits | | Other Benefits | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | For the Six Months Ended | | | |
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 |
| In thousands of dollars | | | | |
| Service cost | \$15,146 | \$15,037 | \$586 | \$667 |
| Interest cost | 25,315 | 26,605 | 6,626 | 7,488 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (36,412 |) (39,035 |) — | — |
| Amortization of prior service cost (credit) | 363 | 461 | 309 | (127 |
| Recognized net actuarial loss (gain) | 19,778 | 14,086 | (50 |) (36 |
| Administrative expenses | 300 | 416 | 95 | 101 |
| Net periodic benefit cost | 24,490 | 17,570 | 7,566 | 8,093 |
| Curtailement loss (credit) | — | 1,833 | — | (174 |
| Total amount reflected in earnings | \$24,490 | \$19,403 | \$7,566 | \$7,919 |

We made contributions of \$1.8 million and \$11.0 million to the pension plans and other benefits plans, respectively, during the first six months of 2012. During the first six months of 2011, we made contributions of \$2.6 million and \$10.3 million to our pension and other benefits plans, respectively. The \$10.3 million of contributions to the other benefits plans reflected a \$0.6 million reimbursement received during the first quarter of 2011 relating to the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program, a one-time government program providing reimbursement for a portion of pre-65 health care benefit costs. The contributions in 2012 and 2011 also included benefit payments from our non-qualified pension plans and post-retirement benefit plans.

The pension curtailment loss and other benefits curtailment credit recorded in the first six months of 2011 related to the Next Century program which is described in more detail in Note 6. Business Realignment and Impairment Charges.

For 2012, there are no significant minimum funding requirements for our pension plans and planned voluntary funding of our pension plans in 2012 is not material.

For more information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and notes included in our 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

17. SHARE REPURCHASES

Repurchases and Issuances of Common Stock

A summary of cumulative share repurchases and issuances is as follows:

| | For the Six Months Ended | |
|--|--------------------------|------------|
| | July 1, 2012 | Dollars |
| In thousands | Shares | |
| Shares repurchased in the open market under pre-approved share repurchase programs | 2,054 | \$124,931 |
| Shares repurchased to replace Treasury Stock issued for stock options and incentive compensation | 1,544 | 93,414 |
| Total share repurchases | 3,598 | 218,345 |
| Shares issued for stock options and incentive compensation | (4,522 |) (153,029 |
| Net change | (924 |) \$65,316 |

In April 2011, our Board of Directors approved a \$250 million share repurchase program. As of July 1, 2012, \$125.1 million remained available for repurchases of our Common Stock.

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

SUMMARY OF OPERATING RESULTS

Analysis of Selected Items from Our Income Statement

| | For the Three Months Ended | | | For the Six Months Ended | | |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------|---|
| | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 | Percent Change Increase (Decrease) | July 1, 2012 | July 3, 2011 | Percent Change Increase (Decrease) |
| In millions except per share amounts | | | | | | |
| Net Sales | \$ 1,414.4 | \$ 1,325.2 | 6.7 % | \$ 3,146.5 | \$ 2,889.4 | 8.9 % |
| Cost of Sales | 795.9 | 760.9 | 4.6 | 1,784.6 | 1,668.9 | 6.9 |
| Gross Profit | 618.5 | 564.3 | 9.6 | 1,361.9 | 1,220.5 | 11.6 |
| Gross Margin | 43.7 % | 42.6 % | | 43.3 % | 42.2 % | |
| SM&A Expense | 391.4 | 345.9 | 13.1 | 797.0 | 723.7 | 10.1 |
| SM&A Expense as a percent of sales | 27.7 % | 26.1 % | | 25.3 % | 25.0 % | |
| Business Realignment and Impairment Charges (Credits), net | 4.9 | (10.0) | 148.7 | 8.1 | (8.1) | 200.4 |
| EBIT | 222.2 | 228.4 | (2.7) | 556.8 | 504.9 | 10.3 |
| EBIT Margin | 15.7 % | 17.2 % | | 17.7 % | 17.5 % | |
| Interest Expense, net | 24.3 | 23.4 | 4.3 | 48.4 | 47.8 | 1.1 |
| Provision for Income Taxes | 62.2 | 75.0 | (17.0) | 174.1 | 167.0 | 4.3 |
| Effective Income Tax Rate | 31.4 % | 36.6 % | | 34.2 % | 36.5 % | |
| Net Income | \$ 135.7 | \$ 130.0 | 4.4 | \$ 334.3 | \$ 290.1 | 15.2 |
| Net Income Per Share-Diluted | \$ 0.59 | \$ 0.56 | 5.4 | \$ 1.46 | \$ 1.26 | 15.9 |

Results of Operations - Second Quarter 2012 vs. Second Quarter 2011

U.S. Price Increases

In March 2011, we announced a weighted average increase in wholesale prices of approximately 9.7% across the majority of our U.S., Puerto Rico and export portfolio, effective immediately. The price increase applied to our instant consumable, multi-pack, packaged candy and grocery lines. Direct buying customers were able to purchase transitional amounts of product into May and seasonal net price realization was not expected until Easter 2012.

Usually there is a time lag between the effective date of list price increases and the impact of the price increases on net sales. The impact of price increases is often delayed because we honor previous commitments to planned consumer and customer promotions and merchandising events that occur subsequent to the effective date of the price increases. In addition, promotional allowances may be increased subsequent to the effective date, delaying or partially offsetting the impact of price increases on net sales.

Net Sales

Net sales increased 6.7% for the second quarter of 2012 over the comparable period of 2011 due primarily to net price realization of 6.6%. The increase was partially offset by sales volume declines of 1.1% as well as the impact of unfavorable foreign currency exchange rates of 1.2%. Net sales attributable to Brookside contributed 2.4% to the increase.

Key Marketplace Metrics

For the twelve-week period ending June 16, 2012, consumer takeaway increased 5.0% in 2012 compared with the same period of 2011. Market share in measured channels increased by 0.4 share points in the twelve-week period ending June 16, 2012 compared with the same period of 2011. Consumer takeaway and the change in market share are provided for channels of distribution accounting for approximately 90% of our U.S. confectionery retail business. These channels of distribution primarily include food, drug, mass merchandisers, including Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., and convenience stores.

Cost of Sales and Gross Margin

Cost of sales increased by approximately 4.6% in the second quarter of 2012 primarily due to higher input and supply chain costs which increased cost of sales by about 3.8%. An increase to cost of sales resulting from an unfavorable sales mix was substantially offset by the impact of sales volume decreases. An increase to cost of sales of 2.6% resulted from the Brookside acquisition. Supply chain productivity improvements reduced cost of sales by approximately 3.0%. Business realignment and impairment charges of \$13.4 million were included in cost of sales in the second quarter of 2012 which increased cost of sales by approximately 0.8% compared with the second quarter of 2011. Business realignment and impairment charges included in cost of sales of \$7.0 million were recorded during the comparable period of 2011.

Gross margin increased by 1.1 percentage points for the second quarter of 2012 primarily as a result of price realization and supply chain productivity improvements, which together improved gross margin by 4.1 percentage points. These improvements were substantially offset by higher input and supply chain costs of approximately 2.2 percentage points. The impact of higher business realignment and impairment charges recorded in the second quarter of 2012 as compared with the same period of 2011 reduced gross margin by 0.6 percentage points.

Selling, Marketing and Administrative

Selling, marketing and administrative expenses increased by 13.1% in the second quarter of 2012 primarily due to increased advertising and marketing research expenses, higher employee-related expenses, increased incentive compensation costs and expenses associated with business acquisitions. Advertising costs in the second quarter of 2012 increased by 10.1% from the same period in 2011.

Business realignment charges of \$0.7 million were included in selling, marketing and administrative expenses in the second quarter of 2012. Business realignment charges of \$1.1 million were included in selling, marketing and administrative expenses in the second quarter of 2011.

Business Realignment and Impairment Charges (Credits)

Business realignment and impairment charges of \$4.8 million associated with the Next Century program were recorded in the second quarter of 2012. The 2012 charges were primarily associated with the relocation and start up of production lines.

Net pre-tax business realignment and impairment credits of \$10.0 million were recorded in the second quarter of 2011 associated with the Next Century program. The 2011 credits were primarily associated with a reduction of employee separation expense of \$11.2 million, partially offset by asset retirement costs.

Income Before Interest and Income Taxes and EBIT Margin

EBIT decreased in the second quarter of 2012 compared with the second quarter of 2011 as a result of higher selling, marketing and administrative expenses and business realignment charges. Net pre-tax business realignment and impairment charges of \$19.0 million were recorded in the second quarter of 2012. Net pre-tax business realignment and impairment credits of \$1.8 million were recorded in the second quarter of 2011.

EBIT margin decreased from 17.2% for the second quarter of 2011 to 15.7% for the second quarter of 2012 due to higher selling, marketing and administrative expenses as a percent of sales and the higher business realignment charges.

Interest Expense, Net

Net interest expense was slightly higher in the second quarter of 2012 than the comparable period of 2011 primarily reflecting the impact of higher short-term borrowings.

Income Taxes and Effective Tax Rate

Our effective income tax rate was 31.4% for the second quarter of 2012 compared with 36.6% for the second quarter of 2011. The lower effective income tax rate in the second quarter of 2012 primarily resulted from favorable adjustments of approximately \$11.5 million during the quarter associated with the conclusion of income tax audits for 2007 and 2008.

Net Income and Net Income Per Share

Earnings per share-diluted in the second quarter of 2012 increased \$0.03 as compared with the second quarter of 2011. Net income was reduced by \$12.1 million, or \$0.05 per share-diluted, in the second quarter of 2012 as a result of business realignment and impairment charges. Closing and integration costs for the Brookside acquisition reduced net income by \$0.9 million, or \$0.01 per share-diluted, in the second quarter of 2012. Net income was reduced by \$2.8 million, or \$0.01 per share-diluted related to higher non-service related pension expenses in the second quarter of 2012 compared with 2011. Excluding the impact of business realignment and impairment charges, business acquisition costs and non-service related pension expenses, earnings per share-diluted increased \$0.10 per share, or 17.9%, in 2012 compared with 2011.

Results of Operations - First Six Months 2012 vs. First Six Months 2011

Net Sales

Net sales increased 8.9% for the first six months of 2012 over the comparable period of 2011 due primarily to net price realization of 8.7%. The increase was partially offset by sales volume declines of 0.5% as well as the impact of unfavorable foreign currency exchange rates of 0.8%. Excluding the Brookside acquisition, net sales for our businesses outside of the U.S. increased approximately 8.3% in 2012 compared with 2011, reflecting net price realization and sales volume increases, particularly for our focus markets in Mexico, Brazil and China. Net sales attributable to Brookside contributed 1.5% to the increase in net sales.

Key Marketplace Metrics

For the year-to-date period ended June 16, 2012, consumer takeaway increased 6.1% compared with the same period of 2011. Market share in measured channels increased 0.3 share points in the year-to-date period ended June 16, 2012 compared with the same period of 2011. Consumer takeaway and the change in market share are provided for measured channels of distribution accounting for approximately 90% of our U.S. confectionery retail business. These channels of distribution primarily include food, drug, mass merchandisers, including Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., and convenience stores.

Cost of Sales and Gross Margin

Cost of sales increased by approximately 6.9% in the first six months of 2012 primarily due to higher input and supply chain costs, along with the impact of an unfavorable sales mix, which increased cost of sales by about 6.0%. An increase in cost of sales of 1.6% resulted from the Brookside acquisition. Supply chain productivity improvements reduced cost of sales by approximately 2.5%. Business realignment and impairment charges of \$32.9 million were included in cost of sales in the first six months of 2012 which increased cost of sales by approximately 1.1% compared with the first six months of 2011. Business realignment and impairment charges included in cost of sales of \$13.9 million were recorded during the comparable period of 2011.

Gross margin increased by 1.1 percentage points for the first six months of 2012 primarily as a result of price realization and supply chain productivity improvements, which together improved gross margin by 4.9 percentage points. These improvements were partially offset by higher input and supply chain costs of approximately 3.1 percentage points. The impact of higher business realignment and impairment charges recorded in the first six months of 2012 as compared with the same period of 2011 reduced gross margin by 0.7 percentage points.

Selling, Marketing and Administrative

Selling, marketing and administrative expenses increased by 10.1% in the first six months of 2012 primarily due to increased advertising and marketing research expenses, higher employee-related expenses, increased incentive compensation costs and expenses associated with business acquisitions. These increases were partially offset by lower costs in 2012 associated with legal fees and contingencies compared with the first six months of 2011. Advertising costs in the first six months of 2012 increased by 12.1% from the same period in 2011.

Business realignment charges of \$1.6 million were included in selling, marketing and administrative expenses in the first six months of 2012. Business realignment charges of \$2.2 million were included in selling, marketing and administrative expenses in the first six months of 2011.

Business Realignment and Impairment Charges (Credits)

Business realignment and impairment charges of \$8.1 million associated with the Next Century program were recorded in the first six months of 2012. The 2012 charges were primarily associated with the relocation and start up of production lines.

Net pre-tax business realignment and impairment credits of \$8.1 million were recorded in the first six months of 2011 associated with Next Century program. The 2011 credits were primarily associated with a reduction of employee separation expense of \$10.2 million, partially offset by asset retirement costs.

Income Before Interest and Income Taxes and EBIT Margin

EBIT increased in the first six months of 2012 compared with the first six months of 2011 as a result of higher gross profit, partially offset by higher selling, marketing and administrative expenses. Net pre-tax business realignment and impairment charges of \$42.6 million were recorded in the first six months of 2012. Net pre-tax business realignment and impairment credits of \$7.9 million were recorded in the first six months of 2011.

EBIT margin increased from 17.5% for the first six months of 2011 to 17.7% for the first six months of 2012 due to higher gross margin, substantially offset by the impact of higher business realignment and impairment charges in 2012.

Interest Expense, Net

Net interest expense was slightly higher in the first six months of 2012 than the comparable period of 2011, primarily reflecting increased interest expense associated with higher short-term borrowings, partially offset by an increase in capitalized interest.

Income Taxes and Effective Tax Rate

Our effective income tax rate was 34.2% for the first six months of 2012 compared with 36.5% for the first six months of 2011. The lower effective income tax rate for the first six months of 2012 primarily resulted from adjustments associated with the conclusion of income tax audits for 2007 and 2008 during the second quarter. Excluding the impact of tax rates associated with business realignment and impairment charges, we expect our income tax rate for the full year 2012 to be about 35.0%.

Net Income and Net Income Per Share

Earnings per share-diluted for the first six months of 2012 were \$1.46 as compared with \$1.26 for the first six months of 2011. Net income was reduced by \$27.0 million, or \$0.12 per share-diluted, in the first six months of 2012 as a result of business realignment and impairment charges. Net income was reduced by \$4.7 million, or \$0.02 per share-diluted, in the first six months of 2012 as a result of closing and integration costs for the Brookside acquisition. Net income was reduced by \$5.3 million, or \$0.02 per share-diluted related to higher non-service related pension expenses in the first six months of 2012 compared with 2011. Excluding the impact of business realignment and impairment charges, business acquisition costs and non-service related pension expenses, earnings per share-diluted increased \$0.33 per share, or 25.6%, in 2012 compared with 2011.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Historically, our major source of financing has been cash generated from operations. Domestic seasonal working capital needs, which typically peak during the summer months, generally have been met by utilizing cash on hand and issuing commercial paper. Commercial paper also may be issued, from time to time, to finance ongoing business transactions such as the repayment of long-term debt, business acquisitions and for other general corporate purposes. During the first six months of 2012, cash and cash equivalents decreased by \$103.9 million to \$589.8 million.

Cash provided from operations, cash on hand at the beginning of the period, short-term borrowings and other cash inflows, primarily associated with the exercise of stock options, during the first six months of 2012 were sufficient to fund the repurchase of Common Stock of \$218.3 million, business acquisitions of \$172.9 million, capital additions and capitalized software expenditures of \$147.8 million and dividend payments of \$167.1 million.

Net cash provided from operating activities was \$314.2 million in 2012 and \$286.7 million in 2011. The increase was primarily the result of the change in cash provided from (used by) other assets and liabilities and higher net income in 2012, partially offset by cash used by working capital. Cash used by changes in other assets and liabilities was \$28.0 million for the first six months of 2012 compared with cash used of \$108.3 million for the same period of 2011. The decrease in the amount of cash used by other assets and liabilities from 2011 to 2012 primarily reflected the effect of hedging transactions of \$125.0 million and incentive compensation of \$25.2 million, partially offset by the impact of business realignment and impairment charges of \$34.7 million and the timing of payments associated with selling and marketing programs and payroll. Cash used by working capital was \$121.3 million in 2012 compared with \$3.6 million in 2011. The increase in cash used by working capital was principally related to changes in raw material and finished goods inventories in 2012 compared with 2011, along with an increase in accounts receivable resulting from higher sales in 2012 compared with 2011. Changes in accounts payable in 2012 compared with 2011, primarily associated with capital and manufacturing expenditures, also contributed to the higher cash used by working capital. During the first quarter 2012, the Company acquired Brookside for approximately \$172.9 million. Also during the first six months of 2012, the Company loaned \$16.0 million to an affiliate to finance the expansion of its manufacturing capacity.

Interest paid was \$49.2 million during the first six months of 2012 versus \$47.7 million for the comparable period of 2011. The increase in interest paid in 2012 was due to additional short-term debt. Income taxes paid were \$218.2 million during the first six months of 2012 versus \$193.7 million for the comparable period of 2011. The increase in taxes paid in 2012 was primarily related to the impact of higher annualized taxable income in 2012 compared with 2011.

The ratio of current assets to current liabilities was 1.4:1.0 as of July 1, 2012 and 1.7:1.0 as of December 31, 2011.

The capitalization ratio (total short-term and long-term debt as a percent of stockholders' equity, short-term and long-term debt) decreased to 65% as of July 1, 2012 from 68% as of December 31, 2011.

Generally, our short-term borrowings are in the form of commercial paper or bank loans with an original maturity of three months or less. However, during the first six months of 2012 there were no commercial paper borrowings.

Outlook

The outlook section contains a number of forward-looking statements, all of which are based on current expectations. Actual results may differ materially. Refer to the Safe Harbor Statement below as well as Risk Factors and other information contained in our 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K for information concerning the key risks to achieving future performance goals.

Our results for the first six months of 2012 were strong and we expect to continue our marketplace momentum. The economic environment is expected to continue to be challenging during the remainder of 2012. We will continue to remain focused on building brands in both the U.S. and key international markets and will make the necessary investments to ensure that we are positioned to grow our brands and manage challenges. We have planned merchandising and programming events during the remainder of the year and will work closely with retail customers and monitor our brand performance. We will continue with the distribution and rollout of Jolly Rancher Crunch 'N Chew candy, Rolo minis, Ice Breakers Duo mints and Hershey's Simple Pleasures candy.

Advertising expense increased 12.1% in the first six months of 2012, compared with the first six months of 2011. For the full year, we expect advertising to increase low-double digits on a percentage basis versus the prior year, supporting core brands in both the U.S. and key international markets, new product launches, and new advertising campaigns on the Jolly Rancher and Rolo brands.

Excluding the Brookside acquisition, we expect organic sales volume growth to accelerate in the second half of the year and be up for the full-year 2012. Including a 1.5 percentage point benefit from net sales for Brookside at current exchange rates, we expect full-year net sales growth of about 7% to 9%, including the impact of foreign currency exchange rates. Our new long-term target for net sales growth is 5% to 7%.

In 2012, the Company expects reported earnings per share-diluted of \$2.88 to \$2.98. Reported earnings per share-diluted includes anticipated business realignment and impairment charges of \$0.16 to \$0.19 per share-diluted related to the Next Century program and non-service related pension expenses of \$0.05 per share-diluted. Reported gross margin, reported EBIT margin and reported earnings per share-diluted will be impacted by these charges and expenses in addition to closing and integration costs related to the Brookside acquisition estimated at \$0.04 to \$0.05 per share-diluted. We now expect reported gross margin to increase from 120 to 130 basis points in 2012.

We do not expect a material change to our full-year inflation outlook. We continue to expect that input costs in 2012 will be higher than last year. As a result of our strong results for the first six months and further visibility into our full-year cost structure, we now expect adjusted gross margin expansion of 100 to 120 basis points compared with last year, driven by better than expected net price realization in the first six months of the year, along with productivity and cost savings. Therefore, considering our results for the first six months and planned investments in market research, category management and selling capabilities during the remainder of the year, particularly in our international markets, we now expect adjusted earnings per share-diluted for 2012 to increase 12% to 14% compared with our new long-term growth target of 8% to 10%.

NOTE: In the Outlook above, the Company has provided income measures excluding certain items, in addition to net income determined in accordance with GAAP. These non-GAAP financial measures are used in evaluating results of operations for internal purposes. These non-GAAP measures are not intended to replace the presentation of financial results in accordance with GAAP. Rather, the Company believes exclusion of such items provides additional information to investors to facilitate the comparison of past and present operations.

In 2011, the Company recorded GAAP charges of \$49.2 million, or \$0.13 per share-diluted, attributable to the Next Century program and the global supply chain transformation program. Additionally, in the third quarter of 2011, the Company recorded a pre-tax gain of \$17.0 million, or \$0.05 per share-diluted, from the sale of trademark licensing rights. Non-service related pension expense of \$2.8 million, or \$0.01 per share-diluted, was recorded in 2011.

In 2012, the Company expects acquisition and integration costs related to the Brookside acquisition to be \$0.04 to \$0.05 per share-diluted. The Company also expects to record total GAAP charges of about \$55 million to \$65 million, or \$0.16 to \$0.19 per share-diluted, attributable to the Next Century program. Non-service related pension expenses are expected to be \$19.0 million, or \$0.05 per share-diluted in 2012.

Below is a reconciliation of 2011 and projected 2012 earnings per share-diluted in accordance with GAAP to non-GAAP 2011 adjusted earnings per share-diluted and projected adjusted earnings per share-diluted for 2012:

| | 2011 | 2012 (Projected) |
|---|--------|------------------|
| Reported EPS-Diluted | \$2.74 | \$2.88 - \$2.98 |
| Acquisition closing and integration charges | — | 0.04 - 0.05 |
| Gain on sale of trademark licensing rights | (0.05 |) — |
| Total Business Realignment and Impairment Charges | 0.13 | 0.16 - 0.19 |
| Non-service related pension expenses | 0.01 | 0.05 |
| Adjusted EPS-Diluted | \$2.83 | \$3.17 - \$3.23 |

Outlook for Project Next Century

In June 2010, we announced the Next Century program as part of our ongoing efforts to create an advantaged supply chain and competitive cost structure. We now expect total pre-tax charges and non-recurring project implementation costs for the Next Century program of \$160 million to \$180 million. The total expected cost for the Next Century program does not include a possible pension settlement loss if substantial lump sum withdrawals by employees retiring or leaving the Company are made during the remainder of the year. Possible pension settlement losses would result in a non-cash charge for the Company.

During 2012, we expect to record \$55 million to \$65 million in program charges. During 2012, we expect capital expenditures for the Next Century program to be approximately \$65 million to \$70 million. Depreciation and amortization for 2012 is estimated to be \$195 million to \$205 million, excluding accelerated depreciation of \$15 million to \$20 million related to the Next Century program. When fully implemented, the Next Century program is expected to provide annual cost savings from efficiency improvements of \$65 million to \$80 million.

Safe Harbor Statement

We are subject to changing economic, competitive, regulatory and technological risks and uncertainties because of the nature of our operations. In connection with the “safe harbor” provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, we note the following factors that, among others, could cause future results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements, expectations and assumptions that we have discussed directly or implied in this report. Many of the forward-looking statements contained in this report may be identified by the use of words such as “intend,” “believe,” “expect,” “anticipate,” “should,” “planned,” “projected,” “estimated,” and “potential,” among others. The factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from the results projected in our forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to the following:

- Issues or concerns related to the quality and safety of our products, ingredients or packaging could cause a product recall and/or result in harm to the Company’s reputation, negatively impacting our operating results;
- Increases in raw material and energy costs, along with the availability of adequate supplies of raw materials could affect future financial results;
- Price increases may not be sufficient to offset cost increases and maintain profitability, or may result in sales volume declines associated with pricing elasticity;
- Market demand for new and existing products could decline;
- Increased marketplace competition could hurt our business;
- Disruption to our supply chain could impair our ability to produce or deliver our finished products, resulting in a negative impact on our operating results;
- Our financial results may be adversely impacted by the failure to successfully identify, execute or integrate acquisitions, divestitures and joint ventures;
- Changes in governmental laws and regulations could increase our costs and liabilities or impact demand for our products;
- Political, economic, and/or financial market conditions could negatively impact our financial results;
- Risks and uncertainties related to our international operations and related growth targets could adversely impact our business;
- Disruptions, failures or security breaches of our information technology infrastructure could have a negative impact on our operations;
- Future developments related to the investigation by government regulators of alleged pricing practices by members of the confectionery industry could impact our reputation, the regulatory environment under which we operate, and our operating results;
- Pension costs or funding requirements could increase at a higher than anticipated rate;
- Implementation of our Project Next Century program may not occur within the anticipated timeframe and/or may exceed our cost estimates;
- Annual savings from initiatives to transform our supply chain and advance our value-enhancing strategy may be less than we expect; and
- Such other matters as discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for 2011.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

The potential net loss in fair value of interest rate swap agreements of ten percent resulting from a hypothetical near-term adverse change in market rates was \$10.9 million as of July 1, 2012. The potential net loss in fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts and options resulting from a hypothetical near-term adverse change in market rates of ten percent was \$11.7 million as of July 1, 2012 and was \$19.4 million as of December 31, 2011. The market risk resulting from a hypothetical adverse market price movement of ten percent associated with the estimated average fair value of net commodity positions decreased from \$41.3 million as of December 31, 2011, to \$15.4 million as of July 1, 2012. Market risk represents ten percent of the estimated average fair value of net commodity positions at four dates prior to the end of each period.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Disclosure controls and procedures are controls and other procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our reports filed or submitted under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our reports filed under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to management, including the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

As of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures, as required by Rule 13a-15 under the Exchange Act. This evaluation was carried out under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer. Based upon that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective. There has been no change during the most recent fiscal quarter in our internal control over financial reporting identified in connection with the evaluation that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

Items 1, 1A and 3 have been omitted as not applicable.

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

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

The Company did not purchase any shares of its Common Stock during the second quarter of 2012. In April 2011, our Board of Directors approved a new \$250 million share repurchase program. As of July 1, 2012, \$125.1 million remained available for repurchases of our Common Stock.

Item 4 - Reserved

Item 5 - Other Information

On August 7, 2012, the independent members of our Board of Directors, based on a recommendation from the Compensation and Executive Organization Committee of our Board, authorized our entering into an Executive Employment Agreement (the "Agreement") with John P. Bilbrey, our President and Chief Executive Officer. We entered into the Agreement effective as of that day.

The Agreement provides for Mr. Bilbrey's continued employment as President and Chief Executive Officer and for Mr. Bilbrey's continuing service as a member of the Board of Directors. The Agreement does not have a specified term; Mr. Bilbrey's employment is on an at-will basis.

The Agreement provides for continuation of Mr. Bilbrey's annual base salary and participation in the Company's annual incentive program. Mr. Bilbrey is entitled to continue to participate in the Company's long-term incentive program, retirement and benefit plans as in effect from time to time, on a basis consistent with our other senior executives, and in our Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan and Executive Benefits Protection Plan (Group 3A) ("EBPP 3A"), each as currently in effect.

In the event Mr. Bilbrey's employment is terminated by the Company without cause or he resigns for good reason (in each case as defined in the Agreement), Mr. Bilbrey will be entitled to a cash severance benefit equal to two times his then current base salary and annual incentive program target. He also will be entitled to receive vested benefits under the various plans and programs in which he participates, a pro rata payment of the annual incentive program award for the year of termination (based on actual performance for the year) and to continue certain welfare benefits. In the event of a termination after a change in control, Mr. Bilbrey will be eligible to receive benefits under the EBPP 3A. He is not entitled to an excise tax gross-up.

The Agreement subjects Mr. Bilbrey to certain non-competition and non-solicitation covenants and to compensation recovery (clawback) to the extent required by applicable law and regulations.

The forgoing description of the Agreement is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the Agreement, which is filed as Exhibit 10.1 to this Form 10-Q and is incorporated by reference.

Additional information regarding Mr. Bilbrey's compensation and our annual incentive program, long-term incentive program, Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan, EBPP 3A, and other plans and programs may be found in our Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 20, 2012, and in our Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 24, 2012.

Item 6 - Exhibits

The following items are attached or incorporated herein by reference:

| Exhibit Number | Description |
|-------------------|---|
| 10.1 | The Executive Employment Agreement between the Company and John P. Bilbrey, dated as of August 7, 2012, is attached hereto and filed as Exhibit 10.1. |
| 10.2 | The Company's Executive Benefits Protection Plan (Group 3A), Amended and Restated as of June 27, 2012, is attached hereto and filed as Exhibit 10.2. |
| 10.3 | The Company's Deferred Compensation Plan, Amended and Restated as of June 27, 2012, is attached hereto and filed as Exhibit 10.3. |
| 12.1 | Statement showing computation of ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the six months ended July 1, 2012 and July 3, 2011. |
| 31.1 | Certification of John P. Bilbrey, Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 31.2 | Certification of Humberto P. Alfonso, Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 32.1 | Certification of John P. Bilbrey, Chief Executive Officer, and Humberto P. Alfonso, Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 101.INS | XBRL Instance Document |
| 101.SCH | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema |
| 101.CAL | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase |
| 101.LAB | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase |
| 101.PRE | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase |
| 101.DEF | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase |

SIGNATURES

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

THE HERSHEY COMPANY
(Registrant)

Date: August 8, 2012

/s/Humberto P. Alfonso
Humberto P. Alfonso
Chief Financial Officer

Date: August 8, 2012

/s/Richard M. McConville
Richard M. McConville
Chief Accounting Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Exhibit 10.1 | The Company's Executive Employment Agreement with John P. Bilbrey, dated as of August 7, 2012 |
| Exhibit 10.2 | The Company's Executive Benefits Protection Plan (Group 3A), Amended and Restated as of June 27, 2012 |
| Exhibit 10.3 | The Company's Deferred Compensation Plan, Amended and Restated as of June 27, 2012 |
| Exhibit 12.1 | Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges |
| Exhibit 31.1 | Certification of John P. Bilbrey, Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| Exhibit 31.2 | Certification of Humberto P. Alfonso, Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| Exhibit 32.1 | Certification of John P. Bilbrey, Chief Executive Officer, and Humberto P. Alfonso, Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| Exhibit 101.INS | XBRL Instance Document |
| Exhibit 101.SCH | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema |
| Exhibit 101.CAL | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase |
| Exhibit 101.LAB | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase |
| Exhibit 101.PRE | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase |
| Exhibit 101.DEF | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase |