

Gildan Activewear Inc.  
Form 40-F  
February 25, 2016

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 40-F

- o Registration statement pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
- Or
- p Annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For Fiscal year ended: January 3, 2016  
File number: 01-14830

Commission

GILDAN ACTIVEWEAR INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Canada  
(Province or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

2200, 2250, 2300  
(Primary standard industrial classification code number, if applicable)

Not Applicable  
(I.R.S. employer identification number, if applicable)

600 de Maisonneuve Boulevard West, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 3J2, (514) 735-2023  
(Address and telephone number of registrant's principal executive office)

Gildan USA Inc., 1980 Clements Ferry Road, Charleston, SC 29492, (843) 606-3600  
(Name, address and telephone number of agent for service in the United States)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Shares	New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act: None

Edgar Filing: Gildan Activewear Inc. - Form 40-F

For annual reports, indicate by check mark the information filed with this form:

Annual Information Form  Audited Annual Financial  
Statements

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer's classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report:

Common Shares:

243,840,469

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act 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

---

GILDAN ACTIVEWEAR INC.  
ANNUAL INFORMATION FORM  
for the year ended January 3, 2016

February 25, 2016

---

GILDAN ACTIVEWEAR INC.

2015 ANNUAL INFORMATION FORM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
CORPORATE STRUCTURE	
Name, Address and Incorporation	4
Intercorporate Relationships	4
GENERAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE BUSINESS	
Recent Developments	5
Developments in Fiscal 2015	5
Developments in Fiscal 2014	7
Developments in Fiscal 2013	8
DESCRIPTION OF THE BUSINESS	
Business Overview	8
Risk Factors	21
Employees	21
DIVIDEND POLICY	21
CAPITAL STRUCTURE	22
MARKET FOR SECURITIES	23
DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS	24
AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE DISCLOSURE	28
LEGAL PROCEEDINGS	29
TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRAR	29
MATERIAL CONTRACTS	30
INTERESTS OF EXPERTS	30
CAUTION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	30
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	32
APPENDIX A – MANDATE OF THE AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE	33



This Annual Information Form is dated February 25, 2016 and, except as otherwise indicated, the information contained herein is given as of February 25, 2016.

Unless otherwise indicated, all dollar amounts set forth herein are expressed in U.S. dollars and all financial information set forth herein is prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”), as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (“IASB”).

Unless otherwise indicated, all references to share prices, trading volumes and per share measures are adjusted, on a retroactive basis, to reflect all stock splits.

In this Annual Information Form, “Gildan”, the “Company” or the words “we”, “our” and “us” refer, depending on the context, either to Gildan Activewear Inc. or to Gildan Activewear Inc. together with its subsidiaries.

The information appearing in the extracts of the documents listed below and specifically referred to in this Annual Information Form is incorporated herein by reference:

- Audited Consolidated Financial Statements as at and for the fiscal year ended January 3, 2016 (the “2015 Financial Statements”);
- Management’s Discussion and Analysis for the fiscal year ended January 3, 2016 (the “2015 Annual MD&A”); and
- The latest Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders and Management Information Circular filed on SEDAR.

The foregoing documents are available on the SEDAR website at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com), on the EDGAR website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) and on the Company’s website at [www.gildan.com/corporate](http://www.gildan.com/corporate).

This Annual Information Form contains certain forward-looking statements that are based on Gildan’s current expectations, estimates, projections and assumptions and that were made by Gildan in light of its experience and its perception of historical trends. Results indicated in forward-looking statements may differ materially from the actual results. Please refer to the cautionary statement on pages 30 to 32 of this Annual Information Form for further explanation.

## CORPORATE STRUCTURE

## Name, Address and Incorporation

We were incorporated on May 8, 1984 pursuant to the Canada Business Corporations Act under the name of Textiles Gildan Inc. At our inception, we focused our activities on the manufacture of textiles and produced and sold finished fabric as a principal product-line. In 1992, we redefined our operating strategy and, by 1994, our operations focused exclusively on the manufacture and sale of activewear in the screenprint channel. In March 1995, we changed our name to Gildan Activewear Inc./Les Vêtements de Sports Gildan Inc. In 2005, we changed our French name to Les Vêtements de Sport Gildan Inc.

In June 1998, in conjunction with a planned initial public offering, we filed Articles of Amendment to, among other things, remove the private company restrictions contained in our charter documents and change the structure of our authorized share capital. On June 17, 1998, we completed our initial public offering of an aggregate of 3,000,000 Class A Subordinate Voting shares at Cdn\$10.29 per share, on a pre-split basis, for total gross proceeds of Cdn\$30,880,500.

On February 2, 2005, we filed Articles of Amendment in order to, among other things, (i) create a new class of common shares (the “Common Shares”), (ii) change each of the issued and outstanding Class A Subordinate Voting shares into one of the newly-created Common Shares, and (iii) remove the Class B Multiple Voting shares and the Class A Subordinate Voting shares as well as the rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions attaching thereto. On February 15, 2011, we filed Reinstated Articles of Incorporation in order to change the number of directors to a minimum of five and a maximum of twelve as determined by the directors from time to time and to appoint one or more directors in accordance with the law governing the Company.

Our principal executive offices and registered office are located at 600 de Maisonneuve Boulevard West, 33rd Floor, Montréal, Québec, Canada H3A 3J2, and our main telephone number at that address is (514) 735-2023.

## Intercorporate Relationships

The following table indicates our principal subsidiaries, their jurisdiction of incorporation and the percentage of voting securities that we beneficially own or over which we exercise direct or indirect control:

Subsidiary	Jurisdiction of Incorporation	Percentage of Voting Securities or Partnership Interests that Gildan held as at February 25, 2016
Gildan Activewear SRL	Barbados	100%
Gildan USA Inc.	Delaware	100%
Gildan Yarns, LLC	Delaware	100%
Gildan Honduras Properties, S. de R.L.	Honduras	100%
Gildan Apparel (Canada) LP	Ontario	100%
Gildan Hosiery Rio Nance, S. de R.L.	Honduras	100%
Gildan Activewear (UK) Limited	United Kingdom	100%
Gildan Mayan Textiles, S. de R.L.	Honduras	100%
Gildan Activewear Honduras Textile Company, S. de R.L.	Honduras	100%
Gildan Activewear (Eden) Inc.	North Carolina	100%
A.K.H., S. de R. L.	Honduras	100%





The subsidiaries that have been omitted do not represent individually more than 10% of the consolidated assets and 10% of the consolidated revenue of Gildan, or in the aggregate more than 20% of the total consolidated assets and the consolidated revenue as at and for the year ended January 3, 2016.

## GENERAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE BUSINESS

The following section describes how our business has evolved in the last three completed fiscal years and lists key events that have influenced the development of our business.

### Recent Developments

- On February 24, 2016, the Company announced that it had received approval from the Toronto Stock Exchange (“TSX”) to implement a normal course issuer bid (“NCIB”) to purchase for cancellation up to 12,192,814 Common Shares, representing approximately 5% of the Company’s issued and outstanding Common Shares. As of February 19, 2016, the Company had 243,856,289 Common Shares issued and outstanding.

Gildan is authorized to make purchases under the bid during the period from February 26, 2016 to February 25, 2017 in accordance with the requirements of the TSX. Purchases will be made by means of open market transactions on both the TSX and the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”), or alternative trading systems, if eligible, or by such other means as the TSX, the NYSE or a securities regulatory authority may permit, including by private agreements under an issuer bid exemption order issued by securities regulatory authorities in Canada. Under the bid, Gildan may purchase up to a maximum of 169,767 shares daily through TSX facilities, which represents 25% of the average daily trading volume on the TSX for the most recently completed six calendar months. The price to be paid by Gildan for any Common Shares will be the market price at the time of the acquisition, plus brokerage fees, and purchases made under an issuer bid exemption order will be at a discount to the prevailing market price in accordance with the terms of the order.

- On February 23, 2016, Gildan’s Board of Directors approved a 20% increase in the amount of the current quarterly dividend and declared a cash dividend of \$0.078 per Common Share payable on April 4, 2016 to shareholders of record on March 10, 2016.

### Developments in Fiscal 2015 (October 6, 2014 to January 3, 2016)

- Effective October 6, 2014, the Company changed its year-end to the Sunday closest to December 31, rather than the first Sunday following September 28. The change in year-end recognizes that the seasonality of the overall consolidated sales revenues for the Company is changing due to the increasing importance of the Branded Apparel segment. The Company’s business planning cycle became more aligned with the calendar year, and this change provided better visibility on retail program placements and cotton fixations. In addition, the new year-end is now better aligned with Gildan’s industry comparables. For purposes of its regulatory filings, the Company reported results for the fifteen-month transition period of October 6, 2014 through January 3, 2016. The Company’s first twelve-month fiscal year on a calendar basis began on January 4, 2016 and ends on January 1, 2017.
- In December 2014, the Company increased its bank credit facility from \$800 million to \$1 billion and extended the maturity date to April 2020 from January 2019, in order to provide the Company with financing flexibility to initiate an NCIB as well as to pursue potential future acquisition opportunities. The terms and conditions of the amended bank credit facility agreement are substantially unchanged.
- On December 3, 2014, Gildan’s Board of Directors approved a 20% increase in the amount of the quarterly dividend and declared a cash dividend of \$0.13 per Common Share (on a pre-split basis, or \$0.065 per Common Share on a

post-split basis) payable at each quarter of fiscal 2015 to shareholders of record.

- On December 4, 2014, the Company received approval from the TSX to implement a NCIB beginning December 8, 2014 and expiring December 7, 2015 to purchase for cancellation up to 6.1 million outstanding

Common Shares (on a pre-split basis), representing approximately 5% of the Company's issued and outstanding Common Shares. As of November 30, 2014, the Company had 122,478,794 Common Shares issued and outstanding (on a pre-split basis). During the fifteen-month period ended January 3, 2016, the Company repurchased and cancelled a total of 1,525,000 Common Shares (on a pre-split basis) under the NCIB by way of private agreements with an arm's length third party seller.

- In December 2014, the Company implemented major strategic pricing actions for its Printwear business to reinforce its leadership position in the industry. The Company lowered base selling prices significantly and simplified its discount structure in order to be responsive to distributors and enhance their ability and visibility to plan their business, and position the Company to drive unit sales volume and earnings growth in calendar 2015 and beyond. The selling price reductions reflected the pass through of a portion of the expected cost savings from the Company's investments in new yarn-spinning facilities and other capital investment projects. The selling price reductions also reflected the reduction in the price of cotton that occurred in the latter half of calendar 2014, although the Company only began consuming year-over-year lower cost cotton in its cost of sales in the third fiscal quarter of 2015.
- Effective February 2, 2015, Donald C. Berg and Anne Martin-Vachon were appointed to the Company's Board of Directors. Mr. Berg is the Chief Executive Officer at the Comfy Cow Inc., a privately held Louisville, Kentucky-based purveyor of specialty gourmet ice cream through its chain of retail shops as well as fine grocery stores in the Midwest. Mr. Berg holds a Master of Business Administration from the Wharton School of Business and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in accounting and business administration from Augustana College in Illinois. Ms. Martin-Vachon is currently a consultant in the beauty and cosmetics industry, with a focus on strategy, brand management and expanding international markets. Ms. Martin-Vachon holds a Master of Business Administration from McGill University and earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration at the University of Québec in Trois-Rivières. With the addition of Mr. Berg and Ms. Martin-Vachon, Gildan's Board of Directors now comprises nine members, of which eight are independent of management.
- On February 4, 2015, the Board of Directors of the Company approved a share dividend of one Common Share for each issued and outstanding Common Share of the Company, which had the same effect as a two-for-one stock split of the Company's outstanding Common Shares. The Company's share dividend on the Common Shares was paid on March 27, 2015 to shareholders of record at the close of business on March 20, 2015 and was designated as an "eligible dividend" for Canadian tax purposes.
- During fiscal 2015, the Company signed a celebrity endorsement agreement with Blake Shelton, "Five-time and reigning CMA Male Vocalist of the Year" and coach of NBC's reality competition series, "The Voice". As part of the endorsement agreement, Mr. Shelton is supporting and promoting Gildan® branded products through different consumer initiatives.
- As part of its strategy to gain market penetration in the fashion basics segment of the North American printwear channel, the Company added the Comfort Colors® brand to its Printwear brand portfolio through the acquisition, on March 2, 2015, of substantially all of the operating assets of a company operating under the Comfort Colors trade name for a total cash consideration of approximately \$103 million. The acquired company is a leading supplier of garment-dyed undecorated basic T-shirts and sweatshirts for the North American printwear channel. The Comfort Colors® brand is highly recognized among consumers purchasing from college bookstores, specialty retail stores, and destination and resort shops. The addition of the Comfort Colors® brand complements the Company's brand offering and positioning within the fashion basics segment of the U.S. printwear channel and is contributing to our further penetration in this product segment, with strong unit sales volumes of Comfort Colors® products during fiscal 2015.

-

During fiscal 2015, the Company continued to make significant progress in its yarn spinning initiative. Production ramp-up of the Company's new open-end yarn-spinning facility in Salisbury, NC was essentially completed and production began in the Company's largest new yarn-spinning facility for the production of

ring-spun yarn in Mocksville, NC. The Mocksville facility is expected to be ramped up during 2016. In the second half of calendar 2015, the Company started to benefit from manufacturing cost savings related to its investments in yarn-spinning and other capital projects, which are expected to continue through 2016 and 2017.

- On August 17, 2015, Rhodri J. Harries was appointed Executive Vice-President, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer succeeding retiring Executive Vice-President, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Laurence G. Sellyn. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Harries was the Chief Financial Officer of Rio Tinto Alcan since 2014, where he previously held the position of Chief Commercial Officer from 2009 to 2013. Mr. Harries joined Alcan in Montreal in 2004 as Vice President and Corporate Treasurer and remained with the company following its acquisition by Rio Tinto in 2007. Prior to joining Alcan, Mr. Harries spent 15 years in North America, Asia and Europe with General Motors, where he held successive positions of increasing responsibility in corporate finance, treasury and business development.

#### Developments in Fiscal 2014

- On November 20, 2013, Gildan's Board of Directors approved a 20% increase in the amount of the quarterly dividend and declared a cash dividend of \$0.108 per Common Share (on a pre-split basis, or \$0.054 per Common Share on a post-split basis) payable at each quarter of fiscal 2014 to shareholders of record.
- Effective November 1, 2013, Mr. Russ Hagey was appointed to the Company's Board of Directors. Mr. Hagey is a Senior Partner and the Worldwide Chief Talent Officer of Bain & Company, Inc., one of the world's leading management consulting firms.
- The Company made significant progress on its yarn-spinning manufacturing initiative, which it began during fiscal 2013. The refurbishment and modernization of the yarn-spinning facilities in Clarkton, NC and Cedartown, GA was completed. Operations at its two new facilities in Salisbury, NC began in fiscal 2014. The Company also began construction of a new yarn-spinning facility in Mocksville, NC.
- During fiscal 2014, the Company announced plans for further textile capacity expansion. The Company plans to construct a new textile facility, Rio Nance 6, which will be located at the Company's Rio Nance complex in Honduras. Production at the new facility is expected to begin in the fourth quarter of 2016. The Company also announced plans to construct its first facility in Costa Rica, strategically located for duty-free, quota-free access to the Company's major markets in the U.S. The facility will be located in the province of Guanacaste in north-western Costa Rica, close to the Company's sewing plants in Nicaragua and accessible to ports on both the eastern and western coasts of the country. Under the Company's current plan, the Costa Rica facility is not expected to be developed until after 2018.
- During fiscal 2014, the Company completed the production ramp-up of its Rio Nance 1 facility, which was modernized and refurbished during fiscal 2013 to improve its cost efficiency.
- On July 7, 2014, the Company acquired substantially all of the operating assets and assumed certain liabilities of Doris Inc. ("Doris"), a marketer and manufacturer of branded sheer hosiery, legwear and shapewear products to retailers in Canada and the United States, for cash consideration of \$101.7 million, plus additional contingent payments of up to \$9.4 million. The acquisition provided Gildan with an established sales organization and a platform for retail distribution in Canada. In addition, the acquisition further enhanced and expanded the Company's consumer brand portfolio within its existing U.S. retail distribution network and further broadened the Company's retail distribution network in the United States due to Doris' strong presence in the food and drug channel. The acquisition also represented a first step in building a ladies' intimate apparel platform over time.



- Effective October 1, 2014, the Company extended its worldwide license for the Mossy Oak® brand for activewear, underwear and socks, providing exclusive licensing rights to Gildan for a term of ten years. The previous initial license agreement was for a three-year term.

#### Developments in Fiscal 2013

- On November 28, 2012, Gildan's Board of Directors approved a 20% increase in the amount of the quarterly dividend and declared a cash dividend of \$0.09 per Common Share (on a pre-split basis, or \$0.045 per Common Share on a post-split basis) payable at each quarter of fiscal 2013 to shareholders of record.
- During the third quarter of fiscal 2013, the Company began shipment of its first major Gildan® branded underwear program to a U.S. national mass-market retailer. Initial retailer sales of the Gildan® underwear products exceeded the Company's expectations.
- During fiscal 2013, the Company completed the production ramp-up of its Rio Nance 5 textile facility.
- During fiscal 2013, the Company began to execute on its significant yarn-spinning manufacturing initiative in order to support its projected sales growth and planned capacity expansion and to continue to pursue its business model of investing in global vertically-integrated low-cost manufacturing technology. The Company acquired the remaining 50% interest in CanAm Yarns, LLC ("CanAm"), its jointly-controlled entity, for cash consideration of \$11.1 million. The entity was subsequently renamed Gildan Yarns, LLC ("Gildan Yarns"). Gildan Yarns encompasses all of the Company's yarn-spinning operations, which, in addition to the former CanAm facilities include an investment of close to \$400 million to develop three new yarn-spinning facilities over the next three years. These additional facilities are comprised of two facilities in Salisbury, NC and one facility in Mocksville, NC.
- On June 21, 2013, the Company acquired substantially all of the assets and assumed certain liabilities of New Buffalo Shirt Factory Inc. ("New Buffalo") and its operating affiliate in Honduras, for cash consideration of \$5.8 million. New Buffalo operates as a screenprinter and apparel decorator for the Company's global lifestyle and athletic brand customers and the acquisition is intended to complement and support the further development of the Company's relationships with the major consumer brands which it supplies.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE BUSINESS

##### Business Overview

Gildan is a leading manufacturer and marketer of quality branded basic family apparel, including T-shirts, fleece, sport shirts, underwear, socks, hosiery, and shapewear. We market our products through two main distribution channels. We sell our products in printwear markets in the U.S. and Canada, as well as in Europe, Asia-Pacific and Latin America. Our other main channel of distribution is in retail markets in the U.S. and Canada, where our products are sold to a broad spectrum of retailers. We market our products under a diversified portfolio of Company-owned brands, including the Gildan®, Gold Toe®, Anvil® and Comfort Colors® brands and brand extensions, as well as the Secret®, Silks® and Therapy Plus™ brands. The Company also has the U.S. sock license for Under Armour®, and licenses for the Mossy Oak® and New Balance® brands. The Company also manufactures for select leading global athletic and lifestyle consumer brands.

We manufacture the vast majority of our products in vertically-integrated, large-scale manufacturing facilities which we own and operate. As a vertical manufacturer, employing over 42,000 employees worldwide, we control essentially all aspects of our production processes and operate with a strong commitment to industry-leading labour and environmental practices at all of our facilities. Our manufacturing operations are primarily located in Central America,

the Caribbean Basin, the United States and Bangladesh, all of which are strategically positioned to efficiently service the quick replenishment needs of our customers.



## Strategy and Objectives

Our growth strategy comprises the following four initiatives:

### 1. Continue to pursue additional printwear market penetration and opportunities

We intend to continue to leverage our vertical manufacturing platform, cost advantage and distributor reach to grow in all product categories of the North American printwear market, including basics and the faster growing fashion basics and sports performance categories, where our participation in these categories has not been as extensive as in the basics category. We are targeting further market penetration in printwear with brands well-positioned to compete in each product category and through new product introductions. In the basics category we market our products under the Gildan® brand, the leading brand in this category. In the fashion basics segment we market our products under the Anvil® brand featuring a more contemporary line of ring-spun products incorporating more fashion oriented styles. We also sell products under the Comfort Colors® brand featuring garment-dyed activewear products allowing us to achieve a worn-in and weathered look and a soft and comfortable feel. In the sports performance category, we market our products under our Gildan Performance® brand featuring moisture wicking and anti-microbial properties for long-lasting comfort and performance, as well as the licensed New Balance® brand. We are pursuing growth with new product introductions, including softer fabrics and blends, expanding our global product offering in performance garments, ladies styles, sport shirts and workwear.

We also intend to continue to expand our presence in international markets such as Europe, Asia-Pacific and Latin America, which currently represent less than 10% of our total consolidated net sales, through product extensions, expanded distribution and by leveraging our brands.

### 2. Continue penetration of retail market as a full-line supplier of branded family apparel

We continue to leverage our existing core competencies, successful business model and competitive strengths to grow our sales to North American retailers. As in the printwear channel, success factors in penetrating the retail channel include consistent quality, competitive pricing and fast and flexible replenishment, together with a commitment to sound practices in corporate social responsibility and environmental sustainability. Consumer brand recognition and appeal are also important factors in the retail market. We intend to leverage our current distribution with retailers, our manufacturing scale and expertise, and our ongoing marketing investment to support the further development of Company-owned and licensed brands to create additional sales growth opportunities in activewear, underwear, socks and sheer hosiery. Although we are primarily focused on further developing our Company-owned brands, we are also focused on building our relationships and growing our sales as a supply chain partner to a small number of select global athletic and lifestyle brands.

### 3. Continue to increase capacity to support our planned sales growth and generate manufacturing and distribution cost reductions

We plan to continue to increase capacity to support our planned sales growth. We are continuing to seek to optimize our cost structure by adding new low-cost capacity, investing in projects for cost-reduction and further vertical-integration, as well as for additional product quality enhancement. A more detailed description of the Company's capacity expansion and cost reduction initiatives is contained under the heading "Manufacturing" in this Annual Information Form.

### 4. Pursue complementary acquisitions

In order to enhance our organic growth, we will continue to seek complementary strategic acquisition opportunities which meet our criteria. We have developed criteria in evaluating acquisition opportunities around three main considerations: (1) strategic fit; (2) ease of integration; and (3) financial criteria, including return on investment thresholds, based on our risk-adjusted cost of capital.

## Our Operating Segments

The Company manages and reports its business under two operating segments, Printwear and Branded Apparel, each of which is a reportable segment for financial reporting purposes. Each segment has its own management that is accountable and responsible for the segment's operations, results and financial performance. These segments are principally organized by the major customer markets they serve. The following summary describes the operations of each of the Company's operating segments:

### Printwear segment

The Printwear segment, headquartered in Christ Church, Barbados, designs, manufactures, sources, markets and distributes undecorated activewear products in large quantities primarily to wholesale distributors in printwear markets in over 30 countries across North America, Europe, Asia-Pacific and Latin America. Through our Printwear segment, we sell mainly undecorated activewear products ("blanks") primarily to wholesale distributors who sell our products to screenprinters and embroiderers, who in turn decorate the products with designs and logos and sell the imprinted activewear into a highly diversified range of end-use markets. These include educational institutions, athletic dealers, event merchandisers, promotional product distributors, charitable organizations, entertainment promoters, travel and tourism venues and retailers. Our activewear products are used in a variety of daily activities by individuals and have various applications, including work and school uniforms and athletic team wear, and for various other purposes to convey individual, group and team identity.

The following table summarizes the primary brands under which we market our products in the printwear channel:

Primary brands	Primary products
Gildan®	
Gildan Performance®	
Anvil®	Activewear: T-shirts, fleece,
Comfort Colors®	sport shirts
New Balance®(1)	

(1) Under license agreement for distribution rights in the U.S. and Canada.

### Branded Apparel segment

The Branded Apparel segment, headquartered in Charleston, South Carolina, designs, manufactures, sources, markets and distributes branded family apparel, which includes athletic, casual and dress socks, underwear, activewear, sheer hosiery, legwear and shapewear products which are sold to retailers in the United States and Canada. We market our products primarily under our Company-owned and licensed brands. Although the main focus of the Company's growth strategy is the continued development of its Company-owned brands, the Company is also pursuing the opportunity to grow its sales as a supply chain partner to a small number of targeted global athletic and lifestyle brands, for which we manufacture and decorate products.

The following table summarizes the current retail distribution of various product categories under Company-owned and licensed brands:

Brand	Primary products	Retail distribution channels
Gildan®	Socks, underwear, activewear	Mass-market, regional department stores, craft channel, food and drug
Gildan Platinum™	Socks, underwear, activewear	Regional department stores, national chains
Smart Basics®	Socks, underwear, activewear	Dollar store channel, food and drug
Gold Toe®	Socks, activewear	Department stores, national chains, price clubs
G®	Socks, underwear, activewear	Department stores, national chains
PowerSox®	Athletic socks	Sports specialty, national chains, department stores
GT a Gold Toe brand™	Socks	Mass-market
Silver Toe®	Socks	National chains
Signature Gold by Goldtoe™	Socks	Mass-market
All Pro®	Athletic socks	Mass-market
Under Armour® (1)	Athletic socks	Sports specialty, department stores
Mossy Oak® (2)	Socks, activewear, underwear, loungewear, thermals, fleece	Sports specialty, national chains, mass-market, price clubs, dollar store channel, department stores
Secret® *	Sheer/pantyhose, tights/leggings, shapewear, underwear, intimate accessories, socks	Mass-market, department stores, food and drug
Silks® *	Sheer/pantyhose, tights/leggings	Department stores, national chains, price clubs
Therapy Plus™	Legwear, foot solutions/socks	Mass-market, department stores, food and drug
Kushyfoot® *	Legwear, foot solutions/socks	Food and drug
Secret Silky™	Sheer/pantyhose	Food and drug

(1) Under license agreement for socks only – with exclusive distribution rights in the U.S.

(2) Under license agreement – with worldwide distribution rights and exclusivity for certain product categories.

\* Secret® and Silks® are registered trademarks in Canada only. Kushyfoot® is a registered trademark in the U.S. only.

## Competitive Environment

The markets for our products are highly competitive and are served by domestic and international manufacturers or suppliers. Competition is generally based upon price, with reliable quality and service also being critical requirements for success. Our competitive strengths include our expertise in building and operating large-scale, vertically-integrated, and strategically-located manufacturing hubs. Our capital investments in manufacturing allow us to operate efficiently and reduce costs, offer competitive pricing, maintain consistent product quality, and a reliable supply chain, which efficiently services replenishment programs with short production/delivery cycle times. Continued investment and innovations in our manufacturing processes have also allowed us to deliver enhanced product features, further improving the value proposition of our product offering to our customers. Consumer brand recognition and appeal are also important factors in the retail market. The Company is focused on further developing its brands and is continuing to make significant investments in advertising to support the Gildan® and Gold Toe® brands. Our commitment to leading environmental and social responsibility practices is also an area of investment for

the Company and an increasingly important factor for our customers.

#### Printwear segment

Our primary competitors in North America include major apparel manufacturers such as Fruit of the Loom, Inc. (“Fruit of the Loom”) and Russell Corporation (“Russell”), both subsidiaries of Berkshire Hathaway Inc. (“Berkshire”), as well as Hanesbrands Inc. (“Hanesbrands”). We also compete with smaller U.S.-based competitors, including Alstyle Apparel, a division of Ennis Corp., Delta Apparel Inc., American Apparel, Inc., Color Image Apparel, Inc., Next Level Apparel, Bella + Canvas, as well as Central American and Mexican manufacturers. In addition, we compete with private label brands sold by some of our customers. Competitors in the European printwear market include Fruit of the Loom and Russell, as well as competitors that do not have integrated manufacturing operations and source products from suppliers in Asia.

#### Branded Apparel segment

In the retail channel, we compete primarily with Hanesbrands, Berkshire subsidiaries, Fruit of the Loom, Russell and Garan Incorporated, as well as Renfro Corporation, Jockey International, Inc., Kayser Roth Corporation, and Spanx, Inc. In addition, we compete with brands of well-established U.S. fashion apparel and sportswear companies, as well as private label brands sold by our customers that source products for these brands primarily from Asian manufacturers.

#### Our Operations

##### Manufacturing

The vast majority of our products are manufactured in facilities that we own and operate. Our vertically-integrated manufacturing operations include capital-intensive yarn-spinning, textile, sock, and sheer hosiery manufacturing facilities, as well as labour-intensive sewing plants. At our yarn-spinning facilities, we convert cotton and other fibres into yarn. In our textile plants, we convert yarn into dyed and cut fabric, which is subsequently assembled into activewear and underwear garments at sewing facilities which we operate in owned or leased premises. In our integrated sock manufacturing facilities, we convert yarn into finished socks. The majority of our sock production does not require sewing as the equipment used in our facilities knit the entire sock with a seamless toe closing operation. Our manufacturing facility for sheer hosiery includes knitting, dyeing, and packaging capabilities.

Our textile, sock, and sewing operations are primarily based in our largest manufacturing hub in Central America and a second large hub in the Caribbean Basin which are strategically located to efficiently service the quick replenishment requirements of our markets. In Central America, at our Rio Nance complex in Honduras, we operate three large-scale vertically-integrated textile facilities, with an additional facility that is being developed in 2016, and two sock manufacturing facilities. We also operate an additional textile facility in Honduras, which we integrated as part of the acquisition of Anvil Holdings, Inc. (“Anvil”) in fiscal 2012. Our sewing facilities in Central America are located in Honduras and Nicaragua, mainly in leased premises. In our Caribbean Basin manufacturing hub we operate a large-scale vertically-integrated textile facility and three sewing facilities. In addition, we own a vertically-integrated manufacturing facility in Bangladesh for the production of activewear, which mainly serves our international markets. We also have a small garment dyeing facility in the U.S. as a result of the acquisition of Comfort Colors. Our sheer hosiery manufacturing is located in a facility in Canada. Yarn used to manufacture our products is produced in our own yarn-spinning operations in the U.S., and we also source yarn from third-party U.S. yarn suppliers with whom we have supply agreements. A small portion of our yarn requirements is sourced outside of the U.S. We also have screenprinting and decorating capabilities in Central America to support our sales to leading global athletic and lifestyle consumer brands. While we internally produce the majority of the products we sell, we also have sourcing capabilities to complement our large scale, vertically-integrated manufacturing.

Edgar Filing: Gildan Activewear Inc. - Form 40-F

The following table provides a summary of our primary manufacturing operations by geographic area:

	Canada	United States	Central America	Caribbean Basin	Asia
Yarn-spinning facilities		§Clarkton, NC §Cedartown, GA §Salisbury, NC — (2 facilities) §Mocksville, NC			
Textile facilities			§Honduras (4 facilities) -Rio Nance 1 -Rio Nance 2 -Rio Nance 5 -Anvil Knitwear Honduras	§Dominican Republic (1 facility)	§Bangladesh (1 facility)
Garment dyeing facility		§New Bedford, MA			
Sewing facilities(1)			§Honduras (4 facilities) §Nicaragua (3 facilities)	§Dominican Republic – (3 facilities)	§Bangladesh
Sock / Sheer manufacturing QC facilities	§Montreal,		§Honduras -Rio Nance 3 -Rio Nance 4		

(1) We also use the services of third-party sewing contractors, primarily in Haiti, to support textile production from the Dominican Republic.

#### Yarn-spinning capacity expansion

During 2013, we began to execute a significant yarn-spinning manufacturing initiative in order to support our projected sales growth and planned capacity expansion, and to continue to pursue our business model of investing in global vertically-integrated low-cost manufacturing technology and in product technology, which we believe will provide consistent and superior product quality. We operate two yarn-spinning facilities located in Clarkton, NC and Cedartown, GA, producing primarily open-end yarn, which were refurbished and modernized during 2014. During 2014, we also developed two new yarn-spinning facilities in Salisbury, NC. The first yarn-spinning facility in Salisbury, NC, which produces ring-spun yarn, was ramped up by the end of 2014. The second yarn-spinning facility in Salisbury, NC, which is producing open-end yarn, began commercial operations during the fourth calendar quarter of 2014 and was essentially ramped-up by the end of 2015. We also developed a new yarn-spinning facility in Mocksville, NC for the production of ring-spun yarn, which began operations at the end of the second calendar quarter of 2015 and is expected to be fully ramped-up during 2016.

#### Textile manufacturing expansion

In addition to our current manufacturing base, we are also developing plans for further textile capacity expansion in order to support growth in the markets in which we compete. As previously announced, we plan to construct a new textile facility, Rio Nance 6, which will be located at our Rio Nance complex in Honduras. Rio Nance 6 is now expected to be a larger facility with higher textile capacity than originally planned, in order to support growth in the North American printwear and retail markets. The expanded capacity from Rio Nance 6 is projected to support

capacity requirements until textile capacity is developed in Costa Rica, where we have purchased land in the province of Guanacaste in north-western Costa Rica. In light of the enlarged capacity plans for Rio Nance 6, the planned textile facility in Costa Rica is not expected to be developed until after 2018.

#### Sales, Marketing and Distribution

Our sales and marketing offices are responsible for customer-related functions, including sales management, marketing, customer service, credit management, sales forecasting and production planning, as well as inventory control and logistics for each of their respective operating segments. We service the printwear and retail markets primarily out of our distribution centres in the U.S. and a distribution centre in Honduras.



#### Printwear segment

Our sales and marketing office servicing our global printwear markets is located in Christ Church, Barbados. We distribute our activewear products for the printwear markets primarily out of our main distribution centre in Eden, NC. We also use third-party warehouses in the western United States, Canada, Mexico, Colombia, Europe and Asia to service our customers in these markets.

#### Branded Apparel segment

Our primary sales and marketing office for our Branded Apparel segment is located in Charleston, SC at the same location as our primary distribution centre servicing our retail customers. In addition, we service retail customers from smaller distribution centres in North Carolina, South Carolina and Canada. We also operate retail stores located in outlet malls throughout the United States.

#### Customers

We sell our products to customers requiring an efficient supply chain and consistent product quality for high-volume quick replenishment programs in the North American and international printwear markets and we are becoming a growing supplier to U.S. retailers. In our printwear markets we sell our products in over 35 countries across North America, Europe and the Asia-Pacific region, and Latin America, primarily to wholesale distributors and to a lesser extent to large screenprinters. Our products in the U.S. retail market are sold to a broad spectrum of retailers, including mass-market retailers, department stores, national and regional chains, sports specialty stores and price clubs. For the fifteen-month fiscal 2015 period, our sales totalled \$2,959.2 million, of which \$1,794.7 million were derived from our Printwear customers and \$1,164.5 million from Branded Apparel customers. In fiscal 2015, we sold our products in the United States, Canada and Europe and other international markets, which accounted for 87.4%, 4.6% and 8.0% of total sales, respectively. For a breakdown of our total sales by geographic market for each of the last two financial years, reference is made to note 25 to the 2015 Financial Statements, which note is incorporated herein by reference.

Our total customer base is composed of a relatively small number of significant customers. In fiscal 2015, our largest customer accounted for 15.7% of our total sales, and our top ten customers accounted for 56.1% of our total sales in the retail and screenprint channels. Although we have long-term ongoing relationships with many of our customers, our contracts with our customers do not require them to purchase a minimum quantity of our products. Instead, we assess their projected requirements and then plan our production and marketing strategy accordingly.

#### Raw Materials

Cotton and polyester fibres are the main raw materials used in the manufacturing of our products. Cotton is used in the manufacturing of both 100% cotton yarns and blended yarns, while polyester is used in the manufacturing of both blended yarns and 100% polyester yarns. The cotton fibers used in the manufacturing of yarn in our internal yarn spinning facilities are typically purchased directly from cotton merchants for future delivery at pre-determined prices under contracts as deemed appropriate by management. Similarly, for the majority of the polyester fibers, pricing is negotiated directly with suppliers on an annual basis subject to the price variability of certain polyester components.

During fiscal 2015, most of our yarn requirements for the production of our product-lines were met by our own yarn-spinning facilities in Cedartown, GA, Clarkton, NC, Salisbury, NC and Mocksville, NC and our long-term supply agreements with third-party suppliers. Please refer to the discussion of our yarn-spinning capacity expansion under the “Yarn-spinning capacity expansion” heading in this Annual Information Form for further information about the Company’s initiatives and investments in yarn-spinning. The yarn requirements for our Bangladesh operations are supplied by local and regional spinners. We expect that most of our yarn requirements will continue to be met by these sources.



The primary sources of energy consumed in our manufacturing facilities are (i) biomass, bunker fuel and natural gas, which are used to generate steam required in the production process, and (ii) electricity, which is used to power production equipment and air-conditioning. The bunker fuel used in our operations is supplied by local third-party suppliers, and the pricing is highly dependent on international market prices for bunker fuel. Natural gas is used in our operations in the Dominican Republic and Bangladesh, and is obtained from local third-party suppliers. The electricity requirements at our two main production complexes, located in Honduras and the Dominican Republic, are provided by public utility companies. Electricity rates are variable and are, in part, related to underlying oil prices.

Biomass, derived both from dedicated plantations and agricultural waste, is sourced from private third-party suppliers, and now provides a major portion of the energy for our operations in both the Dominican Republic and Honduras. We anticipate that our biomass consumption needs will increase progressively over the next few years. We have been operating a biomass steam generation system in the Dominican Republic since 2010, which has contributed to the reduction of the energy costs associated with our textile production in the Dominican Republic. Similarly, we began operating a biomass steam generation facility in Honduras during 2010 and are currently operating three such facilities at the Rio Nance complex in Honduras to support both of our sock manufacturing facilities as well as the majority of the steam requirements for our textile operations. The Company is planning to increase the proportion of steam generated by biomass by further expanding its biomass facilities.

We also purchase chemicals, dyestuffs and trims through a variety of suppliers. These products have historically been available in sufficient supply.

#### Management Information Systems

Our Enterprise Resource Planning (“ERP”) system supports the majority of our operations in the areas of finance, manufacturing and customer service. This system is centralized and is accessed from all of our locations through secure networks. Our ERP system is linked to servers supporting both local processes and specialized applications, including payroll and distribution. Due to our increasing dependence on the availability of our computer systems to support our operations, we plan to continue, in fiscal 2016, to implement initiatives to enhance our information technology (“IT”) processes and infrastructure based on the Information Technology Infrastructure Library, a framework of “best practices” approaches intended to facilitate the delivery of high-quality IT services.

The Gildan JD Edwards ERP World system has been in place since 1999. In fiscal 2010, we initiated a process to upgrade to the current release, Enterprise One. The upgrade will facilitate the strategic objective of improving and modernizing system functionality and business agility. We implemented the first phase of the upgrade in fiscal 2012 and we are currently undertaking the subsequent phase.

#### Seasonality and Other Factors Affecting the Variability of Results and Financial Condition

Our results of operations for interim and annual periods are impacted by the variability of certain factors, including, but not limited to, changes in end-use demand and customer demand, our customers’ decision to increase or decrease their inventory levels, changes in our sales mix, and fluctuations in selling prices and raw material costs. While our products are sold on a year-round basis, our business experiences seasonal changes in demand which result in quarterly fluctuations in operating results. Historically, consolidated net sales have been lowest in the last calendar quarter and highest in the second and third quarters of the calendar year, reflecting the seasonality of our operating segments’ net sales. For our Printwear segment, demand for T-shirts is lowest in the fourth calendar quarter, and highest in the second calendar quarter of the year when distributors purchase inventory for the peak summer selling season. Demand for fleece is typically highest, in advance of the fall and winter seasons, in the second and third calendar quarters of the year. For our Branded Apparel segment, sales



are higher during the second half of the year, during the back-to-school period and the Christmas holiday selling season.

Historically, the seasonal sales trends of our business have resulted in fluctuations in our inventory levels throughout the year, in particular a build-up of T-shirt inventory levels in the fourth and first calendar quarters of the year.

Our results are also impacted by fluctuations in the price of raw materials and other input costs. Cotton and polyester fibres are the primary raw materials used in the manufacture of our products, and we also use chemicals, dyestuffs, and trims which we purchase from a variety of suppliers. Cotton prices are affected by consumer demand, global supply, which may be impacted by weather conditions in any given year, speculation on the commodities market, the relative valuations and fluctuations of the currencies of producer versus consumer countries, and other factors that are generally unpredictable. While we enter into purchase contracts in advance of delivery and derivative financial instruments to establish firm prices for the cotton component of our yarn requirements, our realized cotton costs can fluctuate significantly between interim and annual reporting periods. Energy costs in our results of operations are also affected by fluctuations in crude oil, natural gas, and petroleum prices, which can also influence transportation costs and the cost of related items used in our business, such as polyester fibres, chemicals, dyestuffs, and trims.

Business acquisitions may affect the comparability of results. As noted in the table under “Summary of quarterly results”, the quarterly financial data reflects the acquisition of Comfort Colors effective March 2, 2015 and the acquisition of Doris effective July 7, 2014. In addition, management decisions to consolidate or reorganize operations, including the closure of facilities, may result in significant restructuring costs in an interim or annual period. The effect of asset write-downs, including provisions for bad debts and slow moving inventories, can also affect the variability of our results. Subsection 5.5.4 entitled “Restructuring and acquisition-related costs” in our 2015 Annual MD&A contains a discussion of costs related to the Company’s restructuring activities and business acquisitions.

Our reported amounts for net sales, SG&A expenses and financial expenses/income are impacted by fluctuations in the U.S. dollar versus certain other currencies as described in the “Financial risk management” section of our 2015 Annual MD&A. The Company may periodically use derivative financial instruments to manage risks related to fluctuations in foreign exchange rates.

#### Trade Regulation

As a multinational corporation, we are affected by international trade legislation, as well as bilateral and multilateral trade agreements in the countries in which we operate, source and sell products. Although the textile and apparel industries of developed countries such as Canada, the United States and the European Union have historically received a relatively higher degree of trade protection than other industries, trade liberalization has diminished this protection in recent years. In order to remain globally competitive, we have situated our manufacturing facilities in strategic locations to leverage the benefits of the trade liberalization climate. Furthermore, management continuously monitors new developments and evaluates risks relating to duties, tariffs, and quotas that could impact our approach to global manufacturing and sourcing and makes adjustments as needed.

The United States has implemented several free trade agreements and trade preference programs to enhance trade with certain countries such as CAFTA-DR, the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act and the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act (“HOPE”), which allow qualifying textiles and apparel from participating countries duty-free access to the U.S. market.

The United States adopted CAFTA-DR and HOPE (as amended by HOPE II legislation in 2008 and by the Haitian Economic Lift Program legislation in 2010) to strengthen and develop U.S. economic relations and expand trade with Central America, the Dominican Republic and Haiti, where we have substantial manufacturing operations



and activities.

In 2012, the United States implemented free trade agreements with South Korea, Colombia and Panama. In 2015, the United States concluded free trade negotiations with a group of countries under the umbrella of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (“TPP”). Countries participating in the TPP at this time are Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Mexico, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, Japan and Vietnam. While the agreement must still be ratified and implemented by each of these countries, future entry into force of this new regional free trade agreement or any other new free trade agreements, may negatively affect our competitive position in the United States and other countries where we sell products.

In November 2013, the governments of Canada and Honduras formally signed a free trade agreement between the two countries which came into force on October 1, 2014. This agreement enables qualifying textiles and apparel from Honduras to benefit from duty-free access into the Canadian market. Canada also affords preferential tariff treatment to certain qualifying apparel articles from least developed countries, including Haiti, Cambodia and Bangladesh.

Imports into the Mexican market may qualify for trade preferences from various free trade agreements such as the Mexico-Costa Rica Free Trade Agreement, and the Mexico-Northern Triangle Regional Trade Agreement, which includes El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Honduras as member countries.

The European Union has preferential trade agreements with other European countries and with countries outside of Europe. For example, the European Union maintains a Generalized System of Preferences (“GSP”) and the Everything But Arms programs. These programs allow duty-free entry into the European Union of qualifying articles, including apparel, from developing countries such as Honduras and Nicaragua, and least developed countries, including Haiti and Bangladesh. The new provisions will further enhance duty-free access to the European Union of qualifying apparel articles, including, potentially, apparel articles from Pakistan, which could negatively impact our competitive position in the European Union. The European Union also reinstated the GSP preference to Myanmar/Burma in 2013.

The European Union and the Central American countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama signed in 2012 a comprehensive association agreement (the “Association Agreement”) which includes a trade component allowing duty-free entry into the European Union of qualifying apparel articles. The Association Agreement supersedes the eligibility for the GSP trade preference of the signatory Central American countries. The European Union has reached similar agreements with Colombia and Peru. Other European Union trade agreements and preference programs are already in effect with Turkey, Mexico and several Caribbean states.

Imports into the Colombian market are entitled to trade preference benefits under the Colombia-Northern Triangle Regional Trade Agreement, which includes El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras as member countries.

In 2011, the People’s Republic of China extended duty-free and quota-free trade benefits to Bangladesh under the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement to include certain chief-weight cotton apparel articles made in Bangladesh.

Exports of wholly originating goods from Bangladesh into the commerce of Japan are also eligible for the duty-free trade preference entitlement under Japan’s Generalized System of Preferences scheme.

Overall, new agreements or arrangements that further liberalize access to our key country markets could potentially adversely impact our competitiveness in those markets. The likelihood that any such agreements, measures or programs will be adopted, or that the agreements and preference programs around which we have built our manufacturing supply chain will be modified, repealed, or allowed to expire, and the extent of the





impact of such changes on our business, cannot be determined with certainty.

Textile and apparel articles are generally not subject to specific export restrictions or licensing requirements in the countries where we manufacture and distribute goods. However, the creation of export licensing requirements, imposition of restrictions on export quantities or specification of minimum export pricing and/or export prices or duties could potentially have an adverse impact on our business. In addition, unilateral and multilateral sanctions and restrictions on dealings with certain countries and persons which are unpredictable, continue to emerge and evolve in response to international economic and political events, and could impact our trading relationships with vendors or customers.

#### Product Safety Regulation

We are subject to consumer product safety laws and regulations that could affect our business. In the United States, we are subject to the Consumer Product Safety Act, as amended by the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008, the Federal Hazardous Substances Act, the Flammable Fabrics Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, and rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to these statutes. Such laws provide for substantial penalties for non-compliance. These statutes and regulations include requirements for testing and certification for flammability of wearing apparel, for lead content and lead in surface coatings in children's products, and for phthalate content in child care articles, including plasticized components of children's sleepwear. We are also subject to similar laws and regulations, and to additional warning and reporting requirements, in the various individual states in which our products are sold.

In Canada, we are subject to similar laws and regulations, the most significant of which are the Hazardous Products Act and the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act, which applies to manufacturers, importers, distributors, advertisers, and retailers of consumer products.

In the European Union, we are also subject to product safety regulations, the most significant of which are imposed pursuant to the General Product Safety Directive. We are also subject to similar laws and regulations in the other jurisdictions in which our products are sold.

Although we believe that we are in compliance in all material respects with applicable product safety laws and regulations in the jurisdictions in which we operate, the extent of our liability, if any, for past failures to comply with laws, regulations and permits applicable to our operations cannot be reasonably determined.

#### Intellectual Property

We own several registered trademarks including, among others, the Gildan®, Gildan Performance®, Gildan Softstyle®, Smart Basics® and Gildan Smart Basics® trademarks in Canada, the United States and in the European Union as well as in many countries in Central America, South America and the Asia-Pacific region. Applications for the registration of several other trademarks which are part of the Gildan brand family, such as Aqua Defense™, Part of Your Life™, Every thread counts™ and Gildan Platinum™ trademarks, are also pending or have been accepted during fiscal 2015 in several countries.

As a result of the acquisition of Comfort Colors in fiscal 2015, we own the Comfort Colors® trademark in the United States and in the European Union and have trademark applications pending for the registration of Comfort Colors™ in Canada. We also have trademark applications pending for the registration of Colors Inspired by Nature™ in several countries.

Pursuant to the acquisition of Doris in fiscal 2014, we also own the Secret® and Silks® trademarks in Canada. Applications for the registration of several other trademarks which are part of the Doris brand family, such as Better U by Shatobu™, Dream Soles™, Secret Silky™, Kushyfoot™ and TherapyPlus™ are also pending or succeeded to registration during fiscal 2015 in several countries.

Moreover, with the acquisition in fiscal 2011 of Gold Toe Moretz Holdings Corp. (“Gold Toe”), we also own the Gold Toe brand family, which includes the iconic Gold Toe® trademark, as well as the Silver Toe®, PowerSox®, All Pro®, Soleution® and G® trademarks, and we have further expanded registration of these marks internationally. Applications for the registration of The Best Socks On Two Feet™, AquaFx™, Freshcare™, Gold Toe Premier™, GT a Gold Toe Brand™ and Signature Gold by Goldtoe™ trademarks are also pending in several countries. Standard of Quality™ is also registered in the United States and pending registration in Canada.

In addition, with the acquisition of Anvil in fiscal 2012, we also own Anvil's portfolio of trademarks for high-quality basic t-shirts and sport shirts including Anvil®, Anvil's eco collection (Anvil Organic®, Anvil Recycled®, and Anvil Sustainable®) as well as a number of other registered trademarks. In addition, Shirt Scan® and Track My T® trademarks (and copyright) pertain to computer and mobile applications which provide information on clothing manufacturing. We have, and intend to continue to maintain our trademarks and the relevant registrations, and will actively pursue the registration of trademarks in Canada, the United States and abroad.

In addition, we have an exclusive license for Under Armour® branded socks in the U.S. (with potential international expansion), as well as an exclusive worldwide license for Mossy Oak® brands in relation to multiple apparel products. We also own a license for New Balance® branded basic, performance and fleece apparel in the U.S. and Canada for the printwear industry.

#### Corporate Social Responsibility

Our corporate social responsibility program encompasses four major areas of focus:

- People well-being: Commitment to industry-leading working conditions and labour practices at each of our worldwide locations;
- Community engagement: Commitment to our neighbours through dedicated support for youth and humanitarian aid;
- Environmental protection: Commitment to the development and implementation of leading and innovative solutions that reduce the environmental impact of our operations throughout our entire supply chain; and
- Product responsibility: Commitment to a responsible product line through sustainable solutions.

Effective September 21, 2015, Gildan was included in the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index (“DJSI World”) for a third consecutive year and currently is the only North American company to be named to DJSI World under the Textiles, Apparel and Luxury Goods sector. The Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (“DJSI”) track the financial performance of the leading sustainability-driven companies worldwide. These indices serve as benchmarks for investors who integrate sustainability considerations into their investment philosophy. The annual DJSI review is based on a thorough analysis of corporate economic, environmental and social performance carried out by RobecoSAM, an investment specialist focused exclusively on sustainability investing. The analysis covers issues such as supply chain standards and labour practices, environmental policy/management systems, corporate governance and risk management.

#### Social Compliance

We provide favourable working conditions for all our employees. All of Gildan's operations are governed by the Company's Code of Conduct, which is based on the International Labour Organization Conventions and which also encompasses elements set forth by the Fair Labor Association (“FLA”), and the Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production (“WRAP”), as well as best practices commonly agreed upon in the area of corporate social responsibility.

We have implemented internal and external monitoring programs that allow us to verify compliance not only with local labour laws, but with internationally-recognized labour standards as well. Our social compliance monitoring is composed of both external third-party audits and internal monitoring audits. Independent third-

party monitors also regularly audit our plants, both on an announced and unannounced basis. During fiscal 2015, a total of 337 audits were performed in our facilities and in the facilities of our third-party contractors. 40% of these audits were carried out by external auditors, 82% of which were mandated by our customers.

In November 2003, we joined the FLA as a “Participating Company”. The FLA is internationally recognized and respected as a non-profit organization whose goal is to promote adherence to international labour standards and to improve working conditions for employees worldwide. Our labour compliance program has been accredited by the FLA since fiscal 2007.

All of our sewing facilities, including our vertically integrated textile and sewing facility in Bangladesh, as well as our contractors’ facilities in Haiti, have been certified or are in the process of being certified by WRAP, an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion and certification of lawful, humane and ethical manufacturing throughout the world. WRAP, through independent third-party verification, certifies facilities that comply with its Code of Conduct. All of our third-party sewing contractors are contractually required to follow prescribed employment policies as well as our Code of Conduct.

#### Environmental Compliance

Gildan operates within the guidelines and practices set forth in its Corporate Environmental Policy and in its Environmental Code of Practice. The thrust of our Environmental Management System is to reduce our environmental impact and to preserve the external natural resources the Company utilizes. Innovative systems such as the biotop, a biological wastewater treatment system, and our biomass steam generation systems are some of the sustainable practices we have put in place. The Company monitors, controls and manages other environmental issues through policies which include, but are not limited to, the recycling and creation of measures for waste prevention, minimization, recovery and treatment at all stages of the production cycle including the off-site disposal of any hazardous waste.

We are subject to various federal, state and local environmental and occupational health and safety laws and regulations in the different jurisdictions in which we operate, concerning, among other things, wastewater discharges, air emissions, storm water flows, and solid waste disposal. Our manufacturing plants generate small quantities of hazardous waste, which are recycled, repurposed or disposed of by licensed waste management companies. Through our Corporate Environmental Policy, Environmental Code of Practice and Environmental Management System, we seek not only to comply with applicable laws and regulations, but also to reduce our environmental footprint through waste prevention, recovery and treatment. Although we believe that we are currently in compliance in all material respects with the regulatory requirements of those jurisdictions in which our facilities are located, the extent of our liability, if any, for past failures to comply with laws, regulations and permits applicable to our operations cannot be reasonably determined. During fiscal 2013, Gildan was notified that a Gold Toe subsidiary has been identified as one of numerous “potentially responsible parties” at a certain waste disposal site undergoing an investigation by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection under the Pennsylvania Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act and the Solid Waste Management Act. As a result of activities alleged to have occurred during the 1980’s, Gildan could be liable to contribute to the costs of any investigation or cleanup action which the site may require, although to date we have insufficient information from the authorities as to the potential costs of the investigation and cleanup to reasonably estimate Gildan’s share of liability for any such costs, if any.

In line with our commitment to the environment, as well as to the health and safety of our employees, we incur capital and other expenditures each year that are aimed at achieving compliance with current environmental standards. There can be no assurance that future changes in federal, state or local regulations, interpretations of existing regulations or the discovery of currently unknown problems or conditions will not require substantial additional environmental remediation expenditures or result in a disruption to our supply chain that could have a material adverse effect on our

business.

20

---

For more information on our Gildan Genuine Stewardship program, you can visit [www.genuinegildan.com](http://www.genuinegildan.com).

## Risk Factors

Please see the “Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments”, “Financial Risk Management” and the “Risks and Uncertainties” sections of our 2015 Annual MD&A beginning on page 36, page 31 and page 41, respectively, which are incorporated herein by reference.

## Employees

Gildan employs over 42,000 employees worldwide. The Company has historically been able to operate in a productive manner in all of its manufacturing facilities without experiencing significant labour disruptions, such as strikes or work stoppages. Some of our employees are members of labour organizations and, since 2012, we are a party to collective bargaining agreements at four of our sewing facilities in Central America.

## DIVIDEND POLICY

In December 2010, the Company announced the adoption of a dividend policy which aims to declare and pay cash dividends on a quarterly basis.

While the Board of Directors of the Company wishes to retain some of the Company’s earnings to take advantage of opportunities to develop and expand its business, the Company aims to declare and pay cash dividends on a quarterly basis. The Board of Directors will consider several factors when reviewing dividend payments, including the Company’s present and future earnings, cash flows, capital requirements and future regulatory restrictions, while complying with laws governing the Company. There can be no assurance as to the amount or timing of dividends in the future.

For each of the three most recently completed financial years, the Company declared and paid dividends on its Common Shares as follows:

Date of Dividend Declaration	Amount of Dividend per Common Share
November 28, 2012	\$0.045(1)
February 6, 2013	\$0.045(1)
May 1, 2013	\$0.045(1)
July 31, 2013	\$0.045(1)
November 20, 2013	\$0.054(1)
February 10, 2014	\$0.054(1)
May 1, 2014	\$0.054(1)
July 30, 2014	\$0.054(1)
December 3, 2014	\$0.065(1)
February 4, 2015	\$0.065(1)
February 4, 2015	One Common Share, with the same effect as a two-for-one stock-split
May 13, 2015	\$0.065
July 30, 2015	\$0.065
November 11, 2015	\$0.065
February 23, 2016	\$0.078
(1) Post-split adjusted.	





## CAPITAL STRUCTURE

### First Preferred Shares

#### Issuance in Series

The First Preferred shares are issuable in series and the Board of Directors has the right, from time to time, to fix the number of, and to determine the designation, rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions attaching to, the First Preferred shares of each series, subject to the limitations, if any, set out in the Articles of the Company.

#### Rank

The First Preferred shares rank senior to the Second Preferred shares and to the Common Shares with respect to the payment of dividends, return of capital and the distribution of assets in the event of the liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of Gildan. The First Preferred shares in each series rank equally with the First Preferred shares of any other series.

#### Voting Rights

Unless the Articles otherwise provide with respect to any series of the First Preferred shares, the holders of the First Preferred shares are not entitled to receive any notice of or attend any meeting of the shareholders of Gildan and are not entitled to vote at any such meeting.

### Second Preferred Shares

#### Issuance in Series

The Second Preferred shares are issuable in series and the Board of Directors has the right, from time to time, to fix the number of, and to determine the designation, rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions attaching to, the Second Preferred shares of each series subject to the limitations, if any, set out in the Articles of the Company.

#### Rank

The Second Preferred shares are subject and subordinate to the rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions attaching to the First Preferred shares. The Second Preferred shares rank senior to the Common Shares with respect to payment of dividends, return of capital and distribution of assets in the event of the liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of Gildan. The Second Preferred shares in each series rank equally with the Second Preferred shares of any other series.

#### Voting Rights

Unless the Articles otherwise provide with respect to any series of the Second Preferred shares, the holders of the Second Preferred shares are not entitled to receive any notice of or attend any meeting of the shareholders of Gildan and are not entitled to vote at any such meeting.

### Common Shares

Following the conversion of all of the Company's Class B Multiple Voting shares into Class A Subordinate Voting shares, the Company's shareholders approved a special resolution on February 2, 2005 to amend the Company's Articles in order to change each of the issued and outstanding Class A Subordinate Voting shares into one

newly-created Common Share and to remove the Class B Multiple Voting shares and the Class A Subordinate Voting shares.

The Common Shares are subject and subordinate to the rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions attaching to the First Preferred shares and the Second Preferred shares. Each holder of Common Shares shall have the

right to receive any dividend declared by the Company and the right to receive the remaining property and assets of the Company on dissolution.

Each holder of Common Shares is entitled to receive notice of and to attend all meetings of shareholders of the Company, except meetings at which only holders of another particular class or series shall have the right to vote. Each Common Share entitles the holder thereof to one vote.

## MARKET FOR SECURITIES

The Common Shares are listed on the NYSE and the TSX under the symbol “GIL”. The Class A Subordinate Voting shares (now the Common Shares), which were issued at an offering price of \$0.44 (Cdn\$0.64), on a post-split basis, began trading on the TSX, the Montreal Exchange (the “ME”) and the American Stock Exchange (“AMEX”) on June 17, 1998. Prior to that date, there was no public market for the Class A Subordinate Voting shares. We delisted such shares from AMEX on August 31, 1999. On September 1, 1999, the Class A Subordinate Voting shares (now the Common Shares) commenced trading on the NYSE. As a result of a restructuring of Canada’s stock exchanges, which took effect on December 7, 1999, we are no longer listed on the ME.

The table below shows the monthly price range per Common Share and the trading volume of the Common Shares for the fiscal year ended January 3, 2016 on the TSX (in Cdn\$) and on the NYSE (in US\$).

COMMON SHARES							
Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX)(1)				New York Stock Exchange (NYSE)(2)			
Month	High	Low	Trading Volume	Month	High	Low	Trading Volume
October 2014	34.31	29.37	17,889,322	October 2014	30.38	26.31	2,700,126
November 2014	34.31	32.01	13,357,648	November 2014	30.29	28.51	1,258,112
December 2014	33.98	28.45	29,934,940	December 2014	29.75	24.99	3,998,686
January 2015	37.80	31.38	13,894,598	January 2015	29.76	26.60	1,949,812
February 2015	38.44	35.28	16,127,872	February 2015	30.74	28.39	1,792,086
March 2015	38.57	36.84	13,053,006	March 2015	30.79	28.92	1,707,617
April 2015	40.25	37.40	10,204,532	April 2015	32.23	29.56	1,720,479
May 2015	40.00	36.56	10,496,912	May 2015	32.91	30.66	1,799,624
June 2015	42.06	39.31	9,771,804	June 2015	34.06	31.39	1,650,187
July 2015	45.73	41.35	11,204,895	July 2015	35.15	32.05	1,691,062
August 2015	43.86	36.81	10,930,168	August 2015	33.41	27.86	2,542,596
September 2015	41.36	39.35	12,859,520	September 2015	31.60	29.53	3,279,713
October 2015	40.82	35.35	21,055,051	October 2015	31.45	26.73	4,450,583
November 2015	41.83	35.09	13,293,186	November 2015	31.27	26.87	3,298,764
December 2015	42.44	39.23	11,986,410	December 2015	31.61	28.23	3,036,825

(1) The trading volumes do not reflect any trades done on alternative trading systems and only represent approximately 64% of all trades executed in Canada.

(2) The trading volumes do not reflect any trades done on alternative trading systems and only represent approximately 23% of all trades executed in United States.



## DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Listed below is certain information about the current directors of Gildan. The directors have served in their respective capacities since their election and/or appointment and will continue to serve until the next annual meeting of shareholders or until a successor is duly elected.

Name and Municipality of Residence	Principal Occupation	Director Since
Glenn J. Chamandy Westmount, Québec, Canada	President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company	May 1984
William D. Anderson(4) Toronto, Ontario, Canada	Corporate Director	May 2006
Donald C. Berg(1)(2) Prosper, Kentucky, United States	Corporate Director and Chief Executive Officer of The Comfy Cow Inc. (specialty ice-cream retailer)	February 2015
Russell Goodman(1)(3) Mont Tremblant, Québec, Canada	Corporate Director	December 2010
Russ Hagey(1)(3) San Francisco, California, United States	Senior Partner and Worldwide Chief Talent Officer of Bain & Company, Inc. (management consulting)	November 2013
George Heller(2)(3) Toronto, Ontario, Canada	Corporate Director	December 2009
Anne Martin-Vachon(2)(3) St. Pete Beach, Florida, United States	Corporate Director	February 2015
Sheila O'Brien (1)(3) Calgary, Alberta, Canada	Corporate Director and business advisor President of Belvedere 1 Investments Ltd. (private investment company)	June 2005
Gonzalo F. Valdes-Fauli(1)(2) Key Biscayne, Florida, United States	Corporate Director Chairman of BroadSpan Capital LLC (investment banking firm)	October 2004
(1)	Member of the Audit and Finance Committee.	
(2)	Member of the Corporate Governance and Social Responsibility Committee.	
(3)	Member of the Compensation and Human Resources Committee.	
(4)	Chairman of the Board.	

Listed below is certain information about the executive officers of Gildan in office as of the date hereof.

Name and Municipality of Residence	Position Held Within the Company and Principal Occupation
Glenn J. Chamandy(1) Westmount, Québec, Canada	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director
Rhodri J. Harries(1) Westmount, Québec, Canada	Executive Vice-President, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer
Michael R. Hoffman St. James, Barbados	President, Printwear
Benito A. Masi Panama City, Panama	Executive Vice-President, Manufacturing
Eric R. Lehman	President, Branded Apparel

Charleston, South Carolina, United States

(1) Officer of the Company.

24

---

Glenn J. Chamandy is one of the founders of the Company and has devoted his entire career to building Gildan into an industry leader. Mr. Chamandy has been involved in various textile and apparel businesses for over thirty years. Prior to his appointment as President and Chief Executive Officer in August 2004, the position which he holds to this day, he served as a Co-Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer of Gildan.

William D. Anderson has had a career as a business leader in Canada spanning over thirty years. Mr. Anderson joined the Bell Canada organization in 1992, where, from 1998 to 2001, he served as Chief Financial Officer of BCE Inc., Canada's largest telecommunications company. From 2001 to 2005, Mr. Anderson served as President of BCE Ventures, the strategic investment unit of BCE Inc. and, from 2001 to 2007, he was the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Bell Canada International Inc., a subsidiary of BCE Inc. formed to invest in telecommunications operations outside Canada. Prior to joining the Bell Canada organization, Mr. Anderson was in public practice for nearly twenty years with the accounting firm KPMG LLP, where he was a partner for eleven years. Mr. Anderson also serves on the Board of Directors of TransAlta Corporation, a power generation and energy marketing firm, where he is a member of the Human Resources Committee and the Governance and Environment Committee. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Sun Life Financial Inc., an international financial services organization, where he is also the Chairman of the Audit and Conduct Review Committee as well as a member of the Risk Review Committee. Mr. Anderson was educated at the University of Western Ontario and is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario and a Fellow of the Institute of Corporate Directors.

Donald C. Berg is Chief Executive Officer at The Comfy Cow Inc., a privately held Louisville, Kentucky-based purveyor of specialty gourmet ice cream through its chain of retail shops as well as in fine grocery stores in the Midwest. Mr. Berg retired in April 2014 as Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer at Brown-Forman Corporation, a U.S. based producer and marketer of fine quality beverage alcohol brands and one of the largest companies in the global wine and spirits industry. Mr. Berg's career at Brown-Forman Corporation spanned over 25 years, where he held various executive positions including as President of its Advancing Markets Group, President of Brown-Forman Spirits Americas, the company's largest operating group, head of its corporate development and strategy functions and director of its mergers and acquisitions group. Prior to joining Brown-Forman, Mr. Berg has had a wide variety of finance, sales and marketing roles with respected national and international firms after beginning his career as a certified public accountant with Ernst & Whinney. Mr. Berg is also a member of the Board of Directors of Meredith Corporation, a publicly-held media and marketing company, where he is also a member of the Audit Committee and Finance Committee. He holds a Master of Business Administration from the Wharton School of Business and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in accounting and business administration from Augustana College in Illinois.

Russell Goodman has had a career in business for over 35 years. Since 2010, Mr. Goodman has been corporate director and business advisor. He is presently a member of the Board of Directors and Audit Committee of Metro Inc., a leader in the grocery and pharmacy sectors in Canada. He is a member of the Board of Directors, Chairman of the Audit Committee and member of the Human Resources Committee of Whistler Blackcomb Holdings Inc., North America's largest mountain resort. He is also a member of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Audit Committee of Northland Power Inc., a leading independent power producer. From 1998 to June 2011, Mr. Goodman was a senior partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, where he was a member of the Americas' and Canadian Leadership teams. During that period, he served as Managing Partner of Project Finance and Privatization for the Americas, Global Leader for Transportation Services, Managing Partner of the Montréal office and Canadian Managing Partner of the Private Equity and Transactions businesses. In the not-for-profit sector, Mr. Goodman serves on a number of boards, including the Pointe-à-Callière Museum Foundation, where he is Chairman of the Board. He previously served as President of the Canadian Club of Montréal. He is a Fellow of the Order of Chartered Professional Accountants of Quebec and is certified by the Institute of Corporate Directors. Mr. Goodman was educated at McGill University.

Russ Hagey is a Senior Partner and the Worldwide Chief Talent Officer of Bain & Company, Inc., one of the world's leading management consulting firms. He joined the firm in 1982 and has worked in its San Francisco, Los Angeles, Zurich, and Amsterdam offices. As Chief Talent Officer, Mr. Hagey oversees Bain's recruiting, professional



development, training, and human resources functions for nearly 6,500 global professionals and staff across 53 offices in 34 countries. He also has client leadership responsibilities in the areas of consumer products and health-care services. Mr. Hagey holds a Master of Business Administration from the Stanford Graduate School of Business and earned his Bachelor of Arts in economics from the University of California at Los Angeles. He also serves on a number of community and not-for-profit boards.

George Heller has had a career as a business leader in the retail sector that spans over forty years. From 1999 to 2006, Mr. Heller served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hudson's Bay Company, Canada's largest diversified general merchandise retailer, operating more than 600 retail outlets in Canada under four banners: the Bay, Zellers, Home Outfitters and Fields. Prior to that, Mr. Heller was President and Chief Executive Officer of Zellers, the mass merchandise retailer of the Hudson's Bay Company and a leading Canadian mass merchandise department store. Mr. Heller has also held a number of other key positions in the retail industry, including as President and Chief Executive Officer of Kmart Canada, discount department stores, President, North America & Europe of Bata Industries Ltd., international footwear manufacturer, and Executive Vice-President of Woodward's Department Stores, a department store chain. Mr. Heller also served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Victoria Commonwealth Games and was the President of the Commonwealth Games of Canada Foundation, a fundraising organization for amateur athletes, and was a member of its Board of Directors. Mr. Heller also serves on the Board of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, a not-for-profit think-tank on Canada's relations with Asia, where he is Chair of the Investment Committee. Mr. Heller has acted since 2008 as Honorary Consul General of Thailand and as Honorary Trade Advisor to the Government of Thailand since 2000. Mr. Heller has received Honorary Doctorates from Ryerson University and the University of Victoria.

Anne Martin-Vachon is currently a consultant in the beauty and cosmetics industry, with a focus on strategy, brand management and expanding international markets. Prior to this, Ms. Martin-Vachon was Chief Merchandising, Planning and Programming Officer at HSN, Inc., a leading interactive multi-channel entertainment and lifestyle retailer that operates two business segments, HSN and Cornerstone. Before joining HSN, Ms. Martin-Vachon held various executive positions in the consumer packaged goods and retail industry, including as Chief Marketing Officer at Nordstrom, Inc., a leading fashion specialty retailer operating 293 stores in 38 U.S. states, Chief Executive Officer at Lise Watier Cosmétiques, Inc., a Canadian-based beauty and skincare company, and Chief Marketing Officer at Bath & Body Works, LLC, which operates retail stores for personal care products. Ms. Martin-Vachon began her career at The Procter & Gamble Company where she spent more than twenty years in a variety of leadership positions across the company's portfolio of beauty, personal care and household brands. She is on the Board of Governors of Cosmetic Executive Women, a beauty industry organization. Ms. Martin-Vachon holds a Master of Business Administration from McGill University and earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration at the University of Québec in Trois-Rivières.

Sheila O'Brien is a business advisor, corporate director and President of Belvedere 1 Investments Ltd. She has over thirty years' experience in the oil and gas, pipeline and petrochemical sectors in Canada, the United States and Europe. She has held executive positions in the areas of human resources, investor relations, public affairs and government relations with Amoco International, Petro-Canada and Nova Chemicals Corporation. She created and implemented an innovative workforce restructuring program based on the dignity of the employee, which was designated a Worldwide Best Practice by Watson Wyatt International Consultancy. In addition, she has been active in the not-for-profit sector, having served on over 25 boards of directors, dealing primarily with human rights, women's rights and giving voice to marginalized members of society, and is the founder of several enduring community events celebrating the accomplishments of women. She was invested in the Order of Canada in 1998 and was awarded the Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012 for community service. She has served on the boards of directors of TransForce Income Fund, Canada's largest trucking enterprise, publicly-traded and headquartered in Montréal, Skye Resources, a Vancouver-based, publicly-traded nickel mining company with assets in Guatemala, CFM Majestic, a Mississauga-based publicly-traded fireplace manufacturing company, and Advantage Oil & Gas Ltd., an Alberta-based publicly-traded oil and natural gas

company. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of Alberta Energy Regulator, a regulatory body with a mandate to provide for the environmentally responsible

development of Alberta's energy resources, as well as PPP Canada, a federal crown corporation with a mandate to improve the delivery of public infrastructure. Ms. O'Brien is the co-author of three books "An Extraordinary West – A Narrative Exploration of Western Canada's Future" published in November 2010, "Catching a Rising Tide – A Western Energy Vision for Canada" published in November 2011 and "A Place to Call Home" published in November 2012. She is a graduate of the MTC program at the University of Western Ontario, and completed a one-year sabbatical on creativity and innovation at various U.S. schools in 1990.

Gonzalo F. Valdes-Fauli is Chairman of the Board of BroadSpan Capital LLC, an investment banking firm specializing in financial advisory services. Mr. Valdes-Fauli retired from Barclays Bank PLC, a major UK-based global bank, in 2001, where he held the position of Vice-Chairman, Barclays Capital, and Group Chief Executive Officer, Latin America. Mr. Valdes-Fauli also serves on the Board of Directors of The Blue Foundation, a health insurance provider wholly owned by the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, and was Chairman of the Board of Republic Bank of Dominican Republic, a financial services provider, until November 2007. He is Trustee Emeritus of the University of Miami and Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama. Mr. Valdes-Fauli holds a Master's Degree in international finance from Thunderbird Graduate School for International Management.

Rhodri J. Harries joined Gildan as Executive Vice-President, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer in August 2015. Prior to joining Gildan, Mr. Harries served as the Chief Financial Officer of Rio Tinto Alcan since 2014, where previously he held the position of Chief Commercial Officer from 2009 to 2013. Mr. Harries joined Alcan in Montréal in 2004 as the Vice President and Corporate Treasurer and remained with the company following its acquisition by Rio Tinto in 2007. Prior to joining Alcan, Mr. Harries spent 15 years in North America, Asia and Europe with General Motors, where he held successive positions of increasing responsibility in corporate finance, treasury and business development.

Michael R. Hoffman joined Gildan in October 1997. He served as Vice-President, Sales and Marketing for the international division until his appointment as President of Printwear in February 2001. Prior to joining Gildan, Mr. Hoffman was employed by Fruit of the Loom, Inc., where he last served as Divisional Vice-President of the Activewear Division.

Benito A. Masi has been involved in apparel manufacturing in North America for over thirty years. He joined Gildan in 1986, and since then has held various positions in the Company. He was appointed Vice-President, Apparel Manufacturing in February 2001 and his title was changed to Vice-President, Corporate Apparel Operations in September 2003. In August 2004, he was appointed Executive Vice-President, Apparel Manufacturing and was appointed Executive Vice-President, Manufacturing in January 2005.

Eric R. Lehman joined Gildan in December 2006 as Executive Vice-President, Supply Chain. In November 2008, Mr. Lehman's responsibilities were expanded to include information technology and operational excellence and his title changed to Executive Vice-President, Supply Chain, Information Technology and Operational Excellence until his appointment as President of Branded Apparel in January 2011. He has over twenty years of experience in the supply chain function with major national apparel brands. Prior to joining Gildan, Mr. Lehman was employed by Russell Corporation, where he last served as Vice-President of Supply Chain. Prior to that, he held senior supply chain planning positions at both Fruit of the Loom, Inc. and the Hanes Division of Sara Lee Corporation.

As at February 25, 2016, the executive officers and directors of the Company as a group own 266,161 Common Shares, which represents 0.11% of the voting rights attached to all Common Shares.



## AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE DISCLOSURE

### Mandate of the Audit and Finance Committee

The mandate of the Audit and Finance Committee is included herewith as Appendix A.

### Composition of the Audit and Finance Committee

The Audit and Finance Committee is composed of five independent and financially literate directors, as such terms are defined under Canadian and U.S. securities laws and regulations, and in accordance with the NYSE Corporate Governance Standards. Their education and experience relevant to the performance of their responsibilities as members of the Audit and Finance Committee are as follows:

Donald Berg – Mr. Berg is currently the Chief Executive Officer of the Comfy Cow Inc. Mr. Berg retired in April 2014 as Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer at Brown-Forman Corporation. Prior to joining Brown-Forman, Mr. Berg has had a wide variety of finance roles with respected national and international firms after beginning his career as a certified chartered public accountant with Ernst & Whinney. Mr. Berg is also a member of the Audit Committee and Finance Committee of Meredith Corporation. He holds a Master of Business Administration from the Wharton School of Business and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in accounting and business administration from Augustana College in Illinois.

Russell Goodman – Mr. Goodman is the Chairman of the Audit and Finance Committee and a corporate director. He was previously a senior partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, where he served successively as Managing Partner of Project Finance and Privatization for the Americas, Managing Partner of the Montréal office, and Canadian Managing Partner of the Transactions business. Prior to this, Mr. Goodman served for twenty-one years with Price Waterhouse LLP, including eleven years as a partner. He is presently a member of the Board of Directors and Audit Committee of Metro Inc. He is Chairman of the Audit Committee and a member of the Human Resources Committee of Whistler Blackcomb Holdings Inc. He is also Chairman of the Audit Committee of Northland Power Inc. He is a Fellow of the Order of Chartered Professional Accountants of Quebec and is certified by the Institute of Corporate Directors. Mr. Goodman was educated at McGill University.

Russ Hagey – Mr. Hagey is a Senior Partner and the Worldwide Chief Talent Officer of Bain & Company, Inc., which he joined in 1982. As Chief Talent Officer, Mr. Hagey oversees Bain's recruiting, professional development, training, and human resources functions for nearly 6,500 global professionals and staff across 53 offices in 34 countries. He also has client leadership responsibilities in the areas of consumer products and health-care services. Mr. Hagey holds a Master of Business Administration from the Stanford Graduate School of Business and earned his Bachelor of Arts in economics from the University of California at Los Angeles.

Sheila O'Brien – Ms. O'Brien is president, business advisor and corporate director of Belvedere 1 Investments Ltd. She has over thirty years' experience in the oil and gas, pipeline and petrochemical sectors in Canada, the United States and Europe. She has held executive positions in the areas of human resources, investor relations, public affairs and government relations with Amoco International, Petro-Canada and Nova Corporation. Ms. O'Brien has served on the Boards of Directors of TransForce Income Fund, Skye Resources, and CFM Majestic. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of Alberta Energy Regulator and PPP Canada. As Chair of Gildan's Compensation and Human Resources Committee, Ms. O'Brien is required to sit on the Audit and Finance Committee.

Gonzalo F. Valdes-Fauli – Mr. Valdes-Fauli is a corporate director. He retired from Barclays Bank PLC in 2001, where he held the position of Vice-Chairman, Barclays Capital, and served as Group Chief Executive Officer of Barclays Bank Latin America from 1988 to 2001. Mr. Valdes-Fauli is Chairman of BroadSpan Capital LLC, and served as

Chairman of the Board of Republic Bank of Dominican Republic until November 2007. Mr. Valdes-Fauli has more than thirty years of experience in finance and holds a Master's Degree in international finance from Thunderbird Graduate School for International Management.

## Pre-Approval of Non-Audit Services

In accordance with the Code of Ethics of the Ordre des comptables professionnels agréés du Québec (CPA) independence standards for auditors, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and rules of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the Company is restricted from engaging its external auditor to provide certain non-audit services to the Company and its subsidiaries, including bookkeeping or other services related to the accounting records or financial statements, information technology services, valuation services, actuarial services, internal audit services, corporate finance services, management functions, human resources functions, legal services and expert services unrelated to the audit. The Company does engage its external auditor from time to time to provide certain non-audit services other than the restricted services. All non-audit services must be specifically pre-approved by the Audit and Finance Committee.

## External Auditor Service Fees

The aggregate fees billed by KPMG LLP (“KPMG”), the Company’s external auditor, for various audit-related and non-audit services rendered for the fiscal years 2015 and 2014 were as follows:

**Audit Fees** — The aggregate audit fees billed by KPMG were Cdn\$2,327,000 for fiscal 2015 and Cdn\$2,199,000 for fiscal 2014. These services consisted of professional services rendered for the annual audit of the Company’s consolidated financial statements and the quarterly reviews of the Company’s interim financial statements, consultation concerning financial reporting and accounting standards, and services provided in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements. The fees for the annual audit of the Company’s consolidated financial statements include fees relating to KPMG’s audit of the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting.

**Audit-Related Fees** — The aggregate audit-related fees billed by KPMG were Cdn\$322,000 for fiscal 2015 and Cdn\$386,000 for fiscal 2014. These services consisted of due diligence services relating to business acquisitions and also translation services in both years. Such due diligence services related primarily to financial accounting and internal control issues.

**Tax Fees** — The aggregate tax fees billed by KPMG were Cdn\$1,001,000 for fiscal 2015 and Cdn\$668,000 for fiscal 2014. These services consisted of tax compliance, including assistance with the preparation and review of tax returns, the preparation of annual transfer pricing studies and tax advisory services relating to domestic and international taxation.

**All Other Fees** — The aggregate fees billed by KPMG for all other professional services rendered were Cdn\$125,000 for fiscal 2015 and nil for fiscal 2014.

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Company is only a party to claims and litigation arising in the normal course of its operations. The Company does not expect the resolution of these matters to have a material adverse effect on the financial position or results of operations of the Company.

## TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRAR

The transfer agent and registrar of the Company is Computershare Investor Services Inc. having offices in Montréal and Toronto at which the register of transfer of the Common Shares is held. The co-transfer agent and co-registrar of the Company is Computershare Trust Company, N.A., having an office in Golden, Colorado.





## MATERIAL CONTRACTS

Other than the agreements entered into during the normal course of business, the only material agreements entered into in fiscal 2015, or before fiscal 2015 and which are still in force, are the following:

- The Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement approved by the Board of Directors on December 1, 2010, ratified by the Company's shareholders at the annual shareholders' meeting on February 9, 2011 and which was subsequently submitted to the Company's shareholder for renewal at the annual shareholders meeting on February 6, 2014. This agreement was filed through SEDAR on December 3, 2010.

## INTERESTS OF EXPERTS

KPMG, the external auditor of the Company, reported on the 2015 Financial Statements, which were filed with the securities regulatory authorities. KPMG LLP have confirmed that they are independent with respect to the Company within the meaning of the relevant rules and related interpretations prescribed by the relevant professional bodies in Canada and any applicable legislation or regulations and also that they are independent accountants with respect to the Company under all relevant U.S. professional and regulatory standards.

## CAUTION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements included in this Annual Information Form constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and Canadian securities legislation and regulations, and are subject to important risks, uncertainties and assumptions. This forward-looking information includes, amongst others, information with respect to our objectives and the strategies to achieve these objectives, as well as information with respect to our beliefs, plans, expectations, anticipations, estimates and intentions. In particular, information appearing under the heading "Strategy and Objectives", contain forward looking statements. Forward-looking statements generally can be identified by the use of conditional or forward-looking terminology such as "may", "will", "expect", "intend", "estimate", "project", "assume", "anticipate", "plan", "foresee", "believe" or "continue" these terms or variations of them or similar terminology. We refer you to the Company's filings with the Canadian securities regulatory authorities and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, as well as the risks described under the "Financial risk management", "Critical accounting estimates and judgments" and "Risks and uncertainties" sections of our 2015 Annual MD&A for a discussion of the various factors that may affect the Company's future results. Material factors and assumptions that were applied in drawing a conclusion or making a forecast or projection are also set out throughout this document.

Forward-looking information is inherently uncertain and the results or events predicted in such forward-looking information may differ materially from actual results or events. Material factors, which could cause actual results or events to differ materially from a conclusion, forecast or projection in such forward-looking information, include, but are not limited to:

- our ability to implement our growth strategies and plans, including achieving market share gains, obtaining and successfully introducing new sales programs, implementing new product introductions, increasing capacity, implementing cost reduction initiatives and completing and successfully integrating acquisitions;
  - the intensity of competitive activity and our ability to compete effectively;
- adverse changes in general economic and financial conditions globally or in one or more of the markets we serve;
  - our reliance on a small number of significant customers;
  - the fact that our customers do not commit contractually to minimum quantity purchases;



- our ability to anticipate, identify or react to changes in consumer preferences and trends;
- our ability to manage production and inventory levels effectively in relation to changes in customer demand;
- fluctuations and volatility in the price of raw materials used to manufacture our products, such as cotton, polyester fibres, dyes and other chemicals;
- our dependence on key suppliers and our ability to maintain an uninterrupted supply of raw materials and finished goods;
- the impact of climate, political, social and economic risks in the countries in which we operate or from which we source production;
- disruption to manufacturing and distribution activities due to such factors as operational issues, disruptions in transportation logistic functions, labour disruptions, political or social instability, bad weather, natural disasters, pandemics and other unforeseen adverse events;
- changes to international trade legislation that the Company is currently relying on in conducting its manufacturing operations or the application of safeguards thereunder;
- factors or circumstances that could increase our effective income tax rate, including the outcome of any tax audits or changes to applicable tax laws or treaties;
- compliance with applicable environmental, tax, trade, employment, health and safety, anti-corruption, privacy and other laws and regulations in the jurisdictions in which we operate;
- operational problems with our information systems as a result of system failures, viruses, security and cyber security breaches, disasters, and disruptions due to system upgrades or the integration of systems;
  - adverse changes in third party licensing arrangements and licensed brands;
  - our ability to protect our intellectual property rights;
- changes in our relationship with our employees or changes to domestic and foreign employment laws and regulations;
- negative publicity as a result of actual, alleged or perceived violations of labour and environmental laws or international labour standards, or unethical labour or other business practices by the Company or one of its third-party contractors;
  - our dependence on key management and our ability to attract and/or retain key personnel;
  - changes to and failure to comply with consumer product safety laws and regulations;
    - changes in accounting policies and estimates;
- exposure to risks arising from financial instruments, including credit risk, liquidity risk, foreign currency risk and interest rate risk, as well as risks arising from commodity prices;
  - the adverse impact of any current or future legal and regulatory actions; and
  - an actual or perceived breach of data security.

These factors may cause the Company's actual performance and financial results in future periods to differ materially from any estimates or projections of future performance or results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements do not take into account the effect that transactions or non-recurring or other special items announced or occurring after the statements are made, may have on the Company's business. For example, they do not include the effect of business dispositions, acquisitions, other business transactions, asset write-downs, asset impairment losses or other charges announced or occurring after forward-looking statements are made. The financial impact of such transactions and non-recurring and other special items can be complex and necessarily depends on the facts particular to each of them.

There can be no assurance that the expectations represented by our forward-looking statements will prove to be correct. The purpose of the forward-looking statements is to provide the reader with a description of management's expectations regarding the Company's future financial performance and may not be appropriate for other purposes. Furthermore, unless otherwise stated, the forward-looking statements contained in this report are made as of the date hereof, and we do not undertake any obligation to update publicly or to revise



any of the included forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise unless required by applicable legislation or regulation. The forward-looking statements contained in this report are expressly qualified by this cautionary statement.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information, including directors' and officers' remuneration and indebtedness, principal holders of the Company's securities and securities authorized for issuance under the Company's equity compensation plans is contained in the management proxy circular for its most recent annual meeting of security holders that involve the election of directors. Additional financial information is provided in the 2015 Financial Statements and the 2015 Annual MD&A for its most recently completed financial year, both of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Copies of these documents and additional information relating to Gildan may be found on the SEDAR website at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) and the EDGAR website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) and may also be obtained upon request to the Secretary of Gildan at the following address:

600 de Maisonneuve Boulevard West, 33rd Floor  
Montréal, Québec  
H3A 3J2  
Telephone: (514) 735-2023

The documents mentioned above, as well as Gildan's news releases, are also available on the Company's website at [www.gildan.com](http://www.gildan.com).

APPENDIX A - MANDATE OF THE AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The following description of the mandate of the Audit and Finance Committee of the Company complies with applicable Canadian laws and regulations, such as the rules of the Canadian Securities Administrators, and with the disclosure and listing requirements of the Toronto Stock Exchange (collectively, the “Canadian Corporate Governance Standards”), as they exist on the date hereof. In addition, this mandate complies with applicable U.S. laws, such as the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, and rules and regulations adopted thereunder, and with the New York Stock Exchange’s corporate governance standards (collectively, the “US Corporate Governance Standards”), as they exist on the date hereof. The mandate of the Audit and Finance Committee of the Company (the “Audit Committee”) shall be reviewed annually by the Board in order to ensure on-going compliance with such standards.

1. Membership and Quorum

- a minimum of three directors;
- only “independent” (as contemplated by Canadian Corporate Governance Standards and US Corporate Governance Standards) directors shall be appointed, the whole as determined by the Board; no affiliate of the Company or any of its subsidiaries (including any person who, directly or indirectly, controls or is controlled by, or is under common control with the Company, or any director, executive officer, partner, member, principal or designee of such affiliate) may serve on the Audit Committee; a member of the Audit Committee shall receive no compensation from the Company or any of its affiliates other than compensation as a director and committee member of the Company; prohibited compensation includes fees paid, directly or indirectly, for services as a consultant or as legal or financial advisor, regardless of the amount;
- each member must be “financially literate” (as contemplated by Canadian Corporate Governance Standards and US Corporate Governance Standards), as determined by the Board;
- at least one member must be an “audit committee financial expert” (as contemplated by US Corporate Governance Standards), as determined by the Board;
- members of the Audit Committee shall be appointed annually by the Board upon recommendation of the Company’s Corporate Governance Committee; such members may be removed or replaced, and any vacancies on the Audit Committee shall be filled by the Board upon recommendation of the Company’s Corporate Governance Committee; membership on the Audit Committee shall automatically end at such time the Board determines that a member ceases to be “independent” as determined in the manner set forth above;
- the chair of the Compensation and Human Resources Committee of the Company is a member of the Audit Committee;
- quorum of majority of members.

2. Frequency and Timing of Meetings

- normally contemporaneously with the Company’s Board meetings;
- at least four times a year and as necessary.



3. Mandate

The responsibilities of the Audit Committee include the following:

(a) Overseeing financial reporting

- monitoring the integrity and quality of the Company's accounting and financial reporting process, disclosure controls and procedures, and systems of internal control, through independent discussions with management, the external auditors and the internal auditors;
- reviewing, with management and the external auditors, the annual audited consolidated financial statements of the Company and accompanying information, including the report of the auditors thereon to be included in the Annual Report of the Company, the Company's MD&A disclosure and annual earnings press release, prior to their release, filing and distribution;
- reviewing, with management and the external auditors, condensed interim consolidated financial statements of the Company and accompanying information, including the Company's MD&A disclosure and quarterly earnings press release, prior to their release, filing and distribution;
- reviewing, with management and where appropriate, the external auditors, the financial information contained in prospectuses, offering memoranda, Annual Information Forms, Management Proxy Circulars, Forms 6-K (including Supplemental Disclosure) and 40-F and any other document required to be disclosed or filed by the Company before their public disclosure or filing with regulatory authorities in Canada or the United States of America;
- reviewing, with management, the type, presentation, controls and processes relating to financial information to be included in earnings press releases and other documents required to be filed with regulatory authorities in Canada or the United States of America (including earnings guidance and other material forward-looking information, as well as any use of pro-forma or non-GAAP information);
- reviewing, with management, that adequate procedures are in place for the review of the Company's disclosure of financial information extracted or derived from the Company's financial statements, such as annual reports and investor presentations, and periodically assessing the adequacy of those procedures;
- reviewing, with the external auditors and management, the quality, appropriateness and disclosure of the Company's accounting principles and policies, underlying assumptions and reporting practices, and any proposed changes thereto;
- reviewing any analysis or other written communications prepared by management or external auditors setting forth significant financial reporting issues, including the method used to account for significant unusual transactions or events and disclosures relating thereto, critical accounting estimates and judgments made in connection with the preparation of the financial statements, the analyses of the effect of alternative acceptable accounting policy choices, and the disclosure of sensitive matters such as related party transactions;



- reviewing the external auditors' quarterly review engagement report;
- overseeing the procedures to review management certifications filed with applicable securities regulators;
- reviewing the potential impact of any litigation, claim or other contingency and any regulatory or accounting initiatives that could have a material effect upon the financial position or operating results of the Company and the appropriateness of the disclosure thereof in the documents reviewed by the Audit Committee;
  - overseeing the procedures to monitor the public disclosure of information by the Company;
    - reviewing the Company's disclosure policy on a regular basis;
- reviewing the results of the external audit, any significant problems encountered in performing the audit, and management's response and/or action plan related to any Management Letter issued by the external auditors and any significant recommendations contained therein.

(b) Monitoring risk management and internal controls

- receiving periodically management's report assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures;
- receiving periodically management's reports assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of the Company's systems of internal control over financial reporting and reviewing the report of the auditors thereon;
  - reviewing insurance coverage (annually and as may otherwise be appropriate);
- overseeing the processes in place to identify business risks and opportunities and overseeing the implementation of processes to manage these risks and opportunities;
- reviewing the Company's policies and parameters regarding hedging activity and derivatives contracts entered into by management in order to address risks associated with foreign exchange fluctuations, commodity prices, interest rates and any other risks where the Company enters into derivatives contracts;
- assisting the Board with the oversight of the Company's compliance with, and reviewing the Company's processes for complying with, applicable legal and regulatory requirements;
- overseeing the confidential, anonymous procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints or concerns received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters or employee concerns regarding accounting or auditing matters;
  - requesting the performance of any specific audit, as required.

(c) Monitoring internal auditors

- ensuring that the head of internal audit has a functional reporting relationship with the Audit Committee;
- overseeing the access by internal auditors to all levels of management in order to carry out their duties;
- regularly monitoring the internal audit function's performance, its responsibilities, staffing and budget;
  - approving the appointment and termination of the Company's chief internal auditor;
- ensuring the ongoing accountability of the internal audit function to the Audit Committee and to the Board.

(d) Monitoring external auditors

- performing annual evaluations and periodic comprehensive evaluations of the performance of the external auditors, including assessing their qualifications and compensation as well as the quality and independence of their audits;
- monitoring at least annually the results of the periodic regulatory and professional quality-control examinations of the quality of the external audits;
- recommending the retention and, if appropriate, the removal of external auditors (both subject to shareholder approval);
- overseeing all relationships between the external auditors and the Company including, determining which non-audit services the external auditors are prohibited from providing, approving, or pre-approving policies defining audit and permitted non-audit services provided by the external auditors, overseeing the disclosure of all audit and permitted non-audit services provided by the external auditors, and reviewing the total amount of fees paid by the Company to the external auditors for all audit and non-audit services;
- overseeing the direct reporting and accountability of the external auditors to the Audit Committee and to the Board;
- directly overseeing the work of the external auditors, including the resolution of any disagreement between them and management regarding accounting and financial reporting;
- discussing with the external auditors the quality and not just the acceptability of the Company's accounting principles, including (i) critical accounting policies and practices used, (ii) critical accounting estimates and matters involving significant uncertainty, (iii) alternative treatments of financial information that have been discussed with management, the ramification of their use and the treatment preferred by the external auditors, as well as (iv) other material written communications between the Company and the external auditors with respect thereto;

- reviewing at least annually, representations by the external auditors describing their internal quality-control procedures;
- reviewing at least annually, the external auditors' representations as to independence and holding discussions with the external auditors as to any relationship or services that may impact their objectivity or independence;
  - reviewing hiring policies for employees or former employees of the Company's firm of external auditors;
- overseeing the rotation of lead, concurring and other audit partners, to the extent required by Canadian and U.S. securities law standards.

(e) Reviewing financings

- reviewing the adequacy of the Company's financing, including terms and conditions of all new material financing arrangements and compliance therewith.

(f) Evaluating the performance of the Audit Committee

- overseeing the existence of processes to annually evaluate the performance of the Audit Committee.

Because of the Audit Committee's demanding role and responsibilities, the Board chair, together with the Corporate Governance Committee chair, reviews any invitation to Audit Committee members to join the audit committee of another publicly-listed entity. Where a member of the Audit Committee simultaneously serves on the audit committee of more than three public companies, including the Company, the Board determines whether such simultaneous service impairs the ability of such member to effectively serve on the Audit Committee and either requires a correction to the situation or discloses in the Company's Management Proxy Circular that there is no such impairment.

As appropriate, the Audit Committee may obtain advice and assistance from outside legal, accounting or other advisors and set and pay their compensation, and so advise the Board chair and, if appropriate, the external auditors; the Audit Committee makes arrangements for the appropriate funding for payment of the external auditors and any advisors retained by it. In addition, the Company will provide appropriate funding for the Audit Committee, including the payment of all outside legal, accounting and other advisors retained by the Audit Committee.

The internal auditors and the external auditors will have at all times a direct line of communication with the Audit Committee. In addition, each meets separately with the Audit Committee, without management, at least once a quarter, during which the Company's financial statements and control environment must be discussed. Furthermore, at least once a quarter, and more frequently as required, the Audit Committee meets separately with management. Finally, at each regularly-scheduled and special meeting, the Audit Committee meets without management or any non-independent directors present.

The Audit Committee reports annually to the Board on the adequacy of its mandate. In addition, the chair of the Audit Committee reports regularly to the Board on the business of the Audit Committee.

Nothing contained in the above mandate is intended to transfer to the Audit Committee the Board's responsibility to ensure the Company's compliance with applicable laws or regulations or to expand



applicable standards of liability under statutory or regulatory requirements for the directors or the members of the Audit Committee. Even though the Audit Committee has a specific mandate and its members may have financial experience, they do not have the obligation to act as auditors or to perform auditing, or to determine that the Company's financial statements are complete and accurate and are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Such matters are the responsibility of management, the internal auditors and the external auditors. Members of the Audit Committee are entitled to rely, absent knowledge to the contrary, on (i) the integrity of the persons and organizations from whom they receive information, (ii) the accuracy and completeness of the information provided, and (iii) representations made by management as to the non-audit services provided to the Company by the external auditors. The Audit Committee's oversight responsibilities are not established to provide an independent basis to determine that (i) management has maintained appropriate accounting and financial reporting principles or appropriate internal controls and procedures, or (ii) the Company's financial statements have been prepared and, if applicable, audited in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

\* \* \* \* \*

A. Undertaking

Gildan Activewear Inc. (the “Registrant” or “Company”) undertakes to make available, in person or by telephone, representatives to respond to inquiries made by the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”), and to furnish promptly, when requested to do so by the SEC staff, information relating to the securities in relation to which the obligation to file an annual report on Form 40-F arises or transactions in such securities.

B. Consent to Service of Process

The Registrant has previously filed with the SEC a written irrevocable consent and power of attorney on Form F-X in connection with the Class A Subordinate Voting Shares (now Common Shares).

C. Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures

Our disclosure controls and procedures (as such term is defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”), as amended, Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our reports filed with the SEC is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms and is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive officer and our principal financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

An evaluation was carried out under the supervision of, and with the participation of, our management, including our principal executive officer and our principal financial officer, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 40-F. Based on that evaluation, our principal executive officer and our principal financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of such period.

D. Management’s annual report on internal control over financial reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act.

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

Under the supervision and with the participation of our principal executive officer and our principal financial officer, management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, as of January 3, 2016, based on the framework set forth in Internal Control-Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). Based on that evaluation, our principal executive officer and our principal financial officer concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of that date.

E. Report of the registered public accounting firm.

KPMG LLP (“KPMG”), an independent registered public accounting firm, that audited and reported on our financial statements attached as Exhibit 99.2 to this Annual Report on Form 40-F, has issued a report on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of January 3, 2016. The report is included on page 52 of the financial statements attached as Exhibit 99.2 to this Annual Report on Form 40-F.

F. Changes in internal controls over financial reporting.

There have been no changes that occurred during the period beginning on October 6, 2014 and ended on January 3, 2016 in our internal control over financial reporting that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

The design of any system of controls and procedures is based in part upon certain assumptions about the likelihood of certain events. There can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential future conditions, regardless of how remote.

G. Audit Committee Financial Experts

The Registrant’s board of directors has determined that it has at least three (3) audit committee financial experts serving on its Audit and Finance Committee. Mr. Donald C. Berg, Mr. Russell Goodman, and Mr. Gonzalo F. Valdes-Fauli have been determined to be such audit committee financial experts and are independent, as that term is defined by the New York Stock Exchange’s listing standards applicable to the Registrant. The SEC has indicated that the designation of Mr. Berg, Mr. Goodman, and Mr. Valdes-Fauli as audit committee financial experts does not make Mr. Berg, Mr. Goodman, and Mr. Valdes-Fauli “experts” for any purpose, impose any duties, obligations or liability on Mr. Berg, Mr. Goodman, and Mr. Valdes-Fauli that are greater than those imposed on members of the Audit and Finance Committee and Board of Directors who do not carry this designation or affect the duties, obligations or liability of any other member of the Audit and Finance Committee.

H. Code of Ethics

The Registrant has adopted a Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct (the “Code of Ethics”) that applies to all employees and officers, including its principal executive officer, principal financial officer and principal accounting officer. The Code of Ethics is available at the Registrant’s website, <http://www1.gildan.com/corporate/IR/corporateGovernance.cfm>, and is available, without charge, in print to any shareholder who requests it.

I. Principal Accountant Fees and Services

In addition to retaining KPMG to report upon the annual consolidated financial statements of the Registrant, the Registrant retained KPMG to provide various audit-related and non-audit services in fiscal 2015. The aggregate fees billed for professional services by KPMG for each of the last two (2) fiscal years, were as follows:

**Audit Fees** — The aggregate audit fees billed by KPMG were Cdn \$2,327,000 for the fifteen-month period ended January 3, 2016 (“fiscal 2015”) and Cdn\$2,199,000 for the year ended October 5, 2014 (“fiscal 2014”). These services consisted of professional services rendered for the annual audit of the Company’s consolidated financial statements and the quarterly reviews of the Company’s interim financial statements, consultation concerning financial reporting and accounting standards, and services provided in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements. The fees for the annual audit of the Company’s consolidated financial statements include fees relating to KPMG’s audit of the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting.

**Audit-Related Fees** — The aggregate audit-related fees billed by KPMG were Cdn \$322,000 for fiscal 2015 and Cdn\$386,000 for fiscal 2014. These services consisted of due diligence services relating to business acquisitions and also translation services in both years. Such due diligence services related primarily to financial accounting and internal control issues.

**Tax Fees** — The aggregate tax fees billed by KPMG were Cdn \$1,001,000 for fiscal 2015 and Cdn\$668,000 for fiscal 2014. These services consisted of tax compliance, including assistance with the preparation and review of tax returns, assistance regarding income, capital and sales tax audits, the preparation of annual transfer pricing studies, and tax advisory services relating to domestic and international taxation.

**All Other Fees** — The aggregate fees billed by KPMG for all other professional services rendered were Cdn \$125,000 for fiscal 2015 and nil for fiscal 2014.

All fees billed to the Registrant by KPMG in fiscal 2015 were pre-approved by the Registrant's Audit and Finance Committee pursuant to the procedures and policies set forth in the Audit and Finance Committee mandate and pursuant to applicable legislation. The mandate of the Audit and Finance Committee is available on the Registrant's Internet website at [www1.gildan.com/corporate/IR/corporateGovernance.cfm](http://www1.gildan.com/corporate/IR/corporateGovernance.cfm).

In fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014, the Company's Audit and Finance Committee did not approve any audit-related, tax or other services pursuant to paragraph (c) (7) (i) (C) of Rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X.

#### J. Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

##### Operating Leases and Commitments

The Registrant has no commitments that are not reflected in its balance sheets except for purchase obligations, minimum annual lease payments under operating leases which are primarily for premises and minimum royalty payments, which are included in the table of contractual obligations on page 33 of its Management's Discussion and Analysis (see Exhibit 99.1) (the "MD&A"). As disclosed in Note 23(b) to the Registrant's Consolidated Financial Statements (see Exhibit 99.2), the Registrant has issued financial guarantees, irrevocable standby letters of credit and surety bonds primarily from various servicing agreements amounting to \$55.4 million at January 3, 2016.

#### K. Tabular Disclosure of Contractual Obligations

See page 33 of Exhibit 99.1.

#### L. Corporate Governance Guidelines

The Registrant has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines as well as mandates for its board of directors and each of its three committees which are available at the Registrant's Internet website, <http://www1.gildan.com/corporate/IR/corporateGovernance.cfm>, and are available in print to any shareholder who requests them.

#### M. Identification of the Audit Committee

The Registrant has a separately-designated standing audit committee, known as the Audit and Finance Committee, established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Exchange Act. The members of the Registrant's Audit and Finance Committee are Mr. Donald C. Berg, Mr. Russell Goodman, Mr. Russ Hagey, Ms. Sheila O'Brien, and Mr. Gonzalo F. Valdez-Fauli. Please refer to section 8 of our Annual Information Form entitled "Audit and Finance



Committee Disclosure”, incorporated by reference herein, for additional information.

N. Summary of Significant Differences from NYSE Corporate Governance Rules

The Registrant is committed to adopting and adhering to corporate governance practices that either meet or exceed applicable Canadian and U.S. corporate governance standards. As a Canadian reporting issuer with securities listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX) and the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), the Registrant complies with all applicable rules adopted by the Canadian Securities Administrators as well as the rules of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission giving effect to the provisions of the U.S. Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

Although many of the NYSE Corporate Governance Standards do not apply to the Registrant, it nevertheless voluntarily complies with most of the NYSE Standards. In fact, the Registrant’s corporate governance practices differ significantly in only one respect from those required of U.S. domestic issuers under the NYSE Standards, which is with respect to the approval of equity compensation plans. The NYSE Standards require shareholder approval of all equity compensation plans and material revisions to such plans, regardless of whether the securities to be delivered under such plans are newly issued or purchased on the open market, subject to a few limited exceptions. The TSX Rules, however, do not require shareholder approval in all those circumstances. Hence, only the creation or material amendments to equity compensation plans that provide for new issuances of securities are subject to shareholder approval. The Registrant has in place plans which did not require the approval of its shareholders under the TSX Rules but which could have required the approval of its shareholders under the NYSE Standards as applicable to U.S. domestic issuers.

---

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Exchange Act, the Registrant certifies that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form 40-F and has duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereto duly authorized.

DATED: February 25, 2016

GILDAN ACTIVEWEAR INC.

/s/ Lindsay Matthews

Name: Lindsay Matthews

Title:

Vice-President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Management's Discussion and Analysis of the Registrant for the year ended January 3, 2016
99.2	Audited comparative consolidated financial statements of the Registrant as at and for the year ended January 3, 2016
99.3	Consent of KPMG LLP
99.4	Officers' Certifications Required by Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15d-14(a)
99.5	Officers' Certifications Required by Rule 13a-14(b) or Rule 15d-14(b) and Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code

---

