



Annual Report 2023

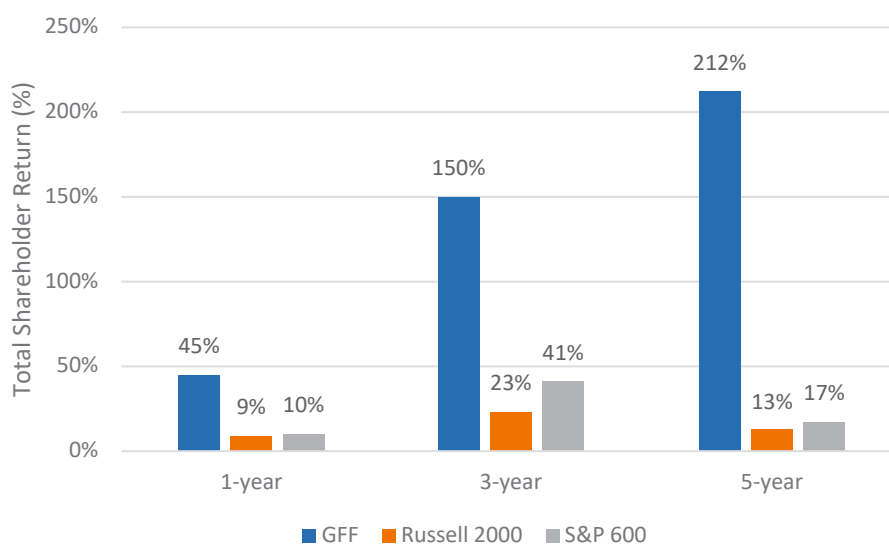
Letter to Shareholders



I am pleased to report that Griffon's 2023 financial results were once again outstanding. Our financial performance was highlighted by strong free cash flow and operating margins, driven by record results from our Home and Building Products (HBP) segment. This performance allowed us to return capital to shareholders and continue to reduce indebtedness. Last year, we delivered a record \$285 million to shareholders during the year through a combination of dividend payments and share repurchases, while reducing debt by \$99 million and our net debt to EBITDA leverage ratio from 2.9x to 2.6x.¹

Adjusted EBITDA² before unallocated expenses in 2023 increased 10% to \$561 million, with EBITDA margins expanding from 18% to 21% and operating free cash flow³ increasing \$372 million from the prior year to \$389 million. Revenue⁴ decreased to \$2.7 billion from \$2.8 billion, as challenging market conditions, soft consumer demand, and elevated customer inventory levels resulted in reduced volume for our Consumer and Professional Products (CPP) segment, which offset growth at HBP.

Griffon's Total Shareholder Return has consistently surpassed the returns of the Russell 2000 and S&P 600 and reflects our strong financial results. The cumulative return chart (below) over the last one, three, and five fiscal years demonstrates this outperformance. Note the comparison below reflects total returns and assumes the reinvestment of all dividends.



Data source for chart: Bloomberg

Griffon's performance is a result of actively managing our portfolio of businesses and reinforces the benefits of our holding company structure. We have taken significant steps to transform our business, enhancing our focus on core segments by divesting our Plastics and Telephonics (defense electronics) segments while



simultaneously strengthening our operations and expanding our capabilities and offerings across HBP and CPP with the strategic acquisitions CornellCookson, ClosetMaid and Hunter Fan Company.

We have also made substantial investments in our core businesses. Within HBP, we completed expansion and upgrade projects at our Troy, Ohio sectional door facility and Mountain Top, Pennsylvania rolling steel door facility. At CPP, we launched a new business intelligence platform for AMES in the U.S. and completed the build-out of two highly automated warehouse facilities to serve the east and west coasts, adding the capability to support e-commerce.

Regarding our segments, HBP continues to produce outstanding results. During 2023, after two years of elevated backlog and extended lead times, operations normalized. As a result, HBP has reinvigorated its efforts to capture additional market share for both residential and commercial product lines. We have made additional investments in the Clopay Troy facility that will enable us to continue to capture favorable product mix, efficiently meet market demand for our innovative door products and sustain HBP profit margins.

The CPP segment continues to face challenges with an uncertain macroeconomic environment, soft consumer demand and elevated retail inventory levels. We are executing on our plan to leverage our existing supplier network to expand CPP's global sourcing strategy to include the U.S. lawn and garden product lines that previously had its products manufactured in the U.S. We expect our asset-light strategy will enable the CPP segment to realize 15% EBITDA margins by fiscal 2026.

HOME AND BUILDING PRODUCTS

The HBP segment is composed of Clopay Corporation, the largest manufacturer and marketer of sectional residential and commercial garage doors and rolling steel doors in North America. Clopay's products are sold under the Clopay®, Cornell®, Cookson®, Ideal Door® and Holmes® brands. Clopay leverages its extensive design, manufacturing and logistics capabilities, including its 54 North American distribution centers, to serve a diverse customer portfolio spanning a network of over 3,000 professional dealers and major home center retail chains.

Fiscal 2023 marked Clopay's tenth consecutive year of record financial performance, accompanied by significant continued investment in new product innovation, brand development, manufacturing capacity and human capital. The strong Clopay team and Clopay's exceptional customers continue to drive these strong results. Fiscal 2023 revenue increased 5% year over year to \$1.6 billion, and Adjusted EBITDA² increased 24% to \$511 million.



Clipay's new product development pipeline continues to expand as we continuously launch new high-value products. These products have been driving interest and demand from architects, facility owners, homeowners, remodelers, and home builders:

- New residential garage door models launched in 2023 were designed to meet the evolving preferences of consumers. Clipay introduced five new models: Canyon Ridge® Chevron, Avante® Sleek, Lustra™ Gallery® and Bridgeport®, Modern Steel Ultra-Grain® Plank, and Canyon Ridge® Elements. These products helped Clipay win a “Best of Houzz” award for design in 2023. Looking forward, Clipay will be launching its innovative VertiStack™ Clear to the residential market at the 2024 International Builders’ Show in Las Vegas.
- In addition to providing award-winning products, Clipay continues to be a great partner. Building upon being named Partner of the Year by The Home Depot USA in 2022, Clipay was awarded Partner of the Year from The Home Depot Canada in 2023. This demonstrates that Clipay not only provides award winning products, but also provides exceptional support to its partners.
- Commercial product development remains strong. During 2023:
 - Clipay introduced ScreenGard™ Aluminum Aesthetic doors and Corrosion Resistant Service/Insulated Doors.
 - Clipay expanded its Architectural Series with the addition of 905/906 and 905U/906U aluminum full view models.
 - Clipay rolled out its CycleShield Ultra™ for 300 Series and 1024 Extreme® High Performance Doors.
 - CrossingGard® with ThreatProtect™ won the Gold “New Product of the Year” award in the Fire and Life Safety category from Security Today, as well as two Gold ASTOR awards from American Security Today – one for Best Fire & Safety Solution, and one for Best Integrated Security Management Solution.
 - The commercial VertiStack™ Clear earned the Product Innovation Award 2023 from Architectural Products and was designated one of the 75 Top Building Products for 2023 from Building Design + Construction.

In October 2023, Clipay announced an additional \$30 million investment in infrastructure and equipment at its Troy, Ohio manufacturing and distribution facility. This project will support volume growth with increased capacity and improved operational efficiencies upon its completion in 2024.

Clipay's unwavering mission to promote customer success, supported by its exceptional team and a strong and expanding product portfolio, positions Clipay for continued growth and profitability.



CONSUMER AND PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

The CPP segment is composed of The Ames Companies (AMES) and Hunter Fan Company (HFC). AMES serves our primary home markets of the United States, Australia, Canada, and the United Kingdom. AMES is a leading global provider of branded consumer and professional tools and products for home storage and organization, landscaping, and enhanced outdoor lifestyles. AMES' leading brands include AMES®, ClosetMaid®, True Temper®, Razor-Back®, Jackson®, Hills®, Garant®, Cyclone®, Nylex®, Harper® and Kelkay®. HFC is a leading North American designer and provider of residential, commercial, and industrial fans with well-recognized brands including Hunter® and Casablanca®. HFC's products showcase leading-edge technologies such as SureSpeed®, WeatherMax®, and SIMPLEconnect®.

In fiscal 2023, our CPP businesses experienced an 18% sales decline. Reduced volume was consistent across all channels and geographies due to soft consumer demand and point of sale activity and elevated customer inventory levels. In the U.S., sales were also negatively impacted by customer supplier diversification. CPP Adjusted EBITDA² decreased 49% versus the prior year, driven by the reduced volume and the related unfavorable impact on absorption, partially offset by reduced transportation costs.

The CPP Global Sourcing Initiative, launched in May 2023, is on budget and on schedule to be completed by the end of calendar year 2024. CPP has already met several strategic milestones in support of this initiative, including the ceasing of manufacturing operations at facilities comprising 1 million square feet of the targeted reduction of 1.2 million square feet in total manufacturing footprint.

CLOSING

In May of 2022, our Board of Directors initiated a comprehensive review of strategic alternatives, exploring a variety of options for Griffon including a sale, merger, divestiture, recapitalization, or other strategic transaction to unlock shareholder value. This initiative stemmed from the significant disconnect between Griffon's share price and the intrinsic value of our businesses, which persisted despite our exceptional financial performance and confidence in the company's future.

In April of 2023, our Board determined to conclude the strategic alternatives process, reflecting its confidence that executing our strategic plan is the best way to maximize value for Griffon's shareholders.

Our robust performance in fiscal 2023 confirms the wisdom of this decision. We entered the strategic alternatives process from a position of strength and emerged even stronger. We expect our Home and Building Products segment will continue its strong operating performance and margins, and believe we are on the path to improving profitability at the Consumer and Professional Products segment to ultimately reach our target of 15% EBITDA margin.



During my 15-year tenure as CEO, Griffon's Total Shareholder Return has substantially outperformed relevant market indices, yet I continue to believe that the true value of our long-term strategy and its execution remains significantly underestimated by the market.

Our leadership team's execution of this year's strategic framework positions us for sustained growth. We are dedicated to delivering outstanding financial performance while investing in our business to drive top and bottom-line growth, as we continually explore opportunities to drive additional growth through acquisitions. Our strong commitment to generating free cash flow provides us with substantial flexibility to take strategic and financial actions throughout fiscal 2024 and beyond, while delivering value to our shareholders.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the management team, I take great pride in what we accomplished in fiscal 2023. Navigating global challenges amid a dynamic operating environment, our employees' hard work and remarkable dedication were the cornerstone of our success, and I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of our employees around the globe.

Looking ahead to fiscal 2024, I am eager to execute our strategic plan and create additional value for our stakeholders. Last year I ended this letter by saying "The best is yet to come." Even after our outstanding performance in 2023, I remain confident this statement remains true today.

Yours sincerely,

Ronald J. Kramer

Chairman and CEO

¹ Calculated based on the applicable covenant in Griffon's credit agreement.

² For a reconciliation of Adjusted EBITDA to Income before taxes from continuing operations, see the GAAP to Non-GAAP reconciliation on page 100 of this annual report.

³ For a reconciliation of Net cash from operating activities to free cash flow, see the GAAP to Non-GAAP reconciliation at the end of this annual report.

⁴ On a continuing operations basis.

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

FORM 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the year ended September 30, 2023
OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 or 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Commission File No. 1-06620

GRIFFON CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

11-1893410
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

712 Fifth Ave, 18th Floor New York New York
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

10019
(Zip Code)

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code) **(212) 957-5000**

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

<u>Title of each class</u>	<u>Trading Symbol(s)</u>	<u>Name of each exchange on which registered</u>
Common Stock, \$0.25 par value	GFF	New York Stock Exchange

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

None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes No

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically 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 period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes No

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company
Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed a report on and attestation to its management's assessment of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting under Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (15 U.S.C. 7262(b)) by the registered public accounting firm that prepared or issued its audit report.

If securities are registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act, indicate by check mark whether the financial statements of the registrant included in the filing reflect the correction of an error to previously issued financial statements.

Indicate by check mark whether any of those error corrections are restatements that required a recovery analysis of incentive-based compensation received by any of the registrant's executive officers during the relevant recovery period pursuant to §240.10D-1(b).

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes No

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of the close of business March 31, 2023, the registrant's most recently completed second quarter, was approximately \$1,546,000,000. The registrant's closing price as reported by the New York Stock Exchange-Composite Transactions for March 31, 2023 was \$32.01. The number of the registrant's outstanding shares was 52,164,735 as of October 31, 2023.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE:

Part III—(Items 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14). Registrant's definitive proxy statement to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Special Notes Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This Annual Report on Form 10-K, especially “Management’s Discussion and Analysis”, contains certain “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Securities Act, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements relate to, among other things, income (loss), earnings, cash flows, revenue, changes in operations, operating improvements, industries in which Griffon Corporation (the “Company” or “Griffon”) operates and the United States and global economies. Statements in this Form 10-K that are not historical are hereby identified as “forward-looking statements” and may be indicated by words or phrases such as “anticipates,” “supports,” “plans,” “projects,” “expects,” “believes,” “achieves”, “should,” “would,” “could,” “hope,” “forecast,” “management is of the opinion,” “may,” “will,” “estimates,” “intends,” “explores,” “opportunities,” the negative of these expressions, use of the future tense and similar words or phrases. Such forward-looking statements are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include, among others: current economic conditions and uncertainties in the housing, credit and capital markets; Griffon’s ability to achieve expected savings and improved operational results from cost control, restructuring, integration and disposal initiatives (including, in particular, the expanded CPP global outsourcing strategy announced in May 2023); the ability to identify and successfully consummate, and integrate, value-adding acquisition opportunities (including, in particular, integration of the Hunter Fan acquisition); increasing competition and pricing pressures in the markets served by Griffon’s operating companies; the ability of Griffon’s operating companies to expand into new geographic and product markets, and to anticipate and meet customer demands for new products and product enhancements and innovations; increases in the cost or lack of availability of raw materials such as steel, resin and wood, components or purchased finished goods, including any potential impact on costs or availability resulting from tariffs; changes in customer demand or loss of a material customer at one of Griffon’s operating companies; the potential impact of seasonal variations and uncertain weather patterns on certain of Griffon’s businesses; political events or military conflicts that could impact the worldwide economy; a downgrade in Griffon’s credit ratings; changes in international economic conditions including inflation, interest rate and currency exchange fluctuations; the reliance by certain of Griffon’s businesses on particular third party suppliers and manufacturers to meet customer demands; the relative mix of products and services offered by Griffon’s businesses, which impacts margins and operating efficiencies; short-term capacity constraints or prolonged excess capacity; unforeseen developments in contingencies, such as litigation, regulatory and environmental matters; Griffon’s ability to adequately protect and maintain the validity of patent and other intellectual property rights; the cyclical nature of the businesses of certain of Griffon’s operating companies; possible terrorist threats and actions and their impact on the global economy; effects of possible IT system failures, data breaches or cyber-attacks; the impact of COVID-19, or some other future pandemic, on the U.S. and the global economy, including business disruptions, reductions in employment and an increase in business and operating facility failures, specifically among our customers and suppliers; Griffon’s ability to service and refinance its debt; and the impact of recent and future legislative and regulatory changes, including, without limitation, changes in tax laws. Such statements reflect the views of the Company with respect to future events and are subject to these and other risks, as previously disclosed in the Company’s Securities and Exchange Commission filings. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date made. Griffon undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law.

(Unless otherwise indicated, any reference to years or year-end refers to the fiscal year ending September 30 and U.S. dollars and non-U.S. currencies are in thousands, except per share data)

PART I

Item 1. Business

Overview

Griffon Corporation (the “Company” or “Griffon”, “we”, “us”) is a diversified management and holding company that conducts business through wholly-owned subsidiaries. The Company, founded in 1959, is a Delaware corporation headquartered in New York, N.Y. and is listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE:GFF).

Business Strategy

We own and operate, and seek to acquire, businesses in multiple industries and geographic markets. Our objective is to maintain leading positions in the markets we serve by providing innovative, branded products with superior quality and industry-leading service. We place emphasis on our iconic and well-respected brands, which helps to differentiate us and our offerings from our competitors and strengthens our relationship with our customers and those who ultimately use our products.

Through operating a diverse portfolio of businesses, we expect to reduce variability caused by external factors such as market cyclicality, seasonality, and weather. We achieve diversity by providing various product offerings and brands through multiple sales and distribution channels and conducting business across multiple countries which we consider our home markets.

Griffon oversees the operations of its subsidiaries, allocates resources among them and manages their capital structures. Griffon provides direction and assistance to its subsidiaries in connection with acquisition and growth opportunities as well as in connection with divestitures. As long-term investors, having substantial experience in a variety of industries, our intent is to continue the growth and strengthening of our existing businesses, and to diversify further through investments in our businesses and through acquisitions.

Over the past five years, we have undertaken a series of transformative transactions. We divested our specialty plastics business in 2018 to focus on our core markets and improve our free cash flow conversion. In our Home and Building Products (“HBP”) segment, we acquired CornellCookson, Inc. (“CornellCookson”) in 2018, which has been integrated into Clopay Corporation (“Clopay”), creating a leading North American manufacturer and marketer of residential garage doors and sectional commercial doors, and rolling steel doors and grille products, under brands that include Clopay, Ideal, Cornell and Cookson. In our Consumer and Professional Products (“CPP”) segment, we expanded the scope of our brands through the acquisition of Hunter Fan Company (“Hunter”) in January 2022 and ClosetMaid, LLC (“ClosetMaid”) in 2018. We established an integrated headquarters for CPP in Orlando, Florida for our portfolio of leading brands that includes AMES, Hunter, True Temper and ClosetMaid. CPP is well positioned to fulfill its ongoing mission of Bringing Brands Together™ with the leading brands in consumer and professional tools; residential, industrial and commercial fans; home storage and organization products; and products that enhance indoor and outdoor lifestyles.

On June 27, 2022 we completed the sale of our Defense Electronics segment which consisted of our Telephonics subsidiary for \$330,000 in cash, excluding customary post-closing adjustments. As such, the results of operations of our Telephonics business is classified as a discontinued operation in the Consolidated Statements of Operations for all periods presented and the related assets and liabilities have been classified as assets and liabilities of the discontinued operation in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Accordingly, all references made to results and information in this Annual Report on Form 10-K are to Griffon’s continuing operations, unless noted otherwise.

On January 24, 2022, Griffon acquired Hunter, a market leader in residential ceiling, commercial, and industrial fans, from MidOcean Partners (“MidOcean”) for a contractual purchase price of \$845,000.

Hunter, which is part of Griffon's Consumer and Professional Products segment, complements and diversifies our portfolio of leading consumer brands and products.

On May 16, 2022, Griffon announced that its Board of Directors initiated a process to review a comprehensive range of strategic alternatives to maximize shareholder value including a sale, merger, divestiture, recapitalization or other strategic transaction. On April 20, 2023, Griffon announced that its Board of Directors, after extensive evaluation and deliberation, determined that the ongoing execution of the Company's strategic plan was the best way to maximize value for shareholders and unanimously decided to conclude its review.

On August 1, 2023, Griffon amended its credit agreement to increase the total amount available for borrowing under its revolving credit facility from \$400,000 to \$500,000, extend the maturity date of the revolving credit facility from March 22, 2025 to August 1, 2028 and modify certain other provisions of the facility (the "Credit Agreement"). See Note 12, Long-Term Debt, for further details.

Update of COVID-19 on Our Business

On May 11, 2023, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared the end of the Public Health Emergency for COVID-19; however, the effects of COVID-19 continue to linger throughout the global economy and our businesses. Though the severity of COVID-19 has subsided, new variants, or the outbreak of a new pathogen, could interrupt business, cause renewed labor and supply chain disruptions, and negatively impact the global and US economy, which could materially and adversely impact our businesses.

CPP Global Sourcing Strategy Expansion and Restructuring Charges

On May 3, 2023, in response to changing market conditions, Griffon announced that its CPP segment will expand its global sourcing strategy to include long handled tools, material handling, and wood storage and organization product lines for the U.S. market.

By transitioning these product lines to an asset-light structure, CPP's operations will be better positioned to serve customers with a more flexible and cost-effective sourcing model that leverages supplier relationships around the world, while improving its competitive positioning in a post-pandemic marketplace. These actions will be essential to CPP achieving 15% EBITDA margins, while enhancing free cash flow through improved working capital and significantly lower capital expenditures.

The global sourcing strategy expansion is expected to be complete by the end of calendar 2024. Over that period, CPP expects to reduce its facility footprint by approximately 1.2 million square feet, or approximately 15%, and its headcount by approximately 600. The affected U.S. locations will include Camp Hill and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Grantsville, Maryland; Fairfield, Iowa; and four wood mills.

Implementation of this strategy over the duration of the project will result in charges of \$120,000 to \$130,000, including \$50,000 to \$55,000 of cash charges for employee retention and severance, operational transition, and facility and lease exit costs, and \$70,000 to \$75,000 of non-cash charges primarily related to asset write-downs. Capital investment in the range of \$3,000 to \$5,000 will also be required. These costs exclude cash proceeds from the sale of real estate and equipment, which are expected to largely offset the cash charges, and also exclude inefficiencies due to duplicative labor costs and absorption impacts during transition.

Other Business Highlights

In August 2020 Griffon completed the Public Offering of 8,700,000 shares of our common stock for total net proceeds of \$178,165. The Company used a portion of the net proceeds to repay outstanding borrowings under its Credit Agreement. The Company used the remainder of the proceeds for working capital and general corporate purposes.

During 2020, Griffon issued, at par, \$1,000,000 of 5.75% Senior Notes due in 2028 (the “2028 Senior Notes”). Proceeds from the 2028 Senior Notes were used to redeem the \$1,000,000 of 5.25% Senior Notes due in 2022.

In November 2019, Griffon announced the development of a next-generation business platform for CPP to enhance the growth, efficiency, and competitiveness of its U.S. operations, and on November 12, 2020, Griffon announced that CPP is broadening this strategic initiative to include additional North American facilities, the AMES United Kingdom (U.K.) and Australia businesses, and a manufacturing facility in China. On April 28, 2022, Griffon announced a reduced scope and accelerated timeline for the initiative, which was completed in fiscal 2022. This initiative resulted in annual cash savings of \$25,000 in fiscal 2023. The cost to implement this new business platform included one-time charges of \$51,869 and capital investments of approximately \$13,000, net of proceeds from the sale of exited facilities.

In June 2018, Clopay acquired CornellCookson, a leading provider of rolling steel service doors, fire doors, and grilles, for an effective purchase price of approximately \$170,000. This transaction strengthened Clopay’s strategic portfolio with a line of commercial rolling steel door products to complement Clopay’s sectional door offerings in the commercial sector, and expanded the Clopay network of professional dealers focused on the commercial market.

In March 2018, we announced the combination of the ClosetMaid operations with those of AMES, which improved operational efficiencies by leveraging the complementary products, customers, warehousing and distribution, manufacturing, and sourcing capabilities of the two businesses.

In February 2018, we closed on the sale of our Clopay Plastics Products (“Plastics”) business to Berry Global, Inc. (“Berry”) for approximately \$465,000, net of certain post-closing adjustments, thus exiting the specialty plastics industry that the Company had entered when it acquired Clopay Corporation in 1986. This transaction provided immediate liquidity and improved Griffon’s cash flow given the historically higher capital needs of the Plastics operations as compared to Griffon’s remaining businesses.

In October 2017, we acquired ClosetMaid from Emerson Electric Co. (NYSE:EMR) for an effective purchase price of approximately \$165,000. ClosetMaid, founded in 1965, is a leading North American manufacturer and marketer of wood and wire closet organization, general living storage and wire garage storage products, and sells to some of the largest home center retail chains, mass merchandisers, and direct-to-builder professional installers in North America. We believe that ClosetMaid is the leading brand in its category, with excellent consumer recognition.

We believe these actions have established a solid foundation for growth in sales, profit, and cash generation and bolster Griffon’s platforms for opportunistic strategic acquisitions.

Other Acquisitions and Dispositions

On December 22, 2020, AMES acquired Quatro Design Pty Ltd (“Quatro”), a leading Australian manufacturer and supplier of glass fiber reinforced concrete landscaping products for residential, commercial, and public sector projects for a purchase price of AUD \$3,500 (approximately \$2,700). Quatro contributed approximately \$5,000 in revenue in the first twelve months after the acquisition.

On November 29, 2019, AMES acquired Vatre Group Limited (“Apta”), a leading U.K. supplier of innovative garden pottery and associated products sold to leading U.K. and Ireland garden centers for approximately \$10,500 (GBP 8,750), inclusive of a post-closing working capital adjustment, net of cash acquired. This acquisition broadens AMES’ product offerings in the U.K. market and increases its in-country operational footprint.

On February 13, 2018, AMES acquired Kelkay, a leading U.K. manufacturer and distributor of decorative outdoor landscaping products sold to garden centers, retailers and grocers in the U.K. and Ireland. This acquisition broadened AMES’ product offerings in the market and increased its in-country operational footprint.

In November 2017, Griffon acquired Harper Brush Works, a leading U.S. manufacturer of cleaning products for professional, home, and industrial use, from Horizon Global (NYSE:HZN). This acquisition expanded the AMES line of long-handle tools in North America to include brooms, brushes, and other cleaning products.

Further Information

Griffon posts and makes available, free of charge through its website at www.griffon.com, its annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as well as press releases, as soon as reasonably practicable after such materials are published or filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). The information found on Griffon’s website is not part of this or any other report it files with or furnishes to the SEC.

For information regarding revenue, profit and total assets of each segment, see the Reportable Segments footnote in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Reportable Segments:

Griffon conducts its operations through two reportable segments:

- Home and Building Products (“HBP”) conducts its operations through Clopay Corporation (“Clopay”). Founded in 1964, Clopay is the largest manufacturer and marketer of garage doors and rolling steel doors in North America. Residential and commercial sectional garage doors are sold through professional dealers and leading home center retail chains throughout North America under the brands Clopay, Ideal, and Holmes. Rolling steel door and grille products designed for commercial, industrial, institutional, and retail use are sold under the Cornell and Cookson brands.
- Consumer and Professional Products (“CPP”) is a leading global provider of branded consumer and professional tools; residential, industrial and commercial fans; home storage and organization products; and products that enhance indoor and outdoor lifestyles. CPP sells products globally through a portfolio of leading brands including AMES, since 1774, Hunter, since 1886, True Temper, and ClosetMaid.

Reportable Segments:

HOME AND BUILDING PRODUCTS

The HBP segment consists of Clopay. Founded in 1964 and acquired by Griffon in 1986, Clopay has grown organically and through acquisitions to become the largest manufacturer and marketer of residential and commercial garage doors and rolling steel doors in North America. The majority of Clopay’s sales come from home remodeling and renovation projects, with the balance from commercial construction and new residential housing construction. Sales into the home remodeling market are driven by the aging of the housing stock, existing home sales activity, and the trends of improving both home appearance and energy efficiency. Sales into the commercial market are driven by commercial construction and repair and replacement, including the aging of nonresidential buildings, warehouses and institutional and industrial facilities, as well as increased business activity, changes to building codes, security of facilities, and trends of improving function and performance.

Clopay has approximately 2,900 employees.

Brands

Clopay brings over 50 years of experience and innovation to the residential and sectional garage door industry, and has over 100 years of experience in the rolling steel industry. Residential and commercial

sectional products are sold under market-leading brands including Clopay®, America's Favorite Garage Doors®, Holmes Garage Door Company® and IDEAL Door®. Clopay commercial rolling steel door brands include Cornell®, Cookson® and Clopay®.

Products and Service

Clopay manufactures a broad line of residential sectional garage doors with a variety of options, at varying prices. Clopay offers garage doors made primarily from steel, plastic composite and wood, and also sells related products, such as garage door openers manufactured by third parties.

Commercial door products manufactured and marketed by Clopay include rolling steel service doors, fire doors, shutters, steel security grilles, and room dividers. Clopay also manufactures and markets commercial sectional doors, which are similar to residential garage doors, but are designed to meet the more demanding performance specifications of a commercial application.

Customers

Clopay supports a diversity of customers ranging from local rural dealerships to national retail chains. Clopay's customers include over 3,000 independent professional installing dealers and major home center retail chains including Home Depot and Menards. Clopay maintains strong relationships with its installing dealers and believes it is the largest supplier of sectional garage doors to the retail and professional installing channels in North America and the largest supplier of rolling steel door products in North America.

Clopay distributes its garage doors directly to customers from its manufacturing facilities and through its distribution centers located throughout the U.S. and Canada. These distribution centers allow Clopay to maintain an inventory of garage doors near installing dealers and provide quick-ship service to retail and professional dealer customers.

Clopay is currently the exclusive supplier of residential and commercial garage doors to Home Depot and Menards locations throughout North America, and has relationships with each of more than 25 years. The loss of either of these customers would have a material adverse effect on Clopay and Griffon.

Product Development

Clopay product development efforts focus on both new products and improvements to existing products. Products are developed through in-house design and engineering staffs.

Clopay operates technical development centers where its research engineers design and develop new products and technologies and perform durability and performance testing of new and existing products, materials and finishes. Clopay continually improves its door offerings through these development efforts, focusing on characteristics such as strength, design, operating performance and durability, and energy efficiency. The process engineering teams also work to develop new manufacturing processes and production techniques aimed at improving manufacturing efficiencies and ensuring quality-made products.

Sales and Marketing

The Clopay sales and marketing organization supports our customers, consults on new product development and aggressively markets door solutions, with a primary focus on the North American market. Clopay maintains a strong promotional presence, in both traditional and digital media.

Clopay provides a unique customer experience platform called MyClopay™ which delivers an array of sales, order management, analytical, instructional, and informational applications. These applications empower Clopay's customers to provide the best solutions to their end customers, and MyClopay has been widely adopted by Clopay's customers due to its feature rich, intuitive, and device-agnostic software. We believe this capability is unique to the industry.

Within the MyClopay application suite, Clopay customers use a proprietary residential door web application, the MyDoor® mobile enabled app, that guides consumers through an easy to use door visualization and pricing process, allowing them to select the optimal door for their home. For Clopay's commercial products, Clopay's Commercial Door Quoter (CDQ®™) and WebGen™ applications deliver a streamlined quoting and bid submittal process to our professional dealers, providing improved close rates, productivity, and back office efficiency.

Raw Materials and Suppliers

The principal raw material used in Clopay's manufacturing is galvanized steel. Clopay also utilizes certain hardware components, as well as wood and insulated foam. All raw materials are generally available from a number of sources.

Competition

The sectional garage door and commercial rolling steel door industry includes several large national manufacturers and many smaller, regional and local manufacturers. Clopay competes on the basis of service, quality, brand awareness, product design and price.

Clopay brand names are widely recognized in the building products industry. Clopay believes that it has earned a reputation among installing dealers and retailers for producing a broad range of innovative, high-quality doors with industry leading lead times supported by an extensive distribution network. Clopay's market position, brand recognition, and proprietary software applications and systems are key marketing tools for expanding its customer base.

Manufacturing and Distribution

Clopay's principal manufacturing facilities include 1,487,000 square feet in Troy and Russia, Ohio, 279,000 square feet in Mountain Top, Pennsylvania and 163,000 square feet in Goodyear, Arizona. Clopay distributes its products through a wide range of distribution channels, including a national network of 54 distribution centers with a total of approximately 1,100,000 square feet. This network of manufacturing facilities and distribution centers is capable of providing just in time and prepositioned inventory across the U.S. and Canada, and provides flexibility regarding how and where doors are delivered to customers in their local markets.

CONSUMER AND PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

Consumer and Professional Products ("CPP") is a leading global provider of branded consumer and professional tools; residential, industrial and commercial fans; home storage and organization products; and products that enhance indoor and outdoor lifestyles. CPP sells products globally through a portfolio of leading brands including AMES, Hunter and ClosetMaid. AMES, founded in Massachusetts in 1774, has the distinction of being one of the oldest companies in continuous operation in the United States. Over its long life, AMES has grown organically and through the acquisition of other leading and historic tool businesses such as True Temper, Union Tools, and Garant. Today, AMES is a leading manufacturer of long-handled tools and landscaping products for homeowners and professionals in North America, and also provides these products in key global markets including Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the U.K., and Ireland. Under the ClosetMaid brand, CPP is the leading provider of wood and wire closet organization, general living storage, and wire garage storage products in the United States. Under the Hunter brand, since 1886, CPP is a leading provider of residential, industrial and commercial fans in the United States.

CPP has approximately 2,800 employees worldwide.

Brands

CPP's brands are among the most recognized across its primary product categories in North America, Australia and the United Kingdom. Its brand portfolio for long-handled tools, outdoor décor, and landscaping product includes AMES®, True Temper®, Garant®, Harper®, UnionTools®, Westmix™, Cyclone®, Southern Patio®, Northcote Pottery™, Nylex®, Hills®, Kelkay®, Tuscan Path®, La Hacienda®, Kelso™, Dynamic Design®™, Apta® and Quatro Design®. Contractor-oriented tool brands include Razor-Back® Professional Tools and Jackson® Professional Tools. CPP's home organization, general living storage, and garage storage products are sold primarily under the ClosetMaid® brand. CPP's residential, industrial and commercial fan products are sold under the Hunter Fan®, Hunter Industrial® and Casablanca® brands.

This strong portfolio of brands enables CPP to build and maintain long-standing relationships with leading retailers and distributors. In addition, given the breadth of its brand portfolio and product category depth, CPP is able to offer specific, differentiated branding strategies for key retail customers. These strategies focus on enhancement of brand value, with the goal of de-commoditizing CPP products through identity and functionality elements that makes each top brand unique, attractive and visually recognizable by the consumer.

Products

CPP manufactures and markets a broad portfolio of long-handled tools, landscaping products, home organization products and residential, industrial and commercial fans. This portfolio contains many iconic brands and is anchored by six core product categories: seasonal outdoor tools, project tools, outdoor décor and watering, home organization, fans and cleaning products. As a result of brand portfolio recognition, outstanding product quality, industry leading service and strong customer relationships, CPP has earned market-leading positions in its six core product categories. The following is a brief description of CPP's primary product lines:

• ***Seasonal Outdoor Tools***

- ***Long-Handled Tools:*** An extensive line of engineered tools including shovels, spades, scoops, rakes, hoes, cultivators, weeders, post hole diggers, scrapers, edgers and forks, marketed under leading brand names including AMES®, True Temper®, UnionTools®, Garant®, Cyclone® and Kelso™, as well as contractor-oriented brands including Razor-Back® Jackson® and Darby™.
- ***Wheelbarrows:*** AMES designs, develops and manufactures a full line of wheelbarrows and lawn carts, primarily under the AMES®, True Temper®, Jackson® Professional Tools, UnionTools®, Garant® and Westmix™ brand names. The products range in size, material (poly and steel), tray form, tire type, handle length and color based on the needs of homeowners, landscapers and contractors.
- ***Snow Tools:*** A complete line of snow tools is marketed under the True Temper®, Garant® and Union Tools® brand names. The snow tool line includes shovels, pushers, roof rakes, sled sleigh shovels, scoops and ice scrapers.
- ***Pruning:*** The pruning line is made up of pruners, loppers, shears, and other tools sold primarily under the True Temper®, Cyclone® and Garant® brand names.

• ***Project Tools***

- ***Striking Tools:*** Axes, picks, mattocks, mauls, wood splitters, sledgehammers, pry bars and repair handles make up the striking tools product line. These products are marketed under the True Temper®, AMES®, Cyclone®, Garant®, Jackson® Professional Tools and Razor-Back® Professional Tools brand names.

- **Hand Tools:** Hammers, screwdrivers, pliers, adjustable wrenches, handsaws, tape measures, levels, clamps, and other traditional hand tools make up this product line. These products are marketed under the Trojan®, Cyclone® and Supercraft® brand names. In addition, gardening hand tools, such as trowels, cultivators, weeders and other specialty garden hand tools, are marketed under the AMES® brand name.
- **Outdoor Décor and Watering**
 - **Planters and Lawn Accessories:** AMES is a designer, manufacturer and distributor of indoor and outdoor planters and accessories, sold under the Southern Patio®, Northcote Pottery™, Tuscan Path, La Hacienda®, Hills®, Kelkay®, Quatro Design® and Dynamic Design®™ brand names, as well as various private label brands. The range of planter sizes (from 6 to 32 inches) is available in various designs, colors and materials.
 - **Garden Hose and Storage:** AMES offers a wide range of manufactured and sourced garden hoses and hose reels under the AMES®, NeverLeak® and Nylex® brand names.
- **Home Organization:** AMES designs, manufactures and sells a comprehensive portfolio of wire and wood shelving, containers, storage cabinets and other closet and home organization accessories primarily under the highly recognized ClosetMaid® brand name. Wire products include wire shelving and hardware, wire accessories and kitchen storage products. Wire product brands include Maximum Load®, SuperSlide® and ShelfTrack®. Wood solutions include closet systems, cube storage, storage furniture and cabinets. Selected wood product brands include MasterSuite®, Suite Symphony®™, ExpressShelf®, Style+®, and SpaceCreations®.
- **Fans:** CPP designs and sells residential, industrial and commercial fans under the Hunter Fan®, Hunter Industrial® and Casablanca® brand names.
- **Cleaning Products:** CPP offers a line of cleaning products for professional, home, and industrial use, including brooms, brushes, squeegees, and other cleaning products, primarily under the Harper® brand.

Customers

CPP sells products throughout North America, Australia, New Zealand, the U.K. and Ireland through (1) home centers, such as The Home Depot, Inc. (“Home Depot”), Lowe’s Companies Inc. (“Lowe’s”), Rona Inc., Bunnings Warehouse (“Bunnings”) and Woodies (with the average length of the relationship with these customers being approximately 30 years); (2) mass market, specialty, and hardware retailers including Tractor Supply Corporation (“Tractor Supply”), Wal-Mart Stores Inc. (“Walmart”), Target Corporation (“Target”), Canadian Tire Corporation, Limited (“Canadian Tire”), Costco Wholesale Corporation (“Costco”), Ace, Do-It-Best and True Value Company; (3) industrial distributors, such as W.W. Grainger, Inc. and ORS Nasco; (4) homebuilders, such as D.R. Horton, KB Home, Lennar and NVR, Inc.; and (5) E-commerce platforms, such as Amazon Inc. (“Amazon”), Wayfair Inc., (“Wayfair”), Hayneedle Inc., (“Hayneedle”), Overstock Inc. (“Overstock”), and Spreetail LLC. (“Spreetail”).

Home Depot, Lowe’s, Menards and Bunnings are significant customers of CPP. The loss of any of these customers would have a material adverse effect on the CPP business and on Griffon.

Product Development

CPP product development efforts focus on both new products and product line extensions. CPP continually improves existing products as well as develops new products to satisfy consumer needs, expand revenue opportunities, maintain or extend competitive advantages, increase market opportunity and reduce production costs. Products are developed through in-house industrial design and engineering staffs to introduce new products and product line extensions that are timely and cost effective.

Sales and Marketing

CPP's sales organization is structured by product line and distribution channel in the U.S., and by country internationally. In the U.S., a dedicated team of sales professionals is provided for each of the large retail customers. Offices are maintained adjacent to each of the two largest customers' headquarters, supported by a shared in-house sales analyst. In addition, sales professionals are assigned to domestic, wholesale and industrial distribution channels. Sales teams located in Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, Mexico and Ireland handle sales in each of their respective regions. In Australia, a dedicated team of sales professionals is provided for the largest retail customer. CPP has made significant investments in automation, facilities expansion and fulfillment operations to support e-commerce growth.

Raw Materials and Suppliers

CPP's primary raw material inputs include resin (primarily polypropylene and high density polyethylene), wood (particleboard and hardwoods including ash, hickory and poplar logs) and steel (hot rolled, cold rolled, and wire rod). All raw materials are generally available from a number of sources. Certain components are purchased, such as heavy forged components and wheelbarrow tires. Most final assembly is completed internally in order to ensure consistent quality. CPP also sources certain finished goods, primarily in storage and organization, outdoor décor, residential, industrial and commercial fans, and tools for non-North American locations.

Competition

The long-handled tools and landscaping product industry is highly competitive and fragmented. Most competitors consist of small, privately-held companies focusing on a single product category. Some competitors, such as Fiskars Corporation in the hand tool and pruning tool market and Truper Herramientas S.A. de C.V. in the long-handled and garden tool space, compete in various tool categories. Suncoast Corporation competes in the hose reel and accessory market, and in the long-handled plastic snow shovel category. In addition, there is competition from imported or sourced products from China, India and other low-cost producing countries, particularly in long-handled tools, wheelbarrows, planters, striking tools and pruning tools.

The home storage and organizational solutions industry is also highly fragmented. CPP, primarily under the ClosetMaid brands, sells through retail, direct to consumer (e-commerce category) and direct to installer (building) channels and competes with a significant number of companies across each of these unique channels. Principal competition for retail wire products is from products sourced from China, India and other low-cost producing countries. FirstService Brands, Inc. sells competing wood solutions under the brand California Closets®, but does not sell through the retail or direct to consumer channels.

The residential, industrial, and commercial fan industry is fragmented. CPP, under the highly recognized Hunter brand, sells through direct to consumer (e-commerce category), retail, and direct to installer (industrial and commercial) channels. CPP's principal competitors in the consumer ceiling fan market are retailer house brands such as Hampton Bay in The Home Depot and Harbor Breeze in Lowe's, followed by Minka Air. In the industrial and commercial fan space, principal competitors are Big Ass Fans, Rite-Hite, Macro Air, and Minka Air.

CPP differentiates itself and provides the best value to customers through its successful history of innovation, dependable supply chain and high on-time delivery rates, quality, product performance, and highly recognized product brands. CPP's size, depth and breadth of product offering, category knowledge, research and development ("R&D") investment, service and its ability to react to sudden changes in demand from seasonal weather patterns, especially during harsh winter months, are competitive advantages.

Manufacturing and Distribution

CPP sources products for sale through a combination of internal and external global manufacturing sources and supply chain partners. Principal North American manufacturing and distribution facilities include a 676,000 square foot facility in Ocala, Florida, and a 353,000 square foot manufacturing center in St. Francois, Quebec, Canada. CPP operates smaller manufacturing facilities, including wood mills, at several other locations in the United States, and internationally in Jiangmen, China, and Grafton, New South Wales and Wonthaggi, Victoria, both in Australia.

CPP has three principal distribution facilities in the United States, a 1.4 million square foot facility in Carlisle, Pennsylvania a 997,000 square foot facility in Reno, Nevada and a 600,000 square foot facility in Byhalia, MS. Finished goods are transported to these facilities from both North American manufacturing sites and from North American ports by both an internal fleet, as well as over the road trucking and rail. Additionally, light assembly is performed at the Carlisle and Reno locations. Smaller distribution centers are also strategically located in the U.S. in Ocala, Florida, and internationally in Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Discontinued Operation:

DEFENSE ELECTRONICS

On June 27, 2022, Griffon completed the sale of its Defense Electronics segment, which consisted of Griffon's Telephonics subsidiary, for \$330,000, excluding certain customary post-closing adjustments. As such, the results of operations of our Telephonics business is classified as a discontinued operation in the Consolidated Statements of Operations for all periods presented and the related assets and liabilities have been classified as assets and liabilities of the discontinued operation in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Accordingly, all references made to results and information in this Annual Report on Form 10-K are to Griffon's continuing operations, unless noted otherwise.

Griffon Corporation

Employees

As of September 30, 2023, Griffon and its subsidiaries employ approximately 5,700 employees located primarily throughout the U.S., Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and China. Generally, the total number of employees of Griffon and its subsidiaries does not significantly fluctuate throughout the year. However, acquisition activity or the opening of new branches or lines of business, efficiency initiatives, or other changes in the level of Griffon's business activity (for instance, based on actual or anticipated customer demand or other factors), could require staffing level adjustments. The expansion of CPP's global sourcing strategy has resulted in the recent closure of certain CPP US facilities; as a result, CPP employs approximately 57 fewer employees today than it did on September 30, 2023. Additional CPP US facility closures will result in further CPP US headcount reductions.

As of September 30, 2023, approximately 54 CPP employees were covered by collective bargaining agreements in the U.S., with the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union (an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations), and the United Food & Commercial Workers International Union. These employees were located at CPP's facility in Harrisburg, PA, which has since ceased operations. Additionally, approximately 163 employees in Canada are represented by the Trade Union Advisory Committee. Griffon believes its relationships with its employees are satisfactory.

In managing its human capital resources, Griffon aims to attract a qualified workforce through an inclusive and accessible recruiting process that utilizes online recruiting platforms, campus outreach, internships and job fairs. Griffon also seeks to retain employees by offering competitive wages, benefits and training opportunities, as well as promoting a safe and healthy workplace. Griffon and all of its businesses strictly comply with all applicable state, local and international laws governing

nondiscrimination in employment in every location in which Griffon and its businesses have facilities. This applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including recruiting, hiring, placement, promotion, termination, layoff, recall, transfer, leaves of absence, compensation and training. All applicants and employees are treated with the same high level of respect regardless of their gender, ethnicity, religion, national origin, age, marital status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability or protected veteran status.

Regulation

Griffon's operations are subject to various environmental, health, and employee safety laws and regulations. Griffon believes that it is in material compliance with these laws and regulations. Historically, compliance with environmental, health, and employee safety laws and regulations have not materially affected, and are not expected to materially affect, Griffon's capital expenditures, earnings or competitive position. Nevertheless, Griffon cannot guarantee that, in the future, it will not incur additional costs for compliance or that such costs will not be material.

Customers

A small number of customers account for, and are expected to continue to account for, a substantial portion of Griffon's consolidated revenue. In 2023, Home Depot represented 12% of Griffon's consolidated revenue, 9% of HBP's revenue and 15% of CPP's revenue.

No other customer accounted for 10% or more of consolidated revenue. Future operating results will continue to substantially depend on the success of Griffon's largest customers and Griffon's relationships with them. Orders from these customers are subject to change and may fluctuate materially. The loss of all or a portion of volume from any one of these customers could have a material adverse impact on Griffon's financial results, liquidity and operations.

Seasonality

Griffon's revenue and earnings are generally lowest in our first and fourth quarters ending December 31, and September 30, respectively, and highest in the second and third quarters ending March 31, and June 30, respectively, primarily due to the seasonality within the HBP and CPP businesses. HBP's business is driven by renovation and construction during warm weather, which is historically at reduced levels during the winter months, generally in our second quarter. In 2023, 54% of CPP's sales occurred during the second and third quarters compared to 58% in 2022 and 53% in 2021.

Demand for lawn and garden products is influenced by weather, particularly weekend weather during peak gardening season. AMES' sales volume can be adversely affected by certain weather patterns such as unseasonably cool or warm temperatures, hurricanes, water shortages or floods. In addition, lack of snow or lower than average snowfall during the winter season may result in reduced sales of certain AMES' products, such as snow shovels and other snow tools. As a result, AMES' results of operations, financial results and cash flows could be adversely impacted.

Financial Information About Geographic Areas

Segment and operating results are included in Item 7, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

For geographic financial information, see the Reportable Segment footnote in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.

Griffon's non-U.S. businesses are primarily in Canada, Australia, the U.K., Ireland and China.

Research and Development

Griffon's businesses are encouraged to improve existing products as well as develop new products to satisfy customer needs; expand revenue opportunities; maintain or extend competitive advantages; increase market share and reduce production costs. R&D costs, not recoverable under contractual arrangements, are charged to expense as incurred.

Intellectual Property

Griffon follows a practice of actively protecting and enforcing its proprietary rights in the U.S. and throughout the world where Griffon's products are sold. All intellectual property information presented in this section is as of September 30, 2023.

Trademarks are of significant importance to Griffon's HBP and CPP businesses. With 50 years of experience and innovation in the garage door industry, and over 100 years of experience in the rolling steel door industry, HBP has a significant level of goodwill in its strong family of brands, including: Clopay®, America's Favorite Doors®; Holmes Garage Door Company®; IDEAL Door®; and the Cornell® and Cookson® commercial door brands. Principal global and regional trademarks used by CPP for its tool and landscape products include AMES®, True Temper®, Garant®, Harper®, UnionTools®, Westmix™, Cyclone®, Southern Patio®, Northcote Pottery™, Nylex®, Hills®, Kelkay®, Tuscan Path®, La Hacienda®, Kelso™, Apta®, and Dynamic Design®, as well as contractor-oriented brands including Razor-Back® Professional Tools and Jackson® Professional Tools. Storage and home organization brands within CPP include ClosetMaid®, MasterSuite®, Suite Symphony®, Cubeicals®, ExpressShelf®, SpaceCreations®, Maximum Load®, SuperSlide® and ShelfTrack®. CPP's Hunter Fan Company has over 135 years of experience in the ceiling fan industry with well-recognized brands including Hunter®, Casablanca®, Hunter Industrial®, and Jan Fan®. The HBP and CPP businesses have approximately 1,647 registered trademarks and approximately 139 pending trademark applications around the world. Griffon's rights in these trademarks endure for as long as they are used and registered.

Patents are also important to the HBP and CPP businesses. HBP holds approximately 45 issued patents and 24 pending patent applications in the U.S., as well as approximately 20 and 98 corresponding foreign patents and patent applications, primarily related to garage door system components and operation. CPP protects its designs and product innovation through the use of patents, and currently has approximately 674 issued patents and approximately 247 pending patent applications in the U.S., as well as approximately 275 and 97 corresponding foreign patents and patent applications, respectively. Design patents are generally valid for fourteen years, and utility patents are generally valid for twenty years, from the date of filing. Griffon's patents are in various stages of their terms of validity.

Environmental, Social and Governance

Griffon and its operating companies have always taken into account environmental, social and governance (ESG) considerations in the management of our businesses. Griffon is a subscriber to the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and published its inaugural annual ESG report, in relation to fiscal 2021, benchmarked to both UNGC Sustainable Development Goals and to the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board criteria. The Griffon ESG policy and fiscal 2021 ESG Report can be found on the Griffon website at www.griffon.com. We expect to file our fiscal 2022 ESG report before the end of calendar 2023.

The fiscal 2021 ESG Report discusses employee safety, employee education and welfare, energy consumption, water consumption, waste generation, recycled raw materials, and packaging initiatives, as well as community involvement and charitable giving. For 2022, we expanded our metrics gathering to include carbon emissions and other air emissions; our 2022 ESG report will provide comparisons between 2021 and 2022. In addition, in connection with the announcement of an expansion of CPP's global sourcing strategy, we adopted a Supplier Code of Conduct (SCC) that essentially binds our suppliers to the same ESG goals and criteria to which Griffon adheres.

Griffon has assessed the environmental risk from its operations and focused its efforts to date on areas with the potential to have the greatest environmental impact. Where available, we use recycled materials to construct our products, and we continuously improve our packaging to reduce both volume and environmental impact. For example, bags used to pack AMES' Kelkay aggregate products in the UK are made from plant-based materials, and not from petroleum. Seventy percent of the steel used in HBP's garage doors is recycled steel. AMES is a member of the Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers Association, which provides sustainable hardwoods for AMES tools, and is committed to purchasing hardwoods through the Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

Our operating companies are involved in the local communities in which they operate. We are involved in more than 100 charitable and community organizations, including well known national concerns such as Habitat for Humanity, Boys and Girls Clubs, the Home Depot Foundation (Diamond Sponsor) and the American Cancer Society, as well as local groups such as garden clubs. For example, Clopay employees built a new home for Habitat for Humanity, and AMES contributed tools and products to that effort. Our communities know they can count on our support.

Over the last five years, we have invested millions of dollars in capital improvements relating to energy consumption and employee safety and health. These improvements include lighting energy efficiency projects saving in excess of 1.5 million kilowatt-hours annually, major upgrades to our loading and unloading operations (which had been the source of a significant portion of our worker injuries), ergonomic improvements, machine guarding and elimination of certain high-risk repetitive jobs through the use of robotics. Griffon has also invested significant time and capital in reducing ergonomic injuries through better work positioning and lifting improvements. Griffon has invested over one million dollars in improvements to employee welfare facilities, such as break areas and cafeterias.

More importantly, we view our employees as more than just workers. Through our Employee Stock Ownership Plan, our U.S. employees own approximately nine percent of Griffon stock. Our businesses engage in a variety of outreach programs in the various communities in which we operate to recruit new employees at all levels. These programs involve high schools and vocational schools, as well as colleges and universities, and often include internships as a means for potential new employees to experience what it is like to be part of our team. We also have a variety of onboarding programs, onsite job training programs, leadership development programs, and tuition reimbursement and education assistance policies to further the development and advancement of our employees.

In all of our geographies, we use on-site inspections of suppliers and specific contractual terms to manage our supply chains to ensure compliance with environmental and social laws and regulations, as well as with our policies, including with respect to human rights, child labor, slave labor and unsafe working conditions. Our SCC requires that all new suppliers, major volume suppliers and suppliers in higher risk areas submit a formal certification of compliance with our SCC. All significant suppliers worldwide will be required to periodically submit to an SCC audit, which evaluates not only quality control and vendor capabilities, but assesses to what extent each supplier emphasizes environmental, labor and social considerations in the operation of its business. Griffon companies are phasing in the SCC over the next several years, with the initial year to include training and program roll-out.

Honesty, transparency, and ethical practices have been ordinary course at Griffon for decades, and we continue to review and upgrade our programs in these areas. Our Code of Business Ethics and Conduct ("Code"), to which every employee certifies annually, requires that each and every employee conduct business to the highest ethical standards. Any acts of bribery are strictly prohibited, as is human trafficking and activities supporting human trafficking, such as the use of conflict minerals. The Code prohibits all business courtesies except for those with an insignificant value, and even then, only under limited circumstances. Our SCC reinforces the same expectations from our suppliers. Our Corporate Governance Guidelines are published on our website. While the guidelines require that a majority of directors be independent, currently all of our directors are independent except our CEO (constituting over 92% of our directors). Griffon has appointed a lead independent director and has four principal board committees - Audit, Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance, and Finance - each of which has its responsibilities set forth in a charter available on the Griffon website.

We expect each of our employees and suppliers around the world to work hard to deliver outstanding products to our customers and to deliver value to our shareholders. And, while doing so, we expect them to respect and adhere to our environmental, social and governance commitments and policies, and to make our company a place where all employees are proud to come to work every day.

Executive Officers of the Registrant

The following is a current list of Griffon’s executive officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Positions Held and Prior Business Experience</u>
Ronald J. Kramer	65	Chief Executive Officer since April 2008, Chairman of the Board since January 2018, Director since 1993, Vice Chairman of the Board from November 2003 to January 2018. From 2002 through March 2008, President and a Director of Wynn Resorts, Ltd. (Nasdaq:WYNN), a developer, owner and operator of destination casino resorts. From 1999 to 2001, Managing Director at Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein, an investment banking firm, and its predecessor Wasserstein Perella & Co. Member of the board of directors of Douglas Elliman Inc. (NYSE:DOUG), Franklin BSP Capital Corporation, Franklin BSP Lending Corporation and Franklin Private Credit Fund.
Robert F. Mehmel	61	President and Chief Operating Officer since December 2012, director from May 2018 to March 2022. From August 2008 to October 2012, President and Chief Operating Officer of DRS Technologies (Formerly NYSE:DRS) (“DRS”), a supplier of integrated products, services and support to military forces, intelligence agencies and prime contractors worldwide. From May 2006 to August 2008, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of DRS and from January 2001 to May 2006, Executive Vice President, Business Operations and Strategy, of DRS.
Brian G. Harris	54	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer since August 2015. From November 2012 to July 2015, Vice President and Controller of Griffon. From July 2009 to July 2015, Griffon’s Chief Accounting Officer. From May 2005 to June 2009, Assistant Controller of Dover Corporation, a diversified global manufacturer (NYSE:DOV). Prior to this time, held various finance and accounting roles with Hearst Argyle Television (Formerly NYSE:HTV), John Wiley and Sons, Inc. (NYSE:WLY) and Arthur Andersen, LLP.
Seth L. Kaplan	54	Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary since May 2010. From July 2008 to May 2010, Assistant General Counsel and Assistant Secretary at Hexcel Corporation (NYSE:HXL), a manufacturer of advanced composite materials for space and defense, commercial aerospace and wind energy applications. From 2000 to July 2008, Senior Corporate Counsel and Assistant Secretary at Hexcel. From 1994 to 2000, associate at the law firm Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts (now Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP).

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Griffon's business, financial condition, operating results and cash flows can be impacted by a number of factors which could cause Griffon's actual results to vary materially from recent or anticipated future results. The risk factors discussed in this section should be carefully considered with all of the information in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. These risk factors should not be considered the only risk factors facing Griffon. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known or that are currently deemed immaterial may also materially impact Griffon's business, financial condition, operating results and cash flows in the future.

In general, Griffon is subject to the same general risks and uncertainties that impact other diverse manufacturing companies including, but not limited to, general economic, industry and/or market conditions and growth rates; impact of natural disasters and pandemics, and their effect on global markets; possible future terrorist threats and their effect on the worldwide economy; and changes in laws or accounting rules. Griffon has identified the following specific risks and uncertainties that it believes have the potential to materially affect its business and financial condition.

Risks Related to Our Business

Current worldwide economic uncertainty and market volatility could adversely affect Griffon's businesses.

The current worldwide economic uncertainty and market volatility could continue to have an adverse effect on Griffon during 2024, within both the HBP and CPP segments, which are linked to the U.S. housing and the commercial property markets, and the U.S. economy in general. Purchases of many HBP and CPP products are discretionary for consumers who are generally more willing to purchase products during periods in which favorable macroeconomic conditions prevail. These conditions could make it more difficult to obtain additional credit on favorable terms for investments in current businesses or for acquisitions, or could render financing unavailable; in addition, while we do not have any near term debt maturities, if these conditions persist, we may have difficulty refinancing our debt when it comes due. Griffon is also exposed to certain fundamental economic risks including a decrease in the demand for the products and services it offers or a higher likelihood of default on its receivables.

Adverse trends and general economic conditions, especially those that relate to construction and renovation, will impact Griffon's business.

The HBP and CPP businesses serve residential and commercial construction and renovation, and are influenced by market conditions that affect these industries. For the year ended September 30, 2023, approximately 59% and 41% of Griffon's consolidated revenue was derived from the HBP and CPP segments, respectively, which were dependent on renovation of existing homes, new home construction, and commercial non-residential construction, repair and replacement. The strength of the U.S. economy, the age of existing home stock, job growth, interest rates, consumer confidence and the availability of consumer credit, as well as demographic factors such as migration into the U.S. and migration of the population within the U.S., have an effect on HBP and CPP. To the extent market conditions for residential or commercial construction and renovation are weaker than expected, this will likely have an adverse impact on the performance and financial results of the HBP and CPP businesses.

Griffon is exposed to fluctuations in inflation, which could negatively affect its business, financial condition and results of operations.

Inflation rates, particularly in the United States, increased to historic levels in 2022. Although, according to the U.S. Department of Labor, the annual inflation rate for the United States decreased to 3.7% for the twelve months ended September 30, 2023, high inflation or increases in inflation may result in decreased demand for Griffon's operating company's products and services and increased operating costs and expenses, including for labor, raw materials and supplies. In addition, the United States Federal Reserve has raised, and may continue to raise, interest rates in response to concerns

about inflation. Increases in interest rates, especially if coupled with reduced government spending and volatility in financial markets, may have the effect of further increasing economic uncertainty and heightening these risks, which may result in economic recession. As a result of fluctuations in inflation, we may seek to increase the sales prices of our products and services in order to maintain satisfactory margins. Any attempts to offset Griffon's cost increases with price increases may result in reduced sales, increased customer dissatisfaction or harm to reputation. Additionally, Griffon's operating companies may be unable to raise the prices of their products and services at or above the rate at which their costs increase, which may reduce operating margins and have a material adverse effect on financial results and future growth.

Griffon operates in highly competitive industries and may be unable to compete effectively.

Griffon's operating companies face intense competition in the markets they serve. Griffon competes primarily on the basis of technical expertise, product differentiation, quality of products and services, and price. There are a number of competitors to Griffon, some of which are larger and have greater resources than Griffon's operating companies. Griffon's operating companies may face additional competition from companies that operate in countries with significantly lower operating costs.

Many HBP and CPP customers are large mass merchandisers, such as home centers, warehouse clubs, discount stores, commercial distributors and e-commerce companies. The growing share of the market represented by these large mass merchandisers, together with changes in consumer shopping patterns, have contributed to the increase of multi-category retailers and e-commerce companies that have strong negotiating power with suppliers. Many of these retailers import products directly from suppliers based in low-cost countries to source and sell products under their own private label brands to compete with HBP and CPP products and brands, which puts increasing price pressure on the products of these businesses. In addition, the intense competition in the retail and e-commerce sectors, combined with the overall increasingly competitive economic environment, may result in a number of customers experiencing financial difficulty, or failing in the future. The loss of, or a failure by, one of HBP's or CPP's significant customers could adversely impact our sales and operating cash flows.

To address all of these challenges, HBP and CPP must be able to respond to these competitive pressures, and the failure to respond effectively could result in a loss of sales, reduced profitability and a limited ability to recover cost increases through price increases. In addition, there can be no assurance that Griffon will not encounter increased competition in the future, which could have a material adverse effect on Griffon's financial results.

The loss of large customers can harm financial results.

A small number of customers account for, and are expected to continue to account for, a substantial portion of Griffon's consolidated revenue. Home Depot and Menards are significant customers of HBP and Home Depot, Lowe's and Bunnings are significant customers of CPP. Home Depot accounted for approximately 12% of consolidated revenue, 9% of HBP's revenue and 15% of CPP's revenue for the year ended September 30, 2023. Future operating results will continue to substantially depend on the success of Griffon's largest customers, as well as Griffon's relationships with them. Orders from these customers are subject to fluctuation and may be reduced materially due to changes in customer needs or other factors. Any reduction or delay in sales of products to one or more of these customers could significantly reduce Griffon's revenue. Griffon's operating results will also depend on successfully developing relationships with additional key customers. Griffon cannot assure that its largest customers will be retained or that additional key customers will be recruited. Also, both HBP and CPP extend credit to its customers, which exposes it to credit risk. The largest customer accounted for approximately 7%, 19% and 13% of the net accounts receivable of HBP, CPP and Griffon as of September 30, 2023, respectively. If this customer were to become insolvent or otherwise unable to pay its debts, the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of HBP, CPP and Griffon could be adversely affected.

Reliance on third party suppliers and manufacturers may impair the ability of HBP and CPP to meet their customer demands.

HBP and CPP rely on a limited number of companies globally to supply components and manufacture certain of their products. The percentage of HBP and CPP worldwide sourced finished goods as a percent of revenue approximated 5% and 27%, respectively, in 2023. The percentage of HBP and CPP's worldwide sourced components as a percent of cost of goods sold approximated 20% and 4%, respectively, in 2023. Reliance on third party suppliers and manufacturers may reduce control over the timing of deliveries and quality of both HBP and CPP products. Reduced product quality or failure to deliver products timely may jeopardize relationships with certain of HBP's and CPP's key customers. In addition, reliance on third party suppliers or manufacturers may result in the failure to meet HBP and CPP customer demands. Continued turbulence in the worldwide economy may affect the liquidity and financial condition of HBP and CPP suppliers. Should any of these parties fail to manufacture sufficient supply, go out of business or discontinue a particular component, alternative suppliers may not be found in a timely manner, if at all. Such events may impact the ability of HBP and CPP to fill orders, which could have a material adverse effect on customer relationships.

In May 2023, in response to changing market conditions, Griffon announced that CPP will expand its global sourcing strategy. This will increase CPP's reliance on third-party suppliers and therefore is likely to increase CPP's exposure to the risks relating to the use of third-party suppliers. See the risk below titled "The expansion of CPP's global sourcing strategy may not achieve its intended results."

If Griffon is unable to obtain raw materials for products at favorable prices it could adversely impact operating performance.

HBP and CPP suppliers primarily provide resin, wood, steel and wire rod. Both of these businesses could experience shortages of raw materials or components for products or be forced to seek alternative sources of supply. If temporary shortages due to disruptions in supply caused by weather, transportation, production delays or other factors require raw materials to be secured from sources other than current suppliers, the terms may not be as favorable as current terms or certain materials may not be available at all. In recent years, both HBP and CPP have experienced price increases for most of their raw materials.

While most key raw materials used in Griffon's businesses are generally available from numerous sources, raw materials are subject to price fluctuations. Because raw materials in the aggregate constitute a significant component of the cost of goods sold, price fluctuations could have a material adverse effect on Griffon's results of operations. Griffon's ability to pass raw material price increases to customers is limited due to supply arrangements and competitive pricing pressure, and there is generally a time lag between increased raw material costs and implementation of corresponding price increases for Griffon's products. In particular, sharp increases in raw material prices are more difficult to pass through to customers and may negatively affect short-term financial performance.

CPP is subject to risks from sourcing from international locations, especially China

CPP's business is global, with products and raw materials sourced from, and manufactured and sold in multiple countries around the world. There are risks associated with conducting a business that may be impacted by political and other developments associated with international trade. In this regard, certain products sold by CPP in the United States and elsewhere are currently sourced from suppliers in China, with some of these products sourced exclusively from suppliers in China. Certain raw materials used by CPP may be sourced from China and therefore may have their prices and availability impacted by tariffs imposed on trade between the United States and China. As it executes its expanded sourcing strategy and closes numerous U.S. facilities, CPP may increase its reliance on suppliers in China, which could further impact pricing and tariffs.

The sourcing of CPP finished goods, components and raw materials from China are generally subject to supply agreements with Chinese companies. China does not have a well-developed, consolidated body

of laws governing agreements with international customers. Enforcement of existing laws or contracts based on existing law may be uncertain and sporadic, and it may be difficult to obtain swift and equitable enforcement or to obtain enforcement of a judgment by a court of another jurisdiction, including other jurisdictions within China itself. The relatively limited Chinese judicial precedent on matters of international trade in many cases creates additional uncertainty as to the outcome of any litigation. In addition, interpretation of statutes and regulations in China may be subject to government policies or political changes.

Because of the volume of sourcing by CPP from China, the ongoing trade dispute between the U.S. and China, including the imposition of tariffs on various Chinese imports into the U.S. at various times since March 2018, represents a continuing risk to CPP revenue and operating performance. The tariffs currently apply to approximately 66% of U.S. imports from China, or more than \$330 billion of trade. Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 requires that the duties must terminate after four years unless one or more domestic beneficiaries of the tariffs requests their continuation. In September 2022, the United States Trade Representative (USTR) announced that it had received such requests and would therefore continue the tariffs pending a comprehensive review of their necessity. As of September 30, 2023 the four-year review remains ongoing. In September the USTR announced an extension of certain exclusions from the tariffs through December 31, 2023 to allow the USTR to complete its review. It remains unknown whether the USTR will continue the Section 301 tariffs upon completion of its review.

In addition to tariffs, an increased global focus on forced labor in supply chains has the potential to impact our business operations. In June 2022, the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA) went into effect and establishes a rebuttable presumption that goods made in whole or in part in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China are produced with forced labor, and directs US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to prevent entry of products made with forced labor into the U.S. market. Importers whose shipments are detained by CBP under the UFLPA can rebut the presumption with "clear and convincing evidence" that the products were not produced with forced labor. This requires that the importer submit detailed information regarding every supplier and sub-supplier, as well as all components and raw materials, relating to the goods being detained, and detention costs accrue during the pendency of CBP's evaluation.

From October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023, more than 4,000 shipments to U.S. importers, valued at approximately \$1.4 billion, were targeted by CBP for further inspection. Neither CPP nor its suppliers currently manufacture or source products, components or raw materials from the Uyghur region of China; however, CBP takes a broad approach when targeting shipments it believes may have originated from the Uyghur region based on product definitions, tariff codes and supplier names that lead them to suspect the goods come from the Uyghur region. Additionally, the Forced Labor Enforcement Task Force has determined that certain industry sectors (including apparel, cotton and cotton products, and silica-based products) have an inherently higher risk of forced labor, such that CBP may detain goods suspected of being manufactured with materials originating from Xinjiang, regardless of their declared country of origin.

As a result, CPP shipments may be targeted for detention in which case they become subject to the rebuttable presumption that they were sourced from the Uyghur region even though they are not imported directly from China or are otherwise demonstrably outside the scope of the UFLPA. In view of the increased enforcement of forced labor initiatives, we are continuing to update our compliance measures and work with our supply base to validate their supply chains, from raw materials through components to finished goods, to ensure our goods are not made using forced labor. We cannot be certain that our products will not be targeted or that our shipments will not be detained, which may impact our operating performance. Forced labor enforcement initiatives are also targeting imports from other countries besides China, and we will continue to monitor the products and countries subject to increased scrutiny for potential impacts to our operations.

The continuing political and economic conflicts between U.S. and China have resulted in, and may continue to result in retaliatory actions from, both countries, and it is unknown whether current US-China relations over Taiwan, including the signature of the US-Taiwan Initiative on 21st Century Trade

signed in May 2023, will impact the ongoing trade dispute with China. We cannot predict what new retaliatory policies and regulations may be implemented by the Chinese government in response to the U.S./Taiwan engagement, and any such policies and regulations or other responses may adversely affect our business operations in China.

HBP and CPP operations are also subject to the effects of international trade agreements and regulations such as the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), and the activities and regulations of the World Trade Organization. Although these trade agreements generally have positive effects on trade liberalization, sourcing flexibility and the cost of goods by reducing or eliminating the duties and/or quotas assessed on products manufactured in a particular country, trade agreements can also adversely affect HBP and CPP. For example, trade agreements can result in setting quotas on products that may be imported from a particular country into key markets including the U.S., Canada, Australia and the U.K., or may make it easier for other companies to compete by eliminating restrictions on products from countries in which HBP and CPP competitors source products. With the expansion of its global sourcing strategy and the closure of numerous US manufacturing locations, CPP is likely to experience a diminished ability to take advantage of the trade benefits of the USMCA.

The ability of HBP and CPP to import products in a timely and cost-effective manner may continue to be affected by conditions at ports or issues that otherwise affect transportation and warehousing providers, such as port and shipping capacity, fuel prices, labor disputes, severe weather or increased homeland security requirements in the U.S. and other countries, as well as the potential for increased costs due to currency exchange fluctuations. These issues, along with the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine, could delay importation of products or require HBP and CPP to locate alternative ports or warehousing providers to avoid disruption to customers. These alternatives may not be available on short notice or could result in higher transit costs, which could have an adverse impact on the business and financial results of HBP and CPP.

The expansion of CPP's global sourcing strategy may not achieve its intended results.

On May 3, 2023, in response to changing market conditions, Griffon announced that its CPP segment will expand its global sourcing strategy to include long handled tools, material handling, and wood storage and organization product lines. This expansion of CPP's global sourcing strategy will increase Griffon's exposure to certain other risks to which it is subject, including those related to the procurement of products from third party suppliers, many of whom are located in China and other non U.S. jurisdictions. Griffon will also be subject to unique risks associated with the implementation of CPP's expanded global sourcing strategy, including potential negative effects relating to the closing of domestic manufacturing facilities and the related termination of employees. There is a risk that CPP's ability to provide products to its customers will be disrupted as CPP increases its reliance on third party suppliers and expands its distribution system for products manufactured by third parties. CPP may also not realize the proceeds it expects from the sale of facilities that will no longer be used by CPP.

CPP's expanded global sourcing strategy may also increase its exposure to cybersecurity risks, as discussed in the below risk factor titled "Griffon's operations and reputation may be adversely impacted if our information technology (IT) systems, or the IT systems of third parties with whom we do business, fail to perform adequately or if we or such third parties are the subject of a data breach or cyber-attack."

CPP's expanded global sourcing strategy is designed to better position CPP to serve customers with a more flexible and cost-effective sourcing model that leverages supplier relationships around the world, which is in turn expected to improve CPP's competitive positioning and financial performance. There is no guarantee that the restructuring will achieve these intended results.

The COVID-19 outbreak, or any other future pandemic, could adversely impact our results of operations.

On May 11, 2023, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared the end of the Public Health Emergency for COVID-19; however, the effects of COVID-19 continue to linger throughout the global economy and our businesses. Though the severity of COVID-19 has subsided, new variants or

any other future pandemic could interrupt business, cause renewed labor and supply chain disruptions, and negatively impact the global and US economy, which could materially and adversely impact our businesses.

During the height of COVID-19 our supply chain experienced certain disruptions which, together with other factors such as a shortage of labor, resulted in longer delivery lead times and restricted manufacturing capacity for certain of our products. While our supply chain appears to generally be stable at this time, should a resurgence of COVID-19 occur, our supply chain could again be negatively impacted; for example, certain of our suppliers could be required by government authorities to temporarily cease operations or might be limited in their production capacity.

If as a result of a resurgence of COVID-19 or the outbreak of a new pandemic, governments take protective actions, it may have a material adverse impact on Griffon's businesses and operating results for the reasons described above. In such event, the extent and duration of any impact on our businesses would be difficult to predict. To the extent such resurgence or new outbreak adversely affects our businesses, operations, financial condition and operating results, it may also have the effect of heightening many of the other risks factors such as those relating to our high level of indebtedness, our need to generate sufficient cash flows to service our indebtedness, and our ability to comply with the covenants contained in the agreements that govern our indebtedness, as described in more detail below.

Griffon's businesses are subject to seasonal variations and the impact of uncertain weather patterns.

HBP's business is driven by renovation and construction during warm weather, which is historically at reduced levels during the winter months, generally in our second quarter. In 2023, 54% of CPP's' sales occurred during the second and third quarters compared to 58% in 2022 and 53% in 2021.

Demand for lawn and garden products is influenced by weather, particularly weekend weather during the peak gardening season. AMES' sales volumes could be adversely affected by certain weather patterns such as unseasonably cool or warm temperatures, hurricanes, water shortages or floods. In addition, lack of snow or lower than average snowfall during the winter season may result in reduced sales of certain AMES' products such as snow shovels and other snow tools. As a result, AMES' results of operations, financial results and cash flows could be adversely impacted.

Unionized employees could strike or participate in a work stoppage.

At September 30, 2023, Griffon employed approximately 5,700 people on a full-time basis, approximately 4% of whom are covered by collective bargaining or similar labor agreements. If unionized employees engage in a strike or other work stoppage, or if Griffon is unable to negotiate acceptable extensions of agreements with labor unions, a significant disruption of operations and increased operating costs could occur. In addition, any renegotiation or renewal of labor agreements could result in higher wages or benefits paid to unionized employees, which could increase operating costs and as a result have a material adverse effect on profitability. As a result of the expansion of CPP's global sourcing strategy, CPP is closing a number of its U.S. facilities, some of which employ union workers; accordingly, the number of Griffon employees that belong to a union will decrease.

Griffon's operations and reputation may be adversely impacted if our information technology (IT) systems, or the IT systems of third parties with whom we do business, fail to perform adequately or if we or such third parties are the subject of a data breach or cyber-attack.

We rely on IT systems, networks and services to conduct our business, including communicating with employees and our key commercial customers, ordering and managing materials and products from suppliers, shipping products to customers and analyzing and reporting results of operations. While we have taken steps to ensure the security of our information technology systems, our systems may nevertheless be vulnerable to computer viruses, security breaches and other disruptions from unauthorized users. Cyber criminals are becoming more sophisticated and knowledgeable every day,

and as their tactics evolve, it is a constant challenge to ensure that our IT security practices are sufficient to protect our IT systems and data. If our IT systems are damaged or cease to function properly for an extended period of time, whether as a result of a significant cyber incident or otherwise, our ability to communicate internally as well as with our customers and suppliers could be significantly impaired, which may adversely impact our business, operations and reputation.

In the normal course of our business, we collect, store, and transmit proprietary and confidential information regarding our brands, customers, employees, suppliers and others. We also engage third parties that store, process and transmit these types of information, as well as personal information, on our behalf. An operational failure or breach of security from increasingly sophisticated cyber threats could lead to loss, misuse or unauthorized disclosure of this information about our employees or customers, which may result in regulatory or other legal proceedings, and could have a material adverse effect on our business and reputation. We also may not have the resources or technical sophistication to anticipate or prevent rapidly evolving types of cyber-attacks. Any such attacks or precautionary measures taken to prevent anticipated attacks may result in increasing costs, including costs for additional technologies, training, and third-party consultants. The losses incurred from a breach of data security and operational failures as well as the precautionary measures required to address this evolving risk may adversely impact our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

We depend on our information systems to process orders, manage inventory and accounts receivable collections, purchase, sell, and ship products efficiently and on a timely basis, maintain cost-effective operations, and provide superior service to our customers. If these systems are damaged, infiltrated, shutdown, or cease to function properly (whether by planned upgrades, force majeure, telecommunications failures, hardware or software break-ins or viruses, other cyber security incidents, or otherwise), we may suffer disruption in our ability to manage and operate our business.

There can be no assurance that the precautions which we have taken against certain events that could disrupt the operations of our IT systems will prevent the occurrence of such a disruption. Any such disruption could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

Griffon may be unable to implement its acquisition growth strategy, which may result in added expenses without a commensurate increase in revenue and income, and divert management's attention.

Making strategic acquisitions is a significant part of Griffon's growth plans. The ability to successfully complete acquisitions depends on identifying and acquiring, on acceptable terms, companies that either complement or enhance currently held businesses or expand Griffon into new profitable businesses, and, for certain acquisitions, obtaining financing on acceptable terms. Additionally, Griffon must properly integrate acquired businesses in order to maximize profitability. The competition for acquisition candidates is intense and Griffon cannot assure that it will successfully identify acquisition candidates and complete acquisitions at reasonable purchase prices, in a timely manner, or at all. Further, there is a risk that acquisitions will not be properly integrated into Griffon's existing structure. Griffon closed the acquisition of Hunter Fan, its largest acquisition ever, in January 2022; the integration of Hunter Fan with CPP is ongoing. In the past, Griffon has consummated a group of acquisitions within a short time period, which could occur again; the risks relating to integration of an acquisition may be exacerbated when numerous acquisitions are consummated in a short time period.

In implementing an acquisition growth strategy, the following may be encountered:

- Costs associated with incomplete or poorly implemented acquisitions;
- Expenses, delays and difficulties of integrating acquired companies into Griffon's existing organization;
- Dilution of the interest of existing stockholders;
- Diversion of management's attention; or
- Difficulty in obtaining financing on acceptable terms, or at all.

An unsuccessful implementation of Griffon's acquisition growth strategy, including the failure to properly integrate acquisitions, could have an adverse impact on Griffon's results of operations, cash flows and financial condition. We may also incur debt or assume contingent liabilities in connection with acquisitions, which could impose restrictions on our business operations and harm our operating results.

Risks Related to Our Indebtedness

Griffon's senior notes, which have limited covenants, are not due until 2028; its \$800 million Term Loan B (current balance of \$463 million), which also has limited covenants, is not due until 2029; and its \$500 million revolving line of credit, which has greater covenant requirements, does not mature until 2028. However, in the event the 2028 Senior Notes are not repaid, refinanced, or replaced prior to December 1, 2027, the Revolver will mature on December 1, 2027. There are potential impacts from Griffon's use of debt to finance certain of its activities, especially acquisitions and expansions, as set forth below.

Compliance with restrictions and covenants in Griffon's debt agreements may limit its ability to take corporate actions.

The credit agreement entered into by, and, to a lesser extent, the terms of the senior notes issued by, Griffon each contain covenants that restrict the ability of Griffon and its subsidiaries to, among other things, incur additional debt, pay dividends, incur liens and make investments, acquisitions, dispositions, restricted payments and capital expenditures. Under the credit agreement, Griffon is also required to comply with specific financial ratios and tests. Griffon may not be able to comply in the future with these covenants or restrictions as a result of events beyond its control, such as prevailing economic, financial and industry conditions or a change in control of Griffon. If Griffon defaults in maintaining compliance with the covenants and restrictions in its credit agreement or the senior notes, its lenders could declare all of the principal and interest amounts outstanding due and payable and, in the case of the credit agreement, terminate the commitments to extend credit to Griffon in the future. If Griffon or its subsidiaries are unable to secure credit in the future, its business could be harmed.

Griffon may be unable to raise additional financing if needed.

Griffon may need to raise additional financing in the future in order to implement its business plan, refinance debt, or acquire new or complimentary businesses or assets. Any required additional financing may be unavailable, or only available at unfavorable terms, due to uncertainties in the credit markets. If Griffon raises additional funds by issuing equity securities, current holders of its common stock may experience significant ownership interest dilution and the holders of the new securities may have rights senior to the rights associated with current outstanding common stock.

Griffon's indebtedness and interest expense could limit cash flow and adversely affect operations and Griffon's ability to make full payment on outstanding debt.

Griffon's indebtedness poses potential risks such as:

- A substantial portion of cash flows from operations could be used to pay principal and interest on debt, thereby reducing the funds available for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions, product development and other general corporate purposes;
- Insufficient cash flows from operations may force Griffon to sell assets, or seek additional capital, which Griffon may not be able to secure on favorable terms, if at all; and
- Its level of indebtedness may make Griffon more vulnerable to economic or industry downturns.

Risk Related to Our Common Stock

Griffon has the ability to issue additional equity securities, which would lead to dilution of issued and outstanding common stock.

The issuance of additional equity securities or securities convertible into equity securities would result in dilution to existing stockholders' equity interests. Griffon is authorized to issue, without stockholder vote or approval, 3,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series, and has the ability to fix the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions of any such series. Any such series of preferred stock could contain dividend rights, conversion rights, voting rights, terms of redemption, redemption prices, liquidation preferences or other rights superior to the rights of holders of Griffon's common stock. While there is no present intention of issuing any such preferred stock, Griffon reserves the right to do so at any time. In addition, Griffon is authorized to issue, without stockholder approval, up to 85,000,000 shares of common stock, of which 53,062,352 shares, net of treasury shares, were outstanding as of September 30, 2023. Additionally, Griffon is authorized to issue, without stockholder approval, securities convertible into either shares of common stock or preferred stock.

General Risk Factors

Each of Griffon's businesses faces risks related to the disruption of its primary manufacturing facilities.

The manufacturing facilities for each of Griffon's businesses are concentrated in just a few locations, and in the case of CPP, some of these locations are abroad in low-cost locations. Any of Griffon's manufacturing facilities are subject to disruption for a variety of reasons, such as natural or man-made disasters, pandemics, terrorist activities, disruptions of information technology resources, and utility interruptions. Such disruptions may cause delays in shipping products, which could result in the loss of business or customer trust, adversely affecting Griffon's businesses and operating results.

Manufacturing capacity constraints or increased manufacturing costs may have a material adverse effect on Griffon's business, results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

Griffon's current manufacturing resources may be inadequate to meet significantly increased demand for some of its products. Griffon's ability to increase its manufacturing capacity depends on many factors, including the availability of capital, steadily increasing consumer demand, equipment delivery, construction lead-times, installation, qualification, and permitting and other regulatory requirements. Increasing capacity through the use of third-party manufacturers may depend on Griffon's ability to develop and maintain such relationships and the ability of such third parties to devote additional capacity to fill its orders.

A lack of sufficient manufacturing capacity to meet demand could cause customer service levels to decrease, which may negatively affect customer demand for Griffon's products and customer relations generally, which in turn could have a material adverse effect on Griffon's business, results of operations, financial condition and cash flows. In addition, operating facilities at or near capacity may also increase production and distribution costs and negatively impact relations with employees or contractors, which could result in disruptions to operations.

In addition, manufacturing costs may increase significantly and Griffon may not be able to pass along all or any of such increase to its customers; and when such increases are passed off to customers, there will be a time lag, which may be significant.

If HBP and CPP do not continue to develop and maintain leading brands or realize the anticipated benefits of advertising and promotion spend, its operating results may suffer.

The ability of HBP and CPP to compete successfully depends in part on the company's ability to develop and maintain leading brands so that retail and other customers will need its products to meet consumer demand. Leading brands allow both CPP and HBP to realize economies of scale in its

operations. The development and maintenance of such brands require significant investment in brand-building and marketing initiatives. While HBP and CPP plan to continue to increase its expenditures for advertising and promotion and other brand-building and marketing initiatives over the long term, the initiatives may not deliver the anticipated results and the results of such initiatives may not cover the costs of the increased investment.

Griffon may be required to record impairment charges for goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets.

Griffon is required to assess goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets annually for impairment or on an interim basis if changes in circumstances or the occurrence of events suggest impairment exists. If impairment testing indicates that the carrying amount of reporting units or indefinite-lived intangible assets exceeds the respective fair value, an impairment charge would be recognized. If goodwill or indefinite-lived intangible assets were to become impaired, the results of operations could be materially and adversely affected.

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, we also recorded a non-cash, pre-tax indefinite-lived intangible assets impairment of \$109,200. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, we recorded a non-cash, pre-tax indefinite-lived intangible asset impairment of \$175,000 and a non-cash, pre-tax goodwill impairment of \$342,027. These non-cash impairments resulted in an aggregate decrease of \$1.49 and \$8.43 in our earnings per share for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Should we have to record additional impairment charges in the future, it could similarly have a significant negative impact on our earnings per share for the year in which any such impairment charge is recorded.

If Griffon's subcontractors or suppliers fail to perform their obligations, Griffon's performance and ability to win future business could be harmed.

Griffon relies on other companies to provide materials, major components and products to fulfill contractual obligations. Such arrangements may involve subcontracts, teaming arrangements, or supply agreements with other companies. There is a risk that Griffon may have disputes regarding the quality and timeliness of work performed. In addition, changes in the economic environment, including constraints on available financing, may adversely affect the financial stability of Griffon's supply chain and their ability to meet their performance requirements or to provide needed supplies on a timely basis. A disruption or failure of any supplier could have an adverse effect on Griffon's business resulting in an impact to profitability, possible termination of a contract, imposition of fines or penalties, and harm to Griffon's reputation impacting its ability to secure future business.

Griffon's companies must continually improve existing products, design and sell new products and invest in research and development in order to compete effectively.

The markets for Griffon's products are characterized by rapid technological change, evolving industry standards and continuous improvements in products. Due to constant changes in Griffon's markets, future success depends on Griffon's ability to develop new technologies, products, processes and product applications. Griffon's long-term success in the competitive retail environment and the industrial and commercial markets depends on its ability to develop and commercialize a continuing stream of innovative new products that are appealing to ultimate end users and create demand. New product development and commercialization efforts, including efforts to enter markets or product categories in which Griffon has limited or no prior experience, have inherent risks. These risks include the costs involved, such as development and commercialization, product development or launch delays, and the failure of new products and line extensions to achieve anticipated levels of market acceptance or growth in sales or operating income.

Griffon also faces the risk that its competitors will introduce innovative new products that compete with Griffon's products. In addition, sales generated by new products could cause a decline in sales of

Griffon's other existing products. If new product development and commercialization efforts are not successful, Griffon's financial results could be adversely affected.

Product and technological developments are accomplished both through internally-funded R&D projects, as well as through strategic partnerships with customers. Because it is not generally possible to predict the amount of time required and costs involved in achieving certain R&D objectives, actual development costs may exceed budgeted amounts and estimated product development schedules may be extended. Griffon's financial condition and results of operations may be materially and adversely affected if:

- Product improvements are not completed on a timely basis;
- New products are not introduced on a timely basis or do not achieve sufficient market penetration;
- There are budget overruns or delays in R&D efforts; or
- New products experience reliability or quality problems, or otherwise do not meet customer preferences or requirements.

The loss of certain key officers or employees could adversely affect Griffon's business.

The success of Griffon is materially dependent upon the continued services of certain key officers and employees. The loss of such key personnel could have a material adverse effect on Griffon's operating results or financial condition.

Griffon is exposed to a variety of risks relating to non-U.S. sales and operations, including non-U.S. economic and political conditions and fluctuations in exchange rates.

Griffon and its companies conduct operations in Canada, Australasia, the U.K., and China, and sell their products in many countries around the world. Sales of products through non-U.S. subsidiaries accounted for approximately 15% of consolidated revenue for the year ended September 30, 2023. These sales could be adversely affected by changes in political and economic conditions, trade protection measures, such as tariffs, the ability of the Company to enter into industrial cooperation agreements (offset agreements), differing intellectual property rights and laws and changes in regulatory requirements that restrict the sales of products or increase costs in such locations. Enforcement of existing laws in such jurisdictions can be uncertain, and the lack of a sophisticated body of laws can create various uncertainties, including with respect to customer and supplier contracts. Currency fluctuations between the U.S. dollar and the currencies in the non-U.S. regions in which Griffon does business may also have an impact on future reported financial results.

Griffon's international sales and operations are subject to applicable laws relating to trade, export controls and foreign corrupt practices, the violation of which could adversely affect operations. Griffon is subject to various anti-corruption laws that prohibit improper payments or offers of payments to foreign governments and their officials for the purpose of obtaining or retaining business. In addition, Griffon is subject to certain export controls, laws and regulations, as well as to economic sanctions, laws and embargoes imposed by various governments or organizations, including the U.S. and the European Union or member countries. Violations of anti-corruption, export controls or sanctions laws may result in severe criminal or civil sanctions and penalties, including loss of export privileges and loss of authorizations needed to conduct Griffon's international business. Such violations could also result in Griffon being subject to other liabilities, which could have a material adverse effect on Griffon's business, results of operations and financial condition.

Griffon may not be able to protect its proprietary rights.

Griffon relies on a combination of patent, copyright and trademark laws, common law, trade secrets, confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements and other contractual provisions to protect proprietary

rights. Such measures do not provide absolute protection and Griffon cannot give assurance that measures for protecting these proprietary rights are and will be adequate, or that competitors will not independently develop similar technologies.

Griffon or its suppliers may inadvertently infringe on, or may be accused of infringing on, proprietary rights of others.

Griffon is regularly improving its technology and employing existing technologies in new ways. Though Griffon takes reasonable precautions to ensure it does not infringe on the rights of others, it is possible that Griffon may inadvertently infringe on, or be accused of infringing on, proprietary rights held by others. If Griffon is found to have infringed on the propriety rights held by others, any related litigation or settlement relating to such infringement may have a material effect on Griffon's business, results of operations and financial condition.

It is also possible that Griffon's suppliers may inadvertently infringe on, or be accused of infringing on, proprietary rights held by others. Any such infringement (or alleged infringement) may have a material adverse effect on Griffon's business, results of operations and financial condition. For example, in the past, a supplier may not be able to develop an alternative design that meets Griffon's needs at a comparable cost or at all, and the supply of certain products or components to Griffon may be interrupted.

Griffon is exposed to product liability and warranty claims.

Griffon is subject to product liability and warranty claims in the ordinary course of business, including with respect to former businesses now included within discontinued operations. These claims relate to the conformity of its products with required specifications, and to alleged or actual defects in Griffon's products (or in end-products in which Griffon's products were a component part) that cause damage to property or persons. There can be no assurance that the frequency and severity of product liability claims brought against Griffon will not increase, which claims can be brought either by an injured customer of an end product manufacturer who used one of Griffon's products as a component or by a direct purchaser. There is also no assurance that the number and value of warranty claims will not increase as compared to historical claim rates, or that Griffon's warranty reserve at any particular time is sufficient. No assurance can be given that indemnification from customers or coverage under insurance policies will be adequate to cover future product liability claims against Griffon; for example, product liability insurance typically does not cover claims for punitive damages. Warranty claims are typically not covered by insurance at all. Product liability insurance can be expensive, difficult to maintain and may be unobtainable in the future on acceptable terms. The amount and scope of any insurance coverage may be inadequate if a product liability claim is successfully asserted. Furthermore, if any significant claims are made, the business and the related financial condition of Griffon may be adversely affected by negative publicity.

Griffon has been, and may in the future be, subject to claims and liabilities under environmental laws and regulations.

Griffon's operations and assets are subject to environmental laws and regulations pertaining to the discharge of materials into the environment, the handling and disposal of wastes, including solid and hazardous wastes, and otherwise relating to health, safety and protection of the environment, in the various jurisdictions in which it operates. Griffon does not expect to make any expenditure with respect to ongoing compliance with or remediation under these environmental laws and regulations that would have a material adverse effect on its business, operating results or financial condition. However, the applicable requirements under environmental laws and regulations may change at any time.

Griffon can incur environmental costs related to sites that are no longer owned or operated, as well as third-party sites to which hazardous materials are sent. Material expenditures or liabilities may be incurred in connection with such claims. See the Commitment and Contingencies footnote in the Notes

to Consolidated Financial Statements for further information on environmental contingencies. Based on facts presently known, the outcome of current environmental matters are not expected to have a material adverse effect on Griffon's results of operations and financial condition. However, presently unknown environmental conditions, changes in environmental laws and regulations or other unanticipated events may give rise to claims that may involve material expenditures or liabilities.

Changes in income tax laws and regulations or exposure to additional income tax liabilities could adversely affect profitability.

Griffon is subject to Federal, state and local income taxes in the U.S. and in various taxing jurisdictions outside the U.S. Tax provisions and liabilities are subject to the allocation of income among various U.S. and international tax jurisdictions. Griffon's effective tax rate could be adversely affected by changes in the mix of earnings in countries with differing statutory tax rates, changes in any valuation allowance for deferred tax assets or the amendment or enactment of tax laws. Further changes in the tax laws could arise as a result of the base erosion and profit shifting project undertaken by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development ("OECD"). In December 2022, the European Union ("EU") member states reached an agreement to implement the minimum tax component ("Pillar Two") of the OECD's tax reform initiative. The directive is expected to be enacted into the national law of the EU member states by December 31, 2023. If similar directives under Pillar Two are adopted by taxing authorities in other countries in which we do business, such changes could materially increase the amount of taxes we pay and therefore materially decrease our results of operations and cash flows. The amount of income taxes paid is subject to audits by U.S. Federal, state and local tax authorities, as well as tax authorities in the taxing jurisdictions outside the U.S. If such audits result in assessments different from recorded income tax liabilities, Griffon's future financial results may include unfavorable adjustments to its income tax provision.

Actions taken by activist shareholders could be disruptive and costly and may conflict with or disrupt the strategic direction of our business.

Similar to the activist shareholder campaign initiated in 2021, activist shareholders may from time to time attempt to effect changes in our strategic direction and seek changes regarding Griffon's corporate governance or structure. Our Board of Directors and management team strive to maintain constructive, ongoing communications with all shareholders who wish to speak with us, including activist shareholders, and welcomes their views and opinions with the goal of working together constructively to enhance value for all shareholders. However, activist campaigns that contest, or conflict with, our strategic direction could have an adverse effect on us because:

- a. responding to actions by activist shareholders can disrupt our operations, be costly and time consuming, and divert the attention of our Board and senior management from the pursuit of our business strategies, and
- b. perceived uncertainties as to our future direction may cause (i) instability or lack of continuity, which may be exploited by our competitors, (ii) concern on the part of current or potential customers, (iii) loss of business opportunities, or (iv) difficulties in attracting and retain qualified personnel and business partners.

Activist campaigns may also cause significant fluctuations in our stock price based on temporary or speculative market perceptions, or other factors that do not necessarily reflect the fundamental underlying value of our businesses.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

Item 2. Properties

Griffon occupies approximately 10,490,000 square feet of general office, factory and warehouse space primarily throughout the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Australia, U.K., Ireland and China. For a description of the encumbrances on certain of these properties, see the Notes Payable, Capitalized Leases and Long-Term Debt footnote in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. The following table sets forth certain information related to Griffon's major facilities:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Business Segment</u>	<u>Primary Use</u>	<u>Approx. Square Footage</u>	<u>Owned/Leased</u>	<u>Lease End Year</u>
New York, NY	Corporate	Headquarters	13,000	Leased	2025
Troy, OH.....	Home and Building Products	Manufacturing	1,237,000	Owned	
Russia, OH	Home and Building Products	Manufacturing	250,000	Owned	
Mountain Top, PA	Home and Building Products	Manufacturing	279,000	Owned	
Mason, OH.....	Home and Building Products	Office	131,000	Owned	
Goodyear, AZ.....	Home and Building Products	Manufacturing	163,000	Owned	
Greenville, OH.....	Home and Building Products	Distribution	148,000	Leased	2025
Camp Hill, PA*	Consumer and Professional Products	Manufacturing	380,000	Owned	
Harrisburg, PA*	Consumer and Professional Products	Manufacturing	264,000	Owned	
Ocala, FL.....	Consumer and Professional Products	Office, Manufacturing	619,500	Owned	
Ocala, FL.....	Consumer and Professional Products	Distribution	56,500	Leased	2024
Grantsville, MD *	Consumer and Professional Products	Manufacturing	155,000	Owned	
Champion, PA *.....	Consumer and Professional Products	Wood Mill	225,000	Owned	
Cork, Ireland	Consumer and Professional Products	Manufacturing, Distribution	74,000	Owned	
St. Francois, Quebec.....	Consumer and Professional Products	Manufacturing, Distribution	353,000	Owned	
Pollington Site, UK.....	Consumer and Professional Products	Manufacturing, Distribution	115,000	Owned	
Carlisle, PA.....	Consumer and Professional Products	Manufacturing, Distribution	1,409,000	Leased	2035
United Kingdom (various).....	Consumer and Professional Products	1 Manufacturing and 2 Distribution	411,000	Leased	2023–2027
Reno, NV	Consumer and Professional Products	Manufacturing, Distribution	997,000	Leased	2034
Australia (various).....	Consumer and Professional Products	8 Distribution 1 Manufacturing	769,000	Leased	2024–2031
Fairfield, IA*	Consumer and Professional Products	Manufacturing	54,000	Leased	2024
Mt Wellington, New Zealand ...	Consumer and Professional Products	Manufacturing	54,000	Leased	2027
Guangdong, China	Consumer and Professional Products	Manufacturing	211,000	Leased	2023
Byhalia, MS	Consumer and Professional Products	Distribution	600,000	Leased	2025
Smyrna, TN.....	Consumer and Professional Products	Office	100,000	Leased	2025

* Facilities to cease operations during fiscal 2024 as part of CPP's Global Supply Chain expansion.

In addition to the facilities listed above, HBP leases approximately 1,105,000 square feet of space for distribution centers in numerous facilities throughout the U.S. and in Canada; HBP and CPP lease approximately 180,000 square feet of office space throughout the U.S. and various international locations; and CPP owns approximately 133,000 square feet of additional space for operational wood mills in the U.S. Some of the CPP wood mills will cease operations during fiscal 2024 as part of CPP's Global Supply Chain expansion.

All facilities are generally well maintained and suitable for the operations conducted.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

Griffon is involved in litigation, investigations and claims arising out of the normal conduct of business, including those relating to commercial transactions, product liability and warranty claims, environmental, employment, and health and safety matters. Griffon estimates and accrues liabilities resulting from such matters based on a variety of factors, including the stage of the proceeding; potential settlement value; assessments by internal and external counsel; and assessments by environmental engineers and consultants of potential environmental liabilities and remediation costs. Such estimates

are not discounted to reflect the time value of money due to the uncertainty in estimating the timing of the expenditures, which may extend over several years.

While it is impossible to ascertain the ultimate legal and financial liability with respect to certain contingent liabilities and claims, Griffon believes, based upon examination of currently available information, experience to date, and advice from legal counsel, that the individual and aggregate liabilities resulting from the ultimate resolution of these contingent matters, after taking into consideration existing insurance coverage and amounts already provided for, will not have a material adverse impact on consolidated results of operations, financial position or cash flows. Refer to Note 16—Commitments and Contingent Liabilities for a discussion of the Company’s litigation.

Item 4. *Mine Safety Disclosures.*

Not applicable.

PART II

Item 5. *Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities*

Griffon’s Common Stock is listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol “GFF”.

Dividends

During 2023, the Company declared and paid four regular quarterly cash dividends consisting of two cash dividends of \$0.10 per share and two cash dividends of \$0.125 per share, totaling \$0.45 per share for the year. Additionally, on April 19, 2023, the Board of Directors declared a special cash dividend of \$2.00 per share, paid on May 19, 2023, to shareholders of record as of the close of business on May 9, 2023.

During 2022, the Company paid a regular quarterly cash dividend of \$0.09 per share, totaling \$0.36 per share for the year. Additionally, on June 27, 2022, the Board of Directors declared a special cash dividend of \$2.00 per share, paid on July 20, 2022.

During 2021, the Company declared and paid a regular quarterly cash dividend of \$0.08 per share, totaling \$0.32 per share for the year.

For all dividends, a dividend payable is established for the holders of restricted shares; such dividends will be released upon vesting of the underlying restricted shares. The Company currently intends to pay dividends each quarter; however, payment of dividends is determined by the Board of Directors at its discretion based on various factors, and no assurance can be provided as to the payment of future dividends.

On November 14, 2023, the Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of \$0.15 per share, payable on December 14, 2023 to shareholders of record as of the close of business on November 28, 2023.

Registered Holders

As of October 31, 2023, there were approximately 2,322 registered holders of Griffon’s Common Stock.

Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans

The following sets forth information relating to Griffon’s equity compensation plans as of September 30, 2023:

<u>Plan Category</u>	<u>(a) Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights</u>	<u>(b) Weighted-average price of outstanding options, warrants and rights</u>	<u>(c) Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))</u>
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders ⁽¹⁾	—	\$ —	328,473
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	—	\$ —	—

⁽¹⁾ Excludes restricted shares and restricted stock units issued in connection with Griffon’s equity compensation plans. The total reflected in column (c) includes shares available for grant as any type of equity award under the Incentive Plan.

Issuer Purchase of Equity Securities

The table below presents shares of Griffon Stock which were acquired by Griffon during the fourth quarter of 2023:

ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

<u>Period</u>	<u>(a) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased⁽¹⁾</u>	<u>(b) Average Price Paid Per Share (or Unit)</u>	<u>(c) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs (1)</u>	<u>(d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) That May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs</u>
July 1–31, 2023	59,297 ⁽²⁾	\$ 39.65	59,297	
August 1–31, 2023	509,413 ⁽²⁾	41.39	509,413	
September 1–30, 2023	1,032,152	40.67	1,032,152	
Total	<u>1,600,862</u>	<u>\$ 40.86</u>	<u>1,600,862</u>	\$107,183 ⁽¹⁾

- On April 19, 2023, the Company’s Board of Directors approved a \$200,000 increase to its share repurchase program to \$257,955 from the prior unused authorization of \$57,955. Under the share repurchase program, the Company may, from time to time, purchase shares of its common stock in the open market, including pursuant to a 10b5-1 plan, pursuant to an accelerated share repurchase program or issuer tender offer, or in privately negotiated transactions. As of September 30, 2023, \$107,183 remained available for purchase under these Board authorized repurchase programs. See “*Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES—Liquidity*” for information regarding share repurchases in the first quarter of fiscal 2024 and the amount remaining available for purchase as of immediately prior to the filing of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.
- Shares were purchased by the Company in open market purchases pursuant to share repurchase plans authorized by the Company’s Board of Directors.

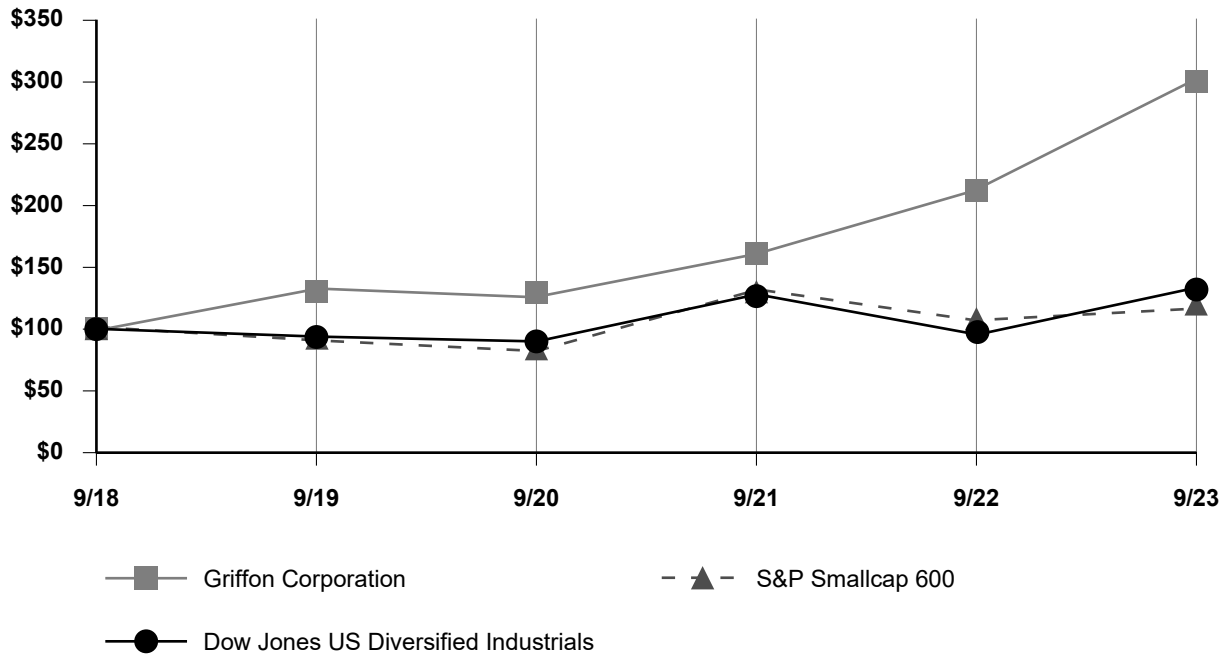
Performance Graph

The performance graph does not constitute soliciting material, is not deemed filed with the SEC and is not incorporated by reference in any of Griffon's filings under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Exchange Act of 1934, whether made before or after the date of this Annual Report on Form 10-K and irrespective of any general incorporation language in any such filings, except to the extent Griffon specifically incorporates this performance graph by reference therein.

The following graph sets forth the cumulative total return to Griffon's stockholders during the five years ended September 30, 2023, as well as an overall stock market (S&P Small Cap 600 Index) and Griffon's peer group index (Dow Jones U.S. Diversified Industrials Index). Assumes \$100 was invested on September 30, 2018, including the reinvestment of dividends, in each category.

COMPARISON OF 5 YEAR CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN

Among Griffon Corporation, the S&P Smallcap 600 Index
and the Dow Jones US Diversified Industrials Index



Item 6. [Reserved]

Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

(Unless otherwise indicated, all references to years or year-end refers to the fiscal year ending September 30 and dollars are in thousands, except per share data)

OVERVIEW

The Company

Griffon Corporation (the “Company”, “Griffon”, “we” or “us”) is a diversified management and holding company that conducts business through wholly-owned subsidiaries. Griffon oversees the operations of its subsidiaries, allocates resources among them and manages their capital structures. Griffon provides direction and assistance to its subsidiaries in connection with acquisition and growth opportunities as well as in connection with divestitures. In order to further diversify, Griffon also seeks out, evaluates and, when appropriate, will acquire additional businesses that offer potentially attractive returns on capital.

The Company was founded in 1959, is a Delaware corporation headquartered in New York, N.Y. and is listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE:GFF).

Griffon conducts its operations through two reportable segments:

- Home and Building Products (“HBP”) conducts its operations through Clopay Corporation (“Clopay”). Founded in 1964, Clopay is the largest manufacturer and marketer of garage doors and rolling steel doors in North America. Residential and commercial sectional garage doors are sold through professional dealers and leading home center retail chains throughout North America under the brands Clopay, Ideal, and Holmes. Rolling steel door and grille products designed for commercial, industrial, institutional, and retail use are sold under the Cornell and Cookson brands. HBP revenue was 59%, 53% and 46% of Griffon’s consolidated revenue in 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively.
- Consumer and Professional Products (“CPP”) is a leading global provider of branded consumer and professional tools; residential, industrial and commercial fans; home storage and organization products; and products that enhance indoor and outdoor lifestyles. CPP sells products globally through a portfolio of leading brands including AMES, since 1774, Hunter, since 1886, True Temper, and ClosetMaid. CPP revenue was 41%, 47%, and 54% of Griffon’s consolidated revenue in 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

On August 1, 2023, Griffon amended its credit agreement to increase the total amount available for borrowing under its revolving credit facility from \$400,000 to \$500,000, extend the maturity date of the revolving credit facility from March 22, 2025 to August 1, 2028 and modify certain other provisions of the facility (the “Credit Agreement”). See Note 12, Long-Term Debt for further details.

On June 27, 2022, we completed the sale of our Defense Electronics (“DE”) segment, which consisted of our Telephonics Corporation (“Telephonics”) subsidiary, for \$330,000 in cash, excluding customary post-closing adjustments. As such, the results of operations of our Telephonics business is classified as a discontinued operation in the Consolidated Statements of Operations for all periods presented and the related assets and liabilities have been classified as assets and liabilities of the discontinued operation in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Accordingly, all references made to results and information in this Annual Report on Form 10-K are to Griffon’s continuing operations, unless noted otherwise.

On May 16, 2022, Griffon announced that its Board of Directors initiated a process to review a comprehensive range of strategic alternatives to maximize shareholder value including a sale, merger, divestiture, recapitalization or other strategic transaction, and on April 20, 2023, Griffon announced that its Board of Directors, after extensive evaluation and deliberation, determined that the ongoing execution of the Company’s strategic plan was the best way to maximize value for shareholders and unanimously decided to conclude its review.

On January 24, 2022, Griffon acquired Hunter Fan Company (“Hunter”), a market leader in residential ceiling, commercial, and industrial fans, from MidOcean Partners (“MidOcean”) for a contractual purchase price of \$845,000. Hunter, part of our CPP segment, complements and diversifies our portfolio of leading consumer brands and products.

On December 22, 2020, AMES acquired Quatro Design Pty Ltd (“Quatro”), a leading Australian manufacturer and supplier of glass fiber reinforced concrete landscaping products for residential, commercial, and public sector projects. Quatro contributed approximately \$5,000 in revenue in the first twelve months after the acquisition.

Update of COVID-19 on Our Business

On May 11, 2023, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared the end of the public health emergency for COVID-19; however, the effects of COVID-19 continue to linger throughout the global economy and our business. Though the severity of COVID-19 has subsided, new variants, or the outbreak of a new pathogen, could interrupt business, cause renewed labor and supply chain disruptions, and negatively impact the global and U.S. economy, which could materially and adversely impact our businesses. See information provided in Part 1, Item 1A, “Risk Factors” in this Form 10-K.

CONSOLIDATED RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

2023 Compared to 2022

Revenue for the year ended September 30, 2023 of \$2,685,183 decreased 6% compared to \$2,848,488 for the year ended September 30, 2022, resulting from decreased revenue of 18% at CPP, partially offset by increased revenue of 5% at HBP. Adjusting for the period Griffon did not own Hunter in the prior year, organic revenue decreased 8% to \$2,609,417. Hunter contributed \$75,766 of incremental revenue during the year-to-date period.

Gross profit for 2023 was \$948,821 compared to \$936,886 in 2022. Gross profit as a percent of sales (“gross margin”) for 2023 and 2022 was 35.3% and 32.9%, respectively. In the years ended 2023 and 2022, gross profit included restructuring charges of \$82,028 and \$7,964, respectively. In the year ended 2022, gross profit also included amortization of \$5,401 related to the fair value step-up of acquired inventory sold in connection with the Hunter Fan acquisition. Excluding these charges from both years, gross profit would have been \$1,030,849 or 38.4% of revenue, compared to \$950,251 or 33.4% in the prior year.

Selling, general and administrative (“SG&A”) expenses in 2023 of \$642,734 or 23.9% of revenue, increased 6% from \$608,926, or 21.4% of revenue, in 2022. 2023 SG&A expenses included restructuring charges of \$10,440, strategic review (retention and other) of \$20,225, special dividend ESOP charges of \$15,494 and proxy expenses of \$2,685. 2022 SG&A expenses included restructuring charges of \$8,818, acquisition costs of \$9,303, strategic review (retention and other) of \$9,683, special dividend ESOP charges of \$10,538 and proxy expenses of \$6,952. In 2023, proxy expenses of \$2,685 related to a settlement entered into with a shareholder that had submitted a slate of director nominees. In 2022, proxy expenses of \$6,952 (including legal and advisory fees) were the result of a proxy contest initiated by a shareholder which was completed at the shareholder meeting on February 17, 2022. Excluding these items from both periods, 2023 SG&A expenses would have been \$593,890, or 22.1% of revenue compared to \$563,632, or 19.8%, with the increase in expenses primarily due to a full year of Hunter Fan expenses as well as increased management incentives, marketing, advertising and administrative expenses.

During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, Griffon performed annual and interim impairment testing of its goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets. Griffon performed a quantitative assessment of the CPP reporting units and indefinite-lived intangible assets. The assessments did not result in an impairment to goodwill. The impairment tests did result in pre-tax noncash impairment charges totaling \$109,200 (\$81,313, net of tax) to CPP’s gross carrying amount intangible assets. For HBP, Griffon

performed qualitative assessments and determined that indicators that fair value was less than the carrying amount were not present.

Interest expense in 2023 of \$101,445 increased 20% compared to 2022 interest expense of \$84,379, primarily as a result of an increased effective interest rate related to the \$800,000 seven year Term Loan B facility entered into in the prior year in connection with the Hunter acquisition, of which Griffon prepaid \$25,000 and \$300,000 aggregate principal amount in 2023 and 2022, respectively. These amounts were in addition to the required nominal quarterly principal payments of \$2,000 per quarter totaling \$8,000 and \$4,000 in 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Other income (expense) of \$2,928 and \$6,881 in 2023 and 2022, respectively, includes \$302 and \$305, respectively, of net currency exchange transaction gains from receivables and payables held in non-functional currencies, \$469 and \$(225), respectively, of net gains (losses) on investments, and \$(866) and \$4,256, respectively, of net periodic benefit plan income (expense). Other income (expense) also includes rental income of \$212 and \$689 in 2023 and 2022, respectively. Additionally, it includes royalty income of \$2,104 and \$2,250 in 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Griffon reported income before tax from continuing operations for 2023 of \$112,682 compared to a loss before tax from continuing operations for 2022 of \$270,879. The income tax provision recognized in 2023 and 2022 translated to an effective income tax rate of 31.1% and 6.2%, respectively. The 2023 and 2022 tax rates included discrete and certain other tax provisions net, and other items that affect comparability, as listed below. Excluding the discrete and certain other tax provisions, net, and other items that affect comparability, as listed below, the effective income tax rates for 2023 and 2022 were 27.3% and 29.0%, respectively. These rates reflect the impact of tax reserves and changes in earnings mix between U.S. and non-U.S. operations. Income from continuing operations for 2023 was \$77,617, or \$1.42 per share, compared to loss from continuing operations of \$287,715, or \$5.57 per share in 2022. The 2023 income from continuing operations included the following:

- Restructuring charges of \$92,468 (\$68,779, net of tax, or \$1.26 per share);
- Gain on sale of buildings \$12,655 (9,586, net of tax, or \$0.18 per share);
- Debt extinguishment, net \$437 (\$332, net of tax, or \$0.01 per share);
- Strategic review - retention and other of \$20,225 (\$15,253, net of tax, or \$0.28 per share);
- Special dividend ESOP charges of \$15,494 (\$11,779, net of tax, or \$0.22 per share);
- Proxy expenses of \$2,685 (\$2,059, net of tax, or \$0.04 per share);
- Intangible asset impairments of \$109,200 (\$81,313, net of tax, or \$1.49 per share); and
- Discrete and certain other tax provision, net, of \$175 or 0.00 per share.

The 2022 loss from continuing operations included the following:

- Restructuring charges of \$16,782 (\$12,479, net of tax, or \$0.23 per share);
- Debt extinguishment, net \$4,529 (\$3,474, net of tax, or \$0.06 per share);
- Acquisition costs of \$9,303 (\$8,149, net of tax, or \$0.15 per share);
- Strategic review - retention and other of \$9,683 (\$7,280, net of tax, or \$0.13 per share);
- Special dividend ESOP charges of \$10,538 (\$8,083, net of tax, or \$0.15 per share);
- Proxy expenses of \$6,952 (\$5,359, net of tax, or \$0.10 per share);
- Fair value step-up of acquired inventory sold of \$5,401 (\$4,012, net of tax, or \$0.07 per share);
- Goodwill and intangible asset impairments of \$517,027 (\$454,753, net of tax, or \$8.43 per share); and
- Discrete and certain other tax provision, net, of \$3,913 or \$0.07 per share.

Excluding these items from both reporting periods, 2023 income from continuing operations would have been \$247,721, or \$4.54 per share compared to \$219,786, or \$4.07 per share, in 2022.

2022 Compared to 2021

Revenue for the year ended September 30, 2022 of \$2,848,488 compared to \$2,270,626 for the year ended September 30, 2021 increased 25% resulting from increased revenue at HBP and CPP of 45% and 9%, respectively. Hunter (purchased on January 24, 2022) contributed \$246,474 of revenue in 2022. The organic revenue increase was 15%.

Gross profit for 2022 was \$936,886 compared to \$641,113 in 2021. The gross margin for 2022 and 2021 was 32.9% and 28.2%, respectively. In the years ended 2022 and 2021, gross profit included restructuring charges of \$7,964 and \$7,923, respectively. In the year ended 2022, gross profit also included amortization of \$5,401 related to the fair value step-up of acquired inventory sold in connection with the Hunter Fan acquisition. Excluding these charges from both years, gross profit would have been \$950,251 or 33.4% of revenue, compared to \$649,036 or 28.6% in the prior year.

Selling, general and administrative expenses in 2022 of \$608,926 increased 29% from \$470,530 in 2021. The 2022 SG&A expenses included restructuring charges of \$8,818, acquisition costs of \$9,303, strategic review (retention and other) of \$9,683, special dividend ESOP charges of \$10,538, proxy expenses of \$6,952. The 2021 SG&A expenses included restructuring charges of \$13,495. Excluding these items from both periods, 2022 SG&A expenses would have been \$563,632, or 19.8% of revenue compared to \$457,035 or 20.1%, with the increase in expenses primarily due to the inclusion of expenses related to Hunter, which was acquired in January 2022, and increased distribution and shipping costs.

In connection with the preparation of our financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, Griffon performed its annual impairment testing of its goodwill and indefinite lived intangibles. Indicators of impairment were present due to decreases in comparable company market multiples for the CPP reporting units and increased interest rates, and the related impact on weighted average cost of capital rates. Accordingly, a quantitative assessment was performed, which resulted in non-cash, pre-tax impairment charges for goodwill and indefinite lived intangibles of \$342,027 and \$175,000, respectively, recorded in the fourth fiscal quarter of 2022.

Interest expense in 2022 of \$84,379 increased 34% compared to 2021 of \$63,175, primarily as a result of increased debt related to the \$800,000 seven year Term Loan B facility entered into in connection with the Hunter acquisition, of which Griffon repaid \$300,000 aggregate principal amount in the third quarter of 2022.

Other income (expense) of \$6,881 and \$2,107 in 2022 and 2021, respectively, includes \$305 and (\$81), respectively, of net currency exchange transaction gains (losses) from receivables and payables held in non-functional currencies, \$(225) and \$283, respectively, of net gains (losses) on investments, and \$4,256 and \$907, respectively, of net periodic benefit plan income. Other income (expense) also includes rental income of \$689 in 2022 and \$624 in 2021. Additionally, it includes royalty income of \$2,250 for the year ended September 30, 2022.

Griffon reported a loss before tax from continuing operations for 2022 of \$270,879 compared to income before tax from continuing operations for 2021 of \$109,955. The income tax provision in 2022 and 2021 translated to an effective income tax rate of 6.2% and 36.1%, respectively. The 2022 and 2021 tax rates included discrete and certain other tax provisions net, and other items that affect comparability, as listed below. Excluding the discrete and certain other tax provisions, net, and other items that affect comparability, as listed below, the effective income tax rates for 2022 and 2021 were 29.0% and 31.7%, respectively. These rates reflect the impact of tax reserves and changes in earnings mix between U.S. and non-U.S. operations.

Loss from continuing operations for 2022 was \$287,715, or \$5.57 per share, compared to income from continuing operations of \$70,302, or \$1.32 per share in 2021. The 2022 loss from continuing operations included the following:

- Restructuring charges of \$16,782 (\$12,479, net of tax, or \$0.23 per share);
- Debt extinguishment, net \$4,529 (\$3,474, net of tax, or \$0.06 per share);
- Acquisition costs of \$9,303 (\$8,149, net of tax, or \$0.15 per share);
- Strategic review - retention and other of \$9,683 (\$7,280, net of tax, or \$0.13 per share);
- Special dividend ESOP charges of \$10,538 (\$8,083, net of tax, or \$0.15 per share);
- Proxy expenses of \$6,952 (\$5,359, net of tax, or \$0.10 per share);
- Fair value step-up of acquired inventory sold of \$5,401 (\$4,012, net of tax, or \$0.07 per share);
- Goodwill and intangible asset impairments of \$517,027 (\$454,753, net of tax, or \$8.43 per share); and
- Discrete and certain other tax provision, net, of \$3,913 or 0.07 per share.

The 2021 income from continuing operations included the following:

- Restructuring charges of \$21,418 (\$16,131, net of tax, or \$0.30 per share); and
- Discrete and certain other tax provision, net, of \$3,245 or \$0.06 per share.

Excluding these items from both reporting periods, 2022 income from continuing operations would have been \$219,786, or \$4.07 per share compared to \$89,678, or \$1.68 per share, in 2021.

Griffon evaluates performance based on adjusted income from continuing operations and the related adjusted earnings per common share, which excludes non-cash impairment charges, restructuring charges, debt extinguishment, acquisition related expenses and discrete and certain other tax items, as well other items that may affect comparability, as applicable. Griffon believes this information is useful to investors for the same reason. The following table provides a reconciliation of income (loss) from continuing operations to adjusted income from continuing operations and earnings (loss) per share from continuing operations to adjusted earnings per share from continuing operations:

GRIFFON CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
RECONCILIATION OF INCOME (LOSS) FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS
TO ADJUSTED INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS
(Unaudited)

	<u>For the Years Ended September 30,</u>		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 77,617	\$(287,715)	\$70,302
Adjusting items:			
Restructuring charges ⁽¹⁾	92,468	16,782	21,418
Gain on sale of buildings	(12,655)	—	—
Debt extinguishment, net	437	4,529	—
Acquisition costs	—	9,303	—
Strategic review - retention and other	20,225	9,683	—
Special dividend ESOP charges.....	15,494	10,538	—
Proxy expenses	2,685	6,952	—
Fair value step-up of acquired inventory sold.....	—	5,401	—
Goodwill and intangible asset impairments	109,200	517,027	—
Tax impact of above items ⁽²⁾	(57,925)	(76,627)	(5,287)
Discrete and other certain tax provision.....	175	3,913	3,245
Adjusted income from continuing operations.....	<u>\$247,721</u>	<u>\$ 219,786</u>	<u>\$89,678</u>
Earnings (loss) per common share from continuing operations	\$ 1.42	\$ (5.57)	\$ 1.32
Adjusting items, net of tax:			
Anti-dilutive share impact ⁽³⁾	—	0.24	—
Restructuring charges ⁽¹⁾	1.26	0.23	0.30
Gain on sale of buildings	(0.18)	—	—
Debt extinguishment, net	0.01	0.06	—
Acquisition costs	—	0.15	—
Strategic review - retention and other	0.28	0.13	—
Special dividend ESOP charges.....	0.22	0.15	—
Proxy expenses	0.04	0.10	—
Fair value step-up of acquired inventory sold.....	—	0.07	—
Goodwill and intangible asset impairments	1.49	8.43	—
Discrete and other certain tax (benefit) provision	—	0.07	0.06
Adjusted earnings per share from continuing operations ...	<u>\$ 4.54</u>	<u>4.07</u>	<u>\$ 1.68</u>
Weighted-average shares outstanding (in thousands)	<u>52,111</u>	<u>51,672</u>	<u>53,369</u>
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding (in thousands) ⁽³⁾	<u>54,612</u>	<u>53,966</u>	<u>53,369</u>

Note: Due to rounding, the sum of earnings per common share and adjusting items, net of tax, may not equal adjusted earnings per common share.

⁽¹⁾ For the year ended September 30, 2023, restructuring charges relate to the CPP global sourcing expansion of which \$82,028 is included in Cost of goods and services and \$10,440 is included in SG&A.

- (2) Tax impact for the above reconciling adjustments from GAAP to non-GAAP Income from continuing operations and the related EPS is determined by comparing the Company's tax provision, including the reconciling adjustments, to the tax provision excluding such adjustments.
- (3) In fiscal 2022, loss from continuing operations is calculated using basic shares on the face of the income statement. Per share impact of using diluted shares represents the impact of converting from the basic shares used in calculating earnings per share from the loss from continuing operations to the diluted shares used in calculating earnings per share from the adjusted income from continuing operations.

REPORTABLE SEGMENTS

Griffon evaluates performance and allocates resources based on each segment's adjusted EBITDA, a non-GAAP measure, defined as income before taxes from continuing operations, excluding interest income and expense, depreciation and amortization, unallocated amounts (mainly corporate overhead), strategic review charges, non-cash impairment charges, restructuring charges, and acquisition related expenses, as well as other items that may affect comparability, as applicable. Griffon believes this information is useful to investors for the same reason.

See the table provided in Note 19—Business Segments for a reconciliation of adjusted EBITDA to income before taxes from continuing operations.

Home and Building Products

	<u>For the Years Ended September 30,</u>		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Residential repair and remodel.....	\$ 757,088	\$ 736,525	\$ 516,995
Residential new construction..	131,305	140,291	116,528
Residential.....	888,393	876,816	633,523
Commercial.....	700,112	630,066	407,585
Total Revenue.....	<u>\$1,588,505</u>	<u>\$1,506,882</u>	<u>\$1,041,108</u>
Adjusted EBITDA.....	\$ 510,876 32.2%	\$ 412,738 27.4%	\$ 181,015 17.4%
Depreciation and amortization	\$ 15,066	\$ 16,539	\$ 17,370

2023 Compared to 2022

HBP revenue in 2023 increased \$81,623, or 5%, compared to 2022, due to favorable commercial and residential pricing and mix of 8%, partially offset by a decline in volume of 3%. The volume decrease was primarily driven by residential, partially offset by increased commercial.

HBP Adjusted EBITDA in 2023 increased 24% to \$510,876 compared to \$412,738 in 2022. Adjusted EBITDA benefited from the increased revenue noted above and reduced material costs, partially offset by increased labor, transportation, advertising and marketing costs.

Segment depreciation and amortization decreased \$1,473 from the comparable prior year period primarily due to fully depreciated assets.

2022 Compared to 2021

HBP revenue in 2022 increased \$465,774, or 45%, compared to 2021, primarily due to favorable pricing and mix of 47% driven by both residential and commercial. Total volume decreased 2%, primarily due to labor and supply chain disruptions impacting residential deliveries, partially offset by increased commercial volume.

HBP Adjusted EBITDA in 2022 increased 128% to \$412,738 compared to \$181,015 in 2021. EBITDA benefited from the increased revenue noted above, partially offset by increased material, labor and transportation costs.

Segment depreciation and amortization decreased \$831 in 2022 compared to 2021 primarily due to fully depreciated assets.

Consumer and Professional Products

	For the Years Ended September 30,		
	2023	2022	2021
United States	\$ 716,098	\$ 858,956	\$ 766,150
Europe.....	51,041	106,471	123,607
Canada	75,477	92,930	85,676
Australia.....	231,764	258,945	244,674
All other countries.....	22,298	24,304	9,411
Total Revenue	<u>\$1,096,678</u>	<u>\$1,341,606</u>	<u>\$1,229,518</u>
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 50,343 4.6%	\$ 99,308 7.4%	\$ 115,673 9.4%
Depreciation and amortization	\$ 49,811	\$ 47,562	\$ 34,433

2023 Compared to 2022

CPP revenue in 2023 decreased \$244,928, or 18%, compared to 2022, primarily resulting from a 25% decrease in volume across all channels and geographies driven by reduced customer demand, elevated customer inventory levels, customer supplier diversification in the U.S., and an unfavorable foreign exchange impact of 2%. The volume decline was partially offset by \$75,766 of Hunter revenue, or 6%, for the portion of the comparable year-to-date period in which Hunter was not owned by Griffon in the prior year, as well as price and mix of 3%. Hunter contributed \$282,723 during 2023 compared to \$246,474 in 2022.

CPP adjusted EBITDA in 2023 decreased 49% to \$50,343 compared to \$99,308 in 2022, primarily due to the unfavorable impact of the reduced volume noted above and its related impact on manufacturing and overhead absorption, partially offset by reduced material costs, discretionary spending and \$7,679 of Hunter EBITDA for the portion of the comparable year-to-date period in which Hunter was not owned by Griffon in the prior year. EBITDA reflected an unfavorable foreign exchange impact of 2%. Hunter contributed \$56,949 during 2023 compared to \$43,579 in 2022.

Segment depreciation and amortization increased \$2,249 compared to the prior year period, primarily due to depreciation and amortization on assets placed in service, including a full period of Hunter assets, partially offset by fully depreciated assets and the write-down of certain fixed assets at several manufacturing facilities in connection with CPP's restructuring activities.

On January 24, 2022, Griffon completed the acquisition of Hunter Fan Company ("Hunter"), a market leader in residential ceiling, commercial, and industrial fans for a contractual purchase price of \$845,000. Hunter adds to Griffon's CPP segment, complementing and diversifying our portfolio of leading consumer brands and products.

2022 Compared to 2021

CPP revenue in 2022 increased \$112,088, or 9%, compared to 2021, primarily resulting from a 20% or \$246,474 contribution from the Hunter acquisition, and price and mix of 11%. These benefits were partially offset by a 20% reduction in volume primarily from reduced consumer demand and rebalancing of customer inventory levels in North America and the United Kingdom (U.K.), in part offset by Australia. Foreign exchange was an unfavorable impact of 2%.

CPP Adjusted EBITDA in 2022 decreased 14% to \$99,308 compared to \$115,673 in 2021. Excluding the Hunter contribution of \$43,579, EBITDA of \$55,729 decreased 52% primarily due to the unfavorable impact of the reduced volume noted above and the related impact on manufacturing absorption, and increased material, labor and transportation costs, partially offset by the benefits of price and mix. The year ended September 30, 2022 included increased demurrage and detention costs, primarily related to COVID-19 and global supply chain disruptions, of approximately \$15,172 (\$9,512 related to Hunter).

Segment depreciation and amortization increased \$13,129 in 2022 compared to 2021 primarily due to depreciation for new assets placed in service and the Hunter assets acquired.

On December 22, 2020, AMES acquired Quatro Design Pty Ltd (“Quatro”), a leading Australian manufacturer and supplier of glass fiber reinforced concrete landscaping products for residential, commercial, and public sector projects, for approximately AU\$3,500.

CPP Global Sourcing Strategy Expansion and Restructuring Charges

On May 3, 2023, in response to changing market conditions, Griffon announced that its CPP segment will expand its global sourcing strategy to include long handled tools, material handling, and wood storage and organization product lines.

By transitioning these product lines to an asset-light structure, CPP’s operations will be better positioned to serve customers with a more flexible and cost-effective sourcing model that leverages supplier relationships around the world, while improving its competitive positioning in a post-pandemic marketplace. These actions will be essential to CPP achieving 15% EBITDA margins, while enhancing free cash flow through improved working capital and significantly lower capital expenditures.

The global sourcing strategy expansion is expected to be complete by the end of calendar 2024. Over that period, CPP expects to reduce its facility footprint by approximately 1.2 million square feet, or approximately 15%, and its headcount by approximately 600. The affected U.S. locations will include Camp Hill and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Grantsville, Maryland; Fairfield, Iowa; and four wood mills.

Implementation of this strategy over the duration of the project will result in charges of \$120,000 to \$130,000, including \$50,000 to \$55,000 of cash charges for employee retention and severance, operational transition, and facility and lease exit costs, and \$70,000 to \$75,000 of non-cash charges primarily related to asset write-downs. Capital investment in the range of \$3,000 to \$5,000 will also be required. These costs exclude cash proceeds from the sale of real estate and equipment, which are expected to largely offset the cash charges, and also exclude inefficiencies due to duplicative labor costs and absorption impacts during transition.

During the year ended September 30, 2023, CPP incurred pre-tax restructuring and related exit costs approximating \$92,468. Cash charges totaled \$33,536 and non-cash, asset-related charges totaled \$58,932; the cash charges included \$16,772 for one-time termination benefits and other personnel-related costs and \$16,764 for facility exit and other related costs. Non-cash charges included a \$21,832 impairment charge related to certain fixed assets at several manufacturing locations and \$37,100 to adjust inventory to net realizable value.

	<u>Cash Charges</u>		<u>Non-Cash Charges</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Capital Investments</u>
	<u>Personnel related costs</u>	<u>Facilities, exit costs and other</u>	<u>Facilities, inventory and other</u>		
Anticipated Charges ⁽¹⁾	\$ 19,500	\$ 35,500	\$ 75,000	\$130,000	\$5,000
Total 2023 restructuring charges.....	<u>(16,772)</u>	<u>(16,764)</u>	<u>(58,932)</u>	<u>(92,468)</u>	<u>—</u>
Estimate to Complete.....	<u>\$ 2,728</u>	<u>\$ 18,736</u>	<u>\$ 16,068</u>	<u>\$ 37,532</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>

⁽¹⁾ The above table represents the upper range of anticipated charges during the duration of the project.

To date, the global sourcing expansion project remains on schedule and within budget. By the end of calendar 2023, operations at two manufacturing facilities and four wood mills, representing over one million square feet of space, will cease. The remaining affected AMES locations will be transitioned during calendar year 2024.

In November 2019, Griffon announced the development of a next-generation business platform for CPP to enhance the growth, efficiency, and competitiveness of its U.S. operations, and on November 12, 2020, Griffon announced that CPP was broadening this strategic initiative to include additional North American facilities, the AMES United Kingdom (U.K.) and Australia businesses, and a manufacturing facility in China. On April 28, 2022, Griffon announced a reduced scope and accelerated timeline for the initiative, which was completed in fiscal 2022. The cost to implement this new business platform included one-time charges of approximately \$51,869 and capital investments of approximately \$13,000, net of future proceeds from the sale of exited facilities. This initiative resulted in cash savings of approximately \$25,000.

Unallocated Amounts

For 2023, unallocated amounts, excluding depreciation, consisted primarily of corporate overhead costs, totaled \$55,887 compared to \$53,888 in 2022, with the increase primarily due to stock compensation expense.

For 2022, unallocated amounts, excluding depreciation, consisted primarily of corporate overhead costs, totaled \$53,888 compared to \$50,278 in 2021, with the increase primarily due to compensation and incentive costs.

Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization of \$65,445 in 2023 compared to \$64,658 in 2022; the increase was primarily due to depreciation for new assets placed in service and a full year of depreciation and amortization related to the Hunter Fan acquisition.

Depreciation and amortization of \$64,658 in 2022 compared to \$52,302 in 2021; the increase was primarily due to depreciation for new assets placed in service and the Hunter assets acquired.

Comprehensive Income (Loss)

During 2023, total other comprehensive income (loss), net of taxes, of \$12,728 included a gain of \$8,447 from foreign currency translation adjustments primarily due to the strengthening of the Euro and British Pound, all in comparison to the U.S. Dollar; a \$6,634 gain from pension and other post-retirement benefits, primarily associated with an increase in the assumed discount rate compared to 2022; and a \$2,353 loss on cash flow hedges.

During 2022, total other comprehensive income (loss), net of taxes, of \$(36,761) included a loss of \$37,920 from foreign currency translation adjustments primarily due to the weakening of the Euro, British Pound, and Australian and Canadian Dollars, all in comparison to the U.S. Dollar; a \$1,503 gain from pension and other post-retirement benefits, primarily associated with an increase in the assumed discount rate compared to 2021; and a \$344 loss on cash flow hedges.

DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

Defense Electronics

On September 27, 2021, Griffon announced it was exploring strategic alternatives for its Defense Electronics segment, which consisted of Telephonics Corporation (“Telephonics”), and on June 27, 2022, Griffon completed the sale of Telephonics for \$330,000, excluding customary post-closing

adjustments, primarily related to working capital. As a result, Griffon classified the results of operations of the Telephonics business as a discontinued operation in the Consolidated Statements of Operations for all periods presented and classified the related assets and liabilities associated with the discontinued operation as held for sale in the consolidated balance sheets. Accordingly, all references made to results and information in this Annual Report on Form 10-K are to Griffon’s continuing operations unless noted otherwise.

At September 30, 2023 and 2022, Griffon’s discontinued assets and liabilities included the Company’s obligation of \$4,596 and \$8,846, respectively, in connection with the sale of Telephonics related to certain customary post-closing adjustments, primarily working capital and retention bonuses. At September 30, 2023 and 2022, Griffon’s liabilities for Installations Services and other discontinued operations primarily related to insurance claims, income taxes, product liability, warranty and environmental reserves, and totaled \$7,202 and \$8,072, respectively. See Note 8, Discontinued Operations.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Liquidity

Management assesses Griffon’s liquidity in terms of its ability to generate cash to fund its operating, investing and financing activities. Significant factors affecting liquidity include cash flows from operating activities, capital expenditures, acquisitions, dispositions, bank lines of credit and the ability to attract long-term capital under satisfactory terms. Griffon believes it has sufficient liquidity available to invest in existing businesses and strategic acquisitions while managing its capital structure on both a short-term and long-term basis.

As of September 30, 2023, the amount of cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities held by non-U.S. subsidiaries was \$45,500. Our intent is to permanently reinvest these funds, except in limited circumstances, outside the U.S., and we do not currently anticipate that we will need funds generated from foreign operations to fund our domestic operations. The Company may repatriate cash from its non-U.S. subsidiaries if the Company determines that it is beneficial to the company and tax efficient. The Company has accrued a deferred tax liability for withholding taxes on previously taxed earnings and profit (PTEP) which are not considered permanently reinvested. In the event we determine that additional funds from non-U.S. operations are needed to fund operations in the U.S., we will be required to accrue and pay U.S. taxes to repatriate these additional funds.

Griffon’s primary sources of liquidity are cash flows generated from operations, cash on hand and our August 2028 five-year secured \$500,000 revolving credit facility (“Revolver”). During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, the Company generated \$431,765 of net cash from continuing operating activities and, as of September 30, 2023, the Company had \$436,593 available, subject to certain loan covenants, for borrowing under the Revolver. The Company had cash and cash equivalents of \$102,889 at September 30, 2023.

The table below provides a summary of the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the periods indicated.

	Years Ended	
	September 30,	
	2023	2022
	(in thousands)	
Cash Flows from Continuing Operations		
Net Cash Flows Provided By (Used In):		
Operating activities	\$ 431,765	\$ 59,240
Investing activities	(45,211)	(583,227)
Financing activities	(400,162)	393,345

Cash provided by operating activities from continuing operations for 2023 was \$431,765 compared to \$59,240 in 2022, an increase of \$372,525. The increase was due to increased cash generated from operations at HBP and a decrease in working capital across all businesses, primarily inventory and accounts receivable.

Cash flows from investing activities from continuing operations is primarily comprised of capital expenditures and business acquisitions as well as proceeds from the sale of businesses, investments and property, plant and equipment. During 2023, Griffon used \$45,211 in investing activities from continuing operations compared to \$583,227 in 2022. During 2023, cash flows used in investing activities from continuing operations primarily consisted of a working capital adjustment payment of \$2,568 related to the sale of Telephonics and capital expenditures of \$63,604 that included the purchase of two buildings for approximately \$29,207, partially offset by proceeds totaling \$20,961 from the sale of two buildings. During 2022, cash flows used in investing activities from continuing operations primarily consisted of a \$851,464 payment to acquire Hunter on January 24, 2022 and capital expenditures of \$42,488, partially offset by proceeds from the sale of Telephonics on June 27, 2022 totaling \$295,712 and proceeds from the sale of investments totaling \$14,923.

Cash used in financing activities from continuing operations was \$400,162 in 2023 compared to cash provided by financing activities of \$393,345 in 2022. During 2023, cash flows used in financing activities from continuing operations primarily consisted of net repayments of long-term debt of \$99,223, primarily related to the Revolver, the payoff of AMES UK loans and a prepayment of \$25,000 aggregate principal amount of the Term Loan B; the purchase of treasury shares in connection with the board authorized share repurchase program and to satisfy withholding taxes on vesting of restricted stock totaling \$163,970; and the payment of dividends of \$133,814. During 2022, cash flows provided by financing activities from continuing operations primarily consisted of the payment of dividends of \$126,677, purchase of treasury shares to satisfy withholding taxes on vesting of restricted stock of \$10,886 and net proceeds from long-term debt of \$547,715. During 2022, Griffon prepaid \$300,000 aggregate principal amount of the Term Loan B, which permanently reduced the outstanding balance. In connection with the prepayment of the Term Loan B Griffon recognized a \$6,296 charge related to the write-off of capitalized debt issuance costs. In addition, during 2022, Griffon purchased \$25,225 of 2028 Senior Notes in the open market at a weighted average discount of 91.82% of par, or \$23,161. In connection with these purchases, Griffon recognized a \$1,767 net gain on the early extinguishment of debt. At September 30, 2023, there were \$50,445 in outstanding borrowings under the Credit Agreement, compared to \$97,328 in outstanding borrowings at the same date in 2022.

During 2023, the Board of Directors approved two quarterly cash dividends each for \$0.10 per share, and two quarterly cash dividends of \$0.125 per share, totaling \$0.45. Additionally, on April 19, 2023, the Board of Directors declared a special cash dividend of \$2.00 per share, paid on May 19, 2023, to shareholders of record as of the close of business on May 9, 2023. The Company currently intends to pay dividends each quarter; however, payment of dividends is determined by the Board of Directors at its discretion based on various factors, and no assurance can be provided as to the payment of future dividends. On November 14, 2023, the Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of \$0.15 per share, payable on December 14, 2023, to shareholders of record as of the close of business on November 28, 2023.

During 2023, 365,823 shares, with a market value of \$12,882, or \$35.21 per share were withheld to settle employee taxes due upon the vesting of restricted stock and were added to treasury stock. During 2023, an additional 3,066 shares, with a market value of \$108, or \$35.31 per share, were withheld from common stock issued upon the vesting of restricted stock units to settle employee taxes due upon vesting.

On April 19, 2023, the Company's Board of Directors approved a \$200,000 increase to Griffon's share repurchase program to \$257,955 from the prior unused board authorizations from August 3, 2016 and August 1, 2018 of \$57,955. Under the authorized share repurchase program, the Company may, from time to time, purchase shares of its common stock in the open market, including pursuant to a 10b5-1 plan, pursuant to an accelerated share repurchase program or issuer tender offer, or in privately negotiated transactions. During 2023, Griffon purchased 4,142,794 shares of common stock under these

repurchase programs, for a total of \$150,772, or \$36.39 per share, excluding excise taxes. As of September 30, 2023, \$107,183 remains under these Board authorized repurchase programs. In connection with the share repurchases, excise taxes totaling \$1,301 was accrued as of September 30, 2023.

Subsequent to September 30, 2023 and through November 14, 2023, Griffon purchased 1,127,062 shares of its common stock for a total of \$44,980, or \$39.91 per share under Board authorized share repurchase programs. On November 15, 2023, Griffon announced a \$200,000 increase to its share repurchase program which on November 15, 2023 had \$262,203 available given effect to all repurchases through November 14, 2023.

During 2023, cash used in discontinued operations from operating activities of \$2,994 primarily related to the settling of certain liabilities, primarily stay bonuses, associated with the disposition of Telephonics, and environmental and other costs related to other discontinued businesses. During 2022, cash provided by discontinued operations from operating activities of \$10,198 primarily related to Telephonics operations and the payment of income taxes, stay bonuses and transaction related expenses, as well as payments associated with the settling of certain environmental and other liabilities related to other discontinued businesses. During 2022, cash used by discontinued operations from investing activities of \$2,627 primarily related to Telephonics capital expenditures.

Debt

At September 30, 2023 and 2022, Griffon had debt, net of cash and equivalents, as follows:

	<u>At September 30,</u> <u>2023</u>	<u>At September 30,</u> <u>2022</u>
	(in thousands)	
Cash and Equivalents and Debt		
Cash and equivalents.....	\$ 102,889	\$ 120,184
Notes payables and current portion of long-term debt.....	\$ 9,625	\$ 12,653
Long-term debt, net of current maturities.....	1,459,904	1,560,998
Debt discount and issuance costs.....	20,283	21,909
Total debt.....	<u>1,489,812</u>	<u>1,595,560</u>
Debt, net of cash and equivalents.....	<u>\$1,386,923</u>	<u>\$1,475,376</u>

During 2020, Griffon issued, at par \$1,000,000 of 5.75% Senior Notes due 2028 (the “2028 Senior Notes”). Proceeds from the 2028 Senior Notes were used to redeem \$1,000,000 of 5.25% Senior Notes due 2022. In connection with the issuance and exchange of the 2028 Senior Notes, Griffon capitalized \$16,448 of underwriting fees and other expenses incurred, which is being amortized over the term of such notes.

During 2022, Griffon purchased \$25,225 of 2028 Senior Notes in the open market at a weighted average discount of 91.82% of par, or \$23,161. In connection with these purchases, Griffon recognized a \$1,767 net gain on the early extinguishment of debt comprised of \$2,064 of face value in excess of purchase price, offset by \$297 related to the write-off of underwriting fees and other expenses. As of September 30, 2023, outstanding Senior Notes due totaled \$974,775; interest is payable semi-annually on March 1 and September 1.

The 2028 Senior Notes are senior unsecured obligations of Griffon guaranteed by certain domestic subsidiaries, and subject to certain covenants, limitations and restrictions. The 2028 Senior Notes were registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”) via an exchange offer. The fair value of the 2028 Senior Notes approximated \$882,171 on September 30, 2023 based upon quoted market prices (level 1 inputs). At September 30, 2023, \$8,920 of underwriting fees and other expenses incurred remained to be amortized.

On August 1, 2023, Griffon amended and restated its revolving credit agreement (as amended, “Credit Agreement”). The amendment increased the maximum borrowing availability on its revolving credit facility from \$400,000 to \$500,000 (the “Revolver”) and extended the maturity date of the Revolver from March 22, 2025 to August 1, 2028. In the event the 2028 Senior Notes are not repaid, refinanced, or replaced prior to December 1, 2027, the Revolver will mature on December 1, 2027. The amendment also modified certain other provisions of the Credit Agreement, including increasing the letter of credit sub-facility from \$100,000 to \$125,000 and increasing the customary accordion feature from a minimum of \$375,000 to a minimum of \$500,000. Additionally, the Revolver includes a multi-currency sub-facility of \$200,000.

Borrowings under the Revolver may be repaid and re-borrowed at any time. Interest is payable on borrowings at either a Secured Overnight Financing Rate (“SOFR”), Sterling Overnight Index Average (“SONIA”) or base rate benchmark rate, plus an applicable margin, which adjusts based on financial performance. Griffon’s SOFR loans accrue interest at Term SOFR plus a credit adjustment spread and a margin of 2.00% (7.42% at September 30, 2023), SONIA loans accrue interest at SONIA Base Rate plus a credit adjustment spread and a margin of 2.00% (7.22% at September 30, 2023) and base rate loans accrue interest at prime rate plus a margin of 1.00% (9.50% at September 30, 2023).

At September 30, 2023, under the Credit Agreement, there were \$50,445 in outstanding borrowings; outstanding standby letters of credit were \$12,962; and \$436,593 was available, subject to certain loan covenants, for borrowing at that date.

On January 24, 2022, Griffon amended and restated its Credit Agreement to provide for a new \$800,000 Term Loan B facility, due January 24, 2029, in addition to the Revolver, and replaced LIBOR with SOFR. The Term Loan B accrues interest at the Term SOFR rate plus a credit adjustment spread with a floor of 0.50%, and a spread of 2.25% (7.79% as of September 30, 2023). The Original Issue Discount for the Term Loan B was 99.75%. In connection with this amendment, Griffon capitalized \$15,466 of underwriting fees and other expenses incurred, which are being amortized over the term of the loan.

The Term Loan B facility requires nominal quarterly principal payments of \$2,000, potential additional annual principal payments based on a percentage of excess cash flow and secured leverage thresholds starting with the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023; and a final balloon payment due at maturity. At September 30, 2023, Griffon’s secured leverage remained below the threshold set forth in the Credit Agreement that would, if exceeded, require Griffon to make an additional payment, and therefore no additional annual principal payment was required. Term Loan B borrowings may generally be repaid without penalty but may not be re-borrowed. During 2023 and 2022, Griffon prepaid \$25,000 and \$300,000, respectively, of the aggregate principal amount of the Term Loan B, which permanently reduced the outstanding balance, and recognized a \$437 and \$6,296 charge on the prepayment of debt in 2023 and 2022, respectively. The charges were comprised of write-offs of underwriting fees and other expenses of \$386 and \$5,575 for 2023 and 2022, respectively, and the original issue discount of \$51 and \$721 for 2023 and 2022, respectively. The Term Loan B facility is subject to the same affirmative and negative covenants that apply to the Revolver, but is not subject to any financial maintenance covenants. Term Loan B borrowings are secured by the same collateral as the Revolver. The fair value of the Term Loan B facility approximated \$461,843 on September 30, 2023 based upon quoted market prices (level 1 inputs). At September 30, 2023, \$7,039 of underwriting fees and other expenses incurred remained to be amortized. At September 30, 2023, \$463,000 of the Term Loan B was outstanding.

The Revolver has certain financial maintenance tests including a maximum total leverage ratio, a maximum senior secured leverage ratio and a minimum interest coverage ratio, as well as customary affirmative and negative covenants and events of default. The negative covenants place limits on Griffon’s ability to, among other things, incur indebtedness, incur liens, and make restricted payments and investments. Both the Revolver and Term Loan B borrowings under the Credit Agreement are guaranteed by Griffon’s material domestic subsidiaries and are secured, on a first priority basis, by substantially all domestic assets of the Company and the guarantors, and a pledge of not greater than 65% of the equity interest in Griffon’s material, first-tier foreign subsidiaries.

On September 28, 2023, the Company closed on the exercise of its lease purchase option, as permitted under the lease agreement, to acquire ownership of the manufacturing facility located in Ocala, Florida for a cash purchase price of \$23,207. The Ocala lease had a maturity date in 2025 and bore interest at a fixed rate of approximately 5.6%. As a result of exercising the purchase option, the Company no longer has any future lease obligations related to this real estate. During 2022, the financing lease on the Troy, Ohio location expired. The Troy lease bore interest at a rate of approximately 5.0%, was secured by a mortgage on the real estate, which was guaranteed by Griffon, and had a one dollar buyout at the end of the lease. Griffon exercised the one dollar buyout option in November 2021. Refer to Note 22-Leases for further details.

In November 2012, Garant G.P. (“Garant”), a Griffon wholly owned subsidiary, entered into a CAD 15,000 (\$11,117 as of September 30, 2023) revolving credit facility. Effective in December 2022, the facility was amended to replace LIBOR (USD) with the Canadian Dollar Offer Rate (“CDOR”). The facility accrues interest at CDOR or the Bankers Acceptance Rate (CDN) plus 1.3% per annum (6.69% using CDOR and 6.43% using Bankers Acceptance Rate CDN as of September 30, 2023). The revolving facility matures in December 2023, but is renewable upon mutual agreement with the lender. Garant is required to maintain a certain minimum equity. At September 30, 2023, there were no outstanding borrowings under the revolving credit facility with CAD 15,000 (\$11,117 as of September 30, 2023) available.

During 2022, Griffon Australia Holdings Pty Ltd and its Australian subsidiaries (collectively, “Griffon Australia”) amended its AUD 18,375 term loan, AUD 20,000 revolver and AUD 15,000 receivable purchase facility agreement that was entered into in July 2016 and further amended in fiscal 2020. Griffon Australia paid off the term loan in the amount of AUD 9,625 and canceled the AUD 20,000 revolver. In March 2023 the existing receivable purchase facility was renewed and increased from AUD 15,000 to AUD 30,000 (\$19,188 as of September 30, 2023). The receivable purchase facility matures in March 2024, but is renewable upon mutual agreement with the lender. The receivable purchase facility accrues interest at BBSY (Bank Bill Swap Rate) plus 1.25% per annum (5.33% at September 30, 2023). At September 30, 2023, there was no balance outstanding under the receivable purchase facility with AUD 30,000 (\$19,188 as of September 30, 2023) available. The receivable purchase facility is secured by substantially all of the assets of Griffon Australia and its subsidiaries. Griffon Australia is required to maintain a certain minimum equity level.

In July 2018, the AMES Companies UK Ltd and its subsidiaries (collectively, “Ames UK”) entered into a GBP 14,000 term loan, GBP 4,000 mortgage loan and GBP 5,000 revolver, which matured in July 2023. Prior to maturity, on June 30, 2023, AMES UK repaid and cancelled the GBP 14,000 term loan and GBP 4,000 mortgage loan. The payoff amounts were GBP 7,525 (\$9,543) and GBP 2,451 (\$3,108), respectively. Upon maturity in July 2023, the GBP 5,000 revolver had no balance and was not renewed.

Other debt primarily consists of a loan with the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority, with the balance consisting of finance leases.

At September 30, 2023, Griffon and its subsidiaries were in compliance with the terms and covenants of its credit and loan agreements. Net Debt to EBITDA (Leverage), as calculated in accordance with the definition in the Credit Agreement, was 2.6x at September 30, 2023.

Capital Resource Requirements

On May 3, 2023, in response to changing market conditions, Griffon announced that its CPP segment will expand its global sourcing strategy to include long handled tools, material handling, and wood storage and organization product lines. By transitioning these product lines to an asset-light structure, CPP’s operations will be better positioned to serve customers with a more flexible and cost-effective sourcing model that leverages supplier relationships around the world, while improving its competitive positioning in a post-pandemic marketplace. These actions will be essential to CPP achieving 15% EBITDA margins, while enhancing free cash flow through improved working capital and significantly lower capital expenditures. For additional information, see the CPP segment discussion.

Griffon's debt requirements include principal on our outstanding debt, most notably our Senior Notes totaling \$974,775 payable in 2028 and related annual interest payments of approximately \$56,050, a Term Loan B facility maturing in 2029 with an outstanding balance of \$463,000 on September 30, 2023, and the Revolver, which matures in 2028 and has an outstanding balance of \$50,445. The Term Loan B accrues interest at the Term SOFR rate plus a credit adjustment spread with a floor of 0.50%, and a spread of 2.25% (7.79% as of September 30, 2023). Additionally, the Term Loan B facility requires quarterly payments of \$2,000 and a balloon payment due at maturity. For the Revolver, interest is payable on borrowings at either a SOFR, SONIA or base rate benchmark rate, plus an applicable margin, which adjusts based on financial performance. Griffon's SOFR loans accrue interest at Term SOFR plus a credit adjustment spread and a margin of 2.00% (7.42% at September 30, 2023), SONIA loans accrue interest at SONIA Base Rate plus a credit adjustment spread and a margin of 2.00% (7.22% at September 30, 2023), and base rate loans accrue interest at prime rate plus a margin of 1.00% (9.50% at September 30, 2023).

Griffon's purchase obligations, which are generally for the purchase of goods and services in the ordinary course of business over the next twelve months is approximately \$160,539. Griffon uses blanket purchase orders to communicate expected requirements to certain vendors. Purchase obligations reflect those purchase orders in which the commitment is considered to be firm.

Griffon rents real property and equipment under operating leases expiring at various dates. Operating lease obligations over the next twelve months is approximately \$41,955. Refer to Note 22—Leases.

Customers

A small number of customers account for, and are expected to continue to account for, a substantial portion of Griffon's consolidated revenue. In 2023, Home Depot represented 12% of Griffon's consolidated revenue, 9% of HBP's revenue and 15% of CPP's revenue.

No other customer exceeded 10% or more of consolidated revenue. Future operating results will continue to substantially depend on the success of Griffon's largest customers and our relationships with them. Orders from these customers are subject to change and may fluctuate materially. The loss of all or a portion of volume from any one of these customers could have a material adverse impact on Griffon's liquidity and operations.

SUPPLEMENTAL GUARANTOR FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Griffon's Senior Notes are fully and unconditionally guaranteed, jointly and severally by Clopay Corporation, The AMES Companies, Inc., Clopay AMES Holding Corp., ClosetMaid LLC, AMES Hunter Holdings Corporation, Hunter Fan Company, CornellCookson, LLC and Cornell Real Estate Holdings, LLC, all of which are indirectly 100% owned by Griffon. In accordance with Rule 3-10 of Regulation S-X promulgated under the Securities Act, presented below are summarized financial information of the Parent (Griffon) subsidiaries and the Guarantor subsidiaries as of September 30, 2023 and September 30, 2022 and for the years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022. All intercompany balances and transactions between subsidiaries under Parent and subsidiaries under the Guarantor have been eliminated. The information presented below excludes eliminations necessary to arrive at the information on a consolidated basis. The summarized information excludes financial information of the Non-Guarantors, including earnings from and investments in these entities. The financial information may not necessarily be indicative of the results of operations or financial position of the guarantor companies or non-guarantor companies had they operated as independent entities. The guarantor companies and the non-guarantor companies include the consolidated financial results of their wholly-owned subsidiaries accounted for under the equity method.

The indentures relating to the Senior Notes (the "Indentures") contain terms providing that, under certain limited circumstances, a guarantor will be released from its obligations to guarantee the Senior Notes. These circumstances include (i) a sale of at least a majority of the stock, or all or substantially all the assets, of the subsidiary guarantor as permitted by the Indentures; (ii) a public equity offering of a

subsidiary guarantor that qualifies as a “Minority Business” as defined in the Indentures (generally, a business the EBITDA of which constitutes less than 50% of the segment adjusted EBITDA of the Company for the most recently ended four fiscal quarters), and that meets certain other specified conditions as set forth in the Indentures; (iii) the designation of a guarantor as an “unrestricted subsidiary” as defined in the Indentures, in compliance with the terms of the Indentures; (iv) Griffon exercising its right to defease the Senior Notes, or to otherwise discharge its obligations under the Indentures, in each case in accordance with the terms of the Indentures; and (v) upon obtaining the requisite consent of the holders of the Senior Notes.

Summarized Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss)

	For the Year Ended September 30, 2023		For the Year Ended September 30, 2022	
	Parent Company	Guarantor Companies	Parent Company	Guarantor Companies
Net sales	\$ —	\$2,190,636	\$ —	\$2,301,215
Gross profit	\$ —	\$ 800,477	\$ —	\$ 752,982
Income (loss) from operations	\$ (42,948)	\$ 228,346	\$ (43,492)	\$ (127,982)
Equity in earnings of Guarantor subsidiaries	\$149,981	\$ —	\$(184,618)	\$ —
Net income (loss)	\$(85,770)	\$ 149,981	\$(74,423)	\$(184,618)

Summarized Balance Sheet Information

	For the Year Ended September 30, 2023		For the Year Ended September 30, 2022	
	Parent Company	Guarantor Companies	Parent Company	Guarantor Companies
Current assets.....	\$ 51,701	\$ 707,929	\$ 49,238	\$ 915,329
Non-current assets	13,954	1,317,575	15,571	1,393,864
Total assets.....	<u>\$ 65,655</u>	<u>\$2,025,504</u>	<u>\$ 64,809</u>	<u>\$2,309,193</u>
Current liabilities	\$ 76,460	\$ 226,532	\$ 78,635	\$ 275,165
Long-term debt.....	1,459,952	—	1,538,235	12,886
Other liabilities.....	(9,994)	271,985	4,331	322,224
Total liabilities.....	<u>\$1,526,418</u>	<u>\$ 498,517</u>	<u>\$1,621,201</u>	<u>\$ 610,275</u>

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES

The preparation of Griffon’s consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. of America (“GAAP”) requires the use of estimates, assumptions, judgments and subjective interpretations of accounting principles that have an impact on assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses. These estimates can also affect supplemental information contained in public disclosures of Griffon, including information regarding contingencies, risk and its financial condition. These estimates, assumptions and judgments are evaluated on an ongoing basis and based on historical experience, current conditions and various other assumptions, and form the basis for estimating the carrying values of assets and liabilities, as well as identifying and assessing the accounting treatment for commitments and contingencies. Actual results may materially differ from these estimates.

An estimate is considered to be critical if it is subjective and if changes in the estimate using different assumptions would result in a material impact on Griffon’s financial position or results of operations. The most significant areas involving management estimates are described below.

Goodwill, Long-Lived Intangible and Tangible Assets, and Impairment

As of September 30, 2023, the balance of goodwill on our balance sheet is \$327,864 and indefinite-lived intangibles representing our trademarks is \$293,447. We test goodwill and indefinite-lived intangibles for impairment at least annually in the fourth quarter, and more frequently whenever events or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value below the carrying amount. Such events or changes in circumstance include significant deterioration in overall economic conditions, changes in the business climate in which our reporting units operate, a decline in our market capitalization, operating performance indicators, when some portion of a reporting unit is disposed of or classified as held for sale, or when a change in the composition of reporting units occurs for other reasons, such as a change in operating segments. To test goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets for impairment, we may perform both a qualitative assessment and quantitative assessment. If we elect to perform a qualitative assessment, we consider operating results as well as circumstances impacting the operations or cash flows of the reporting unit or indefinite-lived intangible assets, including macroeconomic conditions, industry and market conditions and reporting unit events and circumstances. For the quantitative test, the assessment is based on both an income-based and market-based valuation approach. If it is determined that an impairment exists, we recognize an impairment loss for the amount by which the carrying amount of the reporting unit or indefinite-lived intangible asset exceeds its estimated fair value.

Under the income-based approach, we determine the fair value of a reporting unit by using discounted cash flows that require significant judgement and assumptions, such as our best estimate of future revenue, operating costs, cash flows, expected long-term cash flow growth rates (terminal value growth rates), and risk adjusted discount rates. Under the market-based approach, we determine the fair value of a reporting unit by applying those multiples exhibited by comparable publicly traded companies and those multiples paid in acquisitions of peer company transactions to the financial results of the reporting units. We then compare the fair value estimates resulting from the income and market-based valuations to the sum of Griffon's market capitalization and net debt position to assess the reasonableness of the implied control premium. We determine the fair value of indefinite-lived intangible assets by using the relief from royalty method, which estimates the value of a trademark by discounting to present value the hypothetical royalty payments that are saved by owning the asset rather than licensing it.

During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, the Company performed a qualitative assessment of the HBP reporting unit goodwill and determined that indicators that the fair value was less than the carrying amount were not present. With respect to CPP's reporting units goodwill, the Company performed a quantitative assessment using both an income-based and market-based approach, which did not result in an impairment. Additionally, the Company compared the estimated fair values of the CPP indefinite-lived intangibles to their carrying amounts, which resulted in pre-tax noncash impairment charges of \$109,200 to the gross carrying amount of our trademarks, of which \$9,200 was recognized in the fourth quarter and \$100,000 was recognized in the second quarter. Indicators of impairment were not present for the HBP indefinite-lived intangibles during 2023. A 100-basis point increase in the discount rate would have resulted in an additional impairment charge to our indefinite-lived intangible assets of \$4,600 and a goodwill impairment of \$19,400.

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, we performed a qualitative assessment of the HBP reporting unit and determined that indicators that the fair value was less than the carrying amount were not present. However, indicators of impairment were present for our CPP reporting units driven by a decrease in comparable company market multiples and an increase in interest rates and the related impact on weighted average cost of capital rates. As such, in connection with the preparation of our financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, we performed a quantitative assessment of the CPP reporting units using both an income-based and market-based approach. The impairment tests resulted in a pre-tax, non-cash goodwill impairment charge of \$342,027. Further, we compared the estimated fair values of the CPP indefinite lived intangibles to their carrying amounts which resulted in a pre-tax, non-cash impairment charge of \$175,000. Indicators of impairment were not present for the HBP indefinite-lived intangibles during 2022.

Long-lived assets, such as customer relationships and software, and tangible assets, primarily property, plant and equipment, are amortized over their expected useful lives, which involve significant assumptions and estimates. We assess the recoverability of the carrying amount of our long-lived assets, including amortizable intangible assets, whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount of the assets may not be recoverable. We evaluate the recoverability of such assets based on the expectations of undiscounted cash flows attributable to the asset group. If the sum of the expected future undiscounted cash flows are less than the carrying amount of the asset group, a loss would be recognized for the difference between the fair value and the carrying amount. As of September 30, 2023 and 2022, we tested long-lived intangible and tangible assets for impairment by comparing estimated future undiscounted cash flows of each CPP asset group to the carrying amount of the asset group and determined that an impairment did not exist. No event or indicator of impairment existed for the HBP assets groups as of September 30, 2023.

Fair value estimates are based on assumptions believed to be reasonable at the time, but such assumptions are subject to inherent uncertainty. Actual results may differ materially from those estimates. Any changes in key assumptions or management judgment with respect to a reporting unit or its prospects, which may result from a decline in Griffon's stock price, a change in market conditions, market trends, interest rates or other factors outside of Griffon's control, or significant under-performance relative to historical or projected future operating results, could result in a significantly different estimate of the fair value of Griffon's reporting units, which could result in an impairment charge in the future.

Income Taxes

Griffon's effective tax rate is based on income, statutory tax rates and tax planning opportunities available in the various jurisdictions in which Griffon operates. For interim financial reporting, the annual tax rate is estimated based on projected taxable income for the full year, and a quarterly income tax provision is recorded in accordance with the anticipated annual rate. As the year progresses, the annual tax rate is refined as new information becomes available, including year-to-date financial results. This process often results in changes to the effective tax rate throughout the year. Significant judgment is required in determining the effective tax rate and in evaluating tax positions.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized based on the differences between the financial statement carrying amounts and the tax basis of assets and liabilities. Deferred tax assets represent items to be used as a tax deduction or credit in future tax returns for which a tax benefit has been recorded in the income statement. The Company assesses whether a valuation allowance should be established against its deferred tax assets based on consideration of all available evidence, both positive and negative, using a more likely than not standard. This assessment considers, among other matters, the nature, frequency and severity of recent losses; a forecast of future profitability; the duration of statutory carryback and carryforward periods; the Company's experience with tax attributes expiring unused; and tax planning alternatives. The likelihood that the deferred tax asset balance will be recovered from future taxable income is assessed at least quarterly, and the valuation allowance, if any, is adjusted accordingly.

Tax benefits are recognized for an uncertain tax position when, in management's judgment, it is more likely than not that the position will be sustained upon examination by a taxing authority. For a tax position that meets the more-likely-than-not recognition threshold, the tax benefit is measured as the largest amount that is judged to have a greater than 50% likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement with a taxing authority. The liability associated with unrecognized tax benefits is adjusted periodically due to changing circumstances, such as the progress of tax audits, case law developments and new or emerging legislation. Such adjustments are recognized in the period in which they are identified. The effective tax rate includes the net impact of changes in the liability for unrecognized tax benefits and subsequent adjustments as considered appropriate by management. A number of years may elapse before a particular matter for which Griffon has recorded a liability related to an unrecognized tax benefit is audited and finally resolved. The number of years with open tax audits varies by jurisdiction. While it is often difficult to predict the final outcome or the timing of resolution

of any particular tax matter, Griffon believes its liability for unrecognized tax benefits is adequate. Favorable resolution of an unrecognized tax benefit could be recognized as a reduction in Griffon's tax provision and effective tax rate in the period of resolution. Unfavorable settlement of an unrecognized tax benefit may require the use of cash in the period of resolution. The liability for unrecognized tax benefits is generally presented as non-current. However, if it is anticipated that a cash settlement will occur within one year, that portion of the liability is presented as current. Interest and penalties recognized on the liability for unrecognized tax benefits is recorded as income tax expense.

Pension Benefits

Griffon sponsors defined and supplemental benefit pension plans for certain active and retired employees. Annual amounts relating to these plans are recorded based on actuarial projections, which include various actuarial assumptions, including discount rates, assumed rates of return, compensation increases and turnover rates. The actuarial assumptions used to determine pension liabilities, assets and expense are reviewed annually and modified based on current economic conditions and trends. The expected return on plan assets is determined based on the nature of the plans' investments and expectations for long-term rates of return. The discount rate used to measure obligations is based on a corporate bond spot-rate yield curve that matches projected future benefit payments, with the appropriate spot rate applicable to the timing of the projected future benefit payments. Assumptions used in determining Griffon's obligations under the defined benefit pension plans are believed to be reasonable, based on experience and advice from independent actuaries; however, differences in actual experience or changes in the assumptions may materially affect Griffon's financial position or results of operations.

All of the defined benefit plans are frozen and have ceased accruing benefits.

Item 7A. *Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk*

Interest Rates

Griffon's exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates relates primarily to variable interest rate debt and investments in cash and equivalents.

Griffon's amended and restated Credit Agreement references a benchmark rate with SONIA or SOFR. In addition, certain other of Griffon's credit facilities have a LIBOR and BBSY (Bank Bill Swap Rate) based variable interest rate. Due to the current and expected level of borrowings under these facilities, a 100 basis point change in SONIA, SOFR, BBSY, or LIBOR would not have a material impact on Griffon's results of operations or liquidity.

Foreign Exchange

Griffon conducts business in various non-U.S. countries, primarily in Canada, Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand and China; therefore, changes in the value of the currencies of these countries affect the financial position and cash flows when translated into U.S. Dollars. Griffon has generally accepted the exposure to exchange rate movements relative to its non-U.S. operations. Griffon may, from time to time, hedge its currency risk exposures. A change of 10% in the value of all applicable foreign currencies would not have a material effect on Griffon's financial position and cash flows.

Item 8. *Financial Statements and Supplementary Data*

The financial statements of Griffon and its subsidiaries and the report thereon of Grant Thornton LLP (PCAOB ID 248) are included herein:

- Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.
- Consolidated Balance Sheets at September 30, 2023 and 2022.
- Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the years ended September 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021.
- Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended September 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021.
- Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity for the years ended September 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021.
- Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.
- Schedule II—Valuation and Qualifying Account.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Board of Directors and Shareholders
Griffon Corporation

Opinions on the financial statements and internal control over financial reporting

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Griffon Corporation (a Delaware corporation) and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of September 30, 2023 and 2022, and the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income (loss), changes in shareholders’ equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes and financial statement schedule included under Item 15(a) (collectively referred to as the “financial statements”). We also have audited the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of September 30, 2023, based on criteria established in the 2013 *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (“COSO”).

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of September 30, 2023 and 2022, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended September 30, 2023, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also, in our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of September 30, 2023, based on criteria established in the 2013 *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by COSO.

Basis for opinions

The Company’s management is responsible for these financial statements, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management’s Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s financial statements and an opinion on the Company’s internal control over financial reporting based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud, and whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects.

Our audits of the financial statements included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audits also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

Definition and limitations of internal control over financial reporting

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

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

Critical audit matter

The critical audit matter communicated below is a matter arising from the current period audit of the financial statements that was communicated or required to be communicated to the audit committee and that: (1) relates to accounts or disclosures that are material to the financial statements and (2) involved our especially challenging, subjective, or complex judgments. The communication of critical audit matters does not alter in any way our opinion on the financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matter below, providing a separate opinion on the critical audit matter or on the accounts or disclosures to which it relates.

CPP Goodwill and Indefinite—Lived Intangible Assets Impairment Testing

As described further in notes 1 and 7 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company tests goodwill at the reporting unit level and indefinite-lived intangible assets at least annually for impairment. The Company performed its annual impairment testing of goodwill as of September 30, 2023 for the CPP reporting units and associated indefinite-lived intangible assets. Additionally, due to a decrease in forecasted sales and operating results due to elevated customer inventory levels and reduced customer demand, the Company completed an interim impairment test as of March 31, 2023 for the CPP reporting units and certain associated indefinite-lived intangible assets. The Company performed the interim and annual impairment testing of goodwill by comparing the fair value of the Company's reporting units to their respective carrying values. The fair value of the CPP reporting units was determined using a combination of the income and market-based valuation approach methodologies, which include the present value of expected future cash flows and the use of market assumptions specific to the reporting unit. The Company used prospective financial information to which discount rates were applied to calculate the fair value. Similarly to goodwill, the Company tested indefinite-lived intangibles for impairment as of March 31, 2023 and September 30, 2023. The Company utilized a relief from royalty method to calculate and compare the fair value of the indefinite-lived intangible assets to their carrying value. As a result of the impairment tests, the Company recorded indefinite-lived intangible asset impairment as of March 31, 2023, and September 30, 2023. We identified the Company's interim and annual impairment testing of the CPP reporting units' goodwill and certain indefinite-lived intangible assets as a critical audit matter.

The principal considerations for our determination that the interim and annual impairment testing is a critical audit matter are as follows: The determination of the fair value of reporting units and indefinite-lived intangibles require management to make significant estimates and assumptions related to forecasts of future cash flows and discount rates, and specifically for indefinite-lived intangibles, royalty rates.

This requires management to evaluate historical results and expectations of future operating performance based on relevant information available to them regarding expectations of industry performance, as well as expectations for entity-specific performance. In addition, determining the discount rate requires management to evaluate the appropriate risk premium based on their judgment of industry and entity-specific risks. Management also used a selection of comparable companies that correspond to each reporting unit to derive a market-based multiple for the CPP reporting units. As disclosed by management, changes in these assumptions could have a significant impact on the fair value of the reporting units and indefinite-lived assets. In turn, auditing these judgments and assumptions requires a high degree of auditor judgment.

Our audit procedures related to the quantitative impairment testing included the following: We tested the design and operating effectiveness of controls relating to the impairment testing, including the Company's ability to develop the estimates utilized in calculating the fair value of the CPP reporting units and certain indefinite-lived intangible assets. Such estimates included prospective financial information, long-term growth rates, discount rates, weighted average cost of capital and specifically for indefinite-lived intangibles, royalty rates. With the assistance of valuation specialists, we evaluated the appropriateness of the valuation methodology utilized and assessed the appropriateness of inputs utilized. We evaluated the qualifications of those responsible for preparing the calculations of fair values. We tested the inputs, significant judgments and estimates utilized in performing the annual and interim impairment tests, which included comparing management's judgments and estimates to industry and market data. We tested the inputs, significant judgments and estimates, as follows: a) tested prospective financial information and long-term growth rates by comparing to historical trends and industry expectations, performed a sensitivity analysis over growth rates and assessed management's historical ability to accurately forecast; b) tested discount rates by comparing to historical rates and industry expectations, compared rates to market comparable companies and independently calculated discount rates for comparison to those used by management; c) for indefinite-lived intangibles, tested royalty rates by comparing to comparable licensing agreements; and d) tested weighted average cost of capital by analyzing the implied discount rate and independently calculated a weighted-average discount rate using individual discount rates and compared to the rate utilized by management.

/s/ GRANT THORNTON LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2006.
New York, New York
November 15, 2023

GRIFFON CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in thousands, except per share data)

	At September 30, 2023	At September 30, 2022
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and equivalents	\$ 102,889	\$ 120,184
Accounts receivable, net of allowances of \$11,264 and \$12,137	312,432	361,653
Inventories.....	507,130	669,193
Prepaid and other current assets.....	57,139	62,453
Assets of discontinued operations.....	1,001	1,189
Total Current Assets	980,591	1,214,672
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, net	279,218	294,561
OPERATING LEASE RIGHT-OF-USE ASSETS.....	169,942	183,398
GOODWILL.....	327,864	335,790
INTANGIBLE ASSETS, net.....	635,243	761,914
OTHER ASSETS.....	21,731	21,553
ASSETS OF DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS.....	4,290	4,586
Total Assets.....	\$2,418,879	\$2,816,474
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Notes payable and current portion of long-term debt.....	\$ 9,625	\$ 12,653
Accounts payable.....	116,646	194,793
Accrued liabilities	193,098	171,797
Current portion of operating lease liabilities.....	32,632	31,680
Liabilities of discontinued operations	7,148	12,656
Total Current Liabilities.....	359,149	423,579
LONG-TERM DEBT, net	1,459,904	1,560,998
LONG-TERM OPERATING LEASE LIABILITIES.....	147,224	159,414
OTHER LIABILITIES	132,708	190,651
LIABILITIES OF DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS.....	4,650	4,262
Total Liabilities	2,103,635	2,338,904
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES – See Note 16		
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Preferred stock, par value \$0.25 per share, authorized 3,000 shares, no shares issued	—	—
Common stock, par value \$0.25 per share, authorized 85,000 shares, issued shares of 84,746 in both 2023 and 2022.....	21,187	21,187
Capital in excess of par value	662,680	627,982
Retained earnings	281,516	344,060
Treasury shares, at cost, 31,684 common shares and 27,682 common shares, respectively	(577,686)	(420,116)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(70,010)	(82,738)
Deferred compensation	(2,443)	(12,805)
Total Shareholders' Equity	315,244	477,570
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	\$2,418,879	\$2,816,474

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

GRIFFON CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)
(in thousands, except per share data)

	Years Ended September 30,		
	2023	2022	2021
Revenue	\$2,685,183	\$2,848,488	\$2,270,626
Cost of goods and services	<u>1,736,362</u>	<u>1,911,602</u>	<u>1,629,513</u>
Gross profit	948,821	936,886	641,113
Selling, general and administrative expenses	642,734	608,926	470,530
Goodwill and intangible asset impairments	<u>109,200</u>	<u>517,027</u>	<u>—</u>
Total operating expenses	751,934	1,125,953	470,530
Income (loss) from continuing operations	196,887	(189,067)	170,583
Other income (expense)			
Interest expense	(101,445)	(84,379)	(63,175)
Interest income	2,094	215	440
Gain on sale of buildings	12,655	—	—
Debt extinguishment, net	(437)	(4,529)	—
Other, net	<u>2,928</u>	<u>6,881</u>	<u>2,107</u>
Total other income (expense)	<u>(84,205)</u>	<u>(81,812)</u>	<u>(60,628)</u>
Income (loss) before taxes from continuing operations	112,682	(270,879)	109,955
Provision for income taxes	<u>35,065</u>	<u>16,836</u>	<u>39,653</u>
Income (loss) from continuing operations	77,617	(287,715)	70,302
Discontinued operations:			
Income before tax from discontinued operations	—	116,345	10,121
Provision for income taxes	<u>—</u>	<u>20,188</u>	<u>1,212</u>
Income from discontinued operations	<u>—</u>	<u>96,157</u>	<u>8,909</u>
Net income (loss)	<u>\$ 77,617</u>	<u>\$ (191,558)</u>	<u>\$ 79,211</u>
Basic earnings (loss) per common share:			
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 1.49	\$ (5.57)	\$ 1.38
Income from discontinued operations	—	1.86	0.18
Basic earnings (loss) per common share	<u>\$ 1.49</u>	<u>\$ (3.71)</u>	<u>\$ 1.56</u>
Weighted-average shares outstanding	<u>52,111</u>	<u>51,672</u>	<u>50,830</u>
Diluted earnings (loss) per common share:			
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 1.42	\$ (5.57)	\$ 1.32
Income from discontinued operations	—	1.86	0.17
Diluted earnings (loss) per common share	<u>\$ 1.42</u>	<u>\$ (3.71)</u>	<u>\$ 1.48</u>
Weighted-average shares outstanding	<u>54,612</u>	<u>51,672</u>	<u>53,369</u>
Net income (loss)	\$ 77,617	\$ (191,558)	\$ 79,211
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of taxes:			
Foreign currency translation adjustments	8,447	(37,920)	6,433
Pension and other post retirement plans	6,634	1,503	17,796
Gain (loss) on cash flow hedge	<u>(2,353)</u>	<u>(344)</u>	<u>1,886</u>
Total other comprehensive income (loss), net of taxes	<u>12,728</u>	<u>(36,761)</u>	<u>26,115</u>
Comprehensive income (loss)	<u>\$ 90,345</u>	<u>\$ (228,319)</u>	<u>\$ 105,326</u>

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

GRIFFON CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(in thousands)

	Years Ended September 30,		
	2023	2022	2021
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES - CONTINUING OPERATIONS:			
Net income (loss).....	\$ 77,617	\$ (191,558)	\$ 79,211
Net income from discontinued operations	—	(96,157)	(8,909)
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 77,617	\$ (287,715)	\$ 70,302
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities of continuing operations:			
Depreciation and amortization.....	65,445	64,658	52,302
Fair value write-up of acquired inventory sold.....	—	5,401	—
Stock-based compensation	41,112	33,135	20,088
Goodwill and intangible asset impairments	109,200	517,027	—
Asset impairment charges - restructuring	58,932	4,831	6,655
Provision for losses on accounts receivable	1,297	1,416	501
Amortization of deferred financing costs and debt discounts	4,235	3,775	2,640
Debt extinguishment, net.....	437	4,529	—
Deferred income tax provision (benefit).....	(37,795)	(56,706)	13,763
(Gain)/ loss on sale/disposal of assets and investments	(12,960)	(469)	231
Change in assets and liabilities, net of assets and liabilities acquired:			
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	50,793	(20,662)	(7,002)
(Increase) decrease in inventories.....	129,209	(106,753)	(154,515)
(Increase) decrease in prepaid and other assets.....	621	(20,005)	(9,598)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable, accrued liabilities and income taxes payable	(67,843)	(96,372)	72,773
Other changes, net.....	11,465	13,150	1,668
Net cash provided by operating activities - continuing operations.....	431,765	59,240	69,808
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES - CONTINUING OPERATIONS:			
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment.....	(63,604)	(42,488)	(36,951)
Acquired business, net of cash acquired	—	(851,464)	(2,242)
Proceeds (payments) from investments.....	—	14,923	(17,211)
Proceeds (payments) from sale of business, net	(2,568)	295,712	—
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment.....	20,961	90	237
Net cash used in investing activities - continuing operations.....	(45,211)	(583,227)	(56,167)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES - CONTINUING OPERATIONS:			
Dividends paid.....	(133,814)	(126,677)	(17,139)
Purchase of shares for treasury	(163,970)	(10,886)	(3,357)
Proceeds from long-term debt.....	122,558	1,058,909	20,912
Payments of long-term debt.....	(221,781)	(511,194)	(27,833)
Financing costs.....	(3,025)	(17,065)	(571)
Other, net.....	(130)	258	(257)
Net cash provided by (used) in financing activities - continuing operations	(400,162)	393,345	(28,245)
CASH FLOWS FROM DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS:			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(2,994)	10,198	41,961
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities.....	—	(2,627)	6,751
Net cash provided by (used in) discontinued operations	(2,994)	7,571	48,712
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and equivalents.....	(693)	(5,398)	(3,544)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND EQUIVALENTS.....	(17,295)	(128,469)	30,564
CASH AND EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD.....	120,184	248,653	218,089
CASH AND EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD.....	\$ 102,889	\$ 120,184	\$ 248,653
Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information:			
Cash paid for interest.....	\$ 99,833	\$ 78,274	\$ 60,781
Cash paid for taxes	70,937	80,264	41,216

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

GRIFFON CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY
(in thousands)

(in thousands)	Common Stock		Capital in Excess of Par Value	Retained Earnings	Treasury Shares		Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Deferred Compensation	Total
	Shares	Par Value			Shares	Cost			
Balance at 9/30/2020	83,739	\$20,935	\$583,008	\$ 607,518	27,610	\$(413,493)	\$(72,092)	\$(25,725)	\$ 700,151
Net income.....	—	—	—	79,211	—	—	—	—	79,211
Dividends	—	—	—	(16,731)	—	—	—	—	(16,731)
Shares withheld on employee taxes on vested equity awards...	—	—	—	—	152	(3,357)	—	—	(3,357)
Amortization of deferred compensation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,437	2,437
Equity awards granted, net	636	159	(159)	—	—	—	—	—	—
ESOP allocation of common stock	—	—	2,922	—	—	—	—	—	2,922
Stock-based compensation	—	—	16,410	—	—	—	—	—	16,410
Other comprehensive income, net of tax	—	—	—	—	—	—	26,115	—	26,115
Balance at 9/30/2021	84,375	\$21,094	\$602,181	\$ 669,998	27,762	\$(416,850)	\$(45,977)	\$(23,288)	\$ 807,158
Net income (loss)	—	—	—	(191,558)	—	—	—	—	(191,558)
Dividends	—	—	—	(134,380)	—	—	—	—	(134,380)
Shares withheld on employee taxes on vested equity awards...	—	—	—	—	422	(10,886)	—	—	(10,886)
Amortization of deferred compensation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10,483	10,483
Equity awards granted, net	371	93	(7,713)	—	(502)	7,620	—	—	—
ESOP allocation of common stock	—	—	15,729	—	—	—	—	—	15,729
Stock-based compensation	—	—	17,785	—	—	—	—	—	17,785
Other comprehensive income, net of tax	—	—	—	—	—	—	(36,761)	—	(36,761)
Balance at 9/30/2022	84,746	\$21,187	\$627,982	\$ 344,060	27,682	\$(420,116)	\$(82,738)	\$(12,805)	\$ 477,570
Net income (loss)	—	—	—	77,617	—	—	—	—	77,617
Dividends	—	—	—	(140,161)	—	—	—	—	(140,161)
Shares withheld on employee taxes on vested equity awards...	—	—	—	—	366	(12,990)	—	—	(12,990)
Amortization of deferred compensation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10,362	10,362
Common stock acquired..	—	—	—	—	4,143	(152,279)	—	—	(152,279)
Equity awards granted, net	—	—	(7,699)	—	(507)	7,699	—	—	—
ESOP allocation of common stock	—	—	21,868	—	—	—	—	—	21,868
Stock-based compensation	—	—	20,529	—	—	—	—	—	20,529
Other comprehensive income, net of tax	—	—	—	—	—	—	12,728	—	12,728
Balance at 9/30/2023	<u>84,746</u>	<u>\$21,187</u>	<u>\$662,680</u>	<u>\$ 281,516</u>	<u>31,684</u>	<u>\$(577,686)</u>	<u>\$(70,010)</u>	<u>\$ (2,443)</u>	<u>\$ 315,244</u>

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

GRIFFON CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(US dollars and non-US currencies in thousands, except per share data)

(Unless otherwise indicated, all references to years or year-end refer to Griffon's fiscal period ending September 30,

NOTE 1—DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Description of business

Griffon Corporation (the “Company”, “Griffon”, “we” or “us”) is a diversified management and holding company that conducts business through wholly-owned subsidiaries. Griffon oversees the operations of its subsidiaries, allocates resources among them and manages their capital structures. Griffon provides direction and assistance to its subsidiaries in connection with acquisition and growth opportunities as well as in connection with divestitures. In order to further diversify, Griffon also seeks out, evaluates and, when appropriate, will acquire additional businesses that offer potentially attractive returns on capital.

The Company was founded in 1959, is a Delaware corporation headquartered in New York, N.Y. and is listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE:GFF).

On May 3, 2023, in response to changing market conditions, Griffon announced that its CPP segment will expand its global sourcing strategy to include long handled tools, material handling, and wood storage and organization product lines.

By transitioning these product lines to an asset-light structure, CPP's operations will be better positioned to serve customers with a more flexible and cost-effective sourcing model that leverages supplier relationships around the world, while improving its competitive positioning in a post-pandemic marketplace. These actions will be essential to CPP achieving 15% EBITDA margins, while enhancing free cash flow through improved working capital and significantly lower capital expenditures.

The global sourcing strategy expansion is expected to be complete by the end of calendar 2024. Over that period, CPP expects to reduce its facility footprint by approximately 1.2 million square feet, or approximately 15%, and its headcount by approximately 600. The affected U.S. locations will include Camp Hill and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Grantsville, Maryland; Fairfield, Iowa; and four wood mills.

Implementation of this strategy over the duration of the project will result in charges of \$120,000 to \$130,000, including \$50,000 to \$55,000 of cash charges for employee retention and severance, operational transition, and facility and lease exit costs, and \$70,000 to \$75,000 of non-cash charges primarily related to asset write-downs. Capital investment in the range of \$3,000 to \$5,000 will also be required. These costs exclude cash proceeds from the sale of real estate and equipment, which are expected to largely offset the cash charges, and also exclude inefficiencies due to duplicative labor costs and absorption impacts during transition.

On May 16, 2022, Griffon announced that its Board of Directors initiated a process to review a comprehensive range of strategic alternatives to maximize shareholder value including a sale, merger, divestiture, recapitalization or other strategic transaction. On April 20, 2023, Griffon announced that its Board of Directors, after extensive evaluation and deliberation, determined that the ongoing execution of the Company's strategic plan was the best way to maximize value for shareholders and unanimously decided to conclude its review.

On December 17, 2021, Griffon entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Hunter Fan Company (“Hunter”), a market leader in residential ceiling, commercial, and industrial fans, from MidOcean Partners (“MidOcean”) for a contractual purchase price of \$845,000 and completed the acquisition on January 24, 2022.

GRIFFON CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS—(Continued)

(US dollars and non-US currencies in thousands, except per share data)

On September 27, 2021, Griffon announced it was exploring strategic alternatives for its Defense Electronics segment, which consisted of Telephonics Corporation (“Telephonics”), and on June 27, 2022, Griffon completed the sale of Telephonics for \$330,000, excluding customary post-closing adjustments, primarily related to working capital. As a result, Griffon classified the results of operations of the Telephonics business as a discontinued operation in the Consolidated Statements of Operations for all periods presented and classified the related assets and liabilities associated with the discontinued operation as held for sale in the consolidated balance sheets. All references made to results and information in the Consolidated Financial Statements on Form 10-K are to Griffon’s continuing operations unless noted otherwise.

On December 22, 2020, AMES acquired Quatro Design Pty Ltd (“Quatro”), a leading Australian manufacturer and supplier of glass fiber reinforced concrete landscaping products for residential, commercial, and public sector projects.

Griffon currently conducts its operations through two reportable segments:

- Home and Building Products (“HBP”) conducts its operations through Clopay Corporation (“Clopay”). Founded in 1964, Clopay is the largest manufacturer and marketer of garage doors and rolling steel doors in North America. Residential and commercial sectional garage doors are sold through professional dealers and leading home center retail chains throughout North America under the brands Clopay, Ideal, and Holmes. Rolling steel door and grille products designed for commercial, industrial, institutional, and retail use are sold under the Cornell and Cookson brands.
- Consumer and Professional Products (“CPP”) is a leading global provider of branded consumer and professional tools; residential, industrial and commercial fans; home storage and organization products; and products that enhance indoor and outdoor lifestyles. CPP sells products globally through a portfolio of leading brands including AMES, since 1774, Hunter, since 1886, True Temper, and ClosetMaid.

Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Griffon and all subsidiaries. Intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. The results of operations of acquired businesses are included from the dates of acquisitions.

Earnings per share

Due to rounding, the sum of earnings per share may not equal earnings per share of Net income.

Discontinued operations

For the years ended September 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021, discontinued operations includes the Telephonics business, and the assets and liabilities of discontinued installations business and other discontinued activities which have been segregated from Griffon’s continuing operations primarily related to insurance claims, product liability, warranty and environmental reserves. See Note 8, Discontinued Operations.

Reclassifications

Certain amounts in prior years have been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation.

GRIFFON CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS—(Continued)

(US dollars and non-US currencies in thousands, except per share data)

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting periods. These estimates may be adjusted due to changes in economic, industry or customer financial conditions, as well as changes in technology or demand. Significant estimates include expected loss allowances for doubtful accounts receivable and returns, net realizable value of inventories, restructuring reserves, valuation of goodwill and intangible assets, assumptions associated with pension benefit obligations and income or expenses, useful lives associated with depreciation and amortization of intangible and fixed assets, warranty reserves, sales incentive accruals, assumption associated with stock based compensation valuation, income taxes and tax valuation reserves, environmental reserves, legal reserves, insurance reserves, the valuation of assets and liabilities of discontinued operations, assumptions associated with valuation of acquired assets and assumed liabilities of acquired companies and the accompanying disclosures. These estimates are based on management's best knowledge of current events and actions Griffon may undertake in the future. Actual results may ultimately differ from these estimates.

Cash and equivalents

Griffon considers all highly liquid investments purchased with an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents primarily consist of overnight commercial paper, highly-rated liquid money market funds backed by U.S. Treasury securities and U.S. Agency securities. Griffon had cash in non-U.S. bank accounts of approximately \$45,500 and \$54,200 at September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Substantially all U.S. cash and equivalents are in excess of FDIC insured limits. Griffon regularly evaluates the financial stability of all institutions and funds that hold its cash and equivalents.

Fair value of financial instruments

The carrying values of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts and notes payable and revolving credit and Term Loan B debt approximate fair value due to either the short-term nature of such instruments or the fact that the interest rate of the revolving credit debt is based upon current market rates.

The fair value hierarchy, as outlined in the applicable accounting guidance, establishes a fair value hierarchy that requires the Company to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. A financial instrument's categorization within the hierarchy is based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The accounting guidance establishes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value, as follows:

- Level 1 inputs are measured and recorded at fair value based upon quoted prices in active markets for identical assets.
- Level 2 inputs include inputs other than Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices in active markets for similar assets and liabilities, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of assets or liabilities.
- Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs in which little or no market data exists, therefore requiring an entity to develop its own assumptions.

GRIFFON CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS—(Continued)
(US dollars and non-US currencies in thousands, except per share data)

The fair values of Griffon's 2028 Senior Notes and Term Loan B facility approximated \$882,171 and \$461,843, respectively, on September 30, 2023. Fair values were based upon quoted market prices (level 1 inputs).

Insurance contracts with a value of \$3,671 at September 30, 2023 are measured and recorded at fair value based upon quoted prices in active markets for similar assets (level 2 inputs) and are included in Other current assets on the consolidated balance sheet.

Items Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis

In the normal course of business, Griffon's operations are exposed to the effect of changes in foreign currency exchange rates. To manage these risks, Griffon may enter into various derivative contracts such as foreign currency exchange contracts, including forwards and options. Griffon entered into several such contracts in order to lock into a foreign currency rate for planned settlements of trade and inter-company liabilities payable in USD as discussed below.

At September 30, 2023 and 2022, Griffon had \$11,000 and \$25,000 of Australian dollar contracts at a weighted average rate of \$1.45 and \$1.42, respectively, which qualified for hedge accounting. These hedges were all deemed effective as cash flow hedges with gains and losses related to changes in fair value deferred and recorded in Other comprehensive income (loss) and Prepaid and other current assets, or Accrued liabilities, until settlement (level 2 inputs). Upon settlement, gains and losses were recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) in Cost of goods and services. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (AOCI) included deferred gains of \$765 (\$536, net of tax) and \$2,017 (\$1,412, net of tax) at September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Upon settlement gains (losses) of \$3,991, \$5,477 and \$(2,204) were recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) in Cost of goods and services ("COGS") during 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively. All contracts expire in 30 days.

At September 30, 2023 and 2022, Griffon had \$52,000 and \$74,250 of Chinese Yuan contracts at a weighted average rate of \$7.00 and \$6.79, respectively, which qualified for hedge accounting. These hedges were all deemed effective as cash flow hedges with gains and losses related to changes in fair value deferred and recorded in AOCI and Prepaid and other current assets, or Accrued liabilities, until settlement (level 2 inputs). Upon settlement, gains and losses are recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) in COGS. AOCI included deferred losses of \$1,721 (\$1,257, net of tax) and \$3,179 (\$2,320, net of tax) at September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Upon settlement, losses of \$2,313 and \$736 were recorded in COGS during 2023 and 2022, respectively. All contracts expire in 10 to 335 days.

At September 30, 2023 and 2022, Griffon had \$3,700 and \$6,300, respectively, of Canadian dollar contracts at a weighted average rate of \$1.36 and \$1.28, respectively. These contracts, which protect Canadian operations from currency fluctuations for U.S. dollar based purchases, do not qualify for hedge accounting and fair value gains of \$60 and \$427 were recorded in Other assets and to Other income for the outstanding contracts, based on similar contract values (level 2 inputs), for the years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Realized gains (losses) of \$336, \$247 and \$(381) were recorded in Other income during 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively. All contracts expire in 30 to 357 days.

Pension plan assets with a fair value of \$146,997 at September 30, 2023, are measured and recorded at fair value based upon quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (level 1 inputs), quoted market prices for similar assets (level 2 inputs) and fair value assumptions for unobservable inputs in which little or no market data exists (level 3).

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The Company accounts for acquisitions under the acquisition method, in which assets acquired and liabilities assumed are recorded at fair value as of the date of acquisition using a method substantially similar to the goodwill impairment test methodology (level 3 inputs). The operating results of the acquired companies are included in Griffon's consolidated financial statements from the date of acquisition in each instance.

Non-U.S. currency translation

Assets and liabilities of non-U.S. subsidiaries, where the functional currency is not the U.S. dollar, have been translated at year-end exchange rates and profit and loss accounts have been translated using weighted average exchange rates during the applicable fiscal year. Adjustments resulting from currency translation are recorded in AOCI as cumulative translation adjustments. The Company recognized cumulative translation gains of \$8,447 during 2023 and losses of \$37,920 during 2022. As of September 30, 2023 and 2022, the cumulative foreign currency translation recorded in AOCI was a loss of \$48,723 and \$57,170, respectively. Assets and liabilities of an entity that are denominated in currencies other than that entity's functional currency are re-measured into the functional currency using period end exchange rates, or historical rates where applicable to certain balances. Gains and losses arising on remeasurements are recorded within the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Comprehensive Income as a component of Other income (expense).

Revenue recognition

The Company recognizes revenue when performance obligations identified under the terms of contracts with its customers are satisfied. A performance obligation is a promise in a contract to transfer a distinct good or service, or a bundle of goods or services, to the customer, and is the unit of accounting. A contract with a customer is an agreement which both parties have approved, that creates enforceable rights and obligations, has commercial substance and with respect to which payment terms are identified and collectability is probable. Once the Company has entered into a contract or purchase order, it is evaluated to identify performance obligations. For each performance obligation, revenue is recognized when control of the promised products is transferred to the customer, or services are satisfied under the contract or purchase order, in an amount that reflects the consideration the Company expects to be entitled to in exchange for those products or services (the transaction price).

The Company's performance obligations are recognized at a point in time related to the manufacture and sale of a broad range of products and components, and revenue is recognized when title, and risk and rewards of ownership, have transferred to the customer, which is generally upon shipment.

Refer to Note 2—Revenue for more detail.

Accounts receivable, expected loss allowance for doubtful accounts and concentrations of credit risk

Accounts receivable is composed principally of trade accounts receivable, that arise from the sale of goods or services on account, and is stated at historical cost. A substantial portion of Griffon's trade receivables are from Home Depot, whose financial condition is dependent on the construction and related retail sectors of the economy. As a percentage of consolidated accounts receivable, Home Depot was 13%. Griffon performs continuing evaluations of the financial condition of its customers, and although Griffon generally does not require collateral, letters of credit may be required from customers in certain circumstances.

Trade receivables are recorded at the stated amount, less expected loss allowance for doubtful accounts and, when appropriate, for customer program reserves and cash discounts. The expected loss allowance

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represents estimated uncollectible receivables associated with potential customer defaults on contractual obligations (usually due to customers' potential insolvency). The expected loss allowance for doubtful accounts includes amounts for certain customers where a risk of default has been specifically identified, as well as an amount for customer defaults based on a formula when it is determined the risk of some default is probable and estimable, but cannot yet be associated with specific customers. The provision related to the expected loss allowance for doubtful accounts is recorded in Selling, general and administrative ("SG&A") expenses. The Company writes-off accounts receivable when they are deemed to be uncollectible.

Customer program reserves and cash discounts are netted against accounts receivable when it is customer practice to reduce invoices for these amounts. The amounts netted against accounts receivable in 2023 and 2022 were \$106,166 and \$80,482, respectively.

All accounts receivable amounts are expected to be collected in less than one year.

The Company does not currently have customers or contracts that prescribe specific retainage provisions.

Inventories

Inventories, stated at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out or average) or net realizable value, include material, labor and manufacturing overhead costs.

Griffon's businesses typically do not require inventory that is susceptible to becoming obsolete or dated. In general, HBP produces residential and commercial sectional garage doors, commercial rolling steel door and grille products, and CPP produces long-handled tools and landscaping products, and storage and organizational products, both in response to orders from customers of retailers and dealers or based on expected orders, as applicable.

Long-Lived Assets, Including Intangible Assets

Property, plant and equipment includes the historical cost of land, buildings, equipment and significant improvements to existing plant and equipment or, in the case of acquisitions, a fair market value appraisal of such assets completed at the time of acquisition. Expenditures for maintenance, repairs and minor renewals are expensed as incurred. When property or equipment is sold or otherwise disposed of, the related cost and accumulated depreciation is removed from the respective accounts and the gain or loss is recognized.

Depreciation expense, which includes amortization of assets under capital leases, was \$43,056, \$46,443 and \$42,741 in 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively, and was calculated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Depreciation included in SG&A expenses was \$17,598, \$16,683 and \$14,362 in 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively. The remaining components of depreciation, attributable to manufacturing operations, are included in Cost of goods and services. Estimated useful lives for property, plant and equipment are as follows: buildings and building improvements, 25 to 40 years; machinery and equipment, 2 to 15 years; and leasehold improvements, over the term of the lease or life of the improvement, whichever is shorter.

Capitalized interest costs included in Property, plant and equipment were \$1,463, \$1,739 and \$1,592 for the years ended September 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively. The original cost of fully-depreciated property, plant and equipment remaining in use at September 30, 2023 was approximately \$208,037.

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Long-lived assets, including customer relationships and software, and tangible assets, primarily property, plant and equipment, are amortized over their expected useful lives, generally eight to 25 years, and involves significant assumptions and estimates. We assess the recoverability of the carrying amount of our long-lived assets, including amortizable intangible assets, whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount of the assets may not be recoverable. We evaluate the recoverability of such assets based on the expectations of undiscounted cash flows attributable to the asset group. If the sum of the expected future undiscounted cash flows are less than the carrying amount of the asset group, a loss would be recognized for the difference between the fair value and the carrying amount. For the fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, we tested long-lived intangible and tangible assets for impairment by comparing estimated future undiscounted cash flows of each CPP asset group to the carrying amount of the asset group and determined that an impairment did not exist. No event or indicator of impairment existed for the HBP assets groups.

Goodwill and indefinite-lived intangibles

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of net assets acquired in business combinations over the fair value of the identifiable tangible and intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed in a business combination.

We test goodwill and indefinite-lived intangibles for impairment at least annually in the fourth quarter, and more frequently whenever events or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value below the carrying amount. Such events or changes in circumstance include significant deterioration in overall economic conditions, changes in the business climate in which our reporting units operate, a decline in our market capitalization, operating performance indicators, when some portion of a reporting unit is disposed of or classified as held for sale, or when a change in the composition of reporting units occurs for other reasons, such as a change in operating segments. To test goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets for impairment, we may perform both a qualitative assessment and quantitative assessment. If we elect to perform a qualitative assessment, we consider operating results as well as circumstances impacting the operations or cash flows of the reporting unit or indefinite-lived intangible assets, including macroeconomic conditions, industry and market conditions and reporting unit events and circumstances. For the quantitative test, the assessment is based on both an income-based and market-based valuation approach. If it is determined that an impairment exists, we recognize an impairment loss for the amount by which the carrying amount of the reporting unit or indefinite-lived intangible asset exceeds its estimated fair value.

Fair value estimates are based on assumptions believed to be reasonable at the time, but such assumptions are subject to inherent uncertainty. Actual results may differ materially from those estimates. Any changes in key assumptions or management judgment with respect to a reporting unit or its prospects, which may result from a decline in Griffon's stock price, a change in market conditions, market trends, interest rates or other factors outside of Griffon's control, or significant under-performance relative to historical or projected future operating results, could result in a significantly different estimate of the fair value of Griffon's reporting units, which could result in an impairment charge in the future.

During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, the Company performed a qualitative assessment of the HBP reporting unit goodwill and determined that indicators that the fair value was less than the carrying amount were not present. With respect to CPP's reporting units goodwill, the Company performed a quantitative assessment using both an income based and market based approach, which did not result in an impairment. Additionally, the Company compared the estimated fair values of the CPP indefinite-lived intangibles, using the relief from royalty method, to their carrying amounts. The impairment tests resulted in pre-tax noncash impairment charges of \$109,200 to the gross carrying

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amount of our trademarks, of which \$9,200 was recognized in the fourth quarter and \$100,000 was recognized in the second quarter. Indicators of impairment were not present for the HBP indefinite-lived intangibles during 2023.

For fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, we performed a qualitative assessment of the HBP reporting unit and determined that indicators that the fair value was less than the carrying amount were not present. However, indicators of impairment were present for our CPP reporting units driven by a decrease in comparable company market multiples and an increase in interest rates and the related impact on weighted average cost of capital rates. As such, in connection with the preparation of our financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, we performed a quantitative assessment of the CPP reporting units using both an income-based and market-based approach. The impairment tests resulted in a pre-tax, non-cash goodwill impairment charge of \$342,027. Further, we compared the estimated fair values of the CPP indefinite lived intangibles, using the relief from royalty method, to their carrying values which resulted in a pre-tax, non-cash impairment charge of \$175,000.

Leases

ROU assets represent our right to use an underlying asset for the lease term and lease liabilities represent our obligation to make lease payments arising from the lease. ROU assets and liabilities are recognized at the lease commencement date based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term. As most of our leases do not provide an implicit rate, we use our incremental borrowing rate based on the information available at the commencement date in determining the present value of lease payments. We use the implicit rate when readily determinable. Our determination of the lease term may include options to extend or terminate the lease when it is reasonably certain that we will exercise that option.

The Company determines if an arrangement is a lease at inception. The ROU assets and short and long-term liabilities associated with our operating leases are shown as separate line items on our Consolidated Balance Sheets. Finance leases are included in property, plant, and equipment, net, other accrued liabilities, and other non-current liabilities.

For operating leases, fixed lease payments are recognized as operating lease cost on a straight-line basis over the lease term. For finance leases and impaired operating leases, the ROU asset is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the remaining lease term, along with recognition of interest expense associated with accretion of the lease liability. For leases with a lease term of 12 months or less (a “Short-term” lease), any fixed lease payments are recognized on a straight-line basis over such term, and are not recognized on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Variable lease cost for both operating and finance leases, if any, is recognized as incurred. The Company has lease agreements that contain both lease and non-lease components. For real estate leases, we account for lease components together with non-lease components (e.g., common-area maintenance).

Income taxes

We are subject to Federal, state and local income taxes in the U.S. and in various taxing jurisdictions outside the U.S. We recognize deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of events that have been included in the financial statements or tax returns in accordance with applicable accounting guidance for accounting for income taxes, using currently enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse.

We record a valuation allowance when necessary to reduce deferred tax assets to the amount expected to be realized. Deferred tax assets are reduced by a valuation allowance if, based on the weight of

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available evidence, it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. Both positive and negative evidence are considered in forming our judgment as to whether a valuation allowance is appropriate, and more weight is given to evidence that can be objectively verified. Valuation allowances are reassessed whenever there are changes in circumstances that may cause a change in judgment.

The accounting for uncertainty in income taxes requires a more-likely-than-not threshold for financial statement recognition of tax positions taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. We record, as needed, a liability for the difference between the benefit recognized for financial statement purposes and the tax position taken or expected to be taken on our tax return. To the extent that our assessment of such tax positions changes, the change in estimate is recorded in the period in which the determination is made. Interest and penalties recognized on the liability for unrecognized tax benefits is recorded as income tax expense.

Research and development costs, shipping and handling costs and advertising costs

Research and development costs are charged to SG&A expense as incurred and amounted to approximately \$18,000 in 2023, \$16,000 in 2022 and \$7,000 in 2021.

Total shipping and handling costs included in both COGS and SG&A were \$123,100 in 2023, \$130,830 in 2022 and \$113,700 in 2021, of which \$67,300 in 2023, \$69,000 in 2022 and \$58,100 in 2021 were included in SG&A. Advertising costs, which are expensed as incurred in SG&A, was \$28,000 in 2023, \$27,000 in 2022 and \$19,000 in 2021.

Risk, retention and insurance

Griffon's property and casualty insurance programs contain various deductibles that, based on Griffon's experience, are reasonable and customary for a company of its size and risk profile. Griffon generally maintains deductibles for claims and liabilities related primarily to workers' compensation, general, product and automobile liability as well as property damage and business interruption losses resulting from certain events. Griffon does not consider any of the deductibles to represent a material risk to Griffon. Griffon accrues for claim exposures that are probable of occurrence and can be reasonably estimated. Insurance is maintained to transfer risk beyond the level of self-retention and provides protection on both an individual claim and annual aggregate basis.

Pension benefits

Griffon sponsors defined and supplemental benefit pension plans for certain retired employees. Annual amounts relating to these plans are recorded based on actuarial projections, which include various actuarial assumptions, including discount rates, assumed rates of return, compensation increases and turnover rates. Actuarial assumptions used to determine pension liabilities, assets and expense are reviewed annually and modified based on current economic conditions and trends. The expected return on plan assets is determined based on the nature of the plan's investments and expectations for long-term rates of return. The discount rate used to measure obligations is based on a corporate bond spot-rate yield curve that matches projected future benefit payments, with the appropriate spot rate applicable to the timing of the projected future benefit payments. Assumptions used in determining Griffon's obligations under the defined benefit pension plans are believed to be reasonable, based on experience and advice from independent actuaries; however, differences in actual experience or changes in assumptions may materially impact Griffon's financial position or results of operations.

All of the defined benefit plans are frozen and have ceased accruing benefits.

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The Company's non-service cost components of net periodic benefit plan cost was an expense (benefit) of \$866, \$(4,256) and \$(907) during 2023, 2022, and 2021 respectively.

Issued but not yet effective accounting pronouncements

In October 2023, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued ASU No. 2023-06, Disclosure Improvements: Amendments - Codification Amendments in Response to the SEC's Disclosure Update and Simplification Initiative. The FASB issued the standard to introduce changes to US GAAP that originate in either SEC Regulation S-X or S-K, which are rules about the form and content of financial reports. The provisions of the standard are contingent when the SEC removes the related disclosure provisions from Regulation S-X and S-K. The company does not expect the provisions of the standard to have a material impact on the Company's financial statements and related disclosures.

New Accounting Standards Implemented

In October 2021, the FASB issued ASU No. 2021-08, Business Combinations (Topic 805); Accounting for Contract Assets and Contract Liabilities from Contracts with Customers. This new guidance affects all entities that enter into a business combination within the scope of ASC 805-10. Under this new guidance, the acquirer should determine what contract assets and/or liabilities it would have recorded under ASC 606 (Revenue Guidance) as of the acquisition date, as if the acquirer had entered into the original contract at the same date and on the same terms as the acquirer. Under current U.S. GAAP, contract assets and contract liabilities acquired in a business combination are recorded by the acquirer at fair value. This update was effective for the Company beginning in fiscal 2023. Adoption of this standard did not have an impact on our consolidated financial statements and the related disclosures.

The Company has implemented all new accounting pronouncements that are in effect and that may impact its financial statements, and does not believe that there are any other new accounting pronouncements that have been issued that might have a material impact on its financial position or results of operations.

NOTE 2—REVENUE

The Company recognizes revenue when performance obligations identified under the terms of contracts with its customers are satisfied. A performance obligation is a promise in a contract to transfer a distinct good or service, or a bundle of goods or services, to the customer, and is the unit of accounting. A contract with a customer is an agreement which both parties have approved, that creates enforceable rights and obligations, has commercial substance and with respect to which payment terms are identified and collectability is probable. Once the Company has entered into a contract or purchase order, it is evaluated to identify performance obligations. For each performance obligation, revenue is recognized when control of the promised products is transferred to the customer, or services are satisfied under the contract or purchase order, in an amount that reflects the consideration the Company expects to be entitled to in exchange for those products or services (the transaction price).

A contract's transaction price is allocated to each distinct performance obligation and recognized as revenue when each performance obligation is satisfied. A majority of the Company's contracts have a single performance obligation which represents, in most cases, the product being sold to the customer. To a lesser extent, some contracts include multiple performance obligations such as a product, the related installation, and extended warranty services. These contracts require judgment in determining the number of performance obligations. For contracts with multiple performance obligations, judgment

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is required to determine whether performance obligations specified in these contracts are distinct and should be accounted for as separate revenue transactions for recognition purposes. In these types of contracts, the Company allocates the total transaction price to each performance obligation in an amount based on the estimated relative standalone selling prices of the promised goods or services underlying each performance obligation. The Company uses an observable price to determine the stand-alone selling price for separate performance obligations or a cost plus margin approach when one is not available. The transaction price includes variable consideration, such as discounts and volume rebates, when it is probable that a significant reversal of revenue recognized will not occur. Variable consideration is determined using either the expected value or the most likely amount of consideration to be received based on historical experience and the specific facts and circumstances at the time of evaluation.

See Note 19—Business Segments for revenue from contracts with customers disaggregated by end markets, segments and geographic location.

The Company's performance obligations are recognized at a point in time related to the manufacture and sale of a broad range of products and components and revenue is recognized when title, and risk and rewards of ownership, have transferred to the customer, which is generally upon shipment.

A majority of the Company's revenue is short cycle in nature with shipments occurring within one year from order and does not include a material long-term financing component, implicitly or explicitly. Payment terms generally range between 15 to 90 days and vary by the location of the business, the type of products manufactured to be sold and the volume of products sold, among other factors.

The Company recognizes revenue from product sales when all factors are met, including when control of a product transfers to the customer upon its shipment, completion of installation, testing, certification or other substantive acceptance required under the contract. Other than standard product warranty provisions, sales arrangements provide for no significant post-shipment obligations on the Company. From time-to-time and for certain customers, rebates and other sales incentives, promotional allowances or discounts are offered, typically related to customer purchase volumes, all of which are fixed or determinable and are classified as a reduction of revenue and recorded at the time of sale. Griffon provides for sales returns and allowances based upon historical returns experience. The Company includes shipping costs billed to customers in revenue and the related shipping costs in either Cost of Goods and Services or Selling, General and Administrative expenses.

The majority of the Company's contracts offer assurance-type warranties in connection with the sale of a product to a customer. Assurance-type warranties provide a customer with assurance that the related product will function as the parties intended because it complies with agreed-upon specifications. Such warranties do not represent a separate performance obligation.

Payment terms vary depending on the type and location of the customer and the products or services offered. Generally, the period between the time revenue is recognized and the time payment is due is not significant. Shipping and handling charges are not considered a separate performance obligation. Additionally, all taxes assessed by a governmental authority that are both imposed on and concurrent with a specific revenue-producing transaction and collected from a customer (e.g., sales, use, value added, and some excise taxes) are excluded from revenue.

NOTE 3—ACQUISITIONS

Griffon continually evaluates potential acquisitions that either strategically fit within its portfolio or expand its portfolio into new product lines or adjacent markets. Griffon has completed a number of acquisitions that have been accounted for as business combinations, in which assets acquired and

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liabilities assumed are recorded at fair value as of the date of acquisition and have resulted in the recognition of goodwill. The operating results of the business acquisitions are included in Griffon's consolidated financial statements from the date of acquisition.

On January 24, 2022, Griffon acquired Hunter, a market leader in residential ceiling, commercial, and industrial fans, from MidOcean for a contractual purchase price of \$845,000. The acquisition was primarily financed with a Term Loan B facility and a combination of cash on hand and revolver borrowings. Hunter complements and diversifies Griffon's portfolio of leading consumer brands and products. Based on the final purchase price allocation, the goodwill recognized was \$250,711, which was assigned to the CPP segment, and is not deductible for income tax purposes. The following unaudited proforma summary from continuing operations presents consolidated information as if the Company acquired Hunter on October 1, 2020:

	Proforma For the Year Ended September 30, (unaudited)	
	2022	2021
Revenue.....	\$2,938,998	\$2,624,378
Income (loss) from continuing operations	(288,062)	77,804

Griffon did not include any material, nonrecurring proforma adjustments directly attributable to the business combination in the proforma revenue and earnings. These proforma amounts have been compiled by adding the historical results from continuing operations of Griffon, restated for classifying the results of operations of the Telephonics business as a discontinued operation, to the historical results of Hunter after applying Griffon's accounting policies and the following proforma adjustments:

- Depreciation and amortization that would have been charged assuming the fair value adjustments to property, plant, and equipment, and intangible assets had been applied from October 1, 2020.
- Additional interest and related expenses from the new \$800,000 seven year Term Loan B facility that Griffon used to acquire Hunter Fan reduced by historical Hunter interest expense.
- The tax effects on the above adjustments using the statutory tax rate of 25.7% for Griffon and 27.1% for Hunter.

The calculation of the final purchase price allocation is as follows:

Accounts receivable ⁽¹⁾	\$ 64,602
Inventories ⁽²⁾	110,299
Other current assets.....	7,940
Property, plant and equipment	15,007
Operating lease right-of-use assets.....	12,447
Goodwill	250,711
Intangible assets.....	616,000
Total assets acquired	\$1,077,006
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities.....	\$ 70,039
Current portion of operating lease liabilities.....	3,323
Deferred tax liability ⁽³⁾	139,219
Long-term operating lease liabilities	9,123
Other long-term liabilities	3,848
Total liabilities assumed	\$ 225,552
Total net assets acquired	\$ 851,454

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- (1) Includes \$67,201 of gross accounts receivable of which \$2,599 was not expected to be collected. The fair value of accounts receivable approximated book value acquired.
- (2) Includes \$113,287 of gross inventory of which \$2,988 was reserved for obsolete items.
- (3) Deferred tax liability recorded on primarily intangibles assets.

The amounts assigned to goodwill and major intangible asset classifications for the Hunter acquisition are as follows:

		<u>Average Life (Years)</u>
Goodwill.....	\$250,711	N/A
Indefinite-lived intangibles (Hunter and Casablanca brands)	356,000	N/A
Definite-lived intangibles (Customer relationships).....	<u>260,000</u>	20
Total goodwill and intangible assets	<u>\$866,711</u>	

On December 22, 2020, AMES acquired Quatro Design Pty Ltd (“Quatro”), a leading Australian manufacturer and supplier of glass fiber reinforced concrete landscaping products for residential, commercial, and public sector projects for a purchase price of AUD \$3,500 (approximately \$2,700) in cash. The final purchase price allocated to goodwill and acquired intangibles was AUD \$1,038 (approximately \$784) and AUD \$2,755 (approximately \$2,082), respectively, which was assigned to the CPP segment, and is not deductible for income tax purposes.

During the years ended September 30, 2023 and 2021, acquisition related costs were de minimis. During the year ended September 30, 2022, SG&A included acquisition costs of \$9,303.

NOTE 4—INVENTORIES

The following table details the components of inventory:

	<u>At September 30, 2023</u>	<u>At September 30, 2022</u>
Raw materials and supplies	\$127,342	\$173,520
Work in process.....	12,070	50,963
Finished goods	<u>367,718</u>	<u>444,710</u>
Total	<u>\$507,130</u>	<u>\$669,193</u>

In connection with the Company’s restructuring activities described in Note 10, Restructuring Charges, during the year ended September 30, 2023, CPP recorded an inventory impairment charge of \$37,100 to adjust to net realizable value.

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NOTE 5—PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

The following table details the components of property, plant and equipment, net:

	<u>At September 30, 2023</u>	<u>At September 30, 2022</u>
Land, building and building improvements	\$ 169,923	\$ 159,693
Machinery and equipment.....	447,972	511,779
Leasehold improvements	<u>33,740</u>	<u>35,489</u>
	651,635	706,961
Accumulated depreciation and amortization.....	<u>(372,417)</u>	<u>(412,400)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 279,218</u>	<u>\$ 294,561</u>

Except as described in Note 10, Restructuring Charges, no impairment occurred during the year ended September 30, 2023.

NOTE 6—CREDIT LOSSES

The Company is exposed to credit losses primarily through sales of products and services. Trade receivables are recorded at their stated amount, less allowances for credit losses. The Company's expected loss allowance methodology for trade receivables is primarily based on the aging method of the accounts receivables balances and the financial condition of its customers. The allowances represent estimated uncollectible receivables associated with potential customer defaults on contractual obligations (usually due to customers' potential insolvency), discounts related to early payment of accounts receivables by customers and estimates for returns. The allowance for doubtful accounts includes amounts for certain customers in which a risk of default has been specifically identified, as well as an amount for customer defaults, based on a formula, when it is determined the risk of some default is probable and estimable, but cannot yet be associated with specific customers. Credit losses are recorded as a reduction of revenue and the provision related to the allowance for doubtful accounts is recorded in SG&A expenses.

The Company also considers current and expected future economic and market conditions, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, when determining any estimate of credit losses. Generally, estimates used to determine the allowance are based on assessment of anticipated payment and all other historical, current and future information that is reasonably available. All accounts receivable amounts are expected to be collected in less than one year.

Based on a review of the Company's policies and procedures across all segments, including the aging of its trade receivables, recent write-off history and other factors related to future macroeconomic conditions, Griffon determined that its method to determine credit losses and the amount of its allowances for bad debts is in accordance with this guidance in all material respects.

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The following table provides a roll-forward of the allowance for credit losses that is deducted from the amortized cost basis of accounts receivable to present the net amount expected to be collected:

Beginning Balance, October 1, 2021.....	\$ 8,787
Allowance for credit losses acquired	2,598
Provision for expected credit losses	1,172
Amounts written off charged against the allowance	(251)
Other, primarily foreign currency translation	<u>(169)</u>
Ending Balance, September 30, 2022	\$12,137
Provision for expected credit losses	971
Amounts written off charged against the allowance	(1,186)
Other, primarily foreign currency translation	<u>(658)</u>
Ending Balance, September 30, 2023	<u><u>\$11,264</u></u>

NOTE 7—GOODWILL AND INTANGIBLES

Goodwill at September 30, 2023 and 2022 was \$327,864 and \$335,790, respectively.

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, the Company performed a quantitative assessment of the CPP reporting units using both an income-based and market-based approach, which did not result in a goodwill impairment. For the HBP reporting unit, we performed a qualitative assessment and determined that indicators that fair value was less than the carrying amount were not present.

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, we performed a qualitative assessment of the HBP reporting unit and determined that indicators that the fair value was less than the carrying amount were not present. However, indicators of impairment were present for our CPP reporting units driven by a decrease in comparable company market multiples and an increase in interest rates and the related impact on weighted average cost of capital rates. As such, in connection with the preparation of our financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, we performed a quantitative assessment of the CPP reporting units using both an income based and market-based valuation approach. The impairment tests resulted in a pre-tax, non-cash goodwill impairment charge of \$342,027 to the CPP reporting units.

The following table provides a summary of the carrying value of goodwill by segment as of September 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021.

	At September 30, 2021	Goodwill from acquisitions ^(a)	Accumulated Impairment Charges	Foreign currency translation adjustments	At September 30, 2022	Goodwill from acquisitions ^(a)	Foreign currency translation adjustments	At September 30, 2023
Consumer and Professional Products...	\$234,895	\$258,536	\$(342,027)	\$(6,867)	\$144,537	\$(7,926)	\$—	\$136,611
Home and Building Products.....	<u>191,253</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>191,253</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>191,253</u>
Total.....	<u><u>\$426,148</u></u>	<u><u>\$258,536</u></u>	<u><u>\$(342,027)</u></u>	<u><u>\$(6,867)</u></u>	<u><u>\$335,790</u></u>	<u><u>\$(7,926)</u></u>	<u><u>\$—</u></u>	<u><u>\$327,864</u></u>

^(a) The change in the CPP segment was due to the acquisitions of Hunter in 2022.

During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, the Company compared the estimated fair values of its CPP indefinite-lived intangibles to their carrying amounts using a relief from royalty method, which estimates the value of a trademark by discounting to present value the hypothetical royalty payments

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that are saved by owning the asset rather than licensing it. The Company then compared the estimated fair values of each trademark to their carrying amounts. The impairment tests resulted in pre-tax noncash impairment charges of \$109,200 to the gross carrying amount of our trademarks, of which \$9,200 was recognized in the fourth quarter and \$100,000 was recognized in the second quarter. Indicators of impairment were not present for the HBP indefinite-lived intangibles during 2023.

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, we determined the fair values of CPP's indefinite-lived intangible assets by using the relief from royalty method, as described above. We then compared the estimated fair values to their carrying amounts. The impairment tests resulted in a pre-tax, non-cash impairment charge of \$175,000 to the gross carrying amount of our CPP trademarks. Indicators of impairment were not present for the HBP indefinite-lived intangibles during 2022.

The following table provides the gross carrying value and accumulated amortization for each major class of intangible asset:

	At September 30, 2023		Average Life (Years)	At September 30, 2022	
	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization		Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization
Customer relationships & other.....	\$443,164	\$113,057	23	\$442,085	\$91,143
Unpatented technology	15,504	3,815	13	14,326	3,022
Total amortizable intangible assets	458,668	116,872		456,411	94,165
Trademarks.....	293,447	—		399,668	—
Total intangible assets.....	\$752,115	\$116,872		\$856,079	\$94,165

In 2023, the gross carrying amount of intangible assets was impacted by \$5,236 related to foreign currency translation.

Amortization expense for intangible assets subject to amortization was \$22,389, \$18,215 and \$9,561 in 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively. Amortization expense for each of the next five years and thereafter, based on current intangible balances and classifications, is estimated as follows: 2024 - \$21,354; 2025 - \$21,354; 2026 - \$21,354; 2027 - \$21,354 and 2028 - \$21,354; thereafter - \$235,026.

NOTE 8—DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

On September 27, 2021, Griffon announced it was exploring strategic alternatives for its DE segment, which consisted of its Telephonics subsidiary. On June 27, 2022, Griffon completed the sale of Telephonics for \$330,000 in cash, excluding customary post-closing adjustments, primarily related to working capital. In connection with the sale of Telephonics, the Company recorded a gain of \$107,517 (\$89,241, net of tax) for the year ended September 30, 2022.

In accordance with ASC 205-20 Presentation of Financial Statements: Discontinued Operations, a disposal of a component of an entity or a group of components of an entity is required to be reported as discontinued *operations* if the disposal represents a strategic shift that has (or will have) a major effect on an entity's operations and financial results when the component of an entity meets the criteria in paragraph 205-20-45-10. In the period in which the component meets held-for-sale or discontinued *operations* criteria the major current assets, other assets, current liabilities, and noncurrent liabilities shall be reported as components of total assets and liabilities separate from those balances of the continuing operations. At the same time, the results of all discontinued *operations*, less applicable income taxes (benefit), shall be reported as components of net income (loss) separate from the net income (loss) of continuing operations.

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Defense Electronics (DE or Telephonics)

The following amounts related to Telephonics have been segregated from Griffon's continuing operations and are reported as discontinued operations:

	For the Year Ended September 30,	
	2022	2021
Revenue	\$161,061	\$271,060
Cost of goods and services	125,208	232,075
Gross profit	35,853	38,985
Selling, general and administrative expenses	26,423	35,532
Income from discontinued operations	9,430	3,453
Other income (expense)		
Gain on sale of business	107,517	5,291
Interest income, net.....	2	117
Other, net.....	(604)	1,260
Total other income (expense)	106,915	6,668
Income from discontinued operations before tax	116,345	10,121
Provision for income taxes	20,188	1,212
Income from discontinued operations	<u>\$ 96,157</u>	<u>\$ 8,909</u>

Depreciation and amortization was excluded from the current year results since DE was classified as a discontinued operation and, accordingly, the Company ceased depreciation and amortization in accordance with discontinued operations accounting guidelines. Depreciation and amortization for fiscal 2022 would have been approximately \$7,442 through the date of disposition on June 27, 2022.

The following amounts summarize the total assets and liabilities related to Telephonics, Installation Services and other discontinued activities which have been segregated from Griffon's continuing operations, and are reported as assets and liabilities of discontinued operations in the Consolidated Balance Sheets:

	At September 30, 2023	At September 30, 2022
Assets of discontinued operations:		
Prepaid and other current assets.....	\$ 1,001	\$ 1,189
Other long-term assets.....	4,290	4,586
Total assets of discontinued operations.....	<u>\$ 5,291</u>	<u>\$ 5,775</u>
Liabilities of discontinued operations:		
Accrued liabilities, current.....	\$ 7,148	\$12,656
Other long-term liabilities	4,650	4,262
Total liabilities of discontinued operations....	<u>\$11,798</u>	<u>\$16,918</u>

Accrued liabilities as of September 30, 2023 and 2022 includes the Company's obligation of \$4,596 and \$8,846 in connection with the sale of Telephonics primarily related to certain customary post-closing adjustments, primarily working capital and stay bonuses.

At September 30, 2023 and 2022, Griffon's liabilities for Installations Services and other discontinued operations primarily related to insurance claims, income taxes, product liability, warranty and environmental reserves totaling \$7,202 and \$8,072, respectively. The increase in assets and liabilities for

GRIFFON CORPORATION
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Installations Services and other discontinued operations was primarily associated with insurance claims receivable and payable.

Except for revenue from the Telephonics business, as noted above, there was no reported revenue in 2023, 2022 and 2021 for Installations Services and other discontinued operations.

NOTE 9—ACCRUED LIABILITIES

The following table details the components of accrued liabilities:

	<u>At September 30, 2023</u>	<u>At September 30, 2022</u>
Compensation	\$ 77,558	\$ 77,823
Interest	4,317	6,798
Warranties and rebates	24,294	18,965
Insurance	10,619	10,533
Rent, utilities and freight	6,720	7,571
Income and other taxes	22,954	22,570
Marketing and advertising	7,008	6,682
Restructuring	19,658	650
Other	<u>19,970</u>	<u>20,205</u>
Total	<u><u>\$193,098</u></u>	<u><u>\$171,797</u></u>

NOTE 10—RESTRUCTURING CHARGES

On May 3, 2023, in response to changing market conditions, Griffon announced that its CPP segment will expand its global sourcing strategy to include long handled tools, material handling, and wood storage and organization product lines. By transitioning these product lines to an asset-light structure, CPP's operations will be better positioned to serve customers with a more flexible and cost-effective sourcing model that leverages supplier relationships around the world, while improving its competitive positioning in a post-pandemic marketplace.

The global sourcing strategy expansion is expected to be complete by the end of calendar 2024. Over that period, CPP expects to reduce its facility footprint by approximately 1.2 million square feet, or approximately 15%, and its headcount by approximately 600. The affected U.S. locations will include Camp Hill and Harrisburg, PA; Grantsville, MD; Fairfield, IA; and four wood mills.

Implementation of this strategy over the duration of the project will result in charges of \$120,000 to \$130,000, including \$50,000 to \$55,000 of cash charges for employee retention and severance, operational transition, and facility and lease exit costs, and \$70,000 to \$75,000 of non-cash charges primarily related to asset write-downs. Capital investment in the range of \$3,000 to \$5,000 will also be required. These costs exclude cash proceeds from the sale of real estate and equipment, which are expected to largely offset the cash charges, and also exclude inefficiencies due to duplicative labor costs and absorption impacts during transition.

In November 2019, Griffon announced the development of a next-generation business platform for CPP to enhance the growth, efficiency, and competitiveness of its U.S. operations, and on November 12, 2020, Griffon announced that CPP was broadening this strategic initiative to include additional North American facilities, the AMES United Kingdom (U.K.) and Australia businesses, and a manufacturing facility in China. On April 28, 2022, Griffon announced a reduced scope and accelerated timeline for the initiative, which was completed in fiscal 2022. The cost to implement this new business platform

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included one-time charges of approximately \$51,869 and capital investments of approximately \$13,000, net of future proceeds from the sale of exited facilities. Total cumulative charges of \$51,869 consisted of cash charges totaling \$35,691 and non-cash, asset-related charges totaling \$16,178; the cash charges included \$12,934 for one-time termination benefits and other personnel-related costs and \$22,757 for facility exit costs. As a result of these transactions, headcount was reduced by approximately 420.

In the year ended September 30, 2023, CPP incurred pre-tax restructuring and related exit costs approximating \$92,468. Cash charges totaled \$33,536 and non-cash, asset-related charges totaled \$58,932; the cash charges included \$16,772 for one-time termination benefits and other personnel related costs and \$16,764 for facility exit costs. Non-cash charges included a \$21,832 impairment charge related to certain fixed assets at several manufacturing locations and \$37,100 to adjust inventory to net realizable value.

In the year ended September 30, 2022, CPP incurred pre-tax restructuring and related exit costs approximating \$16,782. Cash charges totaled \$11,951 and non-cash, asset-related charges totaled \$4,831; the cash charges included \$4,124 for one-time termination benefits and other personnel-related costs and \$7,827 for facility exit costs. Non-cash charges included a \$3,805 of inventory that have no recoverable value and \$1,026 primarily related to disposal of fixed assets at several manufacturing locations.

In the year ended September 30, 2021, CPP incurred pre-tax restructuring and related exit costs approximating \$21,418. Cash charges totaled \$14,763 and non-cash, asset-related charges totaled \$6,655; the cash charges included \$3,190 for one-time termination benefits and other personnel-related costs and \$11,573 for facility and lease exit costs primarily driven by the consolidation of distribution facilities and system optimization. Non-cash charges of \$6,655 predominantly related to inventory of \$4,158 that have no recoverable value, and a \$1,882 impairment charge related to machinery and equipment that have no recoverable value at one of the Company's owned manufacturing locations.

A summary of the restructuring and other related charges included in Cost of goods and services and Selling, general and administrative expenses in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations were as follows:

	For the Year Ended September 30,		
	2023	2022	2021
Cost of goods and services	\$82,028	\$ 7,964	\$ 7,923
Selling, general and administrative expenses	<u>10,440</u>	<u>8,818</u>	<u>13,495</u>
Total restructuring charges	<u>\$92,468</u>	<u>\$16,782</u>	<u>\$21,418</u>
	For the Year Ended September 30,		
	2023	2022	2021
Personnel related costs	\$16,772	\$ 4,124	\$ 3,190
Facilities, exit costs and other	16,764	7,827	11,573
Non-cash facility and other	<u>58,932</u>	<u>4,831</u>	<u>6,655</u>
Total	<u>\$92,468</u>	<u>\$16,782</u>	<u>\$21,418</u>

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The following table summarizes the accrued liabilities of the Company’s restructuring actions:

	<u>Cash Charges</u>	<u>Cash Charges</u>	<u>Non-Cash Charges</u>	
	<u>Personnel related costs</u>	<u>Facilities & Exit Costs</u>	<u>Facility and Other Costs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Accrued liability at September 30, 2020.....	\$ 581	\$ 264	\$ —	\$ 845
Charges.....	3,190	11,573	6,655	21,418
Payments.....	(3,353)	(11,573)	—	(14,926)
Non-cash charges ⁽¹⁾	—	—	(6,655)	(6,655)
Accrued liability at September 30, 2021.....	\$ 418	\$ 264	\$ —	\$ 682
Charges.....	4,124	7,827	4,831	16,782
Payments.....	(4,156)	(7,827)	—	(11,983)
Non-cash charges ⁽¹⁾	—	—	(4,831)	(4,831)
Accrued liability at September 30, 2022.....	\$ 386	\$ 264	\$ —	\$ 650
Charges.....	16,772	16,764	58,932	92,468
Payments.....	(3,051)	(11,477)	—	(14,528)
Non-cash charges ⁽¹⁾	—	—	(58,932)	(58,932)
Accrued liability at September 30, 2023.....	<u>\$14,107</u>	<u>\$ 5,551</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 19,658</u>

⁽¹⁾ Non-cash charges in Facility and Other Costs primarily represent the non-cash write-off of certain long-lived assets and inventory that has no recoverable value in connection with certain facility closures.

NOTE 11—WARRANTY LIABILITY

CPP and HBP offer warranties against product defects for periods generally ranging from one to ten years, with limited lifetime warranties on certain door models. Typical warranties require CPP and HBP to repair or replace the defective products during the warranty period at no cost to the customer. At the time revenue is recognized, Griffon records a liability for warranty costs, estimated based on historical experience, and periodically assesses its warranty obligations and adjusts the liability as necessary. CPP offers an express limited warranty for a period of ninety days on all products from the date of the original purchase unless otherwise stated on the product or packaging from the date of original purchase. Warranty costs expected to be incurred in the next 12 months are classified in accrued liabilities. Warranty costs expected to be incurred beyond one year are classified in other long-term liabilities. The short-term warranty liability was \$20,781 as of September 30, 2023 and 16,786 as of September 30, 2022. The long-term warranty liability was \$1,239 at both September 30, 2023 and 2022.

Changes in Griffon’s warranty liability, included in Accrued liabilities, were as follows:

	<u>Years Ended September 30,</u>	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Balance, beginning of period.....	\$ 16,786	\$ 7,818
Warranties issued and changes in estimated pre-existing warranties.....	21,301	19,028
Actual warranty costs incurred.....	(17,306)	(16,413)
Other warranty liabilities assumed from acquisitions.....	—	6,353
Balance, end of period.....	<u>\$ 20,781</u>	<u>\$ 16,786</u>

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NOTE 12—LONG-TERM DEBT

Debt at September 30, 2023 and 2022 consisted of the following:

At September 30, 2023						
		Outstanding Balance	Original Issuer Premium (Discount)	Capitalized Fees & Expenses	Balance Sheet	Coupon Interest Rate
Senior Notes due 2028	(a)	\$ 974,775	\$ 218	\$ (8,920)	\$ 966,073	5.75%
Term Loan B due 2029	(b)	463,000	(922)	(7,039)	455,039	Variable
Revolver due 2028	(b)	50,445	—	(3,606)	46,839	Variable
Non U.S. lines of credit	(d)	—	—	(3)	(3)	Variable
Other debt	(e)	1,592	—	(11)	1,581	Variable
Totals		1,489,812	(704)	(19,579)	1,469,529	
less: Current portion		(9,625)	—	—	(9,625)	
Long-term debt		<u>\$1,480,187</u>	<u>\$(704)</u>	<u>\$(19,579)</u>	<u>\$1,459,904</u>	
At September 30, 2022						
		Outstanding Balance	Original Issuer Premium (Discount)	Capitalized Fees & Expenses	Balance Sheet	Coupon Interest Rate
Senior notes due 2028	(a)	\$ 974,775	\$ 266	\$(10,939)	\$ 964,102	5.75%
Term Loan B due 2029	(b)	496,000	(1,144)	(8,823)	486,033	Variable
Revolver due 2025	(b)	97,328	—	(1,227)	96,101	Variable
Finance lease—real estate	(c)	13,091	—	—	13,091	Variable
Non U.S. lines of credit	(d)	—	—	(2)	(2)	Variable
Non U.S. term and mortgage loans	(d)	12,090	—	(27)	12,063	Variable
Other debt	(e)	2,276	—	(13)	2,263	Variable
Totals		1,595,560	(878)	(21,031)	1,573,651	
less: Current portion		(12,653)	—	—	(12,653)	
Long-term debt		<u>\$1,582,907</u>	<u>\$(878)</u>	<u>\$(21,031)</u>	<u>\$1,560,998</u>	

Interest expense consists of the following for 2023, 2022 and 2021.

Year Ended September 30, 2023						
		Effective Interest Rate	Cash Interest	Amort. Debt (Premium) Discount	Amort. Deferred Cost & Other Fees	Total Interest Expense
Senior notes due 2028	(a)	5.95%	\$56,050	\$(48)	\$2,020	\$ 58,022
Term Loan B due 2029	(b)	7.49%	35,321	172	1,398	36,891
Revolver due 2025	(b)	Variable	4,282	—	646	4,928
Finance lease—real estate	(c)	5.60%	680	—	—	680
Non U.S. lines of credit	(d)	Variable	630	—	42	672
Other debt	(e)	Variable	392	—	2	394
Capitalized interest			(142)	—	—	(142)
Totals			<u>\$97,213</u>	<u>\$124</u>	<u>\$4,108</u>	<u>\$101,445</u>

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Year Ended September 30, 2022						
		Effective Interest Rate	Cash Interest	Amort. Debt (Premium) Discount	Amort. Deferred Cost & Other Fees	Total Interest Expense
Senior notes due 2028	(a)	5.95%	\$57,105	\$(48)	\$2,056	\$59,113
Term Loan B due 2029	(b)	4.14%	18,116	135	1,068	19,319
Revolver due 2025	(b)	Variable	3,762	—	491	4,253
Finance lease—real estate	(c)	5.60%	759	—	4	763
Non U.S. lines of credit	(d)	Variable	17	—	15	32
Non U.S. term and mortgage loans	(d)	Variable	610	—	53	663
Other debt	(e)	Variable	544	—	1	545
Capitalized interest			(309)	—	—	(309)
Totals			<u>\$80,604</u>	<u>\$ 87</u>	<u>\$3,688</u>	<u>\$84,379</u>

Year Ended September 30, 2021						
		Effective Interest Rate	Cash Interest	Amort. Debt Premium	Amort. Deferred Cost & Other Fees	Total Interest Expense
Senior notes due 2028	(a)	5.95%	\$57,500	\$(48)	\$2,084	\$59,536
Revolver due 2025	(b)	Variable	1,078	—	491	1,569
Finance lease—real estate	(c)	5.65%	875	—	25	900
Non U.S. lines of credit	(d)	Variable	15	—	15	30
Non U.S. term and mortgage loans	(d)	Variable	655	—	71	726
Other debt	(e)	Variable	443	—	2	445
Capitalized interest			(31)	—	—	(31)
Totals			<u>\$60,535</u>	<u>\$(48)</u>	<u>\$2,688</u>	<u>\$63,175</u>

Minimum payments under debt agreements for the next five years are as follows: \$9,625 in 2024, \$8,153 in 2025, \$8,026 in 2026, \$8,005 in 2027, \$1,033,220 in 2028 and \$422,783 thereafter.

(a) During 2020, Griffon issued, at par \$1,000,000 of 5.75% Senior Notes due 2028 (the “2028 Senior Notes”). Proceeds from the 2028 Senior Notes were used to redeem \$1,000,000 of 5.25% Senior Notes due 2022. In connection with the issuance and exchange of the 2028 Senior Notes, Griffon capitalized \$16,448 of underwriting fees and other expenses incurred, which is being amortized over the term of such notes.

During 2022, Griffon purchased \$25,225 of Senior Notes in the open market at a weighted average discount of 91.82% of par, or \$23,161. In connection with these purchases, Griffon recognized a \$1,767 net gain on the early extinguishment of debt comprised of \$2,064 of face value in excess of purchase price, offset by \$297 related to the write-off of underwriting fees and other expenses. As of September 30, 2023, outstanding Senior Notes due totaled \$974,775; interest is payable semi-annually on March 1 and September 1.

The 2028 Senior Notes are senior unsecured obligations of Griffon guaranteed by certain domestic subsidiaries, and subject to certain covenants, limitations and restrictions. The 2028 Senior Notes were registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”) via an exchange offer. The fair value of the 2028 Senior Notes approximated \$882,171 on September 30, 2023 based upon quoted market prices (level 1 inputs). At September 30, 2023, \$8,920 of underwriting fees and other expenses incurred remained to be amortized.

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- (b) On August 1, 2023, Griffon amended and restated its revolving credit agreement (as amended, “Credit Agreement”). The amendment increased the maximum borrowing availability on its revolving credit facility from \$400,000 to \$500,000 (the “Revolver”) and extended the maturity date of the Revolver from March 22, 2025 to August 1, 2028. In the event the 2028 Senior Notes are not repaid, refinanced, or replaced prior to December 1, 2027, the Revolver will mature on December 1, 2027. The amendment also modified certain other provisions of the Credit Agreement, including increasing the letter of credit sub-facility from \$100,000 to \$125,000 and increasing the customary accordion feature from a minimum of \$375,000 to a minimum of \$500,000. Additionally, the Revolver includes a multi-currency sub-facility of \$200,000.

Borrowings under the Revolver may be repaid and re-borrowed at any time. Interest is payable on borrowings at either a Secured Overnight Financing Rate (“SOFR”), Sterling Overnight Index Average (“SONIA”) or base rate benchmark rate, plus an applicable margin, which adjusts based on financial performance. Griffon’s SOFR loans accrue interest at Term SOFR plus a credit adjustment spread and a margin of 2.00% (7.42% at September 30, 2023), SONIA loans accrue interest at SONIA Base Rate plus a credit adjustment spread and a margin of 2.00% (7.22% at September 30, 2023) and base rate loans accrue interest at prime rate plus a margin of 1.00% (9.50% at September 30, 2023).

At September 30, 2023, under the Credit Agreement, there were \$50,445 in outstanding borrowings; outstanding standby letters of credit were \$12,962; and \$436,593 was available, subject to certain loan covenants, for borrowing at that date.

On January 24, 2022, Griffon amended and restated its Credit Agreement to provide for a new \$800,000 Term Loan B facility, due January 24, 2029, in addition to the Revolver, and replaced the London Interbank Offer Rate (LIBOR) with SOFR. The Term Loan B accrues interest at the Term SOFR rate plus a credit adjustment spread with a floor of 0.50%, and a spread of 2.25% (7.79% as of September 30, 2023). The Original Issue Discount for the Term Loan B was 99.75%. In connection with this amendment, Griffon capitalized \$15,466 of underwriting fees and other expenses incurred, which are being amortized over the term of the loan.

The Term Loan B facility requires nominal quarterly principal payments of \$2,000, potential additional annual principal payments based on a percentage of excess cash flow and secured leverage thresholds starting with the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023; and a final balloon payment due at maturity. At September 30, 2023, Griffon’s secured leverage remained below the threshold set forth in the Credit Agreement that would, if exceeded, require Griffon to make an additional payment, and therefore no additional annual principal payment was required. Term Loan B borrowings may generally be repaid without penalty but may not be re-borrowed. During 2023 and 2022, Griffon prepaid \$25,000 and \$300,000, respectively, of the aggregate principal amount of the Term Loan B, which permanently reduced the outstanding balance, and recognized a \$437 and \$6,296 charge on the prepayment of debt in 2023 and 2022, respectively. The charges were comprised of write-offs of underwriting fees and other expenses of \$386 and \$5,575 for 2023 and 2022, respectively, and the original issue discount of \$51 and \$721 for 2023 and 2022, respectively. The Term Loan B facility is subject to the same affirmative and negative covenants that apply to the Revolver, but is not subject to any financial maintenance covenants. Term Loan B borrowings are secured by the same collateral as the Revolver. The fair value of the Term Loan B facility approximated \$461,843 on September 30, 2023 based upon quoted market prices (level 1 inputs). At September 30, 2023, \$7,039 of underwriting fees and other expenses incurred, remained to be amortized. At September 30, 2023, \$463,000 of the Term Loan B was outstanding.

The Revolver has certain financial maintenance tests including a maximum total leverage ratio, a maximum senior secured leverage ratio and a minimum interest coverage ratio, as well as customary

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affirmative and negative covenants and events of default. The negative covenants place limits on Griffon's ability to, among other things, incur indebtedness, incur liens, and make restricted payments and investments. Both the Revolver and Term Loan B borrowings under the Credit Agreement are guaranteed by Griffon's material domestic subsidiaries and are secured, on a first priority basis, by substantially all domestic assets of the Company and the guarantors, and a pledge of not greater than 65% of the equity interest in Griffon's material, first-tier foreign subsidiaries.

- (c) On September 28, 2023, the Company closed on the exercise of its lease purchase option, as permitted under the lease agreement, to acquire ownership of the manufacturing facility located in Ocala, Florida for a cash purchase price of \$23,207. The Ocala lease had a maturity date in 2025 and bore interest at a fixed rate of approximately 5.6%. As a result of exercising the purchase option, the Company no longer has any future lease obligations related to this real estate. During 2022, the financing lease on the Troy, Ohio location expired. The Troy lease bore interest at a rate of approximately 5.0%, was secured by a mortgage on the real estate, which was guaranteed by Griffon, and had a one dollar buyout at the end of the lease. Griffon exercised the one dollar buyout option in November 2021. Refer to Note 22- Leases for further details.
- (d) In November 2012, Garant G.P. ("Garant"), a Griffon wholly owned subsidiary, entered into a CAD 15,000 (\$11,117 as of September 30, 2023) revolving credit facility. Effective in December 2022, the facility was amended to replace LIBOR (USD) with the Canadian Dollar Offer Rate ("CDOR"). The facility accrues interest at CDOR or the Bankers Acceptance Rate (CDN) plus 1.3% per annum (6.69% using CDOR and 6.43% using Bankers Acceptance Rate CDN as of September 30, 2023). The revolving facility matures in December 2023, but is renewable upon mutual agreement with the lender. Garant is required to maintain a certain minimum equity. At September 30, 2023, there were no outstanding borrowings under the revolving credit facility with CAD 15,000 (\$11,117 as of September 30, 2023) available.

During 2022, Griffon Australia Holdings Pty Ltd and its Australian subsidiaries (collectively, "Griffon Australia") amended its AUD 18,375 term loan, AUD 20,000 revolver and AUD 15,000 receivable purchase facility agreement that was entered into in July 2016 and further amended in fiscal 2020. Griffon Australia paid off the term loan in the amount of AUD 9,625 and canceled the AUD 20,000 revolver. In March 2023 the existing receivable purchase facility was renewed and increased from AUD 15,000 to AUD 30,000 (\$19,188 as of September 30, 2023). The receivable purchase facility matures in March 2024, but is renewable upon mutual agreement with the lender. The receivable purchase facility accrues interest at BBSY (Bank Bill Swap Rate) plus 1.25% per annum (5.33% at September 30, 2023). At September 30, 2023, there was no balance outstanding under the receivable purchase facility with AUD 30,000 (\$19,188 as of September 30, 2023) available. The receivable purchase facility is secured by substantially all of the assets of Griffon Australia and its subsidiaries. Griffon Australia is required to maintain a certain minimum equity level.

In July 2018, the AMES Companies UK Ltd and its subsidiaries (collectively, "Ames UK") entered into a GBP 14,000 term loan, GBP 4,000 mortgage loan and GBP 5,000 revolver, which matured in July 2023. Prior to maturity, on June 30, 2023, AMES UK paid off and cancelled the GBP 14,000 term loan and GBP 4,000 mortgage loan. The payoff amounts were GBP 7,525 (\$9,543) and GBP 2,451 (\$3,108), respectively. Upon maturity in July 2023, the GBP 5,000 revolver had no balance and was not renewed.

- (e) Other debt primarily consists of a loan with the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority, with the balance consisting of finance leases.

At September 30, 2023, Griffon and its subsidiaries were in compliance with the terms and covenants of its credit and loan agreements.

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NOTE 13—EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

Griffon offers defined contribution plans to most of its U.S. employees. In addition to employee contributions to the plans, Griffon makes contributions based upon various percentages of compensation and/or employee contributions, which were \$10,857 in 2023, \$11,080 in 2022 and \$8,576 in 2021.

The Company also provides healthcare and life insurance benefits for certain groups of retirees through several plans. For certain employees, the benefits are at fixed amounts per retiree and are partially contributory by the retiree. The post-retirement benefit obligation was \$1,679 and \$1,796 as of September 30, 2023 and 2022. The accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) for these plans was \$420 and \$399 as of September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively, and the 2023, 2022 and 2021 benefit expense was \$67, \$47 and \$35 respectively. It is the Company's practice to fund these benefits as incurred.

Griffon also has qualified and non-qualified defined benefit plans covering certain employees which provide benefits based on years of service and employee compensation. Over time, these amounts will be recognized as part of net periodic pension costs in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss).

Griffon is responsible for overseeing the management of the investments of two qualified defined benefit plans and uses the services of an investment manager to manage the plans' assets based on agreed upon risk profiles. The primary objective of the qualified defined benefit plan is to secure participant retirement benefits. As such, the key objective in this plan's financial management is to promote stability and, to the extent appropriate, growth in the funded status. Financial objectives are established in conjunction with a review of current and projected plan financial requirements. The fair values of a majority of the plan assets were determined by the plans' trustee using quoted market prices for identical instruments (level 1 inputs) as of September 30, 2023 and 2022. The fair value of various other investments was determined by the plans' trustees using direct observable market corroborated inputs, including quoted market prices for similar assets (level 2 inputs). A small amount of plan assets are invested in private equity which consist primarily of investments in private companies which are valued using the net asset values provided by the underlying private investment companies as a practical expedient (level 3 inputs).

The Clopay AMES Pension Plan, the Hunter Fan Pension Plan and the AMES supplemental executive retirement plan are frozen to new entrants and participants in the plans no longer accrue benefits.

The Company's non-service cost components of net periodic benefit plan cost was an expense (benefit) of \$866, \$(4,256) and \$(907) during 2023, 2022, and 2021 respectively.

Griffon uses judgment to establish the assumptions used in determining the future liability of the plan, as well as the investment returns on the plan assets. The expected return on assets assumption used for pension expense was developed through analysis of historical market returns, current market conditions and past experience of plan investments. The long-term rate of return assumption represents the expected average rate of earnings on the funds invested, or to be invested, to provide for the benefits included in the benefit obligations. The assumption is based on several factors including historical market index returns, the anticipated long-term asset allocation of plan assets and the historical return. The discount rate assumption is determined by developing a yield curve based on high quality bonds with maturities matching the plans' expected benefit payment stream. The plans' expected cash flows are then discounted by the resulting year-by-year spot rates. A 10% change in the discount rate or return on assets would not have a material effect on the financial statements of Griffon.

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Net periodic costs (benefits) were as follows:

	Defined Benefits for the Years Ended September 30,			Supplemental Benefits for the Years Ended September 30,		
	2023	2022	2021	2023	2022	2021
Net periodic (benefits) costs:						
Interest cost.....	\$ 6,814	\$ 3,448	\$ 2,816	\$488	\$172	\$162
Expected return on plan assets.....	(10,213)	(11,255)	(10,177)	—	—	—
Amortization of:						
Prior service costs	—	—	—	—	—	—
Actuarial loss.....	3,314	2,818	5,776	463	561	516
Total net periodic (benefits) costs.....	\$ (85)	\$ (4,989)	\$ (1,585)	\$951	\$733	\$678

The tax benefits in 2023, 2022 and 2021 for the amortization of pension costs in Other comprehensive income (loss) were \$793, \$710 and \$1,321, respectively.

The weighted-average assumptions used in determining the net periodic (benefits) costs were as follows:

	Defined Benefits for the Years Ended September 30,			Supplemental Benefits for the Years Ended September 30,		
	2023	2022	2021	2023	2022	2021
Discount rate	5.17%	2.63%	2.30%	5.02%	1.94%	1.69%
Expected return on assets.....	6.72%	6.72%	6.75%	—%	—%	—%

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Plan assets and benefit obligation of the defined and supplemental benefit plans were as follows:

	Defined Benefits at September 30,		Supplemental Benefits at September 30,	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Change in benefit obligation:				
Benefit obligation at beginning of fiscal year	\$149,021	\$170,505	\$ 11,922	\$ 14,775
Business acquisition.....	—	21,839	—	—
Interest cost	6,814	3,448	488	172
Benefits paid.....	(11,541)	(11,281)	(1,907)	(1,927)
Actuarial (gain) loss	(5,070)	(35,490)	379	(1,098)
Benefit obligation at end of fiscal year	139,224	149,021	10,882	11,922
Change in plan assets:				
Fair value of plan assets at beginning of fiscal year.....	144,091	160,523	—	—
Business acquisition.....	—	22,288	—	—
Actual return on plan assets	12,232	(27,439)	—	—
Company contributions	2,215	—	1,907	1,927
Benefits paid.....	(11,541)	(11,281)	(1,907)	(1,927)
Fair value of plan assets at end of fiscal year.....	146,997	144,091	—	—
Projected benefit obligation in excess of plan assets	\$ 7,773	\$ (4,930)	\$(10,882)	\$(11,922)
Amounts recognized in the statement of financial position consist of:				
Non-Current Assets	\$ 7,773	\$ 1,108	\$ —	\$ —
Accrued liabilities	—	—	(1,834)	\$ (1,866)
Other liabilities (long-term)	—	(6,038)	(9,048)	(10,056)
Total Liabilities.....	7,773	(4,930)	(10,882)	(11,922)
Net actuarial losses.....	28,279	38,682	5,919	6,003
Prior service cost.....	—	—	—	—
Deferred taxes	(5,939)	(8,123)	(2,873)	(1,261)
Total Accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of tax ..	22,340	30,559	3,046	4,742
Net amount recognized at September 30,	\$ 30,113	\$ 25,629	\$ (7,836)	\$ (7,180)
Accumulated benefit obligations	\$139,224	\$149,021	\$ 10,882	\$ 11,922
Information for plans with accumulated benefit obligations in excess of plan assets:				
ABO	\$139,224	\$149,021	\$ 10,882	\$ 11,922
PBO	139,224	149,021	10,882	11,922
Fair value of plan assets	146,997	144,091	—	—

Actuarial gains as of September 30, 2023 and 2022 were primarily the result of the increase in the discount rate.

The weighted-average assumptions used in determining the benefit obligations were as follows:

	Defined Benefits at September 30,		Supplemental Benefits at September 30,	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Weighted average discount rate	5.63%	5.17%	5.53%	5.02%

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Estimated future benefit payments to retirees, which reflect expected future service, are as follows:

<u>For the years ending September 30,</u>	<u>Defined Benefits</u>	<u>Supplemental Benefits</u>
2024	\$12,009	\$1,853
2025	11,993	1,709
2026	12,021	1,562
2027	12,012	1,413
2028	11,918	1,263
2028 through 2031	56,659	4,231

During 2024, Griffon is not required to and does not expect to contribute to the Defined Benefit plans and expects to contribute \$1,853 to Supplemental Benefits that will be funded from the general assets of Griffon.

The Clopay AMES Pension Plan and the Hunter Fan Pension Plan are covered by the Pension Protection Act of 2006. The Adjusted Funding Target Attainment Percent for the Clopay AMES Pension Plan and Hunter Fan Pension Plan as of January 1, 2023 was 96.9% and 122.1%, respectively. Since the plans were in excess of the 80% funding threshold there were no plan restrictions. There are no catch up contributions for either plan expected in 2024.

The actual and weighted-average asset allocation for qualified benefit plans were as follows:

	<u>At September 30,</u>		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>Target</u>
Cash and equivalents	3.3%	4.3%	—%
Equity securities	41.9%	41.1%	44.0%
Fixed income	24.8%	24.6%	36.0%
Other	<u>30.0%</u>	<u>30.0%</u>	<u>20.0%</u>
Total	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for plan assets measured at fair value:

Government and agency securities—When quoted market prices are available in an active market, the investments are classified as Level 1. When quoted market prices are not available in an active market, the investments are classified as Level 2.

Equity securities—The fair values reflect the closing price reported on a major market where the individual mutual fund securities are traded in equity securities. These investments are classified within Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy.

Debt securities—The fair values are based on a compilation of primarily observable market information or a broker quote in a non-active market where the individual mutual fund securities are invested in debt securities. These investments are classified within Level 1 and Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy.

Commingled funds—The fair values are determined using NAV provided by the administrator of the fund. The NAV is based on the value of the underlying assets owned by the trust/entity, minus its liabilities, and then divided by the number of shares outstanding. These investments are generally classified within Level 2 or 3, as appropriate, of the valuation hierarchy and can be liquidated on demand.

Interest in limited partnerships and hedge funds—One limited partnership investment is a private equity fund and the fair value is determined by the fund managers based on the net asset values provided by

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the underlying private investment companies as a practical expedient. These investments are classified within Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy.

Fully benefit-responsive investment contracts—The Plan holds fully benefit-responsive investment contracts that are reported at contract value, which is the value of principal and interest under the terms of the annuity contract.

The following table presents the fair values of Griffon’s pension and post-retirement plan assets by asset category:

	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total
At September 30, 2023				
Cash and equivalents	\$ 4,889	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 4,889
Government agency securities	26,824	2,537	—	29,361
Debt instruments	1,253	3,945	—	5,198
Equity securities	61,482	—	—	61,482
Commingled funds	—	9,022	10,459	19,481
Limited partnerships and hedge fund investments	—	21,768	—	21,768
Other Securities	<u>1,834</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,834</u>
Subtotal	<u>\$96,282</u>	<u>\$37,272</u>	<u>\$10,459</u>	\$144,013
Accrued income and plan receivables				285
Fully benefit-responsive investment contract				<u>2,699</u>
Total				<u>\$146,997</u>
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total
At September 30, 2022				
Cash and equivalents	\$ 6,178	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 6,178
Government and agency securities	25,932	2,703	—	28,635
Debt instruments	1,326	3,604	—	4,930
Equity securities	59,190	—	—	59,190
Commingled funds	—	8,088	9,484	17,572
Limited partnerships and hedge fund investments	—	22,662	—	22,662
Other Securities	<u>1,845</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,845</u>
Subtotal	<u>\$94,471</u>	<u>\$37,057</u>	<u>\$9,484</u>	\$141,012
Accrued income and plan receivables				265
Fully benefit-responsive investment contract				<u>2,814</u>
Total				<u>\$144,091</u>

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The following table represents level 3 significant unobservable inputs for the years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022:

	<u>Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)</u>
As of October 1, 2021	\$11,286
Purchases, issuances and settlements	150
Gains and losses	<u>(1,952)</u>
As of September 30, 2022	9,484
Purchases, issuances and settlements	—
Gains and losses	<u>975</u>
As of September 30, 2023	<u><u>\$10,459</u></u>

Griffon has an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (“ESOP”) that covers substantially all domestic employees. All U.S. employees of Griffon, who are not members of a collective bargaining unit, automatically become eligible to participate in the plan on the October 1st following completion of one qualifying year of service (as defined in the plan). Securities are allocated to participants’ individual accounts based on the proportion of each participant’s aggregate compensation (not to exceed \$305 for the plan year ended September 30, 2023), to the total of all participants’ compensation. Shares of the ESOP which have been allocated to employee accounts are charged to expense based on the fair value of the shares transferred and are treated as outstanding in determining earnings per share. Dividends paid on shares held by the ESOP are used to offset debt service on ESOP Loans. Dividends paid on shares held in participant accounts are utilized to allocate shares from the aggregate number of shares to be released, equal in value to those dividends, based on the closing price of Griffon common stock on the dividend payment date. Compensation expense under the ESOP was \$20,583 in 2023, \$14,325 in 2022 and \$3,678 in 2021. The cost of the shares held by the ESOP and not yet allocated to employees is reported as a reduction of Shareholders’ Equity. The fair value of the unallocated ESOP shares as of September 30, 2023 and 2022 based on the closing stock price of Griffon’s stock was \$7,768 and \$30,247, respectively. The ESOP shares were as follows:

	<u>At September 30,</u>	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Allocated shares	4,409,113	3,938,384
Unallocated shares	<u>195,827</u>	<u>1,024,642</u>
Total	<u><u>4,604,940</u></u>	<u><u>4,963,026</u></u>

NOTE 14—INCOME TAXES

Income taxes have been based on the following components of Income before taxes from continuing operations:

	<u>For the Years Ended September 30,</u>		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Domestic	\$106,209	\$(247,004)	\$ 55,835
Non-U.S.	<u>6,473</u>	<u>(23,875)</u>	<u>54,120</u>
	<u><u>\$112,682</u></u>	<u><u>\$(270,879)</u></u>	<u><u>\$109,955</u></u>

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Provision (benefit) for income taxes on income was comprised of the following from continuing operations:

	<u>For the Years Ended September 30,</u>		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Current.....	\$ 72,860	\$ 73,542	\$25,890
Deferred	(37,795)	(56,706)	13,763
Total	<u>\$ 35,065</u>	<u>\$ 16,836</u>	<u>\$39,653</u>
U.S. Federal.....	\$ 23,612	\$ (5,178)	\$14,305
State and local	5,899	14,361	7,117
Non-U.S.....	5,554	7,653	18,231
Total provision	<u>\$ 35,065</u>	<u>\$ 16,836</u>	<u>\$39,653</u>

Differences between the effective income tax rate applied to Income (loss) before taxes from continuing operations and the U.S. Federal statutory income tax rate are presented in the table below. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, the Company reported a pre-tax loss and income tax expense. As a result, unfavorable items to the US Federal statutory income tax rate are presented as negative amounts, while favorable items are presented as positive amounts.

	<u>For the Years Ended September 30,</u>		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
U.S. Federal statutory income tax rate	21.0%	21.0%	21.0%
State and local taxes, net of Federal benefit	(0.2)%	(5.3)%	4.8%
Non-U.S. taxes - foreign permanent items and taxes	1.4%	(1.5)%	3.1%
Change in tax contingency reserves	(0.4)%	(0.1)%	0.2%
Impact of foreign rate change on deferred tax balances.....	—%	—%	2.8%
Tax Reform-Repatriation of Foreign Earnings and GILTI	0.5%	0.2%	0.4%
Change in valuation allowance	3.9%	(1.7)%	0.4%
Other non-deductible/non-taxable items, net	—%	(0.4)%	0.4%
Non-deductible officer's compensation	5.1%	(1.9)%	4.0%
Research and U.S. foreign tax credits.....	(0.9)%	0.2%	(0.1)%
Goodwill impairment.....	—%	(17.1)%	—%
Share based compensation	0.8%	0.4%	(2.0)%
Other	<u>(0.1)%</u>	<u>—%</u>	<u>1.1%</u>
Effective tax rate	<u>31.1%</u>	<u>(6.2)%</u>	<u>36.1%</u>

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The tax effect of temporary differences that give rise to future deferred tax assets and liabilities are as follows:

	At September 30,	
	2023	2022
Deferred tax assets:		
Bad debt reserves	\$ 2,537	\$ 2,873
Inventory reserves	11,764	5,005
Deferred compensation (equity compensation and defined benefit plans)	5,929	8,658
Compensation benefits	5,118	4,859
Insurance reserve	2,823	2,660
Restructuring reserve	4,224	—
Warranty reserve	6,912	3,402
Lease liabilities	47,077	49,649
Net operating loss	15,459	20,528
Tax credits	5,933	5,933
Research & Development	5,281	—
Other reserves and accruals	5,312	5,553
	118,369	109,120
Valuation allowance	(17,992)	(13,490)
Total deferred tax assets	100,377	95,630
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Goodwill and intangibles	(48,859)	(25,484)
Property, plant and equipment	(99,637)	(158,074)
Right-of-use assets	(44,499)	(47,949)
Unremitted Foreign Earnings	(1,894)	—
Other	(1,179)	(1,224)
Total deferred tax liabilities	(196,068)	(232,731)
Net deferred tax liabilities	\$ (95,691)	\$(137,101)

The components of the net deferred tax liability, by balance sheet account, were as follows:

	At September 30,	
	2023	2022
Other assets	\$ 617	\$ 339
Other liabilities	(97,440)	(139,417)
Liabilities of discontinued operations	1,132	1,977
Net deferred liability	\$(95,691)	\$(137,101)

In 2023, the net increase in the valuation allowance of \$4,502 is the result of a determination that certain state and foreign net operating losses will not be realized. In 2022, the increase in the valuation allowance of \$3,065 is the result of a determination that certain state and foreign net operating losses will not be realized, partially offset by tax rate changes impacting the value of the deferred tax assets and the reversal of a valuation allowance related to certain state credits for the Telephonics business, which was sold on June 27, 2022.

Prior to fiscal year 2023, Griffon did not provide deferred U.S. income taxes of undistributed earnings on non-U.S. subsidiaries as such earnings were intended to be reinvested indefinitely. At September 30, 2023, Griffon has a policy election to indefinitely reinvest the undistributed earnings of certain non-U.S.

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subsidiaries. As of September 30, 2023, we have approximately \$117,886 of undistributed earnings of non-U.S. subsidiaries. Of these undistributed earnings, \$65,018 were previously subjected to U.S. federal income tax. As of September 30, 2023, we recognized a deferred tax liability of \$1,894 for estimated non-U.S. withholding taxes on the non-U.S. earnings that are not indefinitely reinvested. The Company has not provided deferred taxes on any other outside basis differences in its investments in the non-U.S. subsidiaries as these other outside basis differences are currently considered indefinitely reinvested. The Company generates substantial cash flow in the U.S. and does not have a current need for the cash to be returned to the U.S. from the foreign entities. The Company may repatriate non-indefinitely reinvested earnings of its non-U.S. subsidiaries where excess cash has accumulated and the Company determines that it is appropriate and tax efficient. Accordingly, the Company continues to reinvest all other undistributed earnings of its non-U.S. subsidiaries and may be subject to additional non-U.S. withholding taxes and U.S. state income taxes if it reverses its indefinite reinvestment assertion in the future.

At September 30, 2023, Griffon had no loss carryforwards for U.S. tax purposes and \$27,585 for non-U.S. tax purposes. At September 30, 2022, Griffon had \$44,521 loss carryforwards for U.S. tax purposes and \$8,798 for non-U.S. tax purposes. The U.S. loss carryforwards can be carried forward indefinitely but are subject to certain limitations on annual usage. The non-U.S. loss carryforwards expire in varying amounts beginning in 2027 to indefinite carryforward.

At September 30, 2023 and 2022, Griffon had state and local loss carryforwards of \$176,343 and \$192,134, respectively, which expire in varying amounts through 2042.

At September 30, 2023 and 2022, Griffon had federal tax credit carryforwards of \$5,933 and \$5,933, respectively, which expire in varying amounts through 2035.

At September 30, 2023 and 2022, Griffon had no capital loss carryovers for U.S. tax purposes. Capital loss carryovers are available for three-year carryback or five-year carryforward periods.

We believe it is more likely than not that the benefit from certain federal, state, and non-U.S. tax attributes will not be realized. In recognition of this risk, we have provided a valuation allowance as of September 30, 2023 and 2022 of \$17,992 and \$13,490, respectively, on the deferred tax assets. As it becomes probable that the benefits of these attributes will be realized, the reversal of valuation allowance will be recognized as a reduction of income tax expense.

If certain substantial changes in Griffon's ownership occur, there would be an annual limitation on the amount of carryforward(s) that can be utilized.

Griffon files U.S. Federal, state and local tax returns, as well as applicable returns in Canada, Australia, U.K. and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Griffon's U.S. Federal income tax returns are no longer subject to income tax examination for years before 2017. Griffon's major U.S. state and other non-U.S. jurisdictions are no longer subject to income tax examinations for years before 2015. Various U.S. state and statutory tax audits are currently underway.

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The following is a roll forward of unrecognized tax benefits:

Balance at September 30, 2021	\$4,377
Additions based on tax positions related to the current year	172
Additions based on tax positions related to prior years ⁽¹⁾	2,298
Lapse of Statutes	<u>(39)</u>
Balance at September 30, 2022	\$6,808
Additions based on tax positions related to the current year	208
Additions based on tax positions related to prior years	32
Reductions based on tax positions related to prior years	(16)
Lapse of Statutes	(740)
Settlements	<u>—</u>
Balance at September 30, 2023	<u>\$6,292</u>

⁽¹⁾ Relates to unrecognized tax benefits assumed with the acquisition of Hunter.

If recognized, the amount of potential unrecognized tax benefits that would impact Griffon's effective tax rate is \$3,021. Griffon recognizes potential accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense. At September 30, 2023 and 2022, the combined amount of accrued interest and penalties related to tax positions taken or to be taken on Griffon's tax returns and recorded as part of the reserves for uncertain tax positions was \$651 and \$521, respectively. The Company may experience a decrease of \$1,679 in unrecognized tax benefits over the next twelve months due to the potential resolution of unrecognized tax benefits involving several taxing jurisdictions accepting previously filed amended returns or lapse of the applicable statute. Griffon cannot reasonably estimate the extent to which other existing liabilities for uncertain tax positions may increase or decrease within the next twelve months as a result of the progression of ongoing tax audits or other events. Griffon believes that it has adequately provided for all open tax years by tax jurisdiction.

On August 16, 2022, the U.S. Government enacted the Inflation Reduction Act ("IRA") into law. Included in the IRA was a provision to implement a 15% corporate alternative minimum tax ("CAMT") on "adjusted financial statement income" for applicable corporations and a 1% excise tax on repurchases of stock. The stock buyback excise tax went into effect January 1, 2023 and Griffon records the excise tax on its stock repurchases, net of reissuances, against treasury stock. The CAMT is effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2022. Based on current levels of income we do not expect to be subject to the CAMT.

NOTE 15—STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY AND EQUITY COMPENSATION

During 2023, 2022 and 2021, the Company declared and paid, in quarterly increments, cash dividends totaling \$0.45 per share (two quarterly dividends of \$0.10 and two quarterly dividends of \$0.125), \$0.36 per share and \$0.32 per share, respectively. Furthermore, on April 19, 2023, the Board of Directors declared a special cash dividend of \$2.00 per share, paid on May 19, 2023 to shareholders of record as of the close of business on May 9, 2023. On June 27, 2022, the Board of Directors declared a special cash dividend of \$2.00 per share, paid on July 20, 2022. The Company currently intends to pay dividends each quarter; however, payment of dividends is determined by the Board of Directors at its discretion based on various factors, and no assurance can be provided as to the payment of future dividends. Dividends paid on shares in the ESOP were used to offset ESOP loan payments and recorded as a reduction of debt service payments and compensation expense. For all dividends, a dividend payable

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was established for the holders of restricted shares; such dividends will be released upon vesting of the underlying restricted shares. At September, 30, 2023, accrued dividends were \$14,985.

On November 14, 2023, the Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of \$0.15 per share, payable on December 14, 2023 to shareholders of record as of the close of business on November 28, 2023.

On January 29, 2016, shareholders approved the Griffon Corporation 2016 Equity Incentive Plan (the “Original Incentive Plan”) pursuant to which, among other things, awards of performance shares, performance units, stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted shares, restricted stock units, deferred shares and other stock-based awards may be granted. On January 31, 2018, shareholders approved Amendment No. 1 to the Original Incentive Plan pursuant to which, among other things, 1,000,000 shares were added to the Original Incentive Plan; and on January 30, 2020, shareholders approved Amendment No. 2 to the Original Incentive Plan, pursuant to which 1,700,000 shares were added to the Original Incentive Plan. On February 17, 2022, shareholders approved the Amended and Restated 2016 Equity Incentive Plan (the “Amended Incentive Plan”), which amended and restated the Original Incentive Plan and pursuant to which, among other things, 1,200,000 shares were added to the Original Incentive Plan. Options granted under the Amended Incentive Plan may be either “incentive stock options” or nonqualified stock options, which generally expire ten years after the date of grant and are granted at an exercise price of not less than 100% of the fair market value at the date of grant. The maximum number of shares of common stock available for award under the Amended Incentive Plan is 6,250,000 (600,000 of which may be issued as incentive stock options), plus (i) any shares that were reserved for issuance under the Original Incentive Plan as of the effective date of the Original Incentive Plan, and (ii) any shares underlying awards outstanding on such date under the 2011 Incentive Plan that were subsequently canceled or forfeited. As of September 30, 2023, 328,473 shares were available for grant.

Compensation expense for restricted stock and restricted stock units is recognized ratably over the required service period based on the fair value of the grant, calculated as the number of shares or units granted multiplied by the stock price on date of grant, and for performance shares, including performance units, the likelihood of achieving the performance criteria. The Company recognizes forfeitures as they occur. Compensation expense for restricted stock granted to two senior executives is calculated as the maximum number of shares granted, upon achieving certain performance criteria, multiplied by the stock price as valued by a Monte Carlo Simulation Model. Compensation cost related to stock-based awards with graded vesting, generally over a period of three to four years, is recognized using the straight-line attribution method and recorded within Selling, general and administrative expenses.

The following table summarizes the Company’s compensation expense relating to all stock-based compensation plans:

	For the Years Ended September 30,		
	2023	2022	2021
Restricted stock.....	\$20,529	\$18,810	\$16,410
ESOP ⁽¹⁾	<u>20,583</u>	<u>14,325</u>	<u>3,678</u>
Total stock-based compensation.....	<u>\$41,112</u>	<u>\$33,135</u>	<u>\$20,088</u>

⁽¹⁾ During the year ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, special dividend ESOP charges included in compensation expense were \$15,494 and \$10,538, respectively.

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A summary of restricted stock activity, inclusive of restricted stock units, for 2023 is as follows:

	Shares	Weighted Average Grant-Date Fair Value
Unvested at September 30, 2022	3,703,567	\$24.70
Granted.....	506,649	29.73
Vested.....	(961,119)	35.60
Forfeited.....	—	—
Unvested at September 30, 2023	3,249,097	20.40

The fair value of restricted stock which vested during 2023, 2022, and 2021 was \$34,214, \$25,863 and \$10,627, respectively.

Unrecognized compensation expense related to non-vested shares of restricted stock was \$23,067 at September 30, 2023 and will be recognized over a weighted average vesting period of 1.6 years.

At September 30, 2023, a total of approximately 3,577,570 shares of Griffon’s authorized Common Stock were reserved for issuance in connection with stock compensation plans.

During 2023, Griffon granted 466,677 shares of restricted stock and restricted stock units to its employees. This included 249,480 shares of restricted stock and 11,901 restricted stock units granted to forty-four executives and key employees, subject to certain performance conditions, with a vesting period of 36 months with a total fair value of \$8,385, or a weighted average fair value of \$33.61 per share. This also included 205,296 shares of restricted stock granted to two senior executives with a vesting period of thirty-six months and a two-year post-vesting holding period, subject to the achievement of certain performance conditions relating to required levels of return on invested capital and the relative total shareholder return of Griffon’s common stock as compared to a market index. So long as the minimum performance conditions are attained, the amount of shares that can vest will range from 51,324 to 205,296, with the target number of shares being 102,648. The total fair value of these restricted shares using the Monte Carlo Simulation model, assuming achievement of the performance conditions at target, is approximately \$3,648, or a weighted average fair value of \$35.54 per share. Additionally, Griffon granted 39,972 restricted shares to the non-employee directors of Griffon with a vesting period of one year and a fair value of \$1,211, or a weighted average fair value of \$30.29 per share. During the year ended September 30, 2023, 494,748 shares granted were issued out of treasury stock.

On November 14, 2023, Griffon granted 174,104 shares of restricted stock and restricted stock units to 43 executives and key employees, subject to certain performance conditions, with a vesting period of thirty-six months, with a total fair value of \$8,225, or a weighted average fair value of \$47.24 per share.

On April 19, 2023, the Company’s Board of Directors approved a \$200,000 increase to Griffon’s share repurchase program to \$257,955 from the prior unused authorization of \$57,955. Under the authorized share repurchase program, the Company may, from time to time, purchase shares of its common stock in the open market, including pursuant to a 10b5-1 plan, pursuant to an accelerated share repurchase program or issuer tender offer, or in privately negotiated transactions. During the year ended September 30, 2023, Griffon purchased 4,142,794 shares of common stock under these repurchase programs, for a total of \$150,772, or \$36.39 per share, excluding excise taxes. As of September 30, 2023, \$107,183 remains under these Board authorized repurchase programs. In connection with the share repurchases, excise taxes totaling \$1,301 were accrued as of September 30, 2023.

On September 5, 2023, Griffon repurchased 400,000 shares of its common stock, par value \$0.25 per share, beneficially owned by two separately managed accounts of which Voss Capital, LLC is the

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investment manager (the “Selling Shareholders”), in a private transaction to facilitate redemptions by investors in the Selling Shareholders. The purchase price per share was approximately \$41.87, for an aggregate purchase price of \$16,746. The Selling Shareholders are affiliates of Voss Capital, LLC. Travis W. Cocke, the Founder, Chief Investment Officer and Managing Member of Voss Capital, LLC, is a member of the Board of Directors of the Company. These shares are included in the total shares purchased in the previous paragraph.

Subsequent to September 30, 2023 and through November 14, 2023, Griffon purchased 1,127,062 shares of common stock for a total of \$44,980, or \$39.91 per share under these Board authorized repurchase programs. On November 15, 2023, Griffon announced a \$200,000 increase to its share repurchase program which on November 15, 2023 had \$262,203 available given effect to all repurchases through November 14, 2023.

During the year ended September 30, 2023, 365,823 shares, with a market value of \$12,882, or \$35.21 per share, were withheld to settle employee taxes due upon the vesting of restricted stock, and were added to treasury stock. Furthermore, during 2023, an additional 3,066 shares, with a market value of \$108, or \$35.31 per share, were withheld from common stock issued upon the vesting of restricted stock units to settle employee taxes due upon vesting.

NOTE 16—COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Purchase Commitments

Purchase obligations are generally for the purchase of goods and services in the ordinary course of business. Griffon uses blanket purchase orders to communicate expected requirements to certain vendors. Purchase obligations reflect those purchase orders where the commitment is considered to be firm. Amounts purchased under such commitments were \$184,422, \$255,661 and \$235,148 for the years ended September 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively. Aggregate future minimum purchase obligations at September 30, 2023 are \$160,539 in 2024 and \$3,622 in 2025. There were no purchase obligations after 2025.

Legal and environmental

Peekskill Site. Lightron Corporation (“Lightron”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Griffon, once conducted lamp manufacturing and metal finishing operations at a location in the Town of Cortlandt, New York, just outside the city of Peekskill, New York (the “Peekskill Site”) which was owned by ISC Properties, Inc. (“ISCP”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Griffon, for approximately three years. ISCP sold the Peekskill Site in November 1982.

Based upon studies conducted by ISCP and the New York Department of Environmental Conservation, soils and groundwater beneath the Peekskill Site contain chlorinated solvents and metals. Stream sediments downgradient from the Peekskill Site also contain metals. On May 15, 2019 the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) added the Peekskill Site to the National Priorities List under CERCLA and has since reached agreement with Lightron and ISCP pursuant to which Lightron and ISCP will perform a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (“RI/FS”). Performance of the RI/FS is expected to be completed in calendar 2024.

Lightron has not engaged in any operations in over three decades. ISCP functioned solely as a real estate holding company and has not held any real property in over three decades. Griffon does not acknowledge any responsibility to perform any investigation or remediation at the Peekskill Site. One

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of Griffon's insurers is defending Lightron, ISCP and Griffon subject to a reservation of rights and is paying the costs of the RI/FS.

Memphis, TN site. Hunter Fan Company ("Hunter") operated headquarters and a production plant in Memphis, TN for over 50 years (the "Memphis Site"). While Hunter completed certain on-site remediation of PCB-contaminated soils, Hunter did not investigate the extent to which PCBs existed beneath the building itself nor determine whether off-site areas had been impacted. Hunter vacated the site approximately twenty years ago, and the on-site buildings have now been demolished.

The State of Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation ("TDEC") identified the Memphis site as being potentially contaminated, raising the possibility that site operations could have resulted in soil and groundwater contamination involving volatile organic compounds and metals. In 2021, the TDEC performed a preliminary assessment of the site and recommended to the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") that it include the site on the National Priorities List established under CERCLA. The TDEC further recommended that the EPA fund an investigation of potential soil gas contamination in receptors near the site. The TDEC has also indicated that it will proceed with this investigation if the EPA does not act.

It is unknown whether the EPA will add the Memphis Site to the National Priorities List, whether a site investigation will reveal contamination and, if there is contamination, the extent of any such contamination. However, given that certain PCB work was not completed in the past and the TDEC's stated intent for the EPA to perform an investigation (and the statement by the TDEC that it will perform the investigation if the EPA will not), liability is probable in this matter. There are other potentially responsible parties for this site, including a former owner of Hunter; Hunter has notified such former owner of this matter, which may have certain liability for any required remediation.

If the EPA decides to add this site to the National Priorities List, a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study ("RI/FS") will be required. Hunter expects that the EPA will ask it to perform this work. If Hunter does not reach an agreement with the EPA to perform this work, the EPA will implement the RI/FS on its own. Should the EPA implement the RI/FS or perform further studies and/or subsequently remediate the site without first reaching an agreement with one or more relevant parties, the EPA would likely seek reimbursement from such parties, including Hunter, for the costs incurred.

General legal

Griffon is subject to various laws and regulations relating to the protection of the environment and is a party to legal proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. Management believes, based on facts presently known to it, that the resolution of the matters above and such other matters will not have a material adverse effect on Griffon's consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

NOTE 17—EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic EPS (and diluted EPS in periods when a loss exists) was calculated by dividing income available to common shareholders by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted EPS was calculated by dividing income available to common shareholders by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding plus additional common shares that could be issued in connection with stock-based compensation.

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The following table is a reconciliation of the share amounts (in thousands) used in computing basic and diluted EPS for 2023, 2022 and 2021:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Common shares outstanding.....	53,062	57,064	56,613
Unallocated ESOP shares	(196)	(1,025)	(1,863)
Non-vested restricted stock.....	(3,111)	(3,457)	(3,601)
Impact of weighted average shares	<u>2,356</u>	<u>(910)</u>	<u>(319)</u>
Weighted average shares outstanding—basic.....	52,111	51,672	50,830
Incremental shares from stock based compensation.....	<u>2,501</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>2,539</u>
Weighted average shares outstanding—diluted.....	<u>54,612</u>	<u>51,672</u>	<u>53,369</u>
Anti-dilutive restricted stock excluded from diluted EPS computation.....	—	2,294	—

Shares of the ESOP that have been allocated to employee accounts are treated as outstanding in determining earnings per share.

NOTE 18—RELATED PARTIES

On September 5, 2023 Griffon entered into a stock purchase agreement to repurchase 400,000 shares of its common stock, par value \$0.25 per share, beneficially owned by two separately managed accounts of which Voss Capital, LLC is the investment manager (the “Selling Shareholders”), in a private transaction to facilitate redemptions by investors in the Selling Shareholders. The purchase price per share was approximately \$41.87, for an aggregate purchase price of \$16,746. The Selling Shareholders are affiliates of Voss Capital, LLC. Travis W. Cocke, the Founder, Chief Investment Officer and Managing Member of Voss Capital, LLC, is a member of the Board of Directors of the Company.

NOTE 19—REPORTABLE SEGMENTS

Griffon conducts its operations through two reportable segments, as follows:

- Home and Building Products (“HBP”) conducts its operations through Clopay Corporation (“Clopay”). Founded in 1964, Clopay is the largest manufacturer and marketer of garage doors and rolling steel doors in North America. Residential and commercial sectional garage doors are sold through professional dealers and leading home center retail chains throughout North America under the brands Clopay, Ideal, and Holmes. Rolling steel door and grille products designed for commercial, industrial, institutional, and retail use are sold under the Cornell and Cookson brands.
- Consumer and Professional Products (“CPP”) is a leading global provider of branded consumer and professional tools; residential, industrial and commercial fans; home storage and organization products; and products that enhance indoor and outdoor lifestyles. CPP sells products globally through a portfolio of leading brands including AMES, since 1774, Hunter, since 1886, True Temper, and ClosetMaid.

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Information on Griffon's reportable segments from continuing operations is as follows:

	<u>For the Years Ended September 30,</u>		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Revenue			
Home and Building Products	\$1,588,505	\$1,506,882	\$1,041,108
Consumer and Professional Products.....	<u>1,096,678</u>	<u>1,341,606</u>	<u>1,229,518</u>
Total revenue	<u>\$2,685,183</u>	<u>\$2,848,488</u>	<u>\$2,270,626</u>

Griffon evaluates performance and allocates resources based on segment adjusted EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA, non GAAP measures, defined as income before taxes from continuing operations, excluding interest income and expense, depreciation and amortization, strategic review charges, non-cash impairment charges, restructuring charges, gain/loss from debt extinguishment, and acquisition related expenses, as well other items that may affect comparability, as applicable, non GAAP measures. Segment adjusted EBITDA also excludes unallocated amounts, mainly corporate overhead. Griffon believes this information is useful to investors for the same reason.

The following table provides a reconciliation of segment adjusted EBITDA to income (loss) before taxes from continuing operations:

	<u>For the Years Ended September 30,</u>		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Segment Adjusted EBITDA:			
Home and Building Products.....	\$ 510,876	\$ 412,738	\$181,015
Consumer and Professional Products	<u>50,343</u>	<u>99,308</u>	<u>115,673</u>
Segment Adjusted EBITDA	561,219	512,046	296,688
Unallocated amounts, excluding depreciation	<u>(55,887)</u>	<u>(53,888)</u>	<u>(50,278)</u>
Adjusted EBITDA.....	505,332	458,158	246,410
Net interest expense	(99,351)	(84,164)	(62,735)
Depreciation and amortization	(65,445)	(64,658)	(52,302)
Goodwill and intangible impairments	(109,200)	(517,027)	—
Restructuring charges	(92,468)	(16,782)	(21,418)
Debt extinguishment, net	(437)	(4,529)	—
Acquisition costs.....	—	(9,303)	—
Strategic review—retention and other.....	(20,225)	(9,683)	—
Special dividend ESOP charges	(15,494)	(10,538)	—
Gain on sale of buildings	12,655	—	—
Proxy expenses	(2,685)	(6,952)	—
Fair value step-up of acquired inventory sold....	<u>—</u>	<u>(5,401)</u>	<u>—</u>
Income (loss) before taxes from continuing operations	<u>\$ 112,682</u>	<u>\$(270,879)</u>	<u>\$109,955</u>

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	For the Years Ended September 30,		
	2023	2022	2021
<u>Depreciation and Amortization</u>			
Segment:			
Home and Building Products.....	\$15,066	\$16,539	\$17,370
Consumer and Professional Products	<u>49,811</u>	<u>47,562</u>	<u>34,433</u>
Total segment depreciation and amortization	64,877	64,101	51,803
Corporate.....	<u>568</u>	<u>557</u>	<u>499</u>
Total consolidated depreciation and amortization ...	<u>\$65,445</u>	<u>\$64,658</u>	<u>\$52,302</u>
<u>Capital Expenditures</u>			
Segment:			
Home and Building Products ⁽¹⁾	\$24,065	\$11,029	\$ 8,648
Consumer and Professional Products ⁽²⁾	<u>39,476</u>	<u>31,279</u>	<u>28,265</u>
Total segment.....	63,541	42,308	36,913
Corporate ⁽³⁾	<u>63</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>38</u>
Total consolidated capital expenditures	<u>\$63,604</u>	<u>\$42,488</u>	<u>\$36,951</u>

⁽¹⁾ During the year ended September 30, 2023, HBP's capital expenditures included approximately \$6,000 in connection with the purchase of HBP's Mason headquarters.

⁽²⁾ During the year ended September 30, 2023, CPP's capital expenditures included approximately \$23,207 in connection with the purchase of CPP's Ocala, Florida manufacturing facility. This above table excludes proceeds from the sale of real estate of approximately \$8,900.

⁽³⁾ During the year ended September 30, 2023, Corporate's capital expenditures exclude proceeds from the sale of real estate of approximately \$11,800.

	At September 30, 2023	At September 30, 2022
	<u>Assets</u>	
Segment assets:		
Home and Building Products.....	\$ 703,661	\$ 737,860
Consumer and Professional Products	<u>1,579,588</u>	<u>1,914,529</u>
Total segment assets	2,283,249	2,652,389
Corporate.....	<u>130,339</u>	<u>158,310</u>
Total continuing assets.....	2,413,588	2,810,699
Other discontinued operations	<u>5,291</u>	<u>5,775</u>
Consolidated total.....	<u>\$2,418,879</u>	<u>\$2,816,474</u>

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Disaggregation of Revenue

Revenue from contracts with customers is disaggregated by end markets, segments and geographic location, as it more accurately depicts the nature and amount of the Company's revenue.

	For the Years Ended September 30,		
	2023	2022	2021
Residential repair and remodel	\$ 757,088	\$ 736,525	\$ 516,995
Commercial.....	700,112	630,066	407,585
Residential new construction.....	131,305	140,291	116,528
Total Home and Building Products	1,588,505	1,506,882	1,041,108
Residential repair and remodel	377,775	392,490	185,896
Retail.....	267,046	456,735	577,839
Residential new construction.....	51,093	45,243	50,437
Industrial	78,308	76,430	43,411
International excluding North America	322,456	370,708	371,935
Total Consumer and Professional Products	1,096,678	1,341,606	1,229,518
Total Revenue	\$2,685,183	\$2,848,488	\$2,270,626

The following table presents revenue disaggregated by geography based on the location of the Company's customer:

	For the Year Ended September 30, 2023		
	Home and Building Products	Consumer and Professional Products	Total
Revenue by Geographic Area—Destination			
United States	\$1,515,479	\$ 716,098	\$2,231,577
Europe	18	51,041	51,059
Canada	62,897	75,477	138,374
Australia.....	—	231,764	231,764
All other countries	10,111	22,298	32,409
Total Revenue	\$1,588,505	\$1,096,678	\$2,685,183

	For the Year Ended September 30, 2022		
	Home and Building Products	Consumer and Professional Products	Total
Revenue by Geographic Area—Destination			
United States	\$1,437,085	\$ 858,956	\$2,296,041
Europe	60	106,471	106,531
Canada	57,916	92,930	150,846
Australia.....	—	258,945	258,945
All other countries	11,821	24,304	36,125
Total Revenue	\$1,506,882	\$1,341,606	\$2,848,488

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS—(Continued)

(US dollars and non-US currencies in thousands, except per share data)

	For the Year Ended September 30, 2021		
	Home and Building Products	Consumer and Professional Products	Total
Revenue by Geographic Area—Destination			
United States	\$ 986,925	\$ 766,150	\$1,753,075
Europe	72	123,607	123,679
Canada	44,661	85,676	130,337
Australia.....	—	244,674	244,674
All other countries	9,450	9,411	18,861
Total Revenue	<u>\$1,041,108</u>	<u>\$1,229,518</u>	<u>\$2,270,626</u>

As a percentage of segment revenue, HBP sales to The Home Depot approximated 9%, 7% and 10% in 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively; CPP sales to The Home Depot approximated 15%, 19% and 26% in 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

As a percentage of Griffon's consolidated revenue, sales to The Home Depot approximated 12%, 13% and 19% in 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

NOTE 20—OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE)

For the year ended September 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021, Other income (expense) from continuing operations of \$2,928, \$6,881 and \$2,107, respectively, includes \$302, \$305 and \$(81), respectively, of net currency exchange transaction gains (losses) from receivables and payables held in non-functional currencies, \$469, \$(225) and \$283, respectively, of net gains or (losses) on investments, and \$(866), \$4,256 and \$907, respectively, of net periodic benefit plan income (expense). Other income (expense) also includes rental income of \$212, \$689 and \$624 in 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively. Additionally, it includes royalty income of 2,104 and \$2,250 for the years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

NOTE 21—OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

The amounts recognized in other comprehensive income (loss) were as follows:

	Years Ended September 30,								
	2023			2022			2021		
	Pre-tax	Tax	Net of tax	Pre-tax	Tax	Net of tax	Pre-tax	Tax	Net of tax
Foreign currency translation adjustments	\$ 8,447	\$ —	\$ 8,447	\$(37,920)	\$ —	\$(37,920)	\$ 6,433	\$ —	\$ 6,433
Pension and other defined benefit plans	8,418	(1,784)	6,634	1,907	(404)	1,503	22,583	(4,787)	17,796
Cash flow hedge.....	(3,363)	1,010	(2,353)	(491)	147	(344)	2,694	(808)	1,886
Total other comprehensive income (loss).....	<u>\$13,502</u>	<u>\$ (774)</u>	<u>\$12,728</u>	<u>\$(36,504)</u>	<u>\$(257)</u>	<u>\$(36,761)</u>	<u>\$31,710</u>	<u>\$(5,595)</u>	<u>\$26,115</u>

GRIFFON CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS—(Continued)
(US dollars and non-US currencies in thousands, except per share data)

The components of Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) are as follows:

	<u>At September 30,</u>	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Foreign currency translation	(48,723)	(57,170)
Pension and other defined benefit plans	(20,665)	(27,299)
Cash flow hedge	(622)	1,731
Total	<u>\$(70,010)</u>	<u>\$(82,738)</u>

Total comprehensive income (loss) were as follows:

	<u>For the Years Ended September 30,</u>		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Net income (loss)	\$77,617	\$(191,558)	\$ 79,211
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of taxes ..	<u>12,728</u>	<u>(36,761)</u>	<u>26,115</u>
Comprehensive income (loss)	<u>\$90,345</u>	<u>\$(228,319)</u>	<u>\$105,326</u>

Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) to income (loss) were as follows:

	<u>For the Years Ended September 30,</u>		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Gain (Loss)			
Pension amortization	\$(3,777)	\$(3,379)	\$(6,292)
Cash flow hedges	<u>1,678</u>	<u>4,741</u>	<u>(2,204)</u>
Total before tax	(2,099)	1,362	(8,496)
Tax	<u>441</u>	<u>(286)</u>	<u>1,784</u>
Net of tax	<u>\$(1,658)</u>	<u>\$ 1,076</u>	<u>\$(6,712)</u>

NOTE 22—LEASES

The Company recognizes right-of-use (“ROU”) assets and lease liabilities on the balance sheet, with the exception of leases with a term of twelve months or less. The Company determines if an arrangement is a lease at inception. The ROU assets and short and long-term liabilities associated with our Operating leases are shown as separate line items on our Consolidated Balance Sheets. Finance leases are included in property, plant, and equipment, net, other accrued liabilities, and other non-current liabilities. The Company’s finance leases are immaterial. ROU assets, along with any other related long-lived assets, are periodically evaluated for impairment.

ROU assets represent our right to use an underlying asset for the lease term and lease liabilities represent our obligation to make lease payments arising from the lease. ROU assets and liabilities are recognized at the lease commencement date based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term. Lease payments primarily include rent and insurance costs (lease components). The Company’s leases also include non-lease components such as real estate taxes and common-area maintenance costs. The Company elected the practical expedient to account for lease and non-lease components as a single component. In certain of the Company’s leases, the non-lease components are variable and in accordance with the standard are therefore excluded from lease payments to determine the ROU asset. As most of our leases do not provide an implicit rate, we use our incremental borrowing rate based on the information available at the commencement date in determining the present value of lease payments. We use the implicit rate when readily determinable. Our

GRIFFON CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS—(Continued)

(US dollars and non-US currencies in thousands, except per share data)

determination of the lease term may include options to extend or terminate the lease when it is reasonably certain that we will exercise that option.

For operating leases, fixed lease payments are recognized as operating lease cost on a straight-line basis over the lease term. For finance leases and impaired operating leases, the ROU asset is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the remaining lease term, along with recognition of interest expense associated with accretion of the lease liability. For leases with a lease term of 12 months or less (a “Short-term” lease), any fixed lease payments are recognized on a straight-line basis over such term, and are not recognized on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Variable lease cost for both operating and finance leases, if any, is recognized as incurred. Components of operating lease costs are as follows:

	For the Year Ended September 30,		
	2023	2022	2021
Fixed.....	\$45,993	\$44,457	\$38,362
Variable ^{(a), (b)}	10,654	8,615	7,573
Short-term ^(b)	7,717	7,438	4,210
Total	\$64,364	\$60,510	\$50,145

^(a) Primarily related to common-area maintenance and property taxes.

^(b) Not recorded on the balance sheet.

Supplemental cash flow information were as follows:

	For the Year Ended September 30,		
	2023	2022	2021
Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities:			
Operating cash flows from operating leases	\$41,533	\$47,275	\$43,444
Financing cash flows from finance leases	2,164	2,462	3,815
Total	\$43,697	\$49,737	\$47,259

GRIFFON CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS—(Continued)
(US dollars and non-US currencies in thousands, except per share data)

Supplemental Consolidated Balance Sheet information related to leases were as follows:

	As of September 30,	
	2023	2022
Operating Leases:		
Right of use assets:		
Operating right-of-use assets	\$169,942	\$183,398
Lease Liabilities:		
Current portion of operating lease liabilities	\$ 32,632	\$ 31,680
Long-term operating lease liabilities	147,224	159,414
Total operating lease liabilities.....	\$179,856	\$191,094
Finance Leases:		
Right of use assets:		
Property, plant and equipment, net ⁽¹⁾	\$ 994	\$ 13,696
Lease Liabilities:		
Notes payable and current portion of long-term debt	\$ 280	\$ 2,065
Long-term debt, net	184	11,995
Total financing lease liabilities	\$ 464	\$ 14,060

⁽¹⁾ For the years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, finance lease assets are recorded net of accumulated depreciation of \$6,769 and \$4,972, respectively.

On September 28, 2023, the Company closed on the exercise of its lease purchase option, as permitted under the lease agreement, to acquire ownership of the manufacturing facility located in Ocala, Florida for a cash purchase price of \$23,207. The Ocala lease had a maturity date in 2025 and bore interest at a fixed rate of approximately 5.6%. As a result of exercising the purchase option, the Company no longer has any future lease obligations related to this real estate. During the year ended September 30, 2022, the financing lease on the Troy, Ohio location expired. The Troy lease bore interest at a rate of approximately 5.0%, was secured by a mortgage on the real estate, which was guaranteed by Griffon, and had a one dollar buyout at the end of the lease. Griffon exercised the one dollar buyout option in November 2021. The remaining lease liability balance relates to finance equipment leases.

The aggregate future maturities of lease payments for operating leases and finance leases as of September 30, 2023 are as follows (in thousands):

	Operating Leases	Finance Leases
2024.....	\$ 41,955	\$297
2025.....	35,233	123
2026.....	26,504	65
2027.....	22,473	4
2028.....	18,185	—
Thereafter.....	83,456	—
Total lease payments.....	227,806	489
Less: Imputed Interest	(47,950)	(25)
Present value of lease liabilities	\$179,856	\$464

GRIFFON CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS—(Continued)
(US dollars and non-US currencies in thousands, except per share data)

Average lease terms and discount rates were as follows:

	<u>As of September 30,</u>	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Weighted-average remaining lease term (years)		
Operating Leases.....	7.9	8.4
Finance Leases	3.3	7.4
Weighted-average discount rate		
Operating Leases.....	5.94%	5.47%
Finance Leases	5.65%	5.51%

NOTE 23—SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On November 14, 2023, the Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of \$0.15 per share, payable on December 14, 2023 to shareholders of record as of the close of business on November 28, 2023. Griffon currently intends to pay dividends each quarter; however, payment of dividends is determined by the Board of Directors, at its discretion, based on various factors, and no assurance can be provided as to the payment of future dividends.

Subsequent to September 30, 2023 and through November 14, 2023, Griffon purchased 1,127,062 shares of its common stock for a total of \$44,980, or \$39.91 per share under Board authorized share repurchase programs. On November 15, 2023, Griffon announced a \$200,000 increase to its share repurchase program which on November 15, 2023 had \$262,203 available given effect to all repurchases through November 14, 2023.

On November 15, 2023, Griffon granted 174,104 shares of restricted stock and restricted stock units to 43 executives and key employees, subject to certain performance conditions, with a vesting period of thirty-six months, with a total fair value of \$8,225, or a weighted average fair value of \$47.24 per share.

SCHEDULE II

GRIFFON CORPORATION
VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS
For the Years Ended September 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021
(in thousands)

<u>Description</u>	<u>Balance at Beginning of Year</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Other (1)</u>	<u>Balance at End of Year</u>
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$12,137	\$ 971	\$ (1,186)	\$ (658)	\$11,264
Inventory valuation ⁽²⁾	\$22,875	\$44,570	\$(11,692)	\$ (16)	\$55,737
Deferred tax valuation allowance	\$13,490	\$ 4,502	\$ —	\$ —	\$17,992
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2022					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 8,787	\$ 1,172	\$ (251)	\$2,429	\$12,137
Inventory valuation.....	\$31,605	\$ 4,725	\$(14,103)	\$ 648	\$22,875
Deferred tax valuation allowance	\$10,425	\$ 4,330	\$ (1,265)	\$ —	\$13,490
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 8,178	\$ 795	\$ (393)	\$ 207	\$ 8,787
Inventory valuation.....	\$18,903	\$24,400	\$(12,099)	\$ 401	\$31,605
Deferred tax valuation allowance	\$ 9,824	\$ 601	\$ —	\$ —	\$10,425

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- ⁽¹⁾ For the year ended September 30, 2022, Other primarily consists of foreign currency and opening balances of reserves assumed from the Hunter acquisition. See Note 6 for the detail on the Allowance for Doubtful Accounts.
- ⁽²⁾ In connection with the Company's restructuring activities described in Note 10, Restructuring Charges, during the year ended September 30, 2023, CPP recorded an inventory impairment charge of \$37,100 to adjust to net realizable value.

Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

Not applicable.

Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation and Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Griffon's management, with the participation of its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of Griffon's disclosure controls and procedures, as defined by Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e). Based on that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that, as of September 30, 2023, Griffon's disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Griffon's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Griffon's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed under the supervision of its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of Griffon's financial statements for external reporting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Management evaluates the effectiveness of Griffon's internal control over financial reporting using the criteria set forth by the 2013 Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in Internal Control—Integrated Framework. Management, under the supervision and with the participation of Griffon's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, assessed the effectiveness of Griffon's internal control over financial reporting as of September 30, 2023 and concluded that it is effective.

Griffon's internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Griffon's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that:

- (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of Griffon's assets;
- (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that Griffon's receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorizations of Griffon's management and directors; and
- (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of Griffon's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Management, including Griffon's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, does not expect that Griffon's internal controls will prevent or detect all errors and all fraud. A control system, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of internal controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, have been detected. Also, any evaluation of the effectiveness of controls in future periods is subject to the risk that those internal controls may become inadequate because of changes in business conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Griffon's independent registered public accounting firm, Grant Thornton LLP, has audited the effectiveness of Griffon's internal control over financial reporting as of September 30, 2023, and has expressed an unqualified opinion in their report which appears in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Changes in Internal Controls

During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, we integrated the Hunter business into Griffon's disclosure controls and procedures, and as of September 30, 2023, Hunter is included in our assessment of the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting. There were no changes in Griffon's internal control over financial reporting identified in connection with the evaluation referred to above that occurred during the fourth quarter of the year ended September 30, 2023 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Item 9B. Other Information

Rule 10b5-1 Trading Plans

During the fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2023, none of our directors or executive officers adopted or terminated any contract, instruction or written plan for the purchase or sale of our securities to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c) or any "non-Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangement."

Item 9C. Disclosure Regarding Foreign Jurisdictions that Prevent Inspections.

None.

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Griffon has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized on the 15th day of November 2023.

GRIFFON CORPORATION

By: /s/ RONALD J. KRAMER

Ronald J. Kramer,
Chief Executive Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below on November 15, 2023 by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant in the capacities indicated:

<u>/s/ RONALD J. KRAMER</u> Ronald J. Kramer	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)
<u>/s/ BRIAN G. HARRIS</u> Brian G. Harris	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)
<u>/s/ W. CHRISTOPHER DURBOROW</u> W. Christopher Durborow	Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting Officer)
<u>/s/ HENRY A. ALPERT</u> Henry A. Alpert	Director
<u>/s/ JEROME L. COBEN</u> Jerome L. Coben	Director
<u>/s/ TRAVIS W. COCKE</u> Travis W. Cocke	Director
<u>/s/ H. C. CHARLES DIAO</u> H. C. Charles Diao	Director
<u>/s/ LOUIS J. GRABOWSKY</u> Louis J. Grabowsky	Director
<u>/s/ LACY M. JOHNSON</u> Lacy M. Johnson	Director
<u>/s/ VICTOR EUGENE RENUART</u> Victor Eugene Renuart	Director
<u>/s/ JAMES W. SIGHT</u> James W. Sight	Director
<u>/s/ SAMANTA HEGEDUS STEWART</u> Samanta Hegedus Stewart	Director
<u>/s/ KEVIN F. SULLIVAN</u> Kevin F. Sullivan	Director
<u>/s/ MICHELLE L. TAYLOR</u> Michelle L. Taylor	Director
<u>/s/ CHERYL L. TURNBULL</u> Cheryl L. Turnbull	Director

Certification

I, Ronald J. Kramer, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Griffon Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 15, 2023

/s/ RONALD J. KRAMER

Ronald J. Kramer
Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

Certification

I, Brian G. Harris, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Griffon Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 15, 2023

/s/ BRIAN G. HARRIS

Brian G. Harris
Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)

**CERTIFICATIONS PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Ronald J. Kramer, Chief Executive Officer of Griffon Corporation, hereby certify that the Form 10-K of Griffon Corporation for the period ended September 30, 2023 fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the information contained in such report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of Griffon Corporation.

/s/ RONALD J. KRAMER

Name: Ronald J. Kramer

Date: November 15, 2023

I, Brian G. Harris, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Griffon Corporation, hereby certify that the Form 10-K of Griffon Corporation for the period ended September 30, 2023 fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the information contained in such report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of Griffon Corporation.

/s/ BRIAN G. HARRIS

Name: Brian G. Harris

Date: November 15, 2023

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 has been provided to Griffon Corporation and will be retained by Griffon Corporation and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

GAAP to NON-GAAP RECONCILIATION

<u>FREE CASH FLOW</u>	<u>For the Years Ended September 30,</u>	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	(in thousands)	
Net cash provided by operating activities - continuing operations	\$431,765	\$ 59,240
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	(63,604)	(42,488)
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	<u>20,961</u>	<u>90</u>
Free Cash Flow.....	<u>\$389,122</u>	<u>\$ 16,842</u>



COMPANY PROFILE

HOME AND BUILDING PRODUCTS

Clopay Corporation, since 1964, is the largest manufacturer and marketer of garage doors and rolling steel doors in North America. Residential and commercial sectional garage doors are sold through professional dealers and leading home center retail chains throughout North America under the brands Clopay, Ideal, and Holmes. Rolling steel door and grille products designed for commercial, industrial, institutional, and retail use are sold under the Cornell and Cookson brands. More information is available at www.clopay.com and www.cornellcookson.com.

CONSUMER AND PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

The AMES Companies is a leading global provider of branded consumer and professional tools; residential, industrial and commercial fans; home storage and organization products; and products that enhance indoor and outdoor lifestyles. Consumer and Professional Products sells products globally through a portfolio of leading brands including AMES, since 1774, Hunter, since 1886, True Temper, and ClosetMaid. More information is available at www.ames.com, www.closetmaid.com and www.hunterfan.com.

DIRECTORS

Henry A. Alpert
President, Spartan Petroleum Corp.
(petroleum distributor/real estate)

Jerome L. Coben
Partner (Ret.)
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher and Flom LLP

Travis W. Cocke
Founder and Chief Investment Officer
Voss Capital

H. C. Charles Diao
Senior Vice President, Finance and
Corporate Treasurer
Bally's Corporation

Louis J. Grabowsky
Co-Founder and Principal, Juniper Capital
Management

Lacy M. Johnson
Partner
Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP

Ronald J. Kramer
Chairman of the Board and
Chief Executive Officer

General Victor Eugene Renuart
USAF (Ret.)
President, The Renuart Group, LLC
(defense consulting firm)

James W. Sight
Private Investor

Samanta Hegedus Stewart
Consumer, Technology and Financial Services
Practices, Egon Zehnder

Kevin F. Sullivan
Retired Executive

Michelle L. Taylor
Director, New Product Quality
Trane Technologies

Cheryl L. Turnbull
Senior Director – New Ventures and Venture
Capital, The Ohio State University

OFFICERS

Ronald J. Kramer
Chairman of the Board and
Chief Executive Officer

Robert F. Mehmel
President and
Chief Operating Officer

Brian G. Harris
Senior Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

Seth L. Kaplan
Senior Vice President,
General Counsel and Secretary

Michael A. Sarrica
Senior Vice President, Operations

W. Christopher Durborow
Vice President and
Chief Accounting Officer

Michael W. Hansen
Vice President, Corporate Strategy
and Development

Denise A. Lueders
Vice President, Taxation

Christine J. Guerriero
Controller

Meghan M. Faney
Treasurer

Independent Registered Public Accountants

Grant Thornton LLP

Stock Listing

The company's Common Stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the symbol GFF.

Registrar and Transfer Agent

American Stock Transfer &
Trust Company

Additional copies of this report will be furnished to shareholders upon written request to the company at:

Griffon Corporation
Attn. Secretary
712 Fifth Avenue, 18th Floor
New York, New York 10019

Website

www.griffon.com

Griffon Corporation has included as exhibits to its Annual Report on Form 10-K for fiscal year 2023 filed with the SEC certifications of Griffon's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer certifying the quality of the company's public disclosures. Griffon's Chief Executive Officer has also submitted to the NYSE a certification that he is not aware of any violations by Griffon of the NYSE corporate governance listing standards.

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