

Kimball Electronics, Inc.
Form 10-K
August 28, 2015

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

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

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

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number 001-36454

KIMBALL ELECTRONICS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Indiana

35-2047713

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

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

1205 Kimball Boulevard, Jasper, Indiana

47546

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

(812) 634-4000

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

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

Title of each Class

Name of each exchange on which registered

Common Stock, no par value

The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

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 15(d) of the Act. Yes No

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

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

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

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

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

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(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

Yes No

The aggregate market value of the common stock held by non-affiliates, as of December 31, 2014 (the last business day of the Registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter), was \$343.6 million based on 98.1% of common stock held by non-affiliates.

The number of shares outstanding of the Registrant's common stock as of August 18, 2015 was 29,171,749 shares.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Share Owners to be held on October 21, 2015, are incorporated by reference into Part III.

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PART I

Item 1 - Business

General

As used herein, the terms “Company,” “Kimball Electronics,” “we,” “us,” or “our” refer to Kimball Electronics, Inc., the Registrant, and its subsidiaries. Reference to a year relates to a fiscal year, ended June 30 of the year indicated, rather than a calendar year unless the context indicates otherwise. Additionally, references to the first, second, third, and fourth quarters refer to those respective quarters of the fiscal year indicated.

Overview

Kimball Electronics, Inc. was a wholly owned subsidiary of Kimball International, Inc. (“former Parent” or “Kimball International”) and as of 5:00 p.m. New York time on October 31, 2014 became a stand-alone public company upon the completion of a spin-off from former Parent. In conjunction with the spin-off, on October 31, 2014, Kimball International distributed 29.1 million shares of Kimball Electronics common stock to Kimball International Share Owners. Holders of Kimball International common stock received three shares of Kimball Electronics common stock for every four shares of Kimball International common stock held on October 22, 2014. Kimball International structured the distribution to be tax free to its U.S. Share Owners for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Kimball Electronics was incorporated in 1998 and is a global provider of engineering, manufacturing, and supply chain services to customers in the automotive, medical, industrial, and public safety end markets. We offer a package of value that begins with our core competency of producing “durable electronics” and includes our set of robust processes and procedures that help us ensure that we deliver the highest levels of quality, reliability, and service throughout the entire life cycle of our customers’ products. We believe our customers appreciate our body of knowledge as it relates to the design and manufacture of their products that require durability, reliability, the highest levels of quality control, and regulatory compliance. We deliver award-winning service from our highly integrated global footprint which is enabled by a common operating system, a standardization strategy, global procedures, and teamwork. Our Customer Relationship Management (“CRM”) model is key to providing our customers convenient access to our global footprint and all of our services throughout the entire product life cycle, making us easy to do business with. Because our customers are in businesses where engineering changes must be tightly controlled and long product life cycles are common, our track record of quality, financial stability, social responsibility, and commitment to long-term relationships is important to them.

We have been producing safety critical electronic assemblies for our automotive customers for over 30 years. During this time, we have built up a body of knowledge that has not only proven to be valuable to our automotive customers, but to our medical, industrial, and public safety customers as well. We have been successful in growing and diversifying our business by leveraging our automotive experience and know-how in the areas of design and process validation, traceability, process and change control, and lean manufacturing to create valuable and innovative solutions for new customers in the medical, industrial, and public safety end market verticals. We have harmonized our quality systems to be compliant with various important industry certifications and regulatory requirements. This allows us to take advantage of other strategic points of leverage in the supply chain and within our operations so we can cost-effectively manufacture products for customers from all four of our end market verticals in the same production facility.

Many of our customers are multinational companies that sell their products in multiple regions of the world. For these customers, it is important for them to be able to leverage their investment in their supply partner relationships such that the same partner provides them with engineering, manufacturing, and supply chain services in multiple regions of the world. It is common for us to manufacture the same product for the same customer in multiple locations. Our strategy for expanding our global footprint has aligned us with the preferences of the customers in our four end market verticals and has positioned us well to support their global growth initiatives. Our global systems, procedures, processes, and teamwork combined with our CRM model have allowed us to accomplish this goal for many of our largest customers.

Our global processes and central functions that support component sourcing, procurement, quoting and customer pricing provide commonality and consistency among the various regions in which we operate. We have a central,

global purchasing organization that utilizes procurement processes and practices to help secure sources from around the world and to ensure sufficient availability of components and a uniform approach to pricing while leveraging the purchase volume of the entire organization. Customer pricing for all of the products we produce is managed centrally utilizing a standardized quoting model regardless of where our customers request their products to be produced. Our CRM model combines members of our team from within our manufacturing facilities and members of our business development team who reside remotely and nearer to our customers around the world. We also have cross functional teams in the areas of quality, operational excellence, quoting and design engineering with representatives from our various locations that

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provide support to our teams on a global basis. The skill sets of these team members and the clarity in their roles and responsibilities help provide our customers with a strong conduit that is critical to execution and forming a strong relationship. We have institutionalized a customer scorecard process that provides all levels of our company with valuable feedback that helps us drive the actions for continuous improvement. Our customer scorecard process has helped us deliver award-winning service and build loyalty with our customers.

Our corporate headquarters is located at 1205 Kimball Boulevard, Jasper, Indiana. Production occurs in our facilities located in the United States, Mexico, Thailand, China, and Poland.

Our services are sold globally on a contract basis and we produce products to our customers' specifications. Our engineering, manufacturing, and supply chain services primarily include:

• Design services;

• Rapid prototyping and new product introduction support;

• Production and testing of printed circuit board assemblies (PCBAs);

• Industrialization and automation of manufacturing processes;

• Product design and process validation and qualification;

• Reliability testing (testing of products under a series of extreme environmental conditions);

• Assembly, production, and packaging of other related non-electronic products;

• Supply chain services; and

• Complete product life cycle management.

We pride ourselves on the fact that we pay close attention to the evolving needs and preferences of our customers. As we have done in the past, we will continue to look for opportunities to grow and diversify our business by expanding our package of value and our global footprint.

Our Competitive Strengths

Our competitive strengths derive from our experience of producing safety critical electronic assemblies for automotive customers for over 30 years and leveraging this experience to create valuable and innovative solutions for customers in different industries. Our core strengths include:

• Our core competency of producing durable electronics;

• Our body of knowledge as it relates to the design and manufacture of products that require high levels of quality control, reliability, and durability;

• Our highly integrated, global footprint;

• Our CRM model and our customer scorecard process;

• Our ability to provide our customers with valuable input regarding designs for improved manufacturability, reliability, and cost;

• Our quality systems, industry certifications and regulatory compliance;

• Our integrated supply chain solutions and competitive bid process resulting in competitive raw material pricing; and

• Complete product life cycle management.

Our Business Strategy

We intend to achieve sustained, profitable growth in the markets we serve by supporting the global growth initiatives of our customers. Key elements of executing our strategy include:

• Expanding Our Global Footprint – continue our strategy with expansion in Europe, Asia, and Americas, including new potential country locations and/or facility expansion as our customer demands dictate; and

• Expanding Our Package of Value – enhance our core strengths and expand upon our package of value in areas such as complex system assembly, specialized processes, precision metals, and plastics.

Emerging Growth Company Status

We qualify as an “emerging growth company” as defined in the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act (the “JOBS Act”). For as long as a company is deemed to be an “emerging growth company,” it may take advantage of specified reduced reporting and other regulatory requirements that are generally unavailable to other public companies. These provisions include:

an exemption from the auditor attestation requirement in the assessment of the “emerging growth company’s” internal control over financial reporting under Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (the “Sarbanes-Oxley Act”); an exemption from the adoption of new or revised financial accounting standards until they would apply to private companies;

an exemption from compliance with any new requirements adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (the “PCAOB”) requiring mandatory audit firm rotation or a supplement to the auditor’s report in which the auditor would be required to provide additional information about the audit and the financial statements of the issuer; reduced disclosure about the “emerging growth company’s” executive compensation arrangements; and an exemption from the requirements of holding a nonbinding advisory vote on executive compensation and the requirement to obtain Share Owner approval of any golden parachutes not previously approved.

Section 107 of the JOBS Act provides that an “emerging growth company” can take advantage of the extended transition period provided in Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), for complying with new or revised accounting standards. In other words, an “emerging growth company” can delay the adoption of certain accounting standards until those standards would otherwise apply to private companies. We have elected to take advantage of this extended transition period. Our financial statements may therefore not be comparable to those of companies that comply with such new or revised accounting standards.

We would cease to be an “emerging growth company” upon the earliest of:

the last day of the fiscal year following the fifth anniversary of the date of the first sale of our common stock pursuant to an effective registration statement filed under the Securities Act;

the last day of the fiscal year in which our total annual gross revenues exceed \$1 billion;

the date on which we have, during the previous three-year period, issued more than \$1 billion in non-convertible debt securities; or

the date on which we become a “large accelerated filer,” as defined in Rule 12b-2 under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), which would occur if the market value of our common stock held by non-affiliates exceeds \$700 million as of the last day of our most recently completed second fiscal quarter.

Our Business Offerings

We offer engineering, manufacturing, and supply chain services to customers in the automotive, medical, industrial, and public safety end markets. Our services support the complete product life cycle of our customers’ products and our processes and capabilities cover a range of products from high volume-low mix to high mix-low volume. We collaborate with third-party design services companies to bring innovative complete design solutions to our customers. We offer Design for Excellence input to our customers as a part of our standard package of value. We use sophisticated software tools to integrate the supply chain in a way that provides our customers with the flexibility their business requires. Our robust new product introduction process and our extensive manufacturing capabilities give us the ability to execute to the quality and reliability expectations in the electronics manufacturing industry.

We value our customers and their unique needs and expectations. Our customer focus and dedication to unparalleled excellence in engineering and manufacturing has resulted in proven success in the contract manufacturing industry.

Personal relationships are important to us. We strive to build long-term global partnerships. Our commitment to support our customers is backed by our history and demonstrated performance over the past 50 years.

Reporting Segment

Operating segments are defined as components of an enterprise for which separate financial information is available that is evaluated regularly by the chief operating decision maker, or decision making group, in deciding how to allocate resources and in assessing performance. Each of our business units qualifies as an operating segment with its results regularly reviewed by our chief operating decision maker. Our chief operating decision maker is our Chief Executive Officer. Our business units meet the aggregation criteria under the current accounting guidance for segment reporting. All of our business units operate in the electronic manufacturing services industry with engineering, manufacturing, and supply chain services that provide electronic assemblies primarily in automotive, medical, industrial and public safety applications, all to the specifications and designs of our customers. The nature of the products and services, the production process, the type of customers, and the methods used to distribute our products and services, all have similar characteristics. Each of our business units service customers in multiple markets and

many of our customers' programs are manufactured and serviced by multiple business units. Our global processes such as component procurement and customer pricing provide commonality and consistency among the

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various regions in which we operate. All of our business units have similar long-term economic characteristics. As such, our business units have been aggregated into one reportable segment. See Item 6 - Selected Financial Data for more information regarding the Company's financial results.

Locations

As of June 30, 2015, we have six manufacturing facilities with one located in each of Indiana, Florida, Poland, China, Mexico, and Thailand. We continually assess our capacity needs and evaluate our operations to optimize our service levels by geographic region. We are investing in an expansion of our manufacturing capacity in Europe with a greenfield startup facility in Timisoara, Romania, which is expected to be completed in the first half of our fiscal year 2016 with operations anticipated to begin mid-fiscal year 2016. See Item 1A - Risk Factors for information regarding financial and operational risks related to our international operations. Financial information by geographic area for each of the three years in the period ended June 30, 2015 is included in Note 15 - Geographic Information of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements and is incorporated herein by reference.

Marketing Channels

Manufacturing, engineering, and supply chain services are marketed by our business development team. We use a CRM model to provide our customers convenient access to our global footprint and all of our services throughout the entire product life cycle.

Major Competitive Factors

Key competitive factors in the electronic manufacturing services ("EMS") market include competitive pricing, quality and reliability, engineering design services, production flexibility, on-time delivery, customer lead time, test capability, and global presence. Growth in the EMS industry is created through the proliferation of electronic components in today's advanced products and the continuing trend of original equipment manufacturers in the electronics industry subcontracting the assembly process to companies with a core competence in this area. The nature of the EMS industry is such that the start-up of new customers and new programs to replace expiring programs occurs frequently. New customer and program start-ups generally cause losses early in the life of a program, which are generally recovered as the program becomes established and matures. We continue to experience margin pressures related to an overall excess capacity position in the electronics subcontracting services market. Our continuing success depends upon our ability to replace expiring customers/programs with new customers/programs.

We do not believe that we, or the industry in general, have any special practices or special conditions affecting working capital items that are significant for understanding our EMS business other than fluctuating inventory levels which may increase in conjunction with transfers of production among facilities and start-up of new programs.

Competitors

The EMS industry is very competitive as numerous manufacturers compete for business from existing and potential customers. Our competition includes EMS companies such as Benchmark Electronics, Inc., Jabil Circuit, Inc., and Plexus Corp. We do not have a significant share of the EMS market and were ranked the 19th largest global EMS provider for calendar year 2014 by Manufacturing Market Insider in the March 2015 edition.

Seasonality

Sales revenue of our EMS business is generally not affected by seasonality.

Raw Materials

Raw materials utilized in the manufacture of contract electronic products are generally readily available from both domestic and foreign sources, although from time to time the industry experiences shortages of certain components due to supply and demand forces, combined with rapid product life cycles of certain components. In addition, unforeseen events such as natural disasters can and have disrupted portions of the supply chain. We believe that maintaining close communication with suppliers helps minimize potential disruption in our supply chain.

Raw materials are normally acquired for specific customer orders and may or may not be interchangeable among products. Inherent risks associated with rapid technological changes within this contract industry are mitigated by procuring raw materials, for the most part, based on firm orders. We may also purchase additional inventory to support new product introductions and transfers of production between manufacturing facilities.

Customers

While the total electronic assemblies market has broad applications, our customers are concentrated in the automotive, medical, industrial, and public safety industries.

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Sales by industry as a percent of net sales for each of the three years in the period ended June 30, 2015 were as follows:

	Year Ended June 30		
	2015	2014	2013
Automotive	37%	37%	37%
Medical	30%	28%	30%
Industrial	24%	26%	23%
Public Safety	7%	7%	9%
Other	2%	2%	1%
Total	100%	100%	100%

See Note 15 - Geographic Information of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for financial information reported by geographic area.

Included in our sales were a significant amount to Johnson Controls, Inc. (“JCI”), Philips, and Regal Beloit Corporation, which accounted for the following portions of net sales:

	Year Ended June 30		
	2015	2014	2013
Johnson Controls, Inc.	4%	13%	17%
Philips	15%	12%	14%
Regal Beloit Corporation	9%	9%	10%

The nature of the contract business is such that start-up of new customers to replace expiring customers occurs frequently. Our agreements with customers are often not for a definitive term and are amended and extended — but generally continue for the relevant product’s life cycle which can be difficult to predict at the beginning of a program. Our customers generally have the right to cancel a particular product, subject to contractual provisions governing the final product runs, excess or obsolete inventory and end-of-life pricing, which reduces the additional costs that we incur when a product purchase agreement is terminated. We continue to focus on diversification of our customer base. As previously announced, volumes with JCI have declined in the current fiscal year due to certain JCI programs reaching end-of-life and JCI’s decision to in-source other programs. Volumes for one of our largest contracts with JCI, which accounted for approximately \$46 million in sales in fiscal year 2014, have declined in fiscal year 2015 to \$6 million as certain JCI programs reached end-of-life. In addition, during the second quarter of our prior fiscal year, due to available capacity, JCI decided to in-source other programs that are manufactured by us, which accounted for approximately \$33 million in sales during fiscal year 2014 and approximately \$16 million in sales during fiscal year 2015. The transition to JCI’s in-sourcing occurred in stages and began in our fourth quarter of fiscal year 2014 and is substantially complete. Gross profit as a percent of net sales on the JCI product approximates the overall Kimball Electronics gross margin percentage. A significant portion of that volume already has been and is expected to continue to be replaced with new business.

Backlog

The aggregate sales price of production pursuant to worldwide open orders, which may be canceled by the customer, was \$194.3 million and \$178.0 million as of June 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Substantially all of the open orders as of June 30, 2015 are expected to be filled within the next fiscal year. Open orders may not be indicative of future sales trends.

Research and Development

Research and development activities include the development of manufacturing processes, engineering and testing procedures, major process improvements, and information technology initiatives.

Research and development costs were approximately:

(Amounts in Millions)	Year Ended June 30		
	2015	2014	2013
Research and Development Costs	\$9	\$8	\$8

Intellectual Property

Our primary intellectual property is our proprietary manufacturing technology and processes which allow us to provide very competitive electronic manufacturing services to our customers. As such, this intellectual property is complex and normally contained within our facilities. The nature of this know-how does not lend itself well to traditional patent protection. In addition, we feel the best protection strategy involves maintaining our intellectual property as trade secrets because there is no disclosure of the information to outside parties, and there is no expiration on the length of protection. For these reasons, we do not own any patents and our only registered trademark is the “Kimball” name as registered in certain categories relating to our electronics manufacturing and design services, which were assigned to us by former Parent.

Environment and Energy Matters

Our operations are subject to various foreign, federal, state, and local laws and regulations with respect to environmental matters. We believe that we are in substantial compliance with present laws and regulations and that there are no material liabilities related to such items.

We are dedicated to excellence, leadership, and stewardship in protecting the environment and communities in which we have operations. We believe that continued compliance with foreign, federal, state, and local laws and regulations which have been enacted relating to the protection of the environment will not have a material effect on our capital expenditures, earnings, or competitive position. Management believes capital expenditures for environmental control equipment during the two fiscal years ending June 30, 2017 will not represent a material portion of total capital expenditures during those years.

Our operations require significant amounts of energy, including natural gas and electricity. Federal, foreign, and state regulations may control the allocation of fuels available to us, but to date we have experienced no interruption of production due to such regulations.

Employees

As of June 30, 2015, Kimball Electronics employed approximately 4,300 people worldwide, with approximately 800 located in the U.S. and approximately 3,500 located in foreign countries. Our U.S. operations are not subject to collective bargaining arrangements. All of our foreign operations are subject to collective bargaining arrangements, many mandated by government regulation or customs of the particular countries. We believe that our employee relations are good.

Available Information

The Company makes available free of charge through its website, <http://investors.kimballelectronics.com>, its annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, proxy statements, and all amendments to those reports as soon as reasonably practicable after such material is electronically filed with, or furnished to, the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). All reports the Company files with the SEC are also available via the SEC website, <http://www.sec.gov>, or may be read and copied at the SEC Public Reference Room located at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The Company’s Internet website and the information contained therein or incorporated therein are not intended to be incorporated into this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Forward-Looking Statements

This document contains certain forward-looking statements. These are statements made by management, using their best business judgment based upon facts known at the time of the statements or reasonable estimates, about future results, plans, or future performance and business of the Company. Such statements involve risk and uncertainty, and their ultimate validity is affected by a number of factors, both specific and general. They should not be construed as a guarantee that such results or events will, in fact, occur or be realized as actual results may differ materially from those expressed in these forward-looking statements. The statements may be identified by the use of words such as “believes,” “anticipates,” “expects,” “intends,” “plans,” “projects,” “estimates,” “forecasts,” “seeks,” “likely,” “future,” “may,” “would,” “will,” and similar expressions. It is not possible to foresee or identify all factors that could cause actual results to differ from expected or historical results. We make no commitment to update these factors or to revise any forward-looking statements for events or circumstances occurring after the statement is issued, except as required by law.

The risk factors discussed in Item 1A - Risk Factors of this report could cause our results to differ materially from those expressed in forward-looking statements. There may be other risks and uncertainties that we are unable to predict at this time or that we currently do not expect to have a material adverse effect on our business. Any such risks could cause our results to differ materially from those expressed in forward-looking statements.

At any time when we make forward-looking statements, we desire to take advantage of the “safe harbor” which is afforded such statements under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 where factors could cause actual results to differ materially from forward-looking statements.

Item 1A - Risk Factors

The following important risk factors, among others, could affect future results and events, causing results and events to differ materially from those expressed or implied in forward-looking statements made in this report and presented elsewhere by management from time to time. Such factors, among others, may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations and should be carefully considered. Additional risks and uncertainties that we do not currently know about, we currently believe are immaterial or we have not predicted may also affect our business, financial condition, or results of operations. Because of these and other factors, past performance should not be considered an indication of future performance.

Risks Relating to Our Business

Uncertain macroeconomic and industry conditions could adversely impact demand for our products and services and adversely affect operating results.

Market demand for our products and services, which impacts revenues and gross profit, is influenced by a variety of economic and industry factors such as:

- instability of the global financial markets;
- uncertainty of worldwide economic conditions;
- erosion of global consumer confidence;
- general corporate profitability of Kimball Electronics' end markets;
- credit availability to Kimball Electronics' end markets;
- demand fluctuations in the industries we currently serve, including automotive, medical, industrial, and public safety;
- demand for end-user products which include electronic assembly components produced by Kimball Electronics;
- excess capacity in the industries in which Kimball Electronics competes; and
- changes in customer order patterns, including changes in product quantities, delays in orders, or cancellation of orders.

We must make decisions based on order volumes in order to achieve efficiency in manufacturing capacities. These decisions include determining what level of additional business to accept, production schedules, component procurement commitments, and personnel requirements, among various other considerations. We must constantly monitor the changing economic landscape and may modify our strategic direction based upon the changing business environment. If we do not react quickly enough to the changes in market or economic conditions, it could result in lost customers, decreased market share, and increased operating costs.

We are exposed to the credit risk of our customers that have been adversely affected by the instability of market conditions.

The instability of market conditions drives an elevated risk of potential bankruptcy of customers resulting in a greater risk of uncollectible outstanding accounts receivable. Accordingly, we intensely monitor our receivables and related credit risks. The realization of these risks could have a negative impact on our profitability.

Reduction of purchases by or the loss of one or more key customers could reduce revenues and profitability.

Losses of key contract customers within specific industries or significant volume reductions from key contract customers are both risks. If a current customer of Kimball Electronics merges with or is acquired by a party that currently is aligned with a competitor, or the combination creates excess capacity, we could lose future revenues. Our continuing success is dependent upon replacing expiring contract customers/programs with new customers/programs. See "Customers" in [Item 1 - Business](#) for disclosure of the net sales as a percentage of consolidated net sales for each of our significant customers during fiscal years 2015, 2014, and 2013. Regardless of whether our agreements with our customers, including our significant customers, have a definite term, our customers typically do not have an obligation to purchase a minimum quantity of products or services as individual purchase orders or other product or project specific documentation are typically entered into from time to time. Our customers generally have the right to cancel a particular product, subject to contractual provisions governing the final product runs, excess or obsolete inventory, and end-of-life pricing. As such, our ability to continue the relationships with such customers is uncertain.

For example, as previously announced, volumes with Johnson Controls, Inc. ("JCI") have declined in the current fiscal year due to certain JCI programs reaching end-of-life and JCI's decision to in-source other programs. Volumes for one of our largest contracts with JCI, which accounted for approximately \$46 million in net sales in fiscal year 2014,

declined in fiscal year 2015 to \$6 million. The reason for such decline in volume is that certain JCI programs have reached end-of-life. In addition, due to its available capacity, JCI decided to in-source programs that have historically been manufactured by Kimball Electronics, which accounted for approximately \$33 million in net sales in fiscal year 2014 and approximately \$16 million in net sales during fiscal year 2015. The transition to JCI's in-sourcing occurred in stages and began in our fourth quarter of fiscal year 2014 and is substantially complete. Significant declines in the level of purchases by JCI or other key customers or the loss of a

significant number of customers, could have a material adverse effect on our business. In addition, the nature of the contract electronics manufacturing industry is such that the start-up of new customers and new programs to replace expiring programs occurs frequently, and new customer and program start-ups generally cause losses early in the life of a program. We can provide no assurance that we will be able to fully replace any lost sales, which could have an adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

We operate in a highly competitive environment and may not be able to compete successfully.

Numerous manufacturers within the EMS industry compete globally for business from existing and potential customers. Some of our competitors have greater resources and more geographically diversified international operations than we do. We also face competition from the manufacturing operations of our customers, who are continually evaluating the merits of manufacturing products internally against the advantages of outsourcing to EMS providers. The competition may further intensify as more companies enter the markets in which we operate, as existing competitors expand capacity and as the industry consolidates.

In relation to customer pricing pressures, if we cannot achieve the proportionate reductions in costs, profit margins may suffer. The high level of competition in the industry impacts our ability to implement price increases or, in some cases, even maintain prices, which also could lower profit margins. In addition, as end markets dictate, we are continually assessing excess capacity and developing plans to better utilize manufacturing operations, including consolidating and shifting manufacturing capacity to lower cost venues as necessary.

We are an “emerging growth company” and the reduced disclosure requirements applicable to “emerging growth companies” may make our common stock less attractive to investors.

We are an “emerging growth company,” as defined in the JOBS Act. For as long as we continue to be an “emerging growth company,” we intend to take advantage of certain exemptions from various reporting requirements that are applicable to other public companies. Among other things, we will not be required to (1) provide an auditor’s attestation report on management’s assessment of the effectiveness of our system of internal control over financial reporting pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, (2) comply with any new rules that may be adopted by the PCAOB requiring mandatory audit firm rotation or a supplement to the auditor’s report in which the auditor would be required to provide additional information about the audit and the financial statements of the issuer, (3) comply with any new audit rules adopted by the PCAOB after April 5, 2012 unless the SEC determines otherwise, (4) comply with any new or revised financial accounting standards applicable to public companies until such standards are also applicable to private companies under Section 102(b)(1) of the JOBS Act, (5) provide certain disclosure regarding executive compensation required of larger public companies, or (6) hold a nonbinding advisory vote on executive compensation and obtain Share Owner approval of any golden parachute payments not previously approved.

Accordingly, the information that we provide Share Owners in this annual report and in our other filings with the SEC may be different than what is available with respect to other public companies. We cannot predict if investors will find our common stock less attractive because we will rely on these exemptions. If some investors find our common stock less attractive as a result, there may be a less active trading market for our common stock and our stock price may be more volatile and adversely affected.

Additionally, as an “emerging growth company,” we have elected to take advantage of the extended transition period for complying with new or revised accounting standards applicable to public companies. As a result of this election, our financial statements may not be comparable to companies that comply with public company effective dates for such new or revised standards. The election to comply with these public company effective dates is irrevocable pursuant to Section 107(b) of the JOBS Act.

We will remain an “emerging growth company” until the earliest of (1) the last day of the first fiscal year in which our total annual gross revenues exceed \$1 billion, (2) the date on which we are deemed to be a “large accelerated filer,” as defined in Rule 12b-2 under the Exchange Act or any successor statute, which would occur if the market value of our common stock that is held by non-affiliates exceeds \$700 million as of the last business day of our most recently completed second fiscal quarter, (3) the date on which we have issued more than \$1 billion in non-convertible debt during the preceding three-year period, and (4) the end of the fiscal year following the fifth anniversary of the date of the first sale of our common stock pursuant to an effective registration statement filed under the Securities Act.

We may be unable to purchase a sufficient amount of materials, parts, and components for use in our products at competitive prices, in a timely manner, or at all.

We depend on suppliers globally to provide timely delivery of materials, parts, and components for use in our products. The financial stability of suppliers is monitored by Kimball Electronics when feasible as the loss of a significant supplier could have an adverse impact on our operations. Suppliers adjust their capacity as demand fluctuates, and component shortages and/or component allocations could occur. Certain components purchased by Kimball Electronics are primarily manufactured in select regions of the world and issues in those regions could cause manufacturing delays. Maintaining strong relationships with key suppliers of components critical to the manufacturing process is essential. Price increases of commodity components could

have an adverse impact on our profitability if we cannot offset such increases with other cost reductions or by price increases to customers. Materials utilized by Kimball Electronics are generally available, but future availability is unknown and could impact our ability to meet customer order requirements. If suppliers fail to meet commitments to Kimball Electronics in terms of price, delivery, or quality, it could interrupt our operations and negatively impact our ability to meet commitments to customers.

Our operating results could be adversely affected by increases in the cost of fuel and other energy sources.

The cost of energy is a critical component of freight expense and the cost of operating manufacturing facilities.

Increases in the cost of energy could reduce our profitability.

We are subject to manufacturing inefficiencies due to startup of new programs, transfer of production, and other factors.

At times, we may experience labor or other manufacturing inefficiencies due to factors such as start-up of new programs, transfers of production among our manufacturing facilities, a sudden decline in sales, a new operating system, or turnover in personnel. Manufacturing inefficiencies could have an adverse impact on our financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

A change in our sales mix among various products could have a negative impact on the gross profit margin.

Changes in product sales mix could negatively impact our gross margin as margins of different products vary. We strive to improve the margins of all products, but certain products have lower margins in order to price the product competitively or in connection with the start-up of a new program. An increase in the proportion of sales of products with lower margins could have an adverse impact on our financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

Our future restructuring efforts may not be successful.

We continually evaluate our manufacturing capabilities and capacities in relation to current and anticipated market conditions. If we implement restructuring plans in the future, the successful execution of those restructuring initiatives will be dependent on various factors and may not be accomplished as quickly or effectively as anticipated.

We will face risks commonly encountered with growth through acquisitions.

Our sales growth plans may occur through both organic growth and acquisitions. Acquisitions involve many risks, including:

- difficulties in identifying suitable acquisition candidates and in negotiating and consummating acquisitions on terms attractive to us;

- difficulties in the assimilation of the operations of the acquired company;

- the diversion of resources, including diverting management's attention from our current operations;

- risks of entering new geographic or product markets in which we have limited or no direct prior experience;

- the potential loss of key customers of the acquired company;

- the potential loss of key employees of the acquired company;

- the potential incurrence of indebtedness to fund the acquisition;

- the potential issuance of common stock for some or all of the purchase price, which could dilute ownership interests of our current Share Owners;

- the acquired business not achieving anticipated revenues, earnings, cash flow, or market share;

- excess capacity;

- the assumption of undisclosed liabilities; and

- dilution of earnings.

We may not be successful in launching start-up operations.

We are committed to growing our business, and therefore from time to time, we may determine that it would be in our best interests to start up a new operation. Start-up operations involve a number of risks and uncertainties, such as funding the capital expenditures related to the start-up operation, developing a management team for the new operation, diversion of management focus away from current operations, and creation of excess capacity. Any of these risks could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

If efforts to start-up new programs are not successful, this could limit sales growth or cause sales to decline.

The start-up of new programs requires the coordination of the design and manufacturing processes. The design and engineering required for certain new programs can take an extended period of time, and further time may be required

to achieve customer acceptance. Accordingly, the launch of any particular program may be delayed or may be less successful than we originally anticipated. Difficulties or delays in starting up new programs or lack of customer acceptance of such programs could limit sales growth or cause sales to decline. We depend on industries that utilize technologically advanced electronic components

which often have short life cycles. We must continue to invest in advanced equipment and product development to remain competitive in this area.

Our international operations involve financial and operational risks.

We have operations outside the United States, primarily in China, Thailand, Poland, and Mexico, and we will have a start-up operation in Romania in fiscal year 2016. Our international operations are subject to a number of risks, which may include the following:

- economic and political instability;
- warfare, riots, terrorism, and other forms of violence or geopolitical disruption;
- compliance with laws, such as the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, applicable to U.S. companies doing business outside the United States;
- changes in foreign regulatory requirements and laws;
- tariffs and other trade barriers;
- potentially adverse tax consequences including the manner in which multinational companies are taxed in the U.S.;
- and
- foreign labor practices.

These risks could have an adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations, or cash flows. In addition, fluctuations in exchange rates could impact our operating results. Our risk management strategy includes the use of derivative financial instruments to hedge certain foreign currency exposures. Any hedging techniques we implement contain risks and may not be entirely effective. Exchange rate fluctuations could also make our products more expensive than competitors' products not subject to these fluctuations, which could adversely affect our revenues and profitability in international markets.

If customers do not perceive our engineering and manufacturing services to be innovative and of high quality, our reputation could suffer.

We believe that establishing and maintaining a good reputation is critical to our business. Promotion and enhancement of our name will depend on the effectiveness of marketing and advertising efforts and on successfully providing innovative and high quality electronic engineering and manufacturing services. If customers do not perceive our services to be innovative and of high quality, our reputation could suffer, which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Failure to effectively manage working capital may adversely affect our cash flow from operations.

We closely monitor inventory and receivable efficiencies and continuously strive to improve these measures of working capital, but customer financial difficulties, cancellation or delay of customer orders, shifts in customer payment practices, transfers of production among our manufacturing facilities, or manufacturing delays could adversely affect our cash flow from operations.

We may not be able to achieve maximum utilization of our manufacturing capacity.

Most of our customers do not commit to long-term production schedules and we are unable to forecast the level of customer orders with certainty over a given period of time. As a result, at times it can be difficult for us to schedule production and maximize utilization of our manufacturing capacity. Fluctuations and deferrals of customer orders may have a material adverse effect on our ability to utilize our fixed capacity and thus negatively impact our operating margins.

We could incur losses due to asset impairment.

As business conditions change, we must continually evaluate and work toward the optimum asset base. It is possible that certain assets such as, but not limited to, facilities, equipment, intangible assets, or goodwill could be impaired at some point in the future depending on changing business conditions. Such impairment could have an adverse impact on our financial position and results of operations.

Fluctuations in our effective tax rate could have a significant impact on our financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

The mix of pre-tax income or loss among the tax jurisdictions in which we operate that have varying tax rates could impact our effective tax rate. We are subject to income taxes as well as non-income based taxes, in both the United States and various foreign jurisdictions. Judgment is required in determining the worldwide provision for income

taxes, other tax liabilities, interest, and penalties. Future events could change management's assessment. We operate within multiple taxing jurisdictions and are subject to tax audits in these jurisdictions. These audits can involve complex issues, which may require an extended period of time to resolve. We have also made assumptions about the realization of deferred tax assets. Changes in these assumptions could result in a valuation allowance for these assets. Final determination of tax audits or tax disputes may be different from what is currently reflected by our income tax provisions and accruals.

A failure to comply with the financial covenants under the Company's \$50 million credit facility could adversely impact the Company.

Our credit facility requires the Company to comply with certain financial covenants. We believe the most significant covenants under this credit facility are the ratio of consolidated indebtedness minus unencumbered U.S. cash on hand in the U.S. in excess of \$15 million to adjusted consolidated EBITDA and the fixed charge coverage ratio. More detail on these financial covenants is discussed in Item 7 - Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations. As of June 30, 2015, we had no short-term borrowings under this credit facility and had total cash and cash equivalents of \$65.2 million. In the future, a default on the financial covenants under our credit facility could cause an increase in the borrowing rates or could make it more difficult for us to secure future financing which could adversely affect the financial condition of the Company.

Our business may be harmed due to failure to successfully implement information technology solutions or a lack of reasonable safeguards to maintain data security.

Our business depends on effective information technology systems which also are intended to minimize the risk of a security breach or cybersecurity threat, including the misappropriation of assets or other sensitive information, or data corruption which could cause operational disruption. Information systems require an ongoing commitment of significant resources to maintain and enhance existing systems and develop new systems in order to keep pace with changes in information processing technology and evolving industry standards. Implementation delays, poor execution, or a breach of information technology systems could disrupt our operations, damage our reputation, or increase costs related to the mitigation of, response to, or litigation arising from any such issue.

Failure to protect our intellectual property could undermine our competitive position.

We attempt to protect our intellectual property rights, both in the United States and in foreign countries, through a combination of trademark, copyright, and trade secret laws, as well as licensing agreements and third-party non-disclosure and assignment agreements. Because of the differences in foreign laws concerning proprietary rights, our intellectual property rights do not generally receive the same degree of protection in foreign countries as they do in the United States, and therefore in some parts of the world, we have limited protections, if any, for our intellectual property. Competing effectively depends, to a significant extent, on maintaining the proprietary nature of our intellectual property.

We may be sued by third parties for alleged infringement of their intellectual property rights and incur substantial litigation or other costs.

We could be notified of a claim regarding intellectual property rights which could lead to Kimball Electronics spending time and money to defend or address the claim. Even if the claim is without merit, it could result in substantial costs and diversion of resources.

Our insurance may not adequately protect us from liabilities related to product defects.

We maintain product liability and other insurance coverage that we believe to be generally in accordance with industry practices. However, our insurance coverage may not be adequate to protect us fully against substantial claims and costs that may arise from liabilities related to product defects, particularly if we have a large number of defective products or if the root cause is disputed.

Our failure to maintain Food and Drug Administration (FDA) registration of one or more of our registered manufacturing facilities could negatively impact our ability to produce products for our customers in the medical industry.

To maintain FDA registration, Kimball Electronics is subject to FDA audits of the manufacturing process. FDA audit failure could result in a partial or total suspension of production, fines, or criminal prosecution. Failure or noncompliance could have an adverse effect on our reputation in addition to an adverse impact on our financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

We are subject to extensive environmental regulation and significant potential environmental liabilities.

The past and present operation and ownership by Kimball Electronics of manufacturing plants and real property are subject to extensive and changing federal, state, local, and foreign environmental laws and regulations, including those relating to discharges in air, water, and land, the handling and disposal of solid and hazardous waste, the use of certain hazardous materials in the production of select products, and the remediation of contamination associated with

releases of hazardous substances. In addition, the increased prevalence of global climate issues may result in new regulations that may negatively impact us. We cannot predict what environmental legislation or regulations will be enacted in the future, how existing or future laws or regulations will be administered or interpreted or what environmental conditions may be found to exist. Compliance with more stringent laws or regulations, or stricter interpretation of existing laws, may require additional expenditures by Kimball

Electronics, some of which could be material. In addition, any investigations or remedial efforts relating to environmental matters could involve material costs or otherwise result in material liabilities.

Our success will continue to depend to a significant extent on our key personnel.

We depend significantly on our executive officers and other key personnel. The unexpected loss of the services of any one of these executive officers or other key personnel may have an adverse effect on us.

Our failure to retain the existing management team, maintain our engineering, technical, and manufacturing process expertise, or continue to attract qualified personnel could adversely affect our business.

Our success is dependent on keeping pace with technological advancements and adapting services to provide manufacturing capabilities which meet customers' changing needs. In addition, we must retain our qualified engineering and technical personnel and successfully anticipate and respond to technological changes in a cost effective and timely manner. Our culture and guiding principles focus on continuous training, motivating, and development of employees, and we strive to attract, motivate, and retain qualified personnel. Failure to retain and attract qualified personnel could adversely affect our business.

Turnover in personnel could cause manufacturing inefficiencies.

The demand for manufacturing labor in certain geographic areas makes retaining experienced production employees difficult. Turnover could result in additional training and inefficiencies that could impact our operating results.

Natural disasters or other catastrophic events may impact our production schedules and, in turn, negatively impact profitability.

Natural disasters or other catastrophic events, including severe weather, terrorist attacks, power interruptions, and fires, could disrupt operations and likewise our ability to produce or deliver products. Our manufacturing operations require significant amounts of energy, including natural gas and oil, and governmental regulations may control the allocation of such fuels to Kimball Electronics. Employees are an integral part of our business and events such as a pandemic could reduce the availability of employees reporting for work. In the event we experience a temporary or permanent interruption in our ability to produce or deliver product, revenues could be reduced, and business could be materially adversely affected. In addition, catastrophic events, or the threat thereof, can adversely affect U.S. and world economies, and could result in delayed or lost sales of Kimball Electronics' products. In addition, any continuing disruption in our computer system could adversely affect the ability to receive and process customer orders, manufacture products, and ship products on a timely basis, and could adversely affect relations with customers, potentially resulting in reduction in orders from customers or loss of customers. We maintain insurance to help protect us from costs relating to some of these matters, but such may not be sufficient or paid in a timely manner to us in the event of such an interruption.

The requirements of being a public company may strain our resources and distract management.

We are subject to the reporting requirements of federal securities laws, including the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

Among other requirements, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act requires that we maintain effective disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting. We have expended and expect to continue to expend management time and resources maintaining documentation and testing internal control over financial reporting. This annual report does not include a report of management's assessment regarding internal control over financial reporting due to a transition period established by rules of the SEC for newly public companies. As an "emerging growth company," we are excluded from Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, which otherwise would have required our auditors to formally attest to and report on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting. We cannot predict the outcome of testing in future periods. If we cannot maintain effective disclosure controls and procedures or favorably assess the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, or once we are no longer an "emerging growth company," our independent registered public accounting firm cannot provide an unqualified attestation report on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, investor confidence and, in turn, the market price of our common stock could decline.

Imposition of government regulations may significantly increase our operating costs in the United States and abroad. Legislative and regulatory reforms by the U.S. federal and foreign governments could significantly impact the profitability of Kimball Electronics by burdening us with forced cost choices that cannot be recovered by increased pricing. For example:

The United States healthcare reform legislation passed in 2010 and upheld by the Supreme Court in 2012 is likely to increase our total healthcare and related administrative expenses as the provisions of the law become effective. Governmental changes or delays to the provisions may likewise drive changes in our implementation plan causing inefficiencies and increasing our implementation costs even further. The changes resulting from this healthcare reform legislation could have a significant impact on our employment practices in the U.S., our financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

- International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) must be followed when producing defense related products for the U.S. government. A breach of these regulations could have an adverse impact on our financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

Foreign regulations are increasing in many areas such as data privacy, hazardous waste disposal, labor relations, and employment practices.

Provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act relating to “Conflict Minerals” may increase our costs and reduce our sales levels. The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act contains provisions to improve transparency and accountability concerning the supply of certain minerals originating from the Democratic Republic of Congo (“DRC”) and adjoining countries that are believed to benefit armed groups. As a result, the SEC has adopted new due diligence, disclosure, and reporting requirements for companies which manufacture products that include components containing such minerals, regardless of whether the minerals are actually mined in the DRC or adjoining countries. Such regulations could decrease the availability and increase the prices of components used in our products, particularly if we choose (or are required by our customers) to source such components from different suppliers than we use now. In addition, as our supply chain is complex and the process to comply with the new SEC rules is cumbersome, the ongoing compliance process is both time-consuming and costly. We may face reduced sales if we are unable to timely verify the origins of minerals contained in the components included in our products, or supply disruptions if our due diligence process reveals that materials we source originate in the DRC or adjoining countries.

Risks Relating to the Spin-Off

If the distribution does not qualify as a tax-free transaction, tax could be imposed on the Share Owners and former Parent and we may be required to indemnify former Parent for its tax.

In connection with the spin-off, former Parent received (i) a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”) that the Parent stock unification will not cause Parent to recognize income or gain as a result of the distribution; and (ii) an opinion of Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP to the effect that the distribution satisfies the requirements to qualify as a tax-free transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes under Section 355 of the Code. However, the validity of both the IRS ruling and the tax opinion is subject to the accuracy of factual representations and assumptions provided by former Parent and us in connection with obtaining the IRS ruling and the tax opinion, including with respect to post-spin-off operations and conduct of the parties. Neither former Parent nor we are aware of any facts or circumstances that would cause these statements or representations to be incomplete or untrue or cause the facts on which the opinion is based to be materially different from the facts at the time of the spin-off. However, if these representations and assumptions are inaccurate or incomplete in any material respect, including those relating to the past and future conduct of the business, then we will not be able to rely on the IRS ruling or the tax opinion.

Furthermore, the tax opinion is not binding on the Internal Revenue Service or the courts. Accordingly, the IRS or the courts may reach conclusions with respect to the spin-off that are different from the conclusions reached in the opinion. If, notwithstanding our receipt of the tax opinion, the spin-off is determined to be taxable, then (i) former Parent would be subject to tax as if it sold the Kimball Electronics common stock in a taxable sale for its fair market value; and (ii) each Share Owner who received Kimball Electronics common stock would be treated as receiving a distribution of property in an amount equal to the fair market value of the Kimball Electronics common stock that would generally result in varied tax liabilities for each Share Owner depending on the facts and circumstances.

Even if the spin-off does qualify as a tax-free transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the distribution will be taxable to former Parent (but not to former Parent Share Owners) pursuant to Section 355(e) of the Code if there are one or more acquisitions (including issuances) of the stock of either us or former Parent, representing 50% or more, measured by vote or value, of the then-outstanding stock of either us or former Parent and the acquisition or acquisitions are deemed to be part of a plan or series of related transactions that include the distribution. Any acquisition of our common stock within two years before or after the distribution (with exceptions, including public trading by less-than-5% Share Owners and certain compensatory stock issuances) generally will be presumed to be part of such a plan unless that presumption is rebutted. The resulting tax liability may have a material adverse effect on both our and former Parent’s business, financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

Pursuant to the Tax Matters Agreement entered into in connection with the spin-off, (i) we agreed (a) not to enter into any transaction that could cause any portion of the spin-off to be taxable to former Parent, including under Section

355(e) of the Code; and (b) to indemnify former Parent for any tax liabilities resulting from such transactions; and (ii) former Parent agreed to indemnify us for any tax liabilities resulting from such transactions entered into by former Parent. In addition, under U.S. Treasury regulations, each member of former Parent's consolidated group at the time of the spin-off (including us and our subsidiaries) is jointly and severally liable for the resulting U.S. federal income tax liability if all or a portion of the spin-off does not qualify as a tax-free transaction, and we have agreed to indemnify former Parent for a portion of certain tax liabilities

incurred in connection with the spin-off under certain circumstances. These obligations may discourage, delay, or prevent a change of control of our company.

The Exchange Act requires that we file annual, quarterly, and current reports with respect to our business and financial condition. Under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, we are required to maintain effective disclosure controls and procedures and internal controls over financial reporting. To comply with these requirements, we may need to upgrade our systems; implement additional financial and management controls, reporting systems and procedures; and hire additional accounting and finance staff. We expect to incur additional annual expenses for the purpose of addressing these requirements, and those expenses may be significant. If we are unable to upgrade our financial and management controls, reporting systems, information technology systems, and procedures in a timely and effective fashion, our ability to comply with our financial reporting requirements and other rules that apply to reporting companies under the Exchange Act could be impaired. Any failure to achieve and maintain effective internal controls could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

We do not have a recent operating history as an independent company and our historical financial information may not be a reliable indicator of our future results.

The historical financial information we have included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K has been derived from former Parent's consolidated financial statements and does not necessarily reflect what our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows would have been as a separate, stand-alone entity during the periods presented. Former Parent did not account for us, and we were not operated, as a single stand-alone entity for the periods presented even if we represented an important business segment in former Parent's historical consolidated financial statements. In addition, the historical information is not necessarily indicative of what our results of operations, financial position, and cash flows will be in the future. For example, following the spin-off, changes have occurred and will occur in our cost structure, funding and operations, including changes in our tax structure, increased costs associated with reduced economies of scale, and increased costs associated with becoming a public, stand-alone company. While we were profitable as part of former Parent, we cannot assure you that as a stand-alone company our profits will continue at a similar level.

We may be unable to achieve some or all of the benefits that we expect to achieve from the spin-off.

As an independent, publicly traded company, we believe that our business will benefit from, among other things, the alignment of our cost structure with our business objectives and improved management incentive tools. However, now that we are separate from former Parent, we may be more susceptible to market fluctuations and other adverse events than we would have been were we still a part of former Parent. In addition, we may not be able to achieve some or all of the benefits that we expect to achieve as an independent company, including additional revenues as a result of removing certain organizational conflicts of interest as a result of the spin-off, in the time we expect, if at all.

Our customers, prospective customers and suppliers might not be satisfied that our financial stability on a stand-alone basis is sufficient to satisfy their requirements for doing or continuing to do business with them.

Some of our customers, prospective customers, and suppliers may need assurances that our financial stability on a stand-alone basis is sufficient to satisfy their requirements for doing or continuing to do business with them. If our customers, prospective customers, or suppliers are not satisfied with our financial stability, it could have a material adverse effect on our ability to bid for and obtain or retain projects, our business, financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows.

We may incur greater costs as an independent company than we did when we were a part of former Parent.

As part of former Parent, we took advantage of former Parent's size and purchasing power in procuring certain goods and services such as insurance and health care benefits, and technology such as computer software licenses. We also relied on former Parent to provide various corporate functions. After the spin-off, as a separate, independent entity, we may be unable to obtain these goods, services, and technologies at prices or on terms as favorable to us as those we obtained prior to the distribution. We may also incur costs for functions previously performed by former Parent that are higher than the amounts reflected in our historical financial statements, which could cause our profitability to decrease.

We currently share directors with former Parent, which means the overlap may give rise to conflicts.

Certain members of our Board of Directors serve as directors of former Parent, but the overlapping directors do not constitute a majority of our Board members. These directors may have actual or apparent conflicts of interest with respect to matters involving or affecting us or former Parent. For example, there could be the potential for a conflict of interest when we or former Parent look at acquisitions and other corporate opportunities that may be suitable for both companies. Also, conflicts may arise if there are issues or disputes under the commercial arrangements that will exist between former Parent and us. Our Board of Directors and the Board of Directors of former Parent will review and address any potential conflict of interests that may arise between former Parent and us. Although no specific measures to resolve such conflicts of interest have been formulated, our Board of Directors and the Board of Directors of former Parent have a fiduciary obligation to deal fairly and in good faith. Our Board of Directors exercises reasonable judgment and takes such steps as they deem necessary under all of the

circumstances in resolving any specific conflict of interest which may occur and will determine what, if any, specific measures, such as retention of an independent advisor, independent counsel, or special committee, may be necessary or appropriate. Any such conflict could have a material adverse effect on our business.

We have limited operating history as an independent company upon which you can evaluate our performance and, accordingly, our prospects must be considered in light of the risks that any newly independent company encounters. We previously operated as a business segment of former Parent. We have limited experience operating as an independent company and performing various corporate functions, including human resources, tax administration, legal (including compliance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and with the periodic reporting obligations of the Exchange Act), treasury administration, investor relations, internal audit, insurance, information technology, and telecommunications services, as well as the accounting for many items such as lease accounting and stock-based compensation, income taxes, and intangible assets. Accordingly, our prospects must be considered in light of the risks, expenses and difficulties encountered by companies in the early stages of independent business operations, all of which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Risks Relating to Our Common Stock

Our stock price may fluctuate significantly.

The market price of our common stock may fluctuate widely, depending on many factors, some of which may be beyond our control, including:

- actual or anticipated fluctuations in our operating results due to factors related to our business;
- wins and losses on contract competitions and new business pursuits;
- success or failure of our business strategy;
- our quarterly or annual earnings, or those of other companies in our industry;
- our ability to obtain financing as needed;
- announcements by us or our competitors of significant acquisitions or dispositions;
- changes in accounting standards, policies, guidance, interpretations or principles;
- the failure of securities analysts to cover our common stock;
- changes in earnings estimates by securities analysts or our ability to meet those estimates;
- the operating and stock price performance of other comparable companies;
- the changes in customer requirements for our products and services;
- natural or environmental disasters that investors believe may affect us;
- overall market fluctuations;
- results from any material litigation or government investigation;
- changes in laws and regulations affecting our business; and
- general economic conditions and other external factors.

Stock markets in general have experienced volatility that has often been unrelated to the operating performance of a particular company. These broad market fluctuations, coupled with changes in results of operations and general economic, political, and market conditions, could adversely affect the trading price of our common stock.

Anti-takeover provisions in our organizational documents, the Tax Matters Agreement, and Indiana law could delay or prevent a change in control.

We have adopted the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation and the Amended and Restated Bylaws. Certain provisions of the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation and the Amended and Restated Bylaws may delay or prevent a merger or acquisition that a Share Owner may consider favorable. For example, the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation authorizes our Board of Directors to issue one or more series of preferred stock, prevents Share Owners from acting by written consent, and requires a supermajority Share Owner approval for certain business combinations with related persons. These provisions may discourage acquisition proposals or delay or prevent a change in control, which could harm our stock price. Indiana law also imposes some restrictions on potential acquirers.

Under the Tax Matters Agreement entered into in connection with the spin-off, we have agreed not to enter into any transaction involving an acquisition (including issuance) of our common stock or any other transaction (or, to the

extent we have the right to prohibit it, to permit any such transaction) that could cause the distribution to be taxable to former Parent. We also agreed to indemnify former Parent for any tax resulting from any such transactions. Generally, former Parent will recognize taxable gain on the distribution if there are one or more acquisitions (including issuances) of our capital stock, directly or indirectly, representing 50% or more, measured by vote or value, of our then-outstanding capital stock, and the acquisitions or issuances are deemed to be part of a plan or series of related transactions that include the distribution. Any such shares of our common stock acquired, directly or indirectly, within two years before or after the distribution (with exceptions, including public trading by less-than-5% Share Owners and certain compensatory stock issuances) will generally be presumed to be part of such a plan

unless that presumption is rebutted. As a result, our obligations may limit our ability to pursue strategic transactions or engage in new business or other transactions that may maximize our business and might discourage, delay, or prevent a change of control of our company.

Item 1B - Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

Item 2 - Properties

As of June 30, 2015, we had six manufacturing facilities with one located in each of Indiana, Florida, Mexico, Poland, China, and Thailand. These owned facilities occupy approximately 1,011,000 square feet in aggregate. In addition, we own a 42,000 square-foot office building to house our headquarters located in Jasper, Indiana. Construction of a manufacturing facility in Romania has begun with production to begin in fiscal year 2016 but is not included in the previously mentioned amounts. See Note 15 - Geographic Information of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

Generally, our manufacturing facilities are utilized at normal capacity levels on a multiple shift basis. At times, certain facilities utilize a reduced second or third shift. Due to sales fluctuations, not all facilities were utilized at normal capacity during fiscal year 2015. We continually assess our capacity needs and evaluate our operations to optimize our service levels by geographic region. See Item 1A - Risk Factors for information regarding financial and operational risks related to our international operations.

Significant loss of income resulting from a facility catastrophe would be partially offset by business interruption insurance coverage.

The Company holds land leases for our facilities in Thailand and China that expire in fiscal years 2030 and 2056, respectively. See Note 5 - Commitments and Contingent Liabilities of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information concerning leases. In addition, we own approximately 88 acres of land which includes land where our facilities reside and land where the facility in Romania will reside.

Item 3 - Legal Proceedings

We and our subsidiaries are not parties to any pending legal proceedings, other than ordinary routine litigation incidental to the business. The outcome of current routine pending litigation, individually and in the aggregate, is not expected to have a material adverse impact on our business or financial condition.

Item 4 - Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

Executive Officers of the Registrant

Our executive officers as of August 28, 2015 are as follows:

(Age as of August 28, 2015)

Name	Age	Office and Area of Responsibility
Donald D. Charron	51	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer
Michael K. Sergesketter	55	Vice President, Chief Financial Officer
John H. Kahle	58	Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary
Christopher J. Thyen	52	Vice President, Business Development
Julia A. Dutchess	64	Vice President, Human Resources
Sandy A. Smith	52	Vice President, Information Technology
Janusz F. Kasprzyk	55	Vice President, European Operations
Steven T. Korn	51	Vice President, North American Operations
Roger Chang (Chang Shang Yu)	58	Vice President, Asian Operations

Executive officers are appointed annually by the Board of Directors. The following is a brief description of the business experience during the past five or more years of each of our executive officers.

Mr. Charron is our Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer. Prior to the spin-off, he served as an Executive Vice President of former Parent, a member of the Board of Directors of former Parent, and the President of the Kimball Electronics Group that now comprises Kimball Electronics following the spin-off. Mr. Charron had led the EMS segment of former Parent since joining former Parent in 1999. Mr. Charron's extensive contract electronics industry experience prior to joining former Parent, as well as his intimate knowledge of former Parent's EMS operations, provides valuable operational, strategic, and global market insights.

Mr. Sergesketter is our Vice President, Chief Financial Officer. Prior to the spin-off, he served as Vice President, Chief Financial Officer for Kimball Electronics Group that now comprises Kimball Electronics following the spin-off. Mr. Sergesketter had served in this role with former Parent since 1996.

Mr. Kahle is our Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary. Prior to the spin-off, he served as Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of former Parent. Mr. Kahle had served in this role with former Parent since 2001.

Mr. Thyen is our Vice President, Business Development and has served in this role since 2008.

Ms. Dutchess is our Vice President, Human Resources and has served in this role since 1997.

Ms. Smith is our Vice President, Information Technology and has served in this role since 2004.

Mr. Kasprzyk is our Vice President, European Operations and has served in this current role since 2008.

Mr. Korn is our Vice President, North American Operations and has served in this role since 2007.

Mr. Chang is our Vice President, Asian Operations and has served in this role since 2004.

PART II

Item 5 - Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Share Owner Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Market Prices

The Company’s common stock trades on the NASDAQ Global Select Market of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (“NASDAQ”) under the symbol: KE. High and low sales prices by quarter starting November 3, 2014, the date our common stock began trading on a “regular way” basis, as quoted by the NASDAQ system were as follows:

	2015	
	High	Low
Quarter ended December 31, 2014 (beginning November 3, 2014)	\$ 13.77	\$ 5.19
Quarter ended March 31, 2015	\$ 14.19	\$ 10.07
Quarter ended June 30, 2015	\$ 17.01	\$ 12.20

The last reported sales price of our common stock on August 18, 2015, as reported by NASDAQ, was \$11.65.

Dividends

We have not paid any dividends on our common stock since the spin-off. We do not anticipate paying future dividends at this time.

Share Owners

On August 18, 2015, the Company’s common stock was owned by approximately 1,445 Share Owners of record.

Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compen